



BRITISH HISTORY,

CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED.

BRITISH AND ROMAN PERIOD. B. C. 55 to A. D. 585.

ANCIENT writers agree in representing the first inhabitants of Britain as a tribe of the Gauls or Celtæ, who came over from the neighbouring continent. Their language, manners, government, and superstitions were the same; varied only by those small differences which time, or communication with bordering nations must necessarily introduce. Moreover, the names of the more unchangeable parts of nature, as of rivers, lakes, and mountains, are of Celtic derivation. That an intercourse was kept up with the Continent we know from the tin of Cornwall having found its way there, and even to the Phœnician states on the coast of Africa; but by what channel of communication it reached the latter geographers have not clearly described. Beyond these testimonials we have no knowledge of the aborigines of the island, nor of their intercourse with other countries.

The earliest and most authentic historian of the ancient state of Britain is its first invader, Julius Cæsar. When Cæsar landed he found the inhabitants divided into upwards of forty different nations or tribes, each living in a state of lawless independence; those occupying the southern parts of the kingdom, and who from their names appear to have been immigrants from Belgic Gaul, were the most civilized,—they had made some progress in agriculture and the arts of life; the rest maintained themselves by pasture, were clothed with skins of beasts, and were constantly shifting their habitations, either in search of food or to annoy or avoid their enemies. All were the slaves of a barbarous worship, whose authority extended over the chief affairs of life. Education, the administration of justice, and the arbitration of controversies between individuals and the several tribes, were powers vested in the Druids; who, besides the severe penalties they might inflict in this world, had, by inculcating the transmigration of souls, an indefinite power of punishment in the next. Their rites were practised in dark groves or other secret recesses; and in order to throw a greater mystery over their superstition they communicated their doctrines only to the initiated, and strictly forbade their committal to writing. The spoils of war were mostly devoted to their divinities, and not unfrequently human victims were laid on their bloody altars. No religion ever attained a greater ascendancy over mankind than that of the Gauls and Britons; and the Romans, after their conquest, finding it impossible to reconcile those nations to the laws and institutions of their masters, while it maintained its authority, were at last obliged forcibly to abolish it; a violence which

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had never in any other instance been practised by these tolerating conquerors.

No reason has been assigned for the invasion of the Romans, further than the ordinary one of a desire to extend the boundaries of their empire. Beyond recruiting their armies with the British youth, it does not appear they reaped any material advantage from the possession of the country; but their ambition was a source of many benefits to the conquered. Not the least of these were the extirpation of the druidical worship. They divided the country into provinces, constructed roads, and improved the internal communications and defences. While they held the island, the northern barbarians were kept within the limits of their native mountains and fastnesses. But their most valuable bequest was the establishment of municipal corporations. Thirty-three towns, from Winchester to Inverness, are indebted for their government and privileges to the Roman institutions. The choice of the magistrates and councils was left to the inhabitants, and in them were vested the care of the public worship, the corporate property, the police, and some portion of judicial power.

During the Roman sway, Christianity was first preached in their land; but the exact time, or mode of its introduction, is unknown. Probably it was nearly contemporary with its introduction into Gaul. That it had become widely diffused in Britain, at the close of the fourth century, we may learn from the fact, that the whole country was agitated by the heresy on original sin and free-will, newly promulgated by Pelagius, a Welshman, and Celestius, a Scotchman.

After the departure of the Romans the island became a prey to the Saxons,—a fierce and warlike people, of Gothic origin, inhabiting the countries bordering on the Baltic, the Weser, the Ems, and the Rhine. Pillage by land, piracy by sea, were the chief pursuits of these invaders. At first they were called in to assist the Britons against the Picts and Scots; but from auxiliaries they became masters; and, after subjugating the best part of the country, divided it into petty kingdoms, under the name of the Heptarchy.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

B.C. 55. Aug. 26. Julius Cæsar makes his first descent on Britain, in the afternoon, near Dover, and the first battle was fought at Deal. He had sent over before him Comius, to invite the British Princes to enter into an alliance with the Romans; but Comius was imprisoned by the Britons, and not released till Cæsar defeated and compelled them to sue for peace. The ships on which the Roman horse embarked being afterwards dispersed by a storm as they lay in the Downs, the Britons commenced hostilities again, and surrounded the seventh legion; but Cæsar marching to the assistance of the legion, the Britons were defeated a second time, and gave hostages as pledges of their fidelity; whereupon Cæsar re-embarked all his forces, Sept. 20, and returned to the Continent about the autumnal equinox.

54. Cæsar made a second descent, his

fleet consisting of 800 ships, with five legions and two thousand horse; he advanced to the Stour, near Canterbury, where he defeated the Britons, May 20; he then advanced to the Thames, which he passed near Oatlands, penetrating as far as Verulam, the capital of Cassibelan, and near to the present town of St. Alban's. Cæsar imposed a tribute on the Britons of three thousand pounds. Cassibelan and the princes of South Britain submitting, and giving hostages, Cæsar embarked his forces, Sept. 26, and returned to the Continent; where, aspiring to the empire, and the Romans being engaged in civil wars, the Britons remained unmolested for ninety years. Cæsar is supposed to have embarked at Calais or Boulogne, and to have landed near Dover or Deal, in Kent, in both expeditions.

23. Cunobelinus reigned in Britain, and

had a palace at Malden, in Essex; in whose reign the first coin was made in Britain.

A. D. 9. The river Humber overflowed its banks, and laid the adjacent country under water for several miles.

40. Caligula prepared to invade Britain, for which purpose he assembled an army on the coast of Gaul; in derision, he commanded his soldiers to charge the ocean, and gathering some shells as the spoils of victory, returned to Rome.

46. Plautius, a Roman general, landed in Kent, and advanced to the Thames, which he passed at Wallingford, and in Oxfordshire defeated Caractacus and his brother Togodumnus, in three successive battles.

48. Claudius Cæsar, the fifth emperor, sent his general Plautius with great forces into Britain; and following the next year in person, subdued great part of the island, whereby he acquired the title of Britannicus.

50. About this year London is supposed to be built (or rather fortified) by the Romans.

51. Caractacus, king of the Silures, (South Wales) uniting his forces with the Ordoones (North Wales), defended his country against Ostorius the Roman general, seven years, but was at length defeated; and flying to Cartimandua, queen of the Brigantes (Yorkshire), was by her delivered up to the Romans, and led in triumph through that city with his wife and children; but his intrepid behaviour procured them all their pardons from the emperor Claudius.

52. Ostorius routed the Britons, and fixed a camp on a moor between Littleborough and Doncaster, near Hatfield forest, the remains of which were recently visible.

53. Ostorius, worn out with an obscure and destructive war, died in Britain, and Claudius sent Aulus Didius in his room, who the same year was removed; and [54] Veranius succeeded him under Nero, who died soon after, and [58] Suetonius Paulinus took the command.

59. Paulinus destroys the sacred seat of the Druids in the island of Mona or Anglesey, which he considered the focus of resistance to the Roman power.

60. The Christian religion supposed, by some historians, to be first planted in Britain, in the reign of the emperor Nero.

61. Prasutagus, king of the Iceni (Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire), in order to procure the emperor Nero's protection of his family, made Nero coheir of his estate with his daughters; but the emperor's officers, on the death of Prasutagus, seized the whole, whipped queen Boadicea his widow, and ravished her daughters. Whereupon queen Boadicea incited the

Britons to revenge her wrongs, and, assembling 250,000 men, fell upon the Roman colonies, destroying upwards of 70,000 men, women, and children; but Paulinus, returning from the conquest of Mona, gave battle to the Britons, commanded by Boadicea, and, obtaining the victory, took a severe revenge, killing 80,000 Britons, having no regard either to sex or age. Boadicea poisoned herself; and Posthumus, a Roman commander not engaged, destroyed himself, through grief, at losing his share in the victory.

65. Nero burnt Rome, and began the first persecution.

69. Frontinus, governor in Britain, subdued the Silures, who inhabited the forest of Dean and the counties of Hereford and Monmouth.

78. Julius Agricola appointed governor in Britain; he completed the reduction of Anglesey.

83. Agricola reduced South Britain into the form of a province, introducing the Roman laws, language, architecture, habits, and customs: he afterwards marched into North Britain, and defeated Galgacus at the Grampian hills, under whom the Britons made their last effort to recover their liberties.

84. He built a chain of forts from the Clyde to the Forth, which constituted the chief strength of Hadrian's wall. He circumnavigated Britain, and first discovered it to be an island. His fleet subdued the Orkney isles, and he overthrew the Caledonians at Forten-Gail camp, sixteen miles beyond Perth.

86. Agricola was recalled by the emperor Domitian, through envy of his renown, and suspected to have been poisoned. Under Agricola the Roman dominion in Britain reached its utmost permanent limit.

88. The Caledonians make irruptions into Britain, destroy part of the boundary of forts, and retreat with their booty.

117. The emperor Hadrian landed in Britain.

121. Hadrian erected a second wall, from Solway Frith to the mouth of the Tyne, for securing Britain against the Caledonians, and the remains of which still subsist.

134. Lollius Urbicus, lieutenant to the emperor Antoninus Pius, built another wall of earth beyond the former from Edinburgh to Dunbritton Frith.

180. The bishopric of Llandaff founded by Dubritius, the first bishop.

205. A dreadful earthquake in Wales.

207. Fifty thousand of Severus's troops die of a pestilence. He kept his court at York.

208. Severus repulses the Caledonians,

and builds the famous wall of stone in place of Hadrian's wall of earth. Its height was twelve feet; its breadth, at the foundation, varied from six to nine feet; in front was a ditch eleven feet broad. The remains of this stupendous erection are still viewed with astonishment.

211. *Feb.* 4. Severus dying at York, his son, Caracalla, was chosen; who ordered his brother Geta to be put to death.

212. Scotland received the Christian faith, when gold and silver coin were first introduced there.

217. Caracalla died, and the Britons revolted.

270. Constantine, afterwards the Great, born at York. His mother was Helena, daughter of Coilus; she first walled the city of London.

276. Wines first made in Britain.

283. The tenth persecution by Diocletian, when the Christians of Britain, as well as the other provinces of the empire, endured a sharp persecution; and St. Alban, said to have been the first martyr in Britain, was beheaded at Holmehurst, now St. Alban's.

284. Carausius arrived, and proclaimed emperor in Britain; and the first who bestowed Scotland on the Picts, as a recompense for their assistance. Till this period the Picts are not mentioned in history; they are supposed to be Caledonians, who had adopted the manners of their conquerors. A portion of them, however, still continuing the practice of painting their bodies.

306. Constantinus died at York, and was succeeded by his son Constantine, who with the assistance of British forces defeated Maxentius, who had assumed the purple at Rome; and, being in quiet possession of the empire, embraced the Christian religion, and was saluted by the name of Constantine the Great.

312. *June* 10. Constantine the Great, the first Christian emperor, called the first general council of Nice to determine on the Arian heresy.

314. Three British bishops deputed, go to the council of Arles, in France.

337. *May* 22. Constantine died, and was buried at Constantinople. Constantinus succeeded to that division of the empire which included Britain; but by invading his brother Constant's territories he was slain, and the victor inherited Britain, and arrived here to repel the Picts.

340. Constant's vices subjected him to the contempt of his subjects, and he was deprived of his crown and life by Magnentius, a Gaul of British extraction, who assumed the regal dignity; but the friends of Constantius, the youngest son of Constantine the Great, prevailing against him,

after a struggle of three years, the usurper put an end to his own life, at Lyons [344], and the whole province of Britain acknowledged the authority of the victor.

346. Constantius erected a court of confiscation in Britain, under the direction of Paulus, a Spanish notary, who prosecuted with rigour the adherents of Magnentius, on whom he committed the greatest outrages.

347. The garrisons in Germany are supplied with corn from Britain; so very fertile was this island.

360. The Scots, who had emigrated from Ireland, now began to appear and constitute a kingdom. Britain was harassed by the Picts, Scots, and Saxons.

370. Maximus, governor in Britain, repaired the walls of Severus and Agricola, and erected a separate province, called Valentia, situate between the two boundaries.

382. Maximus, the Roman general in Britain, declares himself emperor, and carries over all the youth of Britain into France, as well as the Roman forces, whereby Britain is exposed to the incursions of the Scots and Picts.

385. Theodosius defeats Maximus and puts him to death. In this contest the flower of the British youth fell in battle.

393. Theodosius died; and his son Honorius governed the western division of the empire, who sent Victorius as vicar into Britain, who carried his authority so far as to interpose in the election of a chief. Encouraged by the example of the Gauls and other nations, who were daily falling off from their obedience to the Roman empire, the northern Britons joined the Picts, and determined to expel the Romans the island. In this the inhabitants of the south refused to concur, and even implored the assistance of Rome against the Picts, which induced these northerners to treat them as common enemies, and lay waste their flourishing provinces.

396. Two legions were sent to the relief of the South Britons by Honorius.

410. More troops sent under a Roman general.

426. Again others were sent, but met with great opposition. In the year following was the last assistance the Romans afforded them.

428. The emperor Honorius wrote to the states of Britain to provide for their own defence. The emperor abandons Britain, and discharges the Britons from their allegiance. This was 473 years after the first attempt of Julius Cæsar against this island.

447. When the Romans abandoned South Britain, the natives elected a king, whom they soon after dethroned. They proceeded to elect others, who were successively dethroned or murdered; till they

fixed at length upon Vortigern, a Prince of the *Dunmonii* (inhabitants of Devon and Cornwall), who was elected sole monarch of South Britain: this prince, with the consent of his subjects, invited over the Saxons (who inhabited the north-west of Germany) to defend them against the Caledonians, who had invaded and harassed South Britain in a terrible manner, ever since the departure of the Romans.

449. The first body of Saxons arrived at *Abbesfleet*, in the isle of *Thanet*, in three galleys, commanded by *Hengist* and *Horsa*, two brothers: king *Vortigern* agreed to take them into his pay; in consideration whereof, they stipulated to defend his country against the Caledonians, and accordingly advanced against them, met them near *Stamford* in *Lincolnshire*, and compelled them to retire further northward.

450. The Saxons, however, sent for further reinforcements, which arrived in sixteen large ships, consisting of Saxons, *Danes*, and *Angles*; with them came *Rowena*, the beautiful niece of *Hengist*, whom *Vortigern* married, and in consideration, it is said, made her father king of *Kent*.

451. The Saxons having driven the *Picts* and *Scots* into the north part of the island, introduced still greater numbers of their countrymen.

452. *Hengist* sent for a further supply; with whom arrived *Octa* his brother, who brought with him his son *Ebusa*.

454. *Vortigern*, compelled by his subjects to admit his son *Vortimer* partner in the throne, was deprived of all authority. The Britons endeavoured to rid the kingdom of the Saxons; but were resisted by the Saxons, when a war commenced, which terminated in favour of the latter.

455. The first battle was fought at *Aylesford* in *Kent*, when the Saxons were commanded by *Hengist* and *Horsa*, and the Britons by *Vortimer*. Here *Horsa* was slain, and *Hengist* with his own hand slew *Catigern*, the brother of *Vortimer*; and, notwithstanding the Saxons had not the advantage of the day, immediately after the battle *Hengist* first took upon him the title of King of *Kent*.

457. Two years after another battle was fought near *Crayford* in *Kent*, wherein *Vortimer* was entirely defeated, with the loss of more than 4000 men and his best officers. He retired and shut up himself in *London*, not being able to keep the field; and *Hengist*, to terrify the Britons, ravaged the country in a merciless manner: they that were most exposed to the fury of the Saxons left their habitations and fled to the woods for shelter.

458. The Britons desired assistance of

the kings of *Armorica* (*Britanny*), when *Ambrosius* was sent with 10,000 men, but through jealousy prevented from being joined by the Britons, who became a prey to their intestine broils, instead of uniting against the common enemy. Numbers of the Britons retired into *Wales*, and some went to *Holland*, and landed near *Leyden*. Thus the Britons, for seven or eight years, suffered all the calamities of a civil war, till, by agreement, a division of the kingdom put an end to their animosities.

466. The war was again renewed against their common enemy the Saxons; and in the first engagement *Hengist* lost *Wypped* his general, at *Ipswich* in *Suffolk*. It was in this war *Prince Arthur*, at fourteen years of age, first made his appearance. He was King of *Cornwall* and *Devon*.

475. *Vortimer* died by poison, given by his mother-in-law *Rowena*, at the instigation of *Hengist*, and was buried at *Lincoln*.

476. *Hengist* entertained *Vortigern* and 300 of his principal noblemen, whom he murdered on *May 1*, and in memory of it *Ambrosius* is said to have erected *Stonehenge* in *Wiltshire*. *Ambrosius* assumed the purple in *Britain*, after the manner of the Romans, from whom he descended.

477. *Hengist's* treachery and murder of the British nobles rendered him hated, and his country became depopulated, by the inhabitants retiring to other parts; which induced him to send to *Germany* for *Ella*, who landed in *Sussex*, but not without opposition. With him arrived his sons, the youngest of whom was *Cissa*. He had continual wars with the Britons, the particulars whereof are unknown, except that they settled on the sea-coast, and were called the *South-Saxons*, and their country *Sussex*. Those that were settled on the east coast were called *East-Saxons*, and their country *Essex*. The country between *Essex* and *Sussex* was termed *Middlesex*. As for *Kent*, it retained its ancient name.

488. *Hengist* died, aged sixty-nine, having been in *Britain* thirty-nine years, and on the throne of *Kent* thirty-three.

491. *Prince Arthur* defeated the *Northumbrian* Saxons.

495. *Cerdic*, a Saxon general, arrived in *Britain*, from whom descended the kings of *England*, in the male line, to *Edward the Confessor*, and in the female line to the present family.

497. *Arthur* defeated the revolted subjects of *Ambrosius*, and drove their leader into *Wales*, where he procured the possession of *Brecknock* and *Radnorshire*, which he erected into a kingdom.

501. *Porta*, another Saxon, landed at the place now called *Portsmouth*, with more Saxons, who became so very nume-

rons, that Arthur quitted the field and retired to London.

504. Arthur again took the field at the head of 15,000 men, and defeated the Saxons under Cerdic near Boston, and soon after a second time near Gainsford.

511. The battle of Badenhill, near Bath, where a complete victory was gained by Arthur, wherein two of the Saxon chiefs were slain, and Cerdic was obliged to retire to an inaccessible post. Here Arthur is reputed to have slain 400 with his own hand.

512. The Picts made a descent in the north in favour of the Saxons, against whom Arthur went, defeated them, and ravaged their country. The same year died Gueniver, the wife of Arthur, and she was buried in the county of Angus in Scotland.

520. The bishopric of St. David's founded by Arthur, and Dubritius was the first bishop.

521. Cerdic founded the West Saxon kingdom, and was crowned at Winchester, twenty-three years after his arrival in Britain.

527. Erchenwin began to assume the title of King of the East Saxons. About the same time multitudes of Angles landed on the eastern coast of Britain, where without difficulty they settled, and founded a fifth kingdom under the name of East Angles. Arthur was in the north when they landed, and Cerdic gave him battle, and defeated him at Cherdsey in Buckinghamshire.

530. Cerdic subdued the Isle of Wight, and cruelly destroyed the inhabitants.

531. Modred, Arthur's nephew, debauched his queen, and married her; surrendered a great part of Arthur's dominions to Cerdic, and was crowned king of the remainder at London.

535. Arthur returned from Armorica, and discovering Modred's villany, raised forces, and after several battles in favour of Arthur, a decisive one was fought in 542, near Camelford, wherein both fell, and with Arthur all the hopes of the Britons. Arthur was buried at Glastonbury, aged ninety, seventy-six years of which were spent in continual exercise of arms. He was born at Tindagel in Cornwall.

547. Ida, an Angle, landed at Flamborough, and became the first king of Northumberland.

560. The bishopric of St. Asaph founded by Kentiger, a Scot. Himself the first bishop.

572. Chevlin obliged the kings of Kent, Essex, and Sussex, to submit to him as their superior. He then attacked the Britons, but death seized him in the midst of his victories.

584. Crida, a Saxon chief, arrived in Britain with a large fleet, and made great conquests, which obliged the Britons to retire entirely into Cambria, and Crida founded the kingdom of Mercia, which was the last of the seven Saxon kingdoms, called the Heptarchy.

585. The Saxons change the name of Cambria into Wales. About the same time the Anglo-Saxons unanimously agreed to call the seven kingdoms in general by the name of England, that is, the country of the Angles.

MISCELLANIES OF ROMAN BRITAIN.

The population of Britain at the period of the Roman invasion has been estimated at 760,000.

All the unconquered Britons, who dwelt without the limits of the Roman empire, were called Caledonii by the Romans and provincial Britons during the first, second, and third centuries. In the beginning of the fourth century these Britons were divided into two considerable nations, known by the new names of Scots and Picts; about the origin and meaning of these names no satisfactory explanation has been given.

Though the northern tribes were barbarous, those who occupied the southern parts of the island were partly civilized. Their dress was of their own manufacture. A square mantle covered a vest and trousers, or a deeply-plaited tunic of brodered cloth; the waist was encircled with a belt; rings adorned the second finger of each hand, and a chain of iron or brass was suspended from the neck. Their huts re-

sembled those of their Gothic neighbours. A foundation of stone supported a circular wall of timber and reeds; over which was thrown a conical roof pierced in the centre, for the twofold purpose of admitting the light and discharging the smoke. In husbandry they had discovered the use of manure, and they raised more corn than was necessary for their own consumption. They had learnt the art of making linen; of dyeing wool, yarn, and cloth different colours, and of bleaching and washing. With the uses of tin, lead, and copper they were acquainted. Of iron they knew little; nor does it appear Cæsar found gold and silver among them. Vessels of earthenware have been found in barrows, which have been conjectured to be the workmanship of the ancient Britons. If Stonehenge were erected, as mentioned, by Ambrosius, it shows some knowledge of architecture; having out-lived all the more solid and noble structures of the Romans.

The Druids were the only learned men, —the philosophers, priests, and legislators, —who communicated their knowledge to the people through the medium of verse. They kept the calendar, and reckoned time by the elapse of nights, not of days.

Cæsar found a rude kind of money in use, consisting of brass, or rings and plates of iron, of a determinate weight. The Romans not only changed the species, but

much increased the quantity of the current coin. It is thought there were greater quantities of coin in the island in the flourishing times of the Roman government than at any period during a thousand years after their departure. Many of the ancient British coins have descended to us; most of them probably struck by Roman artists.

THE HEPTARCHY. A. D. 565 to 827.

THE struggles of the several states, and the events which marked the period of the Heptarchy, are imperfectly known, and from their character scarcely deserve to be recorded. A succession of acts of treachery and cruelty have little to instruct the mind, or interest the heart. Though the Saxons were divided into seven kingdoms, their princes appear to have owed a federative allegiance to one among them, distinguished by the Anglo-Saxon title of Bretwalda, or director of the Britons. Eight, or, according to some, seven chiefs, exercised this supremacy, from Hengist to Egbert, who was the seventeenth king of the West Saxons, and almost the sole monarch of England. Egbert had lived at the court of Charlemagne, and by a politic conduct gradually subjected his contemporaries, except Mercia, East Anglia, and Northumberland, which he suffered to retain a semblance of independence during the lives of the reigning princes.

Various causes contributed to the dissolution of the Heptarchy; one, the great inequality amongst the principalities in extent and power, which made the weak a prey to their more powerful neighbours. But the principal cause was the default of male heirs in the royal families of all the kingdoms except Wessex; whence arose those divisions among the great men which weakened their respective communities.

No sooner had the kingdom made some progress towards order and consolidation, than it became a prey to a new and more ferocious class of disturbers. These were the Scandinavians, known in France under the name of Normans, and in England by that of Danes; their object was not colonization, but to ravage and plunder the island. Under the command of their sea-kings, as they called the leaders of their squadrons, they contrived at uncertain intervals to harass England for several centuries, and as the country was unprovided with naval or military defences to protect any part of the coast against their piratical inroads, the people were kept in a constant state of inquietude and alarm.

The spread of Christianity, through the preaching of Augustin and his followers, helped to mitigate the evils of this disastrous period. Men exposing themselves to a cruel death, for the sake of diffusing their precepts, could not entirely fail of success even among the most ruthless barbarians. But the Saxon laws and institutions do not appear to have undergone material improvement from the diffusion of the new doctrine, which may be partly ascribed to the source from which it was derived. In the Roman worship credulity and superstition were inculcated more than wisdom and morals. Reverence towards saints and relics was deemed almost a higher

object than adoration of the Deity; monastic observances were esteemed more meritorious than the active virtues. The knowledge of natural causes was neglected, from the universal belief of miraculous interpositions and judgments; bounty to the church and pilgrimages to Rome atoned for every violence against society; and remorse for crimes was appeased not by amendment, but by penance, servility to monks, and an abject devotion. It was a religion of forms, not of practical uses; and the disputes which divided the clergy relative to the tonsure and the festival of Easter attest it to have been an age of unprofitable theological trifling.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

455. The first of the seven kingdoms erected by the Saxons was Kent, of which Hengist was the first monarch, and contained the county of Kent: its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Hengist	455	10 Edrick	685
2 Eske	488	11 Withred	686
3 Octa	512	12 Edbert	695
4 Ymrick	534	13 Edalbert	725
5 Ethelbert	568	14 Alrick	760
6 Eabald	616	15 Ethelbert	794
7 Ercombert	640	16 Cuthred	798
8 Egbert	664	17 Baldred	805
9 Lothaire	673		

This kingdom began 455, ended 805, having continued 350 years. Its first Christian king was Ethelbert. He presented to St. Augustin a pagan temple without the walls of Canterbury, as a burial-place for himself and successors; it afterwards became a monastery. He died February 24, 616, after a reign of fifty-six years. Before his death he published a code of laws to regulate the administration of justice. He was one of the Bretwaldas.

477. The second kingdom they erected was that of the South Saxons, whereof Ella was the first king, and contained the counties of Sussex and Surrey. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Ella	477	4 Berthum	688
2 Cissa	514	5 Authum	722
3 Ethelwolf	634		

This kingdom began 477, ended 754, having continued 277 years. Its first Christian king was Ethelwolf. Ella was the first Bretwalda. As Sussex was the smallest of the seven kingdoms, it is unknown by what claim he obtained precedence among the confederate princes.

521. The third kingdom was that of the West Saxons, whereof Cerdic was the first king, reigned twenty-three years: it contained the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wilts, Hants, and Berks. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Cerdic	521	9 Kentwin	676
2 Kenrike	534	10 Ceadwald	686
3 Chevline	560	11 Ina	688
4 Cearlik	594	12 Ethelard	727
5 Chelwold	598	13 Cuthreds	740
6 { Kingils	611	14 Sigebert	754
{ Quinthelin	614	15 Kenwolfe	754
7 Kenwald	643	16 Brithrick	784
8 Eskwyn	674	17 Egbert	800

This kingdom began 521, ended 800, having continued 279 years. Its first Christian king was Kingils. Ina was equally celebrated as a legislator and warrior. He assembled the Witenagemot, by whose advice he enacted seventy-nine laws regulating the administration of justice; fixing the *were*, and checking hereditary feuds.

527. The fourth kingdom was that of the East Saxons, of whom Erchewin was the first king. It contained Middlesex, Essex, and part of Hertfordshire. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Erchenwin	527	7 Swithelma	655
2 Sleda	587	8 Sighere	670
3 Sebert	604	9 Sebba	683
(Sexred		10 Sigherd, and	
4 Seward	616	11 Seofred	694
{ Sigebert		12 Offa	705
5 Sigebert	623	13 Selred	707
6 Sigebert	653	14 Suthped	746

This kingdom began 527, ended 746, having continued 219 years. Its first Christian king was Sebert.

547. The fifth kingdom was that of Northumberland: it contained Yorkshire, Durham, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Ella or Ida	547	8 Ethelfrid	590
2 Adda	559	9 Edwin	624
3 Elappa	566	10 Oswald	633
4 Theodwald	570	11 Oswy	643
5 Fréthulfe	572	12 Egfrid	670
6 Theodrick	579	13 Osred	705
7 Ethelrick	586	14 Kenred	716

Began		Began	
15 Oswick	718	20 Alured	765
15 Ceolnulphe	730	21 Ethelred	774
17 Egbert	737	22 Alswald	779
18 Oswulph	758	23 Oared	789
19 Edilwald	759	24 Ardulph	796

This kingdom began 547, ended 800, having continued 253 years. Its first Christian king was Edwin. Oswy was the last of the Bretwaldas. Ethelfrid, a pagan, demolished the famous monastery of Bangor, and massacred the monks to the number of 1200.

571. The sixth kingdom was that of the East Angles. It contained the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge, and the Isle of Ely. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Uffa	571	8 Ethelbert	654
2 Titullus	578	9 Ethwald	655
3 Redwald	599	10 Aldwolfe	664
4 Erpenwald	624	11 Alswald	679
5 Sigebert	633	12 Beorn	749
6 Egrick	644	13 Ethelred	790
7 Anna	644	14 Ethelbert	792

This kingdom began 571, ended 792, having continued 221 years. Its first Christian king was Redwald.

584. The seventh was the kingdom of Mercia. It contained the counties of Huntingdon, Rutland, Lincoln, Northampton, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, Oxford, Chester, Salop, Gloucester, Worcester, Stafford, Warwick, Buckingham, Bedford, and Hertford. Its kings were

Began		Began	
1 Crida	584	11 Offa	757
2 Whibba	597	12 Egrid	794
3 Cheorl	616	13 Kenwolfe	795
4 Penda	625	14 Kenelme	819
5 Peada	653	15 Chelwolfe	819
6 Wolfhere	659	16 Bernulfe	821
7 Ethelred	674	17 Ludecun	823
8 Kenred	704	18 Whitlufe	825
9 Chilred	709	19 Bertwolfe	826
10 Ethelbald	716	20 Burdred	828

This kingdom began 584, ended 828, having continued 244 years. Its first Christian king was Peada. Offa first directed the sounding of trumpets before him to apprise of his appearance, and command respect. He also directed a great ditch to be dug from Bristol to Basingwork in Flintshire, as the exclusive boundary of the Britons harboured in Wales. He founded the monastery of St. Alban's.

The names of the princes of the Heptarchy, enumerated above, are differently written by historians; it is in all respects the most obscure and contradictory portion of British history.

665. In May was a total eclipse of the sun. The summer of this year was remarkably dry, and a most destructive pestilence, called the yellow plague, depopu-

lated the island. It reached Ireland in August. During twenty years it visited and revisited the different provinces of Britain and Ireland.

760. A violent frost which lasted from October to February.

762. Burials permitted in towns; used to be in the highways.

787. The Danes first arrive in England. 788. Pleading in courts of judicature instituted.

824. The method of deciding by oath first introduced at a synod, when 150 monks were sworn.

CHURCH AFFAIRS.

597. Augustin lands with forty missionaries in the Isle of Thanet, and immediately sent messengers to Ethelbert, king of Kent, who, though himself a Pagan, had a wife Bertha, a descendant from Clovis, who was a Christian.

602. Augustin endeavours to persuade the British bishops to submit to him in the observance of Easter, and to accept him for their archbishop, which they refused. The dispute on the observance of Easter turned on the point whether it ought to be observed on the first day of the full moon in March, if that day was Sunday, or not until the Sunday following; the British clergy adopted the affirmative, and their new teachers the negative side. The dispute on the tonsure was hardly more important, namely, whether only the centre or entire crown of the monks ought to be shaven.

604. St. Paul's in London founded by Ethelbert.

Mahomet spreads his opinions.

The bishopric of London founded by Ethelbert. St. Miletus the first bishop.

The bishopric of Bath and Wells founded by Ina, king of the West-Saxons. Adelmus the first bishop.

The bishopric of Rochester founded by Ethelbert. St. Justus the first bishop.

Augustin, Archbishop of Canterbury, dies.

605. A court of chancery so long ago as this year, according to Selden. Augemundus the first chancellor.

611. St. Peter's church and abbey of Westminster founded by Seburt, king of the East-Saxons.

The archbishopric of York founded by Edwin, king of the Northumbrians. St. Paulinus the first archbishop.

635. York being made an archbishop's see, Honorius the pope sent a pall to Paulinus the archbishop; as he did another pall, at the same time, to Honorius Archbishop of Canterbury; and sent also decretal letters, wherein he directed that, if either the Archbishop of Canterbury or

York should die, the survivor might ordain and consecrate another, without applying to Rome.

637. Soon after Kinegillus king of the West-Saxons, with his people, and the rest of the Saxon kings, received the Christian faith. During the Saxon Heptarchy, it is observable that no less than thirty English-Saxon kings and queens resigned their crowns to enjoy a religious solitude.

640. Ercombert, king of Kent, commands the heathen images to be destroyed, and enforces the observance of Lent, by civil sanctions.

643. The University of Cambridge is said by some to be founded by Sigebert, king of the East-Angles, about this year.

650. The bishopric of Winchester founded by Kinegillus, king of the West-Saxons. St. Bisinus the first bishop.

656. The bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry founded by Oswy, king of Northumberland. Duma the first bishop.

663. Glass invented by a bishop, and brought into England by Benedict, a monk.

669. A school or seminary erected at Cricklade in Wiltshire, where, besides divinity, was taught Latin, Greek, arithmetic, music, and astronomy.

678. An appeal from England to the see of Rome, by Wilfred, Archbishop of Canterbury; the decree from thence treated with contempt.

679. The bishopric of Worcester founded by Ethelred, king of the Mercians. Boselus the first bishop.

680. The canons of five general councils (namely, Nice, Constantinople, Ephesus, Chalcedon, and another at Constantinople) received in England.

The bishopric of Hereford founded by Milfride, a nobleman of that county. Putta the first bishop.

690. The bishopric of Durham was translated from Lindisfarne, or Holy Island, by Alderinus, the twenty-fourth bishop thereof, himself being the first bishop.

710. A synod held at Alnwick in Northumberland, when the worshipping of images was introduced into England.

720. Ina, king of the West-Saxons, went to Rome, and made the pope a present of the tax since called Peter-pence or Rome-scot. It was called Peter-pence, because it was to be paid on the feast of St. Peter ad vincula: it was given for maintaining an English school at Rome, though future popes pretended it was a tribute due to the see from this nation.

725. Ina erects Glastonbury Abbey, and his donations to it amounted to 2900 pounds of silver, and 350 pounds of gold.

729. Ethelbald, king of the Mercians, directs the Scriptures to be read in monasteries, and the Lord's Prayer and Creed taught in the Saxon tongue.

741. A synod held of English bishops, when a canon was made against the drunkenness of the clergy.

751. Organs first introduced into divine worship.

ANGLO-SAXON KINGS. A. D. 827 to 1066.

IN the series of kings of the Saxon race that followed the dissolution of the Heptarchy, the name of Alfred stands pre-eminent. Hardly any excellence can be named which has not been ascribed to this illustrious prince. He was great in war, a wise legislator in peace, and amiable and learned in private life. Recent inquiries, however, show that he has had more ascribed to him than justly appertains to his history. He was not, as has been represented, the founder of trial by jury, nor of frank pledge, nor the author of the local division of the country into shires, hundreds, and tithings: these, and some other institutions, were probably transplanted from Germany, and introduced by the Saxons soon after their first settlement in the country. Still glory enough remains to Alfred in his triumphs over the Danes, and in his police and judicial improvements, to preserve him in his foremost place among English sovereigns.

The Anglo-Saxon state of society has been mostly over-rated: neither in its political nor civil organization did it exhibit higher examples of social order than are mostly to be found in communities entering on the early stages of civilization. Even the succession to the crown was regulated by

no immutable principle, either of elective or hereditary right. The constitution of the great council of the nation, or the Witenagemot, has been much disputed: it was not a representative body, but chiefly consisted of the spiritual and temporal thanes, who held immediately of the crown, and who could command the services of military vassals. It was necessary that the king should obtain the assent of these to all legislative enactments; because without their acquiescence and support it was impossible to carry them into execution. For the same reason, on a vacancy of the crown, their assent was necessary to guarantee the succession. In ordinary cases their meetings were in the presence of the king; and, as individuals, they were his vassals, as they had sworn "to love what he loved, and shun what he shunned,"—there can be little doubt that they generally succumbed to his wishes. To many charters are attached the signatures of the Witan. They seldom exceed thirty in number, they never amount to sixty. (Lingard, 486.) Other liegemen attended the assembly as spectators, not to share in its deliberations. In short, the Witan was the hereditary council of the crown, resembling in its constitution the present House of Lords, not the Commons.

The judicial administration affords the surest test of the merit of civil institutions. Among the Anglo-Saxons justice was dispensed on the barbarous principle of private revenge or pecuniary compensation for the injury received. The life of a king might be commuted for 30,000 thrymsas, of an earl or a bishop 8000, of a thane 2000, of a churl or slave 260. Even the value of a man's oath varied, that of a twelve-hynd man being deemed equivalent to that of six churls. Theft was a capital offence, though murder might be expiated by a forfeiture; a mode of estimating the relative value of personal and proprietary security strangely inconsistent with modern notions.

Some institutions evince a popular and equitable spirit. The meetings of the courts for shires, hundreds, and tithings, at which the humbler classes were necessarily more important than in the national councils, contributed to cultivate generous principles of equal law and government; and though trial by jury was unknown, it cannot be doubted that the share of the people in these local tribunals, where ordinary justice was administered, must have led to the establishment of that democratical institution.

The grand division of the inhabitants was into freemen and slaves. But there were intermediate classes, as the villains, bordars, and cottars, whose immunities probably depended on the relative utility of their occupations as cultivators of the soil, or followers of the handicraft arts. All, however, occupied in industry appear to have been denuded of the substantial attributes of freedom, the law recognized in none the right of property or locomotion without consent of their superiors; the lord had the disposal of their persons, they might be attached to the soil, or transferred by deed or sale from one owner to another: in short, they were slaves in the proper sense of the term, as subsisting under an obligation of perpetual servitude, which could only be dissolved at the pleasure of their master.

Amidst considerable barbarism the foundation was laid of important institutions. It was the era of conventual establishments. Men had been collected in monasteries from the landing of Augustin, but there is no evidence of any monastic rule more ancient than that of St. Benedict. It was the zeal and energy of St. Dunstan, the distinguished ecclesiastic

of the Saxon age, that mainly contributed to the establishment of this rigid order of monks.

From the Anglo-Saxons we derive the names of the most ancient officers amongst us, of the greater part of the divisions of the kingdoms, and of almost all our towns and villages. From them also we derive our language; of which the structure and a majority of the words are Saxon. Of sixty-nine words which make up the Lord's Prayer, only five are not Saxon. Of eighty-one words in the famous soliloquy of Hamlet, thirteen only are of Latin origin. Even in our most classical writers, as Milton, Addison, and Johnson, the words of Saxon derivation greatly predominate.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

ROBERT.

827. Egbert is sometimes reckoned the first sole monarch of the kingdom, to which he first (829) gave the name of England.

833. The Danes landed a third time, with great force, at Charmouth in Dorset, and maintained their ground.

835. Egbert engaged them in a second great battle at Hengstone Hill, in Cornwall, and forced them to quit the island.

836. Egbert died, and was buried at Winchester, February 4. He left two sons and a daughter.

ÆTHELWULF.

838. The eldest son of Egbert succeeded his father. He is said to have been a monk and bishop of Winchester, and absolved from his vows by Pope Gregory IV.

840. This year is remarkable for the entire destruction of the Picts, by the Scots their neighbours; and it was chiefly owing to this event that the Scots look upon Kenneth II. as one of the founders of that kingdom.

841. Ethelwulf resigned to his natural son Athelstan the kingdoms of Kent, Essex, Sussex and Surrey, with the title of King of Kent; reserving to himself the sovereignty of all England, with the kingdom of Wessex.

845. The Danes landed at Perrel in Somersetshire, and were totally defeated, which gave the kingdom some respite for several years.

851. The Danes routed at Wenbury, near Plymouth, and all their plunder taken from them. Athelstan pursued them with his fleet, and took nine of their ships near Sandwich, in Kent. Notwithstanding their ill success, next year they landed again, in the Thames, where they arrived with 300 ships, and nothing being able to oppose them, they arrived near London, where they began their usual ravages. London and Canterbury felt the effects of their rapine. They then attacked the king's army, at Okeley, in Surrey, but met with so great a defeat, that but few escaped.

854. Ethelwulf, with the consent of the tributary kings and his great council, made a most liberal grant to the clergy; but the obscurity of the charter by which the grant is made, renders it doubtful whether it was a grant of tithe, or only of an exemption of that portion of each manor from secular services.

855. He visits Rome, carrying his son Alfred along with him, where he rebuilt the English college, extending the gift of Peterpence over all his dominions, for the better support of the students. He obliged himself also to send to Rome annually 300 marks, 200 whereof were to purchase wax tapers for the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul, and the remaining hundred to be at the pope's disposal. In his return from Rome, he visited the court of France, and married Judith, the daughter of Charles king of France, a princess of but twelve years of age, which unsuitable match induced his son Ethelbald to conspire against his father. He returned to England, and was compelled by his son to surrender the Kentish dominions to him, with the same power as held by Athelstan, who was dead.

856. Ethelwulf finding death approaching, made his will, wherein he disposed of his dominions to Ethelbert, and after his decease to Ethelred, and after him to Alfred, his youngest son. This is the first instance of our kings disposing of their dominions by will.

858. Ethelwulf died, January 13, and was buried at Steyning, in Sussex, leaving behind him four sons and one daughter, who was married to Buthred, king of Mercia, and died in 888. Ethelbald, his eldest son was already in possession of Wessex; Ethelbert, the second son, had for his share Kent, Essex, Surrey, and Sussex, comprised under the name of the kingdom of Kent; but Ethelred and Alfred were but ill provided for, till they ascended the throne.

ÆTHELBALD.

858. Ethelbald succeeded his father, whose young widow he married, but the remon

stances of the bishop of Winchester against the incestuous connexion prevailed upon the king to agree to a separation. Judith returned to the French court, and became the wife of Baldwin, grand forester of France. From this union descended Matilda, wife of William the Conqueror, who gave to England a long race of sovereigns. Ethelbald reigned about two years and a half, and left his whole kingdom to his brother Ethelbert. He died December 20, 860, and was buried first at Sherborne, in Dorsetshire, but removed to Salisbury.

ETHELBERT.

860. Ethelbert, both by his father's as well as his brother's appointment, was crowned January, 861.

861. The Danes, or Northmen, renewed their invasions, and as they had so long kept from hence, there were no preparations to repulse their attacks. They landed at Southampton.

862. They burnt Winchester, but were checked in their devastation. Soon after they again landed in the Isle of Thanet, and were preparing to ravage the country, to prevent which Ethelbert gave them a sum of money. As soon as they had received the money they pillaged the country, destroying all with fire and sword.

866. Ethelbert died, having reigned six years, during which time history affords but few events besides the invasions of the Danes.

ETHELRED.

866. Third son of Ethelwulf, succeeded to the crown, in whose reign the Danes commit great ravages through the whole kingdom. In particular they ravaged the monasteries of their most valuable effects, and multitudes of nuns were exposed to their lust. They set fire to the city of York (869); and murder Edmund, titular king of the East Angles (873), the place of whose burial is since called St. Edmund's Bury. They destroyed the monasteries of Bradney, Croyland, Peterborough, Ely, and Huntingdon.

871. Ethelred overthrew the Danes at Assendon, which was the greatest loss the Danes had ever met with in England. He had nine set battles with the Danes in one year, and was wounded between Abingdon and Wallingford, in Berkshire, which occasioned his death, April 27, 872. He was buried at Winborne, in Dorsetshire, and left two sons and one daughter.

In this reign happened a great plague.

ALFRED THE GREAT.

872. Fourth son of Ethelwulf, succeeded his brother in the twenty-second year of his age, was crowned at Winchester, and at whose coronation was first used the ce-

emony of crowning and anointing. He was born at Wantage, in Berks, 849, and was obliged to take the field against the Danes within one month after his coronation at Wilton, with various success, but at length defeated them.

876. The Danes divided their army; one part seized on Exeter, where they wintered, and the other went to Northumberland. Alfred defeated them at Exeter, but they again made head against him at Chippenham, where he was worsted, and soon after at Bristol, where he recovered strength, and attacked them in camp, at Abingdon, in Berkshire. He fought seven battles with them the same year.

877. Another succour of Danes arrived, and Alfred was obliged to disguise himself in the service of a shepherd, in the isle of Athelney, in the county of Somerset.

878. In the disguise of a harper he discovered the Danes' careless way of living, and collecting his scattered friends, attacked and defeated them. He compelled their king, Gothrun, with thirty of the chiefs of the army, and divers of the common soldiers, to be baptized, and forced them to retire out of the kingdom.

879. Alfred built Shaftesbury.

881. The Welsh princes did homage to Alfred.

886. Alfred put the English upon building ships for their security, thereby laying the foundation of our naval power. He also established a regular militia for the defence of the kingdom, ordering that all should be armed and registered, and each have a regular rotation of duty; he distributed part into the castles and fortresses which he built in proper places, requiring another part to take the field on any alarm, at stated places of rendezvous, and he left a sufficient number at home to cultivate the soil, and who afterwards took their turn of military service. He rebuilt the city of London, which had been burnt and destroyed by the Danes. At this time hardly a layman could read English, nor a priest understand Latin. He restored learning in the university of Oxford.

890. Alfred introduced building with brick and stone; and was the first that had a method of dividing time by candles made of wax, marked with lines which served for so many hours; and to prevent the wind from making them burn unsteadily, he invented the expedient of inclosing them in lanterns.

893. The Danes, with 300 sail of ships, invaded England again, under one Hastings, and were encountered at sea by the ships lately built by Alfred; whereupon a peace ensued.

897. A plague happened, which ravaged the land for three years, and destroyed

many great men and ministers of state as well as others.

The Danes came up the Thames, and by small boats went up the river Lea, and built a fortress at Ware, when Alfred turned the course of the river, and left the ships dry, which obliged the Danes to remove.

900. Alfred died at Farringdon, in Berkshire, October 26, in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, and was buried at Winchester. He left two sons, Edward, who succeeded him, and Ethelwerd, who received from his father a learned education. His daughters were Ethelfleda, married to Ethered of Mercia; Ethelgiva, abbess of Shaftesbury; and Alfritha, married to Baldwin, count of Flanders, son of the celebrated Judith. Alfred is said to have fought fifty-six set battles with the Danes by sea and land. The same year he died, he formed a body of laws, afterwards used by Edward the Confessor. He obliged his nobles to bring up their children to learning, and to induce them thereto, he admitted none into office unless they were learned. He conferred the order of knighthood upon his grandson Athelstan, who appears to be the first knight ever made by an English monarch. This prince took a survey of all England, the rolls whereof were lodged at Winchester; from which model Doomsday-book was afterwards made by William I. but with more exactness.

EDWARD,

900. Eldest son of Alfred, succeeded his father, and was crowned at Kingston-upon-Thames. In the beginning of his reign, Ethelwold, the son of Ethelred, his father's eldest brother, laid claim to the crown, but being overpowered, he fled to the Danes, who acknowledged him for king of England, and fought several battles with Edward on his behalf.

904. Ethelfleda, the lady of Mercia and sister of the king, signalised her courage in making head against the Danes, and she was no less remarkable for her wisdom.

905. A battle fought near Bury, where the royal party succeeded, and Ethelwold was slain.

Wells made a bishop's see.

911. Leolin, prince of Wales, did homage to Edward for his principality.

920. Princess Ethelfleda died at Tamworth, in Staffordshire, and was buried in the porch of the monastery at Gloucester, which she and her husband the king of Mercia had founded. It is said, that in respect of the cities she built, the castles she fortified, and the armies she conducted, but few men could equal her in wisdom, courage, and conduct.

An army from Ireland landed in Wales,

and advanced to Chester, but were repulsed with great loss.

925. Edward died in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, at Farringdon in Berkshire, and was buried near his father. He built and repaired several castles and towns; in 918 he built two castles at Buckingham, one on each side the Ouse; in 919 he built one at Bedford on the south of the river; in 920 he repaired and fortified Malden in Essex; in 921 he did the same at Tower in Northamptonshire, Wigmore in Herefordshire, Colchester in Essex, and Huntingdon; in 922 he built a castle at Stamford in Lincolnshire; in 923 he repaired Thelwall in Cheshire, and Manchester; and in 924 he built the town of Nottingham.

Edward had three wives and fifteen children.

ATHELSTAN.

925. Athelstan succeeded, being Edward's eldest son, was crowned at Kingston-upon-Thames by Athelm, archbishop of Canterbury, with great magnificence, and may be properly termed the first monarch of England.

926. The Danes settled in England revolted, but by Athelstan's immediately attacking them, before they had collected their strength, they were subdued, and Athelstan, to prevent further bloodshed, pardoned the revolters, and gave his sister in marriage to Sithric, King of Northumberland, who dying soon after, Athelstan seized all that kingdom.

928. Athelstan destroyed the castle of York for having sheltered Godfrid.

934. Athelstan marched into Wales, and giving Howel battle, obtained a complete victory, but restored him his dominions, saying, it was more glorious to make a king than to dethrone one.

935. Athelstan marched against Scotland, but concluded a peace with Constantine, and restored him all the places he had taken.

936. A fresh war in the north, and Athelstan expelled the Scots out of Cumberland.

937. A severe frost in England, which lasted 120 days; it began Dec. 22.

At the instigation of a courtier, Athelstan is said to have condemned his brother Edwin to be exposed in a boat without oars, out of which the prince leapt into the sea, and was drowned. The king had remorse for his conduct, and to avert the vengeance of God, built Middleton Abbey in Dorsetshire, and soon after ordered his adviser of the murder to be beheaded.

938. Athelstan defeats a great confederate force of Britons, Scots, Irish, and northern adventurers at Brunanburgh in Northumbria. Previous to the battle, Anlaf of Ireland attempted in the night

to surprise and kill the king in his tent. This splendid victory established the supremacy of Athelstan over the British princes, and he assumed the title of King of the English. The dagger he had pledged before the battle in the church of Beverley he redeemed with a grant of valuable privileges. The Welsh became his tributaries.

939. Athelstan caused portions of the Bible to be translated into the Saxon.

In this reign Guy, earl of Warwick, is said to have encountered Colebrand, the Danish giant, and killed him.

A remarkable law was passed for the encouragement of commerce, namely, that every merchant who had made three voyages should be deemed a thane or noble.

941. Athelstan died at Gloucester, without issue, October 17, and was buried at Malmesbury, having reigned fifteen years and odd months.

EDMUND,

941. Fifth son of Edward, and brother and heir to Athelstan, succeeded to the crown, being about eighteen years of age, and was crowned at Kingston.

943. Anlaff returned from Ireland, and having seized Northumberland, advanced to Chester, where he met Edmund, who agreed with him to divide England.

944. Disturbances in the north suppressed, and Edmund compelled the contending princes to be baptized, himself standing godfather. He gave Cumberland and Westmoreland to Malcolm, king of the Scots, for his assistance against the Danes.

Croyland abbey, in Lincolnshire, rebuilt, and in it were set up the first tunable bells in England.

946. Edmund made the first law, that whoever robbed or stole any thing should be put to death.

948. He was killed, May 26th, in the seventh year of his reign, by one Leof, an outlaw, whom he had banished. This man presuming to appear before him at the festival of St. Augustin, in Puckle church, Gloucestershire, the king himself seized him; whereupon Leof stabbed him to the heart with a short dagger he had concealed, and was himself cut in pieces by the company. Edmund was buried at Glastonbury, where Dunstan was abbot. He had been married to Elfgiva, a princess whose zeal in purchasing the liberty of slaves, and other virtues, have been much celebrated by ancient writers.

EDRED.

948. The sixth son of Edward, succeeded his brother Edmund, and was crowned at Kingston, although Edmund left two sons, Edwin and Edgar, infants. His

reign was principally distinguished by the final subjugation of Northumbria.

949. He founded the bishop's see at St. Germain's, afterwards removed to Crediton, and from thence to Exeter.

951. Dunstan, abbot of Glastonbury, gained high credit with the king, who submitted even to receive discipline from his hands. Edred rebuilt Glastonbury abbey, on which he expended vast sums. He permitted Dunstan to introduce the monks into the benefices, and they proclaimed Dunstan's sanctity. The three main objects of Dunstan's ecclesiastical policy were to enforce clerical celibacy, to reduce all the monasteries to the rule of St. Benedict, and to expel the married clergy from prebends in cathedrals, that they might be succeeded by Benedictines.

955. Edred died of a quinsy, Nov. 23, in the seventh year of his reign, and was buried in the old monastery at Winchester.

EDWY,

955. The eldest son of king Edmund, succeeded his uncle, being about fourteen years of age. He banished St. Dunstan and was very severe to the monks, who consequently give but an indifferent character of him. He was excommunicated by archbishop Odo, and Elgiva, his queen or mistress, used in a barbarous manner by the clergy, who were jealous of her influence over the king in procuring the banishment of Dunstan.

956. An insurrection of the Mercians and Northumbrians in favour of Edwy's brother Edgar.

959. Edwy, having resigned part of his dominion to his brother, died, and was buried in the new monastery at Winchester.

EDGAR.

959. Surnamed the peaceable, brother and heir of Edwy, succeeded to the crown, being about sixteen years of age, and was crowned at Kingston, and again at Bath, in 973. He increased the royal navy to 360 ships, maintained the dominion of the narrow seas, and reigned in greater splendour than any of his predecessors; he built Ramsey abbey, and forty-seven other monasteries in different parts of the kingdom. Abingdon abbey was built.

960. He made severe laws to punish corrupt magistrates, but his attachment to the monks contributed to his great fame. He was so liberal to the monks, that Croyland abbey, in Lincolnshire, had treasure to the amount of 10,000*l.* beside holy vessels and shrines. Soon after he came to the crown he recalled Dunstan, whom he made archbishop of Canterbury, and bishop of Worcester; he also managed the vacant bishopric of London, and the pope made him his legate, when he again

endeavoured (964) to establish the monks, who bestowed on him every encomium.

969. Edgar ordered the Isle of Thanet to be laid waste for contemning his laws. In the early part of his reign he took a nun by force out of a convent, and after debauching her refused to restore her.

970. He married Elfrida, whose husband he murdered.

975. He died in the thirty-second year of his age, and the seventeenth of his reign, and was buried in the abbey of Glastonbury. Among other laws, he enacted one to restrain excessive drinking, ordaining a size by pints in the cup, with penalties to any one who should presume to drink deeper than the mark; and imposed on the princes of Wales a tribute of wolves' heads, that for three years amounted to 300 each year, which extirpated them, and the tribute ceased. He obliged eight tributary princes to row him in a barge on the river Dee, in 960, when he made a visit from Chester to the monastery of St. John Baptist.

EDWARD.

975. Edward, eldest son of Edgar, succeeded his father, being but twelve years of age; he was crowned by Dunstan at Kingston. In this reign the controversies between the regular and the secular clergy ran high: the laity took part with the seculars, dispossessed the monks, and brought in the secular priests and their wives by force of arms.

978. A national synod assembled at Colne, and declares in favour of the regular clergy, who are restored to their possessions by the help of some pious frauds, in those days called miracles.

979. Edward is murdered at Corfe Castle by his step-mother Elfrida, to make room for her son. This prince had little more than the name of king for about three years and a half. For his innocence and supposed miracles, after his death, he obtained the surname of Martyr. He was buried first at Warham, and afterwards removed to Shaftesbury. To atone for his murder, Elfrida founded two nunneries, one at Ambresbury, the other at Wharwell near Andover, in which last she shut herself up to do penance the remainder of her days.

ETHELRED II.

979. Ethelred, half brother to Edward, succeeded, and was crowned at Kingston, April 14, by the famous Dunstan, who first administered a coronation oath.

982. The king's palace, with great part of London, was destroyed by a terrible fire, after which succeeded a great mortality.

989. Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, died, but before his death had greatly lost his credit.

Figures in arithmetic first introduced into Europe from Arabia.

991. The Danes invaded the kingdom, but were restrained from further mischief by Ethelred paying them 10,000*l.* to depart; notwithstanding they then departed, such a large sum tempted them to recommence hostilities, and they made frequent invasions in 993, 995, 996, 998, and 999, receiving at one payment about 30,000*l.*, raised by a land-tax called Danegeld; the Danes grew so imperious as to acquire the title of Lord-Danes, which induced Ethelred to order a general massacre of them on Nov. 13, 1002, which began at Welw in Hertfordshire. This act exasperated the Danes, and excited them to revenge their countrymen's deaths; for which purpose Sweyn landed on the coast of Devon in 1003, and on the coast of Norfolk the year following, when he destroyed the city of Norwich and the town of Thetford; nor did he quit the kingdom till Ethelred had paid him 36,000*l.*, which he, the year following, demanded as an annual tribute; to enforce the payment of this demand he sent a fleet; to oppose which, in 1007, Ethelred fitted out one much larger than any ever possessed by his predecessors; but by the dissensions of the nobility it was rendered useless, and the Danes pillaged Kent, and secured their winter quarters in the Isle of Thanet. In the spring of 1008 they subdued great part of the kingdom, pillaging wherever they went. The English were so dispirited by reverses, that one Dana was considered equal to ten Englishmen. To stop their progress, it was agreed to pay them 48,000*l.* to quit the kingdom, in 1012. Oxford was destroyed by the Danes, and all studies ceased there till 1133. The calamities of this period were aggravated by a contagious distemper among the cattle, by several years of scarcity, and a dysentery most fatal to the human species.

1013. Sweyn again entered the Humber, threatening desolation to the whole kingdom, which so intimidated the feeble Ethelred, that he retired to the Isle of Wight, and sent his sons, with their mother Emma, into Normandy to her brother, and Sweyn took possession of the whole kingdom, of which he was proclaimed king.

1014. Canute, son of Sweyn, was proclaimed, and endeavoured by several acts of munificence to gain the affections of his English subjects, but without success.

1014. Ethelred II. returned at the invitation of his subjects, and Canute left England. Ethelred's avarice and cruelty soon began to show themselves, by his exacting large sums from his subjects, and two Danish lords were sacrificed for their estates,

Canute returned with a fleet of 200 sail, and landed at Sandwich, which occasioned Ethelred to retire into the north; but by avoiding a battle with the Danes he lost the affections of his subjects, and retiring to London he expired, after a troublesome reign of thirty-five years, and was buried at St. Paul's, April 24, 1016. In this reign it was first enacted that priests should not marry; it being the custom before for them to take two or three wives. It was also enacted that none should be sold out of the kingdom; it being the practice of the English to sell their children and kindred into Ireland for slaves, with as little concern as they did their cattle

EDMUND II.,

1016. Surnamed Ironside, the third, but eldest son living, of Ethelred, was, upon the death of his father, recognized as king by the city of London, and one part of the nation, while the other part acknowledged Canute for their king. Edmund was crowned at Kingston. Several battles were fought between Edmund and Canute with various success; at last they agreed to divide the kingdom between them; and, reigning but seven months, Edmund was barbarously murdered by Duke Edrick, and buried at Glastonbury. With him fell the glory of the Anglo-Saxons.

A general famine over Europe.

CANUTE THE DANER.

1017. The first of the Danish kings, upon the death of Edmund, was elected king of England, crowned at London, and Edmund's two sons, Edward and Edmund, were banished into Sweden, whence they went into Hungary, where they resided many years. Canute married Emma, the widow of Ethelred, and settled the succession on the issue of their marriage. All the great men swore fealty to him, and renounced the issue of Edmund. He divided England into four provinces, kept up a body of Danish troops, and exacted of the English in one year near 100,000*l.* to subsist them.

1018. The city of London paid 11,000*l.* per annum, land-tax, being one-seventh of the whole collected in the kingdom, that being 82,000*l.* Canute despatched several opulent noblemen whose power he dreaded, and whose fidelity he suspected.

1019. He goes over to Denmark, subdues Norway, and is entitled king of England, Denmark, and Norway.

1020. Canute returned to England from Norway, and redressed several abuses practised in his absence. He built Ashdown church on the spot where he had fought a great battle with Edmund. Also a mo-

nastery at Bury in Suffolk, and founded several chantries.

1021. He held an assembly of the Witenagemot, and banished several offending noblemen.

1022. Went to the Isle of Wight in order to exercise the sailors.

1028. He entered on another war with Sweden, and set sail for Denmark, when he seized on the crown of Sweden, of which he remained in quiet possession.

1029. Suppressed a dangerous conspiracy by his nephew, whom he banished.

1030. Canute paid great respect to the memory of St. Edmund the Martyr, and built a magnificent church over his grave, since called Edmund's Bury in Suffolk, and greatly enlarged the monastery.

1031. Canute bestowed, among other benefactions, the port of Sandwich, with all its issues, to Christchurch, Canterbury. He enlarged the monastery of St. Edmund's Bury, and augmented its revenues; he founded a monastery of Benedictines in Norfolk, at Benetsholm, which he profusely endowed, and gave a cross to Winchester worth one year's revenue of the kingdom.

1033. Went on an expedition against the Scots for refusing to do homage, which was compromised. Visited Rome, and procured for his subjects an exemption of paying toll as they passed through Italy. Acquired the surname of Great on account of his conquests. Returned from Rome, and dedicated the church of St. Edmund in Suffolk.

1034. Showed a contempt of flattery from his nobility on the sea not obeying his commands, and never after would wear his crown, but ordered it to be put on the head of a crucifix at Winchester.

1036. Nov. 12. Died at Shaftesbury, and was buried at Winchester, having reigned about nineteen years.

HAROLD,

1036. Surnamed Harefoot, was proclaimed king of Mercia by one party, and his brother Hardecnute, who was then in Denmark, was by his friends elected and proclaimed king of Wessex; but his absence gave Harold an opportunity to have that part delivered up to him, and he was crowned at Oxford. Emma, who was disappointed of having her sons succeed to the throne, formed a party in their favour, and persuaded Alfred and Edward, sons of Ethelred, to come to England.

1037. Alfred arrived with his mother Emma, whom Earl Godwin treacherously murdered, with the greatest part of his attendants, at Guildford in Surrey; but Edward escaped the snare, and went into

Normandy. Emma was exiled, and attempted to be destroyed by the order of Harold.

1038. Hardecanutte formed a design on England, and for his mother's advice went to Bruges, where she resided.

1039. A heavy tax imposed, which rendered Harold unpopular. He died at Oxford, May 18, and was buried at Winchester, having no wife or child.

HARDECANUTE,

1039. The third son of Canute, and king of Denmark, succeeded his brother Harold; being invited by the English to take possession of the throne. He arrived at Sandwich, June 13, and was crowned at London. As soon as his coronation was over, he ordered his brother Harold's body to be dug up, the head to be cut off, and the body to be thrown into the Thames. Harold's body was afterwards buried by some fishermen in St. Clement's church in the Strand, which coming to the knowledge of Hardecanutte, it was a second time dug up and thrown into the Thames, but being again found, was privately buried at Westminster.

1040. A heavy tax imposed to defray the expense of the Danish fleet.

1041. A second tax, amounting to 29,029*l.*, and another of 11,048*l.*, which occasioned an insurrection in Worcester-shire, and the collectors were killed, for which that county [Nov. 12] was laid waste by the king's command.

Prince Edward arrived in England, and was well received by Hardecanutte, and charged Earl Godwin with the murder of his brother Alfred. The murderers of Prince Alfred convicted, but procured their pardons by presents to the king. A great scarcity prevailing when Edward was elected king, accompanied with a mortality among the cattle, caused the ceremony of the coronation to be postponed, when it was performed with great solemnity at Winchester, where was preached the first coronation sermon.

June 8. Hardecanutte died suddenly at Lambeth, at the nuptial feast of a Danish lord, which he honoured with his presence, having reigned but two years, and was buried at Winchester. His death severed the connexion between the crowns of England and Denmark.

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.

1042. By the accession of Edward, called the Confessor, the race of Saxon kings was restored; he was the seventh son of King Ethelred, and succeeded to the crown by the donation of Hardecanutte, and the interest of Earl Godwin.

1043. Emma, the king's mother, stripped of all her possessions by order of her son, and is said to have undergone the trial of fiery ordeal on account of incontinency.

1045. Sweyn, the son of Earl Godwin, who had been banished, committed great depredations on the English coast, but soon after retired to Flanders.

1048. Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, who had married the king's sister, arrived in England, whence arose the disgrace of Earl Godwin.

1049. Much corn and many farms in Derbyshire destroyed by the *wild-fire*, or, as it is termed in the chronicle of Mailros, the *wood-fire*.

1051. William, Duke of Normandy, visited Edward, who showed him every mark of esteem, in grateful return for the favours he had received from him and the duke his father, in Normandy, during his residence there; and at the same time Edward is said to have given him a promise that the crown of England should descend to him.

The tax of Danegelt, after being paid thirty-eight years, was remitted by Edward; it formed a considerable part of the royal income. The clergy had been exempt from this impost. This year was remarkable for a famine, and the prevalence of a contagious distemper among men and cattle.

1052. Godwin invaded England, landed at Romney in Kent, retreated to Pevensey in Sussex, and soon after retired to Flanders. Godwin returned soon after, and landed in the Isle of Wight and at Portland; at both places he laid the country under contributions. Being joined by more ships, entered the Thames, and accommodated matters.

1053. Godwin died at Windsor, or, as others say, at Winchester. Sitting at table with the king he suddenly expired: the story is that he was choked in protesting his innocence of the murder of the king's brother. He was buried at Winchester, and the most powerful nobleman of his time.

1054. Macbeth, King of Scotland, and the murderer of Duncan, deposed by Macduff, aided by Seward, Earl of Northumberland, and Malcolm made king in his stead.

1055. Harold, son of Earl Godwin, in great favour with Edward.

1057. Prince Edward, eldest son of Edmund Ironside, sent for out of Hungary by his uncle King Edward. The crown belonged to him by right of inheritance, if his father Edmund Ironside was legitimate: but Matthew Paris says, that King Ethelred had Edmund Ironside by a concubine.

1058. This year the king first took on him to cure the evil by the touch.

Leofric, the great Duke of Mercia, died, and was buried in Coventry monastery, which his lady had built. Coventry was relieved from some heavy taxes by his lady Godiva. His son Algar succeeded him in his honours, and, dying the year following, was buried near his father.

1060. Waltham Cross built. Lincoln Cathedral built.

1062. The Confessor designed Edward for his successor, but he died soon after his arrival, in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, leaving one son, named Edgar Etheling, and two daughters, Margaret and Christiana. Harold's hopes, revived by the death of Prince Edward, aspired to the crown, and went to demand the hostages given the king by Godwin his father, but was referred to the Duke of Normandy, to whom he went, and, while there, was constrained to promise William every assistance to his ascending the throne.

1063. The Welsh, headed by their prince, Griffith, pursued into their fastnesses by the indefatigable Earl Harold; compelled to sue for peace, and every Welshman found in arms to the east of Offa's Dike condemned to lose his right hand.

1064. Exeter Cathedral, as it now is, began to be built.

1065. St. Peter's Church, Westminster, rebuilt by Edward, and the dedication performed, on Dec. 28, to St. Peter, and the charter of privileges granted to it is said to be the first that had a great seal of England. This fabric was afterwards demolished by Henry III., and the present one erected.

A general assembly of the nation convoked. Edward caused the Saxon laws and customs to be written in Latin, and collected them into a body, which, from thence, were called the laws of Edward the Confessor, and caused the original Doomsday Book to be made. Having been educated in Normandy, he preferred the Normans to the highest posts in church and state, introducing the French language and customs. He was born at Falip in Oxfordshire, and reigned twenty-three years; dying on the 5th of January, 1066, and was buried at Westminster.

Surnames are not supposed to have been in use till the reign of this prince.

HAROLD,

1066. Second son of Godwin, Earl of Kent, a powerful and popular nobleman, by the assistance of the clergy, his friends, seized the crown, and was crowned at Oxford. His pretensions were, that the Confessor had appointed him his suc-

cessor; though history informs us that the Confessor appointed William Duke of Normandy his successor, and that to this settlement Harold himself, and the rest of the nobility, were sworn.

1066. Sept. 25. An invasion of England in different parts; by Tosti, the exiled Earl of Northumberland, and Harold's brother in the southern parts, and by Hardrada, of Norway, in Yorkshire. Harold met them near Stamford-bridge on the Derwent, where he was completely victorious. This was one of the bloodiest battles on record. Tosti and Hardrada, and every celebrated Norwegian chief, fell in the battle, and at the distance of fifty years the spot was still whitened with the bones of the slain.

Four days after this great victory, William of Normandy landed on the Sussex coast; Harold was seated at a royal banquet at York, surrounded by his thanes when news was brought of the arrival of the formidable competitor for the crown. In the great battle of Hastings, which followed, Harold was slain. He was first buried on the beach, but subsequently his remains were deposited in the church of Waltham, which he had founded.

This year there was a great comet.

POPULATION—SLAVES—SUPERSTITION.

The population of England, at the close of the Anglo-Saxon period, has been estimated at 1,800,000.

In thirty-four counties the burgesses and citizens are made to amount to 17,105, villains to 102,704, bordars to 74,823, cottars to 5947, serfs or thralls to 26,552; the remaining population consisted of freemen, ecclesiastics, knights, thanes, and landowners. Two-thirds of the entire population subsisted in different degrees of servitude, though the persons strictly slaves were not above one out of every seven of the higher laborious classes of villains, bordars, and cottars.

The price of a slave was quadruple that of an ox. Slaves and cattle formed the living money. They passed current in the payment of debts, and in the purchase of commodities at a value fixed by law, and supplied the deficiency of coin. The manumission of a slave to be legal had to be performed in public, in the market, in the hundred court, or in the church at the foot of the principal altar. The lord, taking the hand of the slave, offered it to the bailiff, sheriff, or clergyman, gave him a sword and a lance, and told him the ways were open, and that he was at liberty to go wheresoever he pleased.

We have no data for estimating the average duration of life. Out-door recrea-

tions and employments must have been favourable to longevity, but these were doubtless in part counteracted by the intemperate and disorderly lives of the Saxons. Some of the monks attained a great age. When the famous Turketul became abbot of Croyland, he found five very aged monks there. Two died in 793, whose united ages were 310 years. A third, Father Surgar, died the year after at the age of 115. The two others died about the same time, and about the same age as Surgar.

The liquors provided for a royal banquet in the reign of Edward the Confessor were wine, mead, ale, pigment, morat, and cider. As little, or any, wine was made in England at this period, the greatest part of what was consumed must have been imported. Ale was the favourite drink of the Anglo-Saxons and Danes, as it had been of their German ancestors. Pigment was a sweet liquor, and morat was made of honey diluted with the juice of mulberries.

In the early part of the eleventh century the roads between England and Rome were so crowded with pilgrims, that the very tolls they paid were objects of importance to the princes through whose territories they passed, and few Englishmen imagined they could get to heaven without paying the compliment of a pilgrimage to St. Peter who kept the keys. The pope and Roman clergy carried on a lucrative traffic in relics, of which they had inexhaustible stores. Kings, nobles, and prelates purchased pieces of the cross, or whole legs and arms of the apostles; while others were obliged to be contented with the toes and fingers of inferior saints. Agelnoth, archbishop of Canterbury, when he was at Rome in 1021, purchased from the pope an arm of St. Augustin for six thousand pounds weight of silver, and sixty pounds weight of gold—a prodigious sum; evincing alike the unconscionable knavery of the sellers, and fatuity of the buyer. At the death of Edward the Confessor more than one-third of all the lands in England were in the possession of the clergy, exempted from all taxes, and for the most part even from military services. (Henry's Hist., iii. 297.) These circumstances account for the slow progress of the people to the period of the Reformation; like Spain and Portugal, they were exhausted and paralyzed by a degrading superstition. They also account for the ease with which they became a prey to the Danish rovers, and afterwards to their more relentless masters the Normans.

ARTS AND TRADES.

The operatives of the Anglo-Saxons were mostly in a servile state. The clergy

and the great had domestic servants, who were qualified to supply them with those articles of trade and manufacture which were in common use. Hence in monasteries we find smiths, carpenters, millers, illuminators, architects, agriculturists, and fishermen. Smiths and carpenters were the most numerous and important, as ministering to the chief secular pursuits of the time,—war and agriculture.

The shoemaker was a comprehensive trade; uniting branches that now form distinct businesses, as appears from the following list of articles he fabricated:—ankle leathers, shoes, leather hose, bottles, bridle thongs, trappings, flasks, boiling vessels, leather neck-pieces, halters, wallets, and pouches.

The salter, baker, cook, and fisherman were common occupations.

Besides the persons who made those trades their business, some of the clergy sought to excel in mechanical arts. Thus, a monk is described as well skilled in smith-craft. Dunstan, besides being competent to draw and paint the patterns for a lady's robe, was also a smith, and worked on all the metals. Among other labours of his industry he made two great bells for the church at Abingdon. His friend Ethelwold, the bishop, made two other bells for the same place of a smaller size; and a wheel full of small bells, much gilt, to be turned round for its music on feast days. One of our kings made a monk, who was a skilful goldsmith, an abbot. It was even enacted by law that the clergy should pursue these occupations, for Edgar says, "We command that every priest, to increase knowledge, diligently learn some handicraft."—Turner's Hist. Anglo-Saxons.

The invention of the musical scale or gamut, in 1022, by an Italian monk, tended to diffuse a taste for music. Church music greatly improved in consequence, and its inventor, Guido Aretine, was sent for thrice to Rome to explain and teach it to the clergy of that city.

In the seventh century Benedict, the abbot of Weremouth, glazed men from France, who not only glazed the windows of his church and monastery, but taught the Anglo-Saxons the art of making glass for windows, lamps, drinking vessels, and for other uses.

The arts of colouring and painting glass were known. The figures of Alfred and of his grandson Athelstan, in the window of the library of All Souls, Oxford, were probably painted not long after the age in which these princes flourished.

Picture painting was common for the embellishment of churches. A picture of Christ, drawn by St. Dunstan, with his

own picture prostrate at its feet, and several inscriptions in his own hand-writing, are still preserved in the Bodleian Library.

The art of dyeing scarlet by the help of an insect was discovered about 1000. Weaving and embroidery were practised. Edward the Elder had his daughters taught to exercise their needle and distaff. Indeed, spinning was the common occupation of the Anglo-Saxon ladies. Alfred, in his will, calls the female part of his family the "spindle-side." So, too, Egbert, when entailing his estates on his male descendants to the exclusion of females, says, "To the spear-side, and not to the spindle-side." Of the skill and industry of the ancient spinsters we have an extraordinary instance in the tapestry which is still preserved in the cathedral of Bayeux. This curious relic of antiquity is a vast linen web 442 feet long, and two broad, on which is embroidered the history of the Conquest. It is supposed to have been executed by English women under the direction of Matilda, wife of William I. Many of the figures are without stockings, though none are without shoes, which makes it probable that shoes were more generally used than stockings in this period. The common people, for the most part, had no stockings, nor any other covering on their legs, and even the clergy celebrated mass with their legs bare, till a law was made against the practice in the council of Chalchuythe in 785. Wooden shoes, which are now esteemed the marks of the greatest indigence and misery, were worn by the greatest princes of Europe in the ninth and tenth centuries.

From the custom of kings making presents of rich garments, vases, bracelets, and rings to their Witans and courtiers, and of great lords doing the same to their knights, the trades for making these must have had much employment. One of the Saxon trades seems to have been the tavern or public-house; for a priest is forbidden to drink at the "wine tuns." An ale-house and ale-shop are also mentioned in the laws.

The Anglo-Saxons, who were unacquainted with the building arts, destroyed the magnificent structures left by the Romans. Nor did they much improve in the knowledge of architecture for two centuries after their arrival. During that period masonry was quite unknown and unpractised in this island; the walls of churches and even of cathedrals were built of wood. Towards the end of the seventh century

masonry was restored, and some other arts connected with it introduced by two ecclesiastics who had visited Rome. These were the famous Wilfred, Bishop of York, and Benedict Biscop, founder of the abbey of Weremouth. Wilfred was a great architect, and erected several structures at York, Ripon, Hexham, which were the admiration of his age. Those singular structures, called round towers, of which specimens are still to be seen at Ardmore in Ireland, and Abernethy in Scotland, are supposed to have been erected in the tenth century.

LEARNED MEN.

Bede, usually entitled the *venerable Bede*, was born at Sunderland, and died at Jar-row, a convent on the right bank of the Tyne, in 733, aged sixty-three. His writings were numerous, but his most popular work is the 'Ecclesiastical History of the English,' written in Latin, and first translated by King Alfred. It has been mentioned to the credit of this eminent monk, that he records many miracles performed by others, but not a single one by himself.

Alcuin was a native of Yorkshire, and contemporary of Bede. His reputation as a polemic procured him an invitation from the Emperor Charlemagne, under whose auspices he wrote seven volumes of controversial divinity, levelled principally against the heretical opinions of Felix, Bishop of Urgel. He is also the author of poems, and elementary treatises on the sciences. Most of his writings are yet extant, and are distinguished for liveliness and elegance.

Asser is celebrated as the instructor, companion, and biographer of Alfred. He is said to have assisted this prince in founding the university of Oxford, and to have been professor of grammar there. He survived Alfred, and is mentioned in his will as Bishop of Sherborne. His death took place in 909.

Gildas, a British ecclesiastic and historian of the sixth century. He was the son of a Welsh prince, and supposed to have been educated at the famous monastery of Bangor. The chronicle of the Kings of Britain, called 'Brut Tysilio,' and a satire against the Saxon invaders, have been ascribed to him.

Alfred the Great, St. Dunstan, Johannes Scotus, and Elfric the grammarian, may be reckoned among the learned men of the Anglo-Saxon era.

WILLIAM I. A.D. 1066 to 1087.

THE Conquest is remarkable by not only having altered the order of succession, but effected important changes in the laws and institutions of the kingdom. Harold, the reigning sovereign, had been chosen king in preference to Edgar Etheling, a feeble-minded prince, but the rightful heir in the Saxon line. William of Normandy claimed the crown as a gift from Edward the Confessor, and considered his rival an usurper. Whether a grant of the crown was ever made by Edward has been disputed with great plausibility; at all events, the title of Harold, resting on the choice of the nobility and clergy, seems to have been derived from as legitimate a source as that of the Norman, and equally valid with the title of many of his predecessors: for under the Saxons the succession to the crown was not hereditary; it was sometimes conferred by the suffrages of the Witan, sometimes it was a testamentary grant from the preceding king, and not unfrequently the prize of successful intrigue, or superior personal endowments.

Although the great battle of Hastings terminated in the death of Harold, it was far from effecting the prompt submission of the kingdom; and the successive risings of the people, and the severities to which the Normans resorted, show how slowly, and with what difficulty their authority was established. The natural fierceness of the Conqueror seems to have been heightened by the stand made against foreign aggression, and the institution of the curfew, and the ravages to which he subjected the northern counties, sufficiently attest that there was no extreme of despotism which the vehement and politic mind of William could devise that he did not employ to perfect the entire subjugation of the country. Speaking of the king's irruption into the north, William of Malmesbury, who lived sixty years after, says that "from York to Durham not an inhabited village remained. Fire, slaughter, and desolation made it a vast wilderness, which it continues to this day!" The consequences of this military execution seem to have been as frightful as those which tracked the retreat of Napoleon from Moscow.

Except the former conquest of England by the Saxons, who, from peculiar circumstances, proceeded to exterminate the natives, it would be difficult to find in history a revolution more destructive, or attended with a more complete subjection of the ancient inhabitants. Contumely was added to oppression; and the unfortunate natives were universally reduced to such a state of meanness and poverty, that for ages the English name became a term of reproach; and several generations elapsed before one single family of Saxon pedigree was raised to any considerable honours, or could so much as attain the rank of baron of the realm. An attempt was even made to abolish the English language; and for that purpose William ordered that in all schools throughout the kingdom the youth should be instructed in the French tongue; a practice continued from custom till the reign of Edward III., and which has never indeed been totally discontinued. The pleadings in the supreme courts of judicature were in French; the deeds were often drawn in the same language; the laws were composed in that idiom; no other tongue was used at court; it became the language of all fashionable society; and the English themselves, ashamed of their own country, affected to excel in this foreign dialect.

Nothing more strikingly evinces the entire humiliation of the people,

and the subversion of the free institutions introduced by the Saxons for the protection of civil rights, than the formation of the New Forest in violation of every principle of justice and humanity. The Normans, as well as ancient Saxons, were passionately fond of the chase, and none more so than the Conqueror. Not content with those large forests which former kings possessed in all parts of England, he resolved to make a new forest near Winchester, the usual place of his residence. For that purpose he laid waste the country for an extent of thirty miles, expelled the inhabitants from their houses, seized their property, demolished thirty-six churches, besides convents, and made the sufferers no compensation for the injury. At the same time he enacted new laws, by which he prohibited all his subjects from hunting in any of his forests, and ordained the most dreadful penalties for their violation. The killing of a deer or boar, or even a hare, was punished with the loss of the delinquent's eyes; and that, too, at a time when the killing of a man could be atoned for by paying a moderate fine or composition.

The revenues of the Conqueror were very great. He held as crown lands 1422 manors, besides abundance of farms and lands in Middlesex, Shropshire, and Rutlandshire. His fixed annual income, exclusive of fines, escheats, reliefs, and other casual profits, was computed at 400,000*l.*; a sum which will appear incredible, if the circumstances of the times are considered. A pound in that age contained three times the weight of silver that it does now, and the same weight of silver would purchase near ten times more of the necessaries of life. The revenue, therefore, of William would be equal, at least, to nine or ten millions at present; and as he had neither fleet nor army to support, (the former being only an occasional expense, and the latter being maintained, without any charge to him, by his military vassals,) we must thence conclude, that no emperor or prince, in any age or nation, can be compared to the Conqueror for riches and income.

Two legal revolutions occurred, or were completed, in this reign, which require to be noticed; namely, the separation of the ecclesiastical from the civil judicature, and the introduction or completion of the feudal system. William divided all the lands, with very few exceptions besides the royal demesnes, into baronies; these baronies were again let out to knights or vassals, who paid the lord the same submission in peace or war which he himself paid to his sovereign. The whole kingdom contained about 700 chief tenants, and 60,215 knights'-fees; none of the natives were admitted into the first rank, but were glad to be received into the second, and thus be the dependants of some powerful Norman.

The condition of the body of the people was not affected by the changes made in the relations of the territorial proprietary. Along with the estates were transferred to the Normans the serfs, who cultivated them, and there is reason to believe that their number was increased rather than diminished by the Conquest. Many of the English, who had formerly been free, having been taken prisoners at the battle of Hastings, or in some of the subsequent revolts, were reduced to slavery, and thought themselves happy if they preserved their lives, though they lost their freedom.

It only remains to remark that there was now uniformity of religion in the island. Paganism had been virtually extirpated, and the Normans, English, and all the other nations of Britain had long before this period embraced Christianity.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1066. William, natural son of Robert Duke of Normandy, by a tanner's daughter, claims the crown of England.

Sept. 28. Lands at Pevensey in Sussex, with a fine army, to make good his pretensions.

Oct. 14. Decisive battle of Hastings, in which King Harold is slain. The exact site of this great conflict was Senlac, an eminence nine miles from Hastings, open to the south, and covered behind by a wood.

Dec. 25. William, in the midst of a great tumult, is crowned at Westminster.

Better to secure the obedience of the Londoners, he grants them a charter of privileges; it is in Saxon, and runs thus:—"William the king salutes William the bishop and Godfrey the portreve, and all the burgesses within London, both French and English. And I declare that I grant you to be all law-worthy as you were in the days of King Edward; and I grant that every child shall be his father's heir after his father's days; and I will not suffer any person to do you wrong. God keep you."

1067. William erects Battle Abbey to commemorate his great victory over Harold, and exempts it from episcopal jurisdiction. Forts erected in London, Norwich, Winchester, Hereford, Hastings, and Dover, and garrisoned with Normans to keep possession of the kingdom.

Sept. 20. The English disarmed, and their militia broken; the care of the kingdom committed by the king to his uterine brother Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, and Fitz-osbern, Earl of Hereford; he returns to Normandy, and meanwhile the people are oppressed by his lieutenants, which occasions several insurrections. Eustace of Boulogne lands at Dover, at the invitation of the English, in November, to redress their grievances; he is defeated, and other attempts at revolt prove abortive.

Dec. 6. William returns to England and prevents a revolt.

1068. *April 3.* Re-establishes the tax of Danegelt, which occasioned an opposition at Exeter, where the mother of the late King Harold lived; he besieges the city in person, and forces it to capitulate; he built a strong citadel there, and garrisons it with troops. In Exeter the king passed his Easter, and the queen repairing thither was crowned the Whitsuntide following. Castles erected this year at Nottingham, York, Lincoln, Huntingdon, Cambridge, and Durham. The people compelled to deliver up their arms, and at the ringing

of the curfew bell at eight every evening obliged to put out their fire and lights.

1069. The lands of England distributed among the Normans; insurrections occasioned thereby, especially in the north, and 7000 of the king's forces slain. As a place of greater safety, queen Matilda retires to Normandy. The Scots, in favour of Edgar Etheling, advance as far as York, where they slew 3000 Normans, but were defeated by the king, who laid waste the country north of the Humber: so great was the desolation, that the towns were uninhabited, and the lands uncultivated for nine years, which occasioned a severe famine in that part of the kingdom.

Sept. 7. The Danes land at Dover and Sandwich, but are repulsed; re-land in Suffolk and commit great ravages, but are defeated. They next proceeded to the Humber, where they were joined by the Scots.

Sept. 18. The Norman garrison burns the city of York.

Dec. 25. William keeps his Christmas at York, and in the same year was again crowned at Winchester.

1070. The king quarters his troops upon religious houses, compelling the monks to find them necessaries. He compels the bishops and abbots, possessed of baronies, to exchange their tenure, and in lieu of secular servitude, to hold them by knights service or military tenure. The abbey of St. Alban's spoiled of its riches by the king. The English made another attempt, under Edgar Etheling, to regain their liberties, upon which the king negotiated, and swore to observe the laws of the Confessor; but they were no sooner dispersed, than their persons and estates were seized. Edgar fled into Scotland.

1071. Another attempt at insurrection by Hereward, Morcar and others in the isle of Ely. Hereward, after a skilful and pertinacious resistance, submits to William. He was the last Englishman who made a stand for the independence of his country.

1072. The king marches against Scotland. Malcolm submits, consenting to take the oath of fealty and do homage: offenders on both sides are pardoned. The jurisdiction of the archbishop of Canterbury over the archbishop of York confirmed at a national synod.

1073. William embarks for Normandy with a great army, to recover some towns which the French king had surprised. Edgar Etheling repairs to the king in Normandy voluntarily, and makes his submission, whereupon he is received into

favour, and allowed a pound of silver a day. William refuses to take an oath of fealty to the pope for the crown of England.

1075. Some Norman lords dissatisfied with the rewards they have received, and offended with the haughty carriage of William, raise a rebellion in his absence; being defeated, Waltheof, who was privy to, but not participant in, the insurrection, was beheaded the following year. He was the first English nobleman so put to death, and the only one executed in this reign. Great cruelties exercised toward the English; the hands and feet of some cut off, and the eyes of many others burnt out. From this time the English enjoyed scarce any lands or honours, but what they held of the Norman lords upon their own terms.

By the eighth canon of a council held at London, it is decreed, "that the bones of dead animals shall not be hung up to drive away the pestilence from cattle; and that sorcery, soothsaying, divination, and such works of the devil shall not be practised." The same council regulated episcopal precedence, by ordaining that every prelate should rank according to priority of consecration, except those who by ancient custom had particular privileges annexed to their dioceses.

1076. A great earthquake in England, and a frost from the beginning of November to April following.

William visits his Norman dominions, and returns the following year.

1077. The king's son Robert rebels in Normandy, wounds and defeats his father, and brings him to terms. A great fire in London.

1078. William laid the foundation of the Tower of London.

1079. The Scots harass the north of England, which occasioned William's building Newcastle.

1080. Walcher, bishop of Durham, suspected of conniving at the murder of Lulph, an English nobleman, is burnt by the populace in a church. A general survey of England, called Domesday Book, in imitation of the roll of Winton, made by order of king Alfred.

1081. Incursions are made by the Welsh, but are soon suppressed.

1082. Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and brother of the king, aspires to the papacy: he is arrested by William himself, and was kept close prisoner till the death of the king.

1084. William levies a tax of six shillings upon every hide of land, which was three times as much as it used to be.

1085. New Forest, in Hampshire, disappeared. The king visits Normandy. Queen Matilda dies.

England threatened with an invasion from Denmark. William returns, and the

Danish invasion dropped. William kept his Christmas at Gloucester.

1086. In his last expedition against the French king, William burnt the city of Mantes. Knights his son Henry, to whom he obliges his nobles to take a fresh oath of fidelity. The summer of this year was remarkably wet and tempestuous; it occasioned a total failure of the harvest, and in the winter a fatal disease attacked one-half of the inhabitants.

1087. In the last year of William's reign, almost all the chief cities of England were burnt, and the greatest part of London, with the cathedral of St. Paul.

Sept. 9. The king dies in the sixty-first year of his age, and the twenty-first of his reign, at Hermetrude, a village near Rouen, and was buried at Caen in Normandy, in a monastery of which he was the founder; but a delay was occasioned by the proprietor of the land, who demanded payment for it before he would suffer the corpse to be interred.

MISCELLANIES.

The Normans brought in a new way of creating knights, and the use of seals and witnesses in deeds and instruments. Before that time, or at least before the reign of Edward the Confessor, the parties only set down their names, with a cross before them.

Trial by battle was introduced.

Shrewsbury monastery and Norwich cathedral built.

William brought the Jews from Rouen to inhabit England.

It may be doubted whether the custom of covering up fires about sunset in winter, and about eight o'clock in winter, was introduced by William as a mark of the subjection of the English. The custom prevailed in France, Spain, Italy and Scotland, and was intended as a precaution against fires, which were then very frequent and fatal, when so many houses were built of wood.

A library was esteemed so essential to a monastery, that it became a proverb,—“A convent without a library is like a castle without an armory.” Twenty-five years after the conquest the library of Croyland Abbey consisted of 900 volumes, of which 300 were very large.

The Domesday, or Book of Judgment, which was compiled in this reign, and deposited in the Exchequer, is still preserved. It is in two volumes. The first is a large folio of vellum, in 382 double pages, written in a small character, and contains thirty-one counties, beginning with Kent and ending with Lincolnshire. The other is a quarto volume of 450 double pages in a large character, but contains only the

counties of Essex, Norfolk and Sussex. There is no description of the four northern counties, and the monks evaded making accurate returns of the abbey lands. The object of the survey was, doubtless, fiscal, and intended to preserve the rights of the crown, which the Norman lords, though they tyrannized over the natives, were prompt enough to encroach upon. It was conducted by commissioners consisting of earls and bishops, who summoned juries in every hundred, out of all orders of persons, from the baron down to the lowest farmer. Their inquiries were directed to the extent of each estate, its division into arable land, meadow, pasture and wood; the names of the owners, tenants, and subtenants, the number of inhabitants, and their condition, whether free or servile; the value of the whole, whether the owner was in debt, and the amount of land-tax paid before and since the conquest. The returns were transmitted to a board sitting at Winchester, by whom they were digested and arranged. In 1767, in consequence of an ad-

dress of the House of Lords, directions were given for the publication, among other records, of the Domesday survey. It was not, however, till 1770 that the work was actually commenced. It was completed in 1783, having been ten years in passing through the press.—Cooper, on *the Records*, 207.

KING'S ISSUES.

1. Robert, his eldest son, to whom he gave the dukedom of Normandy; 2. William, surnamed the Miser, who died 1128; 3. Richard, who was killed in the New Forest; 4. William Rufus, to whom he gave the kingdom of England; 5. Henry, who succeeded William on the throne of England; 6. Cicely, his eldest daughter, who died a nun; 7. Constance, married to Alan earl of Brittany; 8. Alice, contracted to king Harold, but died unmarried; 9. Adela, married to Stephen earl of Blois, by whom she had Stephen king of England; 10. Agatha, who died unmarried, though betrothed to the king of Galicia.

WILLIAM II. A. D. 1087 to 1100.

THE delinquent character of this prince leaves little room for eulogy. In his government he was violent and arbitrary, and as prodigal in the expenditure as rapacious in the exaction of his revenue. Without conscience, honour, or faith, he was neither religious, chaste, nor temperate; and is accused of denying a Providence. The clergy, however, who were the only historians, are supposed to have painted William Rufus blacker than he really was, in revenge for his enmity towards them. His courage was undoubted, and he was exempt from superstition in an age remarkable for its blind devotion to the priesthood.

The great event of the reign was the crusades. Actuated by a generous but mistaken zeal, all Europe united as one man to rescue the holy sepulchre from Infidel profanation. England was less infected with the frenzy than any European country, which is ascribed to the character of the king, who made the romantic chivalry of the East a theme for perpetual rallery.

While the influence of the clergy was unbounded in urging the great movement of the crusade, they appear to have been wholly powerless in a matter of much smaller import. It was the fashion in this age, both among men and women, throughout Europe, to give an enormous length to the shoes, to draw the toe to a sharp point, and to fix to it a bird's bill, or some such ornament, turned upwards, and which was often sustained by gold or silver chains tied to the knee. The ecclesiastics took exception to the long toe, which they said was an attempt to parody the Scripture, where it is affirmed that no man can add a cubit to his stature; and they declaimed against it with great vehemence, and assembled councils and synods, who actually condemned the long toe as a profane device to bring the word of God into disrepute. But such are the strange contradictions of human nature, that though the clergy, at that time, could overturn thrones, and had authority to send above a million of men on their errand to the deserts of Asia, they could never prevail against long-toed shoes.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1087. William, surnamed the Red from the colour of his hair, which the monks translated Rufus, succeeded to the crown of England by the nomination of his father, and the influence of Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Sept. 26. Proclaimed and crowned at Westminster.

1088. Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, uncle of William, aided by several of the nobility, rises in arms against him, in favour of his eldest brother Robert, but they are subdued.

An earthquake in London.

A great scarcity this year, and corn not ripe till the end of November.

1089. The king embarked for Normandy, and made war upon his brother Robert: they come to a treaty, wherein it is agreed, among other things, that the survivor should enjoy both England and Normandy. Conan, a wealthy citizen of Rouen, having engaged to betray it to William, was thrown from the top of a tower by Prince Henry.

A new survey of England made, and heavy taxes levied, which occasioned great disturbances.

1091. William returned to England, and Henry, his brother, was forced to wander without residence.

1092. Malcolm, King of Scotland, repaired to William, in person, to require a redress of grievances, and was treated by William with contempt, which made him return to Scotland in indignation, and induced him to raise an army. He was killed at the siege of Alnwick, as also his son, and three days after Queen Margaret died of grief.

William rebuilt Carlisle; it had been laid in ruins 200 years before by the Northmen.

1093. William passed over to Normandy with a powerful army: he soon after sent to England for a reinforcement, and was furnished with 10,000l., a sum equal to 200,000l. now, with which he bribed the King of France to his interest, and soon after returned to England to suppress an insurrection in Wales.

1094. This year was remarkable for the great mortality of man and beast.

1095. Robert de Mowbray, Roger de Lacey, and other Norman lords, conspired against Rufus; but the dispatch of the king frustrated the conspirators. The Count d'Eu denied his participation in the plot, and, to justify himself, fought, in the presence of the court at Windsor, a duel with Geoffrey Bainard, who accused him. Being worsted, he was condemned to be

castrated, and have his eyes put out. It was the first judicial trial by single combat.

1096. Anselm, a Norman abbot, made Archbishop of Canterbury. The king seizes his revenues, and detains them in his own hands, for acknowledging Pope Urban.

Robert mortgages his duchy of Normandy to his brother William for 10,000 marks, to enable him to engage in the first holy war undertaken by the Christian princes, with 300,000 men, at the instigation of the pope and Peter the Hermit.

The king visited Normandy, where he kept his Christmas, and returned the spring following.

1097. A council of the states convened at Windsor to consult upon the reduction of the Welsh, which was accomplished.

1098. England suffered greatly by a scarcity, and inclement seasons.

Feb. 13. London-bridge carried away by the floods, and a new one built by a public tax.

July. The Tower encompassed with a wall. Westminster-hall built by William Rufus, 270 feet long, and 74 broad.

1099. The king passed the greatest part of the year in Normandy; he returned to England, Dec. 7, and kept his Christmas in Westminster-hall.

Robert, Duke of Normandy, engages in the holy war.

1100. A great inundation of the sea, which overflowed the lands of Godwin, Earl of Kent.

July 5. Jerusalem taken by storm by the Crusaders, and 40,000 Saracens put to the sword; Robert, Duke of Normandy, offered to be made king thereof, which he refuses.

Aug. 2. The king, hunting in New Forest, was killed by an arrow shot at a stag by his bow-bearer, Sir Walter Tyrrel, a Norman knight, in the forty-fourth year of his age, and the thirteenth of his reign. He was buried at St. Swithin's at Winchester, and as he never was married left no legitimate issue.

The king, at the time of his death, had the archbishopric of Canterbury, the bishoprics of Winchester and Salisbury, and twelve abbeys in his hands; and, in his reign, disposed of the bishoprics and monasteries to those that bid most for them.

MISCELLANIES.

The tomb of William Rufus, of grey marble, somewhat raised from the ground, may still be seen in the middle of the choir of Winchester Cathedral. During the Civil Wars, in the reign of Charles I., the

parliamentarians broke open his monument, but they found only the dust of the king, some relics of cloth of gold, a large gold ring, and a chalice of silver.

The celebrated sand-bank overflowed in this reign runs parallel to the coast for three leagues, at about two leagues and a half distance, and affords a great protection to that capacious road the Downs. It was formerly a tract of ground belonging to Godwin, Earl of Kent, father of King Harold, and which afterwards being given to the monastery of St. Augustine, at Canterbury, the abbot neglected to keep in repair the wall that defended it from the sea, and the whole tract was inundated, leaving those sands on which so many ships have been wrecked.

Westminster-hall, built by Rufus, was originally intended for a place of royal entertainment. Richard II. accommodated 10,000 persons within its walls; and it is still used for coronation feasts. Parliaments have frequently been held beneath its roof, and it was the court of justice where the king presided in person. In this hall Charles I. was tried and condemned to be beheaded. It has been occasionally fitted up for the trial of peers, and persons impeached by the Commons. At other times it forms a promenade for lawyers and suitors during the sittings of the adjoining courts. The thorough repair and restoration of the interior of this famous building was completed in 1836.

HENRY I. A.D. 1100 to 1135.

THE character of the first Henry was not unstained by the vices of the age, but he had many redeeming virtues. He was learned, courageous, and accomplished; and, moreover, possessed a powerful capacity in both civil and military affairs. His superior eloquence and judgment would have given him an ascendant had he been born in a private station; and his personal bravery would have procured him respect, though it had been less supported by art and policy. By his great progress in literature he acquired the name of Beauclerc, or the scholar; but his application to sedentary pursuits abated nothing of the vigilance and activity of his government; and though the learning of that age was better fitted to corrupt than improve the understanding, his natural good sense preserved itself untainted from the prevalent superstition and pedantry.

The power and influence of the clergy were in their meridian, and the see of Rome interfered with every European potentate in the government of his dominions. On the subject of investitures and homage there were violent disputes betwixt Henry and the pope. Before bishops took possession of their dignities, they had to pass through two ceremonies: they received from the hand of the king a ring and crozier, as symbols of their office, and this was called their *investiture*; they also made the accustomed feudal submission to the prince as their superior, which was called their *homage*. On both these points there was a long contest betwixt Henry and his holiness. The king said he would sooner lose his crown than part with his right of investiture; and the pontiff said he would sooner lose his head than allow him to retain it. It was only under the fear of eternal punishment, and of a rebellion of his subjects in case of longer obstinacy, that the king consented to adjust the dispute by abandoning the claim of investiture, but retaining the homage.

The celibacy of the clergy was also a subject much agitated. Priests were forbidden to marry, or, if married, to lie with their wives. But these attempts to prohibit marriages only gave rise to more flagitious offences, and the pope's legate being detected in bed with a courtesan, after declaiming against the enormity of clergymen having wives, the canons against priestly nuptials were less enforced than ever.

The provisions of a charter granted by Henry were confined entirely to the nobles and clergy. It conceded to the former the right to marry their daughters without the king's leave, provided it was not to the enemies of the state. It also made a standard of weights and measures, and contained new regulations as to inheritance, but it soon fell so much into neglect, that in the following century, when the barons, who had heard an obscure tradition of Henry's charter, desired to make it the model of the great charter which they exacted from King John, they could with difficulty find a copy of it in the kingdom.

Some part of the taxes was paid in money, but from the scarcity of coin it must have been to a trifling extent. The crown revenues were principally collected in kind, and, from the difficult communication betwixt different parts of the country, was an operation not easily performed. This was the reason why the king held his court at various parts of the kingdom; for his subjects being unable to bring their produce, he went among them to fetch it; sojourning with his household in different parts of his dominions until he had consumed the amount of contribution. It partook of the simplicity of the pastoral ages; when the monarch, like the patriarchs of old, was constantly changing his abode to find subsistence for his flock.

Whether parliaments originated in this reign is doubtful. Hollinshed and Meed say that parliament was first summoned at Salisbury in the sixteenth year of this king; but Sir Walter Raleigh, in his 'Treatise on the Prerogative,' says it was the eighteenth. Lord Bacon asks,—“Where were the Commons before the reign of Henry I.?”—from which it may be inferred that, in his opinion, they began in this reign. But the germ of this assembly can hardly be traced with certainty, it being probable that parliaments, general councils, or some institution of analogous character, is as old as the monarchy; since the government would hardly ever be administered by the king alone, without the aid of the more powerful and intelligent of his lieges.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1100. Henry, youngest son of William I., upon the death of his brother Rufus, repaired to Winchester, and seized the royal treasure, by which means he procured himself to be recognized King of England: Robert, his eldest brother, being then upon his voyage from the holy land.

Aug. 5. Crowned on Sunday at Westminster, by Maurice, Bishop of London.

He restored to the English the liberty of using fire and candle by night, and confirmed the laws of the Confessor. He restored to the church her rights and possessions, and recalled Archbishop Anselm.

Nov. 11. Married Matilda, the daughter of Malcolm, King of Scotland, by Margaret his wife, sister to Edgar Etheling, and daughter of Edward, son of Edmund Ironside; by which he hoped to strengthen his title to the crown of England. She was crowned at Westminster.

1101. Duke Robert, being returned from the holy land, raised an army, with which

he made a descent at Portsmouth, and claimed the crown of England as his birth-right. He came to a treaty afterwards with Henry, wherein it was agreed that Henry should enjoy the kingdom for his life, paying Robert annually 3000 marks; that Robert should enjoy Normandy; and that the survivor should succeed both to the kingdom and duchy.

1102. Archbishop Anselm excommunicated the married clergy.

1103. Robert visits England, and gives up his pension, of which he soon repented, and retired to Normandy in disgust.

1105. Henry makes war upon Robert, Duke of Normandy, and went in person against him.

1106. Sept. 27. He takes the duke prisoner, reduces all Normandy to his obedience, and it is said ordered Robert's eyes to be put out.

1107. Henry returned in triumph to England, and called an assembly of his

states at Windsor, where he issued a severe edict against coiners, and abolished the custom of seizing on wrecks on the coast; he also made a regulation of weights and measures, but at the same time revived the odious tax of Danegelt.

1108. Henry visited Normandy, to frustrate the schemes of the French court.

1109. Henry betroths his daughter Matilda, then in her eighth year, to the emperor Henry V.

The bishopric of Ely founded out of Lincoln, and Hervey, Bishop of Bangor, the first bishop.

The king returned to England about Whitsuntide, and held a general council of the states, when he laid a tax of three shillings upon every hide of land, raising near 824,000*l.* as a portion for his daughter Matilda.

1110. Arts and sciences taught again in the university of Cambridge.

The Princess Matilda sent over to her husband.

1111. Henry went to Normandy to suppress a revolt.

1112. A plague in England.

1113. The king plants colonies of Flemings in Wales.

July. Henry returned to England.

Worcester City and Castle burnt.

1114. Henry suppressed a disturbance on the borders of Wales, and soon after went again into Normandy, and got his eldest son William recognized as his successor in his Norman dominions.

1115. The king returned to England, and called a council of the states at Westminster.

1116. Another council called, and his son William acknowledged for his successor, after which he returned to Normandy. This meeting of the nobility is by some reckoned the first parliament.

1117. Bath and Peterborough cities burnt.

1118. Queen Matilda died.

1119. *May 1.* Battle of Brenville, in which Henry obtained a great victory over the French in Normandy.

1120. *Nov. 26.* Prince William, with Richard and Mary, other two of the king's children, and their attendants, to the number of 180, were shipwrecked and lost, in their return from Normandy: after which accident the king was never seen to laugh.

1121. *Jan. 29.* Henry married Adelia, daughter of Godfrey, the first duke of Louvaine.

The Welsh made an incursion into Cheshire, where they committed many ravages, and burnt several castles, against whom Henry went, but not meeting success, he made a peace with them.

Gloucester burnt.

Carlisle walled.

1122. The order of knights templars founded.

Henry returned to England, but fresh troubles breaking out in Normandy obliged him to go thither again.

Earthquakes in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Somersetshire.

May 19. Lincoln nearly destroyed by fire.

1123. Woodstock park made, being the first in England.

1124. War declared against France.

A great dearth in England.

Henry prevented a revolt in Normandy.

1125. The pope's legate arrived in England, and passed several rigorous canons against married priests, but was obliged to quit the nation precipitately, for having been caught in bed with a common prostitute the same day he had celebrated mass.

Another insurrection in Normandy, which the king suppressed, and brought great part of his prisoners to England the year following.

The money having been much debased by the frauds of the persons to whom the license to coin in the principal boroughs had been farmed out, fifty of them are summoned before the bishop of Salisbury, the treasurer. Forty-six are condemned to lose the right hand or eyes, and be castrated.

1126. The empress Matilda returned to England.

Dec. 25. The nobility swear fealty to Matilda, the emperor's widow, and the king's only daughter, upon whom Henry, having no other issue, has determined to settle the crown.

1127. Henry called a great assembly of the states at Windsor, at which were present Stephen of Bologne, his nephew, (afterwards king,) and David, king of Scotland.

Matilda married to the earl of Anjou, aged sixteen.

1128. Henry invaded France with success, and concluded a peace.

Disturbances in Normandy, in favour of William, a son of duke Robert, but he lost his life at the siege of Alost.

1129. Henry returned to England, and altered the revenue of his demesne lands from kind to specie.

1130. Henry kept his Easter at Woodstock, and soon after went over to Normandy; he had an interview with pope Innocent II., and visited his daughter Matilda, who living unhappy with her husband, he brought her to England with him.

The barons renew their oath to Matilda. *April 3.* She was married again to Geoffrey Plantagenet, earl of Anjou, in

Henry's presence, which displeased the nobles.

Rochester burnt.

1131. The king held a great council of the states at Northampton, when they renewed their oaths to Matilda.

1132. A great part of London destroyed by a fire.

1133. The bishopric of Carlisle was founded by bishop Athelwulph; himself being the first bishop.

March. The empress Matilda has a son by her husband Geoffrey Plantagenet, afterwards Henry II.

The king again visited Normandy, and the day he embarked was remarkable for an eclipse of the sun and an earthquake.

1134. Duke Robert, the king's eldest brother, died at Cardiff in Wales, at the age of eighty, having been a prisoner 28 years, with his eyes put out, and was buried at Gloucester.

1135. The Welsh made incursions, and committed ravages.

Dec. 1. The king having nominated the empress Matilda his successor, died in Normandy, of a surfeit with lampreys, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and thirty-sixth of his reign, at Lyons, near Rouen; he was embalmed and brought to England, and was buried at Reading.

Henry was the first to bring progresses into vogue, during which excursions through the country, the tenants on his demesnes were compelled to supply him, gratis, with carriages and provisions. He first connected by navigation the Trent and Witham, seven miles. He founded the monasteries of Chichester, Dunstable and Reading. He held the first great council (which some call the first parliament), wherein the prohibiting priests their wives and concubines was considered; and the bishops and clergy granted to the king the correction of them for this offence; by which means he raised vast sums of money, compounding with the priests, for certain annual payments, to permit them the enjoyment of their wives and concubines.

PUBLIC FOUNDATIONS.

1081. Alwin Child, citizen of London,

founded a monastery for Cluniac monks at Bermondsey, dedicated to St. Saviour.

1090. Alfune, the first hospitaller of St. Bartholomew's, built Cripplegate church.

1102. Rahere, the king's minstrel, founded the priory of St. Bartholomew; to which he afterwards annexed a hospital for sick and infirm persons; and obtained for both foundations many immunities, among which is mentioned Bartholomew fair for three days.

Jordan Bliset founded the priory of Clerkewell, for Benedictine nuns, in a field near Clerk's well, on the north side of London.

Jordan Bliset also founded the priory of St. John at Jerusalem, for the Knights Templars.

1118. Queen Matilda built hospitals for lepers and maimed persons in St. Giles, Cripplegate. She also founded St. Catherine's church and hospital, near the Tower; and built Bow-bridge and Channel-bridge, paving the way between them with gravel, and leaving manors and Wyggon mill to keep the bridges in repair

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

In the sixth year of his reign, the king set a sum upon every parish church, and forced the incumbent to pay it, to redeem his church.

He had also, during his whole reign, a constant annual tax of 12*d.* upon every hide of land.

He left 100,000*l.* of silver pennies, besides plate and jewels of great value.

KING'S ISSUE.

He had issue by Matilda of Scotland, only one son, named William, drowned in his passage from Normandy.

He had also issue, one daughter, called Matilda, the empress, being first married to the emperor, Henry IV., and five natural sons and nine daughters.

Matilda's second husband was Geoffrey Plantagenet, earl of Anjou, by whom she had Henry II., king of England, and two other sons, Jeffrey and William, who died without issue.

STEPHEN. A.D. 1135 to 1154.

THE succession to the crown not being regulated by any fixed principle, the decease of the sovereign was invariably followed by an interval of rapine and confusion. Till a new king had ascended the throne, and received the homage of his subjects, it was assumed there could be no violation of "the king's peace;" and in consequence of this mischievous doctrine the execution of justice was suspended, and the most lawless outrages committed with impunity. The disorders which usually accompanied a demise of the crown were continued uninterruptedly during the

whole of Stephen's reign. To secure an usurped throne he was compelled to make concessions to the clergy and nobility, equally destructive to his own authority and the public tranquillity. The former considered themselves bound by their oaths of allegiance to the king only so long as they were protected in their usurpations; and the latter, in return for their submission, claimed the right of fortifying their castles, of coining money, of making war, and exercising other functions of sovereignty. Besides the general desolation arising out of a disputed title, the country was ravaged by unceasing baronial feuds, in which the nobles, aided by their vassals and mercenary adventurers, made war upon each other with the utmost fury. During these conflicts the condition of the people was most deplorable; no security either for persons or property. The castles were so many dens of robbers, who sallied forth day and night to commit spoil on the open country, the villages, and even the cities; the woods were infested with banditti; and such were the dangers to which the inhabitants were continually exposed that, on closing their doors at night, it was customary to put up a short prayer against thieves and plunderers.

Torture was frequently resorted to by the titled brigands to extort from the people the produce of their industry. "Some," says the Saxon Chronicler, "they hanged up by the feet, and smoked with foul smoke; some by the thumbs or by the beard, and hung coats of mail on their feet. They put them into dungeons with adders and snakes and toads. Many thousands they wore out with hunger." In short, the reign of Stephen was a condensation of all the evils of lawless power,—neither justice nor humanity; and the natural result of such disorder was, the cessation of the arts of industry the land was left untilled, and a grievous famine ensued, which reduced both the spoiler and the spoiled to extreme destitution.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1135. Stephen, third son of Stephen earl of Blois, by Adela the fourth daughter of William I. taking advantage of the empress Maud's (Matilda) absence, usurped the crown, by the assistance of his brother Henry, then bishop of Winchester, and other great men of his faction; though himself, and all the nobility, spiritual and temporal, had sworn to Maud's succession.

Dec. 22. Crowned at Westminster on St. Stephen's day.

1136. A great fire in London, from Aldgate to St. Paul's church; the bridge, which was of timber, was also burnt.

Stephen abolishes Danegelt for ever.

David, king of Scotland, assembled a body of troops in favour of Maud, but entered into a treaty after seizing on Carlisle and Newcastle, which he retained, and the prince of Scotland did homage for them.

There were no less than 1500 strong fortresses in the kingdom.

1137. Stephen reduces Normandy.

A war with the Welsh, where the king's troops were worsted.

June 3. Cathedral of Rochester burnt, as was also, the next day, the whole city of York, and its cathedral, with thirty-nine

churches; and on the 27th, the city of Bath was nearly destroyed by fire.

1138. A conspiracy was formed against the king, in behalf of the empress Maud.

Aug. 22. Battle of the Standard fought, in which Stephen defeats the Scots; soon after the king was attacked with a lethargy, which threatened his life.

1139. Sept. 30. The empress Maud arrived in England, and a general revolt in her favour.

Stephen is at variance with the clergy.

1140. His son Eustace married the French king's sister.

The war was carried on between Stephen and Maud, with various success, till the beginning of the next year.

1141. Feb. 1. A battle fought between the forces of Maud and of Stephen, when the last is taken prisoner and committed to Gloucester gaol in irons.

April 7. Maud was declared queen, in a national synod, and the nation took oaths of allegiance to her.

Robert, earl of Gloucester, base brother to the empress, taken prisoner; whereupon king Stephen is released, and exchanged for him.

1142. Dec. 20. The empress Maud, besieged in Oxford, made her escape from thence on foot.

1143. A synod held in London, in favour of Stephen.

1146. The earl of Gloucester died, and the empress found the want of so able a counsellor.

1147. The empress Maud leaves the kingdom.

1148. Stephen is re-crowned at Lincoln. A new crusade undertaken.

1149. Henry, son of the empress Maud, arrives in England, and endeavours to recover his right.

1151. He marries Eleanor, duchess of Aquitaine, one of the most considerable sovereigns of Europe, and who six weeks before had been repudiated by Louis VII., king of France, for criminal commerce with her uncle, and for having stooped to the embraces of a young Turk.

Stephen requires the archbishop to crown his son Eustace, which he refuses.

1153. Eustace, son of king Stephen, died.

A peace concluded between Stephen and Henry, wherein it was agreed, that Stephen should enjoy the crown during his life, and Henry should succeed him; and that the castles built by Stephen's permission should be all demolished, to the amount of 1100.

Henry visits Normandy.

1154. Oct. 25. Stephen died at Canterbury, in the fiftieth year of his age, and the nineteenth of his reign, and was buried at Faversham abbey in Kent, which he had founded.

STEPHEN'S ISSUE.

The king, by his wife Maud, daughter and heir of Eustace, earl of Boulogne, had issue three sons, Baldwin, Eustace, and William; and two daughters, Maud and Mary: all of them died without issue.

His natural children were William, earl of Boulogne, and Gervase, abbot of Westminster.

MISCELLANIES.

At the dissolution of the abbey, under Henry VIII., Stephen's tomb was opened,

the leaden coffin melted down, and the bones thrown into the next water.

The manners and customs of this half-civilized age are not without interest, and show that an uneducated period is not one of virtuous simplicity. The court, in its perambulations through the country, exhibited a motley assemblage, of the kind usually congregated at Bartholomew fair. "When," says Peter of Blois, "the king sets out in the morning you see multitudes of people running up and down as if they were distracted; horses rushing against horses; carriages overturning carriages; players, whores, gamblers, confectioners, mimics, tailors, barbers, pimps, and parasites, making so much noise. and, in a word, such an intolerable tumult of horse and foot, that you imagine the great abyss hath opened, and that hell hath poured out all her inhabitants." The ladies of pleasure accompanying the court were formed into regular companies, under the direction of marshals, whose offices were hereditary, and to which considerable estates and emoluments were attached. Stews were established by law in London, and most probably in the chief towns of the kingdom.

Long hair was very much worn, and a great eye-sore to the clergy, who did not like the contrast of their shaven crowns with the flowing ringlets of the knights and barons. Formerly the English wore the hair on the upper lip, but this not being the Norman fashion, the Conqueror compelled them to have that part, as well as the chin, shaven.

The canon law was introduced in this period, and appeals first made to the pope. The Roman, or civil law, again began to be studied, after an interruption of 700 years.

More abbey were erected in this reign than in 100 years before; and the king giving leave to the nobles to build castles, 1500 of these fortresses were erected in different parts of the kingdom. There was no regular taxation, but the contending parties maintained themselves principally by the plunder of each other's tenants.

HENRY II. A.D. 1154 to 1189.

THE accession of this prince promised to compose the disorders which had agitated the kingdom during the tumultuary usurpation of his predecessor. Henry began by resuming possession of the royal castles, seized during the late confusions, and levelled with the ground many fortresses of the same sort, erected more for the purpose of rapine than of security. The Flemish mercenaries of Stephen's army were banished the country on pain of death, and the adulterated coin reformed.

The greatest obstacle the king encountered, and the chief source of public disturbance, was the exorbitant pretensions of the clergy. Ecclesiastics openly claimed an exemption from magisterial authority in all criminal prosecutions; spiritual punishments could alone be inflicted, and as the clergy had greatly multiplied, and many of them of the most abandoned character, the most flagrant offences were committed with impunity. To check these enormities the king summoned a great council, and the sixteen laws, called the Constitutions of Clarendon, were, after some resistance on the part of the clergy, agreed to. In these endeavours to limit the encroachments of the church, the celebrated Thomas-à-Becket was the hero and martyr of the ecclesiastical party, and the rise, progress, and tragical end of that haughty prelate form one of the most interesting episodes in the general history of the country.

Justice was administered with great vigour, but still the laws were very inadequate to the protection of either the persons or property of the people. No very refined notions were entertained of civil rights, and a spirit of violence and outrage pervaded all classes of the community. The police was so defective that it was unsafe any one venturing abroad after sunset, even in London and the most populous towns. Persons of great wealth and influence often used to form themselves into predatory bands of 100 each, and commit all sorts of excesses. One cause of these irregularities was in the secular exemption claimed by the clergy, in consequence of which they could neither be punished nor protected by the common law. If a clergyman was guilty of murder he could only be punished by degradation, and if killed, the offender could only suffer excommunication.

The annexation of Ireland to the English crown was an event of this reign more interesting in its consequences, than from any circumstances that attended its subjugation.

The chagrin occasioned to Henry by the rebellious proceedings of his sons hastened his death. He was the most illustrious prince of his time, both for greatness of mind and extent of dominion. His sway extended over one-fifth of modern France, including the whole Atlantic coast, so important in itself, and for its communication with England, and double the extent of territory under the immediate and effective government of his contemporary. Ambition, pride, and self-will, tempered by caution and duplicity, formed the prominent traits of his character. In his demeanour, eloquent, affable, facetious; uniting with the dignity of the prince the manners of the gentleman: but under this fascinating outside, was concealed a heart that could descend to the basest artifice, and sport with its own honour and veracity. Cardinal Vivian, after a long conversation, said of him, "Never did I witness this man's equal in lying."—Ling, II. 27. No one would believe him, and he justified this habitual falsehood by the maxim, that it is better to repent of words than of deeds.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1154. Henry, the first of the line of Plantagenet, the only surviving legitimate issue of Henry I., succeeded to the crown without opposition.

Dec. 2. Nicholas Breakspear elevated to the pontifical throne.

Dec. 19. Henry and his queen Eleanor

crowned at Westminster, by Theobald, archbishop of Canterbury.

A general council of the states; and another was held on religious affairs. The king resumed the grants of the crown lands and rents made by Stephen; alleging, that the grants of an usurper are void. He made

resumptions likewise in Normandy. He demolished the castles.

The king calls an assembly of great men, at Wallingford, and makes them swear to the succession of his sons William and Henry, and confirms the charter.

Thomas-à-Becket, archdeacon of Canterbury, made Lord Chancellor, and governor to the prince.

The king goes to France, and does homage to Louis VII. for Normandy, Aquitaine, Anjou, Main, and Tournay, obliging his brother Jeffrey to accept of an annual sum for Anjou.

Malcolm, king of Scots, delivers up to him Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmoreland; and the king confirms to Malcolm the earldom of Huntingdon.

1157. He subdues the Welsh, who do homage, and swear allegiance to him.

1158. He is crowned again at Lincoln, and the year following at Worcester.

1159. A war between the kings of England and France, about the town of Toulouse.

1160. A peace ensues, and the king of England marries his son Henry, being seven years of age, to the French king's daughter Margaret, about three years old.

1161. The kings of England and France perform the office of yeomen of the stirrup to Pope Alexander.

1162. *June 3.* Thomas-à-Becket made archbishop of Canterbury.

The king endeavours to reduce the exorbitant power of the clergy.

A sect called Publicans, rejecting baptism, the eucharist, and marriage, came into England out of Germany this year. The bishops pronounce them heretics; they were burnt in the forehead and whipped, and afterwards turned into the street; perished of cold and hunger, no one daring or willing to relieve them. They were the first who suffered for heresy in England.

1163. The archbishop and clergy insist upon being exempted from the jurisdiction of the temporal courts in criminal cases.

1164. *Jan.* Constitutions of Clarendon agreed to, which the pope refused to confirm. Becket takes part with the pope, against the king, is impeached, tried, convicted, and fined. He quits England, November 2, and puts himself under the protection of the pope and the French king. He is received with great pomp by the pope. This occasions a war between France and England.

1165. Henry visits Normandy to confer with the pope, but is prevented by Becket, and returns to England.

The Welsh endeavour to shake off the English yoke.

Henry returns to Normandy.

He forbids all intercourse of the clergy with Rome.

1169. Becket excommunicates most of the clergy of England.

1170. The king causes his son Henry to be crowned, and William, king of Scots, and his nobility to swear allegiance and fealty to him against all men, saving the fealty they owed to himself. The young king's coronation, without his princess, gave disgust to the French court, and occasioned a short war. Henry visited Normandy, and made up his breach with Becket, and held his stirrup while he was getting on horseback. The excommunicated prelates visited the king in Normandy with their complaints, and he ordered Becket not to stir out of the bounds of his parish.

1171. He receives archbishop Becket into favour, after six years' exile. Becket, notwithstanding, excommunicates the king's friends, who complain of this usage to the king.

1172. The king's expedition against Ireland, where he receives the submission and oath of the Irish princes. He constitutes his youngest son John, Lord of Ireland, and designed to have made him king, having obtained the pope's concurrence.

Dec. 30. Becket is murdered in the cathedral, at Canterbury, by four knights.

1173. A conspiracy formed against the king by the queen, the young king Henry, and his two brothers, on account of Fair Rosamond.

Queen Eleanor is made a state prisoner.

1174. They draw the French king and the king of Scots into the quarrel, which occasions a bloody war, in which William, king of Scots, is taken prisoner, July 13.

Henry arrived in England, and reduced all the insurrections.

Henry does penance for Becket's murder, receives eighty lashes from the hands of the monks of Canterbury, and offered a gift of 40*l.* per annum for finding constant lights at Becket's tomb; he also agreed to pay the knights of Jerusalem the expense of maintaining 200 soldiers in the holy war.

A peace concluded between the king and his sons.

The king of Scotland, and David his brother, did homage to Henry for all the territories they were possessed of, namely, Scotland and Galway; they also swore allegiance to the king and his son Henry.

1175. A synod was held at Westminster, where were disputes between the archbishops of Canterbury and York, as to precedence, or sitting at the right hand of the pope's legate: the monks espousing opposite parties, a violent affray ensues.

1176. The kingdom first divided into six circuits, and three judges appointed for each circuit.

Aug. 27. Joan, a daughter of Rosamond, was married to William, king of Sicily.

1177. The French king comes in pilgrimage to Thomas-a-Becket's tomb; he offered there a massive cup of pure gold, and gave to the monks 7200 gallons of wine yearly, and made the Augustines toll or custom free throughout his dominions. The same time the earl of Flanders had a conference with Henry, and visited Becket's tomb. After which Henry went to Normandy in August and returned in July, 1178.

March. Henry umpire between the kings of Castille and Navarre.

Henry severely punished the debasers of the coin, and in November, 1180, there was a new coinage.

This year Louis, king of France, died, and was succeeded by his son Philip.

1181. Henry alleged to have debauched his son Richard's princess, which gave great umbrage to his son; to avoid whose resentment, he endeavoured to embroil him in a quarrel with his brother Henry, but it proved ineffectual, and cemented them the stronger: they formed a design of revenge, but were prevented by young Henry's death.

1183. *June 11.* The young king Henry died in the thirtieth year of his age, having borne the title of king near thirteen years. Margaret, Henry's widow, was sent home to her brother, and she some time after was married to Bela, king of Hungary.

1184. The king gave 50,000 marks of silver to assist in a crusade, but declined going in person.

1185. An earthquake overthrew the church at Lincoln, and other churches; at the same time there was almost a total eclipse of the sun.

The pope sent Henry a crown made of peacock's feathers, for him to crown his son John king of Ireland with. John embarked for that island, but soon after returned.

The king's son Richard rebels against him again, and is encouraged by the king of France.

1186. Henry threatened to disinherit his son Richard for his turbulent conduct, which occasioned his submission.

1187. *Aug. 19.* Jeffery, another of the king's sons, killed at a tournament at Paris, and buried in Notre Dame church.

Sept. 29. Jerusalem, ninety-six years after its reduction by the first crusaders, surrendered to the Mussulmans.

1189. Henry was deserted by his French subjects, and was everywhere defeated, and obliged to submit to hard terms.

July 6. King Henry died in Normandy, uttering imprecations against his sons, which the bishops present could not persuade him to revoke, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the thirty-fifth of his reign, and was buried at Fontevraud, in France.

TAKES IN THIS REIGN.

A scutage in the beginning of Henry's reign, but no account what it amounted to.

A second scutage to raise men for the siege of Toulouse, in the fifth year of his reign, 1159, amounting to 180,000*l.*

A third scutage, in the seventh year of his reign, at two marks every knight's fee.

In the twelfth of his reign, two-pence in the pound for the first year, and one penny in the pound for four years after, of all rents and moveables.

In the fourteenth of his reign, a fourth scutage, at a mark a knight's fee.

In the eighteenth of his reign, a fifth scutage, uncertain what it was.

In the last year of his reign, a tenth of all moveables for the crusade.

KING'S ISSUE.

By his queen Eleanor, daughter and heir of William, duke of Aquitaine, he had issue, William, his eldest son, born the 17th of August, 1152, who died 1156.

2. Henry, born the 28th of February, 1154. He died without issue.

3. Richard, born in September, 1157 who succeeded him on the throne.

4. Jeffery, born the 23rd of September, 1158, afterwards married to Constance, daughter and heir of Conan, duke of Brittany, by whom he had issue, Arthur, who ought to have succeeded to the crown of England, after the death of his uncle, Richard I.

5. Philip, who died very young.

6. John, born on Christmas eve, 1166.

He had three daughters, Matilda, married to the duke of Saxony, from whom the present royal family is descended; Eleanor, married to the king of Castile; and Joan, married to the king of Sicily.

He had also two sons by Rosamond his concubine.

MISCELLANIES.

The most popular story of this period refers to Fair Rosamond, the favourite and most beautiful mistress of the king. She was the daughter of Clifford, a gentleman of Herefordshire; and, according to the legend, Henry, for her better security, built a retreat for her at Woodstock, of which the approaches formed a labyrinth so intricate, that it could not be entered without the guidance of a thread, of which the king only had possession. But the tradition of her violent death, through the jea-

lousy of Queen Eleanor, seems without foundation. She was buried at a church belonging to Godstow nunnery, near Oxford, where her epitaph was to be seen in Brompton's days, who clearly intimates that her end was natural.

As a proof of the luxurious doings of the clergy it is related, that the monks and prior of St. Swithin's threw themselves one day prostrate in the mire before the king, and with doleful lamentations complained, that the Bishop of Winchester had cut off three dishes a-day. "How many has he left," said the king? "Ten," replied the disconsolate monks. "I myself," said Henry, "have only three, and I enjoin the bishop to reduce you to the same number."

London-bridge began to be built in this reign with stone. by Peter, the priest of

Colechurch. It was thirty-three years in building, and it is said the course of the river was for the time turned another way, by a trench cast for the purpose, beginning at Battersea and ending at Rotherhithe.

In this reign was found in the church-yard of Glastonbury abbey, a grave, containing three bodies one upon another. The first was supposed to be the second wife of the great Arthur; the second his nephew; and the third Arthur himself, distinguished by a leaden cross, with this inscription, "Here lies the illustrious King Arthur, in the isle of Avalon." The circumstance served to undeceive the Welsh, who obstinately believed that Arthur was still alive; and would return in due season, and make them a great and independent nation.

Glass windows had now began to be used in private houses.

RICHARD I. A.D. 1189 to 1199.

RICHARD was rather a knight-errant than a king, and his life more like a romance of knight-errantry than a history. His reign was spent in war, or preparations for war; and the sole object of his existence seemed to be the recovery of the holy land. In pursuing the glory to be acquired from this generous but fanatic enterprise, he sacrificed the happiness of his people, from whom he extorted immense sums by the most unjustifiable means. Of the ten years of his reign, he did not reside more than four months in England, and, flattered by the fame of his first Crusade against the infidels, he meditated another; a folly, however, from which his subjects were happily saved by his death. Except his courage, verging on hardihood, and his military talents, there was little to admire in his character. Vindictive, proud, and sensual, his gallantry in the field did not exempt him from the most degrading vices. His avarice was insatiable, and unbridled lust hurried him not only to neglect his wife, but into an infamous debauchery. A poor hermit, who from his zeal in the Crusade, had acquired the privilege of speaking bold truths, advised him to rid himself of his notorious vices, particularly his pride, avarice, and voluptuousness, which he called the king's three favourite daughters. "You counsel well," replied Richard, "and I hereby dispose of the first to the Templars, of the second to the Benedictines, and of the third to my Prelates."

Richard was fond of poetry. There remains some of the king's troubadour compositions; but these unimportant fragments only serve to show that the Plantagenets were still foreigners, and that the English language had not recovered from the blow aimed at its extinction by the Norman invaders.

This was the age of chivalry, of giants, enchanters, dragons, spells, and a thousand wonders. The virtuous knight fought not only in his own quarrel, but in that of the innocent, of the helpless, and, above all, of the fair, whom he supposed to be under the guardianship of his valiant arm. The great independence of men, made personal honour and fidelity the chief ties among them; and the solemnities of single combat, as established

by law, banished the notion of everything unfair or unequal in rencontres. It was on these lofty ideas of chivalry, that modern gallantry and honour originated; and which refine and polish, if they do not add to the sterling virtues of social life.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1189. Richard was the third, but eldest surviving son of Henry II. He released his mother Eleanor, who had been prisoner sixteen years, and bestowed on her the administration of government during his absence.

July 20. Did homage to the king of France, and was crowned duke of Normandy, at Rouen.

Sept. 3. Crowned at Westminster, when the mob falling upon the Jews, who came to offer presents, murdered many, and plundered their houses. The example of the Londoners was followed at Norwich, Lincoln, and York: at the last place, the Jews defended themselves in the castle, and rather than fall into the hands of their enemies, cut their own throats.

Preparations for the Crusade, to defray the expenses of which Richard sold almost all the crown lands, and said, if he could meet with a purchaser, he would sell London itself.

Dec. 11. Richard embarked at Dover for Calais; joined Philip of France at Vezelai, and after they had concerted measures they marched to Lyons, when their army consisted of above 100,000 men, and there separated; Philip taking the road to Genoa, Richard to Marseilles.

1190. Aug. 7. He sailed from thence with a large fleet to Messina, but was dispersed by a storm. Richard seized a castle near Messina, but was repulsed.

1191. The sun totally eclipsed.

Longchamp and the bishop of Durham, the regents in England, disagreed, and Longchamp assumed the whole management, which occasioned his being tried, condemned, and imprisoned, by prince John, who also ejected him out of the regency. The pope espousing Longchamp's cause, as he was archbishop of Canterbury, ordered John to be excommunicated, but the English clergy refused to obey the order.

April 10. Richard sails from Messina, after lingering there six months.

May. He conquers the island of Cyprus, and there marries Berengaria, daughter to the king of Navarre.

July 12. The kings of England and France take the city of Acre.

The two kings fall out, whereupon the French king returns home.

Aug. 18. Richard beheaded near 5000 of his Turkish prisoners, for Saladin's not observing the articles of the truce, and

Saladin followed his example, at the expense of the lives of some thousands of Christians.

Sept. Richard obtained a great victory over Saladin, and repaired the cities that had been dismantled, namely, Ascalon, Joppa, and Cesarea. He next defeated a Turkish corps of 10,000, who were guarding a caravan to Jerusalem. He took on this occasion 3000 loaded camels and 4000 mules, and an immense booty, which he gave to his troops. He soon after found the Italian, Burgundian, and Austrian troops desert him.

1192. Sept. 25. Richard made a truce with Saladin; and left the holy land.

Oct. Richard embarked for England, and was shipwrecked near Aquileia, but taking the road to Vienna, he was seized by the duke of Austria, who sent him prisoner to the emperor, and he was arraigned as a criminal before the diet of the empire, where he pleaded his cause so well as to gain all the German princes in his favour, but the avaricious emperor.

Grain so scarce in England that wheat was sold for 20s. per quarter, equal to 6l. of the present money.

A fever raged, which lasted five months, that carried off innumerable multitudes of people.

1193. A synod held at York.

March 4. Saladin, the greatest of Musulman princes, dies at Damascus.

Great sums raised by the English: for the king's ransom, 190,000 marks.

1194. Feb. 4. Richard released.

March 20. He returned to England, and landed at Sandwich, where he was received with every mark of fidelity from his subjects, after an absence of four years.

Soon after Richard's arrival he reduced his brother's party, cited him to appear before him, to which he did not comply, and was therefore condemned to lose all his possessions and be rendered incapable of inheriting the crown.

Richard again crowned at Westminster, and the king of Scotland assisted at the ceremony, carrying the sword of state before the king.

A war between England and France, which lasted four years.

May 12. Richard embarks for France, in company with the queen's mother, with a fleet of 100 ships.

In September the king sent itinerant jus-

ices through all the counties of England, who were to proceed in doing justice according to the laws.

The French king pulls out the eyes of the English prisoners, which Richard retaliates.

1195. Philip of Spain endeavours to set Richard and his brother John at variance, but John established his innocence, and is reconciled to the king.

A synod held at York.

1196. *April.* A sedition in London, headed by William Fitz Osbert, on account of taxes, but it was suppressed by the justiciary, who executed the ringleaders.

1197. Richard obtains a great victory over the French.

A great famine throughout England, attended with a mortality. During this famine Richard found some ships at St. Valeri full of corn exported from England; he ordered all the people belonging to the vessels to be hanged, and sent the corn back.

1198. Richard is wounded with a poisoned arrow, of which wound he died, April the 6th, 1199, in the forty-first year of his age, and the tenth year of his reign.

His body was buried at the feet of his father's, at Fonteveraud, his head at Rouen, and his lion heart at Charron in Poitou, according to his own orders.

He left no issue.

The king received the wound of which he died, at the siege of the castle of Chaluz, belonging to one of his vassals, Widomar, sheriff of Limosin: Widomar had found a treasure of gold in his own land, part whereof he sent to the king, but nothing less than the whole would satisfy Richard; which Widomar refusing to part with, the king besieged his castle, and there received his death.

Ireland remained under the government of earl John, and his deputies, during this reign.

Richard was the first king of England that bore on his shield three lions passant.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

In the first year, a scutage of 10s. for every knight's fee.

In the second year, towards the king's expedition to the holy land, two saddle horses, and two sumpter horses were taken of every city; of every abbey, one saddle-horse and one sumpter horse; and of every of the king's manors as of the abbeyes, and great part of the crown lands sold.

For his ransom, when prisoner to the emperor, of every knight's fee 20s., a fourth part of the rents of the laity, a fourth part of the rents of some clerks, and a tenth of others; all the gold and silver the churches had, and all the wool of that year of the Cistercian monks, and the order of Sempringham, amounting to 150,000 marks.

Of every plough-land, 2s. of the husbandmen or occupiers.

Of every knight's fee, a third part of the service for his expedition into Normandy; of the Cistercians, the king demanded their wool, for which they compounded.

For the liberty of tournament every earl gave twenty marks, every baron ten marks, every landed knight four marks, and every knight of fortune two marks.

1185, 1196. In these two years were raised 1,000,000 marks, but not said how; also an aid of five shillings of every plough-land.

Great sums also raised by seizures, fines on the renewal of charters, compositions, and sale of the demesne lands.

MISCELLANIES.

Among the minor events of the reign may be mentioned the restoration of the use of the cross bow, from which Richard received his death. Coats of arms were first introduced into Europe about this time. The knights, cased up in armour, had no way of making themselves known and distinguished in battle, but by the devices on their shields; these were adopted by their posterity, who were proud of the virtues and military enterprises of their ancestors. Many of the mottoes were excellent, and are still borne by our ancient nobility.

The government of the city of London began to assume a regular form: it was divided into several corporations, societies, guilds, or companies. The citizens also obtained the privilege to be governed by two bailiffs or sheriffs; and to have a mayor to be their principal governor, who was chosen for life.

As in those days neither the king nor his nobles were much restrained by considerations of justice, it is not surprising there were lesser personages to emulate their lawless example. One of the most popular of these vagabonds was the renowned Robin Hood. The principal scene of his depredations was Sherwood Forest; where he and his companion Little John, and 100 more stout fellows, levied contribution on every person they met on the highway. It is said that he was of noble blood, an earl at least, reduced to a lawless course of life by riotous living. Proclamation being issued for his apprehension, he fell sick at the nunnery of Berkeley, where desiring to be let blood, he was betrayed by a monk, and suffered to bleed to death. Sir Richard Baker says, "He was honestly dishonest, for he seldom hurt any man, never any woman, spared the poor, and only made prey of the rich."

A hide of land, or about 120 acres, was commonly let at twenty shillings a year, money of the time. As there were 243,600 hides in England, it is easy to compute the entire rental of the kingdom. The price of an ox was, four shillings; of a labouring horse, the same; of a sow, one shilling; of a sheep with fine wool, tenpence; with coarse wool, sixpence. These

commodities had not advanced in price since the Conquest.

Two legislative charters were granted by Richard, one for establishing uniformity of weights and measures; the other mitigating the law of wrecks, by which the goods of vessels lost were granted to the owners or their relatives, in lieu of the crown.

JOHN. A.D. 1199 to 1216.

THE character of this king is represented without one redeeming virtue, a complication of mean and revolting vices, alike ruinous to himself and destructive to the people. Cowardice, arrogance, sloth, licentiousness, ingratitude, tyranny, and cruelty are all attributed to him. But though he was unquestionably the most contemptible of monarchs, his reign forms a distinguished epoch in our national annals. Indeed it is to the personal defects of the king that may be mainly ascribed the great progress made in the establishment of better government at the commencement of the thirteenth century. Had not the barons suffered, in common with the nation, from the exercise of irresponsible power, it is not likely they would have been so unanimous in their determination to curb the eccentricities of the sovereign.

The great charter, however, was considered rather a public recognition of dormant immunities than a concession of new privileges. But even this indicated a progression in society, for it was no slight step in constitutional liberty to have acknowledged, and defined by a public law, rights which were previously vague or obsolete.

The barons' wars had other results; beside the grant of immunities to themselves and the clergy, they extorted valuable concessions in favour of the body of the people, as we may learn from the following ordinances, which sufficiently denote the nature of the evils previously existing:—

Magna Charta ordains that all freemen shall be allowed to go out of the kingdom, and return to it at pleasure; one weight and one measure shall be established throughout the kingdom; courts of justice shall be stationary, and not ambulatory with the king. Circuits were to be held regularly every year; and justice no longer to be sold, refused, or delayed. Merchants to be allowed to transact all business without being exposed to tolls and impositions. No freeman to be taken or imprisoned, or dispossessed of his free tenement or liberties, or outlawed, or banished, or anywise hurt or injured, unless by the legal judgment of his peers, or the law of the land. Lastly, there was a stipulation in favour of the villains, the most numerous class probably in the kingdom, and which hitherto had been considered unworthy of legislative notice. It was ordained, that they should not be deprived, by any fine, of their carts, ploughs, and implements of industry.

Civil liberty had yet, however, made little progress. Laws were only arbitrary edicts issued by the king, with the consent of his privy council. According to feudal principles, all property was held of the king, on consideration of certain services. When a baron died, the king immediately took possession of the estate; and the heir was obliged to make application to the crown, and desire that he might be admitted to do homage

for his land, and pay a composition to the king. This composition was arbitrary, and frequently exorbitant: the king keeping possession of the estate till it was paid. If the heir were a female, the king was entitled to offer her any husband he thought proper of the same rank; and if she refused him she forfeited her land. Even a male heir could not marry without the royal consent; and it was usual for men to pay large sums for the liberty of choosing a wife. Justice was a regular article of traffic, even in the king's court, and in Madox's History of the Exchequer there are numerous instances of the sums paid for the delaying, expediting, suspending, and, doubtless, preventing justice.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1199. John, the sixth and youngest son of Henry II., succeeded to the crown by the appointment of his brother Richard, though Arthur, then in his twelfth year, and the son of Geoffrey, king Henry's fourth son, was living.

April 25. John takes possession of the late king's treasures, also of the duchy of Normandy, and is girt with the sword of that duchy. Maine, Touraine and Anjou, espoused the claim of Arthur, and John sacked the two cities of Mans and Angers.

May 25. John arrived at Shoreham, where he landed, and came the next day to London.

May 27. Crowned at Westminster, by Hubert, archbishop of Canterbury, who, as a recompence for his fidelity, is made chancellor of England, and he was the first archbishop vested with that office.

John divorces his wife Alice, and marries Isabella, a celebrated beauty, daughter of the earl of Angouleme, betrothed before to Hugh, earl of March.

1200. The French king sets up prince Arthur against king John; but a treaty of peace is concluded between them.

A synod, held at Westminster, regulates the divine service, by forbidding either huddling the prayers, or drawing them out to a sleepy negligence.

John publishes the famous edict of Hastings, in which he asserts his dominion over the British seas, and commands his captains to seize all ships that do not strike their topsails to them, even though they are the ships of a friendly power.

June 19. John set sail for Normandy with a numerous army, from Shoreham, but soon after returned to England.

Oct. 8. King John crowned a second time, with his queen Isabella, at Westminster.

Nov. 22. The king held a famous parliament at Lincoln, where William, king of Scotland, did him homage in the sight of all the people.

The nations of Christendom were thrown into consternation by the commentators on the Apocalypse. They taught, that at the

end of the year 1200 expired the term of 1000 years during which the devil was to be bound in the bottomless pit (Rev. xx. 1-3), and left it to the imagination of their hearers to conceive the mischief he would cause now he was at liberty.

1201. *March 25.* The king crowned a third time at Canterbury.

The barons refuse to attend the king in his wars abroad.

A war commenced against France.

1202. *April 14.* John is crowned a fourth time at Canterbury.

Aug. 1. He obtains a great victory, and takes his nephew, prince Arthur, prisoner, and his sister Eleanor. Arthur soon after died in prison, whether a violent or natural death, is uncertain; but historians generally mention his being murdered by the king's own hand.

Twenty-two noblemen starved to death by order of John, in Corfe castle.

Bewley abbey built by king John.

He is summoned by Philip, king of France, to answer concerning the death of his nephew Arthur; and not appearing, is adjudged guilty of his murder, and as a traitor to Philip, to forfeit the dominions he held of the crown of France, which Philip endeavoured to seize.

Assize of bread first fixed throughout the realm, on the principle that in a quarter of wheat, supposed to weigh 512 pounds, the baker, after deducting every expence, should make a clear profit of three pennies. A scale was made of the price of wheat, from 2s. the quarter the lowest, to 6s. the highest price known; and opposite each price was fixed the corresponding weight of the quarter loaf, to be sold for one farthing (*quadrante*). At 2s. the quarter the weight of the loaf was fixed at 3lbs.; at 6s., at 9 oz. 12 dwts.

1203. Philip takes many of John's towns in Normandy.

1204. *June 1.* Rouen, the capital of Normandy, with the whole duchy, conquered by the French, after having been 300 years separated from the crown of France.

Constantinople taken by the French and Venetians.

The inquisition first established.

John laid heavy taxes on his subjects, which occasioned discontents.

The most ancient writ of summons to parliament was this year directed to the bishop of Salisbury.

Oct. In a great council it is enacted, that in loans of money, and in mercantile transactions, no pennies shall pass but such as are of full weight. But for the relief of the poor, in the purchase of provisions, the old coin was allowed to be current if it had not lost more than one-eighth of its weight.

1205. John levies a heavy tax upon the English barons, for deserting his service in Normandy.

Queen Eleanor died in a very advanced age; also Peter, of Colechurch, who first began building London-bridge with stone.

Upon the death of Hubert, the monks of Canterbury proceed to an election, without the king's leave, and chose Reginald, their sub-prior, for their bishop. They afterwards, at the instance of the king, chose John Gray, bishop of Norwich, for their archbishop. The suffragan bishops claimed the right to elect their metropolitan. But the pope maintained the right of the monks.

1206. John makes an unsuccessful attempt to recover his Norman dominions. The Emperor of Germany visited England.

A synod held at Reading, and another at Pipewell in Northamptonshire.

1207. The pope rejects both archbishops, and obliges the monks, then at Rome, to choose cardinal Stephen Langton; whereupon John drives the monks of Canterbury out of England, and confiscates their goods.

1208. *March 23.* The pope lays the kingdom under an interdict. The king confiscates the lands and goods of all the clergy that obeyed the interdict, and banishes the bishops. During the interdict the churches were closed; no bell was tolled, no service solemnly performed; the administration of the sacraments, except to infants and to the dying, was prohibited; and the bodies of the dead were silently buried in unconsecrated ground. But marriages were performed, and women were churched, at the church door. The people were also called together on Sundays to hear sermons and prayers in the church-yards.

1209. *Nov.* The pope excommunicates the king, and requires all his subjects to abandon him.

John grants peace to the Scots, who did him homage, as did the prince of Wales.

He caused all his vassals to render their homage.

1210. The king subdues the Irish, and

brings them under the English laws. Going over to Dublin, he received the homage and fealty of twenty Irish princes. He was successful also against the Welsh, and laid taxes on the clergy to the amount of 100,000*l.*

1211. The pope absolved the king's subjects from their allegiance to him, and required them to avoid his presence and conversation.

Aug. 10. John arrived in England from Dublin.

1212. *July 10.* Great part of London burnt down by a fire; it began in Southwark, and having consumed the church of St. Mary Overy, went on to the bridge, and whilst some were quenching the flames, the houses at the other end took fire, so that numbers were enclosed; many of them were forced to leap into the Thames, whilst others crowding into boats that came to their relief were the cause of their own destruction, the boats and people sinking together; near 3000 people perished by this accident, partly by water, and partly by fire.

The Welsh infested the English borders again, and the king hung twenty-eight of their sons whom he had taken as hostages.

He demanded hostages of the nobility for their allegiance.

The pope deposes king John, and gives his kingdom to the French king, which induced John to promise the king of Morocco to hold his kingdom of him, and to forsake his religion if he would aid him.

London bridge finished, built of stone.

1213. The French king preparing to invade England, John is compelled to submit to the pope's terms.

May 15. The king performs all the degrading ceremonies of resignation, homage, and fealty to the pope, and submitting to hold his kingdom as tributary to him, at the yearly rent of 1000 marks, was absolved.

The bishops and barons enter into a confederacy against the king.

The king confirms the donation or resignation of his dominions to the pope, in a solemn assembly of the clergy and laity.

1214. *July 2.* The interdict released, after it had continued above six years.

July 27. John, defeated in the battle of Bouvines, returns to England.

1215. The barons resolve to coerce the king.

Jan. 15. John grants the custody of collegiate churches, and freedom of episcopal election, to the clergy.

Feb. 2. Orders the sheriffs to assemble the freemen of the several counties, and tender to them the oath of allegiance. He takes the cross, and vows to wage war against the infidels.

Mar. 19. The pope, in a letter to Langton, reprehends the turbulence of the barons.

The barons assembled in Easter week at Stamford, with 2000 knights, their esquires and followers, and proceeded to make their demands of the king, who lay at Oxford.

May 24. Barons arrive in London, and threaten to treat as enemies all who do not join "the army of God and of the holy church."

June 19. Conference of the king and the barons at Runnymede, between Staines and Windsor. Great charter of liberties conceded by the king.

June 27. Suspicions entertained of the king's sincerity, in consequence of which a great tournament, proposed to be held by the barons at Stamford, in commemoration of their triumph, is postponed.

Aug. Great charter annulled by the pope.

Oct. John prepares for war with the barons.

Dec. 16. Some of the confederated barons excommunicated by name, and London laid under an interdict. Meanwhile the king ravages the midland counties with hordes of foreign mercenaries.

1216. *Jan.* John resolves to wreak his vengeance on Alexander, the young king of Scots; after laying waste the northern counties, he continues his devastating career to Edinburgh.

April. Barons offer the crown to Louis, king of France.

May 30. The French land at Sandwich, and king John withdraws to Bristol.

Oct. 14. The king being much harassed proceeds into Lincolnshire, over the washes between that county and Norfolk, where he lost many of his forces, with all his treasure, baggage, and regalia, and himself narrowly escaped with life.

The barons did homage, and swore fealty to Louis, as king of England.

The twelfth council of Lateran held.

Oct. 19. King John died of fatigue, anxiety, or poison, at the castle of Newark, in the forty-ninth year of his age and the seventeenth of his reign. He was first taken ill at the convent of Swineshead, from which he had been removed by easy stages. He was buried, according to his own appointment, at the cathedral church of Worcester, between the effigies of St. Oswald and St. Wulstan.

He was the first king of England who coined sterling money, and gave the Cinque Ports their privileges.

TAKEN IN THIS REIGN.

1199. A scutage of two marks of every knight's fee.

1200. Three shillings of every ploughland.

1201. Two marks of every knight's fee, who had license to stay at home.

1203. John took a seventh part of all the earls' and barons' goods that left him in Normandy.

1204. Parliament granted a scutage of two marks and a half on every knight's fee.

1205. He levied a vast sum of money upon the earls and barons that refused to follow him beyond sea.

1207. He took a thirteenth part of all moveables, as well of laics as ecclesiastics.

1210. He forced from the abbeys and monasteries 140,000*l.*

1211. He had two marks scutage of every knight's fee.

1214. He took three marks of every knight's fee that was not with him at Poictou.

KING'S ISSUE.

1. Henry, his eldest son, afterwards Henry III., born Oct. 1, 1207. 2. Richard, afterwards king of the Romans, born 1208. He had also three daughters, Joan, the eldest, married to Alexander, king of Scots; Eleanor, the second, married to William Marshall, and, after his death, to Simon Montfort, earl of Leicester; Isabel, the third, married to Frederic II., emperor of Germany.

His illegitimate issue were numerous. Nine sons and one daughter are mentioned by historians. Isabella, to punish his infidelity, imitated the conduct of her husband. But John was not to be insulted with impunity. He hanged her gallants over her bed.

EDUCATION AND SCIENCE.

The branches of learning chiefly cultivated from the death of William I. to that of John were grammar, rhetoric, theology, the canon, civil, and common law, mathematics and medicine. Metaphysics and natural philosophy were taught but not understood. The study of languages was pursued with ardour, especially the French and Latin; the former being the language of the court, the latter of the learned, and of all who aspired to any reputation for learning. Latin was not only the language of the liturgies of the church, but that in which all the sciences were taught, all books composed, all accounts kept, all letters of business or compliment written, in which all scholars daily conversed, many of the clergy preached, not only before synods and councils, but even the common people.

Arithmetic could not have made much progress, as it is doubtful whether the Arabian figures for representing numbers had been introduced. From the revenue rolls of King John it appears that they were not then used in the Exchequer; for

all the sums in the rolls are marked in Roman numerals. Both algebra and decimal ciphering were known in Europe, and it is probable that Robert of Reading, Adelard, and some others of the learned among the English who had travelled in Spain and Egypt, had some knowledge of the Arabian notation, though not generally used. That the Elements of Euclid, and some other treatises on geometry had been translated out of the Greek and Arabic languages, there is the clearest evidence; but they were not much studied, and, as a consequence, little could be known of the kindred sciences of geography, navigation, and astronomy.

The medical schools of Salernum in Italy, and of Montpellier in France, were famous in those times, and frequented by persons from all parts of Europe. Medicine was also taught in the universities of Paris and Oxford. The clergy were the chief practitioners, and there are few names of eminence in the healing art who were not priests or monks. That it had made some progress towards a science we may infer from the fact of a separation having taken place in the duties of the surgeon and physician.

In the darkest of the middle ages were numerous seminaries of learning. Next to the universities, the principal were the episcopal or cathedral schools. In these, young men were educated for the service of the church, and the bishop was the chief if not the only teacher. Attached almost to every convent was a school, more or less famous. Of the extent to which these had been multiplied some idea may be formed from the numerous religious houses founded since the Conquest, amounting to no fewer than 557. In the conventual schools, besides Latin and church music, the young monks were carefully instructed in calligraphy, and those who excelled in the art were employed in the *scriptorium*, or writing-chamber, transcribing books for the use of the church and library. There were also schools in the nunneries for instructing the nuns in the Greek and Hebrew languages, physic, and divinity.

In the chief cities and towns were the illustrious schools in which youth were taught grammar, logic, and other branches of learning. William Fitz-Stephen, who lived in the reign of Henry II., says that there were three of these illustrious schools firmly established in London, besides others that were occasionally opened by such masters as had obtained a high reputation for learning. The teachers of these appear to have been licensed, as the last canon of the council of Westminster, held 1138, prohibits the scholastics of cathedrals from

taking money for licenses to teachers of schools in towns and villages.

Education and science must have been greatly promoted by the discovery of the art of making paper. It is unknown to whom the merit of this important invention is due. At first it was made of cotton, and on that account called *charta bombycina*, or cotton paper. Towards the end of the eleventh or the beginning of the twelfth century it began to be made of linen rags, as at present.

The clergy were all in all, and religion formed part of every exhibition. Theatrical spectacles were of a spiritual character; the *dramatis persona* being filled by ecclesiastics, who, clothed in sacred vestments, represented the scripture miracles, and the sufferings of the martyrs.

LEARNED MEN. A.D. 1066 to 1216.

Ingulph, born 1030, died 1109. He was secretary to William I., and is celebrated for his excellent history of the abbey of Croyland, in Lincolnshire, of which he was abbot. Into this work he has introduced much of the general history of the period, with a variety of curious anecdotes.

Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury; born at Pavia, 1005, died 1089. He is reckoned the most learned man of the age. His writings consist of Commentaries on St. Paul's Epistles, sermons, and his famous Treatise on the Eucharist.

Anselm, disciple and successor of Lanfranc, was born at Aoust, 1034, died, 1109. He was one of the most voluminous writers of the age, chiefly in logic and metaphysics, and the application of them to theology. He was one of the fathers of scholastic divinity.

Eadmerus was the author of a valuable history of the affairs of England in his own time, from 1066 to 1122.

Turgot, a contemporary of Eadmerus, was an Anglo-Saxon of good family in Lincolnshire. He wrote a history of the church of Durham, from 635 to 1096, in four books. Simeon, precentor of Durham, had the meanness to publish Turgot's work in his own name, expunging only the pages that would have discovered the real author.

Robert White, a distinguished lecturer at Oxford. He was made chancellor at Rome by Eugenius III., and is supposed to have died about 1150.

Nicholas Breakspear, the only Englishman who ever sat in St. Peter's chair, was born near St. Alban's, and was of very humble origin. After many vicissitudes, he became pope in 1154, under the name of Adrian IV.

William of Malmsbury stands at the head of the historians of the twelfth cen-

tury. He was a most diligent and veracious author, and wrote a history of England from the arrival of the Saxons in 449 to the 26th of Henry I. He is also author of a church history. The life of this excellent person was spent in the humble station of monk and library-keeper in the abbey of Malmesbury, where he died in 1143.

Roger de Hoveden was domestic chaplain to Henry II. He composed the annals of England from 731 to 1202. They comprise valuable facts, but have no other merit.

Gervase of Canterbury was one of the voluminous historians of this period. Besides his Chronicle of the Kings of England from 1122 to 1200, he wrote the Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury from Augustine to Hubert.

Benedict, abbot of Peterborough, was an author of high repute. He wrote a Life of Archbishop Becket, and a History of Henry II. and Richard I.

Peter of Blois was born 1120, at the city in France from whence he derived his name. He was an eminent theologian, and first used the famous word transubstantiation, which was soon after adopted by the church of Rome. His printed works consist of letters, sermons, and tracts.

Giraldus Cambrensis was a Welshman, as the name imports. He became bishop of St. David's, and besides his writings, is celebrated for his contest with Archbishop Hubert, who opposed his elevation to that see. The dispute involved him in a litigation of five years' duration, and cost him three journeys to Rome, and after all he was defeated by his powerful antagonist.

Henry of Huntingdon, John of Salisbury, William Little, and Ralph de Diceto, may also be included among the learned of the period from the Conquest to Magna Charta.

MISCELLANIES.

Liberty of all kinds was vendible in the reign of John; even that of commerce and connubial rights. The men of Worcester paid the king 100 shillings that they might have the liberty of selling and buying dyed cloth as formerly. Geoffrey Fitz-Pierre gave two good Norway hawks for leave to export a hundred weight of cheese out of the king's dominions. The archdeacon of Wells gave one tun of wine for leave to carry 600 seams of corn whither he would. Peter Parois gave twenty marks for leave to salt fishes, as Peter Chevalier used to do. The wife of Hugh de Neville gave the king 200 hens that she might lie with her husband one night; who most

probably was a prisoner. Richard de Neville gave twenty palfreys to obtain the king's request to Isolda Bisset, that she should take him for a husband. Roger Fitz-Walter gave three good palfreys, to have the king's letter to Roger Bertram's mother, that she should marry him. The bishop of Winchester gave one tun of good wine, for his not putting the king in mind to give a girdle to the countess of Albermarle. Robert de Veaux gave five of the best palfreys, that the king would hold his tongue about Henry Pinel's wife. Eling, the dean, paid 100 marks that his concubine and his children might be let out upon bail. Several more instances might be mentioned, but these will be sufficient to illustrate the manners of the times, and show the sort of commerce carried on betwixt the king and his subjects.

Among other curious traits of this period, may be mentioned the French champion, who came over to fight any one who should assert, that Philip, king of France, had done wrong to John. To put down this braggadocio, an Irish lord, of gigantic stature, and known intrepidity, then confined in the Tower, was selected. While he was recovering his strength, impaired by imprisonment, the French Hector, hearing of his prodigious power, withdrew privately into Spain, not daring to appear in France or England. The strength of this Irishman was so great, that he could cleave a helmet in two with a blow of his sword. As a principal part of jurisprudence was administered by single combat, John used to keep a number of bravoes destined to fight with his barons, when any controversy arose between him and them.

The right of electing the lord-mayor annually was given by charter to the city of London. It also had power to remove its sheriffs at pleasure, and its common-councilmen annually.

The great charter was ratified four times by Henry III., twice by Edward I., fifteen times by Edward III., seven times by Richard II., six times by Henry IV., and once by Henry V.

Christians were prohibited from lending money at interest, which was called usury; and those who were convicted of it were punished by excommunication and the forfeiture of all their goods. By these impolitic laws the business of lending money became a monopoly in the hands of the Jews, who realized exorbitant profits. This was one cause of their unpopularity.

The Anglo-Normans had only two stated meals a day, dinner and supper. The time of dinner was nine in the forenoon; of supper, five in the afternoon.

HENRY III. A. D. 1216 to 1272.

HISTORIANS generally agree in the uninteresting nature of this long and disorderly reign. Henry had no great virtue save piety, nor any prominent vice save covetousness. But though his personal history is void of interest, the general history of the period derives importance from exhibiting the elements of the constitution in violent agitation, and ultimately forming the basal outline of the existing structure.

When the barons first took up arms against John, they vindicated the right of resistance to oppression, and showed that there were limits to the exercise of power over which the sovereign could not trespass with impunity. But though this was a salutary lesson to the monarch, and an inspiring example to the nation, it was unaccompanied with the establishment of any boundary line by which the claims of the contending parties might have been placed beyond dispute. This guarantee against future contest was only obtained in the second stage of the baronial wars, when, by the grant of the Great Charter, a specific recognition of national rights was obtained. Even this would have proved a feeble barrier against regal despotism, without the establishment of a permanent assembly, in which should be vested the power of granting, or withholding, the public supplies. Hence the unspeakable importance of the new constitution given to parliament during this reign, and which forms the third and conclusive epoch in the struggles between the aristocracy and the crown.

Hitherto the prelates and barons had alone formed the constituent parts of parliament. Returns were now ordered to be made not only of two knights for each shire, but also of deputies from the cities and boroughs; an order of men which had always been esteemed too mean to enjoy a place in the national councils. The value and efficacy of this new incorporation became ultimately of vast importance; but it was a long period after before the commons began to exercise legislative functions: they continued for centuries later only to be called together to impose taxes, not to make laws, that continuing a branch of the prerogative occasionally exercised by the sovereign even down to the period of the civil wars of the Commonwealth.

There was little of foreign war in this reign, and in favour of Henry's weak but pacific sway it may be remarked, that the nation grew more rapidly in wealth and prosperity than it had done under any of his military progenitors.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1216. Henry of Winchester had just completed his tenth year when he succeeded his father. Louis was master of the capital, and the princes of Wales and the king of Scotland acknowledged his authority. Henry's dependence was on the barons and foreigners who had remained faithful to John, and on the powerful protection of the pope, to whom he did homage for his dominions.

Oct. 28. Henry crowned at Gloucester. In lieu of the crown, which had been lost with the rest of the regalia, a plain circle of gold was placed on his temples.

Nov. 12. Great charter revised and confirmed by a council held at Bristol.

1217. May 19. Battle in the streets of Lincoln, in which the dauphin's troops, and the rebellious barons are defeated.

Aug. A French fleet coming to the assistance of the dauphin, was defeated. The dauphin agreed to quit the kingdom, upon having 5000 pounds for his voyage.

The order of Franciscans or Cordeliers settled in England, as did also the Dominicans.

1218. Feb. 22. Charter a second time confirmed, and severity of the forest laws mitigated.

New troubles occasioned by the restitution of lands to the absolved barons, and the clergy complain of the legate's exac-

tions; but the regent, Lord Pembroke, supports the legate against the clergy, and ordered John's charters to be observed.

1219. *March 12.* The earl of Pembroke died, and the bishop of Winchester succeeded him as guardian to the king, and protector of the kingdom. The regent was buried in the round part of the Temple church.

1220. Thomas-à-Becket's bones were enshrined in gold set with precious stones, by the then archbishop of Canterbury.

1221. Henry laid the first stone of the abbey church at Westminster, which remains a monument of the taste and architecture of that age.

Aug. 1. Some riotous citizens of London demolish the convent belonging to Westminster abbey, for which, Constantine, the ringleader, is hanged, and other rioters have their hands and feet cut off; the magistrates of the city were turned out, and others appointed by the king.

1222. Cardinal Langton holds a synod at Oxford, in which a canon is made prohibiting clergymen from keeping concubines publicly in their own houses, or going to them in other places so openly as to occasion scandal.

1223. Philip, king of France, died, and his son Louis, who succeeded him, declared war against England.

The pope declared Henry of age, which the barons oppose.

1224. An insurrection by Fawkes suppressed, and Bedford castle razed to the ground.

1225. *Feb. 11.* Parliament grants a fifteenth on condition the charters shall be confirmed; thus setting the first example of combining a grant of a supply with a redress of grievances; out of which the chief reforms of the constitution have grown. The charters were not altered subsequently to this ratification.

A decree that the concubines of priests should be denied Christian burial, and that the priests who kept concubines should do penance.

Two impostors were executed, the one for pretending to be the Virgin Mary, and the other Mary Magdalen.

1226. The pope demanded an annual sum from every cathedral church and monastery in Christendom, which was refused.

1228. The king marches against the Welsh.

1229. Archbishop Langton died, and the pope promoted Richard Grant, chancellor of Lincoln, to that see, by his sole authority. The pope collects the tenths of the whole kingdom with rigour. Lombard usurers sent over, to lend money to such as were not able to pay the tenth down. The king raised money by unjust methods; among

others, he obliged the Jews to give him a third part of their substance.

1230. The king was unsuccessful in the expedition against France, and returned to England.

1231. Archbishop Grant died; the pope refused to confirm the person elected by the chapter and approved by the king, but compelled them to elect Edmund of Abington.

1232. Hubert de Burgo, chief justice and earl of Kent, was disgraced and imprisoned, and his treasures seized by the king.

The Rolls chapel, Chancery-lane, built for converted Jews.

1233. The king, preferring the French, causes a rebellion.

1234. *April 1.* The earl of Pembroke is killed, and the king and barons reconciled.

A method of conveying water to the city of London was brought into use.

1240. The scholars removed from Oxford to Cambridge, on account of the ill usage they received from the townsmen.

Three hundred Romans sent into England by the pope, to be beneficed in the first cures that should become vacant.

Tin mines first discovered in Germany, which much lowered the price in England; for before that time none had been heard of out of England.

The Italians were possessed of revenues in England to the value of 70,000 marks per annum, and the king's revenues scarcely amounted to one third of that sum.

A synod held at Reading.

1241. Eleanor, sister to Arthur, duke of Britany, to whom the crown belonged by lineal descent, died this year unmarried, having been a prisoner thirty-nine years in the castle of Bristol.

The parliament refused an aid to the king.

A great dearth preceded by an earthquake.

1242. *May 19.* Henry, with thirty hogheads of silver, embarks at Portsmouth for France.

Aldermen first elected in London.

A great plague in France, Italy, and Greece, that carried off near 100,000 persons.

1243. A five years' truce agreed on between England and France.

The king's brother Richard married to Sandea, third daughter to the count of Provence, the barons of London officiating at the dinner as at a coronation.

1234. The English expelled France, and Henry confiscated the lands of the French.

1245. The king finished Westminster Abbey in the manner it stands at present.

1246. Tiles first brought into use.

1247. The heavy exactions of the court of Rome occasion resistance from the clergy and barons.

1248. The king not being satisfied dissolves the parliament, and for want of money sold his plate and jewels to the citizens of London.

1251. Wales wholly subdued, and received the English laws.

The city of London purchased for 500 marks, the privilege of having her mayor sworn in before the barons of the exchequer. In the same year, originated the custom of the sheriffs tendering six horseshoes, with the nails on, as the rent of a piece of land in the Strand, formerly held of the crown by a farrier.

The earl of Leicester upon high words with his sovereign, gave him the lie to his face, a fact which would hardly be credible, if not attested by most historians.

1253. *May 3.* Great assembly of the bishops, the peers, and the king, in Westminster Hall, where the penalties of excommunication are denounced against all violators of the great charter.

Dec. 29. Henry landed from France, and the next day made his public entry into London.

1254. The king and the pope committed great extortions on the clergy as well as the laity of the kingdom.

1255. Henry visited Scotland to redress some complaints of the queen his daughter. All that had fifteen pounds a year were obliged to be knighted, or fine to be excused.

Eleanor, the wife of prince Edward, arrived in England, and introduced tapestry as furniture.

1257. *May 27.* Richard, the king's brother, crowned king of the Romans, at Aix la Chapelle.

The first coin of pure gold issued; it was a penny weighing two sterlings, and coined in London.

1258. The barons conspire against the king, and compel him, at a parliament at Oxford, to delegate his royal power to twenty-four persons, twelve to be chosen by himself, and the rest by the peers, reserving only to the king the chief place in all public assemblies, and to swear the expulsion of foreigners from the kingdom. This was the first meeting where representatives of the commons were present. About this time the word parliament began to be commonly used.

1259. The king releases his right of Normandy and Anjou to the French king in person, for 3000*l.*

The king and queen of Scotland visit England.

The barons rise against the king.

1260. He procured a dispensation of his oath, for observing the provisions made at Oxford, and levied forces to compel the barons to return to their duty.

Under the auspices of the king a new university is formed at Northampton; it arose from the frequent quarrels which occurred among the scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, and in which the southern English, Welsh and Irish commonly formed one party, against the northern English and Scots. After a short time the people of Oxford and Cambridge prevailed upon the king to dissolve this new university, and compel the members of it to return to their former residence. About thirty years after the university of Stamford began, and terminated in the same manner.

1262. The war began between the king and his barons.

The cinque-ports declare in favour of the barons, which frightened the king into a promise of compliance.

Aug. 5. Henry, during this calm, went to Bourdeaux, but the barons again unite, and the king returned to England, to whom they presented an address, for him to conform to his agreement, which he resented, and returned a haughty answer.

Sept. 7. Prince Edward arrived in England with some forces, and suddenly came to London, where he took out of the treasury of the Templars 10,000*l.* deposited there by the citizens of London.

The citizens of London insulted the queen as she was passing by water through London bridge, by pelting her with mud and stones, and giving her opprobrious language.

1264. *Jan.* The case between the king and his barons referred to the French king, who determined in favour of Henry, but the barons refused to obey his award, whereupon the war was renewed.

May 14. The barons defeated the king's forces at Lewes, and took Henry, the king of the Romans, and Prince Edward, prisoners: 5000 men were slain.

Earl Montfort called a parliament at Winchester in the king's name, which is shown by Dr. Brady to be the first, wherein two knights for each county, two citizens for each city, and two burgesses for each borough, were summoned, and was the original of the House of Commons. Writs are still extant of the summoning of this parliament, and are the earliest of the kind known.

1265. *Jan. 22.* A parliament summoned to consider of the releasing of Prince Edward, to which were summoned two knights for each county, and two burgesses for each borough, when the prince was ordered to be delivered to the king, who continued still a prisoner.

Aug. 4. Division among the barons, and a battle, in which the earl of Leicester and his son are slain.

1266. Dec. 29. The queen arrived in England, after two years' absence, with whom came the pope's legate, who excommunicated the disaffected barons.

Nov. A parliament held at Northampton, wherein the late earl of Leicester's adherents were disinherited.

1267. Jan. 25. The discontented barons seize the isle of Ely, and Henry besieged Kenilworth Castle, during which time he held a parliament there, August 24, and the decrees there made were published in the camp, October 31.

Dec. 10. Kenilworth Castle surrendered. Henry went from Kenilworth to Windsor, where he kept his Christmas, and from thence to London, Feb. 10, 1268, where he held a parliament, which granted him a subsidy, but refused the demands of the pope's legate. At this parliament the earl of Gloucester refused to attend, having returned to Wales in disgust at the king's conduct, where he raised troops.

July 25. The rebels at Ely surrendered. Baliol college in Oxford founded by Sir John Baliol, of Yorkshire (father to John Baliol, king of the Scots).

1269. April. A parliament held at Northampton, when the pope's legate published a crusade.

Oct. 13. The bones of Edward the Confessor enshrined in gold and set with precious stones.

Nov. 18. Another parliament held at Marlborough, where a body of statutes were enacted, which make a considerable figure among the English laws.

Clement IV. died, which was followed by three years' vacancy in the popedom.

1270. May. Prince Edward embarked at Portsmouth on a crusade to the Holy-land.

June. A parliament held at London.

1271. March 13. Prince Henry assassinated in Italy, while at mass, by two outlaws, Simon and Guy de Montfort.

June 17. Prince Edward had great success against the infidels, but was wounded with a poisoned dagger by an assassin; he is cured by the skill of an English surgeon. A Spanish historian says the poison was extracted by Eleanor, who sucked the wound of her husband.

Dec. 12. The king's brother, Richard, king of the Romans, died at Berkhamstead, and was buried in Hales Abbey, in the same vault with his son.

1272. Prince Edward's army daily diminishing in Palestine, he made a truce with the sultan, and prepared for his return to England.

June. The cathedral of Norwich and the adjoining monastery were burnt by the notorious citizens, for which they were excommunicated; the city condemned to

pay 3000 marks, and the ringleaders convicted and executed; the king going thither in person, to see justice done on the rioters.

Nov. 16. Henry died in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the fifty-seventh of his reign, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Before the tomb was closed, the earl of Gloucester stepped forward, and putting his hand on the body of the king, swore fealty to Prince Edward, and the example was followed by the spectators.

THE KING'S ISSUE.

Edward, his eldest son, by Queen Eleanor, who was king of England.

Edmund, surnamed Crouchback, who was afterwards earl of Lancaster, born 16th of January, 1245.

Richard, John, William and Henry, who all died in their childhood.

He had three daughters;

Margaret, married to Alexander III., king of Scots.

Beatrice, to John, the first duke of Brittany. And Katharine, who died an infant.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1224. Two shillings granted on every plow-land, and a fifteenth on all moveables, for the confirmation of Magna Charta.

A fortieth part of moveables granted.

1226. A fifteenth of the clergy; 5000 marks levied on the citizens of London.

1230. The bishops and abbots gave the king large sums. The Jews paid a third part of their treasure and effects.

1231. A scutage of three marks on every knight's fee.

1232. A fortieth part of all moveables.

1235. Two marks on every plow-land, and a thirtieth of moveables.

1237. A thirtieth part of all moveables was granted to the king.

1242. Three marks on every knight's fee.

1244. Twenty shillings on every knight's fee, for the marriage of his daughter. A tenth of all the ecclesiastical revenues for three years; and the nobility and knights three marks on every knight's fee, for relief of the holy land, on the confirmation of Magna Charta.

51 H. 3. Three years' tenths of all church revenues, granted by the pope.

54 H. 3. A twentieth part granted to the king by the laity.

MISCELLANIES.

Among minor events may be noticed the obstinate dispute betwixt the civil and ecclesiastical courts, on the subject of bastardy. The common law had deemed all

those to be bastards who were born before wedlock: by the canon law they were legitimate. In the parliament assembled at Merton, the prelates insisted that the municipal law should be made conformable to the canon; but the barons returned the celebrated reply, *Nolumus leges Angliæ mutari*, "We will not change the laws of England."

The trial by fire and water ordeal was abolished by an order in council.

A charter was granted to the town of Newcastle, which gave the inhabitants license to dig for coal. This is the first mention of coal in England.

Madox says, the king gave to Master Henry, his poet, 100 shillings. The pre-

sent laureat receives 100*l.*, though the annual offering of a laudatory ode has been dropped.

According to Selden, in the forty-seventh of this reign, 150 temporal and fifty spiritual barons were summoned to perform the service due by their tenures. In the thirty-fifth of the subsequent reign, eighty-six temporal barons, twenty bishops, and forty-eight abbots were summoned to a parliament convened at Carlisle.

In his thirty-sixth year Henry published some valuable police regulations for the general security. In cities and boroughs, the watch was placed under the command of the mayor and bailiffs; in townships and villages, under the constable.

EDWARD I. A.D. 1272 to 1307.

EDWARD is represented as the model of a warlike and politic prince. He possessed industry, penetration, courage, vigilance, and enterprise; he was frugal in his expenses; he punished criminals with severity; he was gracious and affable to his servants and courtiers; and being of a majestic figure, and in the main well proportioned, notwithstanding the extraordinary length and smallness of his legs, he was as well qualified to captivate men by his exterior appearance, as the more solid virtues of his mind. His great improvements in the civil and criminal jurisprudence of the country have obtained him the appellation of the English Justinian. He abolished the office of chief justiciary, which he thought possessed too much power. He settled the jurisdiction of the several courts; first established the office of justice of the peace; abstained from the practice, too common before him, of interrupting justice by mandates from the privy council; repressed robberies and disorders; encouraged trade; and, in short, he introduced a new face of things, by the vigour and wisdom of his administration.

The events which are supposed to throw a shade over this brilliant reign are the subjugation of Wales and the treatment of Scotland. With the defeat and death of Llewellyn, one of the most antient princes in Europe, expired the independence of the principality. Edward having summoned a parliament, it was resolved that it should be inseparably united to the crown, and that nothing might remain to keep alive the ancient glory of the country, it has been said (though the story seems a traditinary colouring inconsistent with the character of the prince), Edward collected all the Welsh bards together, and, from a barbarous policy, ordered them to be put to death. The right of the king to a feudal superiority over Scotland appears to have had no foundation, except in his own power and ambition. He quoted a passage from Hoveden, where he asserts that a Scottish king had done homage to England, but he purposely omitted part of the sentence which expresses, that the homage was for certain fiefs held in England, not for the kingdom of Scotland. In carrying off the regalia and destroying the ancient records, Edward clearly manifested a design to pursue the same steps towards Scotland which had succeeded towards Wales, and annex it to England. The exploits of the brave Sir William Wallace form an interesting episode in the struggle of the Scots for the maintenance of their independence.

Writs in this, as well as in the preceding reign, were issued to the boroughs to return members to parliament. In the preamble to the writ, Edward says, "It is a most equitable rule, that what concerns all should be approved by all; and common dangers repelled by united efforts." The deputies for the boroughs, however, had yet little or no influence in the state. They had no deliberative capacity, nor hardly a negative, but simply the privilege of giving their consent to such grants as the king might demand. Their charges were borne by the boroughs which sent them; and it was considered a disadvantage to be summoned to return deputies. The deputies gave sureties for their attendance before the king and parliament: they sat apart from the barons and knights, who disdained to mix with such mean personages; and when the burgesses had given their consent to the new taxes, they returned home, though the parliament still continued to sit to canvass the national business. The sheriffs used the freedom of omitting such boroughs as they conceived did not contain any persons of sufficient wealth or ability to qualify them for the office of representatives; and the boroughs returned thanks for this omission, considering it an indulgence. This power of the sheriffs continued till the reign of Richard II. In the reign of Edward III. there is an instance of the king naming all the deputies. In the parliament summoned by Edward, in the year 1295, writs were issued to 120 cities and boroughs.

Some important changes in the constitution of the Peerage may be here noticed. From the Norman invasion to the reigns of the Edwards, the assembly since called the House of Lords was composed of barons and prelates, who sat in right of territorial possession, holden from the crown, and were more specifically designated by the first great charter, as the greater barons. To these barons by tenure were subsequently added barons by writ, notable men who were summoned at the pleasure of the king, to aid and advise him in parliament. The writs were at first either never renewed or very irregularly continued. While the power of arbitrarily issuing them lasted, the crown, by summoning or not particular individuals, had a direct power over the constitution of the great council of the nation. But in the sixteenth century it was settled, that when a man was summoned to parliament and had taken his seat, he and his heirs were ennobled. From that time it became hazardous in the crown to multiply peerages, for though the first possessors might be subservient, their descendants might be refractory.

The opinion that the several estates sat and voted together does not rest on sufficient authority. The ancient practice had much nearer resemblance to the present, at the commencement of a parliamentary session, than has been generally represented. The chancellor unfolded to them in common the subjects for their consideration, and then referred them to separate places to frame their answers and deliberate. The year assigned for their separation is 1339, when the Commons refused to grant the same aid as the Lords, without instructions from their constituents; but at that very time they deliberated separately, and had deliberated separately long before.—Ling, IV. 164.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1272. Edward, surnamed Longshanks, eldest son of Henry III., by Eleanor his queen, is proclaimed king on the death of his father, though he was then absent in the holy land, and the nobility swore fealty to him at the high altar at Westminster.

Nov. 20. They assembled at the Temple, and ordered a new seal to be made.

1273. June 12. The Scots swear fealty to Edward, at Berwick.

July 12. He arrives in France, and does homage to the French king for the lands holden of him. Orders given to provide for his coronation 380 head of cattle, 430 sheep, 450 pigs, 18 wild boars, 278 flitches of bacon, and 19,660 capons and fowls.

1274. Aug. 19. Is crowned with Queen Eleanor at Westminster. Immediately after his coronation he sent commissioners into the several counties, to punish the misdemeanors of the magistrates.

Oct. 6. A parliament held at Westminster, for restraining usury, and obliging all Jews to wear a badge.

1276-7-8. The king invades Wales, and obliges Llewellyn to do homage to him in the English court.

1279. Edward procured the first statute of mortmain to be enacted. He relinquished his right to Normandy.

The king adorned the tomb of his father in Westminster Abbey, with some curious marble brought from abroad.

Two hundred and eighty Jews hanged for clipping and coining.

1280. Nov. 7. A parliament held, when the statute of *quo warranto* passed.

1281. June 24. Another parliament held at Worcester, and the courts of justice were moved from Westminster to Shrewsbury, to be near the king in his expedition against the Welsh.

Rhudlan Castle, in Wales, built.

1282. The Rolls, in Chancery-lane, given to the Jewish converts.

March 30. Sicilian vespers, when above 8000 French were massacred.

Dec. 11. Llewellyn, prince of Wales, is killed at Llandweyr, and the Welsh reduced, after preserving their liberty 800 years against the efforts of the English.

Aberconway Castle built.

1283. Sept. 30. David, the brother of Llewellyn, executed as a traitor.

1284. April 25. Edward II. born at Caernarvon, and styled Prince of Wales, being the first that had that title.

Oct. A parliament held at Acton-Burnel, in Shropshire.

A statute passed making the hundreds answerable for all robberies committed in the day-time, usually styled the statute of Winchester. It also required sureties from strangers and lodgers, established the watch and ward from sunset to sunrise, and ordered the hedges to be cut adjoining the highways.

Dec. 14. The king returned from Wales to Bristol, where he kept his Christmas and held a parliament, and from thence returned to London; where, soon after, he

received a summons from the king of France to attend him on an expedition; but as a truce was concluded between France and Arragon, Edward went into Norfolk.

An important statute, enacting estates tail passed; it secured the transmission of estates through the different generations of the same family, though the object of the barons was merely to secure their own reversionary rights, by narrowing the power of alienation on failure of heirs.

1285. The abbey-church of Westminster, which had been sixty years in building, finished.

The king took away the charter of the city of London, and turned out the mayor, George Brookesby, for taking bribes of the bakers to permit them to make their bread short of weight; but the city soon after recovered it, by making concessions, and presenting the king with a purse of money.

The *Statuta Civitatis* (13 Edw. I.) enjoins that taverns shall not be kept open, nor any person be abroad in the city of London after curfew tolled at St. Martin's-le-Grand; that none shall teach fencing and buckler within the city; and that foreigners shall not be innkeepers nor brokers. This is the first act regulating the police of the metropolis.

1286. The king visits his dominions in France, where he resides three years, and appoints Edmund, earl of Pembroke, guardian of the realm during his absence.

May 2. The Jews were all seized by order of the king, who extorted large sums of money from them, to the amount of 12,000 pounds of silver.

Eleanor, the king's mother, was veiled a nun at Ambresbury, but obtained a licence from the pope to retain her jointure. And the same year Mary, the king's daughter, was veiled a nun in the same monastery.

1288. A clock, the first mentioned, placed in the old clock tower opposite the gate of Westminster Hall, and said to have been purchased with a fine of 800 marks imposed on a chief justice of the King's Bench.

1289. Aug. 12. The king finds such a general corruption among his judges and ministers at his return, that they were most of them displaced, and fined in large sums.

A great earthquake in Europe.

The Jews are banished the kingdom, to the number of 15,000.

1290. Subinfeudation depriving the barons of reliefs and escheats, a law is passed prohibiting the creation of new manors. Hence at present no claim of manorial rights is admitted, unless they have existed as such since the statute 7 Edw. I. st. 2.

1291. *June 24.* Great disputes arise about the succession to the crown of Scotland between Bruce and Baliol. Edward, as superior lord of that kingdom, claims the power of determining it, to which the competitors submit.

Nov. 28. Queen Eleanor died at Herdby, in Lincolnshire, in whose memory Edward erected a cross wherever her corpse rested in the way from thence to Westminster; namely, Waltham, St. Alban's, Dunstable, &c., and particularly Charing-cross.

1292. *Nov. 6.* Edward declared John Baliol king of Scotland, who swore fealty to him.

1293. He summoned the king of Scotland before him, to answer the complaint of Macduff for debt, who pleaded his own cause in Westminster Hall.

1295. The Scots enter into a confederacy with the French, against England, Anglesey subdued by the English.

Edward enters into a war with France, which is carried on with various success.

1296. Baliol revolts, and a war is commenced against Scotland, wherein Edward obtains a signal victory, takes possession of Edinburgh, and makes the king of Scots prisoner. The king of Scotland resigns his crown to Edward, who called a parliament at Berwick, and received the homage of the nobility, and at that time brought the famous stone seat out of Scotland, which is now in Westminster Abbey, (in which our kings are crowned,) with the crown, sceptre, &c. The king of Scots was brought prisoner to London, with several of the Scotch nobility: and the government of Scotland was committed to the earl of Surrey.

Some of the Scotch records destroyed.

1297. The clergy refusing to grant the king any taxes towards his wars, he seizes upon their lay fees, and puts them out of his protection; whereupon they submit, and grant the fifth of their goods.

Three knights chosen in every county, to determine the infractions of the charters; and the perambulations of the forests settled two years after.

From the twenty-second year of this reign, we have an uninterrupted series of parliaments down to the present time: and by a law made, August 1, as an addition to Magna Charta, it was enacted that no tax should be levied without *consent of the knights, citizens, and burgesses assembled in parliament.*

Aug. 24. The king made a voyage to Flanders, to assist the earl of that country against the French.

Nov. 11. Edward forms a league against France, and embarks with an army of 1500 horse, and 50,000 foot, among whom were many Scots and Welsh.

1298. There being a new insurrection in Scotland, under the celebrated Sir William Wallace, the king returns, having made a two years' truce with the French.

July 22. The king obtains a victory over the Scots at Falkirk, killing 10,000 of them upon the spot, amongst whom was John Stuart, the third seneschal of Scotland of that name.

1299. Spectacles first invented, by a monk of Pisa.

The king's palace at Westminster burnt, with the buildings of the monastery adjoining.

Sept. 12. Edward married Margaret, the French king's sister.

The Scots rise and drive the English out of that kingdom.

1300. Edward marching against Scotland a third time, they put themselves under the protection of the pope.

Nov. 11. In his way to Scotland he held a parliament at York, and in his return kept his Christmas there.

1301. The parliament declares that Scotland is subject to the crown of England, and that the pope has nothing to do with it.

1302. *Feb. 24.* The Scots gain an advantage over the king's general.

The magnetic needle first brought into use.

The king's treasury, at Westminster, robbed of 100,000*l.* in money, plate, and jewels. The abbot and monks are suspected, for which fifty monks, and thirty laymen are committed to prison.

1303. Edward's fourth expedition into Scotland.

1304. The nobility of Scotland submit again to Edward.

1305. *Aug. 23.* Sir William Wallace, the principal promoter of the risings in Scotland, tried by the laws of England, condemned, and executed as a traitor in Smithfield.

1306. The pope absolves the king from his oath for maintaining the great charter.

The Scots rebel again, and crown Robert Bruce king of Scotland.

Edward sends an army into Scotland, defeats the Scots near St. John's town, and takes several of their great men prisoners, among them the brothers of Robert Bruce, who were condemned and executed in England as traitors.

The nobility and gentry complain that the burning of sea-coal by brewers, dyers, and others, infects the air with a noisome smell and thick clouds injurious to health; upon which the king issues a proclamation prohibiting the use of coal in London and the suburbs.

1307. Piers Gaveston banished for demoralising Prince Edward.

Robert Bruce defeats the king's general, the earl of Pembroke.

Edward, surprised at Bruce's success, summoned his vassals to meet him at Carlisle, intending to devastate Scotland from sea to sea, as he had drawn together the finest army ever seen in England. He was taken ill at Carlisle.

July 7. Edward died, of a dysentery, at Burgh-on-the-Sands, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and the thirty-fifth of his reign, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, October 8.

KING'S ISSUE.

By Eleanor, his first wife, daughter of Ferdinand III., king of Spain, he had issue, John, Henry and Alphonso, who died young; his fourth son was Edward, afterwards King Edward II.

He had also nine daughters, Eleanor, Joan, Margaret, Alice, Beatrix, Mary, and Elizabeth, and two others that died in their infancy.

He had by his second wife, Thomas, afterwards earl of Norfolk, and Edmund, afterwards earl of Kent, and one daughter named Eleanor.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1276. Parliament gave a fifteenth, and the bishops a free gift.

1277. The laity gave a twelfth part of their goods.

1283. The laity gave a thirtieth, and the clergy a twentieth.

1290. A fifteenth of the clergy and laity.

1294. The clergy gave a moiety of their goods, the parliament gave a tenth of their goods, and the city of London a sixth of their goods.

1295. The clergy gave a tenth, the laity an eleventh, and the tenants of the king's demesne lands a seventh.

1296. The laity gave a twelfth, the tenants in demesne an eighth.

1297. An eighth of the laity, a tenth of the clergy.

1301. A fifteenth of the laity.

1302. A fifteenth of all moveables.

1304. A tallage of the cities and burghs

by poll, and about the same time a fifteenth was granted.

1305. The thirtieth penny of all moveables.

1306. The clergy and laity granted a thirtieth of their moveables, for the knight-hood of the king's son, and the tenants in demesne a twentieth.

MISCELLANIES.

Among the miscellanies of this reign may be mentioned the institution of the famous mercantile society, called the Merchant Adventurers. It was intended for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture. The tribute of 1000 marks a-year, to which King John, in doing homage to the pope, had subjected the kingdom, still continued to be paid.

The statute of mortmain passed in this reign was the first law of the kind in Europe, and prevented the clergy making any new acquisition of lands. It was a very necessary measure; for the clergy, taking advantage of the ignorance of the people, on their death-bed frequently extorted from them large grants of land, as a pretended atonement for their transgressions. By the law of mortmain such grants were declared illegal.

From this reign we possess the *Year-Book*; or annual notes of the decisions in the courts of law, and from which the legal treatises, a century later, of Lyttleton, Fortescue, and Brooke were digested.

Of the famous stone used in the inauguration of the kings of Scotland, removed by Edward to Westminster, to be enclosed in the coronation chair of the kings of England, tradition says it formed Jacob's pillow, and was brought from Spain through Ireland. On it is engraven this distich:—

Or fate's deceived, and heaven decrees in vain,
Or where they find this stone the Scots shall reign.

Edward was the first sovereign of England that quartered the arms of England and France; and the first English sovereign that was called Lord of Ireland on his coin.

EDWARD II. A.D. 1307 to 1327.

THE death of Edward I. was a fortunate event for the Scots. He had made immense preparations to invade that country, and threatened to destroy the kingdom from sea to sea. Before he died he sent for his son, and earnestly recommended to him three things: first, vigorously to prosecute the war with Scotland, till he had entirely subdued that country. For that purpose, he advised him to carry along with him his bones at the

head of the army, supposing they would daunt the courage of the Scots. The second thing he recommended was to send his heart to the Holy Land, with thirty-two thousand pounds, which he had provided for the support of the holy sepulchre. The third was, never to recall Gaveston. These injunctions were disregarded, and the weakness of the new reign forms a contrast with the vigour and wise policy of the preceding administration. The young king, naturally of an easy disposition, and fond of amusements, yielded himself up to the blandishments of favourites whose chief recommendations were personal accomplishments. These childish attachments alienated the regards of all classes, particularly the barons; and although unaccused of any specific crime, his misplaced confidence became as injurious to his subjects as the most consummate depravity. But the conduct of the queen, her adulterous connexion with Mortimer, and her placing herself at the head of the confederacy which deposed and ultimately assassinated her husband, cannot be palliated.

Only one constitutional point occurred in the reign of this unfortunate prince meriting notice. In a fresh renewal of the charter, the following important provision was added:—"Forasmuch as many people be aggrieved by the king's ministers against right, in respect to which grievances no one can recover without a common parliament, we do order that the king shall hold a parliament *once* in the year, or twice if need be." From these words, as well as the nature of the grievance itself, it is manifest this statute (5 Ed. II., c. 29) provides only for the meeting of parliament, not for its election or duration, which were not regulated by statute till the Triennial Acts of 1642 and 1691. But it is true, as prorogations were then infrequent, a new parliament was usually elected as often as assembled.

The immense possessions of the barons may be inferred from the petition of Spencer, father of the favourite of that name, who complained of the devastations committed on his lands by the rebellious nobles. He affirms, that they had ravaged sixty-three manors belonging to him, and he makes his losses amount to 46,000*l.*, about 138,000*l.* of our present money. Among other particulars, he enumerates 28,000 sheep, 1000 oxen and heifers, 1200 cows with their breed for two years, 560 cart-horses, 2000 hogs, together with 6000 bacons, 80 carcasses of beef, and 600 mutton in the larder, 10 tuns of cider, arms for 200 men, and other warlike engines and provisions.

The kingdom still continued greatly infested with robbers, who were still further multiplied by the famine, which obliged the nobility to dismiss many of their retainers. They met in troops like armies, and overrun the country. Two cardinals, notwithstanding the numerous train which attended them, were robbed and despoiled of their goods and equipage when they travelled on the highway.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1307. Edward was twenty-three years of age when he succeeded his father.

Aug. 6. He recalls Piers Gaveston from banishment, and heaps many preferments upon him.

1308. Jan. 23. The king marries Isabella, daughter to Philip, king of France, at Boulogne.

Feb. 24. The king and queen are crowned at Westminster.

1309. The nobility compel the king to delegate his power to certain prelates and temporal lords, for a year, giving them power to make constitutions for the government of his household and kingdom, which are confirmed in parliament.

Crockery ware invented.

1310. Piers Gaveston being banished by one of the constitutions, the king recalls him.

1311. The lords thereupon enter into a confederacy against the king.

1312. *June* 19. Piers Gaveston beheaded on Blacklow-Hill (now Gaversike), near Warwick.

Nov. 13. The king is reconciled to the lords.

1313. The war is renewed against the Scots. Edward marched against them, but returned without doing anything.

1314. *June* 25. Battle of Bannockburn, in which the English are completely defeated by the Scots.

1316. A great famine and sickness in England for three years. Parliament issued an order to *limit* the price of provisions as follows:—An ox for sixteen shillings, a cow twelve shillings, a hog two years old three shillings and four pence, a sheep unshorn one shilling and eight pence, if shorn one shilling and two pence, a goose two pence half-penny, a capon two pence, a hen one penny, twenty-four eggs one penny, a quarter of wheat, beans, or pease, sold for twenty shillings, and whoever did not comply with this order forfeited the provisions to the king.

Robert Bruce held a parliament at Scone, consisting of the bishops, abbots, priors, earls, barons, and other noblemen of his realm. A capitulatory, or collection of statutes, consisting of thirty-four chapters, was drawn up upon the model of the great charter in England. Ten years later burgesses and freeholders were introduced into the Scots' parliament by Robert I. in the abbey of Cambuskenneth.

1317. The king deprived the earl of Lancaster of his lady, and gave her to another, which occasioned great discontent.

June. The king received a letter from a woman, as he sat at dinner in public in Westminster, which he ordered to be read aloud, as he imagined it contained something to divert him and the company; but was mortified at finding all his misconduct exhibited, and all the grievances mentioned that the nation had laboured under since his accession to the throne.

1318. *Aug.* 19. The king and barons are reconciled.

The Scots pass into Ireland, and make Edward, the brother of Robert Bruce, king there; but they are defeated and driven out of the country, and their new king Edward killed, after three years' reign.

Berwick is taken by the Scots.

1319. A truce for two years concluded between the Scots and Irish.

The university of Dublin founded.

1320. The two Spencers, father and son, engrossing the king's favour, the nobility compel the king to banish them.

Nov. 14. The greatest earthquake that had been ever known in England, to the

unspeakable terror of all degrees of people.

1321. The queen was insulted by one of the confederate barons at Leeds castle, in her journey on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, and she stirred up the king to a revenge, who levied troops and took the castle.

A war commences between the king and the lords; and the king reverses the banishment of the Spencers.

1322. The earl of Lancaster, and the lords being defeated, the earl and many others are condemned as traitors, and executed the 18th of March.

The order of the knights templars abolished by pope Clement I.

1323. The king made an unsuccessful expedition into Scotland; and a truce is concluded for thirteen years.

1324. The queen being disoblged by the Spencers, takes part with Mortimer and the lords, against the king, and goes into France with her son, prince Edward.

1325. The queen and all her adherents are declared enemies to the kingdom.

1326. The queen removes into Hainault with her son thirteen years of age, whom she marries to Philippa, the earl of Hainault's daughter, and raises an army of 2000 men against the king.

Sept. 22. She lands at Orwell, in Suffolk, and drives the king into Wales. The elder Spencer is taken by her at Bristol, and hanged. Edward concealing himself with the younger Spencer in Wales, prince Edward was declared custos, or guardian of the kingdom. The king and the younger Spencer were taken at Carrifilly in Glamorganshire. The king is imprisoned at Kenilworth. Great cruelties committed by the queen on the prisoners.

1327. The younger Spencer is hanged and quartered.

The younger Spencer was made Lord Chamberlain by the barons, because they thought him unacceptable to the king; but as he insinuated himself into the king's favour, they were as impatient to remove him, raised forces, plundered the estates of both father and son, destroyed their corn and cattle, abused and murdered their tenants and dependants, and compelled the king to banish them: but the king afterwards recalled the Spencers, defeated the barons' forces, and executed the earl of Lancaster and some other chiefs; but the queen and her adulterer, Mortimer, retiring into France, and bringing over with them a foreign force, and having prepared the people to depose the king, the Spencers were murdered publicly without any forms of law, and the king himself, not long after, in a more private manner. The character of the elder Spencer is, that he was a per-

son of great integrity, wise in council, stout in arms. And the barons themselves looked upon the younger Spencer as an able minister, when they placed him near the king, and yet the retaining these two noblemen in the ministry was looked upon as a sufficient reason for deposing the sovereign.

Jan. The queen and prince called a parliament in the king's name, where six articles are drawn up against him for mal-administration. The nobility sent these articles to the king, and by their deputies renounced all homage and fealty to him. They judged him unfit to rule, and deposed him; but the prince refused to accept the crown, unless his father would resign it; whereupon a formal resignation was extorted from him in the 19th year of his reign, and 43rd of his age, and Edward his son declared king 20th of January

Sept. 21. Edward II. barbarously murdered in Berkeley castle. Externally the body exhibited no marks of violence; but the dreadful shrieks which issued from his apartment in the night, and the distortion of the features betrayed the horrible tragedy that had been perpetrated: it was supposed death had been caused by the forcible introduction of a red-hot iron into the bowels. No investigation was made; and the corpse was privately interred in the abbey church of St. Peter in Gloucester; where soon after his successor caused a stately tomb to be erected.

One of the principal events in this reign was the dissolution of the knights templars, which Edward acceded to, at the earnest solicitation of the pope and the king of France. They were possessed at their dissolution of above 16,000 lordships, besides other lauds. The grand master of

the order was then in Paris, where he was seized, and with fifty-seven others, burnt, under the accusation of heresy, sodomy, and numberless other crimes. Edward caused all in England to be seized on one day, Jan. 7, 1322. and soon after held a national synod at London, where they were condemned, but not treated with that rigour they were in France. They were only dispersed in the monasteries to do penance, with a moderate pension paid out of the revenues of the order. The templars appear to have been the victims of a foul conspiracy, and their greatest crime a certain degree of licentiousness, the consequence of their prodigious wealth. The pope reserved to the holy see the disposal of the estates of the order, and shortly after resigned them to the hospitallers or knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

THE KING'S ISSUE.

Edward, his eldest son, who succeeded him.

John, surnamed of Eltham, his second son, afterwards earl of Cornwall, who died unmarried.

He had two daughters, Joan married to David prince of Scotland, son and heir of Robert Bruce; and Eleanor, married to Reynold, second earl of Gelder.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

First of Edward II., the laity gave a twentieth part of their moveables. In the second, a twenty-fifth. In the seventh, a twentieth. In the eighth, a twentieth. In the ninth, the citizens, burgeses, and tenants in ancient demesne, a fifteenth. In the fifteenth year, a tenth of the community, and a sixth of the citizens, burgeses, and tenants in ancient demesne.

EDWARD III. A.D. 1327 to 1377.

THIS long reign was, upon the whole, fortunate for England. Abounding in heroic triumphs and important civil ameliorations, it was well calculated to win the favour of the vulgar and enlightened. In personal accomplishments Edward was superior, in mental powers equal, to any of his contemporaries. He was distinguished by courage and military skill; but his wars were more glorious than profitable; neither did they always originate in a spirit of justice. His attempt against the king of Scotland, a minor and a brother-in-law, and the revival of his grandfather's claim of superiority over that kingdom, were unreasonable and ungenerous; and his conquests in France, though the result of his own splendid talents, aided by those of the Black Prince, yielded no enduring advantage to the country. His most lasting monument is the excellence of his civil administration. He restrained the exorbitant power of the barons, and the commons under his protection began gradually to rise into importance. The power of the pope even became an object of jealousy, and the laity showed symptoms of

dissatisfaction with their own clergy because of their connexions with the Roman pontiff. The parliament alleged that the exactions of his holiness were a greater source of impoverishment than the wars; that the taxes levied by him exceeded five times those levied by the king; that everything was venal at Rome; and that even the patrons of England had thence learned to practise simony without shame or remorse. Men who talked in this strain evidently only wanted the power, not the disposition, to achieve the great religious reformation, of which John Wicliff had begun to lay the foundation.

In the language of the time, the law was said to emanate from the will of the king, on the petition of the subject. But it was a principle universally recognized, that no one estate could, without its consent, be bound by any law granted at the prayer of another. This was the chief weapon with which the commons fought all their battles. In 1346 Edward, by proclamation, compelled every owner of land to furnish horsemen and archers in proportion to his estate, and required for the same purpose a certain sum of money from every city and borough. The commons petitioned against this ordinance, on the ground that it had been issued without their assent. (Ling. iv. 167.) Edward replied, that it was a measure of necessity; but the commons repeated their objection, and were so urgent in their remonstrance, that the king promised the ordinance should not form a precedent for future exactions.

Several constitutional acts of importance were passed. Among the most popular was the 25th of the king, which limited the cases of high treason, before vague and uncertain, to three principal heads,—namely, conspiring the death of the king, levying war against him, and adhering to his enemies; and should any other cases occur, the judges were prohibited inflicting the penalty of treason, without first applying to parliament.

Personal and proprietary security are guaranteed by another act, the 28 Edward III. cap. 3, which enacts, That no man, of what state or condition soever, shall be put out of land or tenement, nor taken, nor imprisoned, nor disinherited, nor put to death, without being brought to answer by due process of law.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1327. Edward, surnamed Windsor, eldest son of Edward II. and Queen Eleanor, being under fourteen years of age, succeeded to the crown in his father's lifetime, in the manner above related.

Jan. 26. The king was crowned at Westminster, and a general pardon proclaimed, which was afterward imitated by succeeding kings at their coronation.

Feb. 2. Edward received the order of knighthood from the hands of the earl of Lancaster. The archbishop and eleven others of the nobility are appointed guardians to the young king; but the queen and Mortimer take upon them the administration of the government. Parliament passes an act of indemnity for all the violences committed during the revolution.

May. 8. The unexpected resentment of Philip produced a new treaty between the kings, and Edward sent letters patent under the great seal to confirm the homage.

June 15. Edward, afterwards styled the Black Prince, born at Woodstock.

Oct. 19. The king being made sensible of Mortimer's familiarity with his mother and taking umbrage at his arbitrary proceedings, seized his person in Nottingham castle.

The king dissolved the parliament and called another to meet at Westminster November 25, when he assumed the reins of government, though he was not arrived to the age prescribed by law.

The queen dowager seized, and her dower reduced to 3000*l.* per annum. Edward confined her to her manor of Risings, where she passed in obscurity the remaining twenty-seven years of her life.

Mortimer treated with the rigour he deserved, and the impeachment brought before the parliament contained several heavy charges, namely, that he had assumed the government of the kingdom, without au-

thority, contrary to the express regulation of parliament; that he had placed spies about the king; that he had procured the death of Edward II. by his express order; that by his contrivance the late earl of Kent, the king's uncle, lost his life; that he had appropriated to his own use 20,000*l.* of the king's money; and that he lived in too familiar manner with the queen mother. For all which he was condemned, as a traitor, to be hanged and drawn, on the common gallows at Tyburn, November 29, where his body hung two days and nights.

Gunpowder invented by Swarth, a monk of Cologne.

1331. The art of weaving cloth was brought from Flanders to England by John Kemp, to whom the king granted his protection; and at the same time invited over fullers, dyers, &c.

Sept. 30. A parliament held at Westminster.

1332. Edward meditates the conquest of Scotland, and of making John Baliol subservient to his purpose.

1333. July 19. Edward defeats the Scots at Halidon, which ended in the entire rout of the Scotch army. Seven Scotch earls were slain on the spot, with 900 knights, 4000 gentlemen, besides 15,000 common soldiers; this defeat was followed by the surrender of Berwick, which Edward annexed to the crown of England.

Sept. 23. Baliol crowned king of Scotland at Scone.

The frequency of riots and affrays in London causes various royal ordinances to be issued against wearing armour or carrying weapons.

1334. Baliol held his first parliament at Edinburgh, February 10, to which Edward sent his commissioners. Baliol caused all he had done in favour of Edward to be ratified and confirmed, and he gave up to Edward several places, in reward, as he said in his letters, for the assistance received from Edward, to whom at the same time Baliol did voluntary homage for the kingdom of Scotland.

Dec. 24. Lord Douglas, with the earl of Mar, attacked and defeated Baliol, forcing him to escape on a horse without a saddle to Carlisle, from whence he sent Edward word of his situation.

1335. Edward in the spring attacked Scotland by sea and land, and advanced as far as the northern ocean; in the mean time his brother, the earl of Cornwall, ravaged the western counties of the kingdom. The earl of Murray, regent of Scotland, taken prisoner by the English; and the Scots submitting, Edward returned in triumph to England.

1336. The English troops left in Scotland defeated, and their leader the earl of

Athol slain, which revived the courage of the Scots.

1337. Jan. Edward returned to Scotland, and ravaged the country with great fury: he burnt the town of Aberdeen, and some other places of less note, and leaving a small army with Baliol, returned to England. His successes in Scotland made him form a design on France, pretending the salic law, in excluding females from the succession to the crown, did not exclude their male issue, and on that founded his pretension to the crown.

This year was remarkable for the king's commission for seizing the estates of the Lombards, who were accused of extortion; and for his seizing the revenues of alien priories, especially those of the Clunic and Cistercian order; both which proceedings the parliament countenanced, and they produced the king large supplies for the war. While Edward was making his preparations for this important war, he summoned a parliament in the middle of March, wherein it was enacted, that no wool of English growth should be for the future transported beyond sea, and that all cloth-workers should be received, from whatever foreign parts they came, and encouraged. It was also ordained, that none should wear any clothes made beyond sea, except the king, queen, and their children; also that none should wear foreign furs or silks, unless he was worth 100*l.* per annum. In this parliament the king created Prince Edward, his eldest son, duke of Cornwall, being the first in England that bore the title of duke. He was invested with the dukedom by a wreath on his head, a ring on his finger, and a silver verge in his hand; since which time the eldest son of the king of England is born duke of Cornwall. At this solemnity he created six earls and twenty knights.

Edward wrote to the pope and cardinals to justify his claim on France, and demanded the crown of Philip, by the duke of Brabant, whom he made his lieutenant-general for that kingdom, with orders to the French, whom he called his subjects, to pay him obedience.

Benedict XII., who filled the papal throne, used all his influence with the two kings to prevent a war, and for that purpose sent two legates into England to persuade them to peace, but without any other effect than a short truce.

1338. July 15. Edward sailed from Orwell in Suffolk, with a fleet of 500 ships, for Antwerp, where he arrived July 22. He was made vicar of the empire, and had an interview with the emperor at Coblenz, where two thrones were erected in the public market place for their reception. He visited Ghent, and granted the princi-

pal cities several privileges, in order to encourage their trade with England.

1339. *May 7.* Edward, while abroad, created the duke of Juliers a peer of England, by the title of earl of Cambridge, with a grant of twenty pounds a-year, payable out of the issues of Cambridgeshire, also a pension of 1000*l.* per annum, but he never had a summons to parliament. He was Queen Philippa's nephew, and died without issue.

July 21. Edward gave the duke of Brabant 60,000*l.* to be assured of his assistance.

Aug. 8. Edward's expenses increasing, compelled him to borrow money from all the foreign princes that could supply him, nor did he scruple the assistance of private persons, and took up such sums as they were willing to lend, though small. He even pawned his crown to the archbishop of Triers for 50,000 florins. The following exhibits the muster-roll of the army, and its charges.

	per day.
The Prince of Wales	20 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
The Bishop of Durham	6 8
13 earls, each	6 8
44 barons and bannerets	4 0
1046 knights	2 0
4022 esquires, captains, &c.	1 0
5104 vinteners and orderers on horseback	0 6
355 pauncenars	0 6
500 hobelars	0 6
15480 archers on foot	0 3
4474 Welsh on foot	0 2
200 as serjeants	0 4
314 masons, carpenters, smiths, engineers, tent-makers, gunners, &c., at 1 <i>s.</i> , 10 <i>d.</i> , 6 <i>d.</i> , and 3 <i>d.</i> each day.	

Total of the army 31,552, exclusive of 16,000 sailors, for the manning of 700 ships, bolingers and victuallers.

The king claimed the right of purveyance of ships as well as seamen, and both were pressed into his service to the extent of his wants.

Oct. 22. Edward, at the head of 40,000 men, offered battle to Philip, who retired. Thus indecisively ended the first expedition to France, in the first preparations for which Edward had wasted an immense treasure.

The adherents of David, king of Scotland, besieged and took Perth.

1340. Edward takes the title of king of France, and quartered with his own arms the fleur-de-luce of France. He at the same time used the motto, "Dieu et mon droit."

Feb. 8. The king published a declaration addressed to the French, and a manifesto against Philip, whom he only styled the earl of Valois.

Feb. 21. He embarked for England, where he summoned a parliament, which

met, March 29, and made him large grants.

Thomas Blauket, and some other inhabitants of Bristol, set up looms in their own houses, for weaving those woollens that yet bear that name.

1341. In this year the Isle of Man was conquered by William Montacute, earl of Salisbury, who thereupon was honoured with the title of king of Man. This island was subject to Scotland before.

Copper money began first to be used in Scotland and Ireland.

Edward in person obtained a victory over the French at sea. He entered France with a large army, but a truce for a year was agreed on.

April 23. A parliament met and granted further supplies.

1342. During this year Edward was in Bretagne, assisting the earl of Montfort against the king of France, but by the mediation of the pope a truce was granted for three years, and Edward returned to England, March 2.

1343. The English fleet destined against Scotland was rendered unserviceable by a violent storm, and Edward granted a truce.

1344. *April 23.* Edward called a parliament, when several good regulations were made; among others was the *Statute of Provisors*, which excluded foreigners from ecclesiastical preferments, and reduced the papal authority in England. Edward also very solemnly renewed Magna Charta.

The Madeira Islands discovered by Machan, an Englishman.

Edward gave a grand tournament at Windsor; and to avoid distinction of rank, he erected a circular hall 200 feet in diameter, where he feasted all the knights at one table, which was called the Round Table, in memory of Arthur, who it is said first instituted an order of knighthood by that name.

Philip of France exhibited a like tournament, and by that means got into his power several of the noblemen of Bretagne, who had sided with Edward, and beheaded some of them, which provoked Edward to send Philip a defiance, and he made great preparations for renewing the war in France.

Gold first coined in England this year.

1345. *June 7.* A parliament held at Westminster, which granted large supplies for renewing the war with France.

July 3. Edward embarked for Flanders, and returned to England again in three weeks, leaving the earl of Derby to begin hostilities.

Sept. 30. Artaveldt, a partisan of Edward, murdered in a tumult of the people at Ghent.

1346. Edward held a parliament at Westminster, by whose advice he took into

his hands all the revenues in England enjoyed by alien ecclesiastics, and the cardinals of the French faction. To relieve the defenders of Aiguillon, he hastened his warlike preparations, and embarked July 4, but was driven back to Cornwall by a storm. He re-embarked with his army, which consisted of 4000 men-at-arms, 10,000 archers, 12,000 Welsh infantry, and 6000 Irish, besides a great number of the chief nobility, all of whom landed in Normandy. The moment the king landed he knighted the prince his son, then in his fifteenth year, and several of the young lords. He advanced to Poissy, where Philip endeavoured to enclose him between the Seine and the Oise, but he took shelter in Pontoise.

Aug. 26. Edward encamped at Cressy, and the same afternoon at four o'clock the battle began. The French army consisted of above 100,000 men. The king of Bohemia, who, though blind, was present at the battle, having caused his horse's bridle to be fastened to those of two brave knights, was slain. His crest, three ostrich feathers, with the motto, *Ich dien, I serve*, was adopted by the prince of Wales, and has been always borne by his successors. In this battle the English used cannon for the first time. France lost the king of Bohemia, the earl of Alençon, the duke of Lorraine, the earl of Flanders, the earl of Blois, 11 princes, 8 bannerets, 1200 knights, upwards of 80 standards, and above 30,000 common soldiers. Edward the day after the victory defeated a body of militia that was coming to Philip's assistance, when he slew 7000 on the spot.

Sept. 8. Calais invested and reduced to great extremities by famine; to alleviate which, the governor turned out of the place all useless persons, to the amount of 1700, whom Edward relieved, and let go where they pleased. The king of Scotland entered England with an army of 50,000 men, with design to draw Edward from the siege. To oppose the Scots, who had advanced to Durham, queen Philippa took the command of some troops, and proceeded at their head with great expedition, and gave them battle [Oct. 17] at Nevil's Cross near Durham, where she totally defeated the Scots and took David prisoner, whom she brought to London.

1347. Aug. 4. Calais surrendered to Edward on the terms of life to the inhabitants and soldiers, except six of the burghers, who were to be the victims of Edward's revenge. These six went barefooted, in their shirts, with halters about their necks, and presented the keys of the town to Edward, whom they found highly incensed against them; and notwithstanding the intercession of the prince of Wales

and other noblemen, he commanded them to be led to execution; but he could not resist the solicitations of the queen for their pardon. A few days afterwards Edward made his entry into Calais; he turned out all the native inhabitants and peopled it with English, which done, he returned in triumph to England, where he arrived Oct. 2.

Queen's college, Oxford, and Clare-hall and Pembroke-hall, Cambridge, founded.

Edward elected emperor of Germany, but he refused it.

St. Stephen's chapel, Westminster, was built, which then belonged to the king's palace, since used for the House of Commons.

1348. Jan. 15. A parliament held at London, and another a few months after, when the king had very large supplies granted him.

The deanery of Windsor erected.

1349. Jan. 1. Philip of France endeavoured to corrupt the governor of Calais, but was prevented, and his troops routed by Edward and his son. The king generously treated his prisoners, and to Eustace de Ribamont, a knight of Picardy, he gave a string of pearls of great value, for his valour.

April 23. Edward instituted the Order of the Garter.

Aug. The plague, which had raged for some time in Asia and part of Europe, spread itself into France, and from thence into England, where it made its first appearance in Dorsetshire, and then spread all over the kingdom, and carried off one half of the nation: London especially felt its violence, where in one year 50,000 persons were buried in one church-yard, now the Charter-house. Its ravages were chiefly among the lower orders, for the wealthy, shutting themselves up in their castles, escaped the infection. A great fall in prices in consequence of the decrease of consumers; but in the succeeding year they as suddenly rose, from the scarcity of labourers to cultivate the land. Wages advanced enormously, and Edward issued a proclamation to compel the idle to work, and to fix the price of labour. His efforts proved abortive.

A continual rain from Midsummer to Christmas.

1350. Aug. 29. Edward, in person, obtained a great victory over the Spaniards at sea.

Corpus Christi college in Cambridge founded by the brethren of the gold or society of Corpus Christi.

1352. Mortimer's attainer reversed, and his grandson restored to blood.

The flagellants, or whippers, made their appearance in England. They first ap-

peared in Hungary, and spread rapidly over Poland, Germany, and the Netherlands. Their notion was that sin might be expiated by scourging themselves, or each other, till the shoulders were covered with blood. This was to be repeated morning and afternoon for thirty-three days, equal to the number of years Christ is thought to have lived, as full atonement for all transgressions.

1353. Trinity-hall, and Gonville and Caius colleges, Cambridge, founded.

1354. *July 13.* A treaty that David king of Scots be ransomed for 90,000 marks of silver.

Nov. 19. The Scots surprise Berwick.

1355. *Jan. 20.* The king made Baliol relinquish his right to Scotland for the yearly pension of 2000*l.*

1356. *May 16.* The bishops held a synod at St. Paul's, and granted the king a tenth for two years, and the inferior clergy for one year.

Sept. 29. Edward the Black Prince obtains a great victory over the French at Poitiers, where John the French king and his son Philip are taken prisoners. The French lost 6000 men, among whom were 800 nobles, the duke of Bourbon, the duke of Athens, and fifty other great lords.

Edward caused a public thanksgiving for eight days.

1357. *May 24.* The prince made his triumphant entry into London, with king John his prisoner, and was met by the lord mayor and aldermen in all their formalities; the citizens hung out their plate, tapestry, and armour, so that the like had never been seen before.

[Coals first imported into London.

Nov. David king of Scots is released at the intercession of his queen, king Edward's sister, on paying 100,000 marks for his ransom, after eleven years' imprisonment.

1359. Edward resolves to carry the war into France. and confined John in the tower.

March 15. A body of Normans landed at Winchelsea and plundered the town, but the Londoners fitted out a number of ships and scoured the seas.

March. Edward enters France again, and marches to the walls of Paris, which holding out against him, he ravages the whole kingdom, till 6000 of his men and horses, if we may credit historians, were killed by a storm of thunder and lightning, which induced him to hearken to terms of peace; and the treaty was concluded, May 8, 1360, when the king returned to England. By this treaty king John was set at liberty after four years' imprisonment, paying 3,000,000 crowns for his ransom.

1360. John Wickliff's name is first

mentioned this year in a controversy with the different orders of Friars.

1361. *Jan. 20.* The parliament met at Westminster, and approved of the treaty of Bretagne. Edward restored to the priories the lands taken from them twenty years before.

A great plague in England, which between January and July took off in London 57,374 persons, and among them Henry duke of Lancaster; and in Paris 30,000.

1362. An act is made, that the counsel at the bar shall plead in the English tongue (the French being used before), but the pleadings to be entered in Latin.

The king being arrived at his 50th year, granted a general pardon for all offences, and confirmed Magna Charta.

1364. *Jan.* John, king of France, coming into England to settle the payment of the remainder of his ransom, died in London, the 8th of April, his body was carried into France, and buried at St. Denys. In the same year likewise came into England, Peter, king of Cyprus, and David, king of Scots. The four kings were entertained by the city at the lord mayor's house, sir Henry Picard then lord mayor.

1365. The pope's demand of the tribute granted by king John, was rejected by the king and parliament.

1366. The parliament met March 30.

1367. Peter the Cruel, king of Castile, being deposed by his subjects, the Black Prince marched into Spain to his assistance; and having won the great victory of Navarrette, April 3rd, restored him to his kingdom.

1369. The war with France renewed.

May. 27. Parliament met, granted an aid to carry on the war, and advised the king to assume the title of King of France. Edward ordered the clergy to be armed, to which they readily consented.

1370. Sir Robert Knolles was sent with an army into France, and wasted the country from Calais to Paris.

Robert Stuart crowned king of Scotland, being the first of that surname.

1371. *Feb. 24.* Parliament affords a curious example of statistical ignorance. It granted an aid of 50,000*l.* to the king by a tax of 22*s.* 3*d.* upon each parish, supposing the number of parishes to be about 45,000. But it was soon found that they did not amount to one-fifth of that number, and consequently the tax would not have raised one-fifth part of the sum granted. To remedy the blunder a new parliament was summoned in June, which raised the tax on each parish to 5*l.* 10*s.* In this last assembly only half the knights and burgesses who sat in the former were summoned.

The charter-house in London finished by Sir Walter Menny.

1372. Lawyers being considered a mean class of people, are declared by the 46th of the king ineligible to sit in parliament.

1373. War with France continued without any decisive results.

1374. The king falls in love with Alice Perrers, a married woman of great beauty, who had been lady of the bed-chamber to queen Philippa: she wasted the king's money.

England retained of her transmarine possessions, only Calais, Bourdeaux, Bayonne, and a few places on the Dordogne.

Edward gives a tournament in Smithfield, where Alice Perrers figures by his side in a triumphant chariot, under the title of "Lady of the Sun."

1375. The old king still governed by his concubine.

1376. Parliament insist upon the king's removing the duke of Lancaster and Alice Perrers from court, with which he complies, but she is soon after recalled.

The chancellor and vice-chancellor of Oxford are made superior to the mayor of Oxford, in the government of the city.

Edward restores the duke of Lancaster to his honours, and establishes the duchy courts.

June 8. Edward the Black Prince died, after a lingering illness, in the 46th year of his age, and was buried at Canterbury, where his tomb may be still seen.

1377. John Wickliff preaches against the pope's supremacy, the infallibility of the church, and transubstantiation, at Oxford.

Parliament appoints its first speaker, Sir Thomas Hungerford.

June 21. Edward dies at his manor-house at Sheen (Richmond), in the 65th year of his age, and the 51st of his reign, and was buried in Westminster abbey.

At the king's giving up his last breath every body forsook him, and Alice Perrers robbed him of his jewels, and the rings off his fingers, and then withdrew; he was only attended by one priest, who came in by accident.

THE KING'S ISSUE.

The king had by his queen seven sons and five daughters, of whom three sons and one daughter survived him.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

Fifteenths or tenths on moveables were granted almost every year after the wars with France and Scotland commenced.

In the king's thirteenth year, the tenth sheaf, the tenth fleece, and the tenth lamb were granted, besides 30,000 sacks of wool.

In his fourteenth, the ninth sheaf, fleece and lamb.

In his thirty-sixth a grant of 20s. for every sack of wool, and every 300 wools fells exported, and 40s. for every last of leather.

In his forty-third, on every sack of wool, 43s. 4d., and on every last of leather 4l., besides the annual customs.

In his forty-fifth, a subsidy of 50,000*l.* was granted, to be raised on every parish proportionably, and computed that 5*l.* 16s. on each parish, one with another, would raise it: this seems to have been a land-tax.

In the forty-sixth, granted 2s. on every tun of wine, and 6d. in the pound for all merchandize, in consideration of the protection of merchant ships and foreign trade: this seems to be the original of tunnage and poundage.

In his fifty-first, granted a poll of 4d. on every head above 14 years of age.

JUDICIAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Till the reign of John, the superior courts of law were appendant to the king's court, and accompanied him in his perambulations. But the seventeenth article of the Great Charter declares, "Common pleas shall not follow our court, but shall be held in some certain place." To carry this article into execution, the court of Common Pleas was established, and settled at Westminster. About the same time the court of King's Bench was erected, for the trial of actions and pleas of the crown, which, as well as common pleas, had formerly been held in the Exchequer. The institution of these courts very much diminished the business of the Exchequer, which became confined, as a court of law, chiefly to the trial of revenue causes.

The progress of the court of Chancery has been so obscure, that it is almost impossible to trace its origin. When the *aula regia*, or king's court, flourished in its ancient undivided jurisdiction, the chancellor sat as a judge in it, with the high judiciary, and other great officers of the crown; and after the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas were erected, he continued to sit as one of the judges in the Exchequer; but it does not appear that he had till a later period a distinct court or jurisdiction of his own.

In 1285 justices of assize and nisi prius were appointed to go into every shire two or three times a year, for the more speedy administration of justice. As these justices were also judges in the courts at Westminster, they performed their circuits into the country as they do now, in the times of the vacations of these courts. By another statute in 1299, the justices of assize were

appointed to be justices of gaol delivery in all places on their circuits.

In addition, Edward I. often issued a special commission, under the name of justices of *traile baston*, for the prompt trial of offences. These were sent into different parts of the kingdom, empowered to try and punish all murderers, incendiaries, robbers, and thieves; all who beat and wounded jurymen and others out of malice, with all who hired, assisted and protected them. These commissions were commonly executed with so much dispatch and severity, that for a time at least, they rid the counties of the more audacious criminals, either putting them to death or forcing them into banishment.

To suppress riots and tumults, to punish small offences, and determine lesser controversies; Edward appointed conservators, or justices of the peace, in every county; and at the same time abolished the office of high justiciary, as invested with too much power, to be intrusted in the hands of a subject. He not only made these salutary changes in the courts and magistracy, but vigilantly watched over their proceedings, and severely punished negligence or oppression.

One of the greatest improvements in judicial administration, was the introduction of trial by jury. But the ancient constitution of juries was very different from the modern. Jurymen in the present day are *trisors* of the issue; they are individuals who found their opinion upon the evidence adduced before them; and the verdict delivered by them is their declaration of the judgment which they have formed. But the ancient jurymen were impanelled to examine into the credibility of the evidence; the question was not discussed and argued before them; they, the jurymen, were the *witnesses themselves*, and the verdict was substantially the examination of those witnesses, who of their own knowledge, and without the aid of other testimony, afforded their evidence respecting the facts in question to the best of their belief. Trial by jury, therefore, was only a trial by witnesses, not a trial of the accused by his equals; the jury only gave evidence of the fact, not a judgment on the truth or falsity of the accusation.

According to this mode Alice Perrers was tried in the reign of Richard II. The jury consisted of sixteen knights and esquires of the late king's household, who, from their situation, had been in the habit of witnessing the conduct of Perrers. The trial was before a committee of the House of Lords, and six of the jury were examined against the accused. 4 Ling. Hist. 227.

When Tresilian tried the insurgents in Wat Tyler's insurrection, he impanelled

three juries of twelve men each. The first was ordered to present all whom they knew to be chiefs of the tumult; the second gave their opinion on the presentation of the first, and the third pronounced the verdict, of guilty or not guilty. No witnesses were examined. The juries spoke from their personal knowledge.

The measures taken to give greater validity and precision to acts of parliament may be reckoned among judicial improvements. New laws, as already explained, were introduced in the form of petitions to the king, and were either granted, denied or delayed. Those petitions that were granted were afterwards put into the form of statutes by the clerks in Chancery, inserted in the statute roll, and transmitted to the sheriffs, to be promulgated in the county courts. But these forms were not always punctually executed. Sometimes the petitions, though granted, were entirely laid aside; at other times they were formed into statutes, but not published, and often they were so altered in the transcription, as not to reach the grievance for which they had been obtained. As a remedy for this abuse, the commons required that the more important of these petitions should be put into proper form and published during the parliament, in the presence of the king, and before the two houses. They could then appeal to them as matters of record, and if they were not observed by the king's officers, they could inquire into the cause next session.

INNS OF COURT AND OF CHANCERY.

The settlement of the chief courts of justice at Westminster, in conformity to an article in the Great Charter, brought together the professors of the municipal law, who before were dispersed about the kingdom, and formed them into an aggregate body. Between the clergy and laity there had long been violent contests respecting the introduction of the civil law, the former being anxious to make it the law of the land, and the latter, with equal pertinacity, insisting on being governed by the municipal or common law. As the clergy had the control of the universities, the professors of the common law were excluded from them, and constrained to establish an university for themselves, which they were now enabled to do, from being assembled in one place. They began by purchasing at various times certain houses and lauds (afterwards called the inns of court and of chancery) between Westminster, the place of holding the king's court, and the city of London, for the advantage of ready access to one, and plenty of provisions in the other. Here they naturally fell into collegiate order—exercises were performed, lectures read, and

other immunities of the regular universities assumed. After being established some time, the crown took them under protection; and the more effectually to encourage them, Henry III. issued an order, directed to the mayor and sheriffs of London, prohibiting law to be taught any where else in the metropolis, except by these bodies. He also formed the members of each inn or lodging house into a corporation, and established rules for their regulation. The societies, feeling their importance, began to exercise the privilege of bestowing rank upon their students of a certain standing, and conferred the degrees of barrister and serjeant, corresponding to those of bachelor and doctor in the universities.

In the inns of Chancery, the younger students were usually placed, "learning and studying," says Sir John Fortescue, "the originals, and, as it were, the elements of the law, who profiting therein as they grew to ripeness, so were they admitted into the greater inns of the same study, called the inns of court." And in these collegiate inns of both kinds, he goes on to say, the knights and barons, with other grandees and noblemen of the realm, did use to place their children, though they did not desire to have them thoroughly learned in the law, or to get their living by its practice; and that in his time (A.D. 1461) there were about two thousand students at these several inns, all of whom, he says, were *alii nobilium*, or gentlemen born.

Hence it is evident, that in the time of Henry VI. it was thought highly necessary, and was the universal practice, for the young nobility and gentry to be instructed in judicial science. But by degrees the custom has fallen into disuse, so that in the reign of Elizabeth Sir Edward Coke does not reckon above a thousand students, and the number at present is considerably less.

From Dugdale and Stow it appears James I. made a grant, by letters patent, of the premises of the Middle and Inner Temple to the benchers of both societies, to hold the same in perpetuity, for the reception and education of the professors and students of the law of the realm, paying the king the sum of ten pounds a-year for each of the Temples. A similar grant for a like purpose was made of Gray's-inn by Henry VIII.; the fee-simple of Lincoln's-inn was conveyed to the benchers of that society for a like object by Queen Elizabeth; Clement's-inn and Lyon's-inn are vested in the society of the Middle Temple; Barnard's-inn and Staple's-inn, in the society of Gray's-inn; Thavies'-inn and Furnival's-inn (lately sold by the society), in the society of Lincoln's-inn. From these facts it appears, these societies were founded for the purpose of

promoting legal knowledge; that the different estates above enumerated were conferred on the societies for the advancement of that object; that the mode prescribed for carrying it into effect was by giving public instructions in the different inns, and that such instructions were actually given at the period when those estates were granted to the benchers. It is unnecessary to state, that these benchers have ever since been in the reception of the profits of these estates, and that no legal instructions have for a long time been given in the inns of court, or any measures adopted to direct the application of those who may feel disposed to study. At the Inner Temple the exercises are compounded for by the payment of money. In the Middle Temple the form is observed, but with no real utility. These inns, with Gray's-inn and Lincoln's-inn, are the only societies the members whereof are called to the bar. Admission to the inns of Chancery, which are Barnard's-inn, Staple's-inn, Furnival's-inn, Lyon's-inn, Thavies'-inn, Clement's-inn, Clifford's-inn, and New-inn, would now be of no avail in obtaining a call to the bar.

CHANGES IN THE COIN.

Edward III. made a material alteration in the state of the coin in 1346, by commanding 22s. 6d. to be coined out of the Tower pound of silver. By this regulation the weight of the silver penny, which was still the largest real coin, was reduced from 22½ to 20 Troy grains, and the pound to 51s. 8d. of our money. The same prince made a still greater change in 1351, by coining groats and half-groats, the groats weighing seventy-two Troy grains; and sixty of these groats making a nominal pound sterling, containing only as much silver as 46s. 6d. of our money.

The coinage of gold was one of the greatest alterations made by Edward III. By the advice of his council, January 20, 1344, he commanded florins of gold to be coined, and to pass for 6s., half-florins for 3s., and quarter-florins for 1s. 6d. money of that time. But Edward, aiming at too much profit by the coinage, had set too high a value upon these pieces, which prevented their currency. To remedy this, he coined that same year nobles, half-nobles, and farthing-nobles, the noble to pass for 6s. 8d., and the gold of the first coinage to be brought to the mint, and sold for its real value. In the first coinage a pound of gold was rated at fifteen pounds of silver, in the second at only 13l. 3s. 4d. The noble was so called either on account of its value and beauty, being the largest and finest then known, or on account of the honourable occasion in which it was struck, the great naval victory over the French, obtained by Ed-

ward in person in 1340; for on that coin Edward appears completely armed, in a ship, with a naked sword in his right hand. These nobles, half and quarter nobles, continued to be the chief gold coins to the end of the fourteenth century.

The method of coining money in this period was very simple. The metal was cast from the melting-pot into sheets or long thin bars; these were cut with shears into square pieces of exact weights, according to the denomination of coin intended; these pieces were formed into a round shape by a hammer, after which, those of silver were blanched or made white by boiling, and last of all they were stamped by a hammer, which finished the operation.

It was not so easy in these times, as at present, to exchange gold and silver coins for each other; and therefore Edward and several of his successors took this office into their own hands, to prevent extortion, as well as for their own advantage; and they performed it by appointing certain persons, furnished with a competent quantity of coin, in London and other towns, to be the only exchangers of money, at fixed rates. These royal exchangers had also the exclusive privilege of giving the current coins of the kingdom in exchange for foreign coins, to accommodate merchant strangers, and of purchasing light money for the use of the mint. As several laws were in force (9 Edw. 3. caps. 1, 9, 10, 11.) against exporting English coin, the king's exchangers at the several seaports furnished merchants and others who were going abroad, with the coin of the countries to which they were going, in exchange for English money, according to a table which hung up in their offices for public inspection. By these various operations they made considerable profits, of which the king had a share. The house in which the royal exchanger kept his office was called the Exchange; from which it is probable the modern structures, where merchants meet to transact business, derive their name. 8 Hen. Hist. 345.

MISCELLANIES.

The magnificent castle of Windsor was built by Edward III. The architect was the celebrated William of Wickham, the founder of Winchester College. The mode of conducting the undertaking illustrates the manners of the age. Instead of en-

gaging workmen by contracts and wages, the king assessed every county in England to send him a certain number of masons, tilers, and carpenters, as if he had been levying an army.

The first toll we read of in England for mending the highways was imposed in this reign; and was for repairing the road betwixt St. Giles's and Temple-bar.

The contrast betwixt the price of labour and the rewards of military service is singular. A reaper, in the first week of August, was not allowed above two-pence a-day, nearly sixpence present money; in the second week a third more. A master carpenter was limited through the whole year to three-pence a-day, a common carpenter to two-pence, money of that age. Wages were fixed by act of parliament. If a man boarded with his employer, one-third of his wages was the price of his subsistence. No man was allowed to work out of his neighbourhood, except the inhabitants of Staffordshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire, Craven, and the marches of Scotland and Wales, who had always been accustomed, like the Irish at present, to seek employment in all parts of England. A soldier's trade was best paid. The pay of a common soldier was sixpence a-day, equivalent to five shillings present money. He was enlisted only for a very short time. One successful campaign, by pay and plunder, and the ransom of prisoners, was supposed to be a small fortune to a man, and enabled him to live idly the rest of his life.

Many laws were enacted to restrain *luxury* of living. No man, under a hundred pounds a-year, was allowed to wear gold, silver, or silk in his clothes. Servants were also prohibited eating flesh meat or fish above once a-day. No one was allowed either for dinner or supper above three dishes in each course, and not above two courses.

Among the adventurers of the age may be mentioned an English tailor. In his youth he was bound apprentice to a tailor in London; quitted his trade, and went a soldier into France, where he was knighted for his valour; and going into Italy, was so much in favour with the duke of Milan, that he gave him his natural daughter in marriage. After the duke's death, he served the commonwealth of Florence; and dying in their service, the Florentines, in testimony of their gratitude for his valour and services, erected an equestrian statue of marble to his memory. His name was Thomas Hackwood, the son of a tanner in Essex

RICHARD II. A.D. 1377 to 1399.

The task of government was beyond the acquirements of this unfortunate prince. Defective education and premature accession to power, rather than want of natural parts, unfitted him for the kingly office. He was violent in his temper, profuse in his expense, fond of idle show, devoted to favourites, and addicted to pleasure; passions all of them inconsistent with an equitable and vigorous administration. Had he possessed the talent of gaining, still more of overawing, the great barons, he might have escaped the chief misfortunes of his reign, and been allowed to carry much farther his oppression over the people, without their daring to rebel or even murmur.

The demands of Wat Tyler and his followers showed that a proper sense of existing grievances had spread among the least enlightened classes of the community. They demanded the abolition of slavery, freedom of commerce in market towns without toll or impost, and a fixed rent on land instead of the services done by villinage; all reasonable propositions, though society was not yet prepared to concede them.

John Wickliffe, a secular priest educated at Oxford, began in the latter end of Edward III. to spread the doctrine of reformation, and he made many disciples among all classes. He denied the supremacy of the church of Rome, the real merit of monastic vows; he maintained that the Scriptures were the sole rule of faith, that the church was dependent on the state, and should be reformed by it; that the clergy ought to possess no estate; that the numerous ceremonies of the church were hurtful to true religion; and that where contrition is sincere, confession to a priest is useless. He was a man of parts and learning, tinctured with the enthusiasm necessary to make head against the dominant superstition.

Three calamities of a very direful nature must have been remarked to be of frequent occurrence during the middle age: these were fires, famine, and pestilence. The first resulted from nearly all buildings being of wood and an imperfect municipal police. The second originated not only in bad seasons, and the desolation of war, but from the absence of commerce, which prevented the scarcity of one district being relieved by the redundant produce of another. Great fluctuations in prices, and in the wages of labour, necessarily resulted from frequent famines and their natural consequence, increased mortality of the people. The pestilential fevers which raged with such malignity, may, in part, be ascribed to the want of food, fuel, air, and clothing, to vast tracts of irreclaimed land, to towns crowded and filthy, as well as to the low state of medical knowledge.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1377. Richard, the only surviving child of Edward the Black Prince, succeeded to the crown on the death of his grandfather, being about eleven years old.

July 16. The young king was crowned at Westminster. The coronation oath, with some little alteration, was the same as that now used. The championship at this coronation is the first mentioned in history, but was certainly of an older date, as it was claimed by virtue of a right annexed to Scireby manor in Lincolnshire. Imme-

diately after the solemnity, the young king conferred several dignities on his uncles and other noblemen, to whom he granted pensions of a thousand marks each.

The truce with France expired without being renewed or prepared against, and the French infested the coasts of England.

Orders were issued for arming the clergy.

Oct. 13. The king held a parliament, which settled the administration during the minority, when the duke of Lancaster was disappointed of being sole regent, and Alice

Perrers, the late king's favourite, had all her estates confiscated, and herself banished.

Parliament granted a subsidy; and that it might not be misapplied in the king's minority, stipulated that it should be lodged in the hands of two aldermen of London, to be applied only to the war against France and Spain, who were at this time in confederacy against England.

1378. John Philpot, an alderman of London, fits out a fleet at his own charge, and takes several prizes; being called to account, by the duke of Lancaster, for annoying the nation's enemies without authority, he was honourably acquitted, and the administration censured for not protecting the trade of the kingdom.

Nov. 20. The Scots, gained by the French, suddenly broke the truce, and by surprise took Berwick; but it was retaken a few days after by the earl of Northumberland, with 10,000 men, who defeated the Scots, when the celebrated Hotspur was present, and signalized his courage.

The plague raged in the north of England, which obliged the two nations to a better observance of the truce, without a new treaty.

Greenland discovered by a Venetian.

1379. April 25. A parliament met at Westminster, and laid a tax upon every man in the kingdom, from the highest to the lowest, according to his station. As this capitation tax was graduated according to each person's rank and estate, the scale is subjoined;—

A duke or archbishop . . .	£6 13 4
A justice of either bench, or the chief baron . . .	5 0 0
A bishop, an earl, earl's widow, or the mayor of London . . .	4 0 0
A baron, banneret, knight equal in estate to a banneret, their widows, aldermen of London, mayors of great towns, and sergeants at law . . .	2 0 0
A knight, esquire, or great merchant . . .	1 0 0
A sufficient merchant . . .	0 13 4
An esquire, or attorney at law . . .	0 6 8
Others of less estate . . .	0 3 4
A married labourer . . .	0 0 4
A single man or woman . . .	0 0 4

The tax on clergymen varied according to the yearly value of their benefices, from 40*s.* to 2*s.* Monks and nuns paid according to the value of the houses to which they belonged, 40*d.*, 20*d.*, 12*d.*, or 4*d.*

1380. Jan. 17. Parliament held at Westminster, in which foreign ecclesiastics were rendered incapable of holding benefices in England; it also expelled foreign monks. Fourteen commissioners were appointed, to examine into the disposal of the revenues of the crown.

1381. The truce with Scotland was renewed on account of the plague.

The first law encouraging the use of bills of exchange in mercantile transactions. But the first contrivance of this instrument was by the bishop of Hereford in 1255.

May 2. The severity with which the tax-gatherers collected the poll-tax occasioned a rebellion, headed by Walter, a tyler of Deptford. Tyler's rabble consisted of above 100,000 men, and were spirited up by John Ball, an itinerant priest, whom the mob let out of Maidstone gaol, on May 3. He preached to the multitude upon this proverbial rhyme;

"When Adam delved and Eve span,
Who was then a gentleman?"

They first cleared the gaols of all the prisoners, and then proceeded to London, where at first they met with resistance; but forcing their passage over the bridge, they plundered the city and seized on the Tower; they there found the archbishop of Canterbury and the lord-treasurer, with many other noblemen, who were immediately beheaded by the rebels; next they proceeded to the palace of the duke of Lancaster, at the Savoy, which they burnt, with the archbishop of Canterbury's palace, and the magnificent priory of St. John's, Clerkenwell, on May 24th. This done, they divided themselves into three bodies; Wat Tyler remained about the Tower with 30,000 men; Jack Straw, another of their leaders, advanced into the city with the rebels of Essex, to the number of 60,000; the rest, under the conduct of another leader, lodged themselves upon Mile-end Green. The king published a general pardon, which the Essex men embraced and returned home. Wat Tyler rejected the offer, and the king proposed a conference with him in Smithfield, where Wat behaved with great insolence, taking hold of the king's horse's bridle, and threatening him with his sword, which so exasperated Walworth, lord mayor of London, who attended the king, that without considering the danger to which the king was exposed, he plunged a dagger into Tyler's throat. The rebels were preparing to revenge his death, which the king prevented by crying out in a resolute and courageous voice, "Will you kill your king? who will then redress your wrongs?" which staggered their resolution, and they threw down their arms. On this occasion the dagger was added to the city arms, and the king knighted Walworth, and several of the aldermen, on the occasion, and granted them lands for ever.

There were other insurrections in Norfolk and Suffolk, where the rioters burnt all the ancient charters in the abbey of St. Ed.

mund's Bury; also of the university of Cambridge; but they were defeated by the bishop of Norwich.

July 2. Upwards of 1500 rioters were hanged, among the chief of whom were Jack Straw and Ball the preacher. Some of them were hanged in chains, the first example of that mode of punishment.

1382. *Jan. 14.* The king married to Anne of Luxemburgh, in the chapel royal at Westminster, and was crowned soon after. Instead of her bringing a dower, Richard gave the emperor 10,000 marks for his alliance, and was also at the whole charge of bringing her over. At the queen's request the king granted a general pardon.

Richard made choice of flattering favourites, to whom he granted considerable sums, but they were refused to be sealed by the chancellor, as being indiscreet grants, which the king resented, and demanded the seal, and sealed them himself.

1383. *Feb. 24.* A parliament held at Westminster, when Wickliff presented seven articles, containing the substance of his doctrines.

April 23. The bishop of Norwich embarked with 50,000 foot and 2000 horse. When he arrived at Calais he attacked Flanders, contrary to his directions, and was obliged to retire, after having in battle killed ten or twelve thousand of the French.

Oct. 25. The French and Scots in conjunction made descents into England, which obliged Richard to call a parliament, which granted him a subsidy to continue the war.

Nov. 12. Parliament met at Westminster, which granted the king a large supply, and reversed the sentence passed against Alice Perrers, in a former parliament,

Dec. 30. Wickliff dies of apoplexy while assisting at the mass, at his rectory of Lutterworth. He was dug up forty years after and burnt for a heretic.

1385. Sir John Holland, the king's uterine brother, basely assassinated the earl of Stafford's eldest son, and took sanctuary in Beverley Abbey. The king refusing to pardon him at their mother's earnest solicitation, she died of grief at Wallingford Castle, and was buried in the church of the Friars Minors, at Stanford, where the king afterwards built a chapel. The king soon after pardoned his brother.

The king makes Robert de Vere marquis of Dublin, the first who bore the title of marquis in England.

1386. The king of Armenia, who had been expelled his dominions by the Turks, visited England for succour, when Richard granted him 1000*l.* per annum.

Aug. 1. The duke of Lancaster embarks

for Spain, with an army of 20,000 men, to recover the kingdom of Castile, but is unsuccessful.

Oct. 1. A parliament met at Westminster, and as a great army had been levied to resist the French, the king wanted a supply; which the parliament not readily granting, and addressing him against his favourites, he retired in disgust to Eltham, and disputes arose between the king and parliament.

The commons impeach the ministers of the crown, which is the second instance of parliamentary impeachment, the first having occurred at the close of the reign of Edward III.

The first company of linen weavers settled in England this year.

1387. William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, founds a college at Winchester.

The first high admiral of England appointed.

The king's favourites endeavour to make him absolute, and the king communicated his design to the sheriffs, who refuse to engage in the plot; but the judges determine that the king is above the law.

1388. Bombs were this year invented by a man at Venlo.

The confederate lords take possession of London, seize upon the judges, and compel the king to discard his ministers, and call a parliament, where they attain the archbishop of York, the duke of Ireland, the earl of Suffolk, chief justice Tressilian, and others; afterwards hang up Tressilian and several other persons of quality, and banish the other judges to Ireland. They also compel the king to renew his coronation oath, and pass an act of general pardon.

1389. *Feb.* The Scots ravage the borders, when Hotspur marched against them, and with his own hand slew Douglas, their leader, but he was defeated and taken prisoner.

May 3. The king declares himself of age, and makes alterations in his ministry. William of Wickham made lord chancellor.

1390. Termination of the dispute with the court of Rome relative to provisors and reservations.

1391. A terrible plague and a famine, very severe in England.

The king was so extravagant in his expenses, that in his kitchen alone he had above 300 domestics, and is said daily to entertain 6000 persons.

Playing cards invented for the amusement of the king of France.

1392. As the king's revenues were not sufficient to support his expenses, he attempted to borrow 1000*l.* of the citizens

of London, but was refused, which he resented, and under colour of punishing a tumult of little consequence, he stripped the city of its privileges, took away the charter, and removed the courts of justice to York; nor would he restore them till the Londoners had presented him with 10,000*l.* and two gold crowns.

Aug. Disputes with Rome revived under Boniface IX., who nominates to a vacant prebend in the church of Wells.

Nov. 3. A parliament held at Westminster, which granted the king a subsidy.

1393. A rebellion in Ireland; the king prepared for his journey there, and called a parliament, January 22, at Westminster, for a supply for that purpose.

The mercers' company in London incorporated.

June 7. Queen Anne died at Sheene, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

1395. Wickliff's doctrine gains ground, and his followers growing numerous, made the clergy apprehensive of consequences; they solicited the return of the king, who left the earl of March to manage the war, and arrived in England in May, to suppress the Lollards.

The Canary Islands discovered by some Spanish and French adventurers; and this seems to have been the furthest point towards the south-west to which any European had proceeded by sea at the end of the fourteenth century.

1396. The duke of Lancaster married the Lady Catharine Swinford, widow of Sir Thomas Swinford, by whom he had four children, in the lifetime of his former duchess. These he afterwards procured to be made legitimate by act of parliament; and from John Beaufort, eldest son of John of Gaunt, by Catharine Swinford, Henry VII. of the house of Lancaster, derived his right to the crown.

Oct. 31. The king married Isabella, daughter of Charles VI. king of France, but seven years old, and a peace was made for thirty years. They were married in St. Nicholas' church, at Calais, by the archbishop of Canterbury, and she was crowned the January following. Richard is said to have expended on his marriage not less than 300,000 marks, and received with the queen but 200,000. Richard's excessive expenses occasioned him to make use of illegal methods for a supply, so that almost all the nobles and rich men were obliged to lend the king money, though it was well known he never intended to repay it.

1397. *Jan. 22.* The king called a parliament at Westminster, which granted him supplies. In this parliament the judges banished to Ireland obtained leave to return to England.

Feb. Richard determines to wreak his

vengeance on his uncle, the factious duke of Gloucester.

July. The duke arrested at Pleshy, and conveyed to France.

Aug. 1. The king called a meeting of the peers at Nottingham.

Blackwell Hall purchased by the city of London.

Richard began repairing Westminster Hall, and caused the walls, windows, and roof to be taken down and new built, with a stately porch, as it stood till the present renovations.

Sept. 17. The king called a parliament that repealed the acts which abridged his prerogative, and particularly an act which empowered eleven lords to inspect the public revenues, and call his ministers to account; and it was declared they were traitorously obtained.

The archbishop of Canterbury, the earls of Arundel and Warwick, and duke of Gloucester impeached of treason; the archbishop and Warwick were banished, Arundel was executed, the king being present at the time. The duke of Gloucester was smothered at Calais, as the king apprehended danger were he publicly executed. His corpse was brought to England, and buried in Westminster Abbey. The king gratified several of the lords with the titles and estates of those who were executed. Richard appears to be justly charged with duplicity and breach of faith in these proceedings.

1398. *Jan. 22.* The parliament met at Shrewsbury, and strove to carry the prerogative to its greatest extent. They passed an act, delegating the authority to a select number of lords and commons nominated by the king. Richard brought into Shrewsbury a numerous guard of the militia of Cheshire, who expressed so strong an inclination to serve him, that to gratify the county, he erected it into a principality, and added to the rest of his titles, that of prince of Chester.

Oct. 6. Commissioners from Scotland met some others from England, at Haudeinstank, on the borders of the two kingdoms, for settling an exchange of prisoners taken since the truce at Leulingham, 1389, and to regulate other affairs.

Nov. A rebellion broke out in Ireland, when Roger Mortimer, earl of March, governor of Ireland, was killed in battle. This prince, who was declared by act of parliament presumptive heir to the crown, left two sons, both of whom died without issue; but the marriage of Ann their sister with the duke of York's second son proved a fertile source of troubles, which long afflicted this kingdom.

The king prepared for his journey to Ireland, and for that purpose extorted mo-

ney from his subjects in an arbitrary manner, which rendered him more odious than ever.

Dec. A quarrel between the dukes of Hereford and Norfolk proposed to be decided by duel, but prevented by the king, who banished both the dukes, contrary to the privileges of the nobility.

1399. *Feb. 2.* John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, died, and was buried in St. Paul's Church, and the estates of his son, the duke of Hereford, seized by the king.

Seventeen counties charged with treason, in adhering to the duke of Gloucester ten years before, and obliged to purchase their pardons of the king.

Large sums extorted from the people, by way of loan, and their provisions seized for the use of the army without paying for them.

The earl of Northumberland declared a traitor by the king, who also banished him and confiscated his estates.

The duke of York being appointed guardian of the kingdom, the king embarked for Ireland, where he arrived May 31, at Waterford, from whence he marched to Dublin.

He was attended by the sons of the duke of Lancaster, by his third wife, and by those of the late Duke of Gloucester, whom he carried like hostages, and took with him the best part of his jewels, as if he had foreseen he should never more return to his palace.

July 4. In his absence, Henry, late duke of Hereford, now duke of Lancaster, landed in Yorkshire, and was joined by the nobility and gentry. He published a manifesto, declaring he came to redress grievances, and that he had no design upon the crown. The regent endeavoured to levy troops, but without accomplishing his design, which occasioned the ministry to desert him and retire to Bristol, and the regent threw up the care of public affairs, and retired to his own house.

The duke of Lancaster marched to London, and was received with joy; from thence he went to Bristol, which surrendered to him immediately. The earl of Wiltshire and his companions he beheaded. When Richard heard of these transactions he imprisoned the duke's brothers, with the duke of Gloucester's sons, but was detained by contrary winds, which occasioned the dispersion of some troops raised in Cheshire and Wales for his assistance. Richard at length landed at Milford Haven, and in the midst of his distress retired to Conway Castle, and proposed an accommodation with the duke of Lancaster, when he offered to the duke of Northumberland to resign his crown, provided that life was promised him and eight others, and desired

an interview with the duke of Lancaster. The king and the duke had an interview, and on August 20, went together to Chester, and from thence to London, where Richard was confined in the Tower. Richard's treasure and jewels, to the value of 700,000*l.*, fell into the hands of the duke of Lancaster, who summoned a parliament in the king's name.

Sept. 29. Richard made a public resignation of his crown, by delivering it up, with the sceptre, and other ensigns of royalty, and by an instrument signed with his own hand, confessed himself unworthy and unfit any longer to govern; which was the next day laid before the parliament, who ordered articles of accusation, and reasons for the deposition, to be exhibited; when the duke of Lancaster claimed the crown.

In this reign, John Waltham, bishop of Salisbury and chancellor to the king, invented the writ of *subpoena*, returnable only in chancery, in order to bring fees of land to uses, directly into that court, to make them accountable to those for whose use they held the land. It was soon after applied for and obtained in other cases, which greatly increased the business of equity in chancery. All the chancellors of England in this period were clergymen.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

They were generally fifteenths and half-fifteenths, or laid on wool, wool fells, and leather, very moderately; but in the king's fourth year, there was a general poll-tax of three groats a head upon the laity.

In his eleventh, three shillings a tun was granted on wine, and one shilling in the pound on merchandise.

In his fourteenth, three shillings a tun was granted on wine, and one shilling in the pound on merchandise.

In his eighteenth the same for three years.

The misfortunes of the king have been attributed to his extravagance and pecuniary exactions, but they do not appear to have exceeded those of his predecessors.

WAGER OF BATTLE.

As the celebrated duel, or rather preparation for a duel between the dukes of Hereford and Norfolk, form an interesting occurrence in the reign of Richard II., some account of the origin and nature of the judicial combat may be properly introduced.

Fire and water ordeals had been used in Normandy as well as Britain before the Conquest, and were continued in England after that event. But the judicial combat, or wager of battle, though it had been long established on the continent, was first introduced into England by the Normans. This, like other ordeals, was an appeal to

the judgment of God, on the supposition that Heaven would always interfere to defend the right. As the judicial combat was esteemed the most honourable, it soon became the most common method of determining all disputes among martial knights and barons, both in criminal and civil causes. When the combatants were immediate vassals of the crown, the combat was performed with great pomp and ceremony in presence of the king, with the constable and marshal of England, who were the judges; but if the combatants were the vassals of a baron, the combat was performed in his presence. If the person accused was victorious, he was deemed innocent; if defeated, guilty, and subjected to the punishment prescribed by law for his offence. If the accuser was vanquished, he was by the law of some countries subjected to the same punishment that would have fallen upon the accused; but in England the king had power to mitigate or remit the punishment.

Several kinds of persons were legally exempted from the necessity of defending their innocence or their properties by the judicial combat; as women, priests, the sick, infirm, maimed, young men under twenty, and old men above sixty. But all these might, if they pleased, employ champions to fight in their vindication. Two examples, one in a criminal, the other in a civil suit, will illustrate the judicial combat.

In 1158, Henry de Essex, hereditary standard bearer of England, fled from a battle in Wales, threw from him the royal standard, and cried out with others that

the king was slain. Robert de Montfort accused him of having done so with a treasonable intention, and offered to prove the truth of his accusation by combat. Henry de Essex denied the charge, and accepted the challenge. When all preliminaries were arranged, the duel took place in presence of Henry II., and all his court. Essex was defeated, and expected to be carried out to immediate execution. But the king spared his life, contenting himself with confiscating his estate, and making him a monk of Reading abbey.

The priory of Tinmouth, in Northumberland, was a cell of the abbey of St. Albans. One Simon claimed a right to the maintenance of two persons in the priory, which the prior and monks denied. This cause was brought before the abbot of St. Albans and his court-baron, who appointed it to be tried by combat before him and his barons. Ralph Gubion, prior of Tinmouth, appeared on the day appointed, attended by his champion, a man of gigantic stature. The champion was defeated, and the prior lost his cause; at which he was so much chagrined, that he immediately resigned his office.—*Henry's Hist.* vi. 44.

By slow degrees the judicial combat was superseded by the more rational mode of trial by jury, and lawyers took the place of champions. Henry II. contributed much to this improvement, especially in civil causes. He allowed the defendant in a plea of right to support his title either by single combat or by the oaths of twelve men of the vicinage, called the *grand assize*.

HENRY IV. A.D. 1399 to 1413.

This was a busy and active reign, but productive of few events calling for comment or illustration. The popularity which Henry enjoyed before he attained the crown, and which so much aided him in the acquisition of it, was entirely lost many years before his death, and he governed more by terror than affection, more by policy than beneficence.

Favoured by the times, the House of Commons increased vastly in importance, and pushed their inquiries into every department of the administration. Henry's pecuniary embarrassments, his defective title, and the frequent insurrections in favour of Richard and the earl of March, compelled him to court the favour of the people through their representatives; and the men who were originally deemed of no other use than to raise money, became by almost imperceptible degrees a coequal part of the legislature.

In the first year of the king, they procured a law that no judge, in concurring with any iniquitous measure, should be excused by pleading the commands of the king. In the second year they insisted on maintaining

the practice of not granting any supply before they received an answer to their petitions. In the fifth year they desired the king to remove from his household four persons who had displeased them, one of them Henry's confessor. In the sixth year they voted the king supplies, but appointed their own treasurer to see that they were expended on the objects for which they had been granted. In the eighth year they proposed for the regulation of the government and the household thirty important articles, which were all agreed to; and they even obliged all the members of the council, all the judges, and all the officers of the household, to swear to the observance of them. Although these limitations of the executive government were not uniformly maintained, subsequently, they show that some of the more important elements of the constitution had begun to be agitated.

The vast possessions of the clergy, and their exemption from public burdens, were justly complained of by the commons; but this jealousy of the ecclesiastical order did not prevent them from passing the first act for the burning of heretics. By this law any person who presumed to preach or teach any thing contrary to the catholic faith, and the determination of the holy church, was to be burnt before the people in some high place. This bloody statute stood unrepealed till the year 1677. The clergy were not slow to enforce it; for, as will be seen in the events and occurrences of this reign, that the ecclesiastical court having condemned William Sawtry, a Lollard, he was burnt alive by virtue of the king's writ, directed to the mayor of London.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1399. Henry, surnamed Bolingbroke, only son of John of Gaunt (duke of Lancaster, and fourth son of Edward III., by Blanche, his first wife), claimed the crown in the way which has been related during the life time of his predecessor. He ordered the last parliament, summoned in Richard's name, to assemble, without issuing new writs. The archbishop of Canterbury harangued them in praise of the new king.

Oct. 13. This being the anniversary of the day on which Henry went into banishment, he was crowned with the usual formalities, being then 33 years old. He lodged the night before in the Tower, where he made his three sons, with several sons of the nobility, and others, to the number of forty-six, knights of the bath.

Henry gave the isle of Man to the earl of Northumberland, for the service of carrying the sword, with which the king landed at Ravenspur, at his coronation.

Parliament reverses several acts of attainder, and reduces all treasons to the 25th of Edw. III.

Oct. 23. Parliament determined that Richard be kept in confinement during his life, with a princely allowance; but in case any person attempt his deliverance, Richard should be the first man to suffer death. Henry dispatched ambassadors to the different courts, to give a plausible rea-

son for the late king's deposition, and his own promotion.

1400. Jan. Geoffrey Chaucer the poet died this year.

A great conspiracy of the nobility to restore Richard. They were defeated, and many noblemen executed.

This unsuccessful attempt sealed the doom of the late king. Some say Richard was starved to death, others that he was attacked by eight assassins, of whom he slew four. As the body was conveyed to London, the face was exposed to public view, that spectators might be satisfied of its identity. He was buried at Langley, and fourteen years after removed by Henry V., and honourably interred in Westminster abbey. He lived thirty-three years, and reigned twenty-two years and three months. He died without issue.

In the summer of this year a sect of fanatics appeared in Italy, who wore a long white robe, and covered their faces with a white veil, that they might not be known. They assembled in large bodies, and undertook pilgrimages of eight or ten days; during which they walked in procession, from town to town, following a large crucifix, chanting hymns, and fasting on bread and water. They were opposed by the pope, severely forbidden in France, and their landing in England was interdicted by the king's proclamation.

Aug. 23. Henry marched against the Scots, and burnt Edinburgh.

The emperor of Constantinople visited England.

The king married his eldest daughter Blanche to Lewis of Bavaria, prince palatine of the Rhine, and gave her a fortune of 40,000*l.*

1401. *Jan.* Henry assembled a parliament which passed several acts in favour of the clergy.

Feb. 19. Sawtry, the rector of St. Osyth, London, examined for three hours before the convocation of Canterbury. His heresies consisted in a refusal to worship the cross, and a denial of transubstantiation. Wishing to escape a cruel death, he tried to extenuate his doctrines, but when the archbishop urged him to profess his belief,—"That after consecration the substance of the bread and wine no longer remained, but was converted into the substance of the body and blood of Christ, which were really and truly in their proper substance and nature in the sacrament as they were in the womb of the Virgin Mary, as they hung upon the cross, as they lay in the grave, and as they now resided in heaven;" he stood aghast, and after some hesitation declared, "That whatever might be the consequence, he could neither understand nor believe that doctrine." On this the archbishop pronounced him to be an obstinate heretic, and delivered him to the mayor and sheriffs to be burnt in Smithfield. He was the first person who suffered this painful death in England for maintaining the doctrines of Protestantism, and being a respectable clergyman, his execution caused great dismay among the unfortunate followers of Wickliff.

A marriage proposed between the late king's widow and Henry's son, which did not take effect, and the queen was sent home.

Archbishop Arundel tried to rectify an abuse which had long prevailed, of holding fairs and markets in churchyards on Sundays. He prohibited this practice except in harvest time, when it was thought to be necessary.

The citizens of London brought water by leaden pipes from Tyburn brook to a conduit or cistern erected on the spot, where before stood the Tun prison in Cornhill. On the side of this conduit was erected a cage, with a pair of stocks over it, for the punishment of night-walkers; and a pillory for the public exposure of cheating millers and bakers.

1402. The king levied a tax for the marriage of his daughter.

Several persons of distinction executed for propagating reports that Richard II. was alive, and at the Scottish court.

June 22. The Scots invade England, but are defeated on Nisbet Moor, and about 10,000 of them slain.

Sept. 14. Another battle at Homildon hill, in which the Scotch are completely defeated, chiefly by the skill of the English archers and the bravery of the Percies.

The French demand a restitution of the portion of the widow of Richard, as a set-off; the English demanded the ransom due for their king John, taken by Edward III.

1403. *Feb. 7.* The new queen arrived in England, and the king received her at Westminster, where the marriage was solemnized, and she was crowned the 27th of the same month.

March. The Percies, in concert with Douglas, whom they had taken prisoner at Homildon hill, form a conspiracy against Henry in favour of the young earl of March, the rightful heir to the crown.

July 21. The conspirators defeated by Henry at Shrewsbury, and young Percy, surnamed Hotspur, killed. Percy and Douglas depended chiefly on taking off the king in the beginning of the engagement. They charged with the utmost fury the troops which defended the royal standard, and killed the standard-bearer, and several other knights habited in the king's armour. The king himself was once dismounted, and his son the prince of Wales wounded in the face, in the violent charges made by Percy and Douglas. In this battle fell most of the gentlemen of Cheshire, and 5000 of the common soldiers on the part of the malcontents, with nearly as many on the king's side.

1404. *Jan. 15.* William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, died.

A descent of the Bretons who landed at Portland, but they were repulsed; they then landed at Dartmouth, where the women signalised themselves, drove them back to their ships, and took several prisoners of distinction. Notwithstanding these frequent landings, the nations were not at war with each other.

Oct. 6. Parliament met, which consisted of such as were not skilled in the laws, and to which the clergy gave the epithet of the "Illiterate Parliament," for their petitioning the king, who demanded a supply, to seize part of the revenues of the clergy, as they possessed a third part of the lands of England, and did him no personal service, but spent their revenues in luxury and idleness, instead of applying them to the uses their founders intended; the petition was rejected.

1405. *May 14.* Henry, prince of Wales, suppresses the insurrection of Owen Glendour in Wales.

Great guns first used in England, at the siege of Berwick.

The king called a council of the lords, and desired an aid of money, being ashamed to ask the parliament who had lately granted him a considerable subsidy. But the lords flatly refused to comply with his desires without the consent of parliament. The clergy made the same denial, and the king dismissed them with signs of displeasure.

May. An insurrection in Yorkshire, headed by Scroop, archbishop of York, and the earl of Northumberland, which is suppressed. The archbishop was taken by stratagem, but the earl escaped to Berwick. The king arrived at Pontefract, where the prisoner was tried, condemned, and beheaded. This is the first instance of a bishop suffering death in England under the sentence of a civil judge. The pope excommunicated all concerned therein, which cost Henry large sums to procure absolution. From Pontefract the king went to York, where the lords Hastings and Falconbridge met with the same fate.

Aug. 7. The French landed in Wales, with 140 sail and 12,000 men, but lord Berkley and Henry Pay took fourteen and destroyed fifteen of their ships in Milford Haven.

Oct. 3. The king made a grant of the Isle of Man to Sir John Stanley, ancestor of the earls of Derby.

1406. *Oct. 10.* Philippa the king's daughter embarked for Denmark, but her nuptials were not consummated till next year, October 25.

A parliament met at Westminster, but as they refused any supplies, and only passed an act for the freedom of elections, the king kept them assembled till they complied. This parliament gave the merchants a remarkable commission, that they should guard the seas from May 1 till Michaelmas, 1406, and in consideration have three shillings from every tun of wine imported or exported, twelve pence in the pound, and the fourth part of the subsidy of wools, leather, &c.

James, a prince of Scotland, son of king Robert, goes to France for education, but putting on shore in Norfolk was detained by Henry, and confined in the tower of London. Robert died of grief three days after receiving the news of his son's confinement, and James became king. His uncle, the duke of Albany, took on him the regency, during the imprisonment of the young king.

1407. A conspiracy in London suppressed before it was carried into execution.

A terrible plague raged in London, which swept off above 30,000 inhabitants. The king not daring to stay in London

whilst the plague raged, retired to the castle of Leeds, in Kent, but being desirous of removing to Pleshy in Norfolk, he took shipping at Queenborough in the Isle of Sheppy, to cross over to Lea in Essex, and narrowly escaped being taken by some French pirates, who took all his baggage and most of his attendants.

Aug. 5. Robert Knolles, who had signalized himself in the wars with France under Edward III., died at his seat at Scenethorp in Norfolk, and was buried in White Friars church, London, which he had built. He likewise built Rochester bridge, and founded a college for secular canons at Pontefract.

Nov. The duke of Burgundy caused the duke of Orleans to be assassinated for obstructing his taking Calais, and was so powerful as to procure his pardon from the king of France, who was brother to the duke of Orleans.

The collars of SS first worn in England. 1408. *Feb. 19.* The earl of Northumberland raises another insurrection in the north, but was killed at Bramham Moor before he could assemble his forces. The abbot of Hales was taken fighting by the earl's side, and was hanged soon after.

Oct. 20. A parliament held at Gloucester, and in November was removed to Westminster, where it granted supplies to the king.

1409. *March 25.* The schism of the church ended by the council of Pisa, which commenced in 1378.

The parish clerks of London perform the play of the *Creation of the World* before a numerous assembly of the nobility at Skinners Well, near Clerkenwell. After which they adjourned to Smithfield, to be present at a tournament between the marshal and gentlemen of Hainault, and the earl of Somerset and a like number of Englishmen.

1410. *Jan. 27.* A parliament being summoned, the sheriffs were ordered to have no regard to the majority of voices at elections, but to return such members as would be most subservient to the court. The commons, however, petitioned the king to pass an act for fining sheriffs that made false returns: prayed again, that part of the revenues of the clergy might be applied to the defence of the kingdom, and that the statute for burning heretics might be repealed. The petitions of the parliament were rejected by the king, through fear of the clergy, and he ordered John Bradby, or Badly, a tailor, for execution. He was convicted of heresy before the archbishop of Canterbury, brought to Smithfield, and burnt in a pipe or cask. Henry prince of Wales was present at the execution, and in vain offered him a

pardon on condition of recantation. After he was in the fire the prince had him unloosed, taken out of the fire, and promised him a pension for life and a pardon provided he would recant; but Bradby refused the offer, and suffered death with heroic courage. The commons considering his execution an insult, refused to grant supplies, till obtained by force, May 3.

The English ravage Scotland near Edinburgh, and carry off a great booty.

1411. Guildhall, London, was rebuilt this year, at the city's expense. The university of St. Andrew's, in Scotland, was founded about this time.

Nov. 3. The parliament met at Westminster, petitioned the king for a general pardon, which he granted, excepting only Glendower and his adherents. This pardon was dated December 22.

1412. Whilst king Henry was endeavouring to recover his reputation, which had suffered since his accession, the prince of Wales was daily destroying his by vicious excesses. Nothing was talked of but the riotous and extravagant pranks of the prince and his companions; and one of his favourites being arraigned for felony before Sir William Gascoigne, the chief justice of the King's Bench, the prince was present at the trial, to overawe the judge; but his presence not preventing the condemnation of the criminal, the prince was so exasperated as to strike the judge on the face, who not regarding the quality of the offender, commanded him to be arrested on the spot, and committed him to prison, to which the prince as readily submitted. The judge's courage and the prince's moderation were much admired.

1413. Jan. The king was seized with fits and a loathsome eruption on the face, which the vulgar considered a punishment for the execution of archbishop Scroop. Henry began to lose faith in his favourite maxim, that the success of an enterprise is a proof that it had received the favour of Heaven.

March 20. His last fit seized him as he was at his devotions in St. Edward's chapel in Westminster abbey; and from thence he was carried to the *Jerusalem Chamber*. Coming to his senses, and being told the name of the place where he lay, the king replied, "God's will be done: it was prophesied of me that I should die in *Jerusalem*; behold here I am;" and immediately expired. He was in the 47th year of his age, and the 14th of his reign, and was buried at Canterbury.

More noblemen were executed in this than in any preceding reign, and the barbarous manner in which executions for treason were conducted will be seen from the following extract from *Lingard's His-*

tory, copied from the MS. of a contemporary writer. It describes the execution at Oxford of Sir Thomas Blount, who was concerned in the unsuccessful rebellion in 1400, to restore Richard II. "He was hanged; but the halter was soon cut, and he was made to sit on a bench before a great fire, and the executioner came with a razor in his hand, and knelt before Sir Thomas, whose hands were tied, begging him to pardon his death, as he must do his office. Sir Thomas asked—'Are you the person appointed to deliver me from this world?' The executioner answered, 'Yes, sir: I pray you pardon me!' And Sir Thomas kissed him, and pardoned him his death. The executioner knelt down and opened his belly, and cut out his bowels straight from below the stomach, and tied them with a string that the wind of the heart should not escape, and threw the bowels into the fire. Then Sir Thomas was sitting before the fire, his belly open, and his bowels burning before him. Sir Thomas Eryngham, the king's chamberlain, insulting Blount, said to him in derision, 'Go, seek a master that can cure you!' Blount only answered, '*Te Deum laudamus*. Blessed be the day on which I was born, and blessed be this day, for I shall die in the service of my sovereign lord, the noble king Richard!' The executioner knelt down before him, kissed him in an humble manner, and soon after his head was cut off, and he was quartered."—Vol. iv. 381.

KING'S ISSUE.

He had issue by Mary de Bohun, daughter of Humphrey earl of Hereford and Essex,—

1. Henry of Monmouth, his son and successor.
2. Thomas duke of Clarence.
3. John duke of Bedford.
4. Humphrey duke of Gloucester.

He had two daughters; Blanch, married to the duke of Bavaria, and Philippa, married to Eric king of Denmark.

By his last wife, Joan, daughter of Charles I., king of Navarre, he had two children.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1399. Fifty shillings on every sack of wool from denizens, 4*l.* from strangers; a tenth and fifteenth for three years.

1401. One-tenth, one-fifteenth, 2*s.* a tun on wine, and 8*d.* in the pound on merchandize.

Henry had 40,000*l.*, or as some say 40,000 nobles, for the marriage of his eldest daughter Blanch, namely, 20*s.* on every knight's fee, and 20*s.* on every 20*l.* per ann. land.

1403. A subsidy on wool and wool fells for three years; 3s. on every tun of wine, and 1s. in the pound on merchandize.

1404. Taxes so great they were ordered not to be recorded.

1405. Two-tenths, and two-fifteenths, subsidies on wool and leather; 3s. a tun on wine, and 1s. in the pound on merchandize.

1406. Three shillings a tun on wine, and 1s. in the pound on merchandize, given to the merchants for defence of the seas, with part of the subsidy on wool.

To the king, one-tenth, one-fifteenth; duties on wool continued.

1407. One-tenth and a half, and the like subsidy on wool, &c.

1410. One-fifteenth, with the usual duties on wool and leather, with tannage and poundage; 20,000*l.* whereof given the king to dispose of at pleasure.

1412. The like duties continued, and every 20*l.* per ann. land paid 6s. 8*d.*

ACTS PASSED IN THIS REIGN.

2 Hen. IV. cap. 14. The most remarkable act that passed in this year was that for burning Lollards or heretics, who had alarmed the clergy by preaching against their enormous revenues.

Cap. 20. That no Welshman should purchase lands in England.

4 Hen. IV. cap. 3. For confirmation of the liberties of holy church.

Cap. 12. That provision should be made for the vicar and the poor, where benefices are appropriated.

Cap. 15. That foreign merchants shall lay out the money they receive here, on the merchandizes of this realm.

Cap. 16. That no gold or silver shall be carried out of the realm.

5 Hen. IV. cap. 4. That it should be felony to use the craft of multiplying gold or silver.

Cap. 5. Made felony to cut out the tongue or pull out an eye.

7 Hen. IV. cap. 2. The realms of England and France limited to the king's heirs.

Cap. 8. That no provision shall be granted of a benefice that is full.

Cap. 14. That in elections of knights of shires, the names of the persons elected shall be returned in indentures sealed by the electors and the respective sheriffs.

11 Hen. IV. cap. 4. That every sheriff making a false return shall forfeit 100*l.*

HOSPITALITY—CHIVALRY—COSTUME—ROBES—LANGUAGE. A.D. 1216 to 1413.

A rude and almost unlimited hospitality was a distinguishing feature in the manners of the age. Our kings lived more in the style of an Eastern monarch, or of a Tartar chief, than a modern prince. According to Stow, Richard II. ordinarily fed

at his tables 10,000 people. The magnificence of the great barons kept pace with that of the sovereign. The household expenses of Thomas earl of Lancaster, in 1313, amounted to 7,309*l.*—a sum equivalent in the command of commodities to 120,000*l.* of present money. Other earls and barons in general spent almost all their revenues, the produce of their vast domains, in hospitality at their castles, which were always open to strangers of condition; as well as to their own vassals and retainers. This profuse hospitality began to give way to more refined luxury towards the close of the fourteenth century; and some of the barons, instead of dining in the great hall with their numerous dependents, dined sometimes in a private parlour with their own families and familiar friends:—a deviation from ancient custom, very unpopular, and subjecting them to much reproach.

The spirit of CHIVALRY continued to exercise a favourable influence over manners. Although this code of gentlemen in the middle age was, like that of the present, not always consistent with strict utilitarianism, it prompted to the performance of noble exploits. A true knight was sworn to be good, brave, loyal, just, gentle, and generous; a champion of the church and the ladies, a redresser of the wrongs of widows and orphans;—vows, it is true, not always observed. Edward the Black Prince was an illustrious knight, yet his chivalry did not restrain him from most reprehensible deeds; as the massacre of his prisoners, and the restoration of Peter the Cruel, the tyrant king of Castile. It often elicited the display of a romantic bravery, in which youthful and amorous knights fought as much for the honour of their "mistress's eye-brows," as their country. In 1379, a party of English and a party of French cavalry met near Cherburg, and immediately prepared for battle. When on the point of engaging, Sir Lancelot de Lorres, a French knight, cried aloud, that he had a more beautiful mistress than any of the English. This was denied by Sir John Copeland, who ran the Frenchman through the body with his spear, and laid him dead at his feet. On another occasion, a number of young Englishmen put each a patch on one of his eyes, making a solemn vow to his mistress that he would not take it off till he had performed some notable exploit in France to her honour; and these gentlemen, Froissart says, were much admired.

Chivalry declined in England during the inglorious reigns of John and Henry III., but revived under Edward I. That prince was one of the most accomplished knights of the time, and both delighted

and excelled in feats of chivalry. Edward III. also encouraged it both from policy and inclination. He instituted the noble Order of the Garter in honour of the sex, and revived the round table at Windsor, where he celebrated several pompous tournaments, to which he invited all strangers who delighted in feats of arms, entertained them with the most flowing hospitality, and loaded such as excelled in martial sports with honours and rewards, in order to attach them to his person, and engage them in his service in the French wars. Philip de Valois became so alarmed at his proceedings, that he set up a rival table at Paris, and endeavoured to render his tournaments more splendid than those of England. In short, chivalry was a mania; it had much in it that was vain, childish, and ridiculous; but perhaps it was not more remote from reason and truth in its institutes as a moral code, than the mistaken science and real superstition of the age.

The fashionable **COSTUME** of the time was taudry, fantastical, and inconvenient. A gallant of the fourteenth century is thus described by Dr. Henry:—"He wore large pointed shoes, fastened to his knees by gold or silver chains; hose of one colour on one leg, and of another colour on the other; short breeches, which did not reach to the middle of the thighs, and closely fitted to the shape; a coat one half white and the other half black or blue; a long beard; a silk hood buttoned under his chin, embroidered with grotesque figures of animals, dancing men, &c., and sometimes ornamented with gold, silver, and precious stones." The dress of the fine ladies who frequented public diversions, was in keeping with that of the fine gentlemen. It is thus described by Knyghton in 1348:—"These tournaments are attended by many ladies of the first rank and greatest beauty, but not always of the most untainted reputation. These ladies are dressed in party-coloured tunics, one half being of one colour and the other half of another; their hirripipes, or tippets, are very short; their caps remarkably little, and wrapt about their heads with cords; their girdles and pouches are ornamented with gold and silver; and they wear short swords, called daggers, before them, a little below their navels; they are mounted on the finest horses, with the richest furniture. Thus equipped, they ride from place to place in quest of tournaments, by which they dissipate their fortunes, and sometimes ruin their reputation." The head dress of the ladies underwent many changes about this time. They were sometimes enormously high, rising almost three feet above the head, in the shape of sugar-loaves,

with streamers of fine silk flowing from the top of them to the ground. Ladies had adopted the fashion, introduced by the Princess Ann of Bohemia, of riding on side saddles.

It was a melo-dramatic age in its costume, its virtues, and its crimes.

ROBBERY was not an uncommon vocation of both nobles and commons. The numerous banditti which overran the country were frequently under the protection of powerful barons, who sheltered them in their castles, and shared with them in their booty. In Hampshire their numbers were so great, that the judges could not prevail upon any jury to find any of them guilty; and Henry III. complained that when he travelled through that country they plundered his baggage, drank his wine, and treated him with indignity. It was afterwards found that several members of the king's household were in confederacy with the thieves. Even under the more vigorous administration of Edward I., a numerous band of robbers attacked the town of Boston during the fair, set it on fire in three places, and carried off an immense booty. Their leader, a gentleman of great influence, was tried and executed, but could not be prevailed upon to discover any of his accomplices. As the robbers were powerful, some of them were very cruel; and the character which one of their chiefs wore embroidered upon his coat in letters of silver, might have been applied to several others:—"I am captain Warner, commander of a troop of robbers, an enemy to God, without pity and without mercy." As neither persons of condition, nor even kings, nor populous towns could be protected from these audacious plunderers, we may presume how terrible they were to ordinary travellers, and the inhabitants of the open country.

The **LANGUAGE** of this disorderly period calls for some notice. For a long period after the Conquest, a kind of confusion of tongues prevailed, the different orders of the people speaking a different language. This was so much the case in the early part of the fourteenth century, that public speakers were sometimes obliged to pronounce the same discourse three times to the same audience; once in Latin, once in French, and once in English. Latin was the language of the church, of schools, of courts of justice, and in general of the learned of all professions. All acts of parliament to A.D. 1266, and many of them long after, were in that language. It was not till 1253 that the Great Charter itself was translated into English, and read to the people in their mother-tongue. The Norman, or French, was the language of the court and people of fashion, and so

continued for about three centuries after the Conquest. Anglo-Saxon, or English, was the language of the great body of the people of England. This language descended to them from their ancestors the Anglo-Saxons, and they retained it with great steadiness, in spite of all the efforts of the Conqueror and his successors to substitute the Norman in its place. It gradually gained ground, and, in 1362, it had so far forced its way into courts of justice, from which it had been excluded by William I., that the pleadings were, by Act of Parliament, ordered to be in English.—*Henry's Hist.* viii. 391.

The following verses are a specimen of the English of the time; they were composed by an elegant poet, James I. of Scotland, who was long a prisoner in England, and contains a description of the royal garden at Windsor, as it appeared about A. D. 1414.

Now was there maid fast by the Touris
wall
A gardyn faire, and in the corneris set,
Ane herbere grene, with wandis long and
small
Rallit about; and so with treis set
Was all the place, and hawthorn hegis
knet,
That lyf was non walkyng there forbye
That myght within scarce any wight
aspye.
So thick the beuis and the levis grene,
Beschadet all the allyes that there were,
And middis every herbere might be sene
The scharp grene suete junipere
Growing so faire with branchis here and
there,
That as it semyt to a lyf without,
The bewis spred the herbere all about.

*Poetical Remains of James I.
Edinburgh, 1783.*

HENRY V. A. D. 1413 to 1422.

THE irregularities of the prince have not prevented historians from doing ample justice to the virtues of the monarch. Except ambition and occasional arrogance, Henry's reign was highly creditable to his character. He shone both in the council and in the field. The boldness of his military enterprises was no less remarkable than his personal valour in conducting them. Continually engaged in war, he had little leisure to discharge the duties of the legislator; but he has been commended for his care to enforce the impartial administration of justice, and he was beloved by the lower classes both in France and England, for the protection which he afforded them against the oppression of their superiors. In his ecclesiastical polity he was not more enlightened than his predecessors, and the severe laws enacted and executed against the unfortunate Lollards are a dark blot in his history.

The military part of the feudal system was now entirely dissolved: in place of the feudal militia, a national militia was substituted. Commissions of array had issued ever since the reign of Henry II.; and Henry V., before he went to France, in 1415, empowered commissioners in each county to take a review of all the freemen able to bear arms, to divide them into companies, and keep them in readiness for resisting the enemy.

The premature death of Henry V. saved from ruin the throne of France. The task of maintaining the ascendancy he had gained devolved on an infant successor and a divided ministry; while the dauphin, in the vigour of youth, and seconded by the wishes of the people, called the different factions under his banner, and directed their combined efforts against the invaders of their country. In a few years the English were expelled from all their conquests, and an end put to those exhausting continental expeditions which, however glorious as military triumphs, were barren of substantial benefits to the people, and served only to flatter the ambition of the prince and the pride of his aristocracy.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1413. *April 9.* Henry of Monmouth, the late king's eldest son, crowned at Westminster. On the same day, he granted a general pardon for all crimes except murder and rape; and before he applied himself to public affairs, he dismissed his profligate companions, did penance for his father's sins, particularly the murder of Richard II., and removed his body from Langley to Westminster Abbey. He chose for his council persons of abilities and repute; he removed some of the judges; and founded three religious houses at Richmond, one of Carthusians, another of Celestine monks, and a third of Bregentine nuns, to pray night and day for the repose of his father's soul.

May 15. The parliament met which had been summoned in March, and passed several wholesome statutes; it granted the same subsidies as were granted to Henry IV.

A convocation of the clergy, under the direction of Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury, who were extremely incensed against the Lollards, and procured a proclamation which forbade their holding any meetings, or to be present at their preaching, under penalty of imprisonment and the forfeiture of their effects.

Sir John Oldcastle, baron of Cobham, was deemed a firm adherent of that sect, and was therefore ordered to be prosecuted, but, having been a former companion of the king, they applied to Henry for permission, who suffered him to be cited before the court; but Sir John slighted the citation, and would not suffer it to be served on him, for which the king ordered him to be seized and committed to the Tower.

Sept. 26. A truce agreed on between France and England for one year, in which the Scots are included.

Sept. 28. Sir John Oldcastle was brought before the archbishop, two other bishops, and several ecclesiastics, and evading to answer the questions asked him, was condemned to be delivered to the secular power to be burnt. His death would have immediately followed, but he found means to escape, and retired into Wales, where his persecutors pursued him.

1414. *Jan. 7.* The king surprised the Lollards assembled in St. Giles's fields, killed some, and took others prisoners, among whom were Sir Roger Acton, Beverly the preacher, and five more, who were condemned for heresy, and burnt alive; and an act passed soon after for confiscating the lands and goods of persons convicted of heresy.

April 30. The commons petitioned the king to seize the church lands; they re-

monstrated that the temporalities amounted to 320,000 marks yearly, and would suffice to maintain 15 earls, 1500 knights, 6200 esquires, and 100 hospitals, and 20,000. be brought into the king's treasury; and besides that sum, divers religious houses possessed as many temporalities as would maintain 15,000 priests and clerks, allowing to each seven marks a year. One hundred and ten alien priories were suppressed, and their revenues given to the crown.

July 10. Henry claims the crown of France, as heir of Isabella, daughter of Philip IV. The dauphin, in derision, sent him a tun of tennis balls, thinking him fitter for play than war.

1415. *April 16.* The king assembled the lords, and acquainted them with his intention of recovering "his inheritance" by arms.

May 28. He issued orders to the bishops to put all the clergy in a condition of array suitable to their estates and income. He entered into contracts with his officers, for their own and their soldiers' pay; a duke was to have thirteen shillings and fourpence per day, an earl six shillings and eight pence, a baron four shillings, an esquire or man at arms one shilling, an archer sixpence. A duke was to have fifty horses, an earl twenty-four, a baron sixteen, a knight six, an esquire four, an archer one. They were to be furnished by the contractor, the equipment by the king. Prisoners were to belong to the captors, and two-third parts of the booty to the men, the remaining third to their leaders.

July. A conspiracy against the king detected; Lord Scroop and other conspirators executed.

Aug. 13. The king embarked at Southampton, with 30,000 men, and landed in Normandy, having appointed his brother, the duke of Bedford, regent.

Aug. 17. Harfleur invested by the English.

Sept. 16. Henry sent a challenge to the dauphin, to decide by single combat the difference between France and him, but he received no answer.

Sept. 26. He took Harfleur, and made it an English colony, appointing his uncle, Thomas Beaufort, earl of Dorset, governor: the siege lasted five weeks. Henry, after taking Harfleur, issued a proclamation throughout England, that such persons as would settle there should have houses secured to them and their heirs, upon which numbers went over to reside there.

Oct. 12. Henry arrives at the Somme, which he attempted to pass in the man-

ner of his grandfather, Edward III., but failed. In the march the soldiers suffered greatly from scarcity of provisions, and a dysentery disabled many from bearing arms; the bishop of Norwich and the earl of Suffolk died.

Oct. 19. Harassed by the superior numbers of the enemy, Henry retreated on the road to Calais.

- *Oct. 20.* The French offer battle by a herald, which is accepted, and Henry presented the herald with a robe of 200 crowns value. The French were three times the number of the English. Between the two armies the ground was wet and spongy, and the distance which separated them scarcely exceeded a quarter of a mile.

Oct. 25. The two armies drawn up in order of battle. The chief dependence was placed on the English archers, who struck terror by their savage appearance. Many had stripped themselves naked: some had bared their arms and breast; others were uncovered from the waist downwards. The king put himself at the head of the second line, with a gold crown on his helmet for a crest, and near him the standard of England. At the word, "Banners advance," Sir Thomas Erpingham threw his warder into the air; and the men raising a shout, advanced towards the enemy. Henry fought on foot with great courage. He was charged by a band of eighteen knights, who had bound themselves to each other to kill him or take him prisoner. One of them, with a stroke of his mace, brought the king on his knees; but he was instantly rescued by his guards, and his opponents all slain. At length the duke of Alençon, the French commander, fought his way to the royal standard. With one stroke he beat the duke of York to the ground; with a second he cleaved the crown on the king's helmet. Every arm was instantly uplifted against him. The duke, aware of his danger, exclaimed, "I yield; I am Alençon." Henry held out his hand, but his gallant foe had already fallen. The death of the duke was followed by the flight of the survivors. The English bowmen, as usual, by the strength of their arms and stoutness of their hearts, did much to ensure the victory. As soon as they were within bow-shot, they discharged such showers of their strong arrows of three feet long, that the French knights bent down their heads to avoid them. The cavalry tried to break the English line by a charge. They were repulsed with an array of pikes. The defeat was complete and the slaughter immense. But a deplorable incident sullied the victory of Agincourt. A false alarm having been raised of an attempt to rescue the prisoners, Henry hastily gave orders for an instant massacre of them,

The error was not discovered till after 14,000 had been cruelly butchered.

Nov. 23. The king made his entry into London, and was met by the mayor and aldermen, who presented him with 1000*l.* in gold, in two gold basins, each valued at 500*l.*

A public thanksgiving ordered.

Chichely, the new archbishop of Canterbury, made himself conspicuous this year, by persecuting the Lollards, and his endeavours to reform the morals of the clergy and the laity. He published a decree in all the churches in his province, forbidding barber-surgeons to keep their shops open on the Lord's-day.

1416. April 16. The dauphin was poisoned at Compeigne, and the king was suspected of the deed, to make way for his son; but his brother Charles succeeded him, who, with the constable, persecuted the Burgundians.

Aug. 13. The king sent the duke of Bedford with 20,000 men into France, to relieve Harfleur; the English met the French fleet before that place, obtained a victory, and sunk several of their ships; the constable raised the siege and retired.

Sept. 4. The king embarked at Sandwich with a fleet of forty sail, and arrived at Calais the next day.

Oct. 10. The king concluded a truce with France till February 2, and returned to England to meet the parliament.

Nov. The Emperor Sigismund came into England, and entered into an alliance with Henry against the French, and was installed a knight of the garter.

The king pawned his crown and jewels, to push his conquests, to the bishop of Winchester, his uncle, for 100,000 marks, and part of his jewels to the city of London for 10,000*l.* sterling.

The lord mayor of this year, Sir Henry Burton, was the first to order lanterns to be hung out by night for the convenience and safety of the citizens.

1417. April 14. The king ordered Holborn to be paved, it not being so before.

July. Henry's second expedition into France, with an army of 26,000 men, on board a fleet of 1500 sail; he took Caen, Calais, Falaise, and several other places.

1418. Feb. Sir John Oldcastle is taken, and burnt in St. Giles's fields.

June 12. Massacre in Paris, in which the constable is murdered, with the chancellor and others, to the number of 200.

June 24. A plague broke out in Paris that carried off in three months above 40,000 persons.

1419. Henry gave a commission to John Louth, clerk of the ordnance, and John Ben net, mason, Maidstone, to press a sufficient number of masons to make 7000 cannon

balls, in the quarries of Maidstone Heath. Most of the cannon balls used in the fifteenth century were made of stone. Yet the art of discharging red-hot balls from cannon was known and practised at the siege of Cherbourg in 1418.

Jan. 19. Rouen surrendered. Henry continued to the inhabitants all their privileges, for the sum of 300,000 crowns, and established there his Exchequer and chamber of accounts of the revenues of Normandy.

July 28. Henry took Pontoise, and made a great booty, to the amount of 2,000,000 of crowns.

Aug. 18. The dauphin murdered the duke of Burgundy. He sent the duke of Vendome into Scotland to demand assistance, when 7000 men were levied and sent over, under the command of the earl of Buchan.

Oct. 16. A parliament was held at Westminster, which granted the king one-fifteenth and a half, and one-tenth and a half.

Dec. 24. A second treaty of peace between the French and English, in which it is stipulated, that Henry should marry the Princess Catharine, the French king's daughter; that he should have the regency of France during the French king's life, and succeed him in his throne after his death. The French nobility swear fealty to him.

In this year Sir Richard Whittington filled the chair of the chief magistrate of London a third time, of whom tradition has conveyed many extraordinary stories.

1420. April 18. Henry takes the title of king of France on a new coin.

May 21. The agreement between the kings of England and France was ratified by the French parliament at Paris, and sent to England to be recorded in the court of Exchequer at Westminster.

Lincoln college, in Oxford, founded by Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln, and finished by Robert Rotherham, his successor.

June 2. The kings of England and France make a magnificent entry into Paris.

Henry first instituted garter principal king at arms, at the siege of Sens.

Dec. 2. A parliament was called by Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, at Westminster.

1421. Jan. 16. Henry granted a peace to the Gascon rebels.

Feb. 9. Henry being arrived in England with his queen, she is crowned at Westminster.

May 5. In a convocation at Canterbury, a decree is made, "That a bishop's barber should not demand a fee from those who received holy orders from the bishop."

The parliament confirmed the peace of Troyes, and granted the king a fifteenth from the laity and a tenth from the clergy.

The bishop of Winchester lent the king 20,000*l.* by way of advance.

June 10. Henry goes to France again, and takes several towns from the dauphin. The king carried over a new raised army with him of 28,000 men, for the payment of which he borrowed money of the most noted men of property.

Aug. 30. Henry attacked Dreux, which surrendered upon terms.

Dec. 1. John, duke of Bedford, summoned a parliament, having been left regent, and the convocation of the clergy met and granted the king a tenth, as did the laity a fifteenth.

1422. April. The two courts of England and France were held at Paris, and on Whitsunday the two kings and queens dined together in public.

May 2. The city of Meaux surrendered to the English.

Aug. 31. The king died at Vincennes, in France, of a dysentery, in the thirty-fourth year of his age, and the tenth of his reign, and was buried at Westminster, leaving the duke of Bedford regent in France, and the duke of Gloucester regent of England, during his son's minority.

The queen, in honour of the king's memory, caused a statue of silver, gilt, to be laid on his tomb, as large as life, which in the latter end of Henry VIII. was conveyed away. He was buried at the feet of Edward the Confessor, and his tomb was long visited by the people, in veneration of his memory.

Henry rebuilt the palace of Richmond.

Henry left, by his queen, Catharine of France, only one son, nine months old, whose misfortunes, in the course of his life, surpassed the glories and successes of his father. Catharine, after Henry's death, married a Welshman, named Owen Tudor, which gave great offence to the English and French nobility. Tudor, it is said, was the son of a brewer, and a distant relation of the ancient princes of Wales. The meanness of his origin was compensated by the beauty and delicacy of his person, being reckoned the handsomest man of his time. He had three sons by Catharine; one of whom, Henry VII., afterwards mounted the throne and left it to his posterity.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Henry V. cap. 5. Enacted that knights of shires, citizens, and burgesses, should be resident in the places for which they were chosen.

Cap. 7. The act restraining aliens from taking benefices in England confirmed, and

the lands of the alien priories granted to the crown.

2 Henry V. cap. 7. Enacted that all officers assist in extirpating heresy, and that heretics should not only be burnt, but their lands and goods confiscated.

3 Henry V. cap. 4. Enacts that all provisions, licences, and pardons relating to the disposal of benefices full of incumbents shall be void.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1413. Two-tenths and two-fifteenths, besides a subsidy on wool and leather; three shillings for every tun of wine, and one shilling in the pound for merchandise.

1414. Two-tenths and two-fifteenths, computed to amount to 300,000 marks.

1416. Two-tenths and two-fifteenths.

1418. One-tenth and one-fifteenth.

1419. One-tenth and a-half, and one-fifteenth and a-half.

1421. A fifteenth by the laity and a tenth by the clergy; and in every year, almost, the clergy gave one-third more than the laity, in proportion to their revenues.

1422. In the last year of this reign, a petition being presented to the parliament, showing that the people were impoverished by the war with France, the parliament gave but a fifteenth, and the clergy a tenth, being of opinion, that the conquered provinces ought to maintain the war; whereupon the king pawned his crown and jewels again to raise money, and above 100 convents of the alien priors, which the parliament had given the king, were converted into money.

HENRY VI. A.D. 1422 to 1452.

HENRY became a king in his cradle, and during the thirty-nine years of his nominal sway, he never once interfered in the administration of public affairs, but left them to be managed by his queen and ministers. His defect was imbecility of mind, which totally disqualified him for the duties of government. His private character was unexceptionable; he was pious, chaste, temperate, and loved justice—virtues which, had they been accompanied with the qualifications of a sovereign, would have made him an illustrious prince, in lieu of being only, as Rapin says, “an honest man.”

The events of this protracted minority (for such the entire reign of Henry may be considered) resolve into two distinct portions. The first is the history of the calamitous progress and ignominious failure of the second war for the establishment of the Plantagenets in France, conducted by Henry V. with a splendour of success which hid its impolicy and iniquity from the elated multitude. When Henry VI. was proclaimed king of England and France, Paris and the northern and western provinces were held in his name, and the closest alliance subsisted with the potent duke of Burgundy. The rest of the kingdom adhered to the dauphin, afterwards Charles VII. Generally, the countries between the Loire and the Seine were the theatre of the most active warfare. The exploits of the celebrated Maid of Orleans form an interesting episode in the history of the war, and a remarkable example of enthusiasm, originating in the noblest motives. The more generous superstition of the ancients would have erected altars to her memory, while a savage bigotry, under a senseless accusation, consigned her to the flames.

The commencement of the cruel wars between York and Lancaster form the second portion of Henry's history. This furious civil contest lasted thirty years; was signalized by twelve pitched battles; is computed to have cost the lives of eighty princes of the blood, and almost entirely annihilated the ancient nobility. It rose from the rival claims to the throne of two noble families. The duke of York was descended from a third son of Edward III., whereas Henry VI. derived his descent from the duke of Lancaster, the fourth son of that monarch. The Lancaster settlement

was sanctioned by parliament; but the superior hereditary right of York was indisputable. His pretensions were supported by many of the principal nobility, and by the renowned earl of Warwick, surnamed the King-maker, from the share he took in the events of this bloody period. This nobleman was himself a host. Distinguished by his gallantry in the field, by the magnificence and hospitality of his table, and by the bold and spirited manner which attended him in all his actions, he possessed immense influence. No less than thirty thousand persons are said to have daily lived at his board, in the different manors and castles he possessed in various parts of England. Military men, allured by his magnificence and hospitality, as well as by his bravery, were zealously attached to his interest. The people in general bore him an unlimited affection. His numerous retainers were more devoted to his will than to the prince or the law: and Hume observes, that he was the greatest, as well as the last, of those mighty barons, who formerly overawed the crown, and rendered the people incapable of any regular system of civil government.

The most important law in this reign relates to the election of knights of the shire. After the destruction of the feudal system, every householder paying scot and lot was admitted to give his vote at elections. This was confirmed by statute of 7 Henry IV. c. 15. But in the ninth and tenth of this reign, the elective franchise was limited to such as possessed forty shillings a year in land, free from all burden, within the county. This sum was equivalent to twenty pounds present money. The reason for disfranchising such a large body of electors is thus stated in the preamble to the statute,—“Whereas the elections of knights have of late, in many counties of England, been made by outrages and excessive numbers of people, many of them of small substance and value, yet pretending to a right equal to the best knights and esquires, whereby manslaughter, riots, batteries, and divisions among the gentlemen and other people of the same county shall very likely rise and be, unless due remedy be provided in this behalf.” From the expression “small substance and value,” we may infer, that the possession of property to some amount was necessary under the law of Henry IV. We may further learn, that the election of a member of parliament had now become a matter of great importance and interest; and that that body was beginning to acquire great authority. Indeed, at the commencement of this reign, the lords and commons had not only by their own authority, contrary to the will of Henry V., altered the name, but the constitution of the regency which that prince had appointed.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1422. The new king, the only child of Henry and Catharine, youngest daughter of Charles VI., king of France, was hardly nine months old. He was proclaimed heir to the crown of France. A council of spiritual and temporal peers issued commissions in his name to the sheriffs, judges, and other officers, to continue the exercise of their duties, and parliament was summoned to meet in November.

Henry VI. proclaimed king of France at Paris, and the duke of Bedford takes the title of regent, and caused the French lords to swear allegiance to Henry.

Charles, king of France, dying, the

dauphin took upon him the title of king, by the name of Charles VII., and formed alliances with foreign princes to support his pretensions to his father's throne, notwithstanding he had been disinherited for the murder of the duke of Burgundy.

Commutations were raised in Wales.

A deputation was sent to England from the council of France, to congratulate on the young king's accession to the crown.

Nov. 10. The parliament nominated the members of the council, filled the offices of the crown, and gave the great seal to the bishop of Durham; the duke of Gloucester was appointed protector of the kingdom in

the absence of the dukes of Bedford, who was regent and first councillor to the king, with a salary of 5333*l.* a-year.

1423. *Jan.* 4. Meulan was taken by storm from the English. The French king had near 15,000 Scots in his service.

Feb. The regent again besieged Meulan and caused the town to capitulate.

April. The dukes of Bedford, Bretagne, and Burgundy, and earl of Richemont, had an interview at Amiens, and entered into a league against Charles. To render the union more firm, the duke of Bedford married Ann, the fifth sister of the duke of Burgundy. A battle fought at Crevant, where there were 3000 Scots slain, and many French noblemen. The duke of Milan assisted the French king with 1500 men; who also received an aid of 5000 men from the Scots, under the command of the earl of Douglas.

Parliament passed an act, that no money should be carried out of the kingdom, only for the necessary support of the war.

1424. *Feb.* John Mortimer, uncle to Edmund, earl of Marche, is charged with treason, tried, condemned, and executed.

James, king of Scots, married Joanna, sister to the duke of Somerset, and, first doing homage for the kingdom of Scotland, was set at liberty, after sixteen years' imprisonment. He was to pay 30,000 marks for his ransom, and delivered twenty-eight hostages till paid. A truce was concluded between England and Scotland for seven years.

The regent approached the French army and resolved to wait and give them battle. A dispute arose in the French council of war, concerning the consequences of a battle, and the viscount of Narbonne forced Douglas to give battle to the English. The loss of the French and Scots amounted to 9700 slain, amongst whom was the duke of Narbonne, who died of his wounds. The English lost 2100 of their bravest soldiers.

1425. *Jan.* The duke of Burgundy, wanting to dispossess the duke of Gloucester of Hainault, gave orders for levying an army; he challenged the duke to single combat, which the duke accepted, and appointed St. George's day for the duel.

Great disputes between the bishop of Winchester and the duke of Gloucester, and in a skirmish the bishop had several of his domestics killed.

Dec. 20. The duke of Bedford arrived in England, and left the earl of Warwick to command in his room.

1426. *Feb.* 18. Parliament met at Leicester. It was called the parliament of *bats*. As arms had been forbidden, the servants of the members followed their lords with bats or clubs on their shoulders.

The duke of Gloucester exhibited articles against the bishop of Winchester, in parliament, who declare him innocent. The bishop, however, resigned the great seal, and it was given to the bishop of London.

June. Jacqueline, the duke of Gloucester's duchess, was delivered up to the duke of Burgundy, and all Hainault received the duke of Burgundy for their sovereign.

Sept. She found means to escape into Holland in man's clothes, where the duke of Burgundy carried the war, which lasted during 1427, and part of the next year.

1427. *Feb.* The duke of Bedford returned to France with an army, accompanied by the bishop of Winchester, who had received a cardinal's cap.

The duke of Bedford having laid siege to the town of Pontorson, the lord Seals was sent with 3000 men to get a recruit of provisions, but in their return were encountered by 6000 of the enemy, whom they defeated, and killed 1100 of the French.

1428. *July.* The earl of Salisbury raised 6000 men and went to France, for which the council allowed him, for himself sixpence and eight farthings per day, for each knight banneret four-pence, for each knight bachelor twopence, for every man at arms twelve-pence, and for every archer sixpence. On the earl's arrival in France, the regent gave him command of 16,000 men.

The English besiege Orleans; the French laid in stores, and pulled down in the suburbs twelve churches and several monasteries, that the English might not make use of them.

1429. The siege is continued by the earl of Suffolk, and the lord Talbot.

Feb. 12. The siege having been laid four months, the regent sent a convoy of artillery, ammunition, and provisions, being salt-fish, from Paris, under Sir John Falstaff, the earl of Clermont intercepted him, the English routed him, and slew between five and six hundred of the French: this was called the battle of herrings.

April 29. The famous Joan of Arc, an innkeeper's daughter, twenty years of age, pretends to be sent from God to save the kingdom of France; she relieves Orleans, and obliges the English to raise the siege.

June 18. The English lost 1500 men at the battle of Patay, and 200 made prisoners; Sir John Falstaff ran away with the flying troops, and had the Order of the Garter taken from him, but it was afterwards restored to him.

July 6. Charles, after taking several towns from the English, is crowned at Rheims.

July 16. The duke of Bedford sent

Garber king-at-arms into England, to hasten a reinforcement.

Nov. 6. Henry crowned at Westminster, and the protectorship abolished.

Archbishop Chicheley held a convocation in London, in which delegates were chosen to represent the English church in the council of Basil. Twopence in the pound was granted to defray the expense; and instructions given them to remonstrate against the excesses of papal dispensations; against pluralities, non-residence, and bestowing the highest preferments in the church upon persons hardly passed their minority.

1430. The king embarked for France, the duke of York being appointed regent; for want of money, the king was obliged to pawn his crown and jewels.

Orders were issued for every person worth 40*l.* per annum to take the order of knighthood.

May 25. Joan of Arc taken by the English, and afterwards burnt for a witch at Rouen, May 30, 1431. Twenty-five years later her sentence was reversed by the archbishop of Paris, at the solicitation of her mother Isabella.

Dec. 17. Henry crowned king of France at Paris.

1431. An attempt was made by the regent to deprive the cardinal of Winchester of his bishop's see.

1432. *Feb. 21.* Henry returned into England, being then ten years of age.

1432-3. France is perpetually ravaged and harassed by the contending parties, and England extremely impoverished by taxes to support the war.

1434. A ten-weeks' frost.

1435. *Aug. 6.* A congress was held at Arras to treat of a peace, from which the English withdrew with indignation.

Sept. 13. John duke of Bedford, regent of France, died, and was buried at Rouen. He left the character of a prudent statesman, and a brave and experienced general. The duke of York made regent of France.

1436. *Feb. 27.* Paris is taken before the duke of York's arrival in France.

1437. All this year the war was carried on with vigour on both sides: Charles headed his own army.

Feb. 19. James Stuart (the first of that name), king of Scotland, murdered by his subjects, and his son James, but seven years old, succeeded him.

1438-9. France and England visited by a grievous famine and pestilence. Wheat rose to what was then considered the enormous sum of 3*s.* 4*d.* the bushel. Bread was made of fern roots and ivy berries; though in London the merchants, by importing rye from the Baltic, helped to lessen the scarcity. The number of those

who expired of want and disease was immense. On account of the danger of infection, an Act was passed that no person when he did homage should as usual kiss the king; but the homage should be deemed good in law with the omission of that ceremony. The dearth lasted two years.

A truce for nine years with Scotland.

1439. *March.* The famine and plague ending, both nations took to arms again; the constable Richemont besieged Meaux and took it by storm.

The council of Basil having deposed Eugenius, elected the duke of Savoy to be pope: this produced a schism in the church, and the rival popes cursed and excommunicated each other and their respective followers.

John Beaumont was created viscount Beaumont, being the first of that title in England.

1440. Henry and the duke of Bretagne entered into an alliance, not to suffer any naval armaments to be made in their ports.

The duke of Orleans is ransomed for 120,000 crowns, after 24 years' imprisonment, and engaging not to bear arms against Henry.

1441. King's college in Cambridge, and Eton college founded by Henry VI.

May. The duchess of Gloucester condemned to do public penance for witchcraft for three days in St. Paul's church, and to be imprisoned for life; and Bolingbroke, a priest, for a like offence, was hanged and quartered.

1442. *Jan. 25.* Parliament met, and enacted that no officer of the customs should carry on any trade.

The duke of Gloucester accused the cardinal of Winchester; his accusation consisted of fourteen articles: that he had defrauded the king of the jewels that were pawned to him; that he had accepted of the dignity of a cardinal without the king's permission; that he had assumed too great authority, and had disposed of commissions to improper persons, &c.; but the cardinal was acquitted by the council.

1443. John Wells, the late mayor of London, obtained the king's letters patent for paving the highway near the Savoy, in the Strand, 500 feet. In the same year the common council of the city passed an Act for the better observance of the Sabbath, to prevent buying and selling, and for restraining mechanics from working on the Lord's day.

1444. *May 28.* A truce concluded for eighteen months, between the English and French.

1445. *April 18.* Henry married Margaret of Valois, the daughter of Reyner duke of Anjou, titular king of Sicily, Naples, and Jerusalem: it was solemnized

in the presence of the king and queen of France, the dukes of Orleans and Brittany, 12 knights, 20 bishops, and an innumerable company of spectators.

Sir Simon Eyre, mayor of London, built Leadenhall.

1446. Jan. 24. The truce with France was prolonged to April 1, 1447.

1447. The duke of Gloucester, by the direction of the queen, is arrested at a parliament at St. Edmundsbury, and either died suddenly or was murdered soon afterwards. His body was conveyed to St. Alban's, where it was buried, and over it a splendid monument was afterwards erected, which still remains. The vault wherein he was buried was discovered in queen Anne's reign, before which time it was uncertain. He laid the first foundation of the Bodleian library at Oxford, afterwards increased by Sir T. Bodley, from whom it is named. Thirty-two of the duke's domestics were apprehended and condemned to die, but were all pardoned: of this number, five were drawn to Tyburn, hanged, let down alive, stript naked, marked with a knife to be quartered, and then pardoned. The great opponent of the duke, the cardinal of Winchester, died six weeks afterwards, and was buried at Winchester.

Four clergymen, parsons of parishes in London, taking the low state of education in the city into consideration, and the want of grammar schools, petitioned parliament for leave to them and their successors to set up grammar schools in their respective parishes of Great Alhallowes; St. Andrew, Holborn; St. Peter's, Cornhill; and St. Mary, Colechurch; and to appoint schoolmasters, as is fully set forth in the Tower Rolls, No. 19, 25 Hen. VI. To this it was answered:—"The king wills it to be done as desired; so that it be done by the advice of the ordinary, and rules of the archbishop of Canterbury, for the time being." This first attempt at popular education having succeeded, five more grammar schools were founded in the city in 1455; namely, in St. Paul's churchyard, in St. Martin-le-grand, at Bow church, at St. Dunstan's in the east, and at the hospital of St. Anthony.

The pope sent the king a consecrated rose of gold with a bull; so precious a gift was intended to move the king to exert himself to compel the clergy to pay a tax of one-tenth imposed by his holiness on their benefices. In those days the popes deemed all the clergy in Christendom their subjects, on whom they had a right to impose what taxes they pleased.

1448. The duke of York begins to assert his title to the crown of England. Queen's college in Cambridge begun

by queen Margaret, finished by Elizabeth, queen to Edward IV., in 1465.

The Cape de Verd islands discovered.

1450. The people murmured against the conduct of the queen and the duke of Suffolk. The commons presented to the lords an indictment against him, and the duke was sent to the tower.

April. The duke of Suffolk, having been again impeached, was banished, and afterwards murdered at sea.

May. The duke of York, underhand, foments the insurrection of Jack Cade, an Irishman, in Kent, who assumed the name of Mortimer.

June. Cade was killed, and his followers dispersed.

Aug. The French became masters of all Normandy; upon which the duke of Somerset returned to England, and was blamed by the people for the loss of Normandy, and sent to the Tower, when the people plundered his palace.

1451. The duke of York comes over from his government of Ireland, and has recourse to arms, upon pretence of maladministration. He retired into Wales, and wrote to the king to reform the government and displace some of his ministers, when the king returned him a mild answer.

The whole province of Guienne falls under the dominion of Charles, after being united 300 years to the crown of England, which is dispossessed of every town but Calais.

1452. The duke of York marched towards London, but afterwards came to a treaty with the king, and dismissed his army.

1452. Though lead and tin had long been staple commodities, the English miners were not deemed so skilful as those in Germany. Henry VI. therefore having failed in all his attempts to procure the precious metals by alchemy, brought thirty-three miners from Bohemia to superintend and work the royal mines.

1453. This year was the first lord mayor's show in London.

Constantinople was taken by the Turks.

1454. The duke of York made protector of the realm by the parliament, and governor of Calais. He renewed his complaints against the duke of Somerset, and took him prisoner (April 3) in the queen's lodgings.

John Norman, the lord mayor, goes by water for the first time to Westminster, to qualify for office. His lordship built a stately barge at his own expense for the occasion, and was attended by the several city companies, which had also built barges in imitation of their chief magistrate, and adorned them with flags and banners.

1455. The king recovering from the illness which had caused insanity, resumes his authority, and released the duke of Somerset.

March 4. The duke of York raised an army in Wales, and marched towards London.

May 23. He gave battle to the king's forces near St. Alban's, and routed them, killing the duke of Somerset, the earls of Northumberland and Stafford, and the lord Clifford, upon the spot, and made the king his prisoner, who lost 5000 men, and York 600.

Attorneys are so numerous in Norfolk and Suffolk, that an act was passed limiting their number to six in each county, and two in the city of Norwich.

The arts of spinning, throwing, and weaving silk were practised by a company of women in London, called *silk-women*.

They petitioned parliament this year against the competition of the Lombards, and an act was passed prohibiting the import of laces, ribbons, and such narrow fabrics as were manufactured by them. About twenty-five years later, men began to engage in the silk manufacture, which had before been performed entirely by women.

A quarrel happened in London between some Englishmen and Italians, and the English rifled several Italian houses, for which many were taken and executed.

The queen took the king into the north, under pretence of his health, and endeavoured to ensnare the dukes of York and Warwick, who had notice of her designs.

1457. The French infested the sea coasts, and the Scots the borders.

1458. *March 24.* An accommodation between the king and the Yorkists, at London.

Aug. 28. The French landed 4000 men at Sandwich, and plundered the town; also at Fowey in Cornwall, which they plundered.

Printing was practised publicly about this time, said to be invented by John Guttenburgh, of Mentz in Germany, about ten years before. It was brought into England by William Caxton, a mercer of London, A.D. 1473.

The king invited the duke of York and his adherents to court, which he accepted, and came, joined by his friends, with a numerous retinue. Both parties go in procession to St. Paul's, and the queen walked with the duke of York. The duke retired from court.

1459. A quarrel happening between a servant of the king, and another of the earl of Warwick, the war broke out afresh, and the earl of Salisbury defeated the king's troops under the Lord Audley at

Bloreheath, September 23, Lord Audley himself being killed in the engagement.

Engraving and etching invented this year.

John Rouse, of Warwick, who declaimed violently against the nobility and gentry as "depopulators," petitioned the parliament, assembled at Coventry, against the enclosure of lands.

1460. *July 9.* The Yorkists follow the king to Northampton, where a battle was fought; the king's army was routed, the duke of Buckingham and the earl of Salisbury killed, and the king made prisoner.

The duke of York was proclaimed, by the sound of trumpet, heir-apparent to the crown and protector of the realm.

Nov. 8. It was agreed in parliament, that Henry should enjoy the crown during his life, and that the duke of York should succeed him.

Dec. 2. York marched against the queen with 5000 men only. He shut himself up in his castle of Sandal, near Wakefield, where the queen provoked him to come out and give battle, when 2800 of his men were slain, and himself killed in the engagement, December 30.

1461. *Feb.* The queen demanded provisions of the mayor of London, which the mob opposed.

Feb. 2. Edward, earl of March, engaged the king's forces, under the earl of Pembroke, and routed them at Mortimer's cross, near Ludlow, killing 3800 of their men, and Owen Tudor being taken prisoner was beheaded.

Feb. 17. The queen defeated the duke of Norfolk and the earl of Warwick at Bernard's Heath, near St. Alban's, and set the king at liberty; but the earl of March, now duke of York, advancing toward London with a superior force, she retired northwards.

Feb. 28. The earl of March entered London, and his friends, in particular the earl of Warwick, gained the people to proclaim him king.

March 2. York proclaimed king, in the camp; and this is reckoned the last day of Henry's reign.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1422. A subsidy of 33s. 4d. on every sack of wool exported, with the usual tunnage and poundage, for two years.

1423. The same duties as the year before, for two years.

1425. The like duties granted.

1427. Tunnage and poundage for two years; and on every parish 6s. 8d. for every twenty nobles' annual rent; and 6s. 8d. on every person that held a knight's fee, and so proportionably.

1449. The subsidy on wool, tunnage and poundage, continued; with one-tenth and one-fifteenth. Every person that held a knight's fee was to pay 20s.; and all persons having land to the annual value of 20*l.* to pay 20s.

The clergy to pay for all lands purchased since 20 Edw. 1.

1432. The subsidy on wool, and tunnage and poundage continued, and half a tenth and half a fifteenth granted.

1433. One-tenth and one-fifteenth, a subsidy on wool, tunnage and poundage, for two years.

1435. The like duties, and sixpence in the pound on land.

1439. One-tenth, one-fifteenth, and half a fifteenth, a subsidy on wool, tunnage and poundage; aliens to pay 16*d.* for every house, every other alien 6*d.*

1445. One-tenth and a half, and one-fifteenth and a half; a subsidy on wool, tunnage and poundage.

1448. One-tenth, one-fifteenth, tunnage and poundage, for five years; a subsidy on wool for four years; 16*d.* on every alien housekeeper; 6*d.* on other aliens; 6*d.* on every foreign merchant, and 20*d.* on each of their clerks.

1449. Every person having lands, annuity, or office, of the annual value of 20s. to pay 6*d.*, and under 20*l.* to pay 20*d.* in the pound; from 20*l.* to 200*l.* per annum, 12*d.* in the pound; all above 200*l.* per annum, to pay 2s. in the pound, as well clergy as laity.

1453. One-tenth and a half and one-fifteenth and a half, tunnage and poundage, (first granted for the king's life) a subsidy on wool, viz., 1*l.* 3s. 4*d.* a sack on denizens; and 5*l.* on every sack exported by aliens; on every foreign merchant housekeeper, 40s. per annum; and on every foreign merchant, being no denizen, 6*l.* 13s. 4*d.* per annum.

Already the public expenditure greatly exceeded the income. In 1453 the receipts fell short of the expenses of government, to the amount of 35,000*l.*, chiefly in consequence of the war. The ordinary revenue of the crown had dwindled to 50,000*l.*, and it became necessary to make parliamentary provision for the support of the royal household. The extraordinary revenue which was generally granted by parliament consisted of customs on wool and skins, and the tunnage and poundage, which yielded on the average about 27,000*l.* The king's debts, at the close of this reign, amounted to 372,000*l.*

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

8 Hen. VI. cap. 1. The clergy in convocation to have the same privileges as members of parliament.

Cap. 7. Knights of shires to be resident, and seized of freehold lauds in their respective counties, of the value of forty shillings per annum, and every elector to have forty shillings per annum freehold.

Cap. 29. Juries for the trial of aliens to be one half foreigners.

12 Hen. VI. cap. 1. No inhabitant of the stews in Southwark to be on a jury, or keep a public-house.

18 Hen. VI. cap. 11. A justice of peace must be seized of lands of twenty pounds per annum.

23 Hen. VI. cap. 8. No man shall be sheriff, or under-sheriff, more than one year.

Cap. 15. Method of electing members of parliament prescribed: the sheriff who makes a false return to forfeit 100*l.* to the party grieved.

39 Hen. VI. cap. 7., recites, That whereas there were eighty attorneys and upwards in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, there should be but six in Norfolk, six in Suffolk, and two in Norwich, for the future.

LEARNED MEN, A. D. 1216 to 1400.

Robert Grouthead, or Greathead, was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, 1235, died Oct. 9, 1253. He was originally a poor boy, patronized by the mayor of Lincoln, by whose favour he was enabled to pursue his studies at the universities, and became a distinguished theologian and mathematician. He was a voluminous writer, and boldly opposed the papal corruptions.

Roger Bacon, born near Ilchester, 1214, died at Oxford, June 11, 1292: called by his contemporaries "the wonderful doctor." His attainments in languages and morals, and his surprising discoveries in natural philosophy, show him to have been a most extraordinary genius. The novelty of his researches alarmed the prejudices of the monks of his order, who kept him nearly twenty years in confinement, as a magician; but Bacon was too good a philosopher to affect to work miracles, or to deal in magic. Many of his writings are still in manuscript, in the king's library: his "Opus Magus," his "Thesaurus Chemicus," and his "Treatise on the Infirmities of Old Age," have been published; the first by Dr. Jebb, in 1773.

Michael Scot, of Balwirie, obtained the title of mathematician among the learned, and of magician among the vulgar. He was a celebrated linguist, and made an excellent translation of some of the writings of Aristotle. He lived to a great age, and died about 1290.

John Duns Scotus was so celebrated for his learning, that England, Scotland, and Ireland contended for the honour of his birth.

His ingenious defence of the immaculate conception obtained for him the title of "the subtle doctor;" and his Lectures on the sentences of Peter Lombard, at Oxford, were immensely popular. Thirty thousand students are said to have congregated at this ancient seat of learning. About twenty different authors wrote commentaries on the works of this famous schoolman. Both text and comment, however, are now forgotten, or only remembered as an example of great talents, wasted on theological absurdities. Scotus died in 1308, in the prime of life, and is said to have been prematurely buried. A complete edition of his works was published at Lyons, in 1639, in twelve volumes, folio.

William Oakham, the founder of a sect of schoolmen, called Oakhamists, was born at Oakham, in Surrey, 1280; died at Capua in 1350. He was a learned and zealous controversialist, who, in the early part of his life, boldly impugned the supremacy of the pope, but afterwards recanted. In the quaint bombast of the times he was called "the singular and invincible doctor."

John Wickliff, a most famous divine, and the founder of the Protestant reformation in England. He was born near the River Tees, in Yorkshire, in a parish whence he takes his name. His writings were numerous, but most of them remain in manuscript in the public libraries of Oxford, Cambridge, and Lambeth. His version of the Scriptures has never been printed. A copy of this translation, beautifully written and illuminated, formed part of the collection of manuscripts of the late Dr. Adam Clarke, and had the arms of the unfortunate Thomas-a-Woodstock, youngest son of Edward III., whose property it appears once to have been, engraven at the top of the first page. Wickliff was a bold and original speculator, in both religion and politics, and that he exerted an influence on the age in which he lived may be known from the fact, that the council of Constance ordered his bones to be dug up and burnt on the score of heresy. He died of paralysis, at his rectory of Lutterworth, on the 31st of December, 1384, aged sixty.

Matthew Paris, an English historian, was a Benedictine monk, in the monastery of St. Alban's, and died 1259. He was well versed in the learning of the age, and a man of rare integrity, freely censuring all that he found wrong, in all orders of people, without regard to rank or power. His principal work is the "Historia Major," of which we have only remaining the annals of eight kings, from the beginning of the Conqueror's reign to that of Henry III., the latter years being added, it is supposed, by a monk of the same monastery. It is a valuable history, bating its superstitious

narratives, and in one view may be deemed valuable for these.

Among the monkish historians, and nearly contemporary with the last, were Thomas Wykes, Walter Hemmingford, Robert de Avesbury, and Nicholas Trivet. Their writings are little known, and of no great authority. Neither did the next two centuries produce any historical writer of especial merit among the chroniclers and annalists of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Walsingham, Otterburne, and Rous are most to be considered. The best narrators of many contemporary events were French gentlemen, Froissart, Philip de Comines, Argenton, and Monstrelet.

Sir John Gower was a poet of the fourteenth century, and, it is said, attained the rank of chief justice of the Common Pleas. He is more remarkable for his antiquity, than his merits as a writer, possessing no claim to genius or invention. Chaucer calls him the "moral Gower." He died at an advanced age, in 1402, and was buried at the conventual church of St. Mary Overy, Southwark, to which he had been a benefactor, and where his tomb is still to be seen.

Geoffry Chaucer's improvements in versification and English diction, have earned him the title of "father of English poetry." He was a man of shining endowments, remarkably handsome in person, elegant in manners, and an universal scholar. Being brother-in-law to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, he was much about the courts of Edward III. and Henry IV., and sharing the vicissitudes of his noble relatives, helped to give the knowledge of life and versatility which distinguish his writings. Chaucer spent the last ten years of his time at Donnington Castle, and dying in 1400, at the age of seventy-two, was buried in Westminster Abbey. His works remained long in manuscript, Caxton first publishing his "Canterbury Tales" in 1476.

Sir Thomas Littleton, descended of an ancient and honourable family of Worcestershire, was an eminent judge of the court of Common Pleas in 1466. In his leisure hours he composed his learned and useful work on English tenures of land. He died in 1481, leaving three sons to share his ample fortune.

Sir John Fortescue was a learned judge and judicial writer, and a principal counsellor in the court of Henry VI. In 1463, he fled with queen Margaret and her followers to Flanders, and during his exile composed his celebrated treatise *De Laudibus Legum Angliæ*. Returning to England, he is said to have purchased a pardon of Edward IV. by the retraction of a paper he had written against the title of the House of York. His tract on the

difference between an "Absolute and Limited Monarchy" is valuable, not only as a specimen of the English of the time, but on account of the many curious particulars it contains concerning the constitution of England, and the condition of its inhabitants.

James I. of Scotland was one of the most learned and ingenious princes of his time. During his long imprisonment in England by Henry V., books formed his companions, and study his amusement. Some of the verses of this unfortunate prince have been preserved (see p. 79), and are remarkable for tenderness and elegance.

The earl of Worcester, in the reign of Henry VI., was distinguished by his genius and love of learning. He translated Cicero *De Amicitia*, and his treatise *De Senectute*; both of which translations were printed by Caxton in 1481. The earl was beheaded by the Yorkists on Tower Hill, Oct. 15, 1470.

Earl Rivers, who was beheaded at Pomfret in 1483, may also be included among the men of letters of this period. He made several translations from the French, which were printed by Caxton; and composed some ballads, that are lost, on the seven deadly sins.

SEMINARIES OF LEARNING,

A.D. 1216 to 1458.

The zeal for learning, according to Roger Bacon, had never been greater than in the time in which he wrote in the thirteenth century. All the cathedral, conventual and other schools, the establishment of which has been noticed (p. 44), still continued to flourish. Attempts were made to improve the constitution of the national universities, by obviating those frequent causes of quarrel between the students and citizens relative to the rent of houses. This was most effectually done by some generous persons erecting large houses for the gratuitous lodging of both teachers and scholars. They also made provision for poor scholars, by endowing these houses with lands and revenues for the maintenance of indigent students and their teachers. These steps succeeded so well, that the founding of colleges became the prevailing taste of the rich and benevolent in this age, as the founding of monasteries had been in a former period. In consequence, a great many noble halls and colleges were erected, and endowed in both universities, between the middle of the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries.

In Oxford the following colleges were founded:—

1249. *University college*, by William, archdeacon of Durham.

1268. *Baliol college*, by John Baliol, father of the king of Scotland.

1264. *Merton college*, for twenty scholars and three priests, by Walter Merton, bishop of Rochester.

1315. *Exeter college*, by Stapleton, bishop of Exeter.

1324. *Oriel college*, by Edward II. and his almoner Adam de Brown.

1340. *Queen's college*, by Robert Kuglesfield.

1366. *New college*, by William of Wickham.

1430. *Lincoln college*, by Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln.

1437. *All Souls college*, by Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury.

1458. *Magdalen college*, by Patten, bishop of Winchester.

During the same period the following halls and colleges were founded in Cambridge, namely, Peter house, Michael college, University hall, King's hall, Clare hall, Pembroke hall, Corpus Christi college, Trinity hall, Gonvil hall, King's college, Queen's college, Katherine hall.

Two school foundations of great celebrity were established in this period; namely, in 1387, Winchester college, for "seventy poor and indigent scholars," by William of Wickham; in 1441, Eton college, by Henry VI., for the same number of "poor and indigent scholars."

The youth of Scotland, in the middle age, were obliged to travel for improvement, having no university in their own country. This inconvenience continued till 1410, when a few men of letters in St. Andrew's formed themselves into a voluntary society, and generously offered to teach those sciences then usually taught in universities, to all who chose to attend their lectures. Crowds of students attended the lectures, and Henry Wardlaw, bishop of St. Andrew's, encouraged by their success, granted a charter to the lecturers, constituting them an university for the study of "divinity, law, medicine, and the liberal arts." This charter is dated February 27, 1411, and was confirmed by the pope.

In 1444, James Kennedy, the successor of Wardlaw in the see, founded the college of St. Salvator, and endowed it with competent revenues for a principal, six fellows, and six poor scholars.

The example of St. Andrew's was followed by Glasgow; and in 1450 a bull was obtained from the pope, establishing an university in that city for study in all lawful faculties, with all the honours and immunities of the pope's own university at Bononia. The bishop of Glasgow and his successors were constituted perpetual chancellors of the university; and the degrees and honours conferred by it were to be sustained by every other university.

EDWARD IV. A.D. 1461 to 1483.

EDWARD had many qualities suited to the turbulent period in which he reigned. Bold, active, enterprising, was more splendid and showy, than either prudent or virtuous, and less fitted to prevent evils by wise precautions, than to remedy them after they took place by vigour and enterprise. He was very fond of pleasure; and though brave, suspicious, and inaccessible to any movements of compassion which might relax his energy in the prosecution of the most bloody revenge on his enemies. In his person, till he grew unwieldy, he was the handsomest man of his time; his noble mien, affability, free and easy air, prepossessed every one in his favour. He had, however, many vices; was false, cruel, and extremely incontinent, so much so, that, according to Rapin, his whole life was a continued scene of lust. He had many mistresses, especially three, of whom he said, 'One was the merriest, the other the wittiest, and the third the holiest, for she was always in a church but when he sent for her.'

War and devastation formed the chief national occupation. The contest between the rival houses of York and Lancaster still continued; and during the sanguinary struggle, the scaffold as well as the field streamed with the noblest blood of England. Abroad this memorable civil broil was known by the name of the war between the two roses; the partisans of the house of Lancaster having chosen the *red rose* as their badge of distinction, those of York the *white rose*.

Among the king's mistresses was the celebrated Jane Shore. She was born of respectable parents in London; but views of interest more than the maid's inclinations had been consulted in her marriage, and her mind, though formed for virtue, was unable to resist the allurements of the gay and amorous Edward. Her subsequent reverses—her doing penance in St. Paul's, and miserable death, are well known. It is said she perished of hunger in a ditch, which originated the name of a district of the metropolis. She was seen by Sir Thomas More so late as the reign of Henry VIII., poor, decrepit, and shrivelled, with no trace of that beauty which once excited the envy and admiration of the court.

Thomas Parr, celebrated for longevity, was born in this reign. He was brought to London by Lord Arundel, in 1635, and introduced to Charles II.; but the change of situation, and his altered mode of life, particularly drinking wine, soon proved fatal to a constitution supported by more abstemious habits, and he died the same year, aged 152. He had been brought up to husbandry.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1461. Edward, eldest surviving son of Richard duke of York (son of Richard earl of Cambridge, and Anne his wife, who was daughter of Roger earl of March, the son of Edmund Mortimer, and Philippa his wife, who was daughter of Lionel duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward III.), succeeded to the crown in the nineteenth year of his age.

March 3. *Te Deum* sung in Westminster abbey, after which Edward returned to St. Paul's, and lodged in the bishop's palace.

12. Arrives at Pontefract to oppose the Lancasterians. His army amounted to 49,000 men. That of queen Margaret, who with her husband and son were in the city of York, amounted to 60,000, commanded by the duke of Somerset.

A tradesman was beheaded for saying he would make his son heir of his house.

29. Palm Sunday, Edward obtained a great victory over Henry's forces at Towton in Yorkshire, where were slain 36,776; whereupon Henry, with his queen and son,

retired into Scotland, and delivered up Berwick to the Scots.

30. Edward marched into York, and had his father's head taken down from the walls, where it had been placed, and the duke of Devonshire's put in its room.

The queen embarked for France, to solicit supplies of Lewis, and left her husband, Henry, in the Grey Friars, Edinburgh.

June 29. Edward crowned at Westminster.

Nov. 6. Parliament met and confirmed Edward's title, passing a sweeping bill of attainder against the adherents of Henry VI. Among others condemned of the Lancaster party, was John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and his son, who disputed, in a former parliament, the question about the precedence of temporal and spiritual barons, and by his arguments carried it for the lords temporal. Edward confirmed the privileges of the clergy; exempting them from being prosecuted in civil courts for felony and other offences. Playing at cards and dice prohibited, except during the twelve days at Christmas.

1463. Queen Margaret landed in the north of England, and went to Berwick.

Edward gives his friends the estates of the rebels, and makes himself very popular.

1464. King Henry, betrayed by a monk, is taken in disguise and carried prisoner to the Tower, with his legs tied under the horse's belly.

1465. Feb. Edward privately married the lady Elizabeth Grey, the widow of sir John Grey; this match and the favour shown to the family of the new queen, are supposed to have alienated Warwick from the king's interest.

1466. Feb. 11. Edward's queen delivered of a daughter, named Elizabeth, afterwards married to Henry VII., whereby the families of York and Lancaster were united.

1467. Edward marries his sister Margaret to the duke of Burgundy. Warwick withdraws from court, but conceals his designs.

1468. Edward renewed an alliance with the king of Aragon; and sent him a present of some ewes and rams, and gave liberty for the exportation of Cotswold sheep to Spain.

1469. July 26. Warwick defeats Edward's forces at Danesmoor, near Banbury.

1470. March. The earl of Warwick surprises Edward in his camp, takes him prisoner, and commits him to the care of his brother, the archbishop of York. Both the rival kings were now in prison; Henry in the Tower, and Edward in Middleham castle, Yorkshire. Edward soon after ob-

tained his liberty, but by what means historians are not agreed.

Nov. 6. A parliament is called, by which Henry, after three years' imprisonment, is released from the Tower, re-instated in the government, the succession settled in his family, and Edward is attainted as a traitor and usurper.

1471. March. Edward assisted by the duke of Burgundy lands in Yorkshire.

April 11. Edward takes possession of London again (being about six months after his leaving it), and imprisoned king Henry.

April 14. Easter Sunday, Edward obtained a great victory over the earl of Warwick at Barnet; in which battle the earl himself, his brother the marquis of Montague, were killed, and on both sides 10,000 men. Warwick's body, with that of Montague's, was exposed three days in St. Paul's, and then deposited among the ashes of his forefathers in the abbey of Bilsam.

Queen Margaret, with her son Edward, landed at Weymouth, and raised forces against Edward.

May 4. Battle of Tewkesbury, in which Edward took Henry's only son prisoner, and suffered him to be killed in his presence.

May 6. The duke of Somerset, the prior of St. John's, and many others, beheaded.

June 20. King Henry is murdered in the Tower, in the fiftieth year of his age; he was buried first at Chertsey Abbey, thence removed, and solemnly interred at Windsor.

1472. Edward was now without a competitor for the crown. He got the lords to take the oaths to his son. Queen Margaret, who had been taken prisoner, was ransomed by her father, and died in France, in 1482.

A plague in England this year carried off more than the fifteen years' war.

1473. Printing introduced into England by William Caxton, a mercer, and one of the most worthy and ingenious men of his time. Caxton had been employed by Edward IV. on the continent, to negotiate a treaty of commerce with the duke of Burgundy, and at Cologne made himself master of the art of printing. Assisted by Thomas Milling, abbot of Westminster, he set up a printing press in the almonry of the abbey, and in March, 1474, produced a small book, translated by himself out of French, called "The Game of Chess," which is the first book known with certainty to be printed in England. Printing with wooden types had been practised in 1430, by Lawrentius Coster, keeper of the cathedral of Haerlem; and in 1441, John Geinsfleisch, of Mentz, invented metal types.

The royal chapel at Windsor founded this year, by Edward.

1474. Edward joins the duke of Burgundy in a war against France.

1475. *May 26.* Edward assembles his troops at Portsmouth, to the number of 30,000, all Englishmen.

June 20. He embarked, and left his son, the prince of Wales, guardian of the realm.

July. Edward, having entered France, found the duke of Burgundy had deceived him.

Sept. The king and his army returned.

1476. *Jan.* The parliament met and created Richard, the king's second son, duke of York.

1477. The king made a circuit with his judges, and applied himself to the administration of justice and filling his coffers. The country was overrun with numerous gangs of robbers, and the king accompanied the judges of assize, to prevent their being insulted or intimidated, and to secure the execution of their sentences.

1478. The duke of Clarence is attainted in parliament, and afterwards privately murdered in the Tower. He had the choice of his death, and chose to be drowned in a but of Malmsey wine, and was buried at Tewkesbury. *March 11.*

A treaty of trade and commerce was concluded between England and Burgundy.

A great plague in England this year, which began in September and ended in November.

1479. War with Scotland.

1480. This year spent in negotiating marriages for the king's two daughters, Anne and Elizabeth.

1481. James, king of Scotland, caused one of his brothers to be murdered for speaking too freely of his conduct; and imprisoned another.

Thomas Parr was born this year, noted for his extraordinary great age. He lived till he was 152 years old.

1482. Edward took Berwick, and marched to Edinburgh, where a peace was concluded.

During the Scottish campaign, posts were first established in England. Horsemen were placed at the distance of twenty miles from each other, on the road from Scotland to England. They delivered the dispatches from one to another, at the rate of 100 miles a day.

1483. *April 9.* Edward died of a surfeit at Westminster, in the twenty-first year of his reign, and the forty-second of his age, and was nobly interred at Windsor, in the new chapel, the foundation of which he had laid.

Immediately after his death he was exposed on a board, naked from the waist upwards, during ten hours, that he might be seen by all the lords, and by the mayor and aldermen of London.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1455. Tunnage and poundage granted the king for life, and a subsidy on wool and leather.

1468. Two-tenths and two-fifteenths granted.

1471. The commons granted that 14,000 archers should serve the king at their own charge; one-tenth and one-fifteenth also granted.

1473. One-tenth and one-fifteenth, and 51,170*l.* for the payment of the wages of the 14,000 archers, which was levied proportionably on every county, city, and town.

1482. One-tenth and one-fifteenth, and a subsidy to be levied on strangers and denizens; also an annual revenue of 11,000*l.* out of the customs. This king had a great many other ways of raising money, particularly by confiscating the estates of the noblemen of the opposite party; by resuming the grants of former kings; by prosecuting the subjects upon penal statutes, and extorting large sums from delinquents. He also raised great sums by privy seals and benevolences, borrowing from those who had any reputation for wealth, according to their respective abilities. He received also large sums from France, to induce him to withdraw his troops from that kingdom, and consent to a truce.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

3 Edw. IV. cap. 3. An act prohibiting the importation of wrought silk.

Cap. 4. An act prohibiting the importation of all such manufactures as were made in England.

Cap. 5. An act for restraining the excess of apparel, and prescribing what every class of men should wear.

4 Edw. IV. cap. 7. An act prohibiting the wearing of shoes with long piked toes.

The goodly provision made for the installation feast of George Neville, archbishop of York, in 1466.

Wheat, quarters	300
Ale, tuns	300
Wine, tuns	100
Ipocrasse, pipes	1
Oxen	104
Wild bulls	6
Muttons	1000
Veales	304
Porkes	304
Swannes	400
Geese	2000
Cappons	1000
Piggs	2000
Plovers	400
Quailes	1200

Fowles, called rees	2400	Parted dishes of jellies	1000
Peacocks	104	Plain dishes of jellies	3000
Mallards and teales	4000	Cold tarts, baked	4000
Cranes	204	Cold custards, baked	3000
Kidds	204	Hot pasties of venison	1500
Chickens	2000	Hot custards	2000
Pigeons	2000	Pikes and breams	308
Connies	4000	Porpoises and seals	12
Bittors	204	Spices, sugared delicacies and wafers, plenty.	
Heronshaws	400		
Pheasants	200	This curious bill of fare affords some	
Partridges	500	idea of the magnitude of ecclesiastical	
Woodcocks	400	feasts in the reign of Edward IV. No	
Curlews	100	turkeys are mentioned in it, because they	
Egrets	1000	were not then known in England. Cranes,	
Stags, bucks and roes	500	heronshaws, porpoises, and seals are seldom	
Pasties of venison, cold	4000	seen at modern entertainments.	

EDWARD V. A.D. 1483.

THIS prince succeeded, but from his tender age, and never having been crowned, can hardly be said to have reigned over England. He was only eleven years old on the death of his father, and within nine weeks and three days after he was murdered, along with his brother, the duke of York, by order of his uncle Richard, the crooked duke of Gloucester. The duke, who afterwards usurped the throne, sent an express to Sir Robert Brackenbury, governor of the Tower, to murder the princes. Brackenbury, having a little more conscience than his master, returned a submissive answer, but withal told him he should not be able to execute his commands. The protector was then at Warwick, and enraged to be deceived in his opinion of that officer, sent him, by Sir James Tyrrel, a written order, to deliver the keys and government of the Tower into the hands of the bearer for one night. Brackenbury obeyed, and Tyrrel introduced Forest, a known assassin, and Dighton his groom, to execute the protector's orders. In the night, while all were asleep, they went into the room where the princes slept, and smothering them in their bed, caused them to be buried under a little staircase. This is what Tyrrel, who was executed in the reign of Henry VII., afterwards confessed. In 1674, while some alterations were making in the White Tower, some bones were found in a wooden chest, supposed to be those of the murdered princes. They were put in a marble urn, and, by the order of Charles II., removed to Westminster Abbey.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1483. *April 9.* Edward, eldest son of Edward IV., by Elizabeth, the widow of Sir John Gray, of Grooby, and daughter of Sir Richard Woodville (afterwards Earl Rivers), succeeded his father at the age of eleven years.

At Edward's accession to the throne there existed two parties at court, the old and new nobility; it was the latter who chiefly adhered to the young king, and who having been raised from the rank

of knights and esquires, through the influence of the queen over Edward IV., excited the jealousy of the ancient aristocracy. The great object of the conspiracy, headed by the dukes of Gloucester and Buckingham, both of whom were allied by blood to the crown, was to seize the government by the ruin of the Woodvilles, who were considered an upstart family. Accordingly Gloucester ordered the arrest of Earl Rivers, and other friends of the

queen, and got the young king, his nephew, into his power; upon which, the queen, with her other son, Richard, and five daughters, took sanctuary in Westminster.

A tumult arose in London, which was appeased by Lord Hastings, a favourite of the citizens.

May 4. The king brought to London with much show of respect by Gloucester, and lodged in the bishop's palace. Gloucester and the lords did homage to Edward.

May 29. Gloucester prevailed upon the council to appoint him protector of the king and kingdom, and upon the queen to deliver up her son Richard, duke of York; whereupon he secured him with his brother Edward in the Tower.

The protector took the great seal from Archbishop Rotherham, and gave it to the bishop of Lincoln. He caused two councils to be formed; one, consisting of his own partizans, met at Crosby-place, his residence, in London; the other, consisting of Lord Hastings and other friends of the king, met at the Tower.

June 13. The protector holds a council in the Tower, at which the Lords Hastings and Stanley, and the bishops of York and Ely, are arrested. The three last were confined in separate cells; Hastings was led out and immediately beheaded at the door of the chapel. A proclamation was issued the same afternoon, announcing that Hastings and his friends had conspired to put to death Gloucester and Buckingham, who had miraculously escaped the snare laid for them. A proclamation was also issued to the citizens, that the king's coronation was unavoidably postponed.

June 15. Ratcliffe, one of the boldest partizans of Gloucester, beheads Lord Rivers, Lord Gray, Sir Thomas Vaughan, and Sir Richard Hawse, at Pomfret Castle.

June 19. A proclamation issued in the northern counties, charging the queen and her adherents with traitorous designs against the protector and "the old royal blode of the realm."

Reports spread against the legitimacy of the late king, and the protector sets up for

the patron and avenger of public morals. Jane Shore, concubine to Edward IV., and afterwards to Hastings, is obliged to do penance in St. Paul's for infidelity to her husband, Gloucester having first seized her plate and jewels.

On the same day Gloucester married Lady Anne, youngest daughter of Richard Nevil, the great earl of Warwick, and widow of Prince Edward, son of Henry VI.

June 22. Dr. Shaw, brother of the lord mayor, preaches at Paul's cross, from the text—"Bastard slips shall not thrive;" illustrating his sermon by adverting to the libertinism of the late king, and trying to make it appear, that doubts might be entertained of the legality of Edward's second marriage with Elizabeth Woodville. The doctor's discourse failed of the intended effect, and he slunk away to his house; from which, it is said, he never after ventured, pining away through shame and remorse.

June 24. Buckingham, attended by several lords and gentlemen, harangue the citizens from the hustings, at Guildhall. A few hirelings exclaim—King Richard; which the duke adopted as the assent of the meeting, and invited them to accompany him next day to Baynard's Castle, the residence of the protector.

June 25. Petition presented to the protector to accept the crown, to which he accedes, after having his scruples overcome by the eloquence of Buckingham. This petition appears as that of the lords spiritual and temporal and commons of the realm, and was embodied in an act of parliament, which still exists.

June 26. Richard places himself on the marble seat in Westminster, observing that he chose to commence his reign in the great hall, because the administration of justice was the first duty of a king; and ordered a proclamation to be issued, pardoning all offences up to that hour. He afterwards went to St. Paul's, where he was received by the clergy in procession, and welcomed with the acclamations of the people. Two days after, the archbishop of York and Lord Stanley were released; the latter made lord steward of the household.

RICHARD III. A.D. 1483 to 1485.

RICHARD'S ill-gotten crown was soon snatched from his head by the decisive victory of Bosworth. He reigned little more than two years, and was in the thirty-fourth year of his age when he ended his blood-stained career. After the battle the crown was found in a field by a soldier, who brought it to Lord Stanley, who immediately placed it on the head of Henry, earl of Richmond, congratulating him on his victory, and saluting him king.

From that time Henry assumed the regal office ; as if that ceremony alone was sufficient to establish his right to the crown.

Richard was the last of the Plantagenets, a family which had inherited the throne for the space of three hundred years. After his death the two houses of York and Lancaster were united by the marriage of Richmond with the heiress of the house of York, and an end put to the great national feud which had long desolated the kingdom.

Of Richard it has been said that he was well qualified for sovereignty, had he legally obtained it, and that he committed no crimes, but such as were necessary to secure him the crown. But this is a feeble extenuation when it is admitted that he was ready to commit the most dreadful enormities for the attainment of his object ; and his courage and capacity are a poor atonement to society for the frightful example of successful crime he offers to ambitious men. His character is rendered further odious by the acts of hypocrisy and dissimulation with which he sought to hide his criminality from the world. These are usually the accompaniments of weaker minds, but Richard did not disdain to practise them, and pursued his diabolical course under a sanctified mask of religion and morality.

Attempts have been made to relieve his memory of a portion of the guilt with which it is loaded ; but the arguments advanced are more ingenious than conclusive. That he was the author of the death of Hastings and of the Woodvilles is allowed ; but it is inferred, from a discrepancy of dates, that he could not have given instructions for the death of Edward and the duke of York. Having committed one great crime, it is not likely he would permit a second to stand in the way of his ambition. The death of the young princes in the Tower was a natural sequel to the death of Hastings and the Pomfret tragedy, and removed the only remaining obstacle in the way of his usurpation. Setting aside the suspicious secrecy observed concerning the death of the princes, it is reasonable to conclude, as Richard reaped the chief benefit from the plot, he was also its chief contriver.

It is gratifying to remark that the parties principally implicated in this bloody history met their just reward in ignominious or untimely deaths. Sir James Tyrrel was executed twenty years after, on account of the Suffolk treason. Richard himself executed justice on the suppliant and recreant Buckingham. Catesby was also executed ; and Brackenbury, Radcliffe, and other accomplices, fell with their principal at Bosworth.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1483. *July 6.* Richard III., the eighth and youngest son of Richard duke of York, crowned at Westminster with his consort. At the ceremony seventeen knights of the Bath were made.

The king sent embassies to Castile, Bretagne, and France, to renew alliances with them. Afterwards he made a slow progress through the kingdom, administering justice in all the great towns, listening to petitions, and dispensing favours. Meanwhile his nephews Edward V. and Richard were murdered, and obscurely buried in the Tower. The exact day and manner of this tragedy were kept a profound secret, and the king only suffered a knowledge of their death to be published,

after a conspiracy had been formed for their liberation.

Aug. 23. Gloucester arrives at Nottingham, whence his secretary writes, the king is occupied in "determining the complaints of poor folks, with due punition of offenders."

Aug. 30. Lewis XI. king of France, died, and Charles VIII., his only son, being a minor, succeeded him, under the guardianship of his sister Anne.

Sept. 8. Gloucester crowned a second time with his queen at York. On the same day his son Edward was created prince of Wales.

A conspiracy formed for the dethronement of Richard, at the head of which was

the duke of Buckingham, who had become entirely estranged from the usurper, either from fear, or hatred of his cruelty, or from his having refused him part of the inheritance of Humphrey de Bohun, which he claimed in right of his wife. Buckingham was joined by the bishop of Ely, the marquis of Dorset, and the mother of the earl of Richmond. The earl of Richmond was informed by express, of the proceedings in his favour; he acquainted the duke of Bretagne thereof, who promised to assist him. Richard suspects Buckingham, and ordered him to court, which the duke refused, and declared against the king. The duke took up arms, and was joined by numbers in Wales; he designed to go into Cornwall, but could not pass the Severn, by reason of the inundation of the waters, which were never so great before in that part; it lasted ten days, and men, women, and children were carried away in their beds by the violence of it. Buckingham's army was dispersed, and he was obliged to conceal himself in the house of one of his domestics, who betrayed him for a reward that had been offered by Richard.

Oct. 12. The earl of Richmond with 40 ships and 5000 men furnished by the duke of Bretagne, sailed from St. Malo, but was dispersed by a storm; the earl arrived at Poole, had like to have been surprised by a stratagem of Richard's, but he escaped and sailed back to Bretagne.

Nov. 2. Richard arrives at Salisbury, and having refused to see Buckingham, ordered his head to be struck off in the marketplace.

11. Parliament met and confirmed the title of the king, and entailed the crown on his issue; it also passed a sweeping bill of attainder.

1484. *March.* The king prevails on the late queen to leave her sanctuary in Westminster, and promises her that her daughter shall be married only to gentlemen.

April. Prince Edward, the usurper's only child, dies suddenly at Middleham.

Dec. 25. Richard keeps his Christmas with great splendour at Westminster, and is lavish in his attentions to his niece Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward IV., and whom the earl of Richmond had promised to marry.

1485. The truce with Bretagne being prolonged, and Richard not fearing Richmond, laid his fleet up. France resolved to aid the earl of Richmond, and the earl repaired to Rouen to assemble his troops.

March. The queen dies unexpectedly, and not without suspicion of poison. Richard forthwith prepared to execute his cherished design of marrying the princess Elizabeth, who is favourable to the union.

But he is prevented by the representations of Ratcliffe and Catesby, and the general disgust expressed against such a suspicious and incestuous connexion.

Aug. 6. The earl of Richmond landed at Milford Haven with 2000 men. He marched to Shrewsbury, where his army did not exceed 4000 men. Lord Stanley raised 5000 men, as supposed for Richard, and his brother raised 2000.

Richard, before the landing of Richmond, issued a very artful proclamation, stigmatizing his opponents, rebels, murderers, adulterers, and extortioners. He assembled his forces at Nottingham, and found they daily deserted to Richmond. The earl marched to Lichfield, and had an interview with lord Stanley at Atherston. Lord Stanley refused to obey the king's orders, and Richard ordered his son's head to be struck off, but he was persuaded from it.

Aug. 21. Richard left Leicester with the crown on his head, and encamped about two miles from the town of Bosworth. The same night Richmond marched from Tamworth to Atherston, where he was joined by the Stanleys, and was encouraged by the numerous desertions from the enemy.

Aug. 22. In the morning both armies advanced towards Redmore; and the vanguard commanded by the duke of Norfolk and earl of Oxford engaged. Richard took advantage of a marsh that covered his right, and commanded his bowmen to assail the enemy, whom the discharge of arrows threw into confusion. A close fight with swords followed for a short time; but lord Stanley, who still hovered on the edge of the field, at this critical moment joined Richmond, and determined the issue of the battle. Enraged at this defection, the usurper determined on a furious effort to win the day or perish in the attempt. Spying Richmond, he spurred his horse towards him, exclaiming,—"Treason, treason, treason!" With his own hand he slew sir Charles Brandon, the standard-bearer, struck to the ground sir John Cheney, and made a desperate blow at his rival, when he was overpowered by numbers, thrown from his horse, and immediately slain. After his death resistance became vain. The battle lasted two hours: on the side of Richmond not more than 100 were killed; Richard lost near 3000 in the fight and pursuit; among them Norfolk, Ferrers, Radcliffe, and Brackenbury.

The celebrated battle which gave peace to the kingdom was fought about three miles from Bosworth, an ancient market-town of Leicestershire. The exact spot has been pretty well indicated by pieces of

armour, weapons, and especially abundance of arrow-heads found there. Richard's body was found naked, covered with blood and dirt, and in that condition thrown across a horse, with the head hanging on one side, and the legs on the other, and so carried to Leicester. It lay two whole days exposed to public view, after which it was interred, without any ceremony, in one of the churches of that city. Some time after it was removed and buried in St. Mary's church, belonging to a monastery of the grey friars. Henry VII., his rival and successor, put over him a tomb of various-coloured marble, adorned with his statue in alabaster. This monument stood till the dissolution of the abbey under Henry VIII., when it was pulled down, and utterly defaced; since then, his grave being overgrown with weeds and nettles, no trace of it could be found, except his stone coffin, which was afterwards made a drinking trough at an inn in Leicester.

Richard left no legitimate issue. He had a natural son, surnamed John of Gloucester, a minor, whom he appointed governor of Calais; and a natural daughter, named Catherine Plantagenet, who died young.

He founded the society of Heralds, and made it a corporation. He also founded a collegiate chantry, called the "Lady of Barking," near the Tower. He gave 500 marks a year to Queen's college, Cambridge. Some of the laws too enacted in this reign were meritorious.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1. Rich. III. cap. 1. Enacted, that no money should, for the future, be demanded of the subject by way of loan or benevolence; it being frequently extorted by force, for the king named the sum, and it was dangerous to refuse it.

Cap. 3. Justices of peace were empowered to admit people to bail that were suspected of felony.

Cap. 4. None to be impanelled on juries unless seized of 20s. per annum in lands.

Cap. 9. No alien shall exercise any handicraft, or trade by retail.

Cap. 12. No foreigners shall import any such manufactures as are made in England.

Cap. 13. Enacted, that a tun of wine or oil should consist of 252 gallons, a pipe 126, a tierce 84, a hogshead 63, a barrel 31 and a half, and a rundlet 18 and a half.

LEARNING AND SCIENCE. A.D. 1216 to 1485.

The settlement of the government in Henry Tudor, and the close of the line of Plantagenet, forms an historical epoch at

which one may resume a notice of the progress in learning and science during the interval that had elapsed from the passing of Magna Charta.

One feature of this period was the increasing attention paid to the English, and the neglect of the Latin language. No British writers of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries wrote such classical Latin as John of Salisbury, Peter of Blois, and several others who flourished in the twelfth. This neglect doubtless arose from the diversion of scientific studies, and from English having grown into more frequent use even by scholars, both in writing and conversation. It was still, however, a language widely different from that now in use. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries our ancestors spoke a language as unintelligible to us as a dead or foreign language; and in the fourteenth century they only begin to be intelligible with the help of a glossary, as may be remarked in the writings of Chaucer and Gower, who flourished in that age.

As language continued a very imperfect instrument for the communication of thought, it may be concluded that rhetoric, or the art of persuasive and effective speaking, had not made much progress. It was, however, the subject of lectures in most seats of learning, and such as excelled were advanced to the degree of masters or doctors. The Dominicans, Franciscans, and other mendicant friars, diligently studied declamation; because the success of their begging depended very much on the popularity of their preaching.

The logic of the age was mere sophistical trifling, whose object was to hide, not discover truth. What benefit could mankind derive from wrangling upon such quibbles as the following?—"That two contradictory propositions might be both true." Yet such verbal arguments were contested with as much zeal as if life had depended on the issue, and not unfrequently the rival disputants became so heated by debate, that from angry words they proceeded to blows.

SCHOOL DIVINITY was the most popular study of the age, and consisted in bold attempts to unravel the mysteries of the Scriptures according to the taste and understanding of the expounder. Those who excelled in such expositions were called Bible divines, or Bible doctors. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries they reigned paramount in all the famous universities of Europe, and even took possession of the pulpit, where they introduced a new method of preaching. Before Cardinal Langton had divided the Old and New Testament into chapters and verses.

two modes of preaching were practised. The first consisted in explaining a large portion of Scripture, sentence after sentence, in the regular order in which the words lay, making short practical reflections on each sentence. This mode of public instruction is still used in some foreign churches, and in many parts of Britain, under the name of *lecturing*. The second mode of preaching was called *declaring*; because the preacher, without naming any particular text, merely declared the subject upon which he was about to enlarge. This continued the popular mode till the schoolmen introduced the existing practice of preaching from a specific verse or text.

The new fashion was considered an innovation on the good old times that were past, and was stoutly opposed through the whole of the fourteenth and part of the fifteenth century. Dr. Thomas Gascoigne, chancellor of the university of Oxford, relates that he preached a sermon in St. Martin's church in 1450, without a text, *declaring* what he thought would be useful to the people. In vindication of the ancient practice he says, "That Dr. Augustine had preached 400 sermons to the clergy and the people, without reading a text at the beginning of his discourse, and that the way of preaching by a text and by divisions was invented only about A.D. 1200, as appeared from the authors of the first sermons of that kind."—8 *Hen. Hist.* 185. Roger Bacon opposed the new method, chiefly from the facilities it afforded to the indolence of the bishops, who preached from sermons borrowed of their clergy.

The CIVIL and CANON LAWS were studied with ardour by many of the clergy, because a knowledge of them not only qualified for the lucrative employment of advocates or pleaders, but also procured preferment in the church. Innocent IV. tried to check the devotion of the clergy to legal studies, by interdicting ecclesiastical dignities to those who exclusively excelled therein; but his bull proved ineffective against the seductions of interest.

The engrossing pursuit of theological studies left little opening for the mathematical and experimental sciences. Mathematics brought neither honour nor profit to those engaged in them. The utility of arithmetic in the common affairs of life obtained for it considerable attention; but in geometry students seldom proceeded beyond the fifth proposition of the first book of Euclid's Elements. The quadrant, astrolabe, and specula, or spying glasses, are mentioned among the astronomical instruments of the time.

Both princes and men of learning began

to be curious in GEOGRAPHY. Louis IX. of France sent friar William into Tartary in 1253, to explore that and other countries, of which he wrote a description. The pope had seven years before sent a John de Plano Carpini to explore the same regions, and who also wrote a description of Tartary. From conversing with those and other travellers, Roger Bacon compiled a tolerable gazetteer of Europe, Asia, and Africa, which he illustrated by a map (unfortunately lost), having meridian and parallel lines, as at present, to designate the longitude and latitude of places. The same extraordinary man introduced a knowledge of optics, mechanics, and of the explosive force of gunpowder.

Only the apocryphal part of CHEMISTRY was known in the thirteenth century. The two grand objects of the alchemists were to obtain the gifts which St. Leon found so affictive; namely, the power to transmute the baser metals into gold and silver, and the universal medicine for the cure of every disease, and the endless prolongation of life. In the ardent pursuit of these chimeras they stumbled on many valuable discoveries, and men of all degrees occupied themselves in chemical experiments. Both Edward I. and Edward III. were firm believers in alchymy, and courted or pressed the most famous alchymists into their service. There is extant a proclamation of Edward III. issued in 1329, for the apprehension of two famous alchymists, John Rows and William de Dalby, who "know how to make silver by the art of alchymy," and who it is alleged may be "profitable to us and to our kingdom."—8 *Hen. Hist.* 203. Henry VI. issued a commission to certain learned individuals for the discovery of the elixir of life, and the philosopher's stone: which curious appointment was confirmed by parliament, May 31, 1456.

The clergy still continued to teach and practise MEDICINE, and the greatest number of physicians were of that order. But some of the laity now began to make a figure in this profession, and a few of them even commenced authors. Gilbert English, who flourished in the thirteenth century, is the most ancient medical writer of England whose works have been printed and preserved. He was followed by Gaddesden, who wrote a large work, to which, from its excellence, the title of the *Medical Rose* was given. It exhibits a curious account of the medical art as it was practised in the fourteenth century.

In those martial times, when the people were almost unceasingly engaged in foreign or domestic war, it might be thought that the useful art of surgery would be diligently studied and well understood. But

this was not the case. The basis of surgery is anatomy; but dissection was decried as a barbarous outrage on the dead. Lithotomy was known to the ancients; but seems to have been disused in the middle age, and was revived again at Paris in 1474. It was first tried upon a robber condemned to be hanged: the stone was extracted, and the patient recovered, which encouraged others to submit to the operation. But it does not appear, in the present period, that the practice extended to England, where the surgeons were few in number, and not in high repute. It is not improbable that Henry V. fell a sacrifice to the ignorance of his medical attendants.

In those days the discoveries of one country were slowly communicated to another. There were no established vehicles of literary and scientific intelligence. War was the only pursuit that interested all classes; and the wars of those times were not carried on by standing armies, as at present, while the rest of the people pursued their occupations in peace; but persons of all ranks, the clergy not excepted, were summoned into the field. The universities were frequently scenes of the most violent discord, and their courts and halls stained with blood. Learning, if not despised, was little esteemed or honoured. Even at a later period, "it was thought enough for a nobleman's sons to wind their horn, and to carry their hawk fair, and leave study and learning to the children of mean people." In the church the most valuable livings were often bestowed on the illiterate parasites of the great, or were given to foreign adventurers by papal provisions; while the real scholar was left to languish in indigence, or driven to the necessity of begging his bread from door to door, recommended to the charitable by the chancellor of the university in which he had studied.

While those of high rank and the learned professions afforded so little encouragement to literature, it is not likely it would receive much favour from the common people. It was not till the reign of Henry IV. that villeins, farmers, and mechanics were permitted by law to put their children to school (7 Hen. IV. cap. 17), and long after that they dared not educate a son for the church without a licence from their lord. Between therefore the occupation of the great in war, and the total illiterateness of the industrious orders, there was no great section of the community to whom the merely learned could look for countenance and protection.

It is some excuse for this absence of patronage, that the means were few for stimulating curiosity and creating a taste for

literature. Books were inaccessible to all but the extremely rich. None but kings, princes, bishops, universities, and monasteries could have libraries, and the libraries of these were neither large nor select. At the beginning of the fourteenth century there were only four classics in the royal library at Paris: these were, one copy of Cicero, Ovid, Lucan, and Boethius; the rest consisted chiefly of books of devotion, astrology, geomancy, chiromancy, and medicine, with pandects, chronicles, and romances. This collection was principally made by Charles V., and consisted of 900 volumes, which were kept with great care in one of the towers of the Louvre. In 1425 it was purchased by the duke of Bedford, for 1200 livres, and probably was the foundation of the magnificent library established in the university of Oxford by the then literary Mæcenas, Humphrey, duke of Gloucester. A single work was of importance in those days. The prior and convent of Rochester declared, that they would, every year, pronounce sentence of damnation on him who should perloit a Latin copy of Aristotle's *Physics*, or even obliterate the title; and the impediments to study were so great, even in the reign of Henry VI., that by one of the statutes of St. Mary's College, Oxford, it is ordered, that no student shall occupy a book in the library above one hour at the most, so that others may not be hindered from the use of the same. Even the kings of England were often obliged to supply the scantiness of their libraries by borrowing books of their subjects. Henry V., who had a taste for reading, borrowed several volumes, which were claimed by their owners after his death, with the same anxiety as a landed estate. The art of printing contributed very little, for a long time after its discovery, to increase the number or lower the price of books.

Notwithstanding these obstacles to the discovery and diffusion of knowledge, there was a visible intellectual progress, to which that great luminary of the thirteenth century, Roger Bacon, most effectually contributed. This prodigy of his age recommended his contemporaries to interrogate nature by actual experiments, in lieu of wasting time in abstract reasonings. No man, says he, can be so thoroughly convinced by argument, that fire will burn, as by thrusting his hand into the flames. Bacon himself spent two thousand pounds (a great sum in those times) in constructing instruments and making experiments in the course of twenty years; and it is a well-known fact, that by these experiments he made many discoveries which have excited the astonishment of succeeding ages. He despised magic, incantations,

and other tricks, as criminal impositions on human credulity; and affirmed that more surprising works might be performed by the combined powers of art and nature than ever were pretended to be performed by magic. "I will now," says he, "mention some of the wonderful works of art and nature in which there is nothing of magic, and which magic could not perform. Instruments may be made by which the largest ships, with only one man guiding them, will be carried with greater velocity, than if they were full of sailors. Chariots may be constructed that will move with incredible rapidity, without the help of animals; instruments of flying may be

formed in which a man, sitting at his ease, and meditating on any subject, may beat the air with his artificial wings, after the manner of birds; a small instrument may be made to raise or depress the greatest weights; an instrument may be fabricated by which one man may draw a thousand men to him by force and against their wills; as also machines which will enable men to walk at the bottom of seas or rivers without danger." Most of the wonders here indicated have been accomplished in modern times, though by means probably very different from those imagined by Roger Bacon.

HENRY VII. A.D. 1485 to 1509.

HENRY was a politic prince, and his reign, in the main, fortunate for the people at home, and honourable abroad. He put an end to the civil wars, maintained peace and order in the state, and depressed the exorbitant power of the nobility. He was brave, and extremely attentive to his affairs; and though often severe in his punishments, he was commonly less actuated by revenge, than by maxims of policy. Avarice was his ruling passion, and he remains a singular instance of a man possessed of talents for great achievements, in which that ignoble passion predominated above ambition.

A suspicious reserve, and a want of entire confidence, even in his most intimate friendships, were also qualities which detracted from the merit of his character. Though skilful in war, he was unenterprising; and though possessed of shrewdness, he was of a mean and unsympathizing spirit. He cannot, upon the whole, be considered to have been truly great as a prince, nor estimable as a man.

In this reign it will be proper to notice various important changes in the laws, and the general condition of society. The most important law was that by which the nobility and gentry acquired the right of breaking the ancient entails, and alienating their estates: by means of this law, the great estates of the barons were gradually dismembered, and the property of the commons increased. Probably this result was foreseen by Henry: his constant policy, through the whole of his reign, being to depress the great, and exalt the clergy, lawyers, and men of new families, who were most likely to be dependent on him.

Suits *in forma pauperis* were first given to the poor; that is, the poor were allowed to sue without paying dues for the writ or fees to the clerk, counsel, and attorneys: the practice is still in force. Any person who has just cause of suit, and takes oath that he is not worth five pounds, after all his debts are paid, may, if he can obtain a certificate from some lawyer that he has good ground of action, have his suit *in forma pauperis*.

Scarcely a session passed without some statute against engaging retainers and giving them badges or liveries; a practice by which they were in a manner enlisted under some great lord, and kept ready to assist him in all wars, riots, and insurrections. This disorder had prevailed during many

ages, and it required all the rigour and vigilance of Henry to extirpate. A story is told of his severity against this abuse, and it also shows his avarice suffered no opportunity to escape for filling his coffers. The earl of Oxford, his favourite general, having splendidly entertained him at his castle of Henningham, was desirous of making a parade of his magnificence at the king's departure; and ordered all his retainers to be drawn up in two lines, that their appearance might be the more gallant and splendid. "My lord," said the king, "I have heard much of your hospitality; but the truth far exceeds the report. These handsome gentlemen and servants whom I see on both sides of me are no doubt your menial servants." The earl smiled, and confessed that his fortune was too narrow for such magnificence. "They are, most of them," subjoined he, "my retainers, who are come to do me service at this time, when they know I am honoured with your majesty's presence." The king started a little, and said, "By my faith, my lord, I thank you for your good cheer, but I must not allow my laws to be broken in my sight." Oxford is said to have paid no less than 15,000 marks as a composition for his offence.

The civil wars having swept away the crowds of amuitants and creditors that formerly burdened the exchequer, Henry was enabled to reign without the assistance of a parliament. During the last fourteen years he called but one, in 1504. His object was to demand two reasonable aids, due by the feudal customs, for having made his eldest son a knight, and married his eldest daughter. Parliament offered 40,000*l.*, but, with an ostentation of moderation, he accepted only 30,000*l.*

In order to promote archery, no bows were allowed to be sold at a higher price than 6*s.* 4*d.*, the only effect of which regulation must be, either that the people would be supplied with bad bows or none at all. The exportation of bullion and of horses was prohibited. The importation of such silk manufactures as were made in England was prohibited, which may be considered as the commencement of the mercantile or restrictive system in commerce. But the greatest check to industry was the creation of corporations, with exclusive privileges of trade; an abuse we have happily lived to see on the eve of being entirely extirpated.

The race of villeins was now almost extinct, and wages were nearly quadruple the amount they had been in the preceding century. Civilization and the useful arts had made a wonderful progress. In the Statute of Labourers (1496) bricklayers are for the first time mentioned among artificers. Tilers are noticed in the statute of 1350; and tiles were used in Suffolk as early as 1338. Another occupation is likewise mentioned in the statute, namely, that of glaziers. But Sir F. Eden very much doubts whether glass, although it had long been the ornament of churches, was used at this time in private houses. In 1567 glass was such a rarity as not to be usually found in the castles of the nobility. It is probable glass windows were not introduced into farmhouses much before the reign of James I. In Scotland, however, as late as 1661, the windows of the ordinary country houses were not glazed, and only the upper parts even of those of the king's palaces had glass; the lower ones having two wooden shutters to open at pleasure to admit the fresh air. Previously, lattice, horn, or bevil, was the substitute for the uses to which glass is now applied.

The diet of labourers had become more wholesome and plentiful by the introduction of various useful roots and vegetables. Their dress appears to have been simple and well contrived, consisting of shoes, hose made of

cloth, a jacket and coat, buttoned and fastened round the body by a belt or girdle, and a bonnet of cloth. Hats were not much used till a century after; though mention is made of them in a statute of Richard III., by which the price of a hat is limited to twenty pence. Sumptuary laws were in force, regulating apparel, both as to quantity and quality. In the next reign, it was enacted, that no serving man under the degree of a gentleman should wear a long gown or coat containing more than three broad yards, and without fur, under the penalty of forfeiture; nor any garde hose or cloth above the price of twenty pence. The fashion of wearing peaks to shoes or boots of a length exceeding eleven inches was prohibited to all but gentlemen.

The rate of wages may be collected from the statute of 1496, mentioned above, and was as follows:—

AGRICULTURAL SERVANTS, WITH DIET, FOR ONE YEAR.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To a bailiff of husbandry, not more than	1	16	8	and for clothing	0	5	0
A chief hind or chief shepherd	. 1	0	0	ditto	0	5	0
A common servant of husbandry	. 0	16	8	ditto	0	4	0
A woman servant	. 0	10	0	ditto	0	4	0
A child under fourteen years of age	. 0	6	8	ditto	0	4	0

WAGES APPOINTED FOR ARTIFICERS.

Between East. & Michaelm. Between Michaelm. & East.

A free mason, master carpenter, rough mason, bricklayer, master tiler, plumber, glazier, carver, joiner	} with diet 4d., without 6d.	with diet 3d., without 5d.
Other labourers, except in harvest, In harvest, every mower, by the day		
A reaper, ditto	.	with diet 1½d., without 3d. with diet 4d., without 6d.
A carter, ditto	.	with diet 3d., without 5d.
A woman, and other labourers, ditto	.	with diet 3d., without 5d. with diet 2½d., without 4½d.

If any unemployed person refused to serve at the above wages he might be imprisoned till he found sureties to serve according to the statute. The latter part of this statute regulates the hours of work and meals, by providing that the hours of labour, from March to September, shall be from five o'clock in the morning till seven in the evening; that one hour shall be allowed to breakfast, an hour and a half for dinner, and half an hour for *noon-meat*: the hours of labour in winter are from "springing of day" to dark, and only one hour is allowed for dinner, the extra half-hour at that meal being only allowed for sleeping, from the middle of May to the middle of August. Although provisions advanced considerably in the succeeding twenty years, it does not appear that wages underwent any material alteration: in 1514 the prices of the different kinds of labour mentioned above were exactly the same.—*Wade's History of the Middle and Working Classes.*—p. 24.

The discovery of America, and of a passage to the East Indies by the Cape of Good Hope, may be reckoned among the memorable events of this reign. But the most important achievement was the introduction of the art of printing, the parent of almost every other art and improvement. In short, we may consider that a new era of civilization and science had commenced.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1485. Henry, son of Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond, who was eldest son of Owen Tudor and Queen Catharine, widow of Henry V., was, the same day he obtained the victory over Richard, proclaimed king by his army.

Aug. 23. Henry, fearing the pretensions of the earl of Warwick, son of the late duke of Clarence, orders the young prince, then in his fifteenth year, to be imprisoned in the Tower.

Aug. 28. Henry met by the magistrates of London and a great number of citizens, at Highgate, who conducted him, riding in a close chariot, to St. Paul's, where he offered, on the high altar, the three standards which had led his army to victory. He assembled a council to meet at the bishop's palace, where he was lodged; and he ratified his former oath to marry Elizabeth.

Sept. 21. Sweating sickness makes its first appearance in London. It carried off several thousands, who died of it in twenty-four hours. Among others, were two mayors in succession, one sheriff, and six aldermen. Its symptoms were alarming from the first moment; such as burning heat, excessive sickness, headache, delirium, unquenchable thirst, vehement pulse, and labouring breath. It was at length discovered, that if a patient lay still for twenty-four hours, either in his clothes or in bed, as he happened to be seized, and carefully abstained from whatever might add to the heat or induce cold, he generally recovered. By this method the mortality was much diminished, when the same disease re-appeared in England, though it still proved fatal to thousands in Flanders and Germany. Either from the new mode of treatment, or the coldness of the season, the distemper ceased about the end of October. It re-appeared in 1506, 1517, 1528, and last in 1551.

Oct. 30. Henry crowned at Westminster, on which day he first instituted the yeomen of the guard.

Nov. 17. He called a parliament which settled the crown upon him and his issue.

Several of the members having been attainted of treason in the late reign, it was resolved they could not sit in the house till their attainders were reversed; but as to the king, it was resolved, his attainer need not be reversed, the crown purging away defects.

1486. Jan. A three years' truce with France was concluded.

Jan. 18. Henry married the Princess Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Edward IV., by which marriage he united the houses of York and Lancaster.

April. The king makes a tour through the kingdom. Meanwhile Lords Lovell and Stafford raise an insurrection; but are soon dispersed. The earl of Warwick shown in public, to refute a report that he had escaped from the Tower.

Sept. 20. The queen was delivered of a prince, named Arthur.

Lambert Simnel personated Richard, duke of York, and was set up against the king. He was afterwards made to personate the earl of Warwick, prisoner in the Tower; and going into Ireland, was proclaimed king, and crowned by the name of Edward VI. at Dublin.

A truce with Scotland for three years.

The queen dowager of Edward IV. was confined to Bermondsey Abbey, in Surrey, and her estates seized by the king, who suspected her to be concerned in the contrivance of Simnel. She died soon after.

Nov. The king granted an annuity of ten marks to Bernard Andrews, his poet laureat.

By an act of the common council of London, none but *gentlemen* and natives are to be taken apprentices; agreeably to the clause in the freeman's oath: "Ye shall take none apprentice but he be free born; that is to say, no bondsmen's son, nor the son of any alien."

1487. A treaty of commerce concluded with the Low Countries.

May. Lord Lincoln lands with 2000 Germans, to oppose Henry. Lambert, also, with a body of Irish troops, lands in England.

June 16. They were defeated by Henry at Stoke, near Newark. The earl of Lincoln was killed on the spot, with 4000 of his party, and Lambert, with Simon, his tutor, were made prisoners. Lambert was made a scullion in the king's kitchen, and afterwards one of his falconers, in which post he died. His tutor, Simon, was committed to some obscure prison, and never heard of after.

Nov. 25. The better to satisfy the Yorkists, the queen was crowned. She was crowned on a Sunday, and afterwards dined in the hall. The king viewed both the coronation and the dinner from behind a lattice.

Henry offered his mediation to Charles and the duke of Bretagne, which the French king accepted, but the duke rejected it.

The court of Star-chamber instituted. It was chiefly intended to put down the disorders of maintenance; that is, associations of individuals under a chief, whose livery they wore, and to whom they bound themselves by oath, to maintain all his private quarrels.

1488. June. The Scots rebel against

their king, James III., and kill him at Bannockburn.

An insurrection in the north on account of taxes, in which the earl of Northumberland was killed, but it was soon suppressed.

The Cape of Good Hope discovered.

1489. Henry concludes a treaty with Bretagne, and engages to send the duchess 6000 men.

Maps and sea charts first brought into England by Columbus.

1490. *Jan.* 13. A parliament met and passed several wholesome acts, and repealed others.

1491. War with France.

Greek language first introduced into England.

1492. The parliament met and granted the king a benevolence.

The city of London paid 968*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

Aug. 2. Columbus sails from Palos on his first memorable voyage of discovery.

On October 11, after touching at the Canary Islands, he caught sight of one of the Bahama Islands. In a second voyage across the Atlantic he made important discoveries, but it was not till his third voyage, commenced in 1498, that he first saw the main land of America; so that he was preceded by Sebastian Cabot and Americus Vesputius, who departed from Europe the preceding year, and both visited the American continent before him. But Columbus having first crossed the Atlantic, the chief merit belongs to him.

Oct. Henry assembled his troops, to the number of 27,000 men, and embarked and went to Calais, appointing his son Arthur guardian of the realm.

Nov. 3. A peace was concluded with France, and a truce with Scotland.

Dec. 17. The king returned from France. He put the supplies in his pocket that were granted for the war; and at the same time made his enemies purchase peace with a large sum, and scarce an officer at court, or general in the army, but received a considerable bribe from France.

The Moors were driven out of Grenada by the king of Spain.

1493. The duchess of Burgundy, Edward the Fourth's sister, set up Perkin Warbeck, to counterfeit Richard, duke of York, second son of king Edward.

June 22. The queen was delivered at Greenwich of her second son, Henry, who succeeded his father.

The king sent the order of the garter to the duke of Calabria.

Oct. 6. The king went to France with an army, and his title to the crown of England was acknowledged by the French king.

Henry discovered Perkin's pedigree.

1494. *Feb.* 16. He executed several that were in a conspiracy to bring in Perkin,

and particularly Sir William Stanley, lord chamberlain, who set the crown upon his head.

Joan Boughton, a widow, was burnt for heresy.

Sept. 11. The king's second son, Henry, made governor of Ireland, and Sir Edward Poyning appointed his deputy. Poyning held a parliament in Ireland, and had an act passed, that the statutes of England concerning the public should be observed in Ireland.

Libels were published against the king, for which five persons were executed.

1495. Perkin appeared upon the coast of Kent, where several of his followers were taken and hanged.

May 31. Cecily, relict of Richard, duke of York, died: she lived to see three princes of her body crowned and four murdered.

Oct. The king called a parliament and passed several wholesome acts.

Perkin Warbeck married Catharine Gordon, daughter of the earl of Huntley.

1496. The king of Scotland received Perkin, and marched with an army into England in his behalf, but soon retired.

Charles VIII., of France, conquered Naples.

Jesus College, in Cambridge, converted into a college from a desolate nunnery, by John Alcock, bishop of Ely.

Sebastian Cabot was employed by the king to make discoveries on the eastern and north-eastern coasts of America.

1497. *Jan.* The parliament met and granted the king a subsidy.

An insurrection happened in Cornwall, on account of taxes. The rebels, being headed by Lord Audley, marched up towards London, but were defeated, and Lord Audley taken and executed, *June* 24.

Sept. 30. A seven years' truce was concluded with Scotland, whereby Perkin was obliged to leave this kingdom.

The Portuguese make the first voyage to the East Indies by the Cape of Good Hope; and Florida, Jamaica, Porto Rico, Trinidad, and Newfoundland were discovered by Sebastian Cabot.

Sept. The Cornish men invited Perkin over from Ireland. He marched at the head of them, and besieged Exeter; but not being able to take the town, he took sanctuary, and his followers submitted themselves. He was brought up to London and shown to the people.

1498. Richmond palace burnt down and rebuilt.

1499. Perkin made his escape, but was taken again and sent to the Tower, where contriving with the earl of Warwick to make their escape, he was hanged at Tyburn, November 16, and the earl, the last of the male line of the Plantagenets, was be-

headed on Tower Hill the 28th. Perkin's wife, "the White Rose," as she was termed, was afterwards married to Sir Matthew Cradock, and was buried with him at Swansea Church, where their tomb and epitaph are still visible.

1500. *May*. There happened so great a plague in England, that it occasioned the king and court to move to Calais, and it swept off upwards of 30,000 people in London.

The pope raised money in England and the rest of Europe, by proclaiming a Jubilee, for he granted the same indulgence to those that remained at home, as to those who visited Rome, on paying certain sums of money.

The king extorts money from his subjects, on pretence of their disaffection, obliging them to purchase their pardons, though there was no evidence produced against them.

1501. The earl of Suffolk having quarrelled with a man, killed him, when he withdrew into Flanders; soon after Henry pardoned him, and he returned.

Nov. Sir John Shaw, lord mayor, was the first that held his feast at Guildhall.

The king gave the title of merchant tailors to the company of tailors, of which himself was a member.

1502. *April*. Sebastian Cabot returned from his discoveries in the north-west, and brought over some of the natives clothed in skins. Others were employed to make further discoveries in that region, for the crown of England, the following year.

1503. The queen died in childbed, and the young princess, her daughter, soon after. The king used her and her mother unkindly, out of prejudice to the line of York.

Feb. 11. Sir James Tyrrell executed for aiding the escape of the earl of Suffolk, who had been imprisoned for a reasonable conspiracy. Tyrrell was buried at Westminster, and previous to his death confessed to the murder of Edward and his brother York in the Tower.

1504. *Jan.* The parliament met, and granted the king a subsidy, and passed many good acts, and many tending to increase the king's treasure.

The Princess Margaret, the king's eldest daughter, was married to James IV., king of Scotland. Henry gave her a portion of 50,000*l.*, and king James made her a jointure of 2000*l.* per annum.

1505. Shillings first coined in England.

1506. Philip and Jane took the title of king and queen of Castile, and in their passage thither were forced into England by a storm. They visited the king at Windsor, and concluded a marriage with the duchess of Savoy.

1507. Henry concluded a treaty of commerce with the Low Countries.

Henry raised money by extortion from his subjects, Empson and Dudley being his chief instruments.

The island of Madagascar discovered by the Portuguese.

The Dutch, by treaty, excluded from fishing on the coast of England.

Christ's College, in Cambridge, founded by Margaret, countess of Richmond, mother to the king.

Dec. 17. The Archduke Charles was married by proxy to the Princess Mary; but the marriage was never consummated.

A sweating sickness raged this year.

1508. Henry lent the archduke 50,000 crowns, upon a jewel the duke pledged, called the rich flower-de-luce, which weighed, in gold and precious stones, 211 ounces.

St. John the Evangelist's College, in Cambridge, founded by Margaret, countess of Richmond.

1509. The king, a little before his death, published a general pardon for all offences except felony and murder, released all debtors out of prison, who did not owe more than forty shillings to any one man, paying their creditors out of his own purse; and by his will commanded his successor to make restitution to all men he had wronged by his extortions, to which his son paid no great regard.

April 22. Henry died at Richmond, in the fifty-third year of his age, and the twenty-fourth of his reign; and was magnificently buried in the chapel built by him at Westminster; leaving behind him 1,800,000*l.*, which is equivalent to 16,000,000*l.*, an incredible sum to be amassed in those days. To make amends to his subjects for the extortions practised upon them, he converted the palace of the Savoy into an hospital, and built some religious houses.

TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

Tunnage granted, being 3*s.* on every tun of wine by denizens, and 6*s.* by aliens, and 1*s.* in the pound on merchandise, except tin, for which aliens were to pay 2*s.*

A subsidy on wool, namely, 33*s.* 4*d.* a pack by denizens, and double that sum by aliens.

On every last of hides, 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* by denizens, and 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* by aliens, and the clergy granted a tenth.

A tenth granted by the laity.

(A tenth raised about 100,000*l.*)

The parliament granted the king a benevolence, to be levied only on the rich; and he obtained of the French king near 150,000*l.* for consenting to a peace.

A subsidy granted for the Scotch war

amounting to 120,000*l.*, besides two-fifteenthths.

A subsidy granted the king for the marriage of his daughter. He obtained a benevolence the same year.

The king levied a benevolence again.

Besides these taxes, this prince had many extraordinary ways of raising money, particularly by causing his subjects to be prosecuted by penal statutes, and making them buy a confirmation of their titles, liberties, and privileges with great sums. The city of London paid him 5000*l.* on this account only. He acquired great sums also by calling in money, and re-coinage it, raising and lowering the coin at his pleasure. The people, says Lord Bacon, were perpetually pilfered and prosecuted by an army of tax-gatherers and informers. Men were obliged to redeem their persons from prison by sacrificing their estates, till he had, in a manner, engrossed all the riches of the kingdom. His subjects, like slaves in the mines, had no other prospect than filling their master's coffers; and the parliament, either awed or bribed by the court, countenanced his extortions, and chose the infamous Dudley, the chief instrument of these oppressions, their speaker. The king had certainly the merit of living within his income, and was the first prince that had done so since the accession of Henry III. The funds placed at his disposal by his first parliament for the yearly expenses of his household were estimated at 14,000*l.*, and of his wardrobe at 2000*l.*

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Hen. VII. cap. 4. The ordinary was empowered to punish priests by imprisonment for adultery and fornication.

Cap. 7. Hunting in the night-time in disguise made felony.

3 Hen. VII. cap. 1. The star-chamber empowered to punish several offences. An appeal given to the wife, or nearest relation, where a person was acquitted for murder, at the king's suit.

Cap. 2. Felony to carry away a woman against her will, having lands or goods, or being heir apparent to her ancestor, and felony also in the abettor.

Cap. 4. Deeds of gift to defraud creditors made void.

Cap. 14. Felony in any of the king's servants, under the dignity of a peer, to conspire the destruction of the king, or any lord of the realm, or any of the king's council, steward, treasurer, or comptroller of the household; the trial to be before the steward, treasurer, or comptroller of the household, and twelve of the household to be of the jury.

4 Hen. VII. cap. 8. Enacted that no

butcher should kill meat in any walled town, or in Cambridge.

Cap. 13. Enacted that the benefit of clergy shall be allowed but once.

Cap. 24. Fines shall conclude all persons after five years non-claim, if they are of age, at liberty, &c., but not barred till five years after their respective rights accrue, nor where the parties levying having nothing in lands.

11 Hen. VII. cap. 1. Enacted that all men shall be indemnified who shall serve a king *de facto* in his wars.

Cap. 4. Enacted that weights and measures according to the standard shall be kept in every market town.

Cap. 12. Enacted that poor men admitted paupers in any court shall pay no fees, but their counsel and attorneys shall dispatch their business gratis.

Cap. 13. Enacts that no horse shall be exported without the king's licence.

Cap. 17. Inflicts a penalty of 10*l.* on persons who take a pheasant or partridge in another's freehold, and the taking the eggs of hawks or swans was punished by a fine or a year's imprisonment.

19 Hen. VII. cap. 10. Enacts that the sheriff shall have the custody of the county gaol, and ascertains the penalty of escapes.

Cap. 21. The importation of such silk manufactures as are made in England prohibited.

MISCELLANIES.

The yeomen of the guard were instituted by Henry VII. They consisted first of 50 archers, subsequently increased to 100, besides six yeomen-hangers, and two bed-guards. They are still continued.

Henry Seventh's chapel, situated at the eastern extremity of Westminster abbey, and one of the finest pieces of Gothic architecture, was erected in this reign.

The king expended 14,000*l.* in building one ship, called the *Great Harry*. She may be considered the first ship of the English navy. Before this period, when the king wanted a fleet, he had no other expedient than hiring or pressing ships from the merchants.

The publication of the household book of an old earl of Northumberland, who lived at this time, affords a curious picture of ancient manners, and an insight into the domestic economy of the ancient barons. The family consists of 166 persons, masters and servants; 57 strangers are reckoned upon every day; in the whole 223 persons. Twopence halfpenny is supposed to be the daily expense of each, for meat, drink, and firing; this would make a great of our present money. The sum allotted by the earl for his whole annual expense is 1118*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; meat,

drink, and firing cost 796*l.* 1*l.* 2*d.*, more than two-thirds of the whole.

Every thing is conducted with extreme order; inasmuch that the number of pieces which must be cut out of every quarter of beef, mutton, pork, nay even stock-fish and salmon, is determined, and must be entered and accounted for by the different clerks appointed for that purpose. If a servant be absent a day his mess is struck off. If he go on my lord's business, board wages are allowed him, 8*d.* a day for his journey in winter, 5*d.* in summer. Two hundred and fifty quarters of malt are allowed a month, at 4*s.* a quarter. Two hogsheds are to be made of a quarter; which amounts to a bottle and third of beer a day to each person, and the beer not be very strong. The family only eat fresh meat from Midsummer to Michaelmas; all the rest of the year they live on salted meat. One hundred and sixty gallons of mustard are allowed in a year, which seems a necessary qualification for their salt beef.

Only seventy ells of linen, at 8*d.* an ell, are annually allowed for the whole family: no sheets were used. The linen was made into eight table-cloths for my lord's table, and one table-cloth for the knights; the last probably washed only once a month, or longer. Only 40*s.* are allowed for washing throughout the year, and that is principally expended on the linen in the chapel. Only ninety-one dozen of candles for the whole year. The family rose at six in the morning, dined at ten, and supped at four in the afternoon. The gates were all shut at nine, and no further ingress or egress permitted. My lord and lady have set on their table at breakfast a quart of beer; as much wine; two pieces of salt fish, six red herrings, four white ones or a dish of sprats. In flesh days, half a chine of mutton, or a chine of beef boiled. Mass is ordered to be said at six in the morning, in order, says the household book, that all my lord's servants may rise early.

PROGRESS OF COMMERCE. A.D. 1216 to 1509.

As England had now become a great commercial community, having considerable internal traffic, and a regular intercourse with all the chief countries of Europe, it will not be out of place to notice the successive steps by which she attained her mercantile pre-eminence.

A great part of the domestic trade of Britain was transacted in fairs. Some of these fairs were of long duration, frequented by prodigious multitudes of people from different countries, and stored with commodities of all kinds. The fair of St. Giles's hill, near Winchester, continued

sixteen days, during which time all trade was prohibited in Winchester, Southampton, and every place within seven miles of the fair, which resembled a busy city laid out into regular streets of tents, inhabited by foreign and domestic traders, who exposed their various wares. To such fairs the king, his prelates, and great barons sent their factors, and others went in person to purchase jewels, cloths, furniture, liquors, spices, cattle, coins, in short, every thing they needed, men and women not excepted; for it is an undoubted fact that slaves of both sexes were publicly sold in England near the conclusion of the fourteenth century.

But the internal trade of the country was impeded by a great many petty duties, as lastage, passage, pontage, stallage, and others whose names have become unintelligible. These duties, or some of them, were demanded by every town and by every baron through whose boundaries traders conveyed their goods, and at every place where they exposed them to sale.

Some of the laws regulating commerce might be useful, but were mostly hurtful interferences with the freedom of industry. Of the former kind were the Navigation Acts of Richard II., commanding English merchants to freight none but English ships, which probably contributed to the increase of both ships and seamen. Of the objectionable sort were the abortive attempts to fix the prices of provisions, and the wages of labour. By an act of Edward III. no English merchant was allowed to deal in more than one commodity: this absurd restriction was soon repealed. For a long period every foreign merchant was responsible for the debts, and even punishable for the crimes of any of his countrymen who had become insolvent, or escaped from justice. This unreasonable law was repealed in 1353.

Another commercial obstacle was the practice of impressment. As the king had few ships of his own, whenever he had occasion for a fleet, either to fight his enemies or transport his armies, he had no resource but the impressment of all the ships as well as sailors he could find, which put a total stop to trade. In this way Henry V. raised a fleet for his first invasion of France.

It was the policy of the legislature to induce foreign merchants to import the commodities of their respective countries, and export those of England. With this view many statutes were passed for the encouragement of merchant strangers settled in London and the chief towns, by forming them into companies, with exclusive privileges. Of these companies the most ancient was the German merchants

of the Steel-yard, who had long been rich and flourishing, chiefly from connexion with the famous confederacy of the Hans towns. The merchants of the Staple formed another mercantile union of considerable importance from the number of its members, and the extent of its transactions. The objects of this company were twofold:—First, to buy and collect the staple commodities of the kingdom, which were wool, wool-fells, leather, lead, and tin, and convey them to certain towns, called the *staple towns*, that the king's customs might be securely collected, and that foreigners might know where to find these commodities in abundance; and, secondly, to export these staple wares, receiving in return goods, coin, or bullion. Natives, as well as foreigners, might be employed in the first object, but foreigners only in the export of commodities. Merchants of the staple were exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary magistrates, and subjected only to the authority of the mayor and constables of the staple, chosen annually in each of the staple towns, and who were to adjudicate all disputes by the law of merchants, not by the common law. The staple towns for England, Wales, and Ireland were (27 Edw. III. c. 24), Newcastle-upon-Tyne, York, Lincoln, Norwich, Westminster, Canterbury, Chichester, Winchester, Exeter, Bristol, Caermarthen, Dublin, Waterford, Cork, and Drogheda.

Italy in the thirteenth century held the same European supremacy in commerce that England does in the nineteenth; and several companies of Italian merchants were settled in this country for managing the trade of the flourishing republican cities with which they were connected. The Lombards were the most numerous and opulent, but they rendered themselves odious by their usurious practices. Being great capitalists, they employed themselves chiefly in banking, and advancing loans to needy princes. Edward III. acknowledged himself indebted to the company of the Bardi of Florence 12,000 marks, and grants them a present of 2000 pounds for their good services.—4 *Rym. Fœd.* 387.

There can be no doubt that the balance of trade was at this early period in favour of England. Unless it had been so, it would have been impossible for a country without valuable mines of the precious metals to have supplied these incessant drains of treasure to the court of Rome, and to foreign ecclesiastics, who possessed many of the best benefices of the kingdom; and those still greater drains occasioned by the exhausting continental wars of the Plantagenets. This favourable balance arose from an almost obvious cir-

cumstance. Silks, fine cloths, wines, spices, and a few other articles of luxury, which were used only by the royal family and principal nobility, were the only articles imported; while the exports consisted of wool, wool-fells, leather, lead, tin, corn, butter, cheese, coarse cloths, and other articles of general use that were sent out in great quantities. The value of the whole imports in 1354 in money of the time amounted only to 38,970*l.*; while the value of the four articles only of wool, wool-fells, leather, and coarse cloth exported the same year amounted to 294,184*l.* England was in fact the Russia of the southern states of Europe in the fourteenth century, and she still maintains the balance of trade in her favour, not by exporting her surplus raw, but manufactured commodities.

There was one article of export so peculiar in the fifteenth century, that it merits notice. It consisted of *pilgrims*, which were shipped in large quantities, under the authority of royal licences. Henry VI., for example, granted permits to certain masters of ships, for the exportation of 2433 pilgrims to the shrine of St. James of Compostella. Fortunately the account was not, as at present, in respect of absentees, since there were still greater importations of pilgrims from the continent, to visit the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury, which brought the balance of this traffic in favour of England.

The English merchants, observing the advantages that foreigners derived from having corresponding partners settled in England, imitated their example, and established *factories* in several places on the continent. Henry IV. granted a charter to the English merchants residing in Germany, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, empowering them to hold assemblies, to make laws, to choose governors, with authority to determine disputes among themselves and with foreigners, and to preserve the privileges granted them by foreign sovereigns. The powers of governors were similar to those of consuls, and towards the end of this period were called by that name, and appointed by the king. Richard III., in 1585, appointed Laurentio Strozzi, a merchant of Florence, to be consul and president of all the English merchants at Pisa, "allowing him for his trouble the fourth part of one per cent. on all goods of Englishmen, either imported to or exported thence."

Commercial treaties helped to keep up a good understanding between nations, and were now common with all the princes and states of Europe. They had become necessary to restrain the piratical spirit in mariners, who could seldom resist the

temptation of seizing a weaker vessel when she fell in their way, though belonging to a friendly power. The most important instrument of this kind was the treaty concluded in 1496, between England and Burgundy, one of the most industrious and opulent of the Transalpine states. It recognises some of the chief points in commercial and international law. A reciprocal liberty of trading to each other's ports without passport or licence, and of fishing on the coasts of either party, is stipulated. Mutual protection against pirates is agreed upon. The practice of pillaging wrecks is interdicted till a year has elapsed. The arrest of foreign debtors is regulated; and the importation into either country of the goods of its enemy is forbidden.

Henry VII., by whom this treaty was made, was himself too fond of money not to be attentive to the commercial interests of the country. In all his negotiations with foreign states he never forgot the concerns of commerce, or neglected to procure some advantage to his mercantile subjects. His accession was an event favourable to trade, by putting an end to a long and ruinous civil war which had thrown every thing into confusion, and inflamed the minds of one-half of the people with a violent hatred against the other, a situation in which neither industry nor commerce could thrive. The only drawback during his reign was his mercenary grants of monopolies, his erection of corporations with exclusive privileges, and his meddling interferences with foreign trade.

GUILDS AND INCORPORATED TRADES.

The great importance of these societies about the reign of Henry VII., and their connexion with the progress of national industry, call for a short notice of their origin and constitution. Remains of the ancient guilds, companies, or fraternities, may still be found in the principal cities and towns, especially in London, Bristol, Preston, and Newcastle. They are of very early institution, and may be traced with certainty to a period anterior to the Conquest. In the British Museum are preserved several Saxon deeds, which Dr. Hickes has transcribed into his *Thesaurus*, exhibiting the ordinances of two Saxon guilds. From these documents it appears that guilds were originally established by the mutual agreement of persons of the same mystery or occupation, and had no further object than the relief of the brethren in times of distress, and perhaps the protection of the associated members against the lawless attacks of powerful barons. Certain pious offices, however, were the never-failing concomitants of the guilds,

and they were mostly dedicated to some patron saint.

In order to erect one of these minor corporations, no other authority in ancient times was requisite in many parts of Europe, but that of the town corporate in which it was to be established. In England, indeed, a charter from the king was likewise necessary. But this prerogative of the crown seems to have been reserved, rather for extorting money from the subject than for the protection of the common liberty against exclusive companies. Upon paying a fine to the king the charter seems generally to have been readily granted; and when any particular class of artificers or traders thought proper to act as a corporation without a charter, such *adulterine* guilds, as they were called, were not always disfranchised on that account, but obliged to fine annually to the king for permission to exercise their usurped privileges. The immediate inspection of all corporations, and of the bye-laws which they might think proper to enact for their own government, belonged to the town-corporate in which they were established; and whatever discipline was exercised over them proceeded commonly not from the king, but from the parent corporation of which these subordinate ones were only parts or members.

Besides mutual assistance and security, a principal object of the guilds was the advancement of trade and improvement in the operative arts. It was for these purposes the numerous companies in the city of London were incorporated; exclusive privileges were granted them, not only that they might perfect themselves in their several crafts, but also that they might protect the community from unskilful or dishonest workmen, by being empowered to interdict the exercise of their trade to all not admitted members of their society, over whom they had control and superintendence. In the early stages of industry the exercise of these functions was probably beneficial to the public, and the companies acquired both wealth and character. Kings and nobles were proud to be members of the fraternities; they were the chosen depositaries of all important trusts, and the guardians and administrators of the principal public charities; in the magnificence of their buildings, in opulence and influence, they rivalled the monasteries and religious houses.

It is unnecessary to remark that the companies no longer fulfil the original purposes of their institution. With the exception of a few of the London companies (whose functions will most likely be abrogated by the measures in progress for the reform of corporations), they have

<p>generally ceased to interfere with the conduct of the trades. Their chief importance is derived from being the trustees of charitable bequests, which, from the vast increase in the value of land since the</p>	<p>fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, imposed on them duties that are not, in many instances, either faithfully or judicially discharged.</p>
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HENRY VIII. A.D. 1509 to 1547.

THERE is so much in the career of Henry to admire and condemn, that his history forms his best portraiture. His accession was welcomed by the people, who were glad to be relieved from the petty tyranny and exhausting extortions of his predecessor. Moreover, the new king possessed almost every quality to win general favour. He was young, handsome, lively, accomplished, and learned. Had not his passions so often obtained the mastery over him, and impelled him, in spite of the restraints of a powerful intellect, to acts of injustice, caprice, and cruelty, his reign would not have been more exceptionable than that of most princes entrusted with great and uncontrolled power.

Between the character of the monarch and his great favourite, Cardinal Wolsey, are many points of resemblance, and it is probable, had their situations been reversed, the traits exhibited would not have been greatly different from those which history now presents. In both, justice demands the admission that the dark predominated over the bright shades of human nature; and the description ascribed to Henry of himself will be fully borne out by the events of his reign: namely, "That he had never spared a man in his anger, nor a woman in his lust." But his savage deeds were not merely outbreaks of passion; he was persevering in his resentments, and when, from jealousy or dislike, he had fixed his talons in a victim of either sex, ruin was inevitable; no submission, no intercession, no evidence of innocence could save from destruction. Bishop Burnet says rather indulgently of him, that he was "an ill prince, but not the worst."

It was an era of great events; but it is the religious rather than the political changes that are of importance. Henry's arbitrary and imperious disposition engrossed the whole power of the state. Whatever his passions or caprice suggested were enacted into laws, and the houses of parliament became the mere instruments of his tyranny. So great was the obliteration of constitutional forms under the sway of this haughty Tudor, that by one statute it is declared that the king's proclamation shall be equal to laws. The style of the manifesto addressed to the northern rebels shows the spirit predominant in the monarch. He told them plainly that they ought no more to pretend giving a judgment with regard to government than a blind man with regard to colours; "and we," he added, "with our whole council think it right strange that ye, who be but brutes and inexpert folk, do take upon you to point us, who be meet or not for our council."

One cause of the arbitrariness of the whole of the Tudor dynasty was in the altered balance of the constitution. The house of peers no longer consisted of those powerful lords and prelates who in former periods had so often and so successfully resisted the encroachments of the sovereign. So many noblemen had been killed, executed, and attainted in the cruel wars of the houses of York and Lancaster, that only twenty-eight temporal peers were summoned to the first parliament of Henry VII., and only thirty-six to

that of Henry VIII. This diminution in their number lessened their weight in the scale of government, which was further reduced by the facilities acquired for alienating their estates, the enforcement of the law against retainers, and the poverty occasioned by a more luxurious style of living.

The gross corruptions of the Romish church had prepared the way for the great events of the Reformation. Leo X. at this time filled the papal chair. He was a learned and sagacious man, but like many of his predecessors he was of licentious manners, and apparently had little faith in the doctrine he professed. Although he despised religion himself, he was willing to make its frauds subservient to his necessities, and as a means of replenishing his coffers, exhausted by dissipation, he opened a sale for indulgences or absolution for sin. The grossness of this imposture, together with the more general diffusion of knowledge by the new art of printing, prepared the way for the energetic religious reforms introduced by Martin Luther in Germany and Henry VIII. in England.

A visitatorial commission having been appointed, monstrous disorders were found to pervade the religious houses. Whole convents of women abandoned to lewdness; signs of abortion and child murder, and of unnatural lusts between the sexes. The holy relics, which the people had hitherto looked upon with profound veneration, were now exposed to their ridicule. At Hales, in Gloucestershire, there had been shown, during several ages, the blood of Christ brought from Jerusalem; such a relic it is easy to imagine was held in great veneration by the multitude. This sacred preserve was not visible to any one in mortal sin, till he had performed good works sufficient for his absolution. At the dissolution the whole contrivance was detected; two of the monks had taken the blood of a duck, which they renewed every week; they put it in a phial, one side of which consisted of thin transparent crystal, the other of thick and opaque. When any rich pilgrim arrived, they were sure to show him the dark side of the phial, till masses and offerings had expiated his offences, and then finding his money or his patience exhausted, they made him happy by turning the phial. Similar contrivances for imposing on the credulous may be found in all ages; the people were then comparatively uninformed; therefore gross inventions answered the purpose.

The religious houses were suppressed at two several times; the first suppression was in the year 1536, and extended only to the lesser monasteries, whose revenues were below 200*l.* By this act two hundred and seventy-six monasteries were suppressed, and 100,000*l.* (about a million and a half of present value) came immediately into the exchequer: 30,000*l.* (about half a million according to present wages and prices) were added to the annual revenue of the crown. The number of monks dispossessed was about 6000 or 7000, and that of their servants and dependents about an equal number. No opposition was made to this great revolution except by a portion of the populace, who had probably been fed by the conventual alms; the influential classes, even the higher clergy, were quiescent, and two years after Henry laid his hands on the revenues of the greater monasteries. This completed the work of dissolution and the abolition of the monastic orders. The whole number of monasteries suppressed amounted to six hundred and forty-five; of these, twenty-eight had abbots, who enjoyed a seat in parliament. Ninety colleges were dissolved in several counties; two thousand three hundred and seventy-four churches and free chapels, and a hundred and ten hospitals. The whole revenue of five hundred and fifty-five religious houses, of which we have returns in *Liber Regis* and

other sources, was 142,914*l.*, or about one-twentieth of the rental of the kingdom, if Hume be correct in taking that rental at three millions.

One of the principal advantages from the reform of the ancient religion was a more regular execution of justice. While the Catholic superstition subsisted, there was no possibility of punishing any crime in the clergy. The church would not permit the magistrate to try the offences of her members, and she could not herself inflict any civil penalties upon them. Henry restrained these pernicious immunities. The privilege of clergy was abolished for the crimes of petty treason, murder, and felony, to all under the degree of a subdeacon. The privilege of sanctuaries too, which afforded protection not only to the clergy, but the laity, was abolished; and no person guilty of murder, rape, burglary, or other atrocious crime, was allowed to take refuge in a religious house: these, it must be admitted, were great reformations, and tended greatly to lessen the influence the clergy had usurped over the understandings of the people.

It was not till the end of this reign that salads, carrots, turnips, or other edible roots were generally produced in England. The little of these vegetables that was used was mostly from Holland and Flanders. Queen Catharine, when she wanted a salad, used to despatch a messenger thither on purpose. The use of hops and planting them was first introduced from Flanders about this time.

Foreign artificers in general much surpassed the English in skill, industry, and frugality; hence arose the violent animosity the latter bore against any of the former, who settled in England. On one occasion a violent commotion was raised by the apprentices and workmen in London, who attempted to break open the prisons in order to liberate some persons confined for insulting foreigners. This tumult was quelled with great difficulty; thirteen of the rioters were executed; and more than four hundred apprehended, who were brought before the king with ropes about their necks, and, falling on their knees before the king, cried for mercy. A curious proclamation was afterwards issued, directing that women should not meet together to babble and talk, and that all men should keep their wives in their houses.

There appears to have been a great improvement in the manners of the people since the reign of Henry VIII. The prisoners in the kingdom confined for debts and crimes is stated to have been sixty thousand; an incredible number, when the smallness of the population is considered. Harrison asserts, that 72,000 criminals were executed during this reign for theft and robbery, which would amount to nearly 2000 a year. He adds that in the latter end of Elizabeth's reign, there were not punished capitally 400 in a year. At present, though population has so greatly increased, the number of capital executions is much less; in the year 1834 only thirty-four persons were executed in England and Wales for every description of offence.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1509. *April 22.* Henry, the second but only surviving son of Henry VII. by Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Edward IV., must have succeeded to the crown in right of his mother, as his father was heir neither to the house of York nor Lancaster. The young king was not quite eighteen years of age on his accession. He confirmed the general pardon his father had

granted, and published a proclamation promising a restitution of the forfeitures illegally exacted in the last reign. Some of the inferior agents of Empson and Dudley being set in the pillory, were killed by the rabble.

Henry the Seventh's executors made restitution of great sums of money extorted by Dudley and Empson.

Jan. 3. The king solemnized his marriage with the princess Catherine, his brother Arthur's widow, her former nuptials not having been consummated.

June 24. The king and queen crowned at Westminster.

Improvements in gardening introduced from the Netherlands.

1510. Jan. Parliament met and passed an act of attainder against Empson and Dudley.

April. Pope Julius II. sent Henry a consecrated rose.

Henry made Wolsey dean of Lincoln, and presented him with Empson's house in Fleet-street.

Aug. 18. He caused Empson and Dudley, the instruments of his father's extortions, to be convicted and executed as traitors.

The money hoarded up in the last reign was squandered away in the beginning of this, and little or no satisfaction given to those it had been extorted from.

During this and the following year the court presented an uninterrupted succession of balls, revels, devices, and pageants, in which the king bore a conspicuous part.

1511. Jan. Henry engaged in the Italian league to oppose the French. This was the first instance of England taking a decided part in the politics of the continent.

1512. Jan. 25. Henry declared war against France.

Sir Edward Howard, the first lord high admiral appointed. A royal navy office was established, and we find nineteen ships manned and victualled by the government. The largest of these was of 1000 tons burden; the others were from 500 to 100 tons. The admiral received 10s. per day, each captain eighteen pence; all others 10s. per lunar month; the one-half for wages, the other half for provisions.

Jan. 26. Parliament met and granted the king two-fifteenths, and two-tenths on the clergy.

Feb. Henry sent ambassadors to the council of Lateran.

Part of the king's palace at Westminster, and the chapel in the Tower of London, were burnt.

1513. Wolsey, bishop of Winchester, was introduced at court, and made a privy councillor.

April. Admiral Howard put to sea with 32 ships of war, and engaged six galleys of the French, one of which he boarded, and was knocked overboard and drowned. His brother was appointed lord high admiral in his room.

April 30. Edmund de la Pole, earl of Suffolk upon account of his near relation to the house of York, was beheaded.

Brazen-Nose college in Oxford, founded by William Smith, bishop of Lincoln, and finished by Richard Sutton, Esq.

June 30. The king, having made queen Catherine regent, invaded France with a great army in person.

Aug. 16. Battle of Spurs, in which the French cavalry unaccountably take to flight.

Sept. Henry took Tournay, in which place were 80,000 inhabitants.

Sept. 9. The earl of Surrey gained a great victory over the Scots at Flodden Field. Among the slain were James IV. of Scotland, three bishops, two abbots, twenty-five barons, and a vast number of gentlemen; in all 10,000 men. James V. succeeded; during his minority, the queen was made regent, and a truce was concluded.

Oct. 24. The king returned, and passed an act, taking away the benefit of clergy from all who committed murder or felony in any consecrated place or elsewhere.

1514. Jan. Parliament met and passed an act, that surgeons should not sit on juries, and should be discharged from serving all parish offices, by reason of their constant call on patients.

The pope sent Henry a consecrated hat and sword. Peace with France.

Oct. The Princess Mary, the king's youngest sister, married Louis XII., of France, who died 1st January following, and was succeeded by Francis I.

Dec. 16. Peter Hunne, a respectable citizen, who had been buried ten days, tried for heresy at a spiritual court held at St. Paul's, on account of the preface to Wickliff's bible having been found in his house. Proclamation was made, that if any one chose to answer for the accused, he should appear immediately. No counsel chose to plead the cause of such a client before such a court. Hunne was pronounced a heretic, his body taken up, December 20th, and burnt in Smithfield. The people, who were mostly favourable to the burning of heretics, were shocked at the grossness and absurdity of this proceeding.

The king granted a manumission to two of his slaves and their families; for which he assigned this equitable reason in the preamble: "That God had at first created all men equally free by nature, but that many had been reduced to slavery by the laws of men. We believe it, therefore, to be a pious act, and meritorious in the sight of God, to set certain of our slaves at liberty from bondage." As these sentiments prevailed, slavery declined, and was at length extinguished without any positive law.

1515. May 1. The king and queen, attended by their nobles, ride a-Maying from Greenwich to the top of Shooter's hill,

where they were designedly met by 200 yeomen clothed in green, with bows and arrows, under a captain named Robin Hood. Robin addressed the king to stop and see his men shoot, and conducted them into the green wood, where the royal party were entertained with wine and venison, under arbours made of boughs decked with flowers.

May 2. The queen of France and duke of Suffolk arrived in England, and were publicly married at Greenwich on the 13th. She brought over with her to the value of 200,000 crowns.

Sept. Wolsey obtained a cardinal's cap.

Dec. Cardinal Wolsey, the pope's legate, archbishop of York, and lord chancellor of England, becomes prime minister of state. He held at once the bishoprics of York, Winchester, and Durham, and the abbeys of St. Alban and Lincoln; divers priories, and other great benefices in *commendam*, also the bishoprics of Bath, Worcester and Hereford in farm, and had the disposal of all ecclesiastical benefices, so that his revenues were computed to equal those of the crown.

1516. *Feb. 11.* A great frost in England, that carts passed over the Thames on the ice.

Corpus Christi college, in Oxford, founded by Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester.

May 3. Queen Margaret, dowager of Scotland, the king's eldest sister, was forced by a faction to fly into England, and came through London to Greenwich.

1517. *May 1.* An insurrection of the London apprentices, on account of strangers being permitted to trade, which was suppressed. Above 200 of the rioters were convicted of treason, of whom fifteen were executed, the rest being pardoned, on the intercession of the queens of England, France and Scotland, then residing in London. It is called in the chronicles, evil May-day.

The sweating sickness raged, usually carrying off the patient in three hours. In some towns half the people were swept away; and the terms were adjourned from London for a year and more.

June. The pope levied a tenth on the clergy of England, and appointed cardinal Wolsey collector.

Martin Luther's writings began to appear.

1518. The straits of Magellan discovered by a person of that name.

New Spain discovered by Fernandez Cortez.

July 29. Cardinal Campeius was sent by the pope as legate into England with whom Wolsey was joined.

Wolsey, losing the bishopric of Tournay,

was allowed by the French king an annual pension of 12,000 livres.

Oct. The college of physicians in London instituted.

The preaching up indulgencies, or promising eternal salvation to the most profligate of sinners that would purchase them, gave the first hint to the calling the pope's authority in question.

A court of commerce, or requests, first erected in London by an act of the common council.

1519. *Jan.* Henry stood godfather to Francis I., king of France's son, afterwards Henry II.

Wolsey obtained a bull from the pope as sole legate *a latere*, and exercised his commission with great pride. He tried to aspire to the popedom, by means of the emperor. The emperor and king of France equally court Wolsey's friendship.

Sept. 30. Tournay was delivered back to the French, on a treaty of marriage between the dauphin and the Princess Mary, neither of them two years old.

Henry, to show an extraordinary zeal against the doctrines of Luther, caused six men and one woman to be burnt at Coventry, for teaching their children the Lord's prayer, the ten commandments, and the apostle's creed, in the vulgar tongue.

1520. Charles, king of Spain, made emperor at the age of nineteen. He came over to England.

June 4. A famous interview between the kings of England and France, at Ardres, near the castle of Guisnes. A whole fortnight was consumed in feasts of arms and gay carousals. During six days the kings and their associates tilted with spears against all comers; the tourney, with the broadsword on horseback, occupied two more; and the last was occupied in fighting at the barriers on foot. The queens, with their ladies, attended the feasts of the knights.

1521. Henry writes a book against Luther, whereupon the pope gave him the title of Defender of the Faith.

May 17. Wolsey procured Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, to be attainted and executed for high treason; since his death, the place of high constable of England has never been conferred on any person, but upon particular occasions.

This year muskets were invented.

The Ladronne Isles discovered, and soon after the Philippines.

Aug. A congress held at Calais, where Wolsey was appointed to act for the king as mediator, and was appointed lieutenant-general.

Nov. 27. There was so great a dearth in England, that wheat was sold at twenty shillings a quarter.

The sea overflowed the dikes of Holland, drowned seventy-two villages, and above 100,000 people.

1522. On the death of Leo X., Wolsey sought to be made pope, but was disappointed; and Adrian, cardinal of Tortosa, is elected.

March. A war with France and Scotland commenced this year.

The king raised money by a tax without a parliament; the laity made him a loan of a tenth, and the clergy of a fourth. Wolsey required that every citizen of London worth £100 should certify on oath the real value of his property. The citizens remonstrated against this inquisition, and objected that the credit of many men was better than their substance.

April 15. Parliament met, chose Sir Thomas More their speaker, and granted, after a long demur, which the imperiousness of Wolsey could hardly surmount, a supply for the war with France; an army was sent over thither, commanded by the duke of Suffolk, which took some small places, and foraged the country almost as far as Paris.

May 26. The emperor Charles came a second time into England, landed at Dover, and was received with great honour and magnificence by Henry, June 6, who conducted him to London. He continued in England till July 5, and was made knight of the garter: he appointed the earl of Surrey admiral of his fleet, who made a descent on the coast of France, and brought off a rich booty. He lavished great bounties upon Cardinal Wolsey.

Sept. 4. Wolsey was a second time disappointed of being made pope, on the death of Adrian; Clement VII. was elected.

Wolsey's legatine power was still continued to him, and he was empowered by the new pope to suppress the lesser monasteries, to enable him to found a college at Ipswich, and another at Oxford.

The damask rose was first brought into England by Dr. Linacre, the king's physician.

1523. The clergy granted the king one half of their annual revenue, to be paid in five years.

The college of physicians established.

A war with France, the charges whereof amounted to 800,000*l.*

Sept. Wolsey caused the subsidy, payable in five years, to be paid at once.

The citizens of London were greatly alarmed by almanac makers and astronomers, who pretended to foretell great rains and inundations. Many withdrew to the neighbouring hills, for fear of being drowned, among them Bolton, prior of St. Bartholomew's, who built a house at

Harrow-on-the-hill, and retired thither having laid in provisions for two months.

Luther wrote an answer to Henry's book.

1524. *Feb. 24.* Battle of Pavia, in which the French king, Francis I., is taken prisoner by the Imperialists, carried to Spain, and confined in the castle of Madrid.

Henry engaged to pay the duke of Bourbon 100,000 crowns a month, on condition of his entering Provence with an army.

Aug. The pope granted Wolsey a bull, to suppress as many monasteries as he pleased, to the value of 3000 ducats a year, for the maintenance of his colleges.

1525. Henry levied money without a parliament, which occasioned an insurrection; but it was suppressed without bloodshed.

So severe a frost, after great winds and rains, that many lost the use of their limbs, and some perished with cold.

Divers things were imported into England, whereupon this rhyme was made:

"Turkeys, carps, hops, pippins and beer,
Came into England all in one year."

June 18. Wolsey gave his palace at Hampton Court to the king.

Whitehall built by Cardinal Wolsey.

Henry Fitzroy, natural son of Henry, created duke of Richmond and Somerset.

The king following his hawk, and leaping over a ditch with a pole, fell in upon his head, and had not one Edmund Moody, a footman, jumped in and raised up his head, which was stuck fast in the mud, he had been suffocated.

Francis Pizarro, a Spaniard, lands in Peru, after which one of the ships returned to Spain by the Cape of Good Hope.

1526. A bill brought into the House of Lords for the general manumission of bondmen in England; it was read three times in one day, and rejected. But what could not at once be effected by a law, was gradually accomplished by humanity.

Jan. 18. Henry made the pope a present of 30,000 ducats, and suppressed several little monasteries.

March 18. The emperor released Francis from imprisonment, on condition of surrendering part of his territories, and his two sons as hostages for the performance of his engagements.

1527. *May 6.* The duke of Bourbon, at the head of a mixed army of French, Spanish and Italian adventurers, assaults Rome; the duke is killed in mounting a ladder, but Rome is taken, and the city, during five days, abandoned to a licentious and infuriate soldiery; above 5000 are killed, and the soldiers got above

1,000,000 of ducats, and a much greater sum for ransoms.

July. Wolsey was sent to the court of France with a splendid retinue, to negotiate a peace; he bore the title of vicar-general.

1528. The plague raged greatly in France and Germany, as did the sweating sickness in England.

The king, having fallen in love with the accomplished Anne Boleyn, entertains scruples as to the lawfulness of his marriage with the infanta Catherine, his brother Arthur's widow, and endeavoured to obtain a divorce by a dispensation from the pope. All the bishops of England, except Fisher, declared the marriage unlawful. The king, in a public assembly of lords and judges at his palace, declared the reason of his divorcing the queen was to establish the succession of the crown in a right and undoubted line, and that he truly respected Catherine.

Monasteries suppressed to endow King's colleges at Cambridge and Eton.

A bull was procured for uniting the lesser monasteries to the greater; and another for converting some of the larger monasteries into cathedral churches, and erecting new bishoprics.

1429. The name of Protestants began.

Queen Catherine appealed to Rome.

The king, in a progress into Sussex, met with Dr. Cranmer, for whom he entertained a great esteem.

Oct. 9. Cardinal Wolsey was indicted upon the statute of premunire, and was put out of the protection of the law. The great seal was taken from him, and given to Sir Thomas More, and the cardinal was ordered to withdraw to Winchester.

Nov. 3. Parliament met and passed several laws, one of which was an act exempting the king from paying the several sums he had borrowed. Wolsey's affair was brought forward; Thomas Cromwell spoke for him in the House of Commons, and cleared him of the impeachment of high treason.

1530. The parliament met and passed several bills for the reformation of the clergy.

Oct. The king granted Wolsey a general pardon for all his offences, and ordered him to retire to his archbishopric of York.

The palace of St. James built.

Nov. Wolsey suddenly arrested at Cawood, and charged with high treason; he died at Leicester, on his road to London, the 29th. After his death, the king abandoned himself with less restraint to his ungovernable and sanguinary passions.

The first portable clock or watch made.

Secretary of state's office instituted.

531. *May 30.* Henry sent several lords

to press the queen to consent to the divorce, but she persisted in appealing to Rome. Several foreign universities declared the king's marriage with his brother's widow void.

The clergy were adjudged to have incurred a premunire, in applying to the see of Rome, and submitting to the legatine power, contrary to the statute of provisors; but upon their submission, and advancing the king 100,000*l.*, they were pardoned; the province of Canterbury and the province of York advanced 19,000*l.* In their petition, they styled Henry, protector and supreme head of the church and clergy of England. The laity also received a pardon for the same offence.

July 14. The king separated himself from Queen Catherine, and never again saw her; she withdrew to Ampthill.

The laws against heresy were put in execution, and several Protestants burnt.

1532. A statute against paying annats, or first-fruits, to the pope, and for consecrating bishops, though bulls were denied at Rome.

Feb. 16. Richard Rouse, a cook in the bishop of Rochester's kitchen, poisoned the soup, which caused the death of several persons. An act passed, (repealed 1 Edw. VI.) declaring poisoning treason, and the punishment to be boiling to death. This punishment was inflicted on Rouse soon after in Smithfield.

April. The commons addressed the king to redress the grievances occasioned by the clergy.

Henry was cited to appear at Rome to answer Queen Catherine's appeal, or send a proxy, but he refused both.

May 16. Sir Thomas More resigned the office of lord chancellor, and was succeeded by Lord Audley.

An epidemical disorder broke out.

Six new bishoprics were erected on the suppression of some monasteries.

Sept. 1. Anne Boleyn made marchioness of Pembroke, with a pension of 10000*l.* a-year, payable out of the ecclesiastical revenues of the bishopric of Durham.

Oct. 11. The king visited France in company with Anne Boleyn, and agreed to a new treaty with the French king.

Nov. 14. The king returned from France with Anne Boleyn, who was the second daughter of Sir Thomas Boleyn, who had sprung from a lord mayor of London, whose descendants had married into several noble families.

1533. *Jan. 25.* Five years had elapsed since the king had first solicited a divorce, three since he had begun to cohabit with Anne Boleyn; the reason of his patience has been ascribed to the infecundity of Anne, but now being pregnant, Henry, on

this day, was privately married to her in a garret, at the western end of the palace of Whitehall.

Henry ordered Queen Catherine to be styled only princess dowager of Wales.

Dr. Crammer made archbishop of Canterbury.

May 23. The convocation declares the king's marriage with Queen Catherine void. The archbishop pronounced the sentence of divorce, and the king's marriage with Anne Boleyn was confirmed; the pope afterwards annulled the archbishop's sentence.

Currants, or Corinthian grapes, first planted in England, brought from the isle of Zante, belonging to Venice; the musk rose, and several sorts of plums from Italy, were brought and planted by Lord Cromwell.

1534. Jan. A statute passed whereby the king was empowered to name thirty-two commissioners to reform the canons.

April. Cromwell appointed chancellor of the exchequer, who, with Cranmer, Sir Thomas More, and the dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, supported the Reformation, but they met with a strong party against them.

The parliament throw off all subjection to the see of Rome, upon receiving the pope's sentence against Henry; the convocation declare their submission to the king's authority, and abolish Peter-pence.

April 20. Elizabeth Barton, called the Holy Maid of Kent, and five others, her accomplices, executed for treason. She was afflicted with hysterical fits, and pretended to foretell the king's death, if he proceeded in the divorce. Her delusions were countenanced by Bishops Fisher and Warham, and even the learned Sir Thomas More.

Aug. Tindal's translation of the bible burnt.

Nov. Parliament enacted, that the king is supreme head of the church of England, and gave him the first-fruits and tenths.

Nov. 3. An act passed debarring persons accused of treason the benefit of sanctuary: an oath, concerning the succession, to be taken by all persons.

1535. Several monks and twenty-five other persons that opposed the king were executed.

Henry endeavoured to persuade the king of Scotland to renounce the pope, and demanded an interview, which James refused.

May 8. Henry commanded all persons at court to cut their hair short; he showed the example, and began to wear his beard knotted, and was no more shaved.

June 22. Bishop Fisher, a learned and able, but rather credulous prelate, executed for misprision of treason, in not taking the oath of succession.

July 7. The most learned and accom-

plished Sir Thomas More executed under the tyrannical act which made it treason "to do any thing by writing or act which was to the slander, disturbance, or prejudice of the marriage with the Lady Anne, or to the disherison or disturbance of the king's heirs by her." He was the first Englishman who signalized himself as an orator, the first writer of a work which is still intelligible, and probably the first lay chancellor of England.

The king, being excommunicated by the pope, determined to suppress the monasteries, and ordered a severe visitation of them.

Brass cannon first cast in England, by John Owen.

Oct. Thomas Cromwell, who had become the king's chief minister, was made vicar general, and visited all the churches and monasteries in England. Several monasteries surrender their charters to the king.

1536. All monasteries under 200*l.* per annum are given to the king by act of parliament; whereby 376 were suppressed. Bishop Burnet observes, that the report of the visitation of those houses is lost; yet he saw an extract of it, concerning 144 houses, which contained abominations in them equal to any that were in Sodom. The yearly amount of those lesser monasteries was 32,000*l.* per annum.

Tindal, who translated the bible, was burnt as an heretic, at Geneva.

Wales united and incorporated with England by act of parliament.

The bible printed in English.

Jan. 29. Queen Catherine died in the 50th year of her age, at Kimbolton.

Henry was jealous of Queen Anne, whom he caused to be condemned by her peers, for high treason, in procuring her brother and four others to lie with her. She confessed a pre-contract with the earl of Northumberland, and either on account of that, or the canonical cause arising from the king's connexion with her sister, she was divorced by Archbishop Crammer's sentence.

Feb. 4. Parliament met and abolished every thing relative to the pope's power.

A new Court of Augmentations of the king's revenues erected.

A great many saints' holidays abolished by royal proclamation, as favourable to idleness and riot.

April 14. Parliament was dissolved, after having continued six years.

May 19. Queen Anne executed in the Tower; the king exultingly dressed himself in white on this day, and next morning was married to Jane Seymour, who had been maid to the queen.

The Princess Mary was compelled to acknowledge the king's supremacy; and that

the king's marriage with her mother was incestuous and unlawful.

June 8. The new parliament met, and passed an act of attainder against Anne Boleyn, and enacted that both the divorces were legal, and the issue of both marriages illegitimate, and incapable of inheriting the crown.

An act passed, giving the king full power to declare the succession to the crown.

Reginald Pole distinguished himself, and wrote a book, entitled "Concerning Ecclesiastical Union," in which he treated the king with much severity; Henry stripped him of his dignities, and wreaked his revenge on Pole's family.

Henry proposed several articles for the house of convocation to debate upon.

The king was cited to a council at Mantua, called by the emperor and pope, which he protested against.

The estates belonging to religious houses were sold to the nobility; land at twenty years', buildings at fifteen years' purchase.

July. The parliament was prorogued, after a session of forty days.

A rebellion in Yorkshire; the rebels, headed by Robert Ask, took York and Hull; the duke of Norfolk marched against them, but upon being pardoned they dispersed.

The suppressing the monasteries occasioned an insurrection in the north.

The bishops at this time were divided into two parties: one of which, with Cranmer and Latimer at its head, inclined toward reformation, though professing to be of no denomination of Protestants; the other, led by Gardiner and Lee, leant to papacy.

1537. The multitude disperse upon offers of pardon, and the Lords Hussey and Darcy were executed in June, with some of the great abbots.

Oct. 12. Queen Jane was brought to bed of Prince Edward; the queen died two days after her delivery, and was buried in the choir, at Windsor, on the 15th.

The bible, being translated and printed in English, was ordered to be set up in churches, at the joint expense of the incumbent and his parishioners. Another work, published under the authority of the king, was "The Goodly and Pious Institutions of a Christian Man," subscribed by the bishops, and comprising an exposition of orthodox doctrines, was ordered.

1538. Henry ordered the report of the last visitation to be published.

During this year twenty-one monasteries were suppressed. Many of the greater monasteries surrendered their charters, and the king seized Thomas-à-Becket's rich shrine; he converted it to his own use, and caused his bones to be burnt. Pensions were granted to the members of the dissolved

religious houses, according to their rank, on condition that they should cease as soon as they obtained church preferment of equal value. The pope absolved the king's subjects from their allegiance, decreed him to be deposed, invited all Christian princes to make war upon him, and excommunicated him.

Leaden pipes for the conveyance of water invented by Robert Brook.

1539. Six articles of religion were established by act of parliament, of which a belief in transubstantiation was one, and for denying which, Lambert, a priest and schoolmaster in London, was burnt. Cranmer, Taylor, and Barnes, who brought him to the stake, afterwards suffered, for the same doctrines, nearly the same punishment.

The king visited the sea coasts, and ordered several forts to be built, in particular Dover Pier.

April 15. Parliament met, and made a different appearance from former occasions, the parliamentary abbots not having been summoned. For several centuries the spiritual peers had been more in number than the temporal peers in the House of Lords. Now there were forty temporal, and only twenty spiritual peers assembled; more than one half of the spiritual peers having been excluded by the dissolution of the religious houses.

Parliament confirmed whatever the king pleased in matters of religion, they also granted him a tenth and two fiftieths. The clergy in convocation granted the king a subsidy.

July 29. A statute was made confirming the seizures and surrenders of the abbeyes; and in which it is provided, that "all monasteries, or other religious houses, dissolved, suppressed, surrendered, or by any means come to his highness, shall be vested in him, his heirs and successors for ever." But the vast possessions so vested in the crown were soon lost by wasteful grants and alienations; and no substantial national advantage was derived from that great revolution, by which, in five years, a fifth or a fourth part of the landed property of England and Wales had been confiscated.

1540. *Jan. 6.* The king married Anne, sister of the duke of Cleves, by proxy; but being disgusted with her person, on her arrival, never consummated the marriage.

June 15. Cromwell was attainted of high treason, without being heard, and beheaded on Tower-hill the 28th of July.

In this session the order of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem was suppressed, and all their effects in England and Ireland were confiscated for the use of the king, who allotted 3000*l.* per annum for their maintenance.

Lord Hungerford was attainted and executed for keeping an heretical chaplain.

Ignatius Loyola, a Spaniard, founded the order of Jesuits, by virtue of a bull of Paul III., dated September 27, 1540.

Cherries were this year first planted in Kent, where an orchard of thirty-two acres produced a thousand pounds. Apricots were brought here by Henry's gardener.

July. Archbishop Cranmer and the convocation divorced the king from Anne of Cleves, on pretence that the king's internal free consent was wanting at the marriage, and that he had never consummated the marriage; the parliament passed an act, confirming the judgment of the convocation, which received the royal assent on the 24th of July. She was allotted an estate of 3000*l.* per annum, and lived for sixteen years after in England, with the title of Princess Anne of Cleves.

An act passed, declaring all marriages valid, notwithstanding any pre-contract, not actually consummated.

Aug. 8. The king married Lady Catherine Howard, niece to the duke of Norfolk, and cousin-german of Anne Boleyn.

1541. The king declared all heretics, whether Papists or Protestants, who rejected his exposition of faith.

April. An insurrection happened in Yorkshire, which was soon suppressed.

The countess of Salisbury, mother of Cardinal Pole, being a prisoner in the Tower, was executed, being thought too nearly related to the house of York.

Dancing by cinque paces introduced into England from Italy.

1542. Queen Catherine Howard was accused by Archbishop Cranmer, of incontinence, by the information of one Lascelles, attainted of high treason by act of parliament, without being brought to a trial, and beheaded in the Tower, February 14. She confessed her guilt with Derham, Mannock, and Culpepper. Derham was hanged, Mannock got off by giving up his estates, and the other was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. Lady Rochford was executed on the same day as an accomplice in the queen's dissoluteness.

It was declared by statute to be high treason not to discover a queen's incontinence: and to be high treason in any one to marry the king, if not a virgin.

Ireland erected into a kingdom, by the parliament of Ireland; confirmed by an act of the English parliament, and the king thereupon took the title of king of Ireland.

Henry revived his pretensions to the sovereignty of Scotland; he gave the command of his forces to the duke of Norfolk, who routed the Scotch army and took many prisoners, also 24 pieces of ordnance.

Dec. The king entered Scotland, and defeated the Scots at Solway Moss.

A great mortality, and so great a drought that small rivers were dried up; the Thames was so shallow, that the salt water flowed above London bridge.

1543. Three Protestants burnt at Windsor, at the instigation of Gardiner.

July 12. The king married Lady Catherine Parr, widow of Lord Latimer; a virgin hardly daring to trust to his construction of the act he had procured concerning their innocence.

Dec. 13. The better sort of people only are allowed the use of bibles.

This year mortars and cannons were cast in iron, the first that were ever made in England, at Buckstead, in Sussex.

1544. The king's title settled by parliament, as King of England, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Supreme Head of the Churches of England and Ireland.

An act was passed to limit the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts.

The parliament declared the king clear of all debts.

Sept. Henry commenced war with France and took Boulogne, which he entered publicly, in spite of his huge and distempered body, "armed at all points, on a great courser." Prior to this expedition, prayers and processions were made as usual for its success; but Cranmer embraced the opportunity to convince the king, that the people would join in these prayers with greater fervency if they were in English, than they could do in an unknown tongue. With Henry's permission the archbishop composed a number of prayers in English, which were commanded to be used in all churches. About the same time various superstitious ceremonies were abolished, as watching and ringing bells all night on the vigil of All-hallows, the covering of images and the cross with veils during Lent, and the kneeling or creeping to the cross on Palm Sunday, or any other time.

Pistols were first used by the horse this year.

The dauphin marched against Henry at the head of 40,000 men, upon which Henry retired to Calais.

Sept. 30. The king returned and fortified Portsmouth, Dover, and Gravesend.

The king reformed the public offices, and put out a form of profession in English.

1545. *Jan.* France attempted an invasion, and fitted out 210 sail of ships; they met the English fleet of 100 sail in the Channel and engaged; the night parted them, but the French lost many of their ships.

Nov. 23. Parliament met and granted the king a subsidy, also the lands of the suppressed colleges and hospitals.

Dec. 13. Council of Trent opened.

Dec. 24. The king went to the house of lords, made a long speech, and then dismissed them.

1546. *Feb. 18.* Martin Luther died, aged sixty-three.

Ambassadors arrived from France, and began to negociate about religion, and purposed to abolish the mass.

Cardinal Beaton persecuted the Scots, and caused several persons to be burnt on account of religion; soon after the cardinal was murdered.

Henry continued impartially to persecute the Lutherans as heretics, and the Papists as traitors. He had become so unwieldy, that he could not be moved without machinery. His breathing was difficult, and the signature of his name became too heavy a task for his feeble and overloaded hands. Stamps, with his initials, were affixed to public instruments requiring his signature. An ulcer on the leg subjected him to great pain, and rendered him offensive to his attendants.

Dec. 12. The duke of Norfolk and his son, the earl of Surrey, sent to the Tower.

The king restored the two universities of Oxford and Cambridge to their estates and privileges.

The public stews, in Southwark, suppressed, which were before allowed by the state.

One William Foxley fell asleep, and never awoke for fourteen days and nights, he lived forty-one years afterwards.

Dec. 30. Henry made his will, and appointed thirteen lords his executors.

1547. *Jan. 19.* The earl of Surrey were executed for high treason, and his father, the duke of Norfolk, was attainted without being heard; but the king dying the night before his execution was appointed, he was saved.

In a convocation, all canons, laws and usages against the marriage of priests were annulled, and likewise all vows of celibacy: and it was resolved to administer the communion in both kinds, which the parliament confirmed.

The council ordered a suppression of images; Gardiner was imprisoned for defending popery, and all his papers secured.

Jan. 28. Henry died in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the thirty-eighth year of his reign, and was buried at Windsor, where he founded a college for thirteen poor knights and two priests. In place of the religious houses, he founded, out of a part of their revenues, the six bishoprics of Westminster, Oxford, Peterborough, Bristol, Chester and Gloucester; he founded Trinity College, in Cambridge, and Christ's Hospital, in London, and re-founded Christ's College, in Oxford.

The king, being empowered to limit the succession of the crown by act of parliament, settled it on the issue of his sister Mary, by Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in case his two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, died without issue, to the exclusion of Margaret, his eldest sister, who had married James V., king of Scots.

KING'S ISSUE.

He had by the infanta, Catherine, two sons, Henry, and another son not named, who died young, and one daughter, named Mary, afterwards queen of England.

A son was born at the end of the year 1514, who died an infant, also a daughter.

He had by his second wife, Anne Boleyn, the Princess Elizabeth, afterwards queen of England; also a still-born son.

He had by his third wife, the Lady Jane Seymour, one only child, named Edward, who succeeded him on the throne.

By his other three wives he left no issue.

He had one natural son, Henry Fitzroy, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Blount; he died at the age of eighteen, after being created duke of Richmond, to the great regret of the king. By the other mistress, Mary Boleyn, the elder sister of the unfortunate queen of that name, he had no issue.

STATUTES AND TAXES IN THIS REIGN.

1 and 2 Henry. Directing prosecutions on penal statutes to be commenced within three years after the offence committed.

4 Henry. Two-fifteenths and four demies granted by parliament, together with a poll-tax, whereby a duke was to pay ten marks, an earl five pounds, a baron four pounds, a knight four marks, every one worth 800*l.* in goods, four marks, and others after that rate down to those who had forty shillings per annum, and every other person of fifteen years of age was to pay four pence.

7 Henry. Enacted that the members of the house of commons absenting themselves from parliament, without leave of the speaker, should lose their wages.

14 and 15 Henry. The parliament granted the king two shillings in the pound on every estate upwards of twenty pounds per annum, and on estates from twenty pounds to forty shillings per annum, one shilling, and every other person to pay fourpence a head within two years. The clergy in proportion gave double what the laity had given, half their revenue for five years.

An act passed empowering all those who should attend the king in his wars, to dispose of their lands by will, without paying a fine for alienation.

An act for establishing a college of physicians in London.

An act dispensing with the marriage of the six clerks in chancery.

16 Henry. Wolsey attempted, by commission, to make the people pay a sixth of every man's substance in plate or money, but was opposed, for which Henry blamed him much.

22 Henry, cap. 5. Justices of peace empowered to tax their several counties for the repair of bridges.

Cap. 9. Poisoning made high treason.

Cap. 10. An act for the expulsion of Gypsies, who are described in the preamble "as an outlanding people, calling themselves Egyptians, using no craft or feat of merchandise, but going from shire to shire, deceiving the people by subtle arts of palmistry, and committing heinous felonies and robberies."

23 Henry, cap. 2. Justices empowered to tax their counties towards building of jails.

Cap. 10. Assurances of lands in mortmain to the use of churches, chapels, &c. declared void.

Cap. 15. Costs given to the defendant, where the plaintiff is nonsuited.

24 Henry. A fifteenth granted to the king, towards his charges in erecting fortifications against Scotland.

24 and 25 Henry. An act was made for settling the price of meat, namely, beef and pork at a halfpenny per pound, and veal at three farthings.

An act indemnifying persons for killing highwaymen and housebreakers.

An act prohibiting all appeals to Rome, and that all persons procuring or executing any process or censures from Rome, should incur a premonition.

Cap. 3. Clergy is taken away from prisoners standing mute, or challenging more of the jurors than the law allows.

Cap. 6. Clergy taken away from sodomites.

An act prohibiting the payment of the first-fruits of bishoprics to Rome, and directing the manner of electing and consecrating bishops, particularly that bishops shall be elected on the king's *congé d'élire*, and consecrated without applying to Rome.

An act prohibiting Peter-pence and all other payments to the see of Rome.

An act empowering the archbishop of Canterbury to grant licences, dispensations, faculties, &c. which used to be granted by the see of Rome.

Enacted that none shall marry within the levitical degrees.

An act declaring the king the only supreme head of the church of England, and empowering him to visit, redress, and reform all errors, heresies, and offences.

An act granting annates and tenths to the crown.

An act appointing twenty-five great towns to be the sees of suffragan bishops.

27 Henry, cap. 4. Pirates shall be tried according to the course of the common law.

Cap. 10. Uses are transferred into possession. A woman shall not have both a jointure and dower, but may refuse a jointure made after marriage.

Cap. 18. Deeds of bargain and sale must be enrolled.

Cap. 25 directs how counties shall be charged for the relief of the poor

28 Henry. Clergymen shall be resident on their livings.

Enacted that Wales should be governed by the laws of England, and that the Welsh counties should be divided into hundreds.

An act for suppressing the lesser monasteries, whose revenues did not amount to 200*l.* per annum.

An act for erecting the Court of Augmentations, to take care of the revenues arising from the suppressed monasteries.

An act empowering the king to declare the succession of the crown by his letters patent, or last will.

An act for extinguishing the pope's authority, and declaring that whoever should maintain it, should incur a premonition.

An act obliging incumbents to reside on their livings.

Declared to be high treason to marry any person nearly allied to the crown, without the king's licence.

Enacted that French wine should be sold at two-pence a quart, and sack at three-pence a quart.

31 Henry. An act confirming the surrenders of the larger monasteries to the crown.

An act enforcing the six bloody articles, as they were called, namely, 1. the belief of transubstantiation; 2. a declaration that the communion in both kinds was not necessary; 3. that it was not lawful for priests to marry; 4. that vows of chastity were not to be broken; 5. that private masses were profitable, and 6. that auricular confession was necessary. If any persons held opinions contrary to any of these articles, they were to be adjudged heretics, and burnt, and forfeit all their lands and goods, as in high treason.

Enacted, that the king's proclamations shall be of the same force as acts of parliament, except in cases of private right.

An act empowering the king to erect new bishoprics.

An act settling the precedence of the peers and great officers of state, whereby Cromwell, the king's vicegerent, was ap-

pointed to take precedence of the archbishop of Canterbury, and all other peers that were not of the royal family.

A subsidy of two shillings in the pound on lands, and twelve pence in the pound on goods with four-fifteenths, were granted towards the king's charges in making bulwarks.

31 Henry, cap. 1. Joint-tenants and tenants in common compellable to make partition.

Cap. 10. The precedency of the peers is settled.

32 Henry, cap. 1. and 33 Henry, cap. 5. The subject is enabled to dispose of his lands by will.

Cap. 7. A remedy is given for the recovery of tithes in the spiritual court.

Cap. 36. Fines levied by tenant in tail, shall bar the heirs of his body.

An act to dissolve the king's marriage with the Princess Anne of Cleves, because he did "not inwardly consent to it."

An act declaring that the breaking a vow of chastity should not be capital.

An act that whatever the king's commissioners should determine, concerning the doctrines or ceremonies of the church, should be obeyed on pain of death.

An act granting the king one-tenth and two-fifteenths.

An act for the attainder of Cromwell, the vicegerent.

33 Henry. A penalty is inflicted on those who defraud others by false tokens, or counterfeit letters.

Cap. 13. The county and city of Chester are first empowered to send members to parliament.

Cap. 24. None shall be justice of assize in the county where he was born, or doth inhabit, on pain of forfeiting 100*l*.

34 and 35 Henry, cap. 26, directs that knights, citizens and burgesses be chosen and sent to parliament from the shires, cities, and burghs of Wales. This was the first introduction of parliamentary representation into the principality, and by it and the preceding act relative to Chester, an addition of thirty members was made to the house of commons.

An act for erecting Ireland into a kingdom.

An act for annulling the local statutes of all colleges and hospitals.

35 Henry, enacted, that persons possessed of goods of the value of twenty shillings and upwards to five pounds should pay four pence in the pound; from five to ten pounds eight pence in the pound; from ten to twenty pounds, sixteen pence in the pound; and all who possessed above the value of twenty pounds, two shillings in the pound; and all foreigners double; and the clergy granted six shillings in the pound to be paid in three years: and for

lands every Englishman paid eight pence in the pound, from twenty shillings to five pounds; from five pounds to ten pounds, sixteen pence in the pound; and from ten pounds to twenty pounds, two shillings in the pound; and from twenty pounds and upwards, three shillings in the pound: foreigners double.

An act permitting the bible to be read in private houses.

Enacted that none of the clergy should be burnt for heresy till the third offence, and that the laity should suffer only imprisonment and loss of goods.

An act declaring the king's title to be King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Supreme Head of the Churches of England and Ireland.

An act empowering the king to defraud his creditors, and where any of them had received their money, to oblige them to repay it back into the exchequer.

37 Henry. All colleges, free chapels, chantries, hospitals, and fraternities, with their lands, tenements, and hereditaments, granted to the crown.

Two shillings and eight pence in the pound granted on goods, and four shillings in the pound on lands, to be paid in two years, and the clergy gave two shillings in the pound for two years.

38 Henry. The king seized the church-plate and ornaments, and extorted another benevolence.

An act for attainting the duke of Norfolk of high treason.

There were several other acts passed in this reign that deserve to be remembered, particularly

4 Henry, cap. 2, whereby thieves and murderers are excluded the benefit of clergy.

21 Henry, cap. 4. The administering executors are empowered to sell lands devised to be sold.

Cap. 6. Mortuaries are ascertained, and enacted that none exceed ten shillings.

Cap. 7. It is made felony in a servant to embezzle his master's goods to the value of forty shillings.

Cap. 11. Stolen goods shall be restored to the owner, on the conviction of a felon.

Cap. 13. Clergymen are prohibited to trade, or hold a farm, and the number of noblemen's chaplains limited.

RICHES OF THE KING.

It was the general opinion that Henry was the richest king in Europe; but his wars revealed the inexplicable secret of his poverty. The vast treasures he collected from the religious houses, and the enormous sums he raised by the sale of their property, seemed to have been absorbed in some invisible abyss. Among other expedients to supply his necessities, he resorted to the pernicious one of adulterating

the coin, by which, while he defrauded the public, he created numberless embarrassments in the way of trade, and involved his successors in inextricable difficulties. At his accession, the ounce of gold and the pound of silver were each worth forty shillings; having raised them by successive proclamations to forty-four, forty-five, and forty-eight shillings, he issued a new coinage with a considerable quantity of alloy, and contrived at the same time to obtain possession of the old money, by offering a premium to those who would bring it to the mint. The consequence was, that his successors found themselves compelled to lower the nominal value of his shillings, first from twelve-pence to nine-pence, and then to sixpence, and finally to withdraw them from circulation.—6. Ling. Hist. 451.

It is estimated that one-fourth or one-fifth of the landed property of the kingdom changed hands by the dissolution of the religious houses. As soon as an abbey was surrendered, the commissioners broke its seal and assigned pensions to the members. The plate and jewels were reserved for the king; the furniture and goods were sold, and the money paid into the Augmentation Office. The abbot's lodgings and the offices were left standing, for the convenience of the next occupant. The church, cloisters, and apartments for the monks were stripped of the lead and every saleable article, and then left to fall in ruins. The proceeds of this vast confiscation, in lieu of being applied to objects of public utility, became gradually the property of courtiers and others by gift, sale, and exchange.

No complete return of the total revenues of the religious houses has ever been given. Of 388, we have no estimate of income. Many of the chantries, hospitals for the entertainment of pilgrims, and gilds of lay brethren, were not seized till the next reign. The total number of religious houses has been stated at 1041, and the only portion of which we have an authentic return of revenue are the following:—

Houses.	Order.	Revenues.
186	Benedictines . . .	£65,879 14 0
20	Cluniacs	4,972 9 2½
9	Carthusians	2,947 15 4½
101	Cistercians	18,691 12 6
173	Austins	33,027 1 11
32	Premonstratensians	4,807 14 1
25	Gilbertines	2,421 13 9
3	Fontevrand Nuns	825 8 6½
3	Minoresses	548 10 6
1	Bridgettines	1,731 8 9½
2	Bonhommes	859 8 5½
	Knights Hospitallers	5,394 6 5½
	Friars	809 11 8½
		£142,914 12 9½

If the revenues of the houses not returned were proportionate to these, and the relative value of money be considered, we must be convinced of the vast wealth of the monastic orders. But these returns of income were only the reserved rents, without including the tithes of appropriations, fines, heriots, renewals, deadlands, &c., which probably amounted to twice as much. Upon good authority, it has been stated, that the clergy were proprietors of seven tenths of the whole kingdom, and out of the three remaining tenths then left to the king, lords, and commons, were the four numerous orders of Mendicants to be maintained, against whom no gate could be shut, to whom no provision could be denied, and from whom no secret could be concealed.

A.D. 1485 to 1547.

LEARNING AND SCIENCE.

The schoolmen and bible divines of a former period had fallen greatly in public estimation, and their barbarous jargon, unintelligible subtilties, endless sermonising, and voluminous works, begun to be neglected and despised. One great cause of this revolution was an increased taste for classical learning. Latin and Greek were now studied with avidity, and to speak and write them, especially the former, with elegance and purity, was considered a valuable accomplishment, to which persons of high rank and of both sexes aspired. The greatest scholars of the age, as Erasmus, Linacer, Cheke, and others, exerted themselves to promote classical education, and for that purpose did not disdain to spend their time in composing rudiments, grammars, colloquies, and vocabularies. Even Henry VIII., and his great minister, Cardinal Wolsey, stooped to be the preceptors of youth in their favourite Latin. The king is said to have written an Introduction to Grammar, and the cardinal composed a code of instructions to be observed by the masters in the school he founded at Ipswich, his native town. The cardinal had been a schoolmaster, and was well qualified for giving these instructions, which are equally full and judicious.

The teaching of Greek was for a long time stoutly opposed by the monks and the academicians of the universities. Many, both of the secular and regular clergy, railed against the Greek New Testament of Erasmus, as an impious and dangerous book. At Oxford they were divided into factions; one assuming the name of Greeks, the other of Trojans. As the Trojans were the most numerous, they were the most insolent. When a poor Greek appeared in the street, or in any public place, he was attacked by the Trojans with

hisses, taunts, and insults of all kinds. But the triumphs of the Trojans were of short duration. Henry VIII. and Wolsey having warmly espoused the cause of the Greeks, their numbers, their credit, and their courage daily increased, the Greek language became a favourite study, and the Trojans were obliged to retire from the field.

But after the study of Greek had become fashionable, a controversy about the true pronunciation of it arose between sir John Cheke, professor of Greek at Cambridge, and Gardiner, chancellor of that university and bishop of Winchester. This controversy was conducted with great modesty and learning by the professor, who proved that the pronunciation which had been introduced in the dark ages was absurd and faulty in many respects; and in particular that, by giving the same sound to several different letters, it destroyed the beauty, variety, and musical sweetness of the language, which were restored by the new pronunciation. To all this the haughty chancellor replied, by a thundering decree, denouncing very severe censures on all who dared to drop the old, and adopt the new pronunciation. On this occasion, reason proved too strong for mere authority. The decree was disregarded, and the new pronunciation prevailed, and still prevails.

The philosophic age had not yet arrived. The restorers of learning were too intent on the study of the Belles Lettres, to pay much attention to the sciences. These remained nearly in the same low and wretched state, in which they had been in the preceding period.

Attempts were made to rescue the practice of MEDICINE out of the unworthy hands by which it had done so much mischief. No physician or surgeon was allowed to practise in London, or within seven miles thereof, unless approved by the bishop of London, or the dean of St. Paul's, assisted by four medical examiners; nor in any other part without a licence from the bishop of the diocese. Soon after the physicians and surgeons were incorporated with exclusive privileges of licence and admission; and that they might not be interrupted in their professional duties, they were exempt from bearing arms, and serving on juries; which privileges, with the addition of exemption from parochial offices, they still enjoy. By these means the reputation of the medical profession was raised, and the people protected from bold and ignorant adventurers. But the restraint of quackery made the regular practice of physic and surgery exceedingly lucrative, and caused Erasmus to remark, that "the most effectual security against

poverty is the art of medicine, which of all arts is the most remote from mendicancy."

The usual consequences of monopolies manifested themselves, and about thirty years after the incorporation of the surgeons, the legislature was compelled to interfere and open the trade, by allowing any of the king's subjects, who had a knowledge of "herbs, roots, and waters, to administer to any outward sore, or in stone, strangury, or ague," without being liable to penalty. It was complained of the surgeons that they would not cure any person, unless they "thought to be rewarded with a greater sum than the cure extendeth unto: for in case they would minister their cunning unto sore people unrewarded, there should not so many rot and perish to death, for lack or help of surgery, as daily do." (35 Hen. VIII. c. 8.) It is to the credit of the age, that there was a good deal of gratuitous practice among the "poor people only for neighbourhood and God's sake, and of pity and charity;" and it was to facilitate this, the statute mentioned was passed. But it is a curious instance of the short-sightedness of the legislature, that, in a former act of the same reign (5 Hen. VIII. c. 6), the parliament appears to consider twelve surgeons sufficient for London; and to that number the privileges it granted are restricted.

Improvements in medical practice were greatly needed, in consequence of the introduction of two frightful maladies; one, the sweating sickness, has been described in the Occurrences; and the other, the *lues venerea*, was brought from St. Domingo, by the followers of Columbus. It first appeared at Barcelona in 1493, where it soon raged with so much violence, that it excited universal horror and consternation. A reinforcement of Spanish troops conveyed it to Naples, where it made its way into France, and in a few years was diffused into every corner of Europe. In France it was called the Neapolitan, and in Italy the French disease, both nations being anxious to disown the infamy. The physicians stood aghast at its first appearance, and it was only audacious empirics who pretended to give the unhappy sufferers relief. The two mighty rivals, Charles V. and Francis I., were both infected with the disease, and to the last of these princes it proved fatal. It was one of the articles of accusation brought by the house of peers against Cardinal Wolsey in 1529, that he was afflicted with syphilis. By degrees the virulence of the distemper, and the alarm occasioned by its first appearance, began to abate, and physicians became better acquainted with its causes, its symptoms, and its cure.

LEARNED MEN. A. D. 1486 to 1547.

Sir Thomas More, lord chancellor of England, and the friend of Erasmus, was one of the most ingenious and learned men of this period, and one of the chief restorers of learning. He was born in 1480, and refusing to take the oath of supremacy, he fell a victim to the sanguinary passions of Henry VIII., in the fifty-third year of his age. After his head had been exposed fourteen days on London bridge, his exemplary daughter, Mrs. Roper, contrived to obtain it, and when she died, it was, at her dying request, buried in her arms. Sir James Mackintosh has exhausted himself (*Hist. of England*, ii. 179.) in panegyrics on the eloquence, learning, and amiability of this distinguished statesman. He had one defect, and in such an age it cannot excite surprise—he was an intolerant papist. His writings, which were chiefly polemic, have, with the exception of the 'Utopia,' long since reached merited oblivion. The boldness, originality, and freedom of inquiry, even in religion, of the Utopia, is much opposed to the author's subsequent bigotry.

Thomas Linacre, a philologist and eminent physician, was born at Canterbury in 1460; when advanced in life, he applied to the study of theology, was ordained a priest, and obtained several preferments in the church. He was tutor to the princess Mary, afterwards queen of France, and for the use of his pupil wrote the rudiments of Latin grammar. He died of the stone in 1542.

Dr. John Colet, the eldest of eleven sons and eleven daughters of sir Henry Colet, who twice filled the civic chair of London. He was a most munificent patron of learning, and the personal friend of all the distinguished scholars of his time. Dean Colet did not survive to observe the Reformation, towards which the diffusion of opinions such as he entertained materially contributed; after witnessing the prosperity of St. Paul's school, which he founded for the gratuitous instruction of 153 scholars, he died in 1519, of a third attack of the sweating sickness, in the fifty-third year of his age.

William Lily was the friend of dean Colet, and the first master of St. Paul's school. He composed the celebrated *Lily's Grammar*, in which he was assisted

by Colet, Erasmus, and Robinson, three of the first linguists in Europe, and it was published with a preface written by Cardinal Wolsey, recommending it to universal use. Lily was the first schoolmaster who taught Greek in London. He died of the plague in 1523, aged 57.

Henry Howard, earl of Surrey, the last but not least distinguished ornament of this period. He was celebrated for his poetical genius, surpassed only by that of Chaucer; for his happy imitations of the Italian masters, and by his successful version of the second and fourth books of the *Æneid*. He was also a gallant knight, a skilful captain, and an active statesman. This most accomplished nobleman fell a victim, in 1547, to the most frivolous charges, under the infamous treason laws of Henry VIII. His entire works were published with notes by Dr. Nott in 1816.

Several other men of learning and genius contributed to the revival of learning at this period, as Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury; Tonstal, bishop of Durham; sir John Cheke, Leland, and Richard Paice. It has been observed of them that they were all virtuous men; and what is rather more unusual in the republic of letters, they all lived in cordial friendship, mutually co-operating in the promotion of their common object, the diffusion of knowledge.

The contemporary luminaries in Scotland were Gavin Douglas, bishop of Dunkeld, Patrick Panter, Latin secretary to James IV., and Hector Boyce, a native of Dundee.

Besides the illustrious schools of Ipswich and St. Paul's, many richly endowed colleges were established for the education of youth, and encouragement of learning. In the present period of sixty-two years, three colleges were founded in Oxford, and five in Cambridge. In Scotland a new university was established at Aberdeen, and a new college in St. Andrew's. Whatever might be the defects of origin or of character in cardinal Wolsey, he was a man of a princely mind. The services he rendered to scholars were innumerable, and the magnificent structure he projected at Oxford, and the completion of which was frustrated by his fall, is an incontestable proof of his genius and ardour in the cause of letters.

EDWARD VI. A.D. 1547 to 1553.

THIS prince did not survive to exercise the functions of government, which were vested in a lord protector, assisted by a council of ministers. It would be idle to delineate the character of a king who died a child, before his

passions were developed, or his faculties matured. In abilities, he was equal, perhaps superior, to most boys of his age. He possessed mildness of disposition, application to study and business, a capacity to learn and judge, and an attachment to equity and justice. The "diary of his life," which he kept, and which has been preserved, contains evidence of a correct taste and cultivated mind. His education, with that of his two sisters, began early, and was not exempt from the bigotry of an age, in which heresy was deemed the most heinous of offences: but as the bigotry of protestants, less governed by priests, lies under more restraint than that of catholics, the effects of this malignant quality were less to be apprehended, if a longer life had been granted to the young monarch.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1547. *Jan. 31.* Edward, who had been residing at the royal mansion of Hatfield, and then in his tenth year, was conducted in regal state from the residence of his sister Elizabeth at Enfield, and proclaimed king of England. Henry had nominated a council to govern till the king should attain the age of eighteen years. The bishops renewed their commissions from him to hold their bishoprics during pleasure, and were empowered, as the king's delegates, to ordain and perform all other parts of the episcopal function.

Feb. 1. The council opened the king's will, and found Henry had nominated sixteen persons to be executors, regents of the kingdom, and governors to his son; these were the principal officers of state, and chiefly consisted of what was invidiously called by their enemies the "new nobility;" both because they were partisans of the new reformers, and because they owed their sudden rise in wealth to a share in the spoils of the church.

6. The earl of Hertford, uncle of the king, was made protector by the executors. In the afternoon young Edward was introduced into the chamber of presence, where all the lords spiritual and temporal waited to receive him. Each in succession approached the king, kissed his hand kneeling, and said, "God save your grace."

13. The funeral obsequies of the late king solemnized with great pomp and magnificence at Windsor.

16. The lord protector created dukes of Somerset; several others of the council receive new titles, and have lands given them out of the estates of the dissolved monasteries, to support their new dignities.

20. Edward crowned at Westminster; at the coronation forty knights of the Bath were made, and a general pardon issued at the same time, out of which the duke of Norfolk, cardinal Pole, and lord Courtney were excepted.

March 13. The protector gets his com-

mission enlarged, and acts arbitrarily, without the concurrence of the rest of the regents.

Orders are issued for keeping a bible in every church, with Erasmus's paraphrase on the new testament, and the book of homilies compiled by Cranmer, to be read in every church on Sundays and holidays.

April 16. Evening prayers began to be read in English in the king's chapel.

Popish images burnt in London.

June. The protector proposes to invade Scotland. He negotiates with the murderers of cardinal Bethune, who was slain in revenge for having put to death George Wishart, a young and eloquent preacher among the reformers.

Sept. 10. The Scots defeated with the loss of 8000 men at Pinkenleugh. After the victory, the protector plundered Leith, and then hastened back to England. This war cost near 1,433,000*l.*

A general visitation of the churches. Bishops Gardiner and Bonner committed to the tower for obstructing the commission of visitation.

The protestants in Germany were defeated, and the elector of Saxony and the prince of Hesse made prisoners by the Emperor. Several of the German divines taking refuge in England, were allowed pensions here; Fagius was made professor of Hebrew in Cambridge, and Peter Martyr had the divinity chair at Oxford conferred on him.

Nov. 4. Parliament met. It repealed the statutes creating new treasons and felonies of the last reign, particularly that which established the six articles. The chantries, free chapels, and lay guild, were placed at the disposal of the crown, and their revenues were estimated at 2593*l.* Eighteen free schools were founded out of the chantry lands.

1548. An order of council made against the Romish superstition, and for removing images out of churches.

March 14. To prevent the mischiefs aris-

ing from rash preaching, it was enjoined that none should preach without licence of the protector or the bishop. Gardiner, who had been released from imprisonment, was ordered to preach at Paul's cross, but his anti-reform doctrines gave offence, and he was recommitted to the tower.

A great plague raging in London, the court was removed to Hatfield; immediately after the town ditch was cleansed at the expense of the city companies. Sir John Gresham, the lord-mayor, revives the march of the city watch on Midsummer night; it had been discontinued by the late king.

Catherine, queen dowager to Henry VIII., married to sir Thomas Seymour, lord high admiral. The admiral endeavoured to get himself made governor to the young king, which occasioned a quarrel between him and his brother the protector.

The Scots sent their queen to France, and introduced 6000 French forces, which ravaged the north of England, and treated the Scots like a conquered people. They murdered the provost of Edinburgh and his son, with great numbers of the common people. The protector introduced a body of Germans into England, under pretence of the Scotch war, but in reality to support his usurped authority.

Sept. The queen dowager died in childbirth.

1549. *Jan. 15.* The book of Common Prayer adopted by parliament, and its observance enforced by severe penalties. It was founded on the Latin missals and breviaries, and was prepared by Cranmer, assisted by eighteen other bishops; and with little alteration, it is still in use. The princess Mary refused to conform to the new liturgy.

Jan. 19. The lord high admiral was impeached and sent to the tower.

Feb. 19. A bill passed allowing clergymen to marry, on the ground that it was a less evil than compulsory chastity.

March 20. The lord high admiral was attained in parliament of high treason, and beheaded, without being heard. His greatest crime was his aspiring to be at the head of the ministry, and equal, if not superior, to the protector. Prior to the death of the queen dowager, the admiral had made advances to the lady Elizabeth, sister of the king; and the Burghley State Papers contain curious particulars of his gallantry with the young princess.

Lord-lieutenants of counties were first appointed.

Anabaptists come into England, who deny the divinity of Jesus Christ, and are burnt.

April 12. Joan of Kent, an anabaptist, condemned to be burnt.

The protector pulled down several churches to build a palace, now called Somerset-house.

June 10. Insurrections in various parts of the country, chiefly occasioned by the increase of enclosures, the scarcity of employment, and the introduction of the new worship. The new liturgy had been read in the church of Samford Courtenay in Devonshire, on Whit-sunday; the next day the parishioners compelled the clergyman to restore the ancient service. This was the signal for a general rising, which was headed by Humphrey Arundel, the governor of St. Michael's mount.

July. The rebels besieged Exeter, and the inhabitants were driven to great distress so as to eat their horses, till relieved by lord Russel, who defeated them, and took Arundel and the mayor of Bodmin, and hanged them.

Aug. In Norfolk the rising was at Aldborough, and was headed by Ket, a tanner, who planted his standard on the summit of Moushold hill, near Norwich, erected for himself a throne under a spreading oak, which he called the oak of reformation, and established courts in imitation of those at Westminster. Ket's followers at one time amounted to 20,000, but they were put to the rout by the earl of Warwick, at the head of a body of German horse; about 2000 were slain, and Ket was hung in chains at the top of Norwich castle.

Bonner, bishop of London, sent to the marshalsea prison, where he remained till the king's death, for refusing to comply with the rites of the church.

Horse-guards instituted.

Oct. 14. The privy council and the city of London entered into measures to depose the protector; whereupon he carried the king with him to Windsor, and stood upon his defence, but was obliged to submit; they charged him with usurping sovereign power, and sent him to the tower; six lords were appointed to be the king's governors, but the administration was lodged chiefly in the earl of Warwick, who had been made lord high admiral.

1550. *April.* Somerset, on giving security for his good behaviour, was allowed to resume his seat at the council-board.

In the parliament of this year, peers' eldest sons were first permitted to sit in the house of commons, and the first journal kept of that house.

The watermen's company in London incorporated.

The bishopric of Westminster was united to that of London.

The city of London, in consideration of paying into the Augmentation Office 6477*l.* 2*s.*, obtained a grant from the king of the

liberties of Southwark, and of various estates belonging to the late monastery of Bermondsey, and sundry other property in Newington, St. George's Fields, and Lambeth marsh.

Many alterations were made in almost every diocese; almost all the manors belonging to them were surrendered into the king's hands, and given amongst the courtiers, in lieu of which were bestowed worse manors, and impropriated tithes.

May 8. Commissioners were appointed to visit and reform the university of Oxford.

The bible was published in English, of Tindal's translation, revised by Coverdale.

June 29. An order of council was made that no bishop should henceforth hold any other benefice than his bishopric only.

1551. The council prohibit the princess Mary having mass in her chapel; but she refused to comply.

The king wanting money, a large sum was borrowed of Fugger and Co., bankers in Antwerp, the corporation of London becoming joint security with the king for the payment.

April. A sweating sickness raged throughout England, which carried off numbers, with many of the nobility. The duke of Suffolk and his brother died of it.

May 24. Von Pannis, an eminent surgeon of Dutch extraction, burnt to death for denying the divinity of Christ.

The king founded a college at Galway in Ireland.

Oct. 17. The duke and duchess of Somerset, with many of their friends, committed to the tower, on a charge of conspiring to imprison the king, and seize the earl of Warwick, now the duke of Northumberland.

1552. Jan. 22. Somerset beheaded on Tower hill, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning.

Crowns and half-crowns first coined. The common-prayer book was established by act of parliament.

Monks and nuns rendered capable of inheriting estates. Great part of the lands belonging to the bishoprics, deans, and chapters, seized by the ministry, and sold and transferred to laymen. Bishops, who held their fees for life, were now obliged to hold them during their good behaviour. Those that had any chantry lands bestowed on them at the beginning of this reign, were, by the duke of Northumberland, obliged to restore them to the crown. The duke also laid heavy fines on the nobility who were engaged in an opposite interest.

This year the king's debts amounted to 251,179*l.*, and commissions were granted to certain persons to sell part of the chantry lands for the payment of them.

Feb. 2. A king at arms appointed for Ireland, by the name of Ulster.

Cardan, the famous Italian physician, passed through England, on his return from Scotland: he was consulted respecting the delicate health of Edward.

26. Sir Ralph Vane, sir Miles Partridge, sir Michael Stanhope, and sir Thomas Arundel were executed, as accomplices with the duke of Somerset.

April 6. The king fell sick of the small pox and measles, which brought on a consumption.

15. The parliament was dissolved which had sat five years.

The duke of Northumberland made himself absolute, and charged lord Paget with several misdemeanors, had him fined in 6000*l.*, and the order of the garter taken from him, which he procured for his eldest son, Arthur Dudley, earl of Warwick.

Sternhold translated the psalms into English metre, afterwards put into verse by John Hopkins.

A short catechism was published by the bishop of Winchester.

The corporation of the merchants of the steel-yard (being members of the Hans towns, who engrossed all the foreign trade of Europe) was dissolved, and foreign trade encouraged in English bottoms.

1553. A new parliament was summoned to meet the first of March, and the several corporations were required to choose such members as were recommended to them by the king's council, and the sheriffs were required to return such knights as were named in the king's letters.

This was such a plentiful year, that a barrel of beer with the tap was sold for sixpence, and four great loaves for one penny.

April. After the prorogation of parliament, the king was carried to Greenwich for his health.

May. The duke of Northumberland married his son Guildford Dudley, to lady Jane Grey, grand-daughter to Mary queen of France, sister to Henry VIII., and prevails on the king to settle the crown on lady Jane, to the exclusion of the princesses Mary and Elizabeth. The duke also prevails on Edward to sign another commission for the visitation of the churches, by virtue whereof he seized on the remainder of their plate and ornaments.

June 15. When the judges were called in to draw an assignment of the crown to Jane Grey, they refused, until threatened by the duke, who had a pardon passed the great seal, exempting them from punishment. At length the settlement was signed by all the council.

Edward's disease grew worse, and all signs of recovery vanished; upon which

the duke of Northumberland advised the physicians to be discharged, and the king was committed to the care of an old woman.

July 6. Edward died at Greenwich, in the 16th year of his age, and the 7th of his reign, and was buried at Westminster, near the body of Henry VII., his grandfather, with great funeral pomp, and the unfeigned mournings of an affectionate people. The funeral charge amounted to 475*l*.

The king's yearly household expenses were, upon an average, 62,000*l*. per annum.

He gave his palace of Bridewell to the city, for the lodging of poor travellers and the correction of vagabonds, and incorporated the lord-mayor and citizens governors of the hospitals of St. Bartholomew, of Christ-church, and St. Thomas's in Southwark.

In attempting to find out a passage to the East Indies by the north-east in the last year of this reign, the way to Archangel, by the North Cape, was discovered by captain Cansellor. The two other ships employed with him to attempt a north-east passage, and commanded by sir Hugh Willoughby the admiral, and captain Du-forth, both perished with their commanders and crew, on the coast of Russian Lapland.

Edward was handsome in person. He kept, and writ the characters of all the chief men in the nation, all the judges and considerable men in office, their way of living, and their zeal for religion. He studied the business of the mint, with the exchange and value of money. He understood fortification. He knew all the harbours in his dominions, as also in Scotland and France, and the depth of water in them. He acquired great knowledge in foreign affairs. He took notes of every thing he heard, which he wrote in Greek characters, and afterwards copied out in the journal or diary that he kept: this journal is still preserved, and Burnet has transcribed it into his History of the Reformation.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Edw. VI. c. 3. Enacted, that all beggars and idle people should be slaves to those that apprehend them, unless they were impotent; and clerks convict were to be slaves to those that should take them up; and the masters of such slaves were allowed to put iron collars about their necks: but this law was repealed by 3 & 4 Edw. VI. cap. 16.

An act passed, to confirm the one passed in the late reign, granting 2374 chantries and other religious foundations, for the use of the crown, with a reserve of pensions to be paid to the discarded incumbents.

Cap. 7. The king's death not to discountinue any suit.

Cap. 13. Tonnage and poundage, with the duties on wool and leather, which had been granted to Henry VII. and Henry VIII., were granted to the king for life, for the guard of the seas.

2 Edw. cap. 3. King's purveyors to take no provisions for the use of his highness, without the consent of the owners.

2 & 3 Edw. cap. 15. Punishes work-people for combining to fix the hours of labour, or the quantity of work. It is the first statute relative to combinations of workmen.

Cap. 24. Where a person was wounded or poisoned in one county, and died in another, the murderer might be tried where the party died.

Cap. 23. Benefit of clergy taken from horse-stealers.

5 & 6 Edw. cap. 9. Benefit of clergy taken from house-breakers.

Punishments are inflicted on forestallers, regraters, and ingrossers of corn.

Cap. 16. Restrains buying and selling of public offices.

Cap. 25. Ale-house keepers are required to take licences, and enter into recognizances to keep good order in their houses.

In 6 Edward, a subsidy of two tenths and two fifteenths, to be paid in two years.

Twenty thousand pounds weight of bullion was appointed to be so alloyed, that the king might gain thereby 220,000*l*.

7 Edw. cap. 5. No person to sell the wines of Gascony for more than two-pence a quart, nor the wines of Rochelle, or any other French wine, for more than three-pence a quart; and the number of taverns and wine-cellars in London, restrained to forty.

STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

Complaints were very general in this and the two preceding reigns of the decay of tillage husbandry, and of population. Both these had probably their origin in the preceding period of civil war, in the transition from slave to free labour, and in the growth of the woollen manufacture. The bondsmen, so numerous formerly, were either destroyed in battle, emancipated for their services, or enabled, by the frequent fluctuation of property, to regain their freedom. Proprietors were obliged to convert into pasturage those domains which their slaves and cottagers had formerly cultivated; and while the estates of either party were alternately wasted, it was soon discovered that flocks and herds were better adapted than the produce of agriculture to such unsettled times. They might be removed with ease on the invasion of an enemy, or disposed of secretly, if the proprietor were involved in the misfortunes of his party. Inclosures

were multiplied, demesne lands were extended, till the farms of the husbandmen were appropriated to pasture; their houses were demolished or permitted to decay, while a few herdsmen supplanted the yeomen, and occupied, by means of enclosures, the largest estates. Restrictions on the exportation of grain, and the increasing consumption of wool, operated still further to the discouragement of agriculture. By the refinement of Europe in taste and dress, the manufacture of cloth was encouraged, and although the manufactures of England were now considerable, those of the Netherlands were still supported by large exportations that increased the demand, and enhanced the price of English wool. A system of management, lucrative but injurious, was thus introduced; lucrative to landholders, but injurious to rural industry.

The system was severely felt in its consequences; in the beggary and diminished population of the peasantry. Hamlets were ruined by oppressive encroachments; townships and villages of a hundred families were reduced to thirty, sometimes to ten. Some were desolate, demolished by

the avarice of the proprietors, others were occupied by a shepherd and his dog. The rage for sheep-farming continued during the whole of the reigns of Henry VII., and his immediate successor. In the reign of Elizabeth, the arable lands in culture were estimated at only one-fourth part of the kingdom. The preamble to a statute of Henry VIII. (25 Hen. c. 13) expatiates on the miseries inflicted on the poor by the increase of sheep, and extension of pasture land. The flocks of individuals, which sometimes exceeded and often amounted to 20,000 sheep, were restricted to 2000; an inadequate remedy, frustrated apparently by the partial exception of hereditary landholders. It was not, however, within the power of legislation to correct the evil. An improved cultivation was reserved for a future period, when persecutions drove out manufactures from the Netherlands; when the exportation of English wool subsided, and its price diminished, the landowner, disappointed of his former high profits, discovered the advantage of resuming the plough, and again subjecting his pastures to cultivation.

MARY, A.D. 1553 to 1558.

THE partisans of the conflicting religions were so nearly balanced, that the prepossessions of the sovereign were sufficient to give to either the ascendancy. In the last reign, the reformed worship was the favoured religion; in the present, catholicism bore sway, and in that which succeeded Protestantism again recovered its supremacy. Unfortunately, moderation was not a virtue of either papists or protestants in the sixteenth century. Compulsion was the accredited mode of conversion in the reigns of both Edward and Elizabeth, though the terrible ordeal of fire was more sparingly used than in that of their weak, unamiable, and bigoted sister.

Mary, it has been observed, (Mac. Hist. v. ii. 342,) is a conspicuous example of the fatal effect of errors in rulers; for to error, the greatest part of the misery caused by her must be ascribed. The stock was sour, and perhaps no culture could have ingrafted tenderness and gentleness upon it. She adhered to her principles—she acted agreeably to her conscience: but her principles were perverted and her conscience misguided by false notions of the power of sovereigns and of laws over religious opinions. A right judgment on that single question would have changed the character of her administration, and varied the impression made on posterity by the history of her reign.

Unfortunately, she lived before philosophers had begun zealously to inculcate the wisdom of toleration to all religions, and to show that, though force may cause hypocrisy, it cannot produce conviction. Mary only practised what Cranmer, cardinal Pole, Charles V., and the most distinguished men of her time, taught. It was her misfortune, rather than her fault, that she was not more enlightened than the wisest of her contemporaries.

The cruelties in England were inconsiderable compared with those

perpetrated on the continent. Grotius computes that from the edict of Charles V. to 1588, 100,000 persons had been hanged, beheaded, burned, and buried alive in the Netherlands, on account of religion. Torquemada, the first inquisitor general, in Spain, in the eighteenth year of his administration, committed to the flames more than 10,000 victims. (Llorente, i. 280.) To these must be added more than 90,000 persons condemned to the punishments which were called secondary—infamy, confiscation, perpetual imprisonment.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1553. MARY, only daughter of Henry VIII., by Catharine of Spain, was the presumptive heir to the crown, but the duke of Northumberland had prevailed upon the late king to set aside his two sisters, the princesses Mary and Elizabeth, and alter the succession in favour of lady Jane Grey, his half-cousin, and daughter-in-law of Northumberland. Edward's death was kept secret from the public two days, but the earl of Arundel, a concealed catholic and member of the council, apprized Mary by a note of the event the same night, and of the conspiracy formed against her accession. Mary immediately withdrew to Framlingham castle, in Suffolk, assumed the title of queen, and was proclaimed in the city of Norwich. She left nothing undone to support her right, and held out a hope that she would not disturb the established religion. Many of Northumberland's party deserted him, but he sent the earl of Suffolk with 8000 men against Mary, the earl advanced as far as Bury. Northumberland joined him, and finding the desertion, wrote to the council, who assembled under pretence of raising more men, but several agreed to return to their allegiance, and proclaim Mary queen. The Tower gates were thrown open, and lady Jane resigned the ensigns of royalty, which she had possessed only nine days, as will be seen from the date of the chief occurrences.

July 10. The council proclaimed the lady Jane Grey queen; a vintner's boy expressed his dissent, and next day paid the forfeit of his temerity in the pillory, and the loss of his ears. Lady Jane was only sixteen years of age when made the instrument of Northumberland's ambition; and many virtues and accomplishments have been ascribed to her, hardly consistent with her youth and inexperience.

16. Ridley, bishop of London, preaches before the lord-mayor and a numerous assemblage, in favour of lady Jane's title.

19. The earls of Arundel and Pembroke, accompanied with the lord-mayor, recorder, and several aldermen, proclaimed Mary queen at St. Paul's cross, amidst acclama-

tions which drowned the voice of the heralds. Te Deum was sung in the cathedral; beer, wine, and money were distributed among the people; and the night was ushered in with bonfires, illuminations, and other demonstrations of public joy.

28. The duke of Suffolk and his daughter, the lady Jane Grey, and lord Dudley her husband, are committed to the Tower; but Suffolk was liberated in a few days, as were the old duke of Norfolk, Edward Courtney, afterwards earl of Devonshire, and the bishops Bonner and Gardiner.

31. The queen orders a dole of eightpence to be distributed to every poor household in the city.

Aug. The county of Suffolk addressed the queen; the deputies were ill received, and Thomas Cobb, who spoke very freely, was set in the pillory.

Judge Hales was thrown into the Marshalsea, for charging the justices of Kent to conform to the laws of Edward not yet repealed; he was afterwards removed to the Counter and Fleet, where he endeavoured to kill himself. He was set at liberty, and some time after drowned himself.

3. The queen makes her public entry into London with her sister Elizabeth.

12. Bishop Gardiner was made lord chancellor, and the duke of Norfolk lord high steward, for the trial of the duke of Northumberland and his sons.

13. Bonner's chaplain preached a sermon at St. Paul's, and abused the administration of Edward, whereupon the people much abused him; but he was rescued by two protestant ministers.

18. The late king's funeral was solemnized at Westminster. The queen had a solemn service performed in her own chapel, with all the ceremonies of the church of Rome.

Northumberland and his associates tried and convicted in the court of the lord steward.

22. Northumberland executed with sir John Gates and sir Thomas Palmer.

The queen prohibited all persons to preach without her special licence.

The reformed, who were foreigners, were allowed to leave the kingdom.

Sept. 28. The queen made fifteen knights of the bath, and ninety knights of the garter.

Oct. 1. The queen was crowned at Westminster; on the same day a general pardon was proclaimed, with the exception by name of sixty individuals, chiefly protestants.

The queen borrowed 20,000*l.* of the city of London.

Two bishops were excluded the house, Drs. Taylor and Harley, for not kneeling at the mass, which was celebrated before the two houses, accompanied with all the rites and ceremonies of the Popish church.

The queen restored the fifteenth and tenth which were granted the crown in the last parliament, and promised to pay both her father's and her brother's debts.

2. The earl of Sussex, who had been the queen's general, obtained the honour of being covered in her presence.

4. The archbishop of York was sent to the Tower, and the bishop of Exeter was restored.

6. A new parliament assembled; the elections had been so influenced by the court, that few protestants were chosen. The protestant bishops were excluded the upper house, and an act passed declaring that no offence should be deemed high treason which was not so by the 25th of Edward III., or any crime adjudged felony, or a premunire, but what were so before the reign of Henry VIII.

21. Parliament prorogued for three days.

Mary published a declaration, with liberty of conscience in affairs of religion; and an act to declare all writings should be valid, though dated in the reign of the late usurper Jane Grey. Another act prohibits the disturbing of priests at mass, and the breaking of images.

By a private act the attainder of the marchioness of Exeter was reversed, and her son the earl of Devonshire restored to all his honours: the queen had fixed her eye upon the earl as her husband, but his irredeemable dissoluteness frustrated her intention.

Nov. 3. Archbishop Cranmer, Guildford, Dudley, and his wife lady Jane Grey, were condemned for high treason.

8. An act abolishing the reformed liturgy of Cranmer, which Edward's parliament attributed to the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and enjoining that such forms of worship and of sacrament be revived as were used in the last year of Henry VIII.

A convocation was held, and transubstantiation established. A dispute upon it between the popish and protestant clergy.

1554. *Jan.* A treaty of marriage being set on foot between queen Mary, and prince

Philip the emperor's son, heir to the crown of Spain, the parliament addressed the queen not to marry a foreigner, whereupon they were dissolved; but the emperor, at the instance of bishop Gardiner, sent over 1,200,000 crowns (400,000*l.* English), to be employed in softening the hostility of the lords and commons to the match, and "the first instance," Burnet says, "of any rumour of the corruption of parliament."

Twelve articles were agreed on with the emperor's ministers, whereby Philip was to have the title of king of England, and the issue of this marriage were to enjoy their mother's dominions, with Burgundy and the Low Countries; and if the archduke Charles, Philip's son by a former wife, should die without issue, then the issue of this match should enjoy the Spanish dominions: that the queen should have the disposal of all offices, employments and revenues in this kingdom, and only natives should be employed here: that if the queen died first, Philip should lay no claim to this crown; that England should never be engaged in any wars with France on account of Spain, and that a jointure of 60,000*l.*, secured on landed property in Spain and the Netherlands, should be settled on the queen.

The merchants of the Steel-yard being Germans were licensed to revive their traffic again in London, in compliance to the emperor.

Feb. 2. The queen makes a spirited address to the citizens at Guildhall.

The nation in general was disgusted with the Spanish match, which at length occasioned an insurrection of the Kentish men under sir Thomas Wyatt, who entered London, but was defeated, and yielded himself prisoner.

12. Lady Jane Grey and her husband, lord Dudley, executed; the former privately in the Tower, the latter on Tower-hill. Lord Suffolk, the father of lady Jane, having been betrayed by a domestic, was executed on the 23rd of February. Fifteen gallows were erected on the 12th, and it was called Black Monday.

The earl of Devonshire and the princess Elizabeth were implicated in Wyatt's conspiracy.

Brett, the commander of the city trained bands, who had deserted to Wyatt, and fifty-eight more were hanged. Six hundred of the meaner sort concerned in the rebellion were brought before the palace at Whitehall, with halters about their necks, and, upon making proper submission, received their pardon from the queen in person: of all who were tried, none escaped being condemned, except sir Nicolas Throgmorton, which was owing to his spirit upon the trial; his calling upon the

court to produce any one overt act of the treason he was indicted upon; no proofs appearing against him, the jury brought him in not guilty. Upon which the attorney-general bound the jury over, prosecuted, and severely fined them, according to usages then of undoubted legality.

March 4. The queen ordered the bishops to visit their dioceses, and gave the chancellor a particular order to purge the church of all married bishops and priests; upon which seven bishops were deprived, and of the inferior clergy, out of 16,000 then in England, the greater part were turned out for having wives.

Mass was publicly restored, with the liturgy used in the end of Henry VIII.'s reign. Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer were excommunicated.

April 11. The brave sir Thomas Wyatt beheaded, who acquitted the princess Elizabeth and the earl of Devonshire with his last breath.

The parliament met, and enacted that the regal power was vested in the queen, as in the kings her predecessors. Some doubted of it, she being the first queen regnant that had sat on the throne of England, unless the empress Maud be reckoned among our monarchs.

14. The convocation sent down a committee of their members to Oxford, to dispute with archbishop Cranmer, and the bishops Ridley and Latimer, who were taken out of prison, and sent thither for that purpose; and the dispute was no sooner over, but the convocation summoned those bishops to appear, and renounce the errors they had maintained at Oxford, and on their refusal, condemned them as obstinate heretics.

May 19. The princess Elizabeth, who had been imprisoned on account of Wyatt's insurrection, was released from the Tower, and sent to Woodstock, under sir Henry Bedingfield.

July 19. Prince Philip arrived in England, and was married to the queen at Winchester, the 25th. Philip brought over with him twenty-seven chests, each forty inches long, filled with bullion, ninety-nine horse loads and two cart loads of gold and silver, which infused fresh zeal for the queen's interest, and those devoted to her and Gardiner's doctrine. Philip was in the twenty-ninth, Mary in the thirty-eighth year of her age.

Aug. 12. The king and queen made their entry into the city of London.

Nov. 12. Parliament met, and appeared devoted to Philip. They passed an act reversing cardinal Pole's attainder, who came to England, and in full parliament reconciled the nation to the see of Rome. Also an act passed for repealing all laws that had

been made to the prejudice of the pope's authority, provided that all bishoprics, cathedral churches and colleges should remain in their present state; and that the late alterations of the lands and goods of the church should be confirmed to the present possessors. It was further enacted, that the queen's title of supreme head of the church should be omitted. The laws against Lollards and heretics were revived, and the statutes of mortmain repealed. The conspiring king Philip's death was made treason, and the praying that God would touch the queen's heart and turn her from idolatry, was made felony. The queen was supposed to be pregnant, and several new forms of prayer were put forth for her happy delivery.

1555. Ambassadors were sent to the pope, who refused them audience, because the queen had taken the title of queen of Ireland without his leave.

Those persons who had seized the plate and effects of the church were called to a severe account, and forced to purchase their pardons with large sums.

Jan. 28. Court for the trial of heretics opened, Gardiner presiding as chancellor, assisted by thirteen other bishops, and attended by a crowd of lords and knights.

Feb. 4. John Rogers, a clergyman of Essex and prebendary of St. Paul's, and the first martyr of this reign, burnt in Smithfield. Within five days after, bishop Hooper was burnt at Gloucester; Saunders, rector of Allhallows, London, at Coventry; and Taylor, rector of Hadleigh, was burnt there. An equal constancy was displayed by each; they all refused pardon at the stake on condition of recantation.

Coaches first used in England.

March. The queen restored the churchlands in her possession.

The pope erected Ireland into a kingdom, and demanded the restitution of the goods of the church, and the payment of Peter-pence.

Aug. 29. Philip grew weary of his hypochondriacal queen, and went to Flanders.

Oct. 16. Ridley, the most moderate, and Latimer, the most frank and fearless of protestant bishops, were burnt at Oxford. To shorten their sufferings, bags of gunpowder were suspended from their necks.

25. Charles V. resigns the greatest monarchy in the world to his son Philip, to hide himself in the seclusion of a Spanish monastery. The emperor wept at the ceremony, which took place at Brussels.

The Russian company incorporated.

Nov. 12. Bishop Gardiner dies, leaving his property to the queen, on condition of paying his debts, and providing for his servants.

1556. Archbishop Cranmer recanted, in

hopes of life, but was afterwards burnt at Oxford, in front of Baliol college, on March 2nd; and the same day cardinal Pole was made archbishop of Canterbury. A very severe persecution followed, in which about 300 protestants were burnt, and great numbers perished in prison, and by other hardships. Among those who suffered by fire, were five bishops, twenty-one clergymen, eight laymen, eighty-four husbandmen, servants and labourers, forty-five women and four children. The accounts of the number of sufferers vary a little. Burnet's table is:—

1555. Burnt	72
1556. do.	94
1557. do.	79
1558. do. from Feb. to Sept.	39

284

An average of 71 a year; more than double the number now annually executed for every description of capital offence!

The queen repaired the old monasteries and erected several new ones, and erased some things out of the records which had been done by Henry VIII. against the pope.

St. John Baptist's college, in Oxford, founded by sir Thomas White, alderman of London.

1557. The English enter into an alliance with Spain against France, and the queen sent over 8000 men to the assistance of the Spaniards in the Low Countries, under the command of the earl of Pembroke.

The queen granted a commission, tending to erect an inquisition, which was followed by a persecution, in which seventy-nine protestants perished.

March 6. Lord Stourton hung at Salisbury in a halter of silk, for the murder of two persons named Hargill, in his own house, to which he had basely jured them for the purpose.

20. Philip arrived in England, and returned to Brussels, July 7.

May 1. The first commercial treaty concluded with Russia.

June 7. War declared against France.

Stafford was sent over to England by the French with a handful of men; he surprised Scarborough, but was defeated and beheaded; three of his accomplices were hung at Tyburn.

July 15. A great scarcity of corn; wheat was sold for 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; malt at 2*l.* 4*s.*; and pease at 2*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Immediately after the harvest, wheat fell to 5*s.* the quarter.

The emperor of Russia sent an embassy into England, to settle a trade with that empire. It was received at Tottenham by the merchants of London trading to Muscovy, riding in velvet coats with chains of

gold; they bore all the expenses of the embassy during its stay in England.

1558. Jan. 7. Calais surrendered to the French, after it had been in the possession of the English above 210 years.

The staple of wool removed to Bruges.

A proclamation was published prohibiting the importation of heretical books; and it was forbidden to pray for heretics at their execution; whoever were possessed of any heretical books and did not burn them without reading, should be esteemed rebels, and be executed. Five persons were burned at Canterbury, part of thirty-nine that suffered this year for religion.

Sept. 20. The emperor Charles V. expires at his seclusion in Estremadura; having two days before added a codicil to his will, exhorting his son to inflict severe punishment on heretics, and cautioning him on the danger of disputing with them.

Nov. 17. The queen of England died of dropsy, leaving no issue, in the forty-third year of her age, and the sixth year of her reign, and was buried (Dec. 13), in Henry VII.'s chapel, with great pomp. The bishop of Winchester preached the funeral sermon, praising the late reign, and lamented the present state with such freedom, that he was apprehended and confined. The death of Mary was followed next day by that of her relation, cardinal Pole, an exemplary character, who lacked only the virtue of toleration. His death was ascribed to a malignant fever then prevailing, which carried off great numbers; among others, twelve bishops and seven aldermen of London.

ACTS PASSED IN THIS REIGN.

1 Mary, cap. 5. Declares to what actions the statute of limitations shall extend.

Cap. 6. Counterfeiting foreign coin made current here, or the king's sign manual, or privy seal, made high treason.

Cap. 7. No justice of peace to exercise that office while he is sheriff.

Cap. 9. Confirms and enlarges the privileges of the college of physicians in London.

1 & 2 Phil. and Mary, cap. 4. It is made felony without clergy for persons calling themselves Egyptians to remain in the kingdom.

Cap. 7. No person who is not an inhabitant shall sell goods by retail, in any town corporate, or market town, unless in open fairs.

Cap. 12. Distresses shall be impounded together in the hundred where taken, and four deputies shall be appointed by the sheriff to take repleves.

Cap. 13. Two justices, *quorum unus*, are empowered to bail persons apprehended for felony.

2 & 3 Phil. and Mary, cap. 7. Horses sold in fairs shall be tolled.

Cap. 8. All persons are made chargeable to the repairs of the highways.

Cap. 10. Justices of peace are required to take examination of felons in writing, and bind the witnesses over to give evidence.

4 & 5 Phil. and Mary, cap. 2. Persons conveying away a woman child under sixteen years of age, from her parents or guardians, shall be fined and imprisoned two years; and if they shall marry or deflower such child, they shall suffer five years' imprisonment. And if such young woman shall voluntarily contract matrimony, without the consent of her parents or guardians, her estate shall go to her next of kin.

4 & 5 Phil. and Mary, cap. 4. The benefit of clergy is taken away from accessaries in treason, felony and murder, before the fact.

Cap. 7. A tale is given where a full jury does not appear.

1556. The queen demanded a loan of 60,000*l.* from one thousand persons; she exacted a loan of 100*l.* from every person possessing 20*l.* per annum; she extorted 60,000 marks from seven thousand yeomen, and exacted 36,000*l.* from the cloth merchants trading to Antwerp, and upon refusal seized on their ships and cargoes, laying upon each piece of cloth a subsidy of twenty shillings; to get this duty abolished, they paid her 40,000*l.* and engaged for 2000*l.* more, payable in a month.

THE USEFUL ARTS. A.D. 1485 to 1558.

The tranquillity which followed the accession of the Tudors was favourable to the progress of the useful arts. Among them horticulture claims attention. During the distractions of the civil wars, gardening had been much neglected, but now it was prosecuted with more assiduity and with such success, that to this period has been ascribed the introduction of the chief fruits and vegetables. But it was the kitchen, not the pleasure garden, that was cultivated, and it was to raise or extend the culture of the esculent herbs and fruits newly introduced, as salads, cabbages, turnips, apricots, melons, and currants, that the efforts of the gardener were directed. The pleasure garden was reserved for Elizabeth's reign, when a square parterre was enclosed with walls, scooped into fountains, and heaved into terraces. The parks, which were numerous and peculiar to this country, formed the pleasure grounds of the nobility and prelacy.

The culture of hops was either introduced or revived, and flax was attempted,

but without success. Artificial grasses for winter provender were unknown, but the breed of horses was sedulously cultivated, chiefly to grace the splendid pageants and tournaments, in which Henry VIII. delighted, and bear the heavy panoply with which both the knight and his courser were invested. Curious statutes were enacted, allotting for deer parks a certain proportion of breeding mares; and enjoining, not the prelates and nobles only, but those whose wives wore velvet bonnets, to have stallions of a certain size for their saddle. The legal standard was fifteen hands in horses, thirteen in mares, and "unlikely tits" were without distinction consigned to destruction. (27 Hen. 8, c. 6.) Asses appear not to have been propagated in England till a subsequent period.

The style of architecture was changed, but can hardly be said to have been improved. The ornamental Gothic, which had superseded the simplicity of the Saxon architecture, gave way to the florid. In this style Henry VII. built several churches in Somersetshire, and that splendid monument of his taste, the chapel, which bears his name, in Westminster. Whitehall, Nonsuch, and Hampton-court were erected, the former by Henry VIII., and the last by Wolsey, in the florid style. Whitehall and Nonsuch have perished, and the stately example of Wolsey's magnificence has experienced great vicissitudes. Grotius thought so highly of Hampton-court, that he considered it a residence more "befitting a god than a king;" though its present inmates do not, we believe, aspire to either distinction.

The example set by the monarch and his minister tempted the nobility to abandon their dungeon retreats, and seek mansions of greater elegance and convenience. They removed the martial fronts of their castles, and endeavoured to render them more agreeable and commodious. But the spirit of improvement did not extend lower. The houses of gentlemen continued sordid; the huts of the peasantry, poor and wretched. The former were thatched buildings composed of wood; the latter were slight frames prepared in the forest, and covered with clay. In cities, the houses were constructed mostly of the same materials; for bricks were still too costly for general use, and the stories seem to have projected forward as they rose in height, intercepting the sunshine and air from the street beneath. It is to this, and the dirty and slovenly habits of the people, Erasmus ascribes the frequent plagues in England. "The floors," says he, "are commonly of clay, strewed with rushes, under which lie unmolested an ancient

collection of beer, grease, fragments, bones, spittle, excrements of dogs and cats, and every thing that is nasty." The luxury of a chimney to the houses in considerable towns was unknown. The fire was kindled by the wall, and the smoke escaped through the roof, door, or lattice.

The people slept on straw pallets with logs of wood for pillows, and almost all the furniture and utensils were of wood. In the Northumberland family, trees, or wooden plates, were used, except on solemn festivals, when pewter vessels were hired. But this must have been an exception, as the tables of most citizens were now provided with spoons, cups, and a salt-cellar of silver. Those of a higher sphere affected a greater profusion of plate, and the quantity accumulated by cardinal Wolsey on the occasion of the entertainment he gave to the French ambassadors at Hampton-court, excites astonishment. Exclusive of the service on the tables, two cupboards, extending across the banquet rooms, were piled to the top with plate, and illuminated. Two hundred and eighty beds were provided for the guests. "Every chamber," says Stowe, "had a basin and an ewer of silver, a great livery pot of silver, and some gilt; yea, and some chambers had two livery pots with wine and beer: a silver candlestick having in it two sizes." Although the wealth and splendour of the cardinal were so pre-eminent as to be no criterion of those of his contemporaries, yet there cannot be any doubt that plate was now often found in private houses; and in the manufacture of pewter, English workmen were so famous, that they were prohibited, by statute, from quitting the realm, or imparting their mystery to foreign apprentices. Carving, gilding, embroidery, the making of clocks, and other metallic arts, had been practised in monasteries, and their suppression gave more widely to the public an useful body of artisans.

MANNERS—COSTUME—DIET.

The manners of a people may be learnt from their education, which was extremely defective. Before the Reformation, young men were educated in monasteries, women in nunneries, where the latter were instructed in writing, drawing, confectionary, needle-work, and what were then regarded female accomplishments, in physic and surgery. The acquisitions of men were confined to writing, and a tincture, probably, of barbarous Latin; but ignorance was so prevalent, that Fitzherbert recommends to gentlemen unable to commit notes to writing, the practice of notching a stick to assist their memories. When removed from these seminaries, the severe

and formal manners of domestic life precluded further improvement. A haughty reserve was affected by the old, and an abject deference exacted from the young. Sons, when arrived at manhood, are represented as standing uncovered and silent in their fathers' presence; and daughters, though women, were placed like statues at the cupboard; nor permitted to sit or repose themselves, otherwise than by kneeling on a cushion till their mothers departed. Omissions were punished by stripes and blows, and chastisement was carried to such excess, that the daughters trembled at the sight of their mother, and the sons avoided and hated their father. *Hen. Hist.* xii. 353.

The costume of the wealthy, and in most part the clothing of the poor, were supplied from abroad. Silks, velvets, and cloth of gold were imported from Italy; coarse fustians from Flanders, of a texture so durable that the doublet lasted for two years. The home manufactures were woollens; cottons occur in the statute book (21 Hen. 8. cap. 14), but Dr. Henry thinks the term applied to a species of woollens; for linen, even the coarsest dowlas, was derived from Flanders. Hats had long been imported, and a coarse manufacture of felt hats was established in London, after the accession of Henry VIII.

The dress of the nobility during the reign of Henry VII. rendered it rather difficult to distinguish the sexes. Over the breeches was worn a petticoat; the doublet was laced like the modern stays, and a gown or mantle with wide sleeves descended over the doublet and petticoat, down to the ankles. Commoners were satisfied, instead of a gown, with a frock or tunic (the present waggoner's frock correctly represents this ancient Saxon garment), gathered at the middle, and fastened round the loins by a girdle, from which a short dagger was generally suspended. But the petticoat was rejected after the accession of Henry VIII., when the *trousers* or tight breeches that displayed the shape, were revived, and the length of the doublet or mantle was diminished. The doublet is now transformed into a waistcoat, and the cloak or mantle, to which the sleeves of the doublet were transferred, has been gradually converted into the modern coat.

Female costume was similar in its fashion to the present. The large and fantastic head dresses of the former age were superseded by coifs and velvet bonnets, beneath which the matron gathered her locks into tufts or tussocks; but the virgin's head was uncovered, and her hair braided and fastened with ribbons. In place of pockets, pouches were worn, suspended

from the girdle, and the present reticule or bag appears an approximation to the ancient fashion.

The diet of the peasantry undergoes few alterations, because it consists of the common produce of the soil, prepared in the simplest manner for food. Their bread-corn was rye or barley, sometimes oats mixed with pulse. Wheaten bread, for a long period after, was chiefly confined to the tables of the wealthy. In Henry the Eighth's reign, bacon seems to have formed part of the diet of labourers, but this only in small quantities, and it is probable they lived in much the same manner as husbandmen in the north of England did in the last century, and the Scotch peasantry do in the present; their food consisting chiefly of oat and rye bread, milk and pottage. In cities, meat entered into the general consumption of the inhabitants.

One peculiarity in the cookery of this

period was in the profusion of hot spices, with which every dish was indiscriminately seasoned. Above 100lbs. of spices were employed annually in the family of the old earl of Northumberland, whose household-book is mostly referred to to illustrate the manners of this age. Dinner and supper were served in the hall, where the first table was placed in a sort of recess or elevation at the upper end, and reserved for the landlord and his principal guests; while visitors, less respectable, were seated with the officers of the household at long and narrow tables that occupied the sides and middle of the hall. The rank of the guests was again discriminated by their arrangement, by their situation above or below the saltcellar, which was placed invariably in the middle of the table, and the usher was carefully instructed to displace such as might seat themselves unmannerly above their betters.

ELIZABETH. A.D. 1558 to 1603.

THE great events of this long and interesting period refer to the re-establishment of Protestantism; the execution of Mary Queen of Scots; resistance to the power of Philip of Spain, and the maintenance of the reformed worship in France and the Netherlands; the spirit of maritime discovery and commercial adventure developed at home; and the rise and fall of court favourites. Upon the whole, it was a happy and prosperous reign, the glory of which the sovereign shares with many illustrious contemporaries. The Cecils, Nicholas Bacon, Shakspeare, Spenser, Ascham, Raleigh, Drake, Frobisher, Gresham, are a few of the great names which, in the several departments of statesmanship, letters, arms, navigation, and commerce, give lustre to this brilliant era.

Elizabeth seemed to possess some of the qualities of the great men by whom she was surrounded, and whom, through favour or discernment, she raised into notice and authority. She was learned, accomplished, discreet, able, vigilant; and the capacity she evinced during almost half a century in directing the domestic and foreign policy of the country, was most extraordinary. Her defects of character were dissimulation, personal vanity, jealousy in love, fondness of popular applause, violence of temper, religious intolerance, and arbitrary maxims of government.

For all these excuses may be found in her sex, the spirit of the age, and the station she occupied, but there are others wholly indefensible. She was artful, selfish, and sensual. Her amiability and morality must be at once given up. She had no feminine graces; like her person, her mind, passions, and even accomplishments, were masculine. The execution of the unfortunate Scottish queen, though deemed necessary by her ministers, and popular with the people, is an ineffaceable blot on her memory, which, under the circumstance of the cruel imprisonment sustained by her victim, no consideration of personal or public security could justify. Napoleon, a man and a soldier, was more leniently treated. Her severities to catholic emissaries, jesuists, and others, were more defensible

though not on religious grounds. Most of them were engaged in treasonable plots, having for their object her own death, and the overthrow of the state; and in addition, acted under the direction of a foreign influence of the most baleful description.

The celibacy of Elizabeth has formed a subject of curious conjecture; but why may not a princess as well as a private person choose a single life? The circumstance chiefly creating a difference, is the importance of the succession. Upon this point the queen was always indifferent, or rather averse to its consideration; and besides, her sister Mary died childless, and Elizabeth may have had reasons for not anticipating a more favourable issue, in the event of her own nuptials. There were, however, in the character of the queen, in her irresolution and inconstancy, in her licentiousness, imperiousness, and love of power, sufficient qualities both to disincline and disqualify her for matrimony. "I will have here," she said to Leicester in his highest favour, "but one mistress, and no master." Though averse to marriage, she was not averse to courtship, and the duke of Anjou, who was engaged for ten years by her coquetry up to an actual betrothment, was at length compelled, like other baffled suitors, to withdraw in indignant disgust, declaring that the "women of England were as changeable as the waves that encircled their island."

One of the general characteristics of this period was the growth of the PURITANS. They first appeared under Edward VI., and their numbers were increased, and their zeal inflamed, by the return of the exiles from the great seat of Calvinism at Geneva. Their professed aim was a further purification of the church, but they objected to the ceremonies, rather than the doctrines of the established religion. They disliked the surplice, the cross in baptism, the ring in marriage, holy water, and the use of instrumental music in public worship; these they repudiated as derived from the idolatries of popery. But the dogma, most important in its consequences, by which they were distinguished, was the spirit of free inquiry, and the right, on which they insisted in all matters of conscience, of private judgment. "Will you not leave these things to your bishops?" said archbishop Parker to Peter Wentworth, a sturdy non-conformist. "No!" answered Mr. Wentworth, "by the faith I bear to God, we will pass nothing before we understand it; for that were to make you popes." The queen hated and persecuted them, as will be observed in the Occurrences: she loved better the pomp and intellectual prostration of the church of Rome; but in her council and at court, they had powerful friends—Cecil, Walsingham, Leicester, Essex, Warwick, Bedford, and Knollys: and in their successful development in the next two reigns, they subverted the church, peerage, and monarchy.

The ancient constitution of the realm was well exemplified in the protracted and tranquil reign of Elizabeth. It was a period of law, certainly, but hardly any law was paramount to the will of the sovereign. A brief description of the judicial and legislative machinery of the state will at once show the absoluteness of the government.

First was the court of Star-chamber, whose members held their places during the pleasure of the crown, and might fine, imprison, and punish corporally, by whipping, branding, slitting the nostrils and ears. The sovereign, if present, was sole judge, and the jurisdiction of the court extended to all sorts of offences, contempts, and disorders, that lay out of the reach of the common law. The court of High Commission was a still more arbitrary jurisdiction. Its vengeance was directed against the unde

finable charge of heresy, and in the hands of the narrow-minded Whitgift, was a terrible engine of oppression. Martial law was still more prompt and violent in its procedure. Whenever there was any public disturbance, the crown employed martial law, and, during that time, any one might be punished as a rebel, or abettor of rebels, whom the lieutenant of a county, or his deputy, pleased to suspect. Arbitrary imprisonments were frequently employed by the executive: merely by the authority of a warrant of a secretary of state, or privy councillor, any person might be imprisoned in any jail, during any time the ministers should think fit. In suspicious times, the jails were full of prisoners, who were sometimes thrown into dungeons, loaded with irons, and not unfrequently tortured to extort confessions. Not uncommonly, in the agony of their tortures, the unhappy sufferers wrongly accused others or themselves.

Against these enormities the subject had no redress. Neither judge nor jury dared to acquit when the crown was bent on a conviction. Both were the creatures of the ministry, and as the practice was once common of fining and imprisoning jurors, at the discretion of the court, for finding verdicts contrary to the directions of those dependent judges, it is plain that juries afforded no manner of security to the liberties of the people.

Even the parliament was a feeble bulwark against the despotism of the executive. The crown had so many indirect sources of income, that it was almost entirely independent of the commons, and the ordinary resource of stopping the supplies was little or no check upon its authority. Benevolences might be demanded, and compulsory loans levied on individuals without consent of parliament. Queen Mary, as well as Elizabeth, increased some branches of the customs, merely by an order in council. A species of ship-money was imposed at the time of the Spanish invasion. When any levies were wanted for foreign service, Elizabeth obliged the counties to raise soldiers, to arm and clothe them, and convey them to the seaports at their own charges. By the practice of "purveyance," the sovereign might victual not only her court, but her fleets and armies at the cost of suffering individuals, not regularly taxed, but marked out for oppression. By the "court of wards" she obtained possession of the estate during the minority of the heir; and had authority to dispose of the heir or heiress in marriage. The arbitrary imposition of embargoes, the forbidding the sale of particular commodities, and the granting of patents and monopolies, formed other sources of revenue wholly beyond the control of parliament.

Royal proclamations continued as omnipotent as in the preceding reign, when parliament itself declared them equivalent to law. They were sometimes issued for the purpose of directing the deportation or punishment of vagrants; sometimes for annulling statutes, or inserting clauses in them; sometimes for regulating the costume, diet, or arms of the people. By special warrants, the queen claimed the right to interfere to stop the course of justice. There are many instances of such interferences in the public records, of special warrants for exempting particular persons from all lawful suits and prosecutions; and these warrants were granted, as asserted, in right of the royal prerogative, which was neither to be canvassed, disputed, nor examined.

It is unnecessary to proceed further in the elucidation of the civil freedom of the sixteenth century. Such preliminary explanations were essential to a correct understanding of the occurrences of the period, and the catastrophe of the succeeding dynasty. Constitutional liberty had not

begun to exist; or if it had, it must have been the constitution of Algiers, or of Muscovy in the reign of Peter the Great. The last of the Tudors, however, like the first, only acted on the maxims of their predecessors, with this difference, that they were less restrained by the power of the aristocracy. The commons, as a co-ordinate branch of the legislature, was still in embryo.

Though Elizabeth's government was despotic, it did not possess an efficient police, nor judicial administration—advantages sometimes ascribed to that system of rule. In consequence of the transition from slave to free labour, and the breaking up of the religious houses, the country was overrun with thieves and vagabonds. One account states that in Somersetshire only, forty persons had been executed in a year, for robberies and other felonies; thirty-five burnt in the hand; thirty-seven whipped; and one hundred and eighty-three discharged. Other counties were in a worse situation; the same account stating, there were at least three or four hundred vagabonds in each county, who lived by theft and rapine. Their numbers intimidated the magistrates, and there were instances of justices of the peace, who, after sentencing these depredators, interfered to stop the execution of their sentences, from a dread of the vengeance of their confederates.

The institution of poor-laws, by compelling the idle to labour, and taking away all pretexts for vagrancy, helped greatly to mitigate these disorders, and laid the foundation of that municipal order and industrial prosperity, which subsequently distinguished England among the nations of Europe. It shows how imperfectly the domestic history of the country has yet been told or investigated, when it is observable that this great innovation in public policy, of a compulsory parochial assessment, for the relief of indigence, has been all but unnoticed by every historian from Rapin to the most recent compilations.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1558. Elizabeth, the only daughter of Henry VIII. by Anne Boleyn, succeeded her half-sister Mary, as well by the appointment of her father's will, as by hereditary right, and according to the act of succession of the thirty-fifth of that king.

Nov. 19. The queen being at Hatfield was proclaimed there.

Philip proposed to marry her, but was rejected.

The queen finding the treasury exhausted, borrowed a large sum of the merchants of Antwerp, for which the city of London became bound.

Dr. Matthew Parker, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury, was entrusted with the revival of the liturgy of Edward VI.

Elizabeth, although she had professed to be a catholic during the reign of her sister, and after her accession communicated at mass, and practised other popish ceremonies, now began to treat the papists with severity; many were fined, others in office replaced, and one Maine, a priest, was executed for importing of popish trinkets. The disputes about religion occasioning

riots, a proclamation was published prohibiting such disputes, and declaring that the Romish ritual should be observed till altered by parliament, except the elevation of the host. A proclamation was also issued, prohibiting all preaching without special licence, and ordering the Lord's prayer, the creed, the ten commandments, and the gospel to be read in the English tongue.

The salters' company in London incorporated.

Dec. 27. Archbishop Heath having resigned the seals, they were transferred to sir Nicholas Bacon, with the title of lordkeeper.

Sir William Hewett was lord-mayor this year. He was a cloth worker, and died possessed of an estate of 6000*l.* per annum, a large portion of which he gave to his son-in-law Osborne, formerly his apprentice, who married the daughter he had rescued from drowning while a child. Osborne was the founder of the family of the duke of Leeds.

1559, Jan. 15. The queen crowned at

Westminster by the bishop of Carlisle, who was the only bishop that could be persuaded to do that office. The others refused, as she was a protestant, and had declared against the church of Rome.

Peace was made with France and Scotland.

Jan. 25. Parliament met; a list of court candidates having been sent to the returning officers, prior to the elections. First-fruits and tenths are restored to the crown. The parliament address the queen to marry, which she declined. The popish bishops and lords oppose the protestant party.

March 31. The popish and protestant prelates dispute on their respective dogmas, before the privy council in Westminster Abbey.

The queen erects a high commission court, that exercised the same power which had been formerly lodged by Henry VIII. in a single person. Out of 9400 beneficed clergymen in the kingdom, only fifteen bishops, twelve archdeacons, fifteen heads of colleges, fifty canons, and eighty parochial priests quitted their preferments rather than change their religion.

May 8. Parliament having established the queen's spiritual supremacy, and in all respects restored religion to the same state as in Edward VI.'s reign, was dissolved.

The oath of supremacy being tendered to the bishops and clergy, all the bishops but Dr. Kitchen refused it, and were committed to prison.

June. The reformation was making rapid progress in Scotland; the way had been prepared by the degeneracy of the clergy. All the highest ecclesiastical dignities had long been in possession of the illegitimate or younger children of the nobility, whose disorderly lives scandalized the church. The arrival of John Knox from Geneva gave an impulse to the new doctrine. He taught his followers that obedience was due to the magistrate only in civil matters; in religion they owed only obedience to God and their own conscience. The government of women he considered unlawful, and he wrote to queen Elizabeth, declaring she had no legal right to the crown, and threatened her with destruction, if she did not acquiesce in his opinion of church government. His zeal and eloquence made many converts, who, under the name of congregationalists, proceeded with vigour to purge the kingdom of popery.

20. The French king killed at a tournament, and succeeded by his son Francis.

An insurrection in Scotland against the queen-regent, on account of religion: France took part with the queen-regent, and the English with the malcontents.

Philip II. of Spain refused the collar of the order of the garter, which had been sent him by Elizabeth. He had resigned to the queen all the jewels of his late wife, and though Elizabeth had declined his matrimonial offer, she, to the day of her death, kept his picture by the side of her bed. Charles of Austria, Eric of Sweden, and Adolphus of Holstein, became suitors to the queen.

Nov. 18. The famous Tonstall, bishop of London, died.

A translation of the Scriptures was undertaken by authority, which, after passing through several emendations, became in the succeeding reign the basis of the present version.

1560. Bacon and Cecil were made first ministers.

July. The states of Scotland established the reformation.

The deanery of Westminster erected by the queen.

Robert Dudley, the youngest son of the late duke of Northumberland, made master of the horse and knight of the garter; he was so great a favourite, that all applications to the throne were made through him. Dudley had married Amy, the daughter and heiress of sir John Robesart, but she was not permitted to appear at court; having a lovely mansion allotted to her, called Cumnor, in Berkshire, where she suddenly died by an accidental fall, if Foster, the tenant of the house, may be credited; but under such circumstances as convinced the public she had been murdered.

Dec. 5. Francis II. died of an imposthume in the ear, and was succeeded by his younger brother, Charles IX.; Catherine de Medicis, his mother, taking upon her the administration during his minority.

A proclamation is issued, commanding all anabaptists to depart the kingdom; and another, prohibiting the defacing ancient monuments, and destroying churches.

Brass money is called in, and the coin restored to its purity.

1561. *June 15.* The beautiful spire of St. Paul's church, 520 feet high from the ground, and 260 from the tower, being made with wood and cased with lead, took fire by lightning, as supposed, and was consumed. The tower was soon repaired, but the spire was never re-built. It appeared afterwards, by the confession of a plumber on his death-bed, that a pan of coals carelessly left in the steeple had occasioned the conflagration.

A mine of pure copper was discovered near Renwick, and at the same time was found the stone called lapis calaminaris.

The queen ordered payment to be made to the monks of their pensions, and increased the salary of the judges, allowing them provisions on their circuits.

1562. *Jan. 22.* The thirty-nine articles, as they now exist, received the subscriptions of the two houses of convocation, and it was proposed to subject to the penalties of heresy any one who denied or dissented from them; the doctrines formerly published under Edward VI. formed the ground-work of the new creed.

The queen assisted the French protestants with 6000 men, who embarked in September, and were put in possession of Havre de Grace.

The lady Catherine Grey of the royal blood, entering into a marriage-contract with the earl of Hertford, was divorced from him by the queen's directions, after they had had two sons, and they were both imprisoned and fined.

Shan O'Neil, earl of Tyrone, in Ireland, who had broken out in rebellion, came and made his submission to Elizabeth, and received his pardon.

The queen seized with the small pox; her life being in danger, the commons entreat her to fix the succession of the crown, which she declined.

Mr. John Hawkins fitted out three ships, and made a voyage to the coast of Guinea for slaves; the first attempt from England to establish that trade. Two of the largest ships employed in this iniquitous traffic belonged to the queen.

1563. *Jan. 12.* The second parliament met, and passed an act confirming the queen's supremacy over all estates, ecclesiastical and temporal. A statute was passed against witchcraft.

Elizabeth proposed her favourite Dudley to the queen of Scots for a husband.

The earl of Warwick, the queen's general, surrendered Havre de Grace to the French, and his forces returning to England, brought the plague with them, which carried off upwards of 20,000 persons in and about London, amongst whom were many of the principal nobility.

1564. *Sept. 26.* Dudley created earl of Leicester, with the castle and manor of Kenilworth, was chosen chancellor of the university of Oxford, and received from Charles IX. of France the order of St. Michael.

The queen visited Cambridge.

1565. *July 27.* The queen of Scots married Henry Stuart, lord Darnley, whom she had lately made duke of Albany, and the next day he was publicly proclaimed king. This marriage occasioned an insurrection in Scotland, and several lords took to arms, but were obliged to fly into England.

The puritans refused to conform to the church of England. Cartwright, and three hundred students of Cambridge, threw off their surplices in one day. They inculcated the unlawfulness of any church govern-

ment, except what the apostles instituted, namely, the presbyterian.

The Spaniards set up an inquisition in the Netherlands, in order to eradicate the reformed religion, which occasioned insurrections; at length the Dutch set up for independent states, and threw off the dominion of Spain.

1566. *March 9.* Darnley, with Ruthven, Douglas, and Kerr, enter the closet of the queen of Scots at night, and assassinate her secretary, and favourite David Rizzio. Some of the assassins fled to England, and were received by Elizabeth.

June 19. Queen of Scots delivered of a son, who afterwards became king of England. Elizabeth was dancing at Greenwich, and when Cecil whispered the intelligence in her ear, appeared much disconcerted.

A proclamation issued against the puritans, and in favour of conformity.

1567. *Feb. 9.* Darnley, king of Scots, murdered by the contrivance of Murray and Bothwell, and Murray, to throw the odium of it upon the queen, persuaded her to marry Bothwell. The house was blown up with gunpowder; so that it is uncertain whether Darnley was murdered first, or perished in the explosion. It was not known at first that Bothwell was an accomplice in the murder, and when it was suspected, the queen insisted on his being tried for it; but she married him as soon as he was acquitted (May 15), with the concurrence of the nobility, and created him duke of the Orkneys.

June 7. The foundation of the Royal Exchange laid by sir Thomas Gresham.

The earl of Murray, base brother to the queen of Scots, creates her great troubles. The rebel lords took the queen prisoner, and compelled her to resign her crown to her son. Bothwell made his escape to the Orkneys, and found means to get over to Denmark, where he was thrown into prison, lost his senses, and died miserably ten years after.

July 29. Prince James was crowned king of Scotland at Stirling, at thirteen months eight days old; and (Aug. 10) the earl of Murray was made regent: he convoked a parliament, which voted Mary an accomplice in her husband's murder, condemned her to imprisonment, and ratified her dismission from the crown.

Aug. Sept. Elizabeth went to Oxford, was present at a public disputation, and held her court at Woodstock.

The duke of Austria made proposals of marriage to Elizabeth, and the earl of Sussex is sent to Germany to settle the marriage articles, but Leicester broke off the match.

A rebellion of Shan O'Neal in Ireland

again suppressed. The earls of Ormond and Desmond at open war in that kingdom, but were quelled by the lord lieutenant.

Don Carlos, the son of Philip II. of Spain, supposed to be assassinated with the connivance of his father, to prevent his succession to the Spanish monarchy, of which he appears to have been unworthy, from the weakness and depravity of his character.

1568. *May 2.* The queen of Scots made her escape, and raised an army, but was defeated by Murray (*May 17*); whereupon she flies into England, upon large promises of favour and assistance from queen Elizabeth, but was detained prisoner by her, upon the charge of being privy to the murder of an English subject, her husband Darnley.

Oct. 4. Regent Murray, with eleven other lords, met the English deputies at York, but determined nothing.

A marriage was privately proposed between the queen of Scots and the duke of Norfolk.

The puritans began to create divisions in the church, and set up the Geneva discipline.

Elizabeth assists the protestants in France with 100,000 crowns of gold, and a good train of artillery.

A war was begun with Spain this year.

Several French and Flemish families take refuge in England, and improve the silk and woollen manufactures.

11. The duke of Norfolk sent to the tower, for attempting to marry the queen of Scots.

Conference at York on Scottish affairs.

Nov. 25. The conference was brought to Westminster, afterwards to Hampton-court, and the proofs against Mary examined. Mary was removed to Tutbury castle, under the custody of the earl of Shrewsbury.

Dec. 29. The Genoa merchants in Spain having employed some Spanish ships to transport their money, they put into Plymouth, and the treasure was landed; the queen borrowed it as a loan, the Spanish ambassador having claimed it as his king's property.

Several lords entered into a plot against Cecil, whom the queen supported.

A new translation of the Bible was published, done by several bishops.

30. The learned Roger Ascham died, who was some time tutor to queen Elizabeth, and her secretary for the Latin tongue.

1569. The earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland raise a rebellion in the north, for the liberation of Mary and the restoration of the ancient worship, but their followers being dispersed, they retired into Scotland. It was in this rising the venerable Norton and his five sons took part. But Leonard Dacres, son of lord

Dacres, raised a second rebellion, which was suppressed, and Dacres fled into Flanders. Eight hundred persons were executed: between Wetherby and Newcastle there was hardly a town or a village in which some of the inhabitants did not expire on the gibbet.

Jan. 11. First lottery mentioned in history began to be drawn at the west door of St. Paul's, and continued drawing night and day till the 6th of May following.

The English began a trade through Russia to Persia. They also established a trade with Hamburg.

Aug. Elizabeth made an alliance with the czar of Muscovy.

Sept. The bishop of London causes bishop Bonner to be buried in the night, to protect his remains from the fury of the populace. Elizabeth, who had received the other bishops at her first audience with due courtesy, turned from Bonner as from a man of blood.

Nov. 25. The Scottish queen removed for security to Coventry.

1570. *Jan. 23.* Murray, the Scotch regent, shot in the streets of Linlithgow, by Hamilton of Bothwellauagh, whose wife had lost her reason in consequence of the cruel treatment she had received from a retainer of the regent.

The pope having excommunicated queen Elizabeth the preceding year, now published his bull, absolving her subjects from their allegiance, cursing them if they obey her, and declaring her to be deposed, which occasioned some insurrections by the papists; but they were soon suppressed. One Felton fixed the pope's bull to the bishop of London's palace, for which he was hanged.

April 17. The earl of Sussex entered Scotland with an army, and punished the rioters; lord Scrope destroyed above three hundred towns and villages.

The queen dines with sir Thomas Gresham in the Royal Exchange.

1571. The queen of Scots is more strictly confined, and her servants taken from her; whereupon some proposals are made to the duke of Norfolk, (who had been liberated on promise not to proceed in the match with Mary,) for liberating her, which the duke concealed, though he did not comply with them.

A match is proposed between queen Elizabeth and the duke of Anjou, but does not succeed.

A discovery being made of the duke of Norfolk's treating with the queen of Scots again, the duke is sent to the tower, with the bishop of Ross, who managed the correspondence.

Feb. 17. A great earthquake in Herefordshire, when Marcle hill was removed from the place where it stood, and conti-

nued in motion two days; it carried along the trees, hedges, and sheep; overturned Kynaston chapel, which stood in its way, left an opening forty feet in depth, and thirty-two in length, and formed a large hill twelve fathoms high, where it rested.

April 2. Parliament met, and made it high-treason to affirm that any one had a right to the crown but the present queen, or that the queen and parliament could not limit the succession; it was also made high-treason to be reconciled, or to reconcile others to the church of Rome.

Mr. Strickland, a member of the commons, ordered by the privy council to forbear going to the house, which the house resenting, he was permitted to take his seat.

Dr. Story condemned and executed for high-treason, in inviting a foreign invasion, and consulting with a magician to depose the queen.

Sept. 4. The earl of Lenox, regent of Scotland, is murdered, and the earl of Mar made regent.

Jesus college, Oxford, founded by Hugh Price, LL.D.

1572. *Jan. 14.* The duke of Norfolk brought to trial, being charged with high-treason, in treating of a marriage with the queen of Scots, conspiring to depose queen Elizabeth, &c., and is convicted.

May 8. A bill being brought into the house of commons, to alter the rites and ceremonies of the church, Mr. Speaker declared it was her Majesty's pleasure, that no bills should be preferred concerning religion, till the matter had been first debated and approved by the clergy, upon which the bill was dropped.

The Spanish ambassador is ordered to quit the kingdom, being concerned in a plot with Mather and Barney, to kill the queen and secretary Burleigh; Hall, a third conspirator, swore to it, upon which they were all three executed.

June 2. The duke of Norfolk having lain under sentence of condemnation five months, the commons signified to her majesty, that his execution was necessary, and he was executed.

The marquis of Winchester, lord treasurer, dying in the 97th year of his age, is succeeded in that office by lord Burleigh.

The puritans or non-conformists to the liturgy make great efforts to introduce the Geneva discipline. The queen was as resolutely opposed to them as to the catholics.

A new star appears in Cassiopea's chair, exceeding Jupiter in brightness, diminishing after eight months gradually, till it totally disappeared at the end of sixteen months.

Aug. 22. The earl of Northumberland,

being delivered up by the Scots, is executed.

24. On the eve of St. Bartholomew, the protestants were massacred at Paris, being charged with conspiring against the government. Guise, Aumale, and Anjou led the attack, and the devoted huguenots were slain in their beds, or shot on the roofs of the houses. Massacre and pillage continued eight days and nights; and Charles IX. discharged his long arquebuse from the Louvre on the fugitives, as they endeavoured to escape. Similar butcheries followed at Orleans, Troyes, Meaux, Bourdeaux, Toulouse, and Lyons. The number of victims has been variously estimated from 10,000 to 100,000. Coligni, the chief of the protestants, was killed. At Madrid the massacre was celebrated with court festivals; at Rome, the pope and the cardinals returned God thanks; but in England the court went into mourning. Many of the French protestants took refuge in this country.

Oct. 28. Mar, the Scotch regent, dies, and Morton succeeds him.

1573. The Dutch, under the conduct of the prince of Orange, laid the foundation of their commonwealth, and rebel against the king of Spain.

June 25. The duke of Anjou raises the siege of Rochelle, after the city had withstood 30,000 cannon balls, nine great assaults, twenty lesser ones, and the effects of sixty mines.

1574. A proclamation is issued for putting the sumptuary laws against excess of apparel in execution. The queen proclaimed, that every one within fourteen days should wear clothes of such a fashion as herself should fix the pattern of.

May 30. Charles IX. of France died of a very extraordinary distemper, his blood oozed from all the pores of his body. Henry III., duke of Anjou, and king of Poland, succeeded him.

Charles, earl of Lenox, uncle to the king of Scotland, married to Elizabeth Cavendish. As this marriage was solemnized unknown to the queen, she imprisoned the mothers of the new married pair.

The commotions in Ireland made the queen think of that kingdom; she found the revenue of it, yearly, only amounted to 190,779*l.*, a vast disproportion to the supplies; upon which she appointed the earl of Essex captain general for seven years, and sent him over with some forces to quell the insurgents; he persuaded the earl of Desmond to submit.

A great dearth, wheat sold for six shillings a bushel.

1575. *Feb. 8.* At a second session of the fourth parliament of this reign, the queen was again addressed to marry, to no purpose.

The prince of Orange, and the provinces of Holland and Zealand, offer to accept queen Elizabeth for their sovereign, which she refuses.

Wentworth, a member of the commons, reflecting on the queen, for ordering Strickland to forbear coming to the house last session was sent to the Tower.

A subsidy of six shillings in the pound given by the clergy, to be paid in three years, confirmed; and a subsidy and three fifteenths and tenths given by the laity.

July 22. Peters and Turwert, two anabaptists, burnt in Smithfield amidst an immense concourse of spectators.

1576. The earl of Essex, who had been recalled through the enmity of the earl of Leicester, is again sent over to Ireland, and appointed earl marshal of that kingdom.

The protestants in France became formidable, and were headed by the prince of Condé and duke of Alençon, and joined by the prince Casimer, in all to the amount of 30,000 men. The queen dowager concludes a treaty with them, and the duke of Alençon is won over to the court.

June 11. Martin Frobisher sailed with three pinnaces, to discover a north-west passage; being frozen up, he was obliged to return without any success.

Aug. 25. The earl of Essex dies in Ireland, suspected to be poisoned by the earl of Leicester, who married his widow.

1577. Elizabeth assists the Dutch against the king of Spain.

Three hundred people, among whom was the high sheriff, died suddenly at the assizes at Oxford, supposed to be infected with a gaol distemper, by the stench of the prisoners.

1578. Feb. Twenty catholics, of family and fortune, imprisoned on account of their religion, die of an infectious disease in York castle.

1579. As the queen was in her barge upon the Thames, one of her bargemen was shot through both arms; but it appearing to be an accident, the queen pardoned the man that shot off the piece.

May 20. Hammond, who had been pronounced an obstinate heretic by the bishop of Norwich, burnt in the ditch of that city.

The duke of Anjou came into England, and renewed his addresses to the queen in person.

The protestant provinces of Holland, Zealand, Friesland, and Utrecht, enter into an alliance, styled "the Union of Utrecht."

The Spaniards, to the number of 1500, make a descent in Ireland, and join the rebels there, but are all made prisoners, and put to the sword the year following; the earl of Desmond, the chief of the Irish malcontents, was taken prisoner.

The Turkey company established.

1580. Three English popish colleges or seminaries were erected at Rome, Rheims, and Douay; from whence priests came over to propagate their doctrines, particularly Robert Persons and Edward Campian, two English jesuits, formerly students at Oxford, appearing sometimes in the habit of gentlemen, sometimes of soldiers, and at other times in the habit of divines; when a proclamation issues, declaring it high-treason to belong to such seminaries of priests and jesuits. Campian was executed for publishing a treatise, called the Ten Reasons, in favour of the church of Rome.

Philip, king of Spain, on the death of Henry, king of Portugal, possesses himself of that kingdom.

As a precaution against the plague, and the high price of fuel and victuals, a royal proclamation was issued to restrain the further growth of London; and the erection of any new house within three miles of the city gates is prohibited. Not more than one family is allowed to live in a house.

Another proclamation against the wearing of gold chains and cloaks, which men wore down to their heels: by the same, the length of swords is limited to three feet, and rapiers to twelve inches, exclusive of the hilt.

Jan. 16. A third session of the fourth parliament was held, and an act was made for inflicting a penalty of twenty pounds a month on those who absented themselves from church.

Nov. 3. Captain Francis Drake returned from his first voyage round the globe, having been twelve days less than three years in performing it. He set sail from Plymouth with five ships, 15th Nov. 1577. The Spaniards demanded satisfaction for Drake's depredations, and the queen restored part of the plunder. The honour of having first practically demonstrated the spherical figure of the earth belongs to Magellan; but that navigator was prevented completing his circumnavigation of the globe by his death in the Philippine islands.

The queen issued a proclamation, for calling home children educated in foreign parts.

The earl of Leicester is confined for privately marrying the earl of Essex's widow.

Several sectarians came from Holland, who called themselves the Family of Love, and preached up peculiar tenets.

Sir Thomas Gresham died, who built the Royal Exchange, and founded Gresham college. He was called the "queen's merchant," because he had the management of her money transactions.

1581. The commons order a fast: the

queen reprimands them for their presumption. Severe laws were enacted against the catholics. The names of all the recusants in each parish, to the number of 50,000, returned to the council. No security in private houses, the pursuivants breaking open doors at all hours, especially in the night, to hunt for priests and popish books.

Arthur Hall, representative for Grantham, reflecting on the justice of the house of commons in print, was committed to the Tower, by the Speaker's warrant, for six months, and fined 500 marks. Absent members were fined twenty pounds each by the house.

April 4. Elisabeth partakes of a banquet on board of Drake's ship at Deptford, when she knights the adventurer.

Dec. 1. Campian, Sherwin, and Briant executed as traitors; their real offence was their zealous catholicism. Torture, which was commonly used, had been three times applied to Campian to extort confessions, or a recantation, but he resisted with great firmness and ability.

Copper money was first introduced into France this year.

1582. *Feb.* The duke of Anjou returned home, despairing of success in his courtship; the queen accompanied him to Canterbury.

John Stubbs, a lawyer of Lincoln's-Inn, condemned to lose his right hand, for publishing a libel against the queen's marriage with the duke of Anjou.

Pope Gregory XIII. caused the calendar to be reformed, whereby the English, and some other protestant countries, which adhered to the Julian calendar, lost ten days, and occasioned the distinction between old and new style.

The learned George Buchanan died.

The seamen of England were computed at 14,295, and the number of vessels 1232, of which there were not more than 217 above eighty tons.

1583. King James makes his escape, and regains his liberty, and the lords that had confined him are banished; Gowrie, for another conspiracy of the like nature, was afterwards beheaded.

July 6. Edmund Grindal, archbishop of Canterbury, died, having been blind for some time. The queen suspended him in the year 1576, for not suppressing the prophesyings, as they were called, among some of his clergy, at their voluntary meetings without authority. The convocation petitioned the queen, in the year 1581, to restore him, which she did the following year. On the death of Grindal, Dr. John Whitgift was made archbishop of Canterbury, when the queen recommended to him to restore the discipline of the church,

and the observance of the act of uniformity, in which she apprehended his predecessor had been too remiss.

Thacker and Copping, two Brownists, hanged at Bury, for dispersing Brown's books against the established church.

The harbour of St. John's, in Newfoundland, was taken possession of for the English crown, by sir Humphry Gilbert, who was cast away upon his return from North America.

A conspiracy is formed to take the queen's life away, by John Somerville, a gentleman of Warwickshire; he attacked some of her attendants, but was secured and tried at Guildhall, and found guilty of high-treason.

1584. *Jan.* Mendoza, the Spanish ambassador, being discovered to be in the plot with Throgmorton, is ordered to leave England, and an ambassador was sent to the Spanish court, but was refused an audience.

July 12. Francis Throgmorton is executed for a conspiracy to set the queen of Scots at liberty; he was racked three times, on the 23rd November, and twice on the 2nd December; under the agony of the torture he confessed his guilt, but on the scaffold revoked his confession.

Emanuel college, in Cambridge, founded by sir Walter Mildmay, chancellor, and treasurer of the exchequer.

The prince of Orange assassinated at Delft.

Dec. 17. Dr. Parry, a member of the house of commons, denounces the laws made against catholic clergymen; he is given in custody to the serjeant, but set at liberty by command of the queen, who said he had explained his motives to her.

Sir Walter Raleigh discovered Virginia, named so by him in honour of the queen.

1585. Captain Davis finished his third voyage in quest of a north-west passage; he sailed as far as 83° of northern latitude, but returned without success.

March 2. Dr. Parry is condemned and executed for a design to assassinate her majesty.

Elisabeth, at the intercession of the Dutch, sends the earl of Leicester, and 6000 men, to their assistance, and has the Brill and Flushing delivered into her hands, as a security for her charges. They agreed that the English general, and two more of her majesty's subjects, were to be admitted into the council of the states general, and no treaty to be entered into but by mutual consent, in consideration of the assistance she gave the Dutch against Spain.

Sir Francis Drake, with twenty-one sail of men-of-war, and land forces, commanded by the earl of Cadizale, surprise and plun

der St. Domingo, take Carthagens, and arrive at Virginia in Florida, where they take on board captain Lane, and a colony that were in distress, having been sent thither by sir Walter Raleigh, and with them the tobacco plant was first brought to England.

March. The league revived by the young duke of Guise, in France, to frustrate the accession to the throne of Henri de Bourbon, king of Navarre, the presumptive heir to the crown, and a protestant; it was a source of endless wars, perjuries, murders, and crimes.

June 21. Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, being accused of sharing in the conspiracy of Throgmorton, was committed to the Tower; two days after he was found dead in bed, shot through the heart with three slugs. A coroner's inquest returned a verdict of self-murder, and the crown lawyers alleged that he had killed himself to evade the forfeiture of his possessions, and to preserve them in his family. But a rumour was current that the evidence was insufficient to convict the earl of treason, and that he had been assassinated: the change of the earl's keeper the night before his death countenanced this suspicion.

Coaches were first introduced and used in England this year.

The queen granted a licence to several merchants of London, to trade to Barbary.

The prince of Condé came into England to solicit assistance in behalf of the Huguenots. The queen supplied him with 50,000 crowns, and ten ships, with which he raised the blockade of Rochella.

1586. *Sept. 20.* Babington, Tichbourne, and others, convicted of conspiring the rescue of the queen of Scots and against Elizabeth, executed with great barbarity in St. Giles's fields. Seven of the conspirators were condemned and hung up; then cut down whilst alive, and their bowels taken out; but the other seven, by the queen's order, hung till they were dead, and then were embowelled.

Oct. 11. The queen of Scots is charged with being a promoter of Babington's conspiracy, and forty-seven commissioners are ordered to try her at Fotheringay castle, in Northamptonshire: at first Mary denied their jurisdiction, but afterwards submitted to plead, and demanded to be confronted with the two witnesses, Nau and Curle. The court was adjourned to the star-chamber at Westminster, and 25th October the commissioners agreed in their judgment. Both houses of parliament petitioned that the sentence of death might be carried into immediate execution. The judgment was proclaimed by sound of trumpet in London. The bells tolled for twenty-four hours; bonfires blazed in

the streets, and the citizens appeared intoxicated with joy.

16. Sir Philip Sidney is killed in the Dutch wars.

29. Another parliament is called, being the sixth of this reign, wherein the sentence against the queen of Scots is confirmed, and both houses importunately address the queen that it may be executed:

Dec. 6. Mary's sentence was published throughout the kingdom.

Mary wrote to Elizabeth, to desire certain favours concerning her death, burial, and servants; but it is uncertain whether this letter was delivered.

1587. *Feb. 1.* The queen signs the warrant for Mary's death, which Burleigh supersedes by a commission directed to the earls of Kent, Shrewsbury, Derby, and Cumberland, to see the sentence put into execution.

Feb. 8. Mary beheaded in the hall of Fotheringay castle, in the presence of about two hundred gentlemen of the county: she was in the forty-sixth year of her age, and the eighteenth of her imprisonment. The unfortunate queen died nobly; disclaiming to the last any design against the life of her cousin, the queen of England. Although there can be little doubt Mary was implicated in treasonable practices, of which her long, cruel, and unjust confinement was an extenuation: her chief offences, in the eyes of the reformers, were the misfortune of being a catholic, and presumptive heir to the crown of England, by which the protestant succession was endangered. The unprincipled Leicester proposed removing her by poison; Walsingham recommended the solemnity of a public execution as more suitable; but Elizabeth would have preferred assassination, of which she gave a significant intimation to Pawlet and Drury. (Lingard, viii. 282.) Elizabeth's conduct throughout was marked by her accustomed irresolution, craft, and dissimulation. She laid the blame of Mary's death on her secretary Davison, and pretended that the warrant she had signed was to have lain dormant, and that she never meant it to be executed, unless upon absolute necessity. Burleigh and her other advisers interpreted her wishes differently. Mary was buried in the cathedral of Peterborough, and on her son's accession to the crown of England, he removed her corpse in 1612 into Henry VIIth's chapel.

Elizabeth expressed great sorrow at the news being brought her of Mary's execution. She wrote to the king of Scotland, to excuse herself from being the instrument of Mary's death. To give a colour to this, Davison was imprisoned, and fined in 10,000*l.*: he continued a long

time in custody, and was obliged to pay every farthing of the fine, which reduced him to beggary, and all the favour he procured from the queen, for being the faithful instrument of her real intentions, was a very slight support.

April. The puritans bring in a bill into the house of commons for reforming the established church, and introducing the Geneva discipline; whereupon some of the most zealous members were sent to the Tower, by an order of council; at which the puritans were so exasperated, that they immediately began to propagate their doctrines, declaring that the queen might be excommunicated as an enemy to Christ, and that being so excommunicated, the people might punish her.

Admiral Drake burnt a hundred sail of ships in the port of Cadiz.

Philip, of Spain, being determined to invade England, secretary Walsingham got all the Spanish bills, that were to supply the king with money, to be protested at Genoa.

John Fox, the martyrologist, died.

1588. Mr. Cavendish finished his voyage round the globe, taking a great many ships in the Pacific ocean, and bringing home considerable plunder: he was two years and two months absent.

Duelling with small swords first introduced into England.

The earl of Leicester, the queen's favourite, having ill success in the Netherlands, was recalled, and lord Buckhurst was sent over to accommodate matters, who, upon his return, accused Leicester, against whom all proceedings are stopped by Elizabeth.

A petition, with a book of devotions, was presented to the house by four of the puritans; the queen sent for the book, and committed the four members who presented it.

Thomas Bromley, lord chancellor, dying, was succeeded by sir Christopher Hatton, being the first that possessed that high office, who was neither prelate nor lawyer, but he acquitted himself with great ability.

The king of Spain, after being occupied five years in preparations, completed his grand naval armament for the conquest of Britain, consisting of ninety-two galleons, or large ships of the line, four galliasses, thirty frigates, thirty transports for horse, and four galleys; on board whereof were 8350 mariners, 2080 galley-slaves, and 19,290 land forces; the whole commanded by the duke of Medina Sidonia: besides which, the prince of Parma, the Spanish general in Flanders, was ordered to provide transports, and flat-bottomed boats, to transport an army of horse and foot from the Netherlands to England. At the same time pope Sixtus V. published a crusado

against Elizabeth, declaring her dethroned, and her subjects absolved from their allegiance, granting indulgences to all those who should assist in dethroning this heretical queen, which drew in numbers of catholic volunteers of quality, from several kingdoms of Europe, to list themselves in the Spanish service.

To oppose this formidable Armada, the queen assembled a numerous fleet, commanded by lord Howard of Effingham, assisted by those celebrated commanders, Drake, Hawkins, and Frobisher: these were stationed near Plymouth, to oppose the enemy as he entered the channel, while lord Henry Seymour commanded another fleet of forty men-of-war, English and Dutch, upon the coast of Flanders, to prevent the duke of Parma's bringing over forces from thence. The queen also assembled an army of 80,000 men, 20,000 whereof were cantoned on the southern coast, to oppose a descent there; 23,000 foot, and 1000 horse, under the command of the earl of Leicester, were posted at Tilbury, near the mouth of the Thames; and the residue, consisting of 34,000 foot, and 2000 horse, remained about the queen's person: the militia was raised to reinforce the regular troops where there should be occasion.

All the ports and accessible places on the coast were fortified, and strongly garrisoned. Orders were given to oppose the enemy's descent in all places, but not to come to a general engagement, if they should land, but retire and destroy the country before them, that the Spaniards might meet with no subsistence, and be perpetually harassed in their march: both the king of Scotland and the Dutch engaged to assist the queen with all their forces against Spain.

The city of London lent the queen great sums of money on this emergency, and being directed to furnish 5000 men and fifteen ships, they raised 10,000 men and thirty ships.

The Spanish Armada sailed from the Tagus on the 29th of May, but being dispersed by a storm, rendezvoused at Corunna, from whence they set sail on the 12th of July, and entering the English channel on the 19th, admiral Howard suffered them to pass by him, following them close until the 21st. A battle began, and a kind of running fight continued to the 27th, when the Spaniards came to an anchor in Calais roads, in order to wait for the duke of Parma and his transports, with the land-forces from Flanders.

Meanwhile several noblemen and gentlemen fitted out ships of war at their own charge, and joined the English fleet, which amounted now to 140 vessels, much less

indeed, but nimbler sailers than the Spanish galleons. Another large squadron of English and Dutch lay before the harbours of Newport and Dunkirk, and rendered it impracticable for the duke of Parma to transport any land forces from Flanders.

The English admiral, finding he could make but little impression on the Armada, the galleons being so much superior to him in bulk, sent in eight or ten fireships among them in the night-time, which put the Spaniards in the utmost confusion. They cut their cables immediately, and put to sea; and endeavouring to return to the rendezvous between Calais and Gravelines, the English fell upon them, and took several of their ships; whereupon the rest bore away for Scotland and Ireland.

While the fleets were engaged, the queen appeared on horseback at the head of the army, encouraging them to defend their country, and giving orders how to attack and distress the enemy if they should land; but they were so roughly handled at sea, that they thought of nothing else but how they should escape to Spain by the north of Scotland and Ireland, having lost fifteen great ships and 4791 men, in the several engagements with the English fleet, in the Channel, in the months of July and August; seventeen ships, and 5394 men, were drowned, killed, or taken upon the coast of Ireland, in the month of September; and another great ship, with 700 men, cast away on the coast of Scotland. As to the loss of the English, it was so inconsiderable, that none of our historians mention the loss of one ship.

A medal was struck on the retreat of the Spanish Armada, with this inscription, "Venit, vidit, fugit"—"It came, saw, and fled." Another with fireships and a fleet in confusion, with this motto, "Dux femina facti"—"A woman conducted the enterprise."

Sept. 4. Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, dies of fever, as then supposed, but now ascertained of poison, while escorting his wife to Kenilworth castle, where, from jealousy of sir Christopher Blount, her master of the horse, he purposed secretly dispatching her, as he had done his first wife, the husband of his then present wife, and other persons. But this expert poisoner became the victim of his own arts. The lady, apprised of his design upon her, took advantage of an indigestion produced by his habitual gluttony at Cornbury-hall, in Oxfordshire, to give him "a cordial draught," which proved his last. She next married the equerry. (Mac. Hist. iii. 12.) Though Leicester was never higher in favour with the queen, he was no sooner dead, than she caused his goods to be sold to reimburse her for the sums she had lent

him. Elizabeth's attachment was selfish and sensual, and her favourite a man of mean capacity and a reputed coward, who clothed his villainies in the mask of religious hypocrisy.

The "Chest at Chatham" established, which, by means of a small deduction from the pay of every seaman, provided an annual pension for such as were wounded.

1569. *Feb. 4.* Parliament met, and gave the queen two entire subsidies, and four fifteenths and tenths; and a subsidy of six shillings in the pound was granted by the clergy, to be paid in three years.

The art of making paper introduced into England, and the first mill set up, and paper made, at Dartford in Kent.

April 18. Earl of Arundel tried and convicted of treason, but the sentence never executed, and the earl, after eleven years' imprisonment, died in the Tower.

Admiral Drake and sir John Norris fit out a fleet of men-of-war at their own charges, and make descents in Spain and Portugal with 11,000 men, (the queen only assisting with 60,000*l.* and six ships,) and marched up to Lisbon and plundered the country. In this expedition, out of 1100 gentlemen, only 350 returned.

June. The English seized sixty ships belonging to the Hanse towns in the Tagus; they were laden with naval stores to equip a fleet against England. The Hanse towns complain of this seizure without effect.

Aug. 1. Henry III. of France, who had assassinated the duke of Guise, was himself assassinated by James Clement, a monk; and the king of Navarre succeeded him by the name of Henry IV., a protestant, whom Elizabeth supplied with 23,000*l.* to support his right.

Francis Kett, a member of one of the universities, was burnt at Norwich, for heresy. He appears to have been the last who suffered at the stake for his heterodox opinions. Saffron first planted in England.

1590. The queen raised the customs from 14,000*l.* to 50,000*l.* per annum.

The queen fortified Milford Haven.

The puritans denying the queen's supremacy, and inciting the people to rebellion, Udal, one of their preachers, and chief of the libellers, is convicted of felony, but pardoned.

Sailcloth first woven in England for the use of the navy.

The band of pensioners first established by Elizabeth.

1591. *May.* Cartwright, the head of the nonconformists, and nine others, imprisoned by the star-chamber court.

The art of weaving stockings invented by the Rev. Mr. Lee, of Cambridge.

Telescopes invented by Mr. Z. Jansen, a spectacle-maker, at Middleburg, in Germany.

The coal-owners at Newcastle entered into a combination, and raised the price of coals in London from 4*s.* to 9*s.* a chaldron.

July 26. Hacket, who imagined he was John the Baptist, come to prepare the way for the Messiah, is executed for blasphemy. Copping, one of his followers, starved himself, or was starved to death in prison.

Captain Lancaster, and Captain Rimer, sailed to the East Indies, in order to begin a trade there: Rimer was cast away, and Lancaster returned richly laden, but only with seven hands on board.

Some ships went to Cape Breton, which was the first of the English whale-fishery.

The queen erected a university at Dublin, which she endowed with considerable revenues, and the usual privileges granted to universities.

1592. The earl of Cumberland, the city of Loudon, and sir Walter Raleigh, fit out a large fleet of men-of-war, with land-forces on board, to attack the Spanish settlements in America, but not succeeding there, took a large galleon in their return, at the Azores, valued at 150,000*l.*, and the adventurers shared the plunder; the crew of this vessel, which consisted of 600, were most of them killed.

Sir John Perrot, lord deputy of Ireland, condemned to die for reflecting on the queen's legitimacy.

The queen went to Oxford, and was sumptuously entertained by the university.

Feb. 19. Parliament met, and having chosen sir Edward Coke, the solicitor-general, speaker, he made, in the name of the commons, to the queen the usual requests,—freedom from arrest, liberty of speech, and access to her person. Elizabeth answered by the mouth of the lord-keeper, sir John Puckering, that their first prayer was granted, with this condition, that their liberty of speech extended no farther than “ay or no;” that if any idle heads hazarded their estates by meddling with matters of church and state, the speaker should not receive their bills. Freedom from arrest was granted with the proviso, “that no man's ill-doings be covered or protected.” The privilege of access to the royal person was to depend upon the importance of the occasion, and her majesty's leisure. Two members, Peter Wentworth and sir Henry Bromley, infringing these limitations, the former was sent to the Tower, the latter to the Fleet. Morrice was also arrested in the house by the queen's warrant, for a similar offence, and conveyed by the sergeant-at-arms to Tutbury castie.

A remarkable act passed, which obliged all persons to conform, and repair at least once a month to the established church, under pain of imprisonment, and banish-

ment should they refuse to submit.* Another confined popish recusants within five miles of their respective dwellings.

Under these and some preceding treason acts, a relentless persecution was carried on during the remainder of the queen's reign against the catholics and puritans. Sixty-one clergymen, forty-seven laymen, and two gentlemen suffered capital punishment on the scaffold. These sufferings, however, affected but a small part of the catholic population; the great grievance consisted in the penalties of recusancy; which were ruinous to persons of property, while the poorer sort were thrown into prison. The gaols were crowded with victims. At one sessions in Hampshire 400, at the assizes in Lancashire 600 recusants were presented. But the counties complaining of the expense of their maintenance, the queen ordered them to be discharged at the discretion of the magistrates. From some, only a promise of good behaviour was required; others had their ears bored with a hot iron; others were publicly whipped. To these sufferings must be added domiciliary visits, in search of catholic clergymen. These sometimes comprised a whole district. In 1584, fifty gentlemen's houses were searched on the same night, and almost all the owners dragged to prison. (*Ling. viii. 360.*) It is remarkable, that the most intolerant persecutors of the papists were the protestant recusants, who were themselves obnoxious to some of the penalties of “these godly laws.”

Sir John Fortescue, in order to induce the commons to consent to a large supply, observed, that the Netherlands cost the queen 150,000*l.* per annum; that she had paid off a debt of 4,000,000*l.* the crown owed at her accession; that she had vastly increased the royal navy, and furnished it with brass guns; that no prince was at less expenses in his court, but that the subsidies did not produce half so much as they did in the reign of Henry VIII., being assessed so low, and therefore insisted the supplies ought to be greater.

Sir Walter Raleigh went to sea with fifteen sail, and took several vessels very richly laden.

1593. Sir Francis Bacon, in this parliament, moved the purging the statute-book, and lessening the volumes of law, which the people could not observe, or the lawyers understand.

June 7. Lopez, a jew, the queen's physician, and several others, were convicted of a design to poison her, and were executed as traitors.

July 25. Henry IV. of Navarre, deserts the Huguenots, and makes a solemn profession of his reconciliation to the church of Rome.

The lords desiring a conference with the commons, on the supply, it was resolved there should be no such conference, the lords having nothing to do with the taxes. At length the commons granted three subsidies, and six fifteenths and tenths, and confirmed a grant of two subsidies, and four shillings in the pound given by the clergy, to be paid in two years; for which the queen thanked them, but took occasion to observe, that some of the inhabitants of the sea-coast had fled up into the country on the late invasion, but swore by God, if she knew any of them do so for the future, she would make them know and feel what it was to be fearful in such a cause.

Penry, a puritan preacher, was convicted and executed for felony, in publishing seditious libels, defaming the queen, and exciting the people to rebellion. Greenwood, Barrow, and Bowles were executed for similar offences. A severe proclamation issued against seditious libels, and the star-chamber restrained printing to the metropolis, and the two universities, to a single press in each of these, and to a certain number in London, with a prohibition to print, sell, or stitch any work not previously approved by the bishop or archbishop. In defiance of these regulations, copies of the obnoxious publications were circulated in every part of the kingdom. They issued from an ambulatory press, which was secretly conveyed from place to place; it was the palladium of the ultra-reformers, but was at length discovered and demolished in the vicinity of Manchester.

The queen fortified the isles of Scilly, Guernsey, and Jersey.

Above 28,000 people died of the plague in London.

Whalebone first brought to England from Cape Breton.

1594. Patrick Cullan, an Irish fencing-master, having received large promises from the Spaniards, engaged to kill the queen, for which he was executed. Edmund York and others, about the same time, were employed to kill the queen, and fire the royal navy. Whereupon the queen expostulated with the king of Spain, reproaching him with the baseness of employing assassins every day to take away her life, and insisted on his delivering up Throgmorton, Holt, and the rest of the jesuits and priests who managed these conspiracies, but to no purpose.

Henry IV., having renounced his religion, was generally submitted to by the catholic lords; the city of Paris opened her gates to him, and with the assistance of the English forces, he drove the Spaniards out of Brittany, but neither repaid the queen the expenses she had been at in supporting him, nor delivered her any town as a security for them, according to his engage-

ments; whereupon the queen recalled sir John Norris, with the English forces, and sent them to Ireland to suppress the rebels.

Bevis Bulmar, a gentleman, erected an engine at Broken wharf, for the conveyance of the Thames water through the city of London, and by pipes of lead into each house.

1595. The streets of London being much infested with vagabonds, the mayor and star-chamber exerted their authority to abate the nuisance; but the queen, finding their remedies ineffectual, granted a commission to sir Thomas Wilford, commanding him to receive the most incorrigible of these offenders from the magistrates, and "to execute them openly upon the gallows, according to the justice of martial law."

July. The Spaniards made a descent upon England: in Devonshire they destroyed Penzance, and burnt St. Paul's church.

Sir Walter Raleigh, captain of the queen's guards, having debauched one of the queen's maids of honour, was in disgrace at court, and thereupon undertook an expedition to Guiana in South America, to discover a gold mine he had received some intelligence of; he returned without accomplishing his object.

Sir Francis Drake and sir John Hawkins, with a fleet of men-of-war, and land forces on board, also made an attempt to surprise the Spanish settlements on the Isthmus of Darien, and actually landed a body of forces under the command of sir Thomas Baskerville, with a design to attack Panama, on the south sea, where the treasures of Peru were lodged, but their design was discovered, and the Spaniards were so well prepared, and the English so sickly when they came to lie on shore, that they performed nothing of consequence. Both Drake and Hawkins died in this unsuccessful expedition.

1596. The Spaniards took Calais from the French after a siege of twelve days, at which Elizabeth was alarmed, and entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with France.

The puritans pretend to work miracles, and particularly to cast out devils.

The country swarmed with rogues and beggars, insomuch that they laid the farmers under contribution: upwards of two hundred of these vagabonds were tried at the assizes in Somersetshire, of whom forty were condemned for felony in that county only.

Sept. 15. Admiral Howard and the earl of Essex took the city of Cadiz, plundered it, and destroyed the ships in the harbour; the damage the Spaniards sustained was computed at twenty millions of ducats.

1597. A large fleet fitted out, commanded by the earl of Essex and sir Walter Raleigh, to intercept the galleons in their return from America, and narrowly missed them at the Azores, but the frequent storms and misunderstandings between Essex and Raleigh prevented their engaging in any other enterprise.

Watches brought to England from Germany, when one was presented to the queen.

Oct. 24. Parliament met, and a bill was brought in for regulating the ecclesiastical courts, but the queen forbade their meddling in ecclesiastical affairs.

A great plague in London and its suburbs, which swept off 17,890 persons.

1598. The first whale-fishery established by the English was begun this year at Spitzbergen.

Henry IV. made a separate peace with Spain without the queen's knowledge; whereupon she reproached him with ingratitude and breach of faith.

The war against the earl of Tyrone in Ireland being ill managed, the queen proposed to Essex the sending sir William Knollys there; but the earl, not approving of him, rudely turned his back upon her, whereupon she gave him a box on the ear, and bid him *Go to the devil*. Essex instantly grasped his sword, but the lord admiral interposed, and the earl, bursting out of the room, declared he would not have taken such an insult from her father, much less a king in petticoats.

This year died lord Burleigh, in the 78th year of his age, and who, for forty years, had a great share in the public administration. He was succeeded in his title by his son Thomas, and in his influence as minister by his second and favourite son Robert. Burleigh was informed, prudent, circumspect rather than sagacious, devoted to the queen and the reformed worship; but neither his capacity nor the objects of his policy were of the highest order.

Sept. 4. Philip II. dies at the Escorial of a loathsome disease, after a reign of forty-three years, during which, by his own account, he expended 600,000,000 of gold ducats, and sacrificed 20,000,000 of human lives; leaving his dominions, notwithstanding, nearly as he found them.

Nov. 23. Squires, a disbanded soldier, executed for placing poison in the pommel of the queen's saddle; under the agony of the rack he confessed his guilt of this absurd charge; but at the place of execution protested his innocence to the last.

Sir Thomas Bodley rebuilt and furnished the public library at Oxford with a vast collection of books and manuscripts from all parts of the world.

Lord George Clifford with the earl of Cumberland fitted out a fleet of men-of-war, and plundered the island of Porto Rico.

Other adventurers attacked the Spanish settlements in the West Indies, but found the Spaniards better fortified, and more upon their guard, than at the beginning of the war.

The queen, being much at leisure, diverted herself with translating Horace, and other classics.

Edmund Spenser died, the author of the "Faery Queen."

1599. Tyrone, the Irish rebel, defeated the English forces, commanded by sir Henry Bagnal, who was killed in the battle, whereupon the whole province of Munster revolted to him, and he invited the Spaniards to make a descent in that kingdom, and join him. The queen made the earl of Essex lord-lieutenant of Ireland, and sent him over with an army of 20,000 men to reduce Tyrone, but he managed the war faintly, and made a suspicious truce with Tyrone. Essex hastily returned to England to justify his conduct, and abruptly intruded into the queen's dressing-room on the morning of Michaelmas eve; Elizabeth received him with apparent kindness, but in the evening he was ordered to be confined to his own house. Next year Tyrone broke the truce, overran all the country, and acted as sovereign of Ireland; whereupon lord Mountjoy was made deputy of Ireland, and, with the assistance of sir Edward Blaney, restored the English affairs in the north.

Dec. 12. Essex falls sick, and the queen sends him a message of comfort, and some broth.

1600. June 5. Essex brought to trial, of which the result was, that he was liberated, but not restored to the queen's favour.

Aug. 5. A conspiracy against the king of Scots was formed by the Ruthvens.

The queen raised great sums on the nobility, by making them pay fines for such crown lands as they enjoyed, to which they could not make out a clear title.

The English and Dutch gave the Spaniards a great defeat before Newport, in Flanders, where 9000 of the latter were slain.

The English East-India company formed; they established factories in China, Japan, India, Amboyna, Java, and Sumatra.

The pope published his bulls to exclude James from the throne of England, and at the same time there was a conspiracy by the Gowries (whose father had been put to death for high-treason in Scotland) to murder the king; he escaped very narrowly by his servants breaking into the room, and killing the Gowries, as they were about to commit the deed.

Nov. 19. Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I. of England, born at Dumfermline.

1601. The earl of Essex who, after his trial, was deprived of his places, had retired to the country, but soon after returned to London, and entertained all those who were disaffected to the government: he endeavoured also to bring the king of Scots over to his party, and spoke contemptuously of the queen. He courted both papists and puritans, and hired soldiers to defend his house, entering into a conspiracy to seize the queen, and take the Tower. Being commanded to attend the council, he refused, assembled his friends, and fortified Essex-house; four of the privy council being sent thither, to inquire into the reason of his conduct, he imprisoned them, and sallied out into the city, but nobody joining him, he was proclaimed a traitor, and returning to his house, he and his friend the earl of Southampton were made prisoners, and committed first to Lambeth palace, and afterwards to the Tower.

Feb. 19. Essex and Southampton brought to trial before their peers, and convicted of high treason, in conspiring against the queen, and breaking into open rebellion. Southampton was spared, but Essex was beheaded in the Tower on the 25th; and thus perished at the premature age of thirty-four, this rash, gallant, and aspiring nobleman. Cuff, his secretary, Merrick, his steward, sir Christopher Blount, his father-in-law, and sir Robert Davers, his accomplices, were executed some few days after.

The queen granted a charter to the earl of Cumberland and 215 knights, to pursue voyages to the East Indies. Returning from their first voyage, they took possession of the island of St. Helena.

Elizabeth added 2000*l.* a year to James's pension.

The city of London fitted out some ships to cruise against the Spaniards; such debtors in gaols as were willing to enter on board the said ships, were discharged, by proclamation, from all the demands of their creditors.

Oct. 27. The tenth and last parliament of this reign met. A bill was brought in to prevent riding in coaches, it being suggested that this contributed to render gentlemen effeminate; but it was dropped. It was resolved that a sheriff could not be elected knight of the shire for his own county, but that he might be made sheriff after he was elected. The fashion being to wear boots and long spurs on foot as well as on horseback, the speaker directed the members to come into the house without spurs.

Great complaints being made of the corrupt practices of justices of the peace, a member described "a magistrate to be a person that, for half a dozen chickens,

would dispense with half a dozen penal statutes."

In the debates on the supply, it was shown, that the last whole subsidies being after the rate of four shillings in the pound upon lands, and eight groats upon goods, did not amount to more than 80,000*l.*; the clergy's subsidy amounted to 20,000*l.*; and the double fifteenths to 60,000*l.*; the total 160,000*l.*; whereas the queen had spent 300,000*l.* in the Irish war.

Sir Walter Raleigh observed, on this occasion, that the estates of the nobility and gentry, which were charged at thirty or forty pounds in the queen's books, were not charged at a hundredth part of the real value, suggesting that this was the reason the subsidies raised so little; and he moved, that as the justices of peace were scarce any of them rated above eight or ten pounds a year, they might be advanced to twenty pounds per annum at least, which was the qualification required by the statute for a justice of peace; but the commons declined to alter the rate of taxation, and leave themselves liable to be taxed at the rack-rent. Parliament, however, granted four entire subsidies, and eight fifteenths, which were the largest supply that was given in this reign, though when they gave three subsidies and six fifteenths, they provided that even that should never be drawn into example.

Monopolies came next under consideration. These were patents granted to engross almost every branch of trade, the grantees not suffering any person to make or sell the goods mentioned in their respective patents, and setting what price they pleased upon their goods, inasmuch that salt, one of these monopolies, was raised from fourteen pence to fourteen shillings a bushel; brandy, vinegar, spirits, leather, and other articles, in proportion: which patents were either obtained for money, or given to the queen's officers and favourites, (sir Walter Raleigh, for instance, had a patent for the sole vending of tin.) These monopolies had been complained of in parliament, and promised to be abrogated four years before, and some had been annulled, but many more continued. It was now, therefore, moved to have them revoked, and the patentees punished for their extortions.

Sir Francis Bacon, on the other hand, insisted that the queen had a right to grant these monopolizing patents, and by a *non obstante* might even suspend the penal laws; he moved, that as it was a matter which touched her majesty's prerogative, they should proceed by way of petition to her, and not by bill. After which a list of thirty or forty monopolies being read in the house, a member demanded if there

was not a patent for *making of bread*; at which some courtiers expressing their resentment, he replied, if bread was not amongst them, it would shortly, if a stop was not put to such grievances.

The queen, understanding what a ferment the members were in on this occasion, did not stay till she was addressed, but sent a message to the house, acquainting them that several petitions had been presented her against monopolies, (taking no notice of the debates,) and declared she was sensibly touched with the people's grievances, expressing the utmost indignation against those who had abused her grants, and appealed to God how careful she had ever been to defend them against oppression, and promised they should be revoked. Secretary Cecil added, her majesty was not apprised of the ill tendency of these grants when she made them, and hoped there would never be any more; at which the house in general said, *Amen*.

In this session was passed the celebrated act for the relief, ordering, and employment of the poor. The members too, as was usual at the close of their labours, made a collection, out of which the chaplain of the house had ten pounds, and the serjeant thirty; the rest was distributed to the prisoners in the two counters, Ludgate and Newgate, and the prisoners in Southwark and Westminster.

The Spaniards landed 4000 men near Kinsale in Ireland, on the 23rd of September, and took possession of that town, and were followed by a reinforcement of 2000 more. They joined Tyrone, the general of the Irish rebels, but the lord-deputy Mountjoy surprised their army in the night-time, and entirely defeated them; he afterwards compelled the garrison of Kinsale to surrender, by the articles whereof the Spaniards agreed to surrender all other places in their possession, and to evacuate the kingdom, which they did soon after; and Tyrone being obliged to surrender at discretion the year following, he was carried by the lord-deputy in triumph to Dublin, after he had been eight years in rebellion.

At the close of this year, the queen became subject to hypochondria. A letter of this date of her godson, sir John Harrington, exhibits a curious example of her demeanour, and of the style of the age. "She is," he writes, "much disfavoured and unattired, and these troubles waste her much. She disregardeth everie costlie cover that cometh to her table, and taketh little but manchet and succory pottage. Every new message from the city doth disturb her, and she frowns on all the ladies." Again, "the many evil plots and designs hath overcome her highness's sweet temper. She walks much in her

privy chamber, and stamps much at ill news; and thrusts her rusty sword, at times, into the arras in great rage." Farther, "the dangers are over, and yet she keeps a sword by her table;" and in the P.S., "so disordered is all order, that her highness has worn but one change of rayment for many daies, and swears much at those that cause her griefs in such wise, to the no small discomfiture of those that are about her; more especially our sweete lady Arundel." In another letter, "she often chides for small neglect, in such wise as to make these fayre maides often cry and bewail in piteous sort."

1602. Sir Robert Mansel, with three ships, defeated six Spanish galleys; he sunk two and took one.

Dec. 6. The queen dined with sir Robert Cecil, and accepted, as was the custom, presents from him to the amount of 2000 crowns.

Asparagus, artichokes, cauliflowers, and some other horticultural plants, first introduced.

1603. Jan. 31. The queen, having been indisposed since November, removed to Richmond for quiet and change of air. Her health improved until the 20th of February, when she had a relapse. She fell into a state of stupor, refused medicine, could take neither food nor rest, and lay on cushions on the floor; having a notion, if she were once to lie down in bed, she should never rise again. For ten days she sat on the cushions, generally with her finger in her mouth, her eyes open and fixed on the ground.

Arabella Stuart, who stood in the same relationship to the throne as James of Scotland, imprisoned by an order of Cecil.

March 22. The queen, having been put to bed, lay on her side motionless, and apparently insensible. The lords of the council being summoned, Nottingham reminded her of a former speech respecting her successor: she answered, "I told you my seat had been the seat of kings, and I will have no rascal to succeed me. Who should succeed me but a king?" Cecil, wishing a more explicit declaration, requested her to explain what she meant by "no rascal." She replied, that a king should succeed, and who could that be but her cousin of Scotland?

25. On the morning of this day, at two o'clock, the queen tranquilly breathed her last. She was in the 70th year of her age, and the 45th of her reign, and was buried on the 28th of April, in Westminster Abbey, with great magnificence, at an expense of 17,428*l.*, as directed by her successor in his letter to the lords of the council.

Elizabeth was tall and portly, but never

handsome, though, from the fulsome flattery she tolerated, she seems to have lived under the delusion of possessing personal beauty. Her love of finery was extreme. At her death, two, some say three thousand dresses were found in her wardrobe, with a numerous collection of jewellery, for the most part presents from petitioners, her courtiers and the nobility. Like her father, she was irritable and passionate, often venting her rage in blows and oaths. She was versed in music, sang and wrote well, and excelled in dancing, of which she was passionately fond. Her taste in literature (which indeed was the character of the age) was more learned than refined.

The queen was a great economist, though the accounts of the period are so imperfect that it is impossible precisely to state either her revenue or expenditure. The former was certainly much less than half a million per annum. She received, during the forty-five years of her reign, from parliament, only twenty subsidies, and thirty-nine fifteenths, averaging about 66,666*l.* a year. The remainder of the royal income must have been made up from the crown-lands, wards, the duchy of Lancaster, and other branches of the hereditary revenues. One great source of expenditure was Ireland. During ten years, according to Sir Robert Cecil, Ireland cost 3,400,000*l.*, while its revenue amounted only to 120,000*l.* In four years of the war with Spain she expended 1,300,000*l.* Her privy purse and household cost 42,000*l.* a year.

Elizabeth had only thirteen ships of war, to which her successor added twelve.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Eliz. cap. 17. Prohibited the taking fish out of season, or under the statutable size.

Cap. 19. Leases made by bishops for more than twenty-one years, or where the usual rent is not reserved, are made void.

5 Eliz. cap. 4. Directs how servants and labourers shall be hired, and apprentices put out.

Cap. 9. Perjury is punished with pillory and loss of ears.

Cap. 11. Makes clipping the coin high treason.

Cap. 14. Forging deeds or wills punished with the pillory and loss of ears.

Cap. 15. Persons publishing false prophecies, with an intent to incite sedition and rebellion, or make any disturbance, shall be fined and imprisoned.

Cap. 20. Makes it felony, without clergy, for gipsies to remain one month in the kingdom.

Cap. 21. Fishing in other men's ponds and hunting in parks, treble damages and three months' imprisonment.

8 Eliz. cap. 2. Costs given to the defendant where the plaintiff is nonsuited.

Cap. 4. Clergy taken away from pick-pockets to the value of one shilling.

Cap. 5. The court of delegates made the last resort in ecclesiastical and marine causes.

13 Eliz. cap. 5. Fraudulent deeds to deceive creditors, void.

Cap. 7. Provides against frauds committed by bankrupts.

Cap. 10. Fraudulent deeds made by ecclesiastics, to defeat their successors of remedy for dilapidations, made void. And leases of any living for more than twenty-one years, or three lives, made void.

Cap. 12. Ecclesiastics to subscribe the thirty-nine Articles. None to preach or administer the sacraments till twenty-four years of age.

Cap. 20. Leases to be void when the incumbent is absent eighty days, and the incumbent to forfeit one year's rent.

14 Eliz. cap. 3. Misprision of treason to counterfeit foreign coin.

Cap. 5. Justices of peace empowered to tax the county towards the relief of prisoners.

18 Eliz. cap. 3. Two justices empowered to punish the mother and reputed father of a bastard child.

Cap. 6. On leases made by colleges, a third part of the rent shall be reserved in corn.

Cap. 7. Clergy taken away in rape and burglary.

Cap. 15. Goldsmiths shall set their marks on their wares.

27 Eliz. cap. 4. Fraudulent conveyances to defeat purchasers, void.

Cap. 13. Directs how hue and cry shall be made.

29 Eliz. cap. 4. Gives the sheriff poundage on executions.

31 Eliz. cap. 4. Makes the embezzling the queen's stores felony.

Cap. 7. Prohibits the erecting new cottages without laying four acres of land to them.

Cap. 12. Directs horses to be tolled.

35 Eliz. cap. 2. Popish recusants departing five miles from their habitations were to forfeit their goods, and the profits of their lands, for life.

Cap. 3. Confirms all grants of abbey-lands made by the crown.

Cap. 5. Persons absenting a month from church, to be imprisoned, without bail.

Cap. 6. Prohibits the erection of buildings on new foundations within three miles of London and Westminster.

39 Eliz. cap. 2. Ploughed land converted into pasture, to be restored to tillage.

Cap. 3. An act for the relief of the poor.

Cap. 4. Houses of correction, in every county, to be erected for the reception and punishment of vagabonds and sturdy beggars.

Cap. 9. Carrying away any ward or woman against her will, having lands or goods, or heir-apparent of an estate, made felony without clergy.

Cap. 15. Clergy taken from felons robbing a house or outhouse, to the amount of five shillings.

43 Eliz. cap. 2. Is the great poor-law act, which amends and embodies the provisions of all preceding statutes on the same subject.

Cap. 4. Empowered the lord chancellor to inquire how lands given to charitable uses have been applied, and to order them to be put to the uses they were intended for.

Cap. 7. Persons cutting standing corn, or robbing orchards, to be whipped if they cannot make satisfaction.

LEARNED MEN. A.D. 1547 to 1603.

The Elizabethan age was more pre-eminent in literature than science, and its men of letters chiefly excelled in the production of works of history and the imagination. Its sweet poetry helped to correct the austere puritanism, but there were still no sound teachers of moral and political philosophy. The next reign was more advanced, and minds appeared who sought to enlarge the circle of knowledge by more comprehensive deductions than those derived from classic and scriptural quotations. The literary character of the time will appear from the following notice of the chief writers who flourished in the latter half of the sixteenth century.

Edward Hall, who died in 1547, was a Londoner, bred at Etou and King's College, Cambridge. He was a judge in the sheriff's court, and member of the house of commons. His "Chronicle of the Wars between the Roses" is valuable, and curious as affording delineations of the manners, dress, and customs of the people during that turbulent era.

John Leland was chaplain, librarian, and antiquarian to Henry VIII. To him is owing the preservation of numerous manuscripts, which the libraries of religious houses contained, and which, by accepting the office of visitor at their dissolution, he saved from destruction. He became insane, either from the excessive fatigue of arranging these papers, or some other cause, and died in 1552. A part of his voluminous collections was printed by Hearne, in 9 vols. 8vo, under the title of "The Itinerary of John Leland." The rest of his works remain in MS. in the Bodleian library.

John Bale was a voluminous and virulent controversialist, who had been bishop of Ossory, and died a prebendary of Canterbury in 1563, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He was an unfair assailant of popery, which he had repudiated. His brief "Chronicle concerning Sir John Oldcastle was republished in 1729." He is also the author of several plays on sacred subjects, some of which, he says, were piously represented by young men in his own days at the market-cross of Kilkenny. But the chief work of the bishop, and the only one now referred to, is the "Lives of the eminent Writers of Britain;" from Japhet, the son of Noah, to the year 1557, when the author was an exile in Germany.

Sir Thomas Chaloner was a writer of varied erudition, but more celebrated as a soldier and diplomatist. After publishing the first part of his greatest work, "On the right ordering of the English Republic," he died, much regretted, in 1565, in his fortieth year. His son was celebrated for his knowledge of chemistry, and discovered the first alum mines known in this country on his estate, near Gisborough, in Yorkshire.

Sir Thomas Smith was an acute metaphysician, accomplished statesman, and able soldier. He was professor of Greek at Cambridge, and suggested a new mode of accenting that language; he also formed a new alphabet for the English tongue, consisting of twenty-nine letters. To him collegiate bodies are indebted for the statute which directs, that the third part of the rent on college leases should be reserved in corn. Sir Thomas died in 1577, at his seat, Mounthall, in Essex, aged 67 years.

William Fleetwood was an eminent lawyer, and appointed recorder of London in 1569. He was the author of a "Treatise on the Office of Justice of the Peace," and other law tracts. Wood says, he was "a good antiquary, but of a marvellous merry and pleasant conceit." He descended from a respectable Lancashire family, and died at his seat, at Great Missenden, in Buckinghamshire, in 1593.

Sir Walter Raleigh, who was beheaded in 1618, belongs to the next, rather than the present reign, but as his prosperous days ended with the death of Elizabeth, he may be suitably noticed in this place. He was the son of a Devonshire gentleman, and a distinguished warrior, statesman, and writer. His expedition to America, while under sentence for high treason, and his urging, and personally witnessing, the execution of the earl of Essex, are the most questionable acts in his biography. His literary works were chiefly composed during his imprisonment of twelve years

they are very miscellaneous in their subjects; the best is his "History of the World," which is still read, and considered a good specimen of the English of his time. At his death, Raleigh was in his sixty-sixth year, and his demeanour on the scaffold has been justly admired.

Ralph Holinshed is known as the most faithful and entertaining historian of the Elizabethan age. He is supposed to have been a clergyman, but little is known of his biography; and at his death, about 1582, he was only a servant, or steward, to Thomas Burdet, esq., of Bromcote, in Warwickshire. A new and more perfect edition of the "Chronicles of Holinshed" was published in 1807, in 6 vols. 4to. Holinshed was assisted by Harrison, and others, in the compilation of this valuable treasure of public and domestic history.

John Hooker, an English historian, and M.P. for Kxeter, in which city he was born about 1553. His chief works are, "Order and Usage of keeping Parliaments in Ireland," the "Events of Comets and blazing Stars," and the Chronicles of Ireland, in the second volume of Holinshed. His nephew, Richard Hooker, was a celebrated theological writer, and author of the "Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity," which was written in defence of the church of England, against the attacks of the puritans; it is distinguished by learning, research, richness, and purity of style.

Thomas Tusser, a pleasant georgical poet and good farmer, who died about 1580, aged sixty-five. His "Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie" have been often reprinted; the last edition by Mavor in 1812.

Reginald Scott was the son of sir Thomas, of Scott's Hall, near Smeeth in Kent, a sensible and useful writer. His first work is entitled a "Perfect Platform of a Hop Garden," but his most reasonable and useful publication is the "Discoveries of Witchcraft," in which he assails the prevalent credulity respecting witches, ghosts, possessions, and hobgoblins. Scott did not live to witness the full effect of his labours, dying in 1599; but the call for two editions of his work in the next century, showed that his expositions had obtained the attention of the magistrates and clergy.

Roger Ascham was a learned and accomplished, but eccentric Yorkshireman. As tutor to the lady Elizabeth, he had a stipend of 20*l.*, equivalent to 200*l.* of present money. The queen never advanced this allowance, which has been ascribed to his irregular habits, his fondness for dice and cock-fighting. Of Ascham's works it has been said his "Archery" is a good book for young men; his "Schoolmaster" for old men; his "Epistles" for all men. He died in 1568, in his fifty-seventh year.

Dr. John Dee, a celebrated professor of mathematics and astrology, was a native of London, and fellow of Trinity college, Cambridge. He experienced many vicissitudes, and some harsh treatment. At an early age he fell under the imputation of a magician, which induced him to travel; at Paris he lectured on Euclid's Elements; upon which work he wrote a valuable commentary. In 1583, his library of 4000 books and 700 MSS., at his house at Mortlake, in Surrey, was, upon the idle charge of his supernatural dealings, seized. Some of Dee's works are curious, but quite unintelligible, particularly a large folio, detailing his conversations with angels and spirits. He died in 1608, aged eighty-one.

John Heywood was one of the many poets who flourished during this period. His sprightly wit enlivened the hours of the bigoted Mary; at her death he quitted England, rather than live with triumphant heretics, and died at Mechlin in 1565. His son Jasper attained notice in literature as a spirited translator of plays.

Sir Philip Sidney, the author of "Arcadia," is too well known as an amiable man and gallant soldier to need particular description. It is probable, however, that the untimely death of Sidney, in 1586, in his thirty-second year, tended to exaggerate, beyond its merit, his literary reputation. A complete edition of his works was published in three volumes, 8vo. London, 1725.

George Ferrars, who died in 1579, had some share in the "Mirror of Magistrates," which was the joint composition of the best poets of the day. Being arrested for debt, while member for Plymouth, the circumstances attending it originated the parliamentary privilege of exemption from arrest, which has since been maintained.

Christopher Marlowe, an actor and eminent poet and dramatist. He perished in an affray in a brothel about 1593.

Edmund Spenser, the author of the "Faery Queen," is reckoned among the first poetical ornaments of Elizabeth's reign. Sidney and Raleigh were among his patrons, the last of whom he celebrates under the quaint title of the "Shepherd of the Ocean." He died in his forty-sixth year, after experiencing severe reverses, and was interred in Westminster Abbey.

William Shakspeare having published some of his immortal dramas in Elizabeth's reign, falls among the writers of the era. He died on his birth-day, April 23, 1616, having completed his fifty-second year. The marriage license, by which our great national dramatist was united to Anne Hathaway, has been recently discovered in the archives of the consistorial court of Worcester, bearing date November 28, 1582. In Scotland, the chief contemporary ornaments

of letters were Buchanan, Crichton, Lesley, bishop of Ross, Maitland, and sir David Lindsay, to the last of whom is ascribed the first introduction of dramatic poetry across the Tweed.

The opinion has been advanced, that literature and education declined in consequence of the Reformation. Ascham, in a letter dated in 1550, laments the ruin of grammar-schools in England, and predicts from their decline, the speedy extinction of the universities. It may be justly objected to the statesmen of the 16th century, that they were more intent on their own gain, than on applying to the encouragement of learning the rich endowments of which they despoiled the ecclesiastical foundations. Except the establishment of Dublin university and Westminster school; Elizabeth cannot boast of having contributed any great work for the promotion of education; neither was she a munificent patron of men of genius. Still the age altered its character rather than retrograded; it became less classic, and more disquisitive, theological, and imaginative. Even educational establishments were not neglected; six additional colleges were erected in Oxford and Cambridge, besides several schools in other parts of England. Nor was Scotland, though involved in unceasing and barbarous broils, without her additions to the means of instruction. The Marischal college at Aberdeen was founded, and the revenues of the university of Glasgow augmented, by grants of tithes and benefactions.

COMMERCE—MANUFACTURES—SHIPPING—
COIN—POPULATION.

The commercial history of the sixteenth century is distinguished by the entire withdrawal of the Hanse towns or Easterlings from the management of the foreign trade of the country. These enterprising Germans had long exclusively exercised the functions of the English merchant. Their vessels were almost solely employed in the transit of goods; they were the brokers, buyers and sellers, and paid no more than a custom duty of one per cent. Such profitable immunities had long been the subject of popular complaint, and under Edward VI. the Hanseatic privileges were declared to be forfeited, and an impost of twenty per cent. was laid on all their imports and exports. This blow they tried to recover in the two succeeding reigns; they petitioned and remonstrated, but finding no redress, withdrew from the English commerce, hoping that necessity would occasion their recall. In this they were disappointed. Experience convinced the English merchants that they could carry on their trade without the intercession of foreigners;

they formed companies, built ships, and were richly rewarded by the additional profits accruing from their new occupations. The Easterlings sought to retaliate: they employed their influence with the Diet, to exclude the English from the German markets, but the latter having obtained Hamburg as an entrepôt, and seconded by the unrivalled fabric of their woollens, they triumphed over every obstacle, and obtained that firm hold on the continent which they have ever since maintained. The formation of the Baltic company in 1580, and the shutting up of the steel-yard in 1597, completed the emancipation of English commerce from Hanseatic bondage. Nor could repeated solicitations in 1602 and 1604 obtain a renewal of privileges, which, though perhaps defensible in their origin, had now become hurtful to native industry.

The exports from England to the Hanse towns were wool, cloths, fringes, saffron, lead, tin, sheep, rabbit skins, beer, cheese, and Mediterranean wines. While she received from them jewels, bullion, wrought silks, cloth of gold and silver, spices, drugs, linen, serges, tapestry, madder, hops, glass, salt fish, arms, ammunition, and household furniture.

The proportion of the trade in the hands of natives and foreigners prior to the withdrawal of the Hanseatics may be estimated from the following fact. In the year preceding the impost of 20 per cent., the Easterlings had exported 44,000 pieces of English cloth, and the English merchants only 1100. From the port of Southampton only, sixty ships had sailed to the Netherlands laden with unmanufactured wool; a commodity the price of which these monopolists had beaten down to eighteen pence the stone.

England had now become not only a great commercial, but manufacturing community. In Wheeler's "Treatise of Commerce," published in 1601, it is said, "The company of Merchant Adventurers did in these times annually export 60,000 white cloths, beside coloured ones of all sorts, short and long; kersies, bayes, cottons, northern dosens, and divers other kinds of coarse woollen cloths: the white cloths alone being worth 600,000*l.* and the rest worth 400,000*l.*" This proves the activity of the home manufactures, though the great value of the exports seems hardly reconcilable with the limited amount of the currency of the period.

Most of the ancient cities, boroughs, and towns corporate had fallen into decay, and were no longer inhabited by merchants and men of business. The introduction of a better police and judicial administration rendered walls and municipal privileges less necessary to the protection of industry. Ma-

manufacturers and artisans settled in places possessing local advantages adapted to their pursuits, and where they were unfettered by chartered immunities. That such was the case is evinced by the growth and flourishing state of the open towns. In the days of Chaucer, Sheffield was, as it still continues to be, famous for cutlery. Birmingham was noted for hardware by Leland; and Manchester, so early as 1552, had become a place of importance. An act passed that year notices its "cottous, rugges, and frizes." In 1541 it is remarked (33 Hen. VIII. c. 15) that Manchester had a long time been well inhabited; and "the inhabitants well set to work in making of cloths as well as of linen as of woollen, whereby the inhabitants of the said town have gotten and come into riches and wealthy livings; and by reason of great occupying, good order, strict and true dealing of the inhabitants of the said town, many strangers as well of Ireland as of other places had resorted thither." The great obstacle to the progress of domestic trade was the prerogatives of the crown, especially in the right of purveyance and the grant of monopolies, which last not only limited the exercise of particular branches of industry, but empowered individuals to fix on commodities an arbitrary and extortionate price.

Spain had the same European ascendancy in the sixteenth century as France under Napoleon, and the bigotry of her rulers expelling their most useful subjects was favourable to the progress of the manufacturing arts in England. Scared by the wheels and gibbets of the duke d'Alva, the Flemish manufacturers fled hither in shoals, and were hospitably received. They repaid this politic kindness by peopling the deserted streets of Canterbury, Norwich, Colchester, Maidstone, Southampton, Sandwich, and other towns, with industrious weavers, dyers, cloth-dressers, linen-makers, and silk-throwsters. They taught the making of baize, serges, and other stuffs, and many of their posterity now inherit titles and large possessions in the counties which first opened their arms to shield them from their persecutors.

The progress of maritime discovery stimulated industry, and opened new sources of wealth and commercial enterprise. Repeated trials were made, in this early period, to discover a north-west, or a north-east passage, by which a shorter way than round the Cape of Good Hope might be opened to Japan, China, and the East Indies. These enterprises, like the pursuit of the philosopher's stone, were not entirely fruitless. California, Hudson's Bay, and Greenland, were discovered, and a safer course was found to the West Indies than

across the gulf of Florida. Attempts were made, but did not yet succeed, to plant colonies in America; the fisheries of Newfoundland, however, were successfully cultivated, and a beginning made in Elizabeth's reign in the northern whale fishery, as well as in the less laudable pursuit of the African slave-trade.

Until the reign of Elizabeth few merchant-ships, of considerable bulk, were built in England; those who wished vessels of large size bought them of Hanseatic shipwrights. The first English subject who built a ship of 800 tons burthen was the adventurous earl of Cumberland. When Elizabeth engaged to supply the Dutch with thirty ships of war, it was stipulated that only half of them should bear 200 tons burthen. An estimate of the strength of the mercantile navy was taken by lord admiral Clinton, in 1582; when it was found, as before noticed, that the merchants could supply the royal navy with 14,295 mariners and 1293 ships, of which only 219 were above 80 tons. A greater force and tonnage of steam vessels could now be provided.

One of the most meritorious acts of Elizabeth's vigorous administration was, the introduction of a more perfect measure of value. Notwithstanding the ecclesiastical confiscations of Henry VIII., his poverty compelled him to resort to the vicious expedient of an extreme debasement of the coin. In the last year of his reign the pound of silver produced 48 shillings, though but one-third fine. The rapacious ministers of his successor went still further in the process of deterioration, and coined 72 shillings out of the pound of silver, consisting of three-fourth parts alloy. During the first two years of Elizabeth's reign so much gold and silver money of a sterling standard was coined, that she was enabled to issue a proclamation, by which the base coin was reduced to its intrinsic value.

The subjoined table, from bishop Fleetwood's "Chronicon Pretiosum," will show the variations in the currency, from the last year of Henry VIII. to the forty-third of Elizabeth.

Year.	Shillings	Fine sil-	Alloy.
	in a lb.	ver in a	
	Troy.	lb. wt.	
1547	48	4 0	8 0
1550	72	6 0	6 3
1552	72	3 0	9 0
1553	60	11 1	0 19
1554	60	11 0	1 0
1560	60	11 2	0 18
1601	62	11 8	0 18

Elizabeth caused to be coined, during her reign, in silver, 4,652,932*l.*; in gold,

795,138*l.*; exclusive of 85,646*l.* of base money for Ireland.

The population of England at the death of Elizabeth has been reckoned at four or five millions. Botero, an Italian, who wrote in 1590, made the population of London 160,000. Twenty years later London and Westminster, including the suburbs, were supposed to contain 250,000 inhabitants (Anderson's Commerce, Preface, II.), and all England nearly six millions.

In spite of the popular prejudice against usury, Elizabeth had the good sense to fix the legal rate of interest at 10 per cent. Judicious regulations concerning weights and measures, and the introduction in 1569, by James Peele, of the Italian mode of book-keeping, may also be reckoned among the commercial improvements of her reign.

AMUSEMENTS—THEATRES—COSTUME—LIVING.

The manners of the people still continued coarse, as appears from their amusements. Besides pitching the bar, shooting with the broad arrow, playing at racket, quoits, nine holes, and leaping hedges and ditches, their most favourite diversion was baiting different animals. Hentzner, after describing the baiting of bulls and bears, adds, "To this entertainment there follows that of whipping a blinded bear; which is performed by five or six men, standing circularly with whips, which they exercise on him without mercy, as he cannot escape from them, because of his chain. He defends himself with all his force and skill, throwing down those that come within his reach, and are not active enough to get out of it; and tearing their whips out of their hands, and breaking them." Elizabeth partook of these rude sports: in the Sidney Papers it is said, "This day she appoints a Frenchman to doe feats upon a rope in the conduit-court: to-morrow she has commanded the beares, the bull, and the apes, to be bayted in the tilt-yard; and on Wednesday she will have solemne-dawncing." Like her subjects, the queen was fond of noisy entertainments; during her meals she listened to "twelve trumpets and two kettle-drums, which, together with fifes, cornets, and side drums, made the hall ring for half an hour together."

Justing in the lists, pageants, shows, hunting, and hawking, formed the chief diversion of the more polished ranks of society.

THEATRES were just getting into vogue; and regular dramatic pieces had superseded the mysteries and moralities founded on scriptural subjects. The earliest patent for acting comedies, tragedies, &c., is dated 1574; and such was the rapid progress of this rational amusement, that, early in the

next century, at least fifteen licensed theatres were open to the inhabitants of London. The best plays, especially those of Shakspeare, were acted chiefly at the Blackfriars theatre, or at the Globe, on the south side of the Thames. A flag was hoisted on the front of each theatre. The price of admission to the best place, a shilling; to the inferior ones, a penny or two-pence. The critics sat on the stage, and were furnished with pipes and tobacco. The curtain drew not up, but was drawn back on each side. From the raillery of Sir Philip Sidney, it is doubtful whether there was a change of scenes. It is probable this deficiency was supplied by the names of places being written in large characters on the stage; stating for instance, that this was a wood, a garden, Thebes, Rome, or Alexandria, as the case might be. The stage was lighted with branches like those hung in some churches. Before the exhibition began, three flourishes, or pieces of music, were played; and music was likewise played between the acts. The instruments chiefly used were trumpets, cornets, and hautboys. Perukes and masques formed part of the stage paraphernalia; and the female parts, for the first hundred years, were performed by young men. One dramatic piece composed the whole entertainment; and the hours of acting began about one in the afternoon, and lasted generally about two hours. The audience, before the performance began, amused themselves with reading or playing at cards; others drank ale or smoked tobacco. For some time plays were acted on Sundays only; after 1579 they were acted on Sundays and other days, indiscriminately.

Such was the state of the stage at the commencement of the seventeenth century. Having, for its foes, the puritans, a race of men stern, morose, and inflexible, it flourished with difficulty; and by unceasing obloquy was first pursued into unpopularity, and at length to extinction. It did not revive till the Restoration, when Charles II. licensed two companies, Killigrew's and Davenant's.

Luxury in costume made a great progress. The pocket handkerchiefs of the ladies were frequently wrought with gold and silver, and the chemise richly embroidered. The chopine is sometimes mentioned; it was an Italian shoe, with a heel ridiculously high. The fly cap was in great vogue. Aldermen's wives had bonnets of velvet, large and showy. Chains and bracelets were ornaments used mostly by women of rank. The ruffs, made of lawn and cambric, stiffened with yellow starch, were immoderately large: the poking of these gracefully behind was considered a most important attainment. The

waist became enormously long; the bodice or stays finished with a most extended point in front at bottom; and to render the appearance still more inconvenient and grotesque, the upper part of the gown near the shoulders was considerably enlarged by wool or other stuffing. The farthingale, a Spanish petticoat, bulky over the hips, now went out of fashion; it was introduced by Philip and Mary; and Howel intimates that it was invented to conceal unlicensed pregnancy.

When Hentzner saw Elizabeth, then in her 67th year, she had, in her ears, two pearls with very rich drops. She wore false hair, and that red; her bosom was uncovered, "as all the English ladies have till they marry." She was dressed in white silk, bordered with pearls of the size of beans; and over it a mantle of black silk, shot with silver threads; and instead of a chain, she had an oblong collar of gold and jewels. The same writer adds, that wherever she turned her face, every one fell down upon his knees. Henry VIII. had been treated with similar servility. Petitions were presented to her as she went along, which, as she received graciously, the people cried out "God save Queen Elizabeth," to which she answered, "I thancke ye, my goodde people." The presence chamber was strewed with hay; and Hentzner gives a particular account of the tastings, and genuflexions made on entering the queen's room, though her majesty was not present.

Needles and pins were now in common use. The making of the former was commenced in 1566, by Gröuse, a German. Pins were known in Henry VIII.'s reign, and afforded the ladies a convenient substitute for ribbons, loopholes, tags, clasps, and skewers made of wood, brass, silver, and gold.

The introduction of silk and worsted hose was a great improvement. Mrs. Montague, Elizabeth's silk woman, in her third year, presented her majesty a pair of black knit silk stockings, which pleased the queen so much, that she never afterwards wore cloth hose. Soon after, Thomas Burdet, an ingenious apprentice, living opposite St. Magnus church, presented lord Pembroke a pair of worsted stockings, the first knit in this country.

The beard was on the wane. In the reign of Mary it throve luxuriantly; those of bishop Gardiner and cardinal Pole, in their portraits, are represented of an uncommon size: it gradually dwindled down into the mustachios or whiskers. The hair was cut close on the top of the head, and grew long on the sides. Showy young men wore jewels in the ears, and sometimes ribbons. The hat had superseded

the woollen cap and hood. The crown of the hat was made high, narrowed towards the top, and had sometimes a rich hat-band, adorned by goldsmiths' work and precious stones, which, with a feather and scarlet cloak, marked the man of distinction.

Before the introduction of coaches by lord Arundel, the queen, on public occasions, rode behind her chamberlain. The novelty and convenience of the new vehicle soon brought it into general use by people of fortune. Hackney coaches were not known till fifty years afterwards. Spoons and knives were as old as Edward the Confessor; but the fork was not yet discovered, and at every meal the fingers were used to keep the meat steady, and convey it to the mouth. Table cloths were made of fine linen. Mr. Otter, in Ben Jonson's "Silent Woman," mentions a damask table cloth which cost eighteen pounds. The good man of the house sat at the upper end of the board, "with a fayre napkin layde before him on the table, *lyke a master*."

The practice of smoking, or as it was then called taking tobacco, had become common. It was first introduced into Europe by the Spaniards, and reached England in 1586, imported by sir Walter Raleigh's settlers in Virginia. Sir Walter himself was one of its first admirers, but preserved great secrecy in his attachment. Owing to a ridiculous accident the foible was discovered, and it then became general. Stow calls it that "stinking weed," which was commonly used by most men, and many women.

The style of living had much improved. Lamb, and a great variety of delicate meats, mark the luxury of Elizabeth's reign. There were several courses, and every dish had its appropriate sauce. Beef began to be deemed too gross; brawn, however, was a favourite. A dessert of fruit, spices, and jellies, was not unusual. Breakfast was little used. If any thing was taken, it was a glass of ale and a slice of bread.

Rural life may be learned from Tusser's "Pointes of Husbandrie." The farmer and family's diet is fixed to bared-herrings and salt fish in Lent. At other times fresh beef, pork, &c. At Christmas, "good drinke, a good fire in the hall, brawne, pudding, and souse, and mustard withal, capon or turkey, cheese, apples and nuts, with jolie carrols." The prudent housewife is advised to make her own candles. Servants are directed to go to bed at ten in summer, and nine in winter, and to rise at five in winter, and four in summer. The holidays throughout the year are appointed for the working men. The gayest of these festivals seems to have been the wake-day, or vigil of the parish saint, "when every wanton maie danse at her wille."

The hour of dinner with people of fortune was eleven before noon; and of supper, between five and six in the afternoon; while the merchants took each of their meals an hour later; and the husbandmen one hour later than the merchants. Thus the fashion is entirely changed; the opulent and leisure classes taking their meals later than the industrious orders. Why the meals became later as the times became more refined, is a curious fact. The chief cause seems to be, as Hume intimates, that in rude ages, men have few amusements or occupation but what day-light allows; whereas, in ages of refinement, reading, study, and conversation afford employment which can be as conveniently pursued in the night as the day.

JAMES I. A.D. 1603 to 1625.

THE various claims to the succession, amounting to fourteen in number, agitated during the reign of Elizabeth, seem to have silently disappeared with the death of that princess, and the crown of England was never transmitted from father to son with greater tranquillity than it passed from the family of Tudor to that of Stuart. Though educated amidst a hostile people, the reputation of the "British Solomon" for wisdom and moderation inspired flattering hopes of an equitable administration; and many foresaw, in his accession, the first step to a union, by which the conflicting rivalries, that had long divided two neighbouring states, might be reconciled. But the maxims of government brought by the Scottish monarch did not accord with the altered feelings of his new subjects. James had conceived high notions of the royal prerogative; the will of the king he deemed absolute, and not to be contravened by the restraint of laws or the forms of legislation. According to him, the English had forfeited their liberties at the Norman conquest, and all they had subsequently acquired were held at the pleasure of the crown. These arbitrary notions were not so irreconcilable with the practice of government, as with the more liberal opinions elicited since the Reformation; and it was this fatal error of trying to govern the future by the maxims of the past, which James transmitted to his successor.

It has been objected to monarchy, that it is a form of government too dependent on the personal character of the sovereign. But though the characters of the princes of the Tudor and Stuart dynasty were so widely different, they were, in an almost equal degree, favourable to the advancement of public liberty. The politic energy and arbitrariness of Henry VII., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth, were essential to the complete humiliation of the aristocracy; but the power which thereby became centered in the crown would have been more than a match for the commons, had not their efforts to reach a more influential position in the government been seconded by the weakness of the succeeding princes.

Elizabeth had one advantage over her successor: though an indifferent woman, she was a first-rate ruler; whereas James was neither great as a man nor a prince. He was weak, mean, and pusillanimous; without inherent stamina of character to become either saint or tyrant. The duke of Sully said he was "the wisest fool in Europe;" a description generally applicable to those who are learned only, without being instructed. In conversation, he was quick, acute, eloquent, but pedantic, interspersing his discourse with numerous oaths, indelicate and profane allusions. He loved ease, flattery, amusement, and the jovialities of the table. No man abounded more in maxims of wisdom, but their application was spoiled by his timidity, changeableness, credulity, and boyish partialities. As a private gentleman

or college tutor, he might have passed through life respectably, but for the regal office he lacked the ability as much as the ambition.

He was unfortunate in his education. A dissolute, wayward mother, and his father the untimely victim of a frightful treason. From his preceptor, Buchanan, he imbibed the notion, "a sovereign ought to be the most learned clerk in his dominions." The contemporary history of Scotland was only a record of treachery, fanaticism, witchcraft, and assassination. From such precepts and examples no sound lessons of statesmanship could be derived, and James, unless he had been extraordinarily gifted by nature, could hardly be otherwise than he was—vain, suspicious, lavish and indiscriminating in his expenses, the tool of favourites, and the head of a very abandoned court.

He had virtues; his disposition was humane and pacific. Nations have suffered so much from the warlike propensities of princes, that it is yet premature to make the love of peace in the Scottish monarch a reproach. He was also literary in his taste. He wrote several books, one on the law of free monarchies, an answer to cardinal Perron; another on Demonology, in which he had the good fortune to discover "why the devil did worke more with auncient women than others." He dedicated one publication to Jesus Christ.

An advantage anticipated from the accession of James, but not till long after realized, was a legislative union of the two kingdoms. Prior to the junction of the crowns, England had never enjoyed the advantages of her insular position. The barbarous tenants of the borders had, ever since the departure of the Romans, kept that part of the island in a state of civil war, and had produced a race of savage and unprincipled marauders. The Maxwells and the Johnstones were notorious in these border feuds, and the peaceable inhabitants were often the victims of their roving bands. One moss-trooper, Geordie Bourne, not, it is said, "a man of uncommon villainy," confessed, before his execution, that he had violated forty men's wives, and cruelly murdered, in cold blood, seven Englishmen. Writers, with singular taste, have resorted to the aid of romance to embellish this disgusting period of history.

Attempts were made to introduce order and the Protestant religion into Ireland, by colonization. But as the ministers of James proceeded on the principle of spoliation, they engendered only distrust, irritation, and revenge, and left a plenteous harvest of rebellions and massacres to his successors.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1603. James, the son of Henry Stuart lord Darnley, and Mary queen of Scots, (the only child of James V., king of Scots, who was son of James IV. and Margaret his queen, the eldest daughter of Henry VII., king of England.) succeeded to the crown by hereditary right, as well as the appointment of queen Elizabeth.

By an order in council, 800 vagrants were seized in two nights in London, and sent to serve on board the Dutch fleet.

March 24. James proclaimed king. Cecil himself read the proclamation of the council at Whitehall and Cheapside, amidst the cheers of the people. The news

of the queen's death was conveyed to James in two days by the activity of sir Robert Carey, afterwards earl of Monmouth.

April 5. James set out from Edinburgh, in order to take possession of the crown of England. Upon his journey, he ordered the earl of Southampton and the other prisoners on account of Essex to be set at liberty.

27. He was magnificently entertained at Hinchinbrook, by sir Oliver Cromwell, where the Cambridge doctors waited on him.

May 3. He arrived at Theobald's in Hertfordshire, a seat of secretary Cecil's, where he was met by the privy-council: and the

duke of Lenox, the earl of Mar, lord Hume, sir George Hume, sir James Elphinston, and lord Kinloss, all Scots, were called to the council-board. When the king was at Newark, he ordered a cut-purse to be hung, by his sole warrant, without a trial. During his journey, and immediately after his arrival at the charter-house, the king made 200 knights. He refused to go into mourning, for the late queen, and would not suffer any mourning at court.

June 1. The plague being in London, (of which died 30,244 persons,) a person was whipped through the town for going to court when his house was infected. On account of the plague, the king retired to Wilton, a seat of the earl of Pembroke's, near Salisbury.

July 25. The king and queen crowned at Westminster, by archbishop Whitgift.

James entered into a league with France; the two kings engaged to assist each other, Henry with a force of 10,000, and James with that of 6000 men.

Nov. 4. Lord Cobham, lord Gray, and sir Walter Raleigh, after an irregular trial at Winchester, for high-treason, condemned on the 19th, but reprieved, the two former, after confessing their guilt on the scaffold. The plots of which they were accused were called the "bye" and the "main," the objects of which were to set lady Arabella Stuart, the king's cousin-german, upon the throne, and invite the Spaniards to assist them; for which George Cobham, William Watson, and William Clark, priests, who were tried with them, were executed; lord Gray died in the Tower, after eleven years' imprisonment; Cobham, being discharged, died in poverty in 1619; and sir Walter remained twelve years a prisoner.

The office of master of the ceremonies first instituted.

The following is the king's order for the allowances to lord chancellor Ellesmere:

	£.	s.	d.
For wages, diet, robes, and liveries for himself, and the masters of our chancery (as former chancellors have had) per annum, the sum of	542	15	0
For his attendance in our star-chamber, fifty pounds per annum, for each term	200	0	0
More per annum	300	0	0
Fortwelve tuns of wine yearly, at five pounds per tun	60	0	0
For wax, by virtue of his office	16	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£1118	15	0

The London bills of mortality have been preserved, and kept in regular series from this year. They were first used in 1562, and intended to give timely notice of the plague, from which the metropolis was seldom free.

1604. *Jan. 14.* A conference was held at Hampton-court, between the episcopal divines and the puritans. James acted as moderator, exhibiting a strange mixture of buffoonery and shrewdness, observing, "No bishop, no king." Whitgift said, "His majesty spoke by the spirit of God."

A new translation of the Bible was ordered, being the same as is in present use.

A proclamation for enforcing the act of uniformity issued; whereupon there were but forty-nine out of 10,000 ministers of parishes that refused to conform, and were deprived.

March 19. The first parliament met, and recognised the king's title, binding themselves to submit to the government of the king and his heirs.

Whitgift, archbishop of Canterbury, died, and was succeeded by Richard Bancroft, who persecuted the puritans.

A proclamation issued against hunting.

An act passed, appointing commissioners to treat of a union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland. And another act to prevent the alienation of churchlands.

July 7. Parliament prorogued, but not before evincing great spirit in resisting some of the claims of royal prerogative, and assumed an exclusive jurisdiction, which it has ever since retained, of deciding contested elections.

James was this year first styled king of Great Britain.

Sept. The king borrowed money by privy-seal, from the wealthiest merchants of the city.

1605. Two splendid embassies sent, one to Brussels, to receive the oath of the archduke, and the other to Madrid; the last had an escort of 500 knights and gentlemen.

Nov. 5. To-day was appointed for the meeting of parliament, but it was prevented by the discovery of a plot to blow up, with gunpowder, the king and the two houses. The author of the plot was William Catesby, a gentleman of family, but of dissolute habits. He had for his chief accomplices sir Everard Digby, a young man of five-and-twenty; Francis Tresham, an associate of the earl of Essex in his fatal enterprise; Percy, a gentleman pensioner, and a distant relative of the Northumberland family; and Guy Fawkes, a soldier of fortune. The design was frustrated, in consequence of a letter received by lord Mounteagle on the preceding 26th of Octo-

ber, cautioning him against attending in parliament the first day of the session. It was supposed to have been written by Tresham, the brother-in-law of Mounteagle; and upon his lordship communicating the mysterious epistle to Cecil, inquiries were forthwith instituted. Upon searching the cellar under the parliament-house, two hogsheads and thirty-two barrels of gunpowder were found concealed by a quantity of fuel. At two in the morning of the day of the intended explosion, Fawkes arrived at the door of the vault, and was instantly seized by sir Thomas Knevet and a party of soldiers. He was dressed and booted as for a journey; three matches were found in his pocket, and a dark lantern containing a light was concealed behind the door. His accomplices fled, but after a desperate resistance at Hobeach, most of them were secured. Several executions followed, and some of the popish lords were fined. Lord Mounteagle had a grant of 200*l.* a year in land, and 500*l.* in pension, for communicating the letter concerning the conspiracy.

Prince Charles, now five years old, being created duke of York, had 40*l.* per annum settled on him, for the support of his new dignity, on his nurse 50*l.*, on his sempstress 20*l.*, on his laundress and chamber-keeper 20*l.* each, on his cook 3*l.* 6*s.*

1606. Jan. 21. Parliament met; Nov. 5th appointed a day of thanksgiving; severe laws made against the papists, and a new oath of allegiance framed.

36. Some of the conspirators in the powder-plot executed at the west-end of St. Paul's; others next day, in the palace-yard, Westminster. Torture had been applied to the conspirators to extort confessions; it was also applied to others in this reign.

The commons, after being clamorous about grievances, granted three subsidies, and six tenths and fifteenths, which, added to four subsidies granted by the clergy, were estimated at 453,000*l.*

An act passed empowering the lord-mayor and aldermen of London to cut the channel of the New River.

The king's love of pleasure generally complained of. Twice a week he amused himself at the cockpit; he spent entire days in hunting, and the fatigues of the chase were relieved by indulging to excess in the pleasures of the table. His ministers complained of the neglect of business. James replied, that he did not intend to make himself a slave; that his health, which "was the health and welfare of them all," required exercise and relaxation. The master of the cocks had 200*l.* per annum, equal to the salaries of his secretaries of state.

Sixty-eight thousand five hundred and

ninety-six persons died in London of the plague, the two preceding years.

1607. March 31. James made a very sensible speech to the commons, recommending a union between the two kingdoms. Bacon also introduced the subject, but his speech is chiefly remarkable for a luminous exposition of a plan of legal reform. Coke, the chief justice, a parasite and mere technical lawyer, opposed him.

May. A treaty of trade and commerce made between England and France.

An insurrection in Northamptonshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire, on account of inclosures of commons, was suppressed, and the ringleader, one Reynolds, whom they named Captain Pouch, was hanged.

The king writes a pamphlet, entitled "An Apology for the Oath of Allegiance." On his accession he had republished his *Basilicon Doron*, which was hailed as the wisest of human performances.

James obliged the Dutch to pay an annual acknowledgment for fishing on the coast of England.

June 12. The lord-mayor entertains the king at Clothworkers' hall, and presents him with a purse of gold, which James accepted with strong expressions of love and affection for the citizens. In July the king dined with the merchant tailors, receiving also from them a purse of gold, with another for his son prince Henry.

July 17. Christian, king of Denmark, made James a visit.

The banqueting house at Whitehall was begun to be rebuilt, and also Aldgate.

1608. May 20. Thomas Garnet, a jesuit, executed at Tyburn, though offered a pardon, if he would take the oath of allegiance.

Twenty English pirates executed, who had turned Mahometans, and lived in great splendour at Tunis, in Barbary.

The judges decide in the exchequer chamber, that all persons under the king's obedience are thereby naturalized. An important decision, as respected Scotchmen born after the accession of James to the English throne.

1609. James renews the charter of incorporation of the East India company. He propounds a scheme for the colonization of *Uster*, and founds Chelsea college.

Oct. A proclamation was published against erecting buildings on new foundations, within two miles of the city; and another prohibiting foreign nations to fish upon the coasts of Great Britain. The citizens were enjoined to build the fronts of their houses of stone or brick.

Sir Thomas Gates and sir George Somers sailed with a company of 500 persons to settle in Virginia. Somers was attacked

by a storm, and forced into Bermudas, and laid a foundation in that island of a settlement, called Somers' island.

Mulberry trees first planted in England.

The United Provinces acknowledged to be independent states by Spain, and a truce concluded between the Spaniards and the Dutch, by the mediation of England and France, for twelve years. Philip III. now turned his attention to the expulsion of one million of Moriscos from Spain, his most useful subjects.

Making of alum brought to perfection in England, by sir John Bouchier; and silkworms introduced.

A frost happened which lasted four months; the Thames so frozen, that heavy carriages passed over it.

The first legal copper coin introduced, which put an end to the private leaden tokens universally used throughout the kingdom, especially in London.

Hugh Middleton began the new river canal from Amwell, in Hertfordshire.

1610. *Feb. 15.* The commons complain of the king's profusion, especially in the immense sums lavished on Scotch favourites. Cecil demanded a supply of 600,000*l.*, but gladly accepted 200,000*l.*, and this was only obtained on condition of the abolition of wardships, the marriages of minors, and other feudal oppressions. For the immediate support of the royal household, one tenth and fifteenth, and one subsidy only, were granted. A tenth and fifteenth were a fixed sum, 36,000*l.*; a subsidy varied in amount; at present it raised 69,000*l.*

Hudson's Bay was discovered this year.

May 30. Prince Henry is created prince of Wales, duke of Cornwall, and earl of Chester; the revenues amounted to 51,415*l.* besides 2000*l.* a year allowed him for collection, and 7000*l.* given him by James, to purchase the barony of Killingsworth. The prince's household consisted of 426 individuals, of whom 297 were in the receipt of salaries, besides the workmen employed under Inigo Jones.

Thermometers invented by a Dutchman about this time.

Henry IV., of France, is assassinated by Ravillac, a young fanatic friar.

Nov. 2. Bancroft, archbishop of Canterbury, died; succeeded by Abbot, bishop of London.

1611. *Feb. 10.* Arabella Stuart privately married, contrary to an order of council, to a son of lord Beauchamp. They are imprisoned, but escape: Arabella was retaken, and four years after died in the Tower.

The charter-house founded by Thomas Sutton, a rich bachelor, who died December 12.

May 22. The order of baronets first in-

stituted by the king, which dignity he bestowed on 75 families.

The London workhouse first established.

James, in a defensive alliance with several German electors, engaged to supply them 4000 men; the pay of these troops was to be as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
Commander-in-chief, per day . . .	5	0	0
A colonel, per day . . .	1	0	0
A lieutenant-colonel . . .	0	6	0
A serjeant-major . . .	0	5	0
And the whole 4000 soldiers, } with a captain to each } company, per day . . .	156	6	8

The new translation of the Bible published by authority.

1612. The corpse of Mary, late queen of Scots, removed in great state from Peterborough to the chapel-royal at Westminster.

Robert Creighton, lord Sanquir, a Scottish nobleman, was executed for murdering his fencing-master; not all the entreaties of the nobility could make James pardon him.

A lottery, in favour of the English colonies in Virginia, was granted, which was drawn at the west end of St. Paul's, and the highest prize was a piece of plate of 4000*l.* value.

May 24. The lord-treasurer, Robert Cecil, earl of Salisbury, dies at Marlborough; he was succeeded in office by the earl of Suffolk. Cecil almost equalled his father as a minister, and excelled him as a courtier. James called him his little "beagle," which sporting phrase well indicated his keenness, quickness, and suppleness.

Sir Robert Shirley, who had resided in the court of Persia ten years, and been preferred to the post of general of the artillery there, and had married a princess of the royal family of Persia, arrived at the English court as ambassador from the sophy of Persia, bringing with him an offer of a free trade to Persia, upon very advantageous terms. The princess, the ambassador's wife, came over with him, and was brought to bed of a child here, to which the queen stood godmother, and prince Henry godfather.

Oct. 24. Sir Pecksael Brocas, having been convicted of many notorious adulteries, was obliged to stand in a white sheet at St. Paul's cross, holding a stick in his hand.

The city of London entertained the elector Palatine and the princess Elizabeth, and presented her with a chain of oriental pearl, worth 2000*l.*

Nov. 5. Prince Henry died of fever, aged nineteen, and was buried at Westminster abbey, December 12. His funeral charge amounted to 16,016*l.* The king, who had not lived cordially with the young prince,

owing to contrariety of disposition, would allow no mourning at his death.

A malignant fever raged, which carried off great numbers of people of all ages.

Hicks's hall finished; it was for the use of the justices of the county of Middlesex.

1613. Feb. 14. The palatine of the Rhine marries the king's daughter Elizabeth, then in her sixteenth year, and carries her over to Germany, April 10. The king demanded a supply for this marriage, and 25,000*l.* was granted him. The elector gave away, during his stay in England, to the value of 120,000 French crowns.

Aug. 7. Dorchester destroyed by a fire, which began at a tallow-chandler's, and 200,000*l.* damage was done.

Frances Howard, daughter of the earl of Suffolk, was married to the earl of Essex at thirteen, and her husband being but fourteen, he was sent to travel, while she remained in the court of England. This lady being seduced by lord Rochester, the king's favourite, obtained a divorce from her husband after his return, on pretence of his impotency, and married the lord Rochester, which his friend, sir Thomas Overbury, opposing, they procured him to be sent to the Tower. James exerted himself to forward the iniquitous objects of his favourite.

Wadham college, in Oxford, founded by Nicholas Wadham, esq., and dame Dorothy, his wife.

1614. March 13. Bartholomew Legat, an Arian, burnt at Smithfield, for heresy; also the ensuing month, Edward White-man was burnt at Burton-upon-Trent. Subsequently the king began to entertain doubts of the efficacy, not the barbarous folly, of these executions.

Complaints being made of a decrease in the export of woollens, and of an increase in the woollen manufactures of Holland, the following statement of the whole foreign trade of the country was obtained and published by an order of the privy council:

	£.	s.	d.
Exports . . .	2,487,433	7	10
Imports . . .	2,141,151	10	0
Customs at London :			
	£.	s.	d.
Outwards . . .	61,322	16	7
Inwards . . .	48,250	1	9
At all the out-ports.			
Outwards . . .	25,471	}	38,502 9 4
Inwards . . .	13,031		
Total . . .	£148,075	7	8

April 5. The second parliament of

this reign meets, but falling upon their grievances, namely, the king's profuseness to the Scots, and the increase of popish recusants, they are dissolved June 7, without passing one act; after which the king committed several of the members of the commons, for the freedom they had taken, and raised money on the subject by way of benevolence, to the amount of 52,909*l.*

An embassy arrived from Russia, to request James to act as mediator between the czar and king of Sweden.

Logarithms invented by lord Napier, of Scotland.

The king made ninety knights baronets. To purchase this honour, every knight was to pay 1095*l.*, to maintain thirty foot soldiers in Ireland, for three years, at 8*d.* per day each. Every rank of nobility had its price affixed to it; privy seals were issued to the amount of 200,000*l.*, and some monopolies were established.

Sept. 17. Sir Thomas Overbury poisoned in the Tower, by the contrivance of Rochester, now earl of Somerset, and his countess.

James's profuse generosity was such, that as 3000*l.* was carrying to the privy purse, sir Henry Rich was heard to say, "Such a sum as that would make me happy," James presented him with a sum to that amount.

The New River brought to London from Amwell. Moorfields was levelled, the ditches cleaned, walks made, and trees planted. Smithfield was paved for the first time, at an expense of 1600*l.*

Stratford-upon-Avon was burnt.

A great inundation on the sea-coast of Norfolk and Lincoln, which extended twelve miles inland.

1615. The king made a progress to Cambridge, and was entertained by the scholars, who represented Ignoramus, a five-act farce, got up to ridicule every thing the king disliked—the puritans, jesuits, and lawyers. At this place the king first took notice of George Villiers, afterwards duke of Buckingham, whom he caused to be made his cup-bearer.

The earl of Somerset is arrested by order of the king, in his presence; also his countess, who are both sent to the Tower.

The citizens make the first attempt to accommodate foot passengers, by paving the sides of the principal streets before their doors with broad free-stones.

May. The earl of Somerset, and his countess, are condemned for the murder of sir Thomas Overbury, but obtained a pardon. Somerset was the first favourite of James; his name was Robert Carr, and he is supposed to have been originally page to the king in Scotland. James allowed him a pension of 4000*l.* after his trial, and Somerset made several unsuccessful at-

tempts to recover his forfeited estates, which had been granted to the next favourite Buckingham.

Oct. Coke disgraced from the chief justiceship, and succeeded by Montague, the recorder of London. Next year Coke was restored to the council, having made his peace with Buckingham, by consenting to the marriage of his daughter to the favourite's brother, sir John Villiers.

The French king's marriage being solemnized, James sends a congratulatory embassy to France; it was the most splendid ever known: at his entry into Paris, the ambassador's horse was shod with silver shoes, so loose that they dropped off among the multitude, which he had replaced. This he repeated till he arrived at the troop of grandees.

Dec. 6. The archbishop of Spalatro comes into England, turns protestant, and has preferment in the church; and after five years' stay, goes over to the church of Rome again.

1616. *Le Maire* and *Schouten*, Dutch navigators, double Cape Horn, which is named after the town of which Schouten was a native. *Van Diemen's Land* also discovered by the Dutch. *William Baffin*, an Englishman, in the same year, discovered *Baffin's Bay*. The nature and extent of *Baffin's* discovery was much questioned, till his accuracy was substantially confirmed by the expeditions of *Ross* and *Parry*.

1617. The king resolved to compel the Scotch to conform to the church of England. He opened the parliament at *Berwick*, and told his countrymen he had nothing "more at heart than to reduce their barbarity to the sweet civility of their neighbours; and if the Scots would be as docible to learn the goodness of the English, as they were to limp after their ill, then he should not doubt of success; for they had already learnt of the English to drink healths, to wear watches and gay clothes, to take tobacco, and to speak a language which was neither English nor Scottish." Commissioners were appointed to settle the affairs of religion, and the king got five articles passed, which gave him full power; the ministers protested against them, and demanded a general assembly, to which James, after some demur, assented. He returned to England in September, and finally succeeded in introducing episcopacy.

May 27. *Sir Francis Bacon* made lord-chancellor in place of *Ellesmere*, who died within a fortnight after his resignation; his son was created earl of *Bridgwater*. The new chancellor soon disgusted the public by his vanity, love of show, meanness, and corruption.

This year the *Book of Sports* was published, giving leave for innocent recreations after evening prayers on Sundays; and the clergy were enjoined to read the book in their churches, for neglect whereof some of them were prosecuted in the star-chamber.

Aug. *Sir Walter Raleigh* sails to America in search of a gold mine.

From 1607 to 1618 only sixteen catholic priests had suffered as traitors for the exercise of their functions. But the fines levied for recusancy were considerable, the king having a net income of 36,000*l.* from this source alone.

1618. The people complained of the *Hollanders* fishing upon the English coast, and are dissatisfied with the king's measures and the administration, particularly with the favourite *Buckingham*.

May 3. *Mr. Williams*, a barrister of the *Middle-temple*, who was arraigned at the *King's-bench* for libelling, and for writing books against the king, on the 5th was executed and quartered at *Charing-cross*.

A patent was granted for the steam engine, or as it was then called, the 'fire engine,' for taking ballast out of rivers, and for raising quantities of water. It is the earliest notice we have met of the application of the power of steam in this country; probably the invention was brought from Italy, where it had been anteriorly used, and *Branca*, an Italian philosopher, published at *Rome*, in 1629, a book on the subject.

Oct. 29. At the instigation of the Spanish ambassador, *sir Walter Raleigh* is executed (by virtue of his former sentence) for high-treason. His execution was unjust, having obtained an implied pardon in holding the king's commission in his buccaneer expedition to *Guiana*. Both the character and capacity of *sir Walter* have been overrated: he was versatile and clever, but unprincipled.

Nov. 3. The synod of *Dort* began, whither several English divines were sent, and the doctrine of *Arminius* was condemned by it. It ended on the 29th of April following.

Since the death of *Cecil*, the government had been in the hands of favourites. In corrupt rapacity, *Buckingham* exceeded *Somerset*, and by the partiality of the king, all offices were placed at his disposal. Corruption was not less vile among others. The lord-treasurer *Suffolk* was accused of peculation, fined 30,000*l.*, (mitigated to 7000*l.*) by the star-chamber, and imprisoned along with his countess, still more corrupt, in the *Tower*.

1619. *Feb. 13.* *Lady Roos*, daughter of secretary *Roos*, sentenced to imprisonment, her accomplice *Sivorton* to be whipped and

do penance, sir Thomas and lady Lake to pay a fine of 10,000*l.*, and 5000*l.* damages to the countess of Exeter. They were tried for falsely charging lord Roos with an incestuous intercourse with his grandmother, the second wife of the earl of Exeter.

March 2. Queen Anne died of dropsy, at Hampton-court, in the 46th year of her age.

July. One Bernard Calvert set out from Southwark at three o'clock in the morning, embarked at Dover at eight, went to Calais, and returned to Southwark the same day at eight o'clock in the evening.

Dr. Harvey, a physician of London, discovered the circulation of the blood, and confirmed it by experiments.

A comet appeared during twenty-eight days: it was a subject of portentous speculation, in an age in which witches were drowned by the people, or burned by the judges.

Gondemar, the Spanish ambassador, obtained great influence at the English court, by the adroitness of his flattery, and the brilliancy of his wit.

Dulwich college, founded by William Alleyn, a comedian.

1620. James gave sir Francis Crano 2000*l.* to establish a house at Mortlake, in Surrey, for the manufacturing of tapestry.

1621. *Jan. 30.* The third parliament of this reign met, when the lord-chancellor Bacon was convicted of bribery, fined 40,000*l.*, and imprisoned during the king's pleasure. The seals were taken from him, and given to Dr. Williams, dean of Westminster, who was made bishop of Lincoln, and afterwards archbishop of York.

The king farmed to sir Giles Mompesson and Francis Michel, an exclusive patent for the sale of gold and silver lace; by this privilege they had been guilty of fraud: the parliament committed them to prison, and fined Michel in 1000*l.*, and imprisonment for life; Mompesson made his escape.

Sir John Bennet, judge of the prerogative court of Canterbury, was charged with bribery, and fined 20,000*l.* Field, bishop of Llandaff, was accused of brokerage and bribery; and Yelverton, attorney-general, of "having aided" the afore-mentioned patentees in their illegal proceedings.

In this parliament were first formed the parties of court and country.

Licenses first granted for public-houses. Archbishop Abbot, while hunting in Bramhill park, accidentally killed the keeper.

Nov. Parliament again met, and insisted upon their privileges; James, who, in a letter to the speaker, had complained of the "fiery and popular spirits" in the commons, sent for the journals of the house, and tore out the leaf containing their protestation.

One Floyden, a prisoner in the Fleet, was sentenced by the commons, for reflecting on the palatine, to ride with his face backwards, holding the horse's tail.

Microscopes were this year first made in Germany.

The broad silk manufactory from raw silk, introduced into England.

Gondemar is insulted by the people, for which the king orders one of the mob to be publicly whipped by the hangman.

1622. *Jan. 6.* Parliament is abruptly dissolved, having passed no other acts but the subsidies, and Philip, Pym, Mallory, and Coke, are committed to prison. Two members of the upper house, Oxford and Southampton, are also imprisoned, and from this time is dated the beginning of parliamentary opposition in the lords.

The same day the king rode by coach to Theobalds to dinner, not intending to return till Easter. After dinner riding on horseback, his horse stumbled and cast his majesty into the New River, when the ice broke: he fell in head foremost, so that only his boots were seen. Sir Richard Yong rescued him, and he was put into a warm bed.

England's exports are 2,320,436*l.*, imports 2,619,315*l.* Customs of England outwards and inwards 168,222*l.*

The imprisoned catholic recusants, 4000 in number, are all released. The puritans lament letting loose so many idolaters.

1623. *Feb. 11.* Prince Charles and Buckingham start from Newhall, in Essex, on their romantic excursion to Spain, to conclude the match with the Infanta; they travelled under the names of John and Thomas Smith, took Paris in their way, where Charles saw, without emotion, his future spouse, the princess Henrietta, and arrived at Madrid, March 6th, where they were joyfully received.

Feb. 14. At Blackfriars 100 people lost their lives, by the floor giving way under a congregation, who had met to celebrate mass.

Sept. Prince Charles, after being guilty of some wild pranks and much dissimulation, returns without the Infanta; and the match is abruptly broken off. The prince having left a proxy in the hand of the earl of Bristol, the king is prevailed on by the prince to order him not to deliver it.

1624. *Feb. 19.* The pecuniary necessities of the king compelled him to open parliament this day, in humbler tone than formerly. He issued no proclamation against the people meddling with "state mysteries," and invited the commons to advise with him concerning public matters, especially the marriage of his son. Buckingham's misrepresentations of the Spanish affair, made him the favourite of the people

and the puritans, as well as of the king and the prince. The breaking off the match with the Infanta, was celebrated in London by bonfires, pealing of bells, and the populace insulting the ambassadors of Spain. The commons proposed the lords should join them in a "stinging petition" to the king, for a sharper execution of the laws against papists. Such was their fanaticism, that they voted every member should denounce, by name, every papist in his vicinity; a list so framed was accordingly sent to the lords, who had the good sense to let it drop into oblivion. They obtained from the king a declaration against toleration, but were niggardly in supplies. James asked for 700,000*l.* to begin the war, and 150,000*l.* yearly, for the liquidation of his debts. They voted only half his demands, and resorted to the unconstitutional expedient of appointing treasurers to receive it, and a council of war to direct its appropriation.

The Dutch massacre the English factors at Amboyna, and dispossess them of the spice islands.

The commons institute inquiries into the conduct of the intriguing bishop Williams, the lord-keeper; on making his submission he is acquitted; but Cranfield, earl of Middlesex and lord-treasurer, is not so fortunate. He was impeached for bribery, oppression, and neglect of duty. After an arduous trial, he was condemned to pay a fine of 50,000*l.*, to degradation as a peer, and to imprisonment during the king's pleasure. James discharged him from the Tower in a few days, and mitigated his fine to 20,000*l.*

May 29. Parliament prorogued; it did not again meet, and was dissolved by the king's death. Members appear to have received wages from their constituents during his reign.

Barbadoes planted this year.

The interest of money reduced from ten to eight per cent.

Aug. A match proposed and concluded between prince Charles and the princess Henrietta of France, daughter of Henry IV., but was not consummated till James's death. The dowry of the princess was about 100,000*l.* After the treaty of marriage was signed, the recusants were no longer prosecuted.

1623. Feb. Pope Urban's dispensation arrived at Paris, which caused difficulties, and a new one is demanded.

Count Mansfeldt comes into England, and is made general of an army of 12,000 men, raised by impressment, for the recovery of the Palatinate; but the troops being denied a passage through France, most of them perished on board crowded vessels.

March 27. James died at Theobalds, in the 59th year of his age, and the 23rd of his reign, of a tertian ague, produced by gout, vexation, and habitual intemperance. He was buried, May 7th, with the usual state, in Westminster Abbey, king Charles being chief mourner. Dr. Craig, his physician, was disgraced for saying the king was poisoned, and the duke of Buckingham was accused of applying remedies for the king's disease without the advice of the physicians.

The king had seven children, three sons and four daughters; two only survived him—Charles his successor, and Elizabeth, wife of the unfortunate palatine, and titular queen of Bohemia, from whom the present royal family is descended. James was of middle stature, rather corpulent, slovenly in his clothes, and dirty in his habits. He was timid and suspicious; wore a doublet quilted for stiletto proof, and breeches in great plaits immoderately stuffed. His beard was thin, his tongue too big for his mouth, his eyes large, and, in the presence of strangers, continually rolling about. He had weak legs, which caused him to lean on others' shoulders. Much of his time was spent in hunting, playing at golf, carousing at table, and laughing at his own conceits, and the buffoonery of his courtiers.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Jac. I., cap. 3. Disables bishops from alienating or transferring their lands or revenues to the crown.

Cap. 8. Enacts that it shall be felony, without the benefit of clergy, to stab another.

Cap. 9. Inflicts a penalty of ten shillings on alehouse keepers suffering company to sit tipping in their houses.

Cap. 11. Makes it felony to have two wives or husbands, unless the husband or wife remains seven years abroad, the one not knowing the other to be living.

Cap. 12. Enacts that witchcraft, or conversing with evil spirits, shall be adjudged felony.

Cap. 15. Contains the description of a bankrupt.

Cap. 21. Stolen goods sold or pawned shall not alter the property.

Cap. 27. A penalty of twenty shillings inflicted for destroying any game or pigeons.

3 Jac. I., cap. 10. Enacted that the parish shall be at the expense of sending a prisoner to gaol, where he has no effects.

Cap. 13. Hunting deer or conies punished with three months' imprisonment and treble damages.

Cap. 15. A court of conscience established in London for debts under forty shillings.

4 Jac. I., cap. 13. An act for draining the fens in the isle of Ely.

7 Jac. I. An act for founding Chelsea college under certain regulations.

Cap. 5. Justices of peace and constables sued for doing their duty, shall have double costs.

Cap. 11. Makes the qualification for killing game forty pounds per annum, and inflicts further punishments on offenders.

Cap. 12. No book-debts shall be given in evidence for goods delivered above a year before the action brought.

Cap. 13. A penalty of ten pounds and treble damages given for hunting deer in parks.

21 Jac. I., cap. 2. No concealed lands shall be recovered by the crown, unless the king had a title within sixty years.

Cap. 3. All unlawful monopolies and dispensations for penal laws shall be void.

Cap. 4. Informations on penal statutes shall be laid in the county where the offence was committed.

Cap. 12. Actions for words shall be brought within two years. Actions of trespass, assault, battery, wounding or imprisonment, within four years; and actions on the case, actions of account, debt, *detinue*, *replevin*, and *quare clausum fregit*, within six years. Writs of *formedon*, and all entries into lands, shall be made within twenty years after the title accrues.

Cap. 19. Reduces the rate of interest to 8 per cent. The word interest is for the first time used for the forbearance of money, and as synonymous with usury.

Cap. 20. None shall profanely swear or curse, on pain of paying one shilling for every offence. A subsequent statute makes it two shillings.

Cap. 23. No suit shall be removed out of an inferior court after issue joined, where the demand is not above five pounds.

Cap. 26. Made felony to levy a fine or suffer a recovery in the name of another.

Cap. 27. Where a woman shall conceal the death of her bastard child, she shall be adjudged to have murdered it.

Cap. 32. Enacted that the river Thames shall be made navigable to Oxford.

TAXES—COIN—COMMERCE.

The whole revenue of James in 1617 amounted to 450,000*l.* a year. Of this sum 80,000*l.* was the produce of the crown lands, 190,000*l.* of customs, and 180,000*l.* of purveyance, wards, and other sources of casual income.

The whole supplies granted by parliament in this reign, were nine subsidies and ten fifteenths. A subsidy produced about

70,000*l.*, and a fifteenth about 36,500*l.*, consequently the parliamentary grants received by James amounted to about a million.

An attempt was made in the beginning of this reign to procure a strict entail of the crown lands on the king and his successors for ever; but a bill for that purpose, though passed by the lords, was rejected by the commons; and James finding no obstacle to the sale of those lands, continued the practice, and raised by that means 775,000*l.*—*Sinclair's Hist. Rev.* p. 143.

The Dutch were compelled to pay an annual acknowledgment for the liberty of fishing on the British coasts; a source of revenue which was attempted to be more fully enforced during the succeeding reign.

The old way of granting supplies to the crown by fifteenths and tenths, and the exact mode of levying which has puzzled antiquarians, ceased in 1624.

This reign furnishes us with the last example of any aid being levied on the knighting and marriage of the king's eldest daughter.

James had a price affixed to each rank of nobility, on the payment of which a grant was made out. The dignities of baron, viscount, and earl, might be respectively bought at the rate of 10,000*l.*, 15,000*l.*, and 20,000*l.* But the sale of the title of baronet, and making the honour hereditary, was the most fruitful source of revenue from the sale of titles. The invention of this latter device has been differently ascribed to lord Salisbury and sir Robert Cotton.

The quantity of specie coined in the reign of James, was about 5,432,000*l.*, of which 3,666,000*l.* was in gold, and 1,765,000*l.* in silver. It still continued the practice to issue some base money for the use of Ireland.

London was almost entirely built of wood, and no doubt presented a very ugly appearance. The earl of Arundel first introduced the general practice of brick buildings. The size of London increased greatly in the seventeenth century. From 1600, it doubled every forty years, and consequently, in 1680, it contained four times as many inhabitants as in the beginning of the century. It increased vastly in riches in this and the following reign. Anderson, in his "History of Commerce," mentions, that all the shops in Cheapside except four, from Bucklersbury to the Old Change, were occupied by goldsmiths.

The custom began of tolling St. Sepulchre's bell for the prisoners in Newgate, on the morning of execution.

The expenses of the great consisted in

pomp and show, and a numerous retinue. Lord Bacon has remarked, that the English nobility in his time maintained a larger retinue of servants than the nobility of any other nation, except the Polanders. The love of a country life continued to prevail; but the increase of arts, commerce, and social intercourse, was beginning to produce an inclination for the pleasures and luxuries of the city. James discouraged, as much as possible, this alteration of manners. "He was wont," says Bacon, "to be very earnest with the country gentlemen to go from London and return to their country seats. And sometimes he would say to them: 'Gentlemen, at London, you are like ships in a sea, which show like nothing; but in your country villages you are like ships in a river, which look like great things.'"

MEMOR OF LETTERS.

As the age advances in intelligence, the number of literary men proportionately increases, but as their lives are better known than those of the earlier writers, it will be sufficient in our future notices to specify their names, distinctive character, and the dates of their birth and death.

John Fletcher, son to the bishop of London, an eminent dramatist, 1576-1625.

He died of the plague, and was buried in the church of St. Mary Overy, Southwark. His literary co-partner, Francis Beaumont, died in 1616, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

John Stowe, a faithful and ingenious antiquary, historian, and topographer, 1525-1605. His "Survey of London" has run through six editions, the last published in 1754.

Richard Knolles, master of the free school of Sandwich in Kent, and author of an able and well-known "History of the Turks." Died in 1610.

William Camden, the celebrated antiquary and historian, 1551-1623. Author of "Annals of the Reign of Elizabeth," and of "Britannia," a standard topographical work, in 4 vols., folio.

R. Hackluyt, author of "Naval Histories," 1553-1623.

John Napier, baron of Merchiston, a distinguished mathematician, and inventor of logarithms, 1550-1617.

Samuel Daniel, a tasteful poet, and author of the "History of England," to Edward III., 1567-1619.

J. Harrington, translator of Ariosto, 1561-1612.

John Pits, theological and biographical writer, 1560-1616.

CHARLES I. A.D. 1625 to 1649.

The events of this deeply interesting period admit of the following classification:—1. The war with Spain, in which the king was embroiled on his accession, and the war with France, into which he entered to gratify the private enmity of Buckingham, and in both of which he reaped only disgrace and disappointment. 2. His disputes with parliament, aggravated or produced by the pecuniary embarrassments arising out of these wars, and when the house of commons felt more disposed to impose checks on the abuses of the executive power, than grant supplies for the support of misgovernment. 3. His long effort to govern like an absolute monarch, and by loans, benevolences, ship-money, and other devices, to raise, by prerogative only, taxes without the intervention of parliament; and which was certainly as great a departure from constitutional forms, as the after attempt of the commons to govern without a king. 4. His impolitic endeavours to impose on Scotland, contrary to the national faith, the English liturgy and church government. 5. The civil war, which originated in the irreconcilable claims of royal prerogative, and the privileges of parliament. 6. His defeat, trial, and death.

The political errors of this reign were, in brief, the king's impoverishing wars, his presumptuous effort to establish uniformity of religious opinions, his arbitrary maxims of government, his patronage of worthless favourites, and his mistake as to the real nature of the kingly office. The last was the king's cardinal error, and the chief source of his misfortunes. Charles Stuart, like his predecessors, considered the prerogatives of the crown not

as a trust for the public benefit, but an inheritance for his own enjoyment. Hence in his struggles with parliament he looked upon them as audacious brigands, who sought to rob him of the patrimony transmitted by his ancestors, and which he ought to transmit unimpaired to his posterity. This opinion he pertinaciously clung to throughout, even on his trial and the scaffold: he was conscientious, but mistaken; and his example is an awful lesson to royalty to watch the growth of public opinion, and to moderate their pretensions in conformity with the reasonable desires of the nation.

In the king's personal character were grievous defects. He was obstinate, wilful, passionate, and infirm in judgment. In choice of time, place, and person, he was mostly wrong. His ministers were chosen not for their fitness, but subserviency to his humour and arbitrary purposes. Buckingham was an unprincipled profligate; Laud a bigoted high churchman; Strafford a purchased instrument of the court, a man of ability, but tyrannical, ambitious, and void of principle, as his apostacy from the popular party attested. The king's last adviser, his queen Henrietta, was not more estimable; she was petulant, selfish, haughty, and, according to Mr. Hallam (*Const. Hist.* II. 258), of questionable connubial fidelity.

The king was ruined by his friends. But if this were weakness in him, he had other traits of character that demand a harsher appellation. Historians agree in his duplicity and want of sincerity. These are attested by his equivocal acceptance of the petition of right, by the favour he shewed the papists after a solemn engagement to enforce the penal laws against them, in the countenance he gave to the arbitrary doctrines of Sibthorpe and Manwaring, under the pretext of religion, and in his faithless negotiations at the close of the civil war, with the Scots, the presbyterians, and independents.

Charles experienced the common fate of unprincipled men, a general want of confidence. After his abortive efforts to establish episcopacy in Scotland, to govern by prerogative in England, and the abrupt dismissal of the parliament of 1640, he stood almost alone in his kingdom. The necessity of some great change became the common theme. "It is impossible," said Lord Northumberland, at that time a courtier, "that things can long continue in the condition they are now in; so general a defection in this kingdom hath not been known in the memory of any." It was only by the concessions of Charles in the first session of the long parliament (which, it is probable, he never meant to be binding) that he recovered the good-will of a portion of his subjects. Without these concessions, Burnet has remarked, in reply to those who have objected to them, that the king would have had no party at all. Many now thought he had put himself in the right and the commons in the wrong. Others followed him from a mere feeling of loyalty, without regard to the man, or the justice of his cause.

The merits of the quarrel between the king and parliament have been the subject of much controversy. That the public weal was identified with the cause of the commons there can hardly be a doubt, but the unsettled state of the constitution left a semblance of *legal justice* to both belligerents. In favour of the king was the practices of his predecessors; in favour of the parliament was the general principles of the government, as set forth in Magna Charta and other statutes. The progress of society demanded that what had been little more than the theory of government should be made the practice; and the new development of the representative principle became incompatible with the prerogatives of the Tudors.

Had parliament acquiesced in the pretensions of Charles, it must have continued the mockery of representation—it had been a council only for assessing imposts on its constituents. They demurred, and won for themselves a nobler vocation.

The wilfulness of the king hastened the crisis. His abortive attempts at coercion in Scotland were the foundation of the hopes and triumphs of the patriots in England. For eleven years taxes were levied, and even new ones imposed (as that on cards) by royal mandate only. The indignation excited by these tyrannical acts was further heightened by the cruel punishments inflicted by the Star-chamber on the public writers who had the hardihood to hold them up to merited reprobation.

The private virtues of Charles have been adduced as a set-off against his public errors—his patronage of the fine arts—his fondness as a husband and father—and the fearlessness with which he met death. Had he lived at a later period, when capital punishments have become less frequent, he would have experienced a more merciful criminal adjudication. His execution was unjust and impolitic; unjust, as the sentence of a packed tribunal of undisguised and irritated opponents, acting under an *ex post facto* law; impolitic, as exciting a sympathy disproportioned to the claims of the sufferer as a ruler and a man.

An observation may be made on the character of the civil war which the death of Charles wound up. It was one of unexampled mildness, carried on with true English feeling, undisgraced by massacre or revengeful desolation. It elicited much obscure talent, and, with the exception of some assassinations by the royalists, was waged on the principle of honourable warfare. Neither did industry sustain lasting injury. The manufacturing and commercial interests of the country were in progress of rapid development during the early part of the reign of Charles, and the war did not materially arrest their progress. The interest of money, which had never been less than 8 per cent., fell, in 1649, to 6 per cent. The rents of land were increased, and large tracts reduced into cultivation. The provincial towns became more populous and flourishing. The metropolis increased in size, in spite of repeated proclamations to restrain it. The country-houses of the gentry were made more elegant and commodious. The kingdom was indebted for this prosperity to the enterprize and industry of the people—not to the wisdom of the government, which had injured the freedom of trade by monopolies and restrictions.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1625. *March 27.* Charles I., the third, but only surviving son of James I., by Anne, daughter of Frederick II., king of Denmark, succeeded to the crown in his twenty-fifth year. He wished to be styled, like his father, King of Great Britain, but the judges dissuaded him from assuming that title.

May 1. Charles's marriage with the princess Henrietta Maria, youngest daughter of Henry IV. of France, was solemnized on a platform before the great door of the cathedral of Paris, the duke of Chevereux acting as the king's proxy.

June 13. The queen landed at Dover where she was met by the king, and conducted the same day to Canterbury, where they slept. They next proceeded to Hampton Court, their public entry into London being prevented by the plague, which swept off 35,417 persons.

June 18. The first parliament met at Westminster, and the king and the lord-keeper each made a speech to both houses.

Dr. Montague, one of the king's chaplains, proceeded against by the commons, for his book called, "An Appeal to Cæsar." Charles thought the commons

encroached upon his prerogative in this case, which he brought before the council.

The charges of the war were computed at 700,000*l.* a year. The king's debts, incurred by himself or his father, exceeded 600,000*l.* To meet these charges he had only a supply of two subsidies; about 145,000*l.*

Aug. 1. Parliament, having been adjourned on account of the plague, met at Oxford.

12. Parliament having refused to settle the revenue of tonnage and poundage on Charles for more than one year, or to grant supplies sufficient to maintain the war with Spain, and arraigning the conduct of the king's ministers, particularly of the duke of Buckingham, it was this day dissolved, not having sat three weeks both at Westminster and Oxford. No supplies having been voted for the civil list, the king's necessities became so great that, to supply provisions for his own table, he borrowed 3000*l.* of the corporations of Salisbury and Southampton.

A fleet under the command of Sir Edward Cecil, admiral, and the earl of Essex, vice-admiral, being sent to besiege Cadix, made a descent near that city, but were forced to re-embark their troops without effecting anything, it being too late in the year.

Michaelmas term adjourned from Westminster to Reading, on account of the plague.

Oct. 30. The great seal was taken from bishop Williams, and given to sir Thomas Coventry, the attorney-general. Sir Edward Coke, the ex-chief justice, and six other opposition members, chosen sheriffs, to disqualify them from sitting in parliament.

1626. *Jan. 31.* All persons of forty pounds a year, or more, were ordered to receive the order of knighthood.

Feb. 2. Charles crowned at Westminster; he chose to be clad in white, rather than purple, as his predecessors usually were at a coronation; and the unction, that it might not be seen, was performed behind a traverse, by archbishop Abbot. To prevent the increase of the plague, he omitted riding in state from the Tower to Whitehall.

6. The second parliament met at Westminster. Committees were appointed, one for religion, one for redress of grievances, and one for secret affairs.

17. A conference between the bishops and other divines concerning Arminianism.

19. The earl of Arundel committed to the Tower, without cause assigned, by the king's warrant. His offence is supposed to have been the marriage of his son without the king's leave. The lords considered the imprisonment a violation of their privi-

leges, and refused to proceed with public business until the king assented to Arundel's liberation. They next came to a resolution, "That no lord of parliament, the parliament sitting, or within the usual time of the privilege of parliament, is to be imprisoned or restrained without sentence or order of the house, unless it be for treason or felony, or for refusing to give surety for the peace."

The inhabitants of London and Westminster were commanded by proclamation to keep all their urine throughout the year, for making saltpetre.

Buckingham's conduct was examined by the house, and one Dr. Turner moved a question, "Whether common fame be a good ground of proceeding for the house?" which was approved.

Mar. 29. The king sent for both houses to Whitehall, and made a long speech, which the commons took offence at, and remonstrated.

April 9. Sir Francis Bacon (lord Verulam) died at lord Arundel's house at Highgate, where he had been about a week upon a visit, being then about sixty-six years of age, and was buried at St. Michael's church in St. Alban's, in pursuance of his will. He had been advanced to the office of attorney-general, which he executed with great ability. He was afterwards constituted lord chancellor; in which high station, being charged with taking numberless bribes, he was adjudged by his peers (May 3, 1620) to pay a fine of 40,000*l.*, to be imprisoned during the king's pleasure, and rendered for ever incapable of any office or employment. The king released him from the Tower, and settled a small pension on him; after which he retired to his chambers in Gray's Inn, where he composed those works that render his name immortal. He was the greatest genius of the age, but the most corrupt judge that ever sat in the court of Chancery. He left neither wife nor child behind him, which makes his avarice the more unaccountable.

The malice of Buckingham being seconded by the partiality of Charles, articles of high treason preferred in the house of lords by sir Robert Heath, the attorney-general, against the earl of Bristol, grounded on alleged offences committed by the earl in his negotiating the match between the present king (while prince) and the infanta of Spain. The earl exhibited counter-articles against the duke.

May 8. Articles of impeachment preferred against Buckingham, by the commons, for high crimes and misdemeanors, committed in his administration; to which the duke put in his answer. Sir Dudley Digges and sir John Elliot, two of the

members of the commons, who carried up the impeachment against Buckingham, were committed to the Tower for some obnoxious expressions that fell from them on that occasion, but they were released soon after, and explained themselves.

May 11. The king went to the house of lords, and spoke in favour of the duke. The duke was chosen chancellor of the university of Cambridge, at which the commons were offended.

June 11. The commons remonstrating against the duke's continuing in the administration, and against the king's taking tonnage and poundage, the parliament was dissolved without passing one act.

The arbitrary interferences of Charles, in the cases of Arundel and Bristol, tended to alienate the regards of the lords, upon which branch of the legislature he ought to have depended for support in resisting the claims of the commons. In this parliament Buckingham held thirteen proxies, which enormous accumulation of suffrages in one person led to an order of the house, still maintained, that no peer can hold more than two proxies.

A proclamation was issued not to preach upon the points of Arminianism, either for or against them.

30. A declaration issued, containing the causes of his majesty's dissolving the two last parliaments. An order of council issued for levying tonnage and poundage, till confirmed to the king by parliament. The king raised money by sale of the crown lands, by loans arbitrarily levied on individuals, and by ship-money.

July 1. The king, from jealousy of Blainville, the French ambassador, dismissed the queen's French servants, which, with some seizures of French ships, were the ostensible causes of a war with France.

5. He ordered a general fast to be held.

Charles raised the sailors' wages from fourteen to twenty shillings a-month. A commission was issued to muster and arm the militia.

Gentlemen were committed for refusing to pay the money required of them, by way of loan, for the king's service; and some of the inferior sort were pressed for soldiers or sailors, on their refusal. In order to fit out a fleet, the maritime towns were commanded by council to equip a certain number of vessels. The city of London was rated at twenty ships. Chief-justice Crew was removed, on account of opposing the loan, and his place was given to sir Nicholas Hyde. Soldiers were quartered in private houses. The doctrine of passive obedience was preached by Dr. Sibthorpe; and archbishop Abbot was suspended for refusing to license his sermons.

1627. Parliament met at Westminster. A letter was published under the title of "*A Speech without Doors.*"

April 3. The commons resolve that no freeman ought to be confined by command from the king or privy council, unless by due course of law.

June 27. Buckingham, with 100 sail of ships, and 7000 land-forces, set sail from Portsmouth, for the city of Rochelle in France; where, being refused admittance, he landed on the isle of Rhé, but not being able to make himself master of the fort La Prée, he returned to England in November, with some disgrace having lost one-third of his troops without effecting anything.

1628. Jan. An order of council issued to release all gentlemen who were imprisoned on account of loans; twenty-seven of whom were chosen to serve in parliament, and the loans were discontinued.

Mar. 17. The third parliament of this reign met, and preferred a petition of right to the king, praying,—1. That no loan or tax might be levied but by consent of parliament. 2. That no man might be imprisoned but by legal process. 3. That soldiers might not be quartered on people against their wills. 4. That no commissions be granted for executing martial law. To which the king answered, "I will that right be done according to the laws and customs of the realm."

April 17. A fleet, under the command of the earl of Denbigh, set sail from Plymouth, for the relief of Rochelle, but returned without effecting anything.

June 7. Both houses addressed the king for a fuller answer to their petition of right; whereupon they received this satisfactory answer — *Sou droit fait comme il est désiré*; which made this important instrument one of the statutes of the realm.

The commons attack Dr. Manwaring for his arbitrary doctrines, and he was sentenced to be imprisoned, suspended for three years, fined 1000*l.*, and make his submission, which he did with tears.

26. The commons being about to remonstrate against his majesty's receiving tonnage and poundage, the king came to the house of peers, and having passed several acts, and made a speech in which, among other things, he said he was "accountable to God only for his actions," parliament was suddenly prorogued.

Aug. 23. The duke of Buckingham being at Portsmouth, equipping another fleet for the relief of Rochelle, was mortally stabbed by John Felton, a discontented lieutenant.

Sept. 8. The fleet set sail for Rochelle, under the command of the earl of Ludsey, but was obliged to return without effecting anything. Rochelle was taken, and out of

15,000 persons in the city, only 5000 remained alive, the rest having perished by famine.

Charles caused the thirty-nine articles of the church of England to be published.

Nov. 19. Felton executed at Tyburn, and hanged in chains, for the murder of Buckingham. It was suggested by Charles that Felton might be put to the rack, in order to make him discover his accomplices; but the judges unanimously declared that the law of England did not allow the use of torture (*Hist. Const. Hist. II. 10*). It was the first adjudication on the illegality of this mode of extorting confession.

1629. Jan. 20. Parliament met. They solicited the king to proclaim a fast, and presented an address of apology for their preferring the affairs of religion to any other article of business.

Mr. Oliver Cromwell informed the house of Neile, the bishop of Winchester, countenancing Arminianism, which was denounced by the puritans as the spawn of popery.

28. The king forbids the commons to meddle with religious matters.

Mar. 2. The speaker being called upon to read a remonstrance, and put the question, said he dared not, the king having commanded the contrary; and endeavouring to leave the chair, was held in by force, and the doors locked, till a protestation was read, "That whoever should bring in innovations into religion, or seek to bring in popery or Arminianism; and whoever should advise the taking of tonnage or poundage, not granted by parliament, or that should pay the same, should be accounted enemies to the kingdom." During this, the king had come to the house of lords. He sent for the-*serjeant*, but he was detained, the doors being locked. Then he ordered the usher of the black rod to deliver a verbal message, but that officer returned without obtaining admission. At last he commanded the captain of the guard to break open the door, but at the very moment the commons adjourned to March 10th.

5. Warrants were issued by the privy council for seizing the riotous members of the commons; and Holles, Coriton, Eliot, Valentine, Selden, Hobart, Hayman, Long, and Stroud appearing before the council, refused to answer for what was done in the house, and were committed close prisoners to the Tower.

10. The king came to the house of peers, and, after a speech in which he called the patriot members "common vipers," he dissolved the parliament. No parliament was assembled for twelve years after, and the king governed by prerogative.

18. A proclamation, in which the king declared he should account it presump-

tion in any to prescribe to him the time for calling a parliament.

May 29. Peace with France proclaimed.

An information exhibited in the Star-chamber against the members in custody, for their seditious behaviour.

Mr. Huntley, a parson in Kent, summoned before the high commission court, for refusing to preach a visitation sermon.

Trinity Term. The members of parliament who were committed, brought their *habeas* to be admitted to bail. In Michaelmas term they were offered to be bailed by the court, on giving security for their good behaviour, which they refused. Upon an information in the king's bench, against Holles, Eliot, and Valentine, they objected that the court had no right to sit in judgment on their parliamentary conduct. But the plea was overruled, and they were adjudged to be fined, and imprisoned during the king's pleasure. Being offered to be released on their submission, they refused; and sir John Eliot died in prison. Savile, Wentworth, Digges, Noy, and Littleton deserted, in succession, the popular party, for the favours of the court.

1630. May 29. Prince Charles, afterwards king of England, born; a bright star, it is recorded by Carte, shone in the east at noon-day.

Dr. Leighton, a Scotchman, prosecuted for publishing a book, entitled, "*An Appeal to the Parliament; or, a Plea against Prelacy;*" for which he was twice publicly whipped, stood two hours in the pillory, had his ears cut off, nostrils slit, and a cheek branded with the letters *s. s.* to denote a sower of sedition. He was released after ten years' imprisonment, by the long parliament, having lost his sight, hearing, and the use of his limbs.

Alderman Chambers, one of those that refused to pay tonnage and poundage, was prosecuted in the Star-chamber, for saying merchants were more screwed up and wronged in England than in Turkey, and fined 2,000*l.*

July. The marquis of Hamilton was sent with 6,000 men, to the assistance of Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden, against the emperor, in order to recover the Palatinate.

Nov. 27. Peace proclaimed with Spain.

In this year and the preceding were two emigrations to New England; the first was unfortunate, the winter having proved fatal to above 100 of the colonists. The transatlantic settlements preceding the civil war, are calculated to have drained England of 500,000*l.*

1631. April 25. Mervin lord Audley, earl of Castlehaven, convicted of sodomy, and of assisting in a rape on his own lady, for which he was beheaded on Tower-hill,

May 14, and two of his servants hanged at Tyburn, July 6.

One hundred thousand pounds was collected this year, by Laud bishop of London, towards the repairing and adorning the cathedral of St. Paul.

Sir Robert Cotton, the great antiquary, and founder of the Cotton library, died.

Sir Giles Arlington, sentenced by the high commission court to pay 12,000*l.* for marrying his niece, and to give 20,000*l.* security not to cohabit, or be in private with her.

Nov. 28. A court of chivalry erected for a trial by combat, between lord Rea and David Ramsey; but the king revoked his commission, and nothing came of it.

Three doctors in divinity of the university of Oxford were expelled for preaching against Arminianism, and others were turned out of their offices.

1632. *Easter Term.* An information was brought against the city of London, for a riot in June 1628, wherein Dr. John Lamb, a reputed creature of the duke of Buckingham, was killed, and none of the offenders taken; the city confessing the offence, was fined 1,500 marks.

Part of London bridge burnt down.

Nov. 6. Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden, killed at the battle of Lutzen.

Counsellor Sherfield prosecuted for breaking a church window in Salisbury, on which the history of the creation was painted, out of his zeal against popery, for which he was fined 500*l.* by the Star-chamber.

Monopolies were granted to raise money. The king incorporated the soap-boilers, by which he gained 10,000*l.*; he also incorporated the starch-makers; and a contract was made between the master of this company and the king, for them to pay into the exchequer the first year 1,500*l.*, the second, 2,500*l.*, and then 3,500*l.* yearly.

A proclamation issued, commanding all lords and gentlemen to reside upon their estates.

1633. *June 18.* The king crowned at Holyrood house, by Dr. Spotswood, archbishop of St. Andrew's.

20. The Scotch parliament met, and were dissolved the 28th of June, with some disgust; and afterwards the lord Balmerino, and some other members, were prosecuted for treason. They granted the largest subsidy that had ever been given to any king of Scotland, which was thirty shillings on every pound worth of land for six years; and also the sixteenth penny of all annual rents or interest of money for six years. The king passed two acts in the Scottish parliament; the one an act concerning the king's prerogative, and the habit of the clergy; the other ratified and

improved all the statutes which had been made concerning the liberties and franchises of the church, and of the religion at present professed in the kingdom. These acts produced great discontent in the nation.

July 1. The king left Edinburgh, crossed the border on the 16th, and arrived at Greenwich on the 20th.

Aug. 19. Laud, on the death of Abbot, is translated to the see of Canterbury.

Oct. 18. The declaration for allowing wakes and other lawful sports and recreations, after divine service on Sundays, revived, and ordered to be read in churches.

1634. *Feb 2.* Mr. Prynne prosecuted in the Star-chamber, for publishing his book called "*Historiomasix*," being an attack on the administration for countenancing plays, masquerades, &c. Prynne was fined 5,000*l.*, expelled the university of Oxford and Lincoln's-inn, disabled to profess the law, to stand twice in the pillory, lose his ears, and remain a prisoner for life. To congratulate the king on the birth of prince James, and shew their detestation of Prynne's book, the four inns of court presented their majesties with a masque at Whitehall.

Mr. Selden maintained the sovereignty of the crown of England in the British seas, against Grotius.

A Dutchman who had erected a wind-sawmill on the Thames, opposite Durham yard, was compelled to discontinue it on the pretext that it deprived the labouring poor of employment.

1634. Their majesties made a progress this year through the north of England, and were splendidly entertained by the earl of Newcastle and the northern nobility.

Aug. 9. Noy, attorney-general, died, and the first writ of ship-money drawn by him was issued the next day.

Sept. 3. Lord chief justice Coke died.

Archbishop Laud endeavoured to reduce the church to a universal conformity, but met with great opposition. He imposed upon the Walloon and French churches a liturgy which they did not approve; 140 of these families went into Holland, and were received kindly, and exempted from excise and paying house-rent for seven years; they taught the Dutch the woollen manufacture.

Order established in Ireland by the lord deputy Wentworth, and a canon was passed in the convocation there, for an agreement between the churches of England and Ireland, in the profession of the same christian faith, by receiving the book of articles agreed in the English convocation, held at London, in the year 1562.

1635. Old Parr was presented to the king, being 152 years of age, and in per-

feet health; he died at London the 15th of November. He was born in the reign of king Edward IV, and had lived in the reigns of eight kings and queens of England.

1635. *May*. A great fleet was fitted out under the command of the earl of Lindsey, consisting of forty sail of ships, and another of twenty sail, under the command of the earl of Essex, to maintain the dominion of the narrow seas. The writs for ship-money were enlarged, and extended to the inland as well as the maritime counties and towns, which met with great opposition, and created general disgust, though the whole sum levied by these writs amounted only to 236,000*l*.

An office was erected for licensing the king's subjects to travel, on payment of a small sum to the crown.

Nov. 1. Penalties levied on those who drew heavy carriages, to the destruction of the highways.

A proclamation to restrain the great resort of the nobility and gentry to the city of London, which was said to impoverish the country, and increase the infections in the city. An information was exhibited in the Star-chamber against seven lords, sixty baronets and knights, and against above one hundred gentlemen, for non-observance of the proclamation.

An order against the increase of hackney coaches.

1636. *Mar*. 6. Dr. Juxon, bishop of London, made lord-treasurer, which gave offence to the puritans and lay-nobility. No churchman had enjoyed this post since Henry VII's time; in less than nine years he lodged 900,000*l*. in the exchequer.

26. Selden's book, asserting the sovereignty of the seas, and showing the custom of levying ship-money by former kings, without assent of parliament, ordered to be kept, one copy in the council chest, another in the exchequer, and a third in the court of admiralty.

The plague raged in London, which occasioned the adjournment of part of Trinity term by proclamation.

The king raised 30,000*l*. by commission, to enquire concerning depopulations and conversions of arable lands to pasture, since the 10th year of Elizabeth. Another mode of raising money was by resuming the ancient forestal rights of the crown, which it was alleged had been invaded since the time of the Norman princes. Lord Salisbury was fined 20,000*l*., earl of Westmoreland 19,000*l*., sir C. Hatton 12,000*l*., with many others, for encroachments on the royal forests.

Mr. Chambers, citizen of London, and others, disputing the legality of ship-money, the opinions of the twelve judges

was demanded by the king, who unanimously gave their opinions under their hands, that the levying it was lawful. Mr. Hampden, a gentleman of Buckinghamshire, with an estate of 600*l*. a year, was assessed for ship-money, which he refused to pay as illegally imposed.

The archbishop of Canterbury claimed a right of visiting the two universities, *jure metropolitico*, which, being disputed by the universities, was confirmed to him by the determination of the king, July 21.

Aug. 29. The archbishop, as chancellor of Oxford, invited the king and queen, the elector palatine, his brother prince Rupert, &c., to an academical entertainment, which they accepted.

Dec. 20. A declaration issued at Edinburgh, for the observance of a liturgy in Scotland.

1637. *April* 30. A proclamation issued to restrain the puritans, who refused to submit to the discipline of the church, from emigrating to New England, and other parts of America: and an order of council was published, prohibiting all non-conformist ministers from emigrating without license from the bishops of London and Canterbury.

June 14. Burton a clergyman, Bastwick a physician, and Prynne, still a prisoner in the Tower, were convicted in the Star-chamber of seditious libels, and sentenced to be pilloried, and lose their ears; to be fined 5000*l*. each, and to be imprisoned for life.

John Lilburne, a bookseller, was convicted in the Star-chamber of publishing seditious libels, fined 5000*l*. and sentenced to be pilloried, and whipped from the Fleet prison to Westminster-hall. He was imprisoned for three years, and afterwards became an officer of note in the civil war; but opposing Cromwell he was thrown into prison.

July 23. The book of common prayer, composed for the church of Scotland, being appointed to be read by the dean of Edinburgh, in his surplice, at St. Giles's, he was interrupted, and had a stool thrown at his head: it was with some difficulty that the magistrates of Edinburgh dispersed the mob; after which the service was read through, in that and the rest of the churches in Edinburgh; but the bishop of Edinburgh was in danger of being murdered in his return to his house.

1638. *Feb*. 19. An insurrection in Edinburgh by the presbyterians. The Scots threw off their allegiance, and entered into a covenant or association against the government, which they compelled all people to subscribe. Archbishop Spottiswood and several other Scotch bishops fled into England. They formed themselves into four

tables (as they termed it) to manage their affairs, which was done at their devotions, and caused an oath to be administered to all those who signed the covenant.

April. The case of ship-money between the king and Mr. Hampden, was argued before the judges in the exchequer chamber; Mr. Hampden was cast. He was adjudged to pay twenty shillings, being the sum he was charged with, towards fitting out a fleet for the guard of the seas.

May 20. The marquis of Hamilton was sent to Scotland to appease the tumults there, under the title of high commissioner. The Scots said that they would sooner renounce their baptism than their covenant.

Nov. 29. The general assembly rejecting the king's authority in church matters were dissolved by the marquis: they continued to sit however, declaring, they would not desert the work of the Lord. They set up one Mitchelson, a female, who affirmed that God spake through her; that it was revealed unto her by God, that the covenant was appointed by heaven.

1639. *Feb. 20.* The Scots resolve on war, and raise an army under Leslie, whom they sent for from Germany. They made themselves masters of Edinburgh, and seized the regalia, and the king's magazines, telling the people they were to expect popery and prelacy, if they did not now acquit themselves like men; and they addressed themselves to the French king as their sovereign, desiring his protection.

Mar. 27. The king marched toward Berwick with an army.

May 1. The marquis of Hamilton entered the Frith of Edinburgh with twenty men-of-war, and land forces, but gave no assistance to the king.

29. The king reviewed the army, amounting to 19,614 men, besides 5000 on board the fleet, his own guards, and the garrisons of Berwick and Carlisle.

June 17. A pacification with the Scots concluded at Dunse, whereby it was agreed that all matters ecclesiastical should be determined by a general assembly, and civil affairs by the parliament; and that a general act of oblivion should be passed.

Aug. 6. The general assembly met, and the earl of Traquair, being high commissioner, gave the royal assent to and confirmed all the acts of the late assembly at Glasgow.

31. The parliament of Scotland met, and having excluded the bishops, confirmed the acts of the general assembly. Communications were opened with the leading puritans in England, and deputies sent to the king to justify their proceedings.

Sept. 7. The Dutch fell upon the Spanish fleet in the Downs, and destroyed great part of it.

Dec. 5. The king, by the advice of Wentworth and of Laud, resolved to call a parliament.

1640. *Feb. 24.* Bagshaw, reader of the Middle Temple, endeavoured to show, 1. That it may be a good act of parliament that was made without bishops; 2. That benefited clerks were incapable of temporal jurisdiction. For which assertions he was reprehended by the lord keeper and Laud; but became popular among the puritans.

Mar. 2. Wentworth, now earl of Strafford, and lord lieutenant of Ireland, returned thither to meet the parliament, who granted the king four entire subsidies.

April 13. English parliament met, when Strafford acquainted the house that the parliament of Ireland had granted the king four subsidies for the maintaining 10,000 foot, and 1500 horse, which was urged as a good precedent for the parliament of England. Having chosen Mr. sergeant Glanville speaker, the commons fell upon their grievances, ship-money, monopolies, the star-chamber, high commission, breach of their privileges, innovations in religion, and would not meddle with Scotch affairs.

May 4. Charles sent a message by sir Henry Vane, demanding a supply of six subsidies; but sir Henry by mistake, or designedly, demanded twelve subsidies, which threw the house into a flame; then he went to the king, and assured him that no money would be granted him against the Scots; which the king giving credit to, abruptly dissolved the parliament on the 5th. Several members of the house of commons were committed to the Fleet, and lord Brook's papers were seized, he being supposed to hold correspondence with the Scots.

9. A paper was posted up at the Old Exchange, inciting the London apprentices to rise and demolish the archbishop's palace at Lambeth, which they attempted the 11th following; but the archbishop being prepared, they were obliged to retire, and one of them was taken, condemned, and executed as a traitor, his quarters being set on London bridge.

16. Contrary to ancient custom, the convocation continued to sit after the dissolution of parliament, and granted the king six subsidies, payable in six years, amounting to 20,000*l.* a subsidy.

The king raised an army of 20,000 men against the Scots, towards the maintaining of which, the nobility and gentry advanced him 300,000*l.* but the city of London refused him the loan of 200,000*l.* Charles borrowed 40,000*l.* of the merchants concerned in the mint, upon credit of the customs. The city having settled a colony at Londonderry by the king's patent for certain lands, a charge was laid against

the mayor and sheriffs, and they were cited before the Star-chamber, to answer to their usurping more lands than the king had granted them; they were condemned to forfeit their rights, and highly fined, upon payment of which their patent was restored.

Aug. 20. The king set out from London with prince Charles towards York, where the general rendezvous of his army was appointed. The Scotch crossed the border, levying contributions in Northumberland and the bishopric of Durham amounting to 850*l.* a day.

Sept. 24. A great council of peers meet in the deanery of York. Petitions were presented to Charles from the gentry of Yorkshire, and many of the nobility, to assemble parliament.

29. Eight earls, and as many barons, were appointed to treat with the Scotch commissioners at Ripon, the Scots refusing to come to York.

Oct. 26. A cessation of arms. The Scots remain in that part of England they were possessed of; and the treaty was to be adjourned to London.

Nov. 3. The famous Long Parliament met this day; they chose William Lenthall, a practising barrister, for their speaker. The chief leaders of the popular party were—Pym, Hampden, Denzil Holles, Nathaniel Fiennes, St. John, and the younger Vane.

11. Mr. Pym carried up to the lords a general impeachment of high treason against the earl of Strafford, who was committed to the custody of the black-rod.

12. The commons, in concurrence with the lords, moved the king for a fast, which was held. Dr. Burgess and Stephen Marshal preached before the house of commons, and preached and prayed seven hours betwixt them.

21. Mr. James, a papist, stabbed Mr. Haywood, a justice of the peace, in Westminster Hall, who had been active in prosecuting popish recusants. The justice escaped with his life, but this served to increase the fears of popery.

28. Prynne, Bastwick, and Burton liberated from prison. They entered London in triumph, wearing ivy and rosemary in their hats.

Dec. 7. The commons voted that the levying ship-money, and the opinions of the judges upon it, were illegal.

11. Alderman Pennington, attended by great numbers of citizens, preferred a petition to the commons, subscribed by 15,000 persons, for extirpating episcopacy.

15. The commons resolved, that the clergy had no power to make canons to bind either clergy or laity; that the canons made by the late convocation were against

the laws of the land, and tended to sedition: They condemned the subsidies granted by the convocation as illegal, and framed a bill for fining all that sat in that convocation.

Dec. 18. Archbishop Laud impeached by Denzil Holles of high treason, in the name of the commons, and committed to the custody of the black-rod.

22. The judges were threatened and obliged to put in bail. These were sir John Bramstone, chief justice of the King's Bench; sir Humphrey Davenport, chief baron; and justice Crawley, as also justice Berkley, Finch, the lord-keeper, to avoid impeachment, fled to Holland.

1641. *Feb. 3.* The commons voted 300,000*l.* for the Scots.

14. Sir Robert Berkley, one of the judges of the King's Bench, impeached by the commons of high treason, for his opinion in the case of ship-money; and the black-rod took him off the bench in Westminster Hall, to the great dismay of his colleagues and the bar.

16. A bill for triennial parliaments passed, and another for granting four subsidies for the subsistence of the king's army in the north, but so contrived, that the king had not the disposal of the money.

An act to abolish the Star-chamber.

The lords cancelled the judgment in Hampden's case, and caused the rolls in the Star-chamber to be annulled, wherein the extrajudicial opinions of the judges were entered.

Mar. 10. The commons voted, that no bishop should have a vote in parliament, or bear any authority in temporal matters; and that no clergyman should be in the commission of peace.

22. Lord Strafford's trial began in Westminster-hall, the earl of Arundel being lord high-steward on the occasion.

April 21. A bill of attainder against the earl of Strafford passed the commons, with the majority of 204 against 59, and was carried up to the lords. What was principally insisted on by the commons was, that he had an intention to alter the constitution from a limited to an absolute monarchy, which was, they suggested, high-treason against the kingdom, if not against the king.

May 1. The king told both houses, he could not in conscience condemn the earl of Strafford of high-treason; and suggested that misdemeanor should be substituted.

3. An armed mob, led by Burgess, a puritan doctor of divinity, came down to Westminster, crying out, "Justice! Justice!" against the earl of Strafford.

A protestation made by the lords and commons, in the nature of an association, for the preservation of their rights and privi-

leges, little inferior to the Scotch covenant, and propagated over the whole kingdom.

May 8. The lords passed the bill of attainder against Strafford, who had defended himself with great judgment and eloquence upon his trial.

10. Charles, after having, in a private letter to Strafford, assured him, on "the word of a king," that he should not suffer in life, honour, or fortune, signed by commission the bill of attainder. Another bill, still more important, was signed the same day, to the effect that parliament should not be dissolved without consent of both houses.

12. The earl of Strafford, then in his forty-ninth year, beheaded on Tower Hill: 100,000 persons were present at the execution, and the event was celebrated by bonfires at night. The earl had offered Balfour, lieutenant of the Tower, 22,000*l.*, the marriage of Balfour's son to his daughter, and the king's warrant of indemnity, for his escape.

Aug. 4. An order of the commons for removing scandalous pictures, crosses, and figures within churches and without: whereupon the crosses in Cheapside, Charing Cross, and at several other places, were taken down.

Sept. 3. Parliament adjourned; meanwhile a committee was appointed from both houses to take care of urgent and weighty affairs of state.

20. Parliament met, and demanded a guard from the earl of Essex, which was ordered to secure them from insult.

23. The Irish rebellion and massacre. They were headed by O'Neil; and the number of protestant victims has been variously stated from 10,000 to 200,000 (Cont. Mac. Hist., v. 279). The origin of this terrible slaughter has been ascribed to the king or the intrigues of the Scots.

Nov. 22. The commons debate on a remonstrance to be presented to Charles. In those days the house met at eight in the morning, and the debate was protracted to eleven at night, when it was carried by a majority of eleven.

25. Charles returned from Scotland, and was splendidly treated by the city of London.

26. The mob were so troublesome to the king at Whitehall, that he removed to Hampton Court; but the city inviting him back, he returned to Whitehall.

Dec. 28. Daring tumults of the London apprentices at Whitehall and Westminster. The name of "roundheads" first introduced by captain Hyde drawing his sword amidst the mob at Westminster, and saying he would crop the ears of those roundheaded dogs that bawled against the bishops. The apprentices wore their hair cut round

and short. The commons caused arms to be brought into the house for their security. The gentlemen of the inns of court offered to guard the king.

30. Twelve bishops committed to custody for declaring that all legislative acts, in their absence from the lords, were invalid.

1642. Jan. 3. The king, while in Scotland, having discovered more fully the correspondence between the Scots and some members of parliament, ordered lord Kimbolton to be apprehended, together with Pym, Hampden, Holles, sir Arthur Hasle- rig, and Stroud, and their trunks and papers to be sealed up; whereupon the commons resolved, "That whoever should attempt to seize any of their members, or their papers, the members should stand upon their defence."

4. Charles repairs to the house with an armed band of 500 followers, to seize the five members. Not observing them in their places, he remarked that the birds had flown, and ordered the speaker to inform him where they were. Lenthall replied, he had only eyes to see and tongue to speak as directed by the house. Charles then left, amidst the cry of "Privilege! Privilege!"

5. The king went to the common-council of London, and demanded the five members out of the city, when one Henry Walker, an ironmonger, threw into the king's coach a paper wherein was written "*To your tents, O Israel!*"

Lunsford and forty other officers, passing through Westminster Hall, met the citizens, drew their swords, and wounded several.

Amidst these turmoils the king's daughter was married to the young prince of Orange at Whitehall.

10, 11. The sheriffs of London and the train-bands, with an armed multitude, carried the obnoxious members in triumph to their seats at Westminster. 2000 seamen and watermen, with above 100 armed vessels, field-pieces and colours, as prepared for an engagement, advanced at the same time up the Thames from London-bridge to Westminster. Hampden, on landing from his barge, was received by 4000 mounted gentlemen and yeomen of Buckinghamshire, who, by petition to parliament, demanded justice to his character.

12. The king left London for Hampton Court on the 10th, and on this day removed to Windsor, from whence he sent two several messages to the commons, offering to waive all prosecutions against lord Kimbolton and the five members, and to pass an act of general pardon; but these offers were not accepted by the commons. Charles did not again visit London but as a captive.

The commons ordered two companies of the train-bands to attend the house daily, under the command of major-general Skippon.

Lords Essex and Holland were commanded by the king to attend him at court, but the house of peers forbade their going.

Feb. 2. Both houses petitioned the king to deliver up the Tower, with all the forts and militia of England, into their hands. They order the governor of Portsmouth to receive no forces by the king's authority, but by both houses of parliament. They also sent sir John Hotham to secure Hull. They set a guard about the Tower, and ordered that no ammunition should be sent out.

14. The king was prevailed with, by the queen, to pass the bill, by commission, for depriving the bishops of their votes in parliament, and incapacitating both them and the rest of the clergy to exercise any temporal jurisdiction; and the bill for the pressing of soldiers.

16. The king went with the queen and princess of Orange to Dover.

26. The king returned to Greenwich, and sent for the prince of Wales and the duke of York to come to him, which the commons endeavoured to prevent.

28. The king sent the house his reasons for refusing the militia bill. The commons declare his advisers public enemies, and pass a vote of approval on the counties which had put themselves in a posture of defence.

Mar. 2. The two houses resolve to embody the militia without the royal assent, and order the admiral (the earl of Northumberland) to equip the navy for their service.

9. The king having set out for the north, a committee of both houses followed him, with another positive declaration, to Newmarket, wherein they said, that upon the strictest examination of their actions, they found none that could give his majesty any just apprehension, or occasion his removal from Whitehall, whither, they desired, he would return with the prince. The king refused.

19. Charles arrived at York, and issued a proclamation for the payment of tonnage and poundage, though the act had expired.

From the time the king had left London there had been a constant interchange of state papers between him and parliament. The secret movements of both were betrayed. Lord Falkland and sir John Colepepper, who held official situations, gave Charles every information in their power, and Hyde (Clarendon), while he cautiously disguised his loyalty from his

colleagues of the popular party, repaired to the king in the night, and acquainted him with what had passed in the commons, supplying him with answers to the messages and declarations of his opponents before they had been regularly submitted for the sanction of the house. While at York, Hyde transmitted his papers to the king by gentlemen, who offered their services, and who sometimes performed the journey to, and brought back the answer in, the short space of thirty-four hours. The king copied all Hyde's papers, and burnt the originals. On the other hand the patriots had their spies or associates in the court and in the council, and even the closet of the king. His most secret designs (as the surprisal of Hull, &c.) were immediately known and prevented.—*Ling. Hist.* x. 168.

April 23. The king went to Hull with an intention to secure the magazines and surprise the town, but was denied admittance by sir John Hotham, who held it for the parliament, whereupon the king declared Hotham a traitor. The parliament voted that sir John Hotham had only acted in obedience to their commands, and that the declaring one of their members a traitor, was a high breach of privilege.

May 5. The commons published a declaration for putting in execution their ordinance for raising the militia. The king, on the contrary, commanded his subjects not to obey the ordinance; and the commons published a declaration, forbidding all persons to obey the king's proclamation, as being contrary to the laws.

10. Parliament mustered the city militia, consisting of 12,000 men, in Finsbury-fields, who were commanded by Skippon, and such other officers as the houses could confide in. They sent to the several counties to muster the militia, pursuant to their ordinance.

12. Charles summoned the gentry of York, and raised a guard for the defence of his person, which consisted of a troop of horse, commanded by the prince of Wales, and one regiment of the trained-bands. He would have moved the courts of justice to York, which the parliament having notice of, hindered.

17. He ordered general Skippon to attend him at York; the parliament gave him orders to the contrary, which he obeyed. Parliament ordered the sheriffs within 150 miles of York to stop all arms going to that city.

19. Parliament published a manifesto, setting forth the reasons of their conduct.

20. The earl of Bristol, by a speech in the house of peers, made his last effort to procure an accommodation between the

king and parliament, but without effect. The parliament voted that whoever should serve or assist his majesty in raising forces, were traitors; and had the courage to send their serjeant to York, to apprehend some gentlemen that attended the king there, as delinquents.

22. Lord-keeper Littleton, under the persuasion of Hyde, surrendered to the king the great seal. Parliament ordered a new great seal to be made, and intrusted it to commissioners of their own.

23. Parliament petition the king to disband his forces of horse and foot, raised under colour of a guard to his person, to which he returned a very sharp answer.

26. The commons published a remonstrance, declaring the sovereign legislative power was lodged in both houses, and that the king had not so much as a negative voice.

June 2. Parliament sent nineteen propositions to the king to be accepted, towards the establishment of a peace and strict union, to which the king made an exceeding long answer.

The ship *Providence* arrived on the coast of Yorkshire, being sent by the queen with arms and ammunition for Charles. The queen, in order to furnish these arms, had sold part of the crown jewels; whereupon the parliament published an order, declaring those concerned therein were enemies to the state.

10. Parliament took up money upon loans: the people freely subscribed, and brought in their plate.

13. An engagement was entered into at York, by forty-six lords and great officers of state, not to submit to the orders of the two houses, but to defend the king. Hyde, Falkland, Colepepper, and others of the moderate party, had proceeded to York.

The king issues commissions of array, and made the earl of Lindsay general.

14. He sent a letter to the lord-mayor of London, to publish his order, forbidding the citizens to lend money.

July 12. Parliament vote that an army of 16,000 men should be raised for the safety of the king's person, and defence of both houses of parliament. They constituted the earl of Essex their general, and the earl of Bedford general of the horse. The pay of the soldiers was *8d.* a day for the infantry; *2s. 6d.* cavalry: namely, *16d.* for the keep of a horse, the rest for the man. Essex received *10l.*, Bedford, *6l.* per day. In almost every township were persons raising men at the same time for the king and parliament. In the south, the latter prevailed. Encounters between the parties were frequent, and some blood spilt.

15. The king marched to Beverley,

with a design to surprise Hull, but was disappointed.

Aug. 3. The Scots propose an union of the churches of England and Scotland.

5. Goring, governor of Portsmouth, declared for the king. He was blocked up by the militia by land, and the earl of Warwick by sea. He surrendered, with liberty to retire to Holland, and his officers to repair to the king.

15. Hampden drew out the militia of the county of Bucks against the king.

20. The city of Coventry shut their gates against Charles.

21. Dover castle surprized for the parliament.

22. The king set up the royal standard at Nottingham. Upon it was inscribed, "*Give to Cæsar his due.*" It was carried by a guard of 600 men, from the castle into a large field; the king followed, with a retinue of 2000 men, and the herald-at-arms read the proclamation, equivalent to a declaration of war. Three-fourths of the nobility and gentry of the kingdom supported Charles; the yeomanry of the country, and the merchants and tradespeople of the towns, sided with the parliament.

25. Charles took Lincoln, and furnished his troops with the arms of the trainbands.

Sept. 9. The earl of Essex, general for the parliament, marched out of London, to the general rendezvous at Northampton, where were assembled 15,000 men.

13. The king marched from Nottingham to Derby, and so to Shrewsbury, where he set up a mint. His army consisted of 10,000 men and 4000 horse.

The parliament sent Walter Strickland to the states of Holland, to complain of the supplies that were sent to the king. Holland and Zealand promised to stand neuter. By the prince of Orange's credit, they had sent the king arms for 6000 men.

23. Prince Rupert defeated a detachment of the parliament's forces at Powick-bridge, near Worcester.

The two universities made the king a present of their plate; but the Cambridge plate was intercepted by Cromwell, for the parliament.

27. Charles ordered the papists to provide arms for themselves, servants, and tenants.

Oct. 12. He marched from Shrewsbury to Bridgenorth, and so to Birmingham. Upon his march towards London, the city was alarmed, and fortified the avenues to the town.

23. Being Sunday, about two in the afternoon, began the battle of Edge-hill, near Keynton, in Warwickshire, where the king's horse beat his opponent's out of the

field; but pursuing them too far from the field of battle, left the king's infantry exposed to the enemy's foot, who were more numerous; however, they maintained their ground till night parted them, when both armies drew off; and the next day both claimed the victory, and gave thanks for it, but neither of them thought fit to renew the fight. On the king's side were killed the earl of Lindsay the general, lord Aubigny, and sir Edmund Verney, the standard-bearer. On the other side were killed lord St. John and colonel Charles Essex. The number of inferior officers and soldiers killed amounted to 1500 or 2000 men on both sides. The royal standard was taken, but afterwards rescued by a stratagem of captain Smith, who was knighted for it, and made standard-bearer.

Oct. 27. The king took Banbury and Broughton-house, and sent a proclamation to London, offering pardon to his enemies.

Nov. 7. Parliament resolved to demand the aid of the Scots. They receive their general with great honour at Westminster, and presented him with a gratuity of 5000*l.*

15. Prince Rupert, by a sudden irruption, surprises the parliamentarians at Brentford, but is compelled to retire. The city trained-bands marched to Turnham-green, to reinforce the earl of Essex. The army then consisted of 24,000 men, completely armed and supplied with all necessaries, and much superior to the king's. After his army had stood in array several hours, facing them, Charles retired to Reading, and the parliament general did not attempt to interrupt his march.

16. The king advanced towards London, whereupon the parliament ordered the earl of Essex to march towards the city, for their protection, and invited the Scots into England again.

Charles caused some prisoners to be condemned at Oxford, but the parliament threatened retaliation, which saved them.

Dec. 1. The king took up his winter quarters at Oxford, and the earl of Essex at Windsor.

4. Cardinal Richelieu died.

8. The king allowed free commerce between his quarters and London for all goods.

1643. *Jan. 16.* Parliament forbid free commerce, and ordered no waggon or carriage to go to Oxford without a license.

17. The king ordered the sheriffs of London to arrest and commit the lord-mayor to custody, and other aldermen, the lord-mayor not being duly elected. The parliament contradicted this order.

Feb. 1. Parliament drew up fourteen propositions towards the settling of a peace.

2. Prince Rupert took Cirencester by

storm, and made Carr, the Scotch governor, and 1200 of his garrison, prisoners; above 200 were slain.

22. The queen landed at Burlington-bay in Yorkshire, and brought with her money, arms, and ammunition, for the king's forces, which were conveyed by the marquis of Montrose. The States, in order to keep fair with the parliament, stopt one of the queen's ships with arms and ammunition.

Mar. 2. Lord Brook killed in an attack on the cathedral of Litchfield.

4. Commissioners from parliament entered into a treaty of peace with the king at Oxford, which broke off the 15th of April following, without effecting anything.

7. Charles gained two citizens of Bristol in his favour, to endeavour to raise forces, and deliver up the city, but the plot being discovered, the conspirators, Robert Yeoman and one Bouchier, were imprisoned, condemned to die, and executed. The king threatened to revenge himself upon his prisoners, but was awed by an answer of the same import from the governor.

19. The royalists defeated a detachment of the parliament's army at Hopton-heath, near Stafford; but the earl of Northampton, who commanded the king's troops, was killed in the action.

Malmesbury surrendered to the parliament.

23. Colonel Cavendish took Grantham for the king.

Lord Herbert having raised 2000 men for the king in Wales, and invested Gloucester, his troops were surprised by sir William Waller, lord Herbert himself being then at Oxford: 500 of his men were killed, and 1000 taken prisoners; after which Waller took Chepstow and Monmouth.

The houses pass an ordinance for a weekly assessment, or tax, throughout the kingdom, amounting to 34,808*l.* per week, for the maintaining their troops.

26. Scarborough castle surrendered to the king by sir Hugh Cholmondley, who deserted the parliament.

29. Ferdinando lord Fairfax, the father of the famous general, defeated at Bramham-moor, by the earl of Newcastle.

April. The king detached prince Rupert to establish a communication between York and Oxford; the prince took Birmingham in the way, and made the inhabitants pay a large fine for assisting the garrison.

7. New propositions were made to the king; and in one conference, which lasted till midnight, he declared himself fully satisfied, and promised his answer in writing the next morning; but upon his retiring, was persuaded by some lords to act

entirely contrary to his will, which put an end to so favourable a view of peace.

11. Colonel Cavendish defeated young Hotham at Ancaster.

26. Reading surrendered to the earl of Essex, after a siege of ten days; the garrison consisted of 4000 men, and were permitted to march out with their arms, but all deserters were given up. Colonel Fielding, deputy-governor, who hung out a flag of truce, was condemned to lose his head, but afterwards pardoned by the king.

May 5. Parliament ordered the Book of Sports to be burnt by the common hangman.

16. Sir Ralph Hopton defeated the forces under the command of the earl of Stamford, at Stratton in Cornwall, and took major-general Chudleigh, and 1700 of the enemy prisoners, for which service sir Ralph was created baron Hopton of Stratton. Chudleigh, and his father, sir George Chudleigh, entered into the king's service.

21. Parliamentarians defeated a detachment of the king's forces at Wakefield, consisting of 3000; general Goring, the commander, and 1500 men, were made prisoners.

23. Pym, from the commons, impeached the queen of high treason, for assisting the king with arms and ammunition.

Col. Hurry deserted the parliament army, and informed prince Rupert of the disposition thereof.

31. The plot of Edmund Waller (the poet), Tomkins, and Chaloner, to betray the city of London, and the leaders of the popular party, to the king, detected.

June 5. Taunton and Bridgewater surrendered to the parliament.

10. The king consented to a convention of estates in Scotland under certain limitations, which were rejected by the estates. At the convention, the duke of Hamilton and other of the king's friends voted it no convention, unless regulated by Charles. Hamilton and his brother were apprehended at Oxford; Lanerick escaped, but the duke was imprisoned at St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall.

12. An assembly of divines were constituted to settle religion according to the Scottish or Geneva plan.

15. It is resolved to take the covenant, that is, an engagement to maintain presbyterianism, in Scotland, and introduce similar church government into England. 228 members of the commons, and from 20 to 30 peers forming the upper house, took the oath. It was taken by the city of London, and imposed on all civil and military officers. 1600, or about one-fifth of the whole number of beneficed clergy, lost their benefices for refusing the covenant.

16. Prince Rupert surprises Wycomb

in the rear of Essex's army in the night, and destroys two regiments in that town.

18. Being hotly followed in his retreat to Oxford, he turned upon his pursuers at Chalgrove, and repulsed them. In this action the celebrated patriot John Hampden received the wound of which he died within six days. He was one of the 'root and branch' party in the commons, and among the most distinguished for courage, capacity, and integrity. The royalist historian (Clarendon) says of him, that he had 'a head to contrive, a tongue to persuade, and a hand to execute anything.' Hampden was in his forty-ninth year; in the dawn of his public life and character.

29. The earl of Newcastle defeated lord Fairfax's forces at Atherton-Moor, in Yorkshire. Fairfax threw himself into Hull.

July 1. The assembly of divines met in the Jerusalem chamber, consisting of 118 preachers, besides 26 laymen, and had four shillings a day each allowed them for their service.

The queen marched with a strong detachment from York towards Oxford, and took Burton-upon-Trent by storm.

5. Mr. Tomkins and Mr. Chaloner executed for Waller's plot. Mr. Waller was condemned to the same fate, but escaped, after a very moving address to the commons, and the exertion, it has been alleged, of an influence still more potential, with a fine of 10,000*l.*, which he was well able to pay, having an estate of 4000*l.* a year.

The king's troops defeated sir William Waller at Lansdown, near Bath; sir Bevil Greenville was killed on the king's side.

9. The earl of Essex, despairing of the public cause, wrote a letter to the house of lords, representing the inefficient state of the army, and advising an accommodation with the king. A petition to the king was accordingly voted by the lords. The commons, after a vehement struggle, rejected it by a majority of 94 to 65 (Contin. Mac. Hist. v. 330). This result was chiefly brought about by the spirited conduct of the Londoners. Entrenchments were thrown up in a circuit of twelve miles round the metropolis, with incredible rapidity. People of the best quality of both sexes went out with drums beating and spades and mattocks, to assist the patriot work.

12. The earl of Newcastle took Bradford.

13. Lord Wilmot joined the royalists in the west, defeated sir William Waller again at Roundway Down, and sir William fled almost alone to Bristol. The same day the king met the queen at Edgehill, in her march from York, and the next day both

entered Oxford in a triumphant *mâinef*. The queen brought with her 2000 foot and 1000 horse, 100 waggons loaded with stores, six pieces of cannon and two mortars.

July 22. Prince Rupert and the marquis of Hertford invested Bristol, and storming the place, it surrendered on the 26th; the garrison, consisting of about 3000 men, was permitted to march out with their swords and baggage. Fiennes the governor was condemned by a court-martial, on the prosecution of Prynne and Walker, to lose his head for cowardice, but was pardoned by Essex.

30. Cromwell put supplies into Gainsborough, which place was soon after taken by the earl of Newcastle.

Aug. 1. Charles went from Oxford to Bristol, to compose some differences between Rupert and the marquis of Hertford.

25. The earls of Bedford, Holland, and Clare, with the lords Conway and Lovelace, leave the parliament, and go over to the king at Oxford, and the earl of Northumberland retired to his seat at Petworth. These lords being slighted, returned soon after into the parliament's quarters.

Sept. 5. The earl of Essex, after a resolute and skilful march in face of the enemy, raises the siege of Gloucester; it had been bravely defended for twenty-six days by colonel Massey.

8. Sir William Waller defeated by the king's forces at Roundway Down near Devizes, which occasioned a quarrel between Essex and him: Waller complained that Essex designed to sacrifice him, making no motion to support him; and the earl reproached sir William with want of conduct as well as courage.

12. The commons proceeded to judgment against Berkley, who had been imprisoned for his opinion in levying ship-money; half of his fine was abated, and upon paying 10,000*l.* he was set at liberty.

20. The king fell upon the earl of Essex's rear at Newbury, but was warmly received, and the earl continued his march to London. In this engagement were killed of the royalists, the earl of Sunderland, earl of Caernarvon, and the accomplished but wavering lord Falkland. After the battle the king retired to Oxford, and the earl to Windsor.

Oct. 12. The siege of Hull was raised by an obstinate sally from the town, which drove the besiegers from their trenches with the loss of their cannon.

17. The king, by proclamation, prohibited all commerce with London, and other quarters of the parliament's forces.

Nov. 11. The two houses having made a new great seal, declared that all letters, patents and grants, passed the great seal by the king after May 22, 1642, should be

void; and that henceforward their own great seal should alone be of authority; they commit the custody of it to the earls of Bolingbroke and Kent, and to St. John, Serjeant Wild, Brown, and Prideaux.

The parliament's forces seized the regalia and plate in Westminster abbey, and sold them; being desired to leave one single cup for the communion, they answered, a wooden dish would serve the turn.

27. Charles sending Daniel Kniveton, and Carpenter, to the judges at Westminster, for adjourning Michaelmas term to Oxford, the parliament condemned the messengers as spies, and executed Kniveton.

Dec. 8. John Pym, the great parliamentarian, dies; his energy, ability, and perseverance, gave a powerful impulse to the popular cause. Parliament voted money to pay his debts, and defrayed the expense of his interment in Westminster abbey.

1644. Jan. 15. Five Irish regiments overpowered at Nantwich by sir Thomas Fairfax; 1600 threw down their arms and joined the parliamentarians. Colonel Geo. Monk, afterwards so famous, was among the prisoners.

19. The Scots, consisting of 18,000 foot, 2000 horse, and above 500 dragoons, passed the Tweed at Berwick in behalf of the parliament.

22. Charles having summoned a royalist parliament, they met this day at Oxford to the number of 44 lords, and 118 commons; the session was opened with a speech from the king.

An ordinance passed at Westminster for the reform of Cambridge university; 10 heads of houses, and 65 fellows expelled; subsequently the number of expulsions amounted to 200.

Mar. 12. Archbishop Laud was brought to his trial at the bar of the lords at Westminster.

25. Prince Rupert relieved Latham house, held by the countess of Derby, who maintained the siege gallantly for eighteen weeks against 2000 men.

26. Parliament made an ordinance to enjoin every family to forbear one meal a week, and to contribute the value thereof to the commonwealth.

29. Sir William Waller defeated the king's forces, under the command of lord Hopton, at Cheryton Down, near Winchester, in which action were killed lord John Stuart, and Sir John Smith.

April 11. The two Fairfaxes fell upon colonel Bellasis, governor of York, at Selby, and took the colonel, with many of his officers, 1600 common soldiers, four pieces of cannon, 2000 stand of arms, and above 500 horses; for which the parliament at London proclaimed a thanksgiving.

16. The king dismissed the members of parliament from their attendance at Oxford, and prorogued them to October, but they never met again.

20. The Scotch army joined Fairfax, and laid siege to York, whither the earl of Newcastle had retreated.

Charles sent lord Hopton to the southward; he took Arundel castle, which sir William Waller retook, and broke up Hopton's quarters. The learned Mr. Chillingworth was taken, and died in a few days.

May 14. The king having demolished the fortifications at Reading, withdrew the garrison.

29. The earl of Essex and Waller advancing to Oxford, and the greatest part of the king's army being detached for the relief of York, under the command of prince Rupert, the king found himself under a necessity of retiring towards Worcester, to prevent his being besieged in Oxford.

June 6. The earl of Essex marched into the west, and detached sir William Waller to pursue the king.

16. The princess Henrietta, fourth and youngest daughter of Charles, born at Exeter.

The king's party caused fourteen clothiers to be hanged at Woodhouse in Wiltshire: one of these broke his halter, and desired that it might answer his punishment; or that he might be admitted to fight any two persons for life, but he was hanged up again.

July 2, 3. Prince Rupert raised the siege of York, but engaging the united forces of the English and Scotch, under the command of the earl of Manchester, Fairfax, and Lesley, at Marston-Moor, he was defeated, there being 10,000 of the royalists killed and made prisoners, and their artillery, arms, and ammunition taken by the parliament's forces. Both armies amounted to nearly the same number—25,000 men, of whom two-fifths were cavalry. The slain on the field numbered 4150. Cromwell's 'ironsides' did great execution. The marquis of Newcastle went abroad, with his two sons and others of his family; and prince Rupert, with his broken troops, marched towards Chester.

4. The king sent a message to both houses with offers of peace, but was not answered.

5. The parliament's army took York.

14. The queen embarked for France, at Falmouth, and, two days after, landed at Brest.

15. The king, with his army, marched to Bath, thence to Exeter.

Aug. 8. The number of Protestant men and women in Dublin found to be 5551;

of papists, 2608. This census could only include the adult population.

10. The earl of Calendar, with 10,000 of the Scots, invested Newcastle; the earl of Manchester took Sheffield castle; on the 12th he took colonel Fretchwell's house, and Bolsover castle; on the 14th, Wingfield house in Derbyshire, and on the 21st, Welbeck house in Nottinghamshire.

Sept. Essex having advanced incautiously into Cornwall, was pursued by the king; he returned to London by sea, leaving Skippon with the army to agree on terms of capitulation with the royalists.

30. Charles published a proclamation, setting forth his desire of peace; he resolved to march to London, his army then consisting of 10,000 horse and foot. When at Salisbury he altered his resolution.

Oct. 27. The king's forces under the earl of Northampton, not having joined Charles, the parliament's forces surrounded him in Newbury, but the royalists maintaining their ground till night, made their retreat to Wallingford, without being pursued; and eight days afterwards the king having joined prince Rupert, the earl of Northampton, and sir Marmaduke Langdale, marched back to Dennington castle near Newbury, and brought off the train of artillery he had left there.

An ordinance passed the parliament, that no quarter should be given to any Irish taken in arms against them.

Nov. 1. The king returned to Oxford, and having again relieved Basing house, the armies on both sides went into winter quarters.

16. The lords being of opinion, that archbishop Laud was not guilty of high treason, the commons ordered the archbishop to be brought before them; and, without hearing any evidence but what their council repeated, passed an ordinance to attain him of high-treason.

26. The new Directory established; and not only the common prayer, but the creed, Lord's prayer, and ten commandments voted useless. Presbyterians and independents were now the rival sects, the latter repudiating liturgies and all forms of church government. The weight of numbers and opulence were on the side of the presbyterians, but the independents were rapidly extending their influence, and ranked on their side some of the master spirits of the age, Cromwell, Selden, St. John, Whitelocke, Vane, and Milton the poet.

Dec. 9. Cromwell proposes in the commons the self-denying ordinance, that the members of both houses should be ineligible to all offices, civil and military, during the war. But as this measure was finally carried, it was not made prospective, so that

many officers were elected in 1645, and 1646.

Dec. 19. An ordinance for turning Christmas-day into a fast.

23. Sir Alexander Carew beheaded on Tower-hill, for endeavouring to deliver up Plymouth to the royalists.

25. L'Estrange, afterwards sir Roger, was condemned by the parliament to be hanged in Smithfield, for an attempt upon Lynn, but reprieved, and kept in Newgate several years.

31. Sir Thomas Fairfax was made the parliament's chief general, and Skippon second in command. Under them, by the 'new model,' the army was to consist of 1000 dragoons, 6600 cavalry in six, and 14,400 infantry in twelve, regiments.

1645. *Jan. 1.* Captain Hotham was beheaded on Tower-hill; and the next day his father, sir John Hotham, having been condemned by a court-martial, for corresponding with the earl of Newcastle, and other royalists.

4. The lords being threatened by the commons, passed the ordinance for attainting Laud of high treason.

10. The archbishop beheaded on Tower-hill, being the day the directory was to take place. Laud was in his seventy-second year, and had been in prison three years. He appears to have been a sincere but mistaken high-churchman, whose ill-timed zeal had wrought infinite mischief in the councils of the king. His prosecution had been confided to Prynne, a man he had cruelly injured.

30. A treaty of peace was begun at Uxbridge, between the king's commissioners on the one side, and commissioners from the two houses and the Scotch committee, on the other.

Feb. 24. The treaty at Uxbridge broken off.

Mar. 1. Sir Marmaduke Langdale defeats the forces under the command of lord Fairfax at Pontefract, and relieves the place.

April 24. Cromwell defeats a brigade of the king's horse at Islip bridge near Oxford: he took the queen's standard and 200 prisoners. He afterwards summoned Blechington house, which was garrisoned by the royalists, commanded by colonel Windebank, who surrendered it without making any defence; Charles caused the colonel to be tried by a court-martial at Oxford, and he was condemned and shot the 3rd of May.

May 31. The king took Leicester by storm, and marched to Dawny in Northamptonshire.

June 12. Charles, not aware of the proximity of the enemy, amuses himself with hunting.

June 14. Decisive battle of Naseby in Northamptonshire, where the king was defeated, lost all his foot and artillery, with his cabinet of papers, and retired to Lichfield, from thence to Ragland castle, the seat of the marquis of Worcester, who entertained Charles for three weeks, while he assembled his scattered troops. All the parliamentary generals distinguished themselves, but it was the victorious right wing under Cromwell that most contributed to the victory. Fairfax had his helmet struck off, and rode bare-headed; Ireton was run through with a pike, and Skippon was wounded early in the fight, but refused to quit the field. On the king's side were slain 6000 men, of whom 150 were officers. On the parliament's side there were above 1000 officers and men slain. The city of London entertained both houses at Grocers'-hall upon the news of the victory, and after dinner they sung the 46th psalm.

About this time were several great bodies of club-men in the west, that professed neutrality, and said they kept in a body to prevent being plundered by either side. Leaning more to the royalists than parliament, they were put down by the latter.

Aug. 10. Colonel Lilburne was committed to Newgate, for writing a seditious book, inquiring into the authority of the present powers.

29. Charles came to Oxford, having marched through the associated counties, and raised contributions, with such celerity, that none of the detachments that were sent after him by the parliament, could overtake him.

30. An order of the house for a fast for a blessing on Scotland, and Fairfax's army, and for a cessation of the plague in both kingdoms.

Sept. 1. Montrose having taken arms for the king, had great success in Scotland.

9. Bristol taken by storm by Fairfax and Cromwell, assisted by the club-men; and prince Rupert retiring into the castle, surrendered that also upon terms. The plague was in Bristol at the time. The king severely reprehended Rupert for his weak defence of Bristol, and ordered him beyond sea. The prince was arrogant and impetuous, and made war more like a cossack than a tactician. He was styled the 'prince robber,' and etching on wood as well as the word 'plunder,' have been ascribed to his inventive genius.

Nov. 5. The king, with great difficulty, gets into Oxford; soon after he sent several messages to parliament for peace, which were rejected.

Dec. 4. Latham house surrendered, after it had been two years defended by the heroic countess of Derby.

The civil war had greatly reduced the

number of the house of commons. As a dissolution would have been dangerous in the existing crisis, the speaker issued writs by which 235 new members were returned. The independent party was greatly strengthened by this accession.

1646, *Jan.* 18. Dartmouth was taken by storm.

Feb. 2. Belvoir castle and Westchester surrendered to the parliament.

16. Fairfax routs lord Hopton at Torrington, and follows him further west.

Mar. 14. Lord Hopton treated with parliament, disbanded his army, and went on board a ship to Scilly, to which island the prince of Wales had retired.

21. Lord Astley coming to join the king at Oxford, with 3000 men, was defeated at Stow on the Wold, which was the last body of troops that appeared in the field for Charles.

April 27. The Scots having, by Montrevil, the French agent, invited the king to come to their army, and assured him that he might remain there with all security, and that his conscience should not be forced, the king left Oxford in disguise, taking with him only Dr. Michael Hudson, and Mr. John Ashburnham, and came to the Scotch army on the 5th of May following.

June 20. Oxford surrendered upon terms dated at Water-Eaton; the number of the soldiers and scholars in pay, amounting to about 7000 men, were allowed to march out with marks of honour, and returned to their respective dwellings. Upon the surrender of Oxford, the great seal, and all the other seals of state, were sent to Westminster, where they were broken to pieces in the presence of the two houses. It was stipulated that the colleges in Oxford should not be demolished or defaced, or their revenues sequestered.

July 6. The house of commons voted the Scotch army no longer necessary.

Aug. 1. The king refused to comply with the propositions of the parliament for abolishing episcopacy, establishing presbytery, and giving up his friends to justice.

13. The Scots delivered in their accounts to the parliament. The arrears due they made amount to two millions; they had received 700,000*l.* on account.

19. Ragland castle in Montgomeryshire, surrendered to parliament by the old marquis of Worcester.

Sept. 14. Essex the late general of parliament dies; both houses attended the funeral, and defrayed the expenses out of the public purse.

18. Both houses voted that the king's person should be disposed of as the parliament should think fit, and a committee was appointed to confer with the Scotch commissioners upon that head.

Oct. 9. An ordinance published abolishing entirely the episcopal hierarchy. The city of London advanced the money for the payment of the Scotch army, and the bishops' lands were given as security.

Nov. 12. General Fairfax having reduced all the king's garrisons, returned to London in triumph.

Dec. 25. The king had a conference with Mr. Henderson, at Newcastle, concerning the divine origin of episcopacy. Both polemics evinced ability, but the disputation was terminated by the death of Henderson, who was one of the most celebrated of the Scottish preachers.

1647, *Jan.* 4. A committee of both houses was appointed to go down and receive the king from the Scots, with 900 horse.

30. The Scots, after receiving 200,000*l.*, paid them by parliament, delivered up Charles to the English commissioners.

Feb. 16. The king was brought to Holmby house in Northamptonshire, and neither his servants nor chaplains were permitted to attend him; whereupon he refused to let Mr. Marshall and Mr. Caryll, who were assigned by the presbyterians for his chaplains, so much as to say grace for him.

The presbyterians and the independents fell out. The independents were masters of the army, and the presbyterians were the most powerful in parliament.

April. Harlech surrenders to parliament; it was the last of the North Welsh castles that held out for Charles.

17. The commons voted the army to be disbanded, and to be allowed six weeks' pay when dismissed. The military were not to be so easily got rid of. The army mostly consisted of respectable yeomen and citizens who had taken arms in defence of public liberty, and were loath to leave the spoils of victory, they had bravely won, to be shared by ambitious lawyers and presbyterian divines. Fairfax, Cromwell, and Ireton sympathized with the discountenants of their fellow-soldiers, and a council of officers was appointed to watch over their interests. Subsequently another council of a more democratic character was formed, consisting of privates and subaltern officers; they were delegates from the several regiments, and acquired the name of "agitators."

June 4. The army sent cornet Joyce with a detachment to bring the king from Holmby-house to the camp.

5. The army entered into an engagement, and signed a paper, demanding satisfaction for their services.

8. The king was brought to Newmarket, where he was permitted his recreations, and the gentry to resort to him with his chaplains and servants: Cromwell made great professions of serving him.

June 21. The army preferred a representation for purging the parliament of obnoxious members, and that they would out a period to their sitting.

Parliament vote that the army remove forty miles from London, which the army was not content with, and make a remonstrance to parliament.

23. The army impeach Denzil, Holles, Glyn, Waller, and eight more of the leading members of the commons, and insisted upon their being suspended from their places; whereupon these members thought fit to withdraw. Commissioners from the commons were next appointed, to treat with commissioners from the army, as if the latter were the representatives of an independent and coequal authority.

24. The king was removed from Newmarket to Royston; the 26th to Hatfield-house; July 1, to Windsor; July 3, to Caversham; July 22, to the earl of Devonshire's, from thence to Woburn; then to Stoke Pogey and Ostlands.

July 24. The citizens and some of the disbanded military of Essex and Waller's armies, under the influence of the presbyterians, which party predominated in the city, enter into an engagement, and invite the king to come to London.

26. The young men and apprentices of the city petitioned the parliament, and constrained both houses to grant their desire. The speakers of both houses, and fifty of the members, fled to the army for protection against the London mob. Most of the eleven impeached members fled beyond sea.

Aug. 1. The council of officers submit to the king propositions of great ability, and which have been ascribed to Ireton, for the settlement of the kingdom: among them was one for disfranchising decayed boroughs and increasing the number of county members. Charles's hopes were excited by the division between the army and parliament, and he seems, by a peremptory refusal to acquiesce in these proposals, to have thrown away a favourable chance of restoration to power.

2. The army published a manifesto, and met, to the number of 20,000 horse and foot, on Honnslow-beath, where they were reviewed by a number of lords, the speakers, and two members of the house; the elector Palatine was there.

6. They entered London, and restored the speakers and members. Fairfax was made governor of the Tower, and thanked. The parliament approved of what the army had done, and passed an act to make void all acts done from July 26 to August 6.

7. The army marched through London, demolishing all the works about it, and both parliament and city were now at the devotion of the military powers.

Aug. 16. The king having for the most part marched with the army after he left Newmarket, was this day fixed at Hampton-court, being permitted the day before to visit his children, who were under the duke of Northumberland's care at Sion-house, and they were often permitted to come to him to Hampton-court; nor were any of the nobility or gentry denied access to Charles.

The next three months were spent in intrigue and negotiation. The presbyterians, supported by their Scotch allies, still struggled to establish an oligarchical ascendancy in themselves against the growing influence of the independents or republican party. Charles intrigued with both, and had also schemes on foot for bringing over the Irish. His duplicity lost him the confidence of the presbyterians and independents; and the latter, by means of the army, having obtained a mastery over the former, they proceeded shortly after to remove the only remaining obstacle to their entire supremacy. Their unanimity was momentarily disturbed by the appearance of a new party in the army, under the appellation of "levellers." These mistrusted the public virtue of all the higher powers, from the king and parliament down to their own officers. They claimed equal laws and equal rights, and proposed a new constitution in which was no mention of king or lords. Colonels Pride and Rainsborough supported them, but Cromwell and Ireton opposed them.

Nov. 11. The king made his escape to Titchfield, a seat of the earl of Southampton, and was afterwards persuaded to trust himself with Hammond, the governor of the isle of Wight, who detained him in the island, and gave advice to the parliament where he was.

15. Rendezvous of Ware: several regiments being in a state of mutiny, some of their ringleaders, under the direction of Fairfax and Cromwell, are seized and shot.

Dec. 24. The parliament sent the king four bills to the isle of Wight for his royal assent. 1. The command of the army was to be vested in parliament twenty years. 2. All oaths and proclamations against parliament and those who adhered to them, were to be null. 3. All titles of honour granted since May 20th, 1642, were to be void, and no new peer to be eligible to sit in parliament without the consent of both houses. 4. By the last bill the house had the sole power of adjourning from place to place, at their discretion.

25. An insurrection in Kent.

29. Captain Burley makes an unsuccessful attempt to effect the king's escape. Charles's servants are dismissed.

30. A strict union was formed between

the army and parliament, and the army desisted from meddling with state affairs.

1648, *Jan.* Charles, who had come to an understanding with the Scotch, refused to pass the four bills.

3. The commons vote that no more addresses shall be made to Charles, and any one having communication with him declared guilty of high-treason: to this resolution the lords on the 5th gave their assent.

13. Upon the parliament's request, Fairfax sent two regiments to guard them.

Mar. 10. The parliament of Scotland met, and voted that they ought to raise an army to act against England, in favour of the king. The kirk commissioners were against it.

13. The Welsh, under colonels Langhorne, Poyer, and Powell, rose in favour of the king; they seized the castles of Pembroke, Tenby, and Chepstow.

April 9. A great insurrection in London, on account of abolishing all holidays by the parliament: it was fomented by the royalists, but soon suppressed.

19. The earl of Pembroke, chancellor of Oxford, and the visitors appointed by the parliament, went to visit that university, which refused to submit to their authority; whereupon an ordinance was made for expelling those who refused submission.

May 8. The Welsh were defeated by Cromwell; and Langhorne, Poyer, and Powell were taken, who threw dice for their lives, and Poyer was executed.

16. The royalists assembled from Surrey, at Westminster, to present a petition, and quarrelled with some of the guards, and killed one. More of the guards were ordered out, who slew several before they dispersed.

31. A body of the Kentish men defeated by Fairfax, at Maidstone.

June 7. Another rising of the royalists at Stamford in Lincolnshire, under Dr. Hudson, but they were suppressed by colonel Waite.

July 13. The Scotch army entered England. A large part of the fleet deserted to prince Charles, but, by the address of Warwick, was again brought over to parliament.

Aug. 11. The difficulties of parliament having again given ascendancy to the presbyterians, who had been joined by the timid and time-serving, commissioners had been sent to the isle of Wight, who wrote word that the king agreed to a personal treaty at Newport.

17. Cromwell's troops engaged sir Marmaduke Langdale, near Preston, in Lancashire, and, the Scots not supporting him, after an obstinate fight, sir Marmaduke was routed; Cromwell subsequently engaged the Scots, and routed them, the Scots making a feeble resistance; duke Hamilton fled,

and was taken at Uttoxeter, with 3000 horse, surrendering upon no better conditions than that of quarter.

Aug. 28. The garrison of Colchester having been besieged by Fairfax ten weeks, surrendered at discretion, whereupon sir Charles Lucas and sir George Lisle were shot; the lords Goring and Capel were sent prisoners to Windsor castle, where they found duke Hamilton. The town was saved from plunder, by paying 10,000*l.*

Oct. 24. Peace of Westphalia signed between France, the emperor, and Sweden. By this treaty the principle of a balance of power in Europe was first recognised.

Berwick and Carlisle surrendered to Cromwell, who afterwards marched in triumph to Edinburgh, and concerted measures with Argyle.

Nov. 20. The army under Cromwell being returned into England, a remonstrance was presented to the commons, by the officers, against any further treaty with Charles, and requiring that the king and his adherents be brought to justice; that a period be put to this parliament, and more equal representatives chosen, in whom they would have the supreme power lodged.

27. The treaty with the king, which had been protracted from the preceding September 18th, was broken off. The presbyterians were the only party desirous of a constitutional settlement; both the king and republicans having other objects.

Colonel Rainsborough, a brave soldier and republican, assassinated at Doncaster by three royalists of the garrison of Pontefract-castle.

Nov. 30. A remonstrance was presented from the army, to bring the king to justice. The parliament returned no answer, and tried to amuse the army, every regiment having petitioned their general.

The king was taken out of the hands of colonel Hammond, by colonel Ewer, and carried to Hurst castle, by an order of the council of officers in the army.

Dec. 2. The army marched up to London, and quartered about Whitehall and St. James's.

4. The commons voted, that the seizing the king's person, and carrying him prisoner to Hurst castle, was without consent of the house.

5. The house resolved, by 140 to 104, "That his majesty's concessions to the propositions upon the treaty were sufficient grounds for the house to proceed upon for the settlement of the kingdom." This was an amended motion, brought forward by the presbyterians, on the more decided one that the concessions of the king were not satisfactory. It was debated three days. At one time 340 members were present. Prynne, who had begun to side with the

presbyterians, delivered a speech in the affirmative, of several hours' duration.

Dec. 6. Colonel Pride was sent with a strong detachment to Westminster, who seized forty-one of the members as they were going to the house, and stopped above 160 more from going in, chiefly presbyterians; so that not more than one hundred and fifty were permitted to sit in the house. This epuration of the house was called "Pride's Purge," and was a violent mode of getting rid of the party who inclined to monarchy.

7. Cromwell came to town, and received thanks from the commons for his services; he lay in one of the king's beds at Whitehall.

8. A detachment of the army marched into the city, and seized the public treasures that were lodged at Goldsmith's-hall, and other halls.

The fleet joined the army.

23. The king was brought by colonel Harrison from Hurst-castle to Windsor. On the 22^d Charles slept at lord Newburgh's house near Bagshot, and a plot was laid for his escape on a fleet horse, but it failed through the vigilance of Harrison.

25. A committee of the commons met to consider how to proceed in a way of justice against the king.

27. Ordered by the council of war, that the ceremony of the knee be omitted to the king, and all appearance of state left off, and the charge of his court and attendants be lessened.

A solemn fast was held at Westminster, to seek the Lord, and beg his direction in the proceeding against the king.

28. A committee appointed to consider of drawing up a charge against the king.

29. Major Pitcher, a royalist, who had quarter given him at the surrender of Pembroke castle, on condition of his transporting himself, was shot in St. Paul's church-yard, for remaining in England.

1649, Jan. 2. The lords rejected the ordinance for the trial of the king, and adjourned for a week; which seems, from the next step of the commons, to have been considered equivalent to the abdication of their legislative functions. Only twelve peers were present.

4. The commons resolved, 1. That the people, under God, are the original of all just power: 2. That the commons in parliament representing the people, have the supreme authority of the nation: 3. That whatever is enacted into law by the commons has the force of law, and the nation is concluded thereby, though the consent of the king, or house of peers, be not had thereto.

6. A letter from the commissioners of

the Scots, residing in London, to the commons, desiring they would not proceed to try the king without the advice of that nation.

On the same day the ordinance for trying the king was passed into an act, and the commissioners named therein appointed to meet, at two in the afternoon, in the painted chamber. 150 commissioners were chosen out of both houses, the inns of court, the corporation of London, and the army; but on the second reading the judges and six peers were omitted, and two sergeants-at-law, Nicholas and Bradshaw, added to the list. Thomas lord Fairfax, Oliver Cromwell, and Henry Ireton, Esqs., are the three first names on the list.

Jan. 8. Commissioners met in the painted chamber. Fairfax, who had hitherto acted with the army and republicans, did not attend after this day, either from tenderness to the king or the suggestion of his wife, whose conduct on the king's trial showed that she was averse to the proceeding.

9. Sergeant Dendy, by order of the commons, proclaimed the intended trial of the king, with sound of trumpet and beat of drum, in Westminster-hall, at the Old-Exchange, and in Cheapside, and summoned all witnesses to appear before the commissioners.

An order that no writs should be issued in the king's name for the future, and that a new great seal be made with the cross for England, and the harp for Ireland thereon, with this inscription, "The Great Seal of England:" on the reverse the house of commons sitting, with these words, "In the first year of freedom by God's blessing restored, 1648."

10. John Bradshaw, chief justice of Chester, a man of talent, an inflexible republican, and of blameless life, was made lord-president of the high-court of justice. Seventy of the commissioners, named for the trial, acted. Steele, Dorilaus, and Aske were counsellors' assistants to draw up the charge against the king; John Coke, solicitor; Dendy, sergeant-at-arms; Phelps and Broughton, clerks to the court.

15. The king was removed from Windsor to St. James's.

16. The commons altered their style, and called their ordinances "Acts of Parliament," and passed an act for adjourning Hilary term fourteen days.

18. The commons refused to accept the concurrence of the lords to their acts.

20. Commissioners met in the painted chamber, and proceeded thence to the upper end of Westminster-hall. President Bradshaw sat in a chair of crimson velvet; the others ranged themselves on either side, on benches covered with scarlet. At the feet of the president sat the clerks, at a table on which were the sword and mace, and di-

rectly opposite stood a chair for the king. Charles had been brought from St. James's to sir W. Cotton's house; whence he was conducted into the court. After the clerk had read the charge, Charles refused to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the court, and was remanded to Cotton-house.

22, 23. The king being conducted into the court, and persisting in his denial of the competency of the tribunal, the president ordered "the default and contempt" of the prisoner to be recorded.

27. The court having met to consider the form of judgment to be pronounced, Charles demanded to be heard. He requested a conference with a joint committee of the lords and commons. This being deemed inadmissible, Bradshaw proceeded to animadvert on the chief events of his reign, concluding with the well known quotation, that to "acquit the guilty was as detestable as to condemn the innocent." After which the clerk read from a scroll of vellum the sentence, wherein, after the several matters laid to the king's charge were enumerated, it concludes, "For all which treasons and crimes this court doth adjudge that he, the said Charles Stuart, as a tyrant, traitor, and murderer, and a public enemy, shall be put to death, by severing his head from his body."

The warrant for the king's execution was signed by fifty-nine of his judges, namely,—John Bradshaw, Thomas Grey, Oliver Cromwell, Edward Whaley, Michael Livesey, John Okey, John Danvers, John Bouchier, Henry Ireton, Thomas Maleverer, John Blackiston, John Hutchinson, William Goff, Thomas Pride, Peter Temple, Thomas Harrison, John Huson, Henry Smith, Perigrine Pelham, Simon Mayné, Thomas Horton, John Jones, John More, Hardress Waller, Gilbert Millington, Geo. Fleetwood, John Alwed, Robert Lilburn, William Say, Anthony Stapeley, Richard Deane, Robert Titchburne, Humphrey Edwards, Daniel Blagrove, Owen Roe, William Purefoy, Adrian Scroope, James Temple, Augustin Garland, Edmund Ludlow, Henry Martin, Vincent Potter, William Constable, Richard Ingoldsby, William Cawley, John Barstead, Isaac Ewer, John Dixwell, Valentine Wanton, Gregory Norton, Thomas Chaloner, Thomas Wogan, John Venn, Gregory Clement, John Downs, Thomas Wayte, Thomas Scot, John Carew, Miles Corbet.

29. The act of ordinance passed for altering the forms of writs, grants, patents, and process in courts of law; and that instead of the style and teste of the king, should be used these words, "Custodes Libertatis Angliæ Authoritate Parlamenti, &c."

30. The king being ordered to be put to death this day, about ten in the morning

he walked from St. James's to Whitehall, under a guard, where being allowed some time for his devotions, he was afterwards led by colonel Hacker through the banquetting-room. At the end an aperture had been made in the wall, through which the king stepped upon the scaffold that had been erected in the open street. Having made a speech, he submitted to the block, and his head was severed from his body at one blow, about two in the afternoon, in the 49th year of his age, and the 24th of his reign. His body was put into a coffin covered with black velvet, and removed to his lodging-room in Whitehall; being embalmed, it was delivered, the 7th of February, to four of his servants, and by them that day was removed to Windsor; he was silently interred the 9th of February in a vault about the middle of the choir, over against the seventh stall on the sovereign's side, near Henry VIII. and Jane Seymour, with this inscription on a fillet of lead, "King Charles, 1648."

On the day after the king's execution appeared a work, entitled, "*Icon Basilike*." It was supposed to have been written by Charles, but is now ascertained to have been the fabrication of Dr. Gauden, a clergyman of Bocking in Essex. Gauden's silence as to the real author was purchased, after the restoration, by the bishopric of Worcester.

THE KING'S ISSUE.

1. Charles, who died the same day he was born.
2. Charles, who succeeded his father by the name of Charles II.
3. James, who succeeded his brother Charles by the name of James II.
4. The princess Mary, married to William of Nassau, prince of Orange, by whom she had issue, William of Nassau, prince of Orange, afterwards king of England.
5. The princess Elizabeth, who died a prisoner in Carisbrook-castle, on the 8th of September, 1650, in the fifteenth year of her age.
6. The princess Anne, who died about three years of age.
7. The princess Henrietta Maria, born at Exeter the 15th of June, 1644, and married to Philip duke of Anjou, afterwards duke of Orleans; by whom she had issue Anna Maria, married to Victor Amadeus, duke of Savoy, and king of Sardinia.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

- 1 Car. I., cap. 1. Enacts that there shall be no assemblies of people on the Lord's day, out of their own parishes, for any pastimes, or any bear-baiting, common plays, or other unlawful exercises, used by any

persons within their own parishes, on pain of forfeiting three shillings and fourpence, or being set in the stocks.

Cap. 4. Enacts penalties against tipping in ale-houses.

3 Car. I. Petition of Right, against taxes without consent of parliament.

Cap. 1. No carrier or drover shall travel on the Lord's day, on pain of twenty shillings; and no butcher shall kill or sell meat on that day, on pain of six shillings and eightpence.

Cap. 2. Imposes penalties on the support of popish seminaries abroad.

Cap. 3. Whoever sells ale without a licence, except in fairs, shall forfeit twenty shillings.

17 Car. I., cap. 10. Abolishes the court of Star-chamber, and declares that neither the king or privy-council have any authority to determine any cause relating to the subject's goods or lands; and that any person committed by warrant of the king or council may have a habeas corpus, and be bailed, if the matter be bailable by law.

Cap. 11. Abolishes the court of high commission.

Cap. 14. Declares against the legality of ship-money.

Cap. 16. Ascertaines the boundaries of the royal forests.

Cap. 20. Enacts that no person shall be compelled to take the order of knighthood upon him.

PUBLIC REVENUE—COIN—NAVY

The average revenue of Charles, from 1637 to 1641, inclusive, was 895,819*l.* of which 210,493*l.* arose from ship-money and other illegal exactions. This sum was adequate to the ordinary expenses of government, though it would not defray the charges of war and other contingencies.

Charles, with all his frugality, affected much regal state. He kept up twenty-four palaces; all of them so completely furnished, that when he removed from one to another, he was not obliged to transport any articles of furniture along with him. His collection of pictures was the most valuable in Europe, and he spared no expense in his endeavours to enrich it with the most valuable productions of the ablest artists.

When the war between the king and parliament had commenced, Charles had the utmost difficulty in providing resources for the maintenance of his forces. The capital and the wealthiest parts of the kingdom supported the parliament, and the only money that he could raise was by pawning the jewels of the crown—by melting down the plate of the two universities, which they sent him—and afterwards, by imitating the example of his opponents, in levy-

ing assessments, and even excises, in those districts where his authority was acknowledged. But the voluntary subscriptions of those who adhered to the crown were his principal resource. The marquis of Worcester supplied the king with 100,000*l.*, and the marquis of Newcastle devoted the whole of his fortune to the support of the royal cause.

The conduct of the parliament at the beginning of the contest was so popular that it also obtained incredible sums by voluntary contributions. The plate of almost every inhabitant of London was brought in to be coined for its support; even the thimbles and bodkins of the women were not withheld. These gifts, however, were insufficient without compulsory levies. An assessment on personal and landed property was imposed. These assessments varied, according to the exigencies of the times, from 35,000*l.* to 120,000*l.* a-month. They proved so productive, and so superior to the ancient mode of subsidies, that they have ever since been continued, under the denomination of a land-tax.—Sinc. Hist. Rev., 172.

To the necessities of the long parliament we owe the first establishment of the excise. The suggestion of it has been ascribed to Pym. At one time it extended to bread, meat, salt, and other necessary articles. Additions were made to the customs by duties upon coals and currants. Four shillings a baldrou upon coals, levied at Newcastle, brought in about 50,000*l.*

The establishment of a post-office, upon a productive and permanent footing, was principally owing to the long parliament. By their regulations it not only yielded 10,000*l.* per annum, but also saved an annual expense of 7000*l.*, which the public was obliged to pay for the maintenance of postmasters. But one of their most novel fiscal contrivances was the impost of a weekly meal. Every one was required to retrench a meal a week, and to pay the money thereby saved into the public treasury. This singular tax yielded 608,400*l.* during the six years it was imposed.

The increase in the quantity of coin is a strong proof of increasing wealth and commerce. During the reign of Charles, Folkes computed that 12,096,220*l.* was coined, in gold and silver; a greater sum than during the two reigns of Elizabeth and James. But it is to be remarked that part of this coin was for the use of other countries. Spain sent considerable quantities of bullion to be coined at the English mint, which was afterwards carried to Flanders.

The following is the tonnage, number of men, and guns of the nine largest ships in the public navy, in 1646 —

Tons.	Men.	Guns.
875	280	50
600	170	40
575	170	40
557	170	38
520	170	38
559	160	38
650	260	36
512	160	36
500	150	36

The rest consisted of seventeen smaller ships, from 400 tons, 110 men, down to 80 tons, 45 men.

MEN OF LETTERS.

Francis Bacon, lord Verulam, the father of experimental philosophy, 1560—1626. 1. "On the Advancement of Learning," published in 1605: 2. "Wisdom of the Ancients," 1611: 3. "The Novum Organon," the second part of his grand "Instauration of the Sciences:" 4. "History of Henry VII.," 1622; besides "Moral Essays," and miscellaneous writings.

Sir John Hayward, historian of the "Norman Kings," and author of some devotional pieces; died 1637.

Samuel Daniel, author of pastorals, epistles, and "History of England to the Reign of Edward III.," 1562—1619.

John Ford, dramatic writer; born 1586, and supposed to have died about 1639.

Benjamin Jonson, author of the "Alchymist," "Epitene," "Volpone," "Every Man in his Humour," and other popular dramas, 1574—1637.

Philip Massinger, a distinguished dramatist, buried in St. Saviour's church, Southwark, where he is supposed to have resided, 1585—1639.

John Speed, British historian and topographer, 1555—1629.

Robert Burton, author of "The Anatomy of Melancholy," 1576—1639.

Sir Henry Spelman, a learned antiquarian and philologist, 1562—1641.

Sir Robert Cotton, one of the earliest members of the Antiquarian Society, and founder of the Cottonian library, 1570—1631.

Samuel Purchas, a clergyman, author of a "Collection of Voyages," 5 vols. folio, 1577—1628.

Sir Thomas Roe, diplomatist and traveller, 1580—1641.

Michael Drayton, the "Barons' Wars," and other poems, 1563—1631.

George Sandys, translations, poems, and travels, 1577—1643.

Lord Herbert of Cherbury, "De Veritate," "Life and Reign of Henry VIII.," and his own "Memoirs," first published by lord Orford, 1581—1648. He was buried in the church of St. Giles's in the Fields, with an epitaph, referring to the first publication.

George Herbert, younger brother of the last mentioned, a distinguished poet and divine, 1593—1633. After his death was published, from his MS., "The Temple," "Sacred Poems," and "Private Ejaculations."

Sir Richard Baker, the "Chronicle of the Kings of England," once the favourite manual, according to Addison, of country gentlemen, 1568—1645.

William Drummond, a Scottish poet, and author of a "History of the Five James's, Kings of Scotland," 1585—1649.

THE COMMONWEALTH. A. D. 1649 to 1653.

THE death of the king was soon followed by the abolition of the house of lords, and the powers of the three estates of the realm merged in the house of commons, under the name of the parliament of the commonwealth. A new council of state, consisting of thirty-nine members, exercised the functions of the executive, and in their names, as keepers of the liberties of England, was all public business transacted. Persons holding office were required to qualify for the same by new oaths, and taking out fresh grants. New money was coined, and a new great seal made. Episcopacy was abolished. The crown lands and bishops' lands, and the estates and revenues of the deans and chapters, were sold or sequestered for the use of the state. To renounce prelacy and the liturgy were the only terms on which the parochial clergy were allowed to retain their benefices.

Upon the ruins of the episcopal church two sects rose into importance, the presbyterians and independents. The presbyterians were for throwing

off the authority of the bishops, the abolition of the liturgy, the retrenchment of ceremonies, and the limitation of the riches and authority of the priestly office. The enthusiasm of the independents carried them still further; they were for the entire abolition of ecclesiastical government, disdained creeds, neglected ceremony, and contended for the sufficiency of individual judgment in matters of conscience, and of each congregation to its own management. Oliver Cromwell, sir Henry Vane, Piennes, and St. John were regarded as the leaders of the independents; Prynne, Holles, and Annesley, of the presbyterians. The superior activity and energy of the independents, their influence in the army, and the seclusion of their rivals from parliament, gave them a decided preponderance.

After the forcible seclusion of the presbyterians and monarchists, the commonwealth became an oligarchy, vested in about one hundred individuals. It was an irresponsible body, and indissoluble except by its own act. Its support was in a standing army of forty-five thousand men. Two-thirds of the community were royalists, or inclined to the moderate constitutional party of the presbyterians; but were awed into silence and submission by the sword. Prior to the reduction of the long parliament, it had been growing unpopular, from its corrupt practices and arbitrary measures. At the commencement of the civil war a self-denying ordinance was passed, but this was soon suffered to become obsolete, and the most lucrative offices were filled by the members. The taxes they imposed were intolerable; the sums levied far exceeding the burthens imposed in any former period; and what rendered these levies more revolting, was the lavishness of the members on themselves. The sum of 300,000*l.*, it is affirmed, they openly took for their own use; while the pay of the army and navy was falling into arrear. The excise, formerly unknown, was extended over provisions and the common necessaries of life. The committees, to whom the management of the different branches of the revenue were entrusted, never brought in their accounts, and had opportunities for secreting whatever sums they pleased from the public treasury. These branches were multiplied to afford a wider field for peculation. The power of the county committees was grievously felt. During the war, the discretionary power of these courts was excused from the plea of necessity, but the nation was reduced to despair when it saw neither end put to their duration, nor bounds to their authority. These tribunals could sequester, fine, imprison, and corporally punish, without law or remedy. In short, they were so many star-chambers, fortified with more plausible pretences, and armed with more unlimited powers.

Such abuses and oppressions destroyed the character of the long parliament. Still for four years after the death of the king, it carried on the government with the ability and energy inherent in republican institutions. It found resources by which Cromwell was enabled to subdue Ireland and Scotland, and defeat Charles II. at Worcester. It is to this assembly we are indebted for the commencement of our naval renown and superiority. Its faults were a want of management in the attempt to disband the army at the close of the civil war, the selfishness of some of its members, its arbitrary acts of government, its endeavours to prolong indefinitely its sittings, and the religious hypocrisy by which it essayed to justify its proceedings. Disgusted alike by their cant and their tyranny, the people beheld, without regret, their power annihilated by Oliver Cromwell. This crafty adventurer saw their errors with satisfaction; embarrassed them by fomenting the dis-

contents of the military, and by artfully working on the passions of the soldiery, made them the unsuspecting instruments of his ambition.

The history of this eventful period offers a lesson of political moderation. All parties reaped successively the melancholy pleasure of seeing the injuries which they had suffered revenged on their enemies; and that, too, by the same arts which had been practised against them. The king had stretched his prerogative beyond just bounds; and, aided by the church, had well nigh put an end to all the liberties and privileges of the nation. The presbyterians checked the progress of the court and the clergy, and excited, by cant and hypocrisy, the populace, first to tumult, then to war against the king, the peers, and all the royalists. No sooner had they reached the summit of power, than the independents, under the appearance of still greater sanctity, instigated the army against them, and reduced them to subjection. The independents, amidst their fanatical dreams, were oppressed by the rebellion of their own servants, and found themselves at once exposed to the insults of an usurper and the hatred of the people.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1649. *Jan. 30.* On the day of the king's execution, a proclamation was read in Cheapside, declaring it treason to give any person the title of king, without the assent of parliament; and at the same time was published the vote of January 4th, that the supreme authority of the nation resided in the representatives of the people.

Feb. 1. The lords send a message to the commons, desiring a conference on the new settlement, of which no notice is taken.

6. Commons resolve, 'That the house of peers in parliament is useless, dangerous, and ought to be abolished.' Carried by a majority of 44 to 29. Cromwell voted in favour of the lords.

7. Resolved, 'That kingship in this nation hath been found by experience to be unnecessary, burthensome, and dangerous to the liberty, safety, and public interest of the people.'

The prince of Wales takes the title of Charles II. at the Hague.

12. The king's statues demolished at the Royal Exchange and other places, and the following inscription set up on the site of them,—'*Exil Tyrannus Regum ultimus, Anno Libertatis Angliæ restitutæ primo, Anno Dom. 1648-9, Jan. 30.*'

14. A council of state consisting of 39 members appointed; it superseded the committee of government at Derby house. Bradshaw was president of the council, and the poet Milton secretary of foreign correspondence. A new great seal was made; the commissions of the judges and magistrates renewed, and the court of king's bench was styled the common bench.

Mar. 9. Duke Hamilton, the earl of

Holland, and lord Capel, who had been condemned by an extraordinary tribunal called the high court of justice, for attempting to restore the king, were beheaded.

The commons resolve that there shall be 28,000 horse and foot kept up in England, and 12,000 in Ireland, whose pay shall be 80,000*l.* per month.

Mar. 19. The earl of Ormond proclaimed king Charles II. in Ireland, and the parliament of Scotland in that kingdom.

Pontefract castle surrendered to the parliament after a long siege.

April 1. Alderman Reynoldson, lord mayor of London, turned out of his office, imprisoned, and fined 2000*l.* for refusing to proclaim the act for abolishing monarchy.

16. The earl of Pembroke elected knight of the shire for Berks; his example was followed by other peers, lords Salisbury and Howard, who sat for Lynn and Carlisle.

A new sect of levellers appeared, called 'diggers:' they held the earth ought to be held in common, and began cultivating a piece of waste land in Surrey on this principle, when they were dispersed by a troop of Fairfax's horse.

30. An act passed for the sale of the dean and chapter lands.

May 3. Dr. Dorislaus, agent for the commonwealth at the Hague, was surprised as he was at supper, by twelve cavaliers in masks, and killed. The assassins were Scots, supposed to have been hired by the marquis of Montrose, then at the Hague.

A great body of the levellers surprised at Burford, by Cromwell, and made prisoners; cornet Dean, and some of the principal, were executed.

July 16. An act for the sale of the crown-lands, at thirteen years' purchase; and for selling the goods, furniture, jewels, paintings, and personal estate of the late king: a great part of the royal chattels was purchased by the kings of France and Spain, and other foreign princes, and about 400,000*l.* raised for the service of the state.

Cromwell and his officers pray and preach in the churches and chapels about town; Cromwell was three hours in the pulpit at Whitehall, where he prayed, that God would take off from his shoulders the government of this mighty people, being too heavy for him to bear.

Aug. 13. Cromwell being made lord lieutenant of Ireland, set sail, accompanied by Ireton his son-in-law, as second in command, for Dublin, where he landed the 16th, upon which Ormond left a garrison of 3000 men in Drogheda.

Sept. 11. Cromwell took Drogheda by storm, and put the whole garrison to the sword, consisting of about 3000 men, most of them English, so that only one lieutenant escaped. He also massacred (but this is lord Clarendon's relation) every man, woman, and child of the citizens that were Irish.

Oct. 24. Colonel John Lilburne tried for publishing treasonable books against the commonwealth, and acquitted.

1650. *March 15.* The commissioners from the Scots negotiate with Charles II. at Breda.

April 29. The marquis of Montrose landed in Scotland, and raised forces for the king. Colonel Strachan was sent against him and took him prisoner; the marquis endeavoured to conceal himself, but at last surrendered to Aston, who received 2000*l.* for delivering him up.

May 14. An act passed in England, to make incest and adultery capital for the first offence; and fornication, for the first offence, three months' imprisonment; for the second, capital.

The gloomy enthusiasm of the parliamentarians carried them to the most ridiculous austerities. All recreations were in a manner suspended by their severities: horse-racing, bear-baiting, and cock-fighting, were prohibited as the greatest enormities. The *sport*, not the *inhumanity* gave offence. All holidays were abolished, and amusements on the Sabbath severely prohibited, so that no time was left for relaxation. Upon application, however, of the servants and apprentices, parliament appointed the second Tuesday in every month for play and recreation. But these ordinances were found difficult to execute, and the people were resolved to be merry when they pleased, not when the parliament should prescribe it to them. The

keeping of the Christmas holidays was long a great mark of ungodliness, and severely censured by the commons. Even pies, which custom had made a Christmas dish, were regarded as a profane viand by the puritans; though at other times they agreed very well with their stomachs. Maypoles were abolished as an heathenish vanity. It is hardly necessary to remark, that hypocrisy was never so prevalent in England as in this period. This must invariably be the case, when an unphilosophical effort is made to introduce a system of manners (erroneously termed virtue,) beyond what is compatible with human nature and the happiness of society.

May 21. The marquis of Montrose hung at Edinburgh, on a gallows thirty feet high, and afterwards quartered; the Scots also executed sir William Hurry, sir Francis Hay, colonel Spotswood, and about forty more of the marquis's followers. Charles complained to the commissioners of the Scots executing Montrose; but received for answer, that some papers had been found upon him, which it was more for his honour to conceal than publish.

31. Cromwell returned from Ireland, and was met in triumph at Hounslow-heath, and the palace of St. James's allotted for his residence. He was saluted by the great guns in the park.

Ascham, envoy from the commonwealth to the king of Spain, assassinated in his lodgings at Madrid, by English cavaliers.

June 23. Charles arrived on the coast of Scotland, and was compelled to take the covenant, before permitted to land.

25. General Fairfax in the first instance accepted the command against Scotland, but his wife, a presbyterian, prevailed upon him to relinquish the appointment, and withdraw from public life, leaving the commonwealth open to the growing ambition of Cromwell.

26. An act passed, constituting Oliver Cromwell, esq. captain-general of all the forces raised, and to be raised, by authority of parliament, within the commonwealth of England; with a power of granting, renewing, and altering the officers' commissions.

The Scots raised an army under Lesley, consisting of 36,000 horse and foot.

The plague raged in Ireland at this time.

29. Cromwell set out from London for Scotland.

July 13. Dr. Levens, a civilian, hanged for having blank commissions from the king about him.

15. Charles solemnly proclaimed, at Edinburgh cross, king of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

22. Cromwell, with 11,000 horse and foot, passed the Tweed, whereupon the

Scots destroyed their country, and retired before him, till he came within sight of Edinburgh.

Aug. 22. Colonel Andrews, of Gray's-inn, beheaded, for plotting against the commonwealth.

Sept. 3. Cromwell defeated the Scots at Dunbar, killed 3000 of them, took 10,000 prisoners, with their ammunition, and possessed himself of Edinburgh. This victory was chiefly won by Cromwell's regiment of infantry, who charged the cavalry at the point of the pike and butt-end of the musket, the fixed bayonet not being yet known.

The Hamiltonians, or the malignants and engagers, were admitted to employments under conditions: the parliament protested against their admission, upon which two parties were immediately formed in Scotland.

10. Ordered, that the colours taken at Dunbar be hung up in Westminster-hall, and medals given to the soldiers, in memory of their victory.

25. Letters from Barbadoes, that lord Willoughby had proclaimed king Charles there, and secured that island for him.

Oct. 8. Mr. Benson hanged, for attempting to bring in Charles.

25. Ordered by parliament, that all proceedings and process of law, patents, commissions, indictments, and judgments, be in the English tongue only, and that they be written in an ordinary legible hand, and not in a court hand.

Dec. The kirk of Scotland appointed a fast for the sins of the king and his family.

24. Edinburgh castle surrendered to Cromwell, said to be the first time that ever it was taken.

The English merchants ordered to depart the czar's dominions in Muscovy, and not to enter there again unless in the king's name.

Five drunkards, in Berkshire, agreed to drink the king's health in their blood, and that each should cut off a piece of his buttock and fry it, which four of them did; but the wife of the fifth coming in, saved him from his share of this notable performance.

1651. *Jan. 1.* Charles crowned at Scone, and swore to establish the presbyterian religion in Scotland.

The king set up his standard at Aberdeen, and made duke Hamilton lieutenant-general, David Lesley major-general, Middleton major-general of the horse, and Massey general of the English troops. The Scotch army, consisting of 18,000 horse and foot, encamped at Torwood.

Feb. 4. An order of the parliament of England, to take down the king's arms in all places, and set up the arms of the commonwealth.

Mar. 4. Sir Henry Hyde beheaded.

May 19. Peter Wright, chaplain to the marquis of Winchester, executed as a popish priest. He was the only sufferer under a barbarous act passed in the preceding year, which gave the same reward for the discovery of a priest or jesuit, as for the apprehension of a highwayman.

July. Cromwell, having recovered from a severe ague, sent a detachment of his army in boats over the Frith, which took possession of Fife, and occasioned an engagement with a detachment of the Scotch army: the Scots were defeated, 2000 of them killed, and 1200 made prisoners; whereupon Cromwell came over the Frith with the rest of his forces, and took possession of Perth.

31. Cromwell being now got further north than the Scotch army, Charles suddenly decamped with the Scots, and marched for England; Argyle, and many others of the army leaving him, and retiring home.

Aug. 6. Charles entered England by Carlisle, with an army of 16,000 men, Scotch and English, at the head of which he was proclaimed king of Great Britain. Cromwell marched after the king, leaving part of his army with general Monk, to block up Stirling.

12. The city of London being alarmed at the king's march, passed an act for putting the militia in a posture of present service.

14. Stirling castle and town surrendered to Monk.

22. Christopher Love, a presbyterian minister, beheaded upon Tower-hill for treason.

Charles arrived with his army at Worcester, being joined in his march only by a son of lord Howard, with 100 horse. At Worcester the king was joined by lord Talbot, and some other loyal gentlemen.

25. The earl of Derby, having assembled 1500 men to join the king, was attacked by three regiments under the command of colonel Robert Lilburne, and entirely routed at Wigan in Lancashire. The earl and about thirty horse with great difficulty afterwards escaped to the king at Worcester; but lord Widdington was killed in the action.

28. Cromwell reaches Worcester at the head of 30,000 men.

Sept. 3. The battle of Worcester, where the king's forces were entirely routed, about 3000 of them killed, and 6000 or 7000 taken prisoners, with all their ammunition and baggage; in this action duke Hamilton was mortally wounded, and died the next day. The king's standard and 158 colours were taken. The king himself, with the duke of Bucks, the earls of Derby and Lauderdale, lords Talbot, Wilmot, and about fifty horse, after the battle was lost,

about seven in the evening, marched out of St. Martin's-gate, Worcester, and arriving at Whiteladies, twenty-five miles from Worcester, about four the next morning, the earl of Derby and the other lords took their leave of Charles, and left him to the care of the Penderels. These were five brothers, labouring men, who had established characters of trustworthiness, by having shortly before concealed lord Derby from the republicans. After many adventures and hair-breadth escapes, (among others his concealment in an oak tree,) Charles landed on the 17th of October, at Fecamp in Normandy.

Sept. 12. Cromwell was met at Aylesbury by a deputation from the commons and council of state. Hampton-court was prepared for his residence, and an estate of 4000*l.* a year, in addition to a former grant of 2500*l.*, voted to him. Other generals had also grants; Ireton declined his, recommending to the republic first the payment of its debts.

Limerick in Ireland surrendered, after fifteen months' siege, to the republicans. Scotland was reduced. Hostilities commenced with the Dutch; an English man-of-war meeting with some Dutch fishermen, he demanded the tenth herring, which they refused; the English sunk one of their ships, and all the men perished.

Nov. 18. The commons fix the period of their dissolution for Nov. 4th, 1654; the interval to be employed in determining the qualifications of the succeeding parliament.

26. General Ireton died at Limerick of the plague; the commons voted him a public funeral, and his death removed a great obstacle to the usurpation of Cromwell.

Dec. 1. Parliament passed an act with the view of encouraging navigation, prohibiting the importation of all goods except upon English bottoms; by this act the Dutch felt aggrieved.

Parliament demanded satisfaction for the Dutch massacre at Amboyna, and for the losses sustained in the Mogul's dominions.

Cromwell held a meeting of the leading men of the commons and the army at the speaker's house, to deliberate on the future form of government.

1652. Jan. 11. Lord Willoughby surrendered Barbadoes and the neighbouring islands to Ayscough, the parliament's admiral. Virginia also submitted to the parliament.

April. Parliament sent St. John and Walter Strickland to the Hague, to endeavour to unite the two commonwealths.

13. An act was read for incorporating Scotland into one commonwealth with England. Judges were sent from England to administer justice in Scotland.

May 15. Voted, that the act for consti-

tuting Cromwell captain-general should extend to the forces in Ireland, which disgusted Lambert, who had been promised the lord lieutenancy of Ireland.

June 30. The Dutch ambassadors being much incensed, returned to Holland.

July. An embassy arrived from the States, but the parliament did not recede from their resolution of demanding damages. Both nations published a manifesto. The English insisted upon the right of the flag.

Aug. 16. A sea fight near Plymouth, between sir George Ayscough, the English admiral, and the Dutch under De Ruyter, wherein neither of the fleets had any great advantage.

The Scots chose twenty-one members, fourteen for the counties, and seven for the boroughs, to represent them in the parliament of England.

Sept. 28. Ordered that the scaffolds about St. Paul's be taken down, and sold to pay the public debts.

Van Gallen beat the English fleet in the Mediterranean, but was killed in the fight.

Another engagement between the English fleet under Blake, and the Dutch under De Witte, upon the coast of Kent, where the Dutch rear-admiral was taken, and two more of their men-of-war sunk, and they were driven home to their own coasts, without the loss of one English ship.

Nov. 7. A conference between Cromwell and Whitelock, wherein Cromwell proposed the making himself king; but was dissuaded by Whitelock, and advised to treat with Charles II., whose circumstances, Whitelock observed, were so low, that he would be glad to grant Cromwell the command of the militia, and what other advantages he could desire for himself and friends; and that he might now put such limits to monarchical power, as would secure their religious as well as civil liberties for the future. But Cromwell was not pleased with Whitelock's scheme, and never admitted him to converse intimately with him again.

29. Van Tromp, with eighty sail of men-of-war, fell upon Blake, who was riding with forty sail of English in the Downs; six of the English ships were taken and destroyed, and the rest drove into the Thames; after which Van Tromp sailed in triumph through the Channel, with a broom at the topmast head, proclaiming his mission to sweep the English navy from the seas.

1653. Feb. 18, 19, 20. Immense exertions were made to re-equip a fresh fleet, and a fight of three days ensued between the English and Dutch fleets off Portland, where the English obtained a great victory, taking and destroying eleven Dutch men-of-war, and thirty merchantmen, out of 300

the Dutch had under their convoy: Van Tromp was admiral of the Dutch, and Blake of the English; the custom now was for officers to serve in both army and navy, and generals Monk and Deane commanded under Blake in this engagement. The number of slain on each side was about 2000.

March. Cromwell caused the officers to petition for their pay, on which the parliament complained of their impatience. The army petitioned for a dissolution of the parliament, which had become unpopular from the selfishness of some of its members, and from its efforts to perpetuate indefinitely its existence.

April 19. Cromwell holds a meeting of officers, and of the leading men of the commons, at Whitehall, to consult on the dissolution of the parliament; it came to no decision, but appointed an early meeting next day.

20. Information brought Cromwell that the commons were hurrying a bill through its several stages for their immediate dissolution. He immediately took a file of musqueteers, and went down to the house; he commanded the speaker to leave the chair, and told them that they had sat long enough, unless they had done more good; crying out, "*You are no longer a parliament, I say you are no parliament.*" He told sir Harry Vane he was a juggler; Harry Martin, and sir Peter Wentworth, that they were whore-masters; Chaloner, he was a drunkard; and Allen the goldsmith, that he cheated the public: then he bid one of his soldiers take away that fool's bauble, the mace, and Harrison removed the speaker out of the chair: in short, Cromwell having turned them all out of the house, locked up the doors, and returned to Whitehall. In the afternoon he went, accompanied by some officers, to Derby house, to the council of state, consisting chiefly of members of the commons. Bradshaw had just taken the chair, when Cromwell entered and told them, that if they were there as private individuals, they were welcome, but if as the council of state, they must know that the parliament was dissolved, and with it the council. "Sir," replied Bradshaw, "we have heard what you did at the house this morning, and before many hours all England will know it. But, sir, you are mistaken to think that the parliament is dissolved. No power under heaven can dissolve them but themselves. Therefore take you notice of that." The council then withdrew. Thus fell, by the parricidal hands of its champion, the famous long parliament, which for twelve years, under a variety of forms, had defended and invaded the liberties of the people.

PRINCIPLES OF THE LEVELLERS.

The levellers make a conspicuous figure in the events of this period, and if the subjoined be a correct exposition of their principles, they appear to have been much misunderstood. It is taken from Mr. Lingard's History, vol. xi. p. 457, who extracted it from one of their publications, which appeared soon after the death of Cromwell, entitled "The Leveller; or the Principles and Maxims concerning Government and Religion, which are asserted by those that are commonly called Levellers; 1659."

Principles of Government.

1. The government of England ought to be by laws, and not by men: that is, the law ought to judge of all offences and offenders, and all punishments and penalties to be inflicted upon criminals; nor ought the pleasure of his highness and his council to make whom they please offenders, and punish and imprison whom they please, and during pleasure.

2. All laws and levies of monies, war and peace, ought to be made by the people's deputies in parliament, to be chosen by them successively, at certain periods. Therefore there should be no negative of a monarch, because he will frequently by that means consult his own interest, or that of his family, to the prejudice of the nation. But it would be well if the deputies of the people were to be divided into two bodies, one of which should propose the laws, and the other adopt or reject them.

3. All persons, without a single exception, should be subject to the law.

4. The people ought to be formed into such a military posture, by and under the parliament, that they may be able to compel every man to obey the law, and defend the country from foreigners. A mercenary (standing) army is dangerous to liberty, and therefore should not be admitted.

Principles of Religion.

1. The assent of the understanding cannot be compelled. Therefore no man can compel another to be of the true religion.

2. Worship follows from the doctrines admitted by the understanding. No man therefore can bind another to adopt any particular form of worship.

3. Works of righteousness and mercy are part of the worship of God, and so far fall under the civil magistrate, that he ought to restrain men from irreligion, that is, injustice, faith-breaking, oppression, and all other evil works, that are plainly evil.

4. Nothing is more destructive to true religion, than quarrels about religion; and the use of punishments to compel one man to believe as another.

THE PROTECTORATE. A.D. 1653 to 1660.

AFTER the forcible expulsion of the remnant of the long parliament, Cromwell thought it expedient to observe the forms of free government. He accordingly sent summonses for their attendance at Whitehall, to 139 representatives for England, six for Wales, six for Ireland, and five for Scotland. Upon these he professed to devolve the whole authority of the state. They were to exercise their powers during fifteen months, and then nominate their successors. This was called the little or Barebone's parliament, from the name of one of its members. Its composition and the usefulness of its views have been unfairly depreciated by party historians. All its members were respectable; though not distinguished for opulence, they were of independent fortunes (*Ling. Hist.* xi. 187), and, bating the prevailing fanaticism, were men of intelligence. During the convulsions of the time, they had learnt to think for themselves, and could discern the useful and the just in the momentous questions that agitated the nation. Many of the measures they suggested have been very recently carried into effect. One was for transferring the ceremony of marriage, and the registry of marriages, births, and burials, from clergymen to laymen. Votes were passed for consolidating the various branches of the revenue into one treasury; for rendering sundry matters of legal procedure less dilatory and expensive; for giving relief to prisoners for debts and their creditors; for the abolition of tithes and advowsons, thinking it contrary to reason that a private person should have power to impose a spiritual guide on his neighbours; they even went so far, as to propose a consolidation of the statute law and books of reports, and the abolition of the court of Chancery. Such sweeping innovations alarmed the clergy and lawyers, and Oliver finding the security of his dictatorship more identified with the support of the partizans of abuse than of reform, contrived to get rid, in a few months, of this calumniated assembly.

Cromwell assembled and dismissed his parliaments with similar forms he would a court-martial. He tried four, and at his death he meditated a fifth. The difficulty he experienced in finding any representative body, however constituted, to sanction his usurpation, shows the unpopularity of his government, and the generally diffused sentiment in favour of a more legal and responsible administration.

In his capacity of protector, he exercised the functions of absolute sovereignty, and the protectorate chiefly differed from the monarchy it had supplanted, in the superior abilities of its first magistrate. His government was a naked despotism, dependent entirely on the soldiery for support. Like all power grasped by violence, it could only be maintained by violence. As the rights of all had been subverted, any attempt at legality, to give expression to the popular will, endangered his domination. The return of peace was doubly disadvantageous to him, as it is to all usurpations founded on the sword; first, by affording leisure to investigate his title, and secondly, by lessening the ascendancy of the military power. Had his life been prolonged, it is doubtful whether he would have been able long to withstand the hourly increasing difficulties of his position. He was the centre and almost only support of his own system, and men acquiesced in it as likely to be a short-lived evil, from deference to his great abilities, gratitude

for his services to the commonwealth, and probably from the difficulty, originating in their own divisions, of agreeing in any other by which it could be superseded.

The internal government of the protector was distinguished by watchfulness and energy. He stooped at no illegality that would fortify his power. By means of spies he frustrated the plots of his enemies at home and abroad. If the regular tribunals were not sufficient to destroy a victim, he erected special ones for the purpose. Arbitrary imprisonments in the Tower upon short written orders, without formal warrant or expressed cause of commitment, were practised. Frequently the disaffected were sold for slaves to the West Indies (Hal. Const. Hist. ii. 368): he punished them by confiscations, by placing them judicially and fiscally at the mercy of his military satraps.

These severities were not the wantonness of tyranny, but the indispensable guarantees of unlawful power. Naturally Cromwell inclined to mercy and forgiveness, rather than vindictive cruelty. He was frank, jocular, and affable; bold, magnanimous, and just. His position made him a tyrant; a sanguine temperament, a religious enthusiast; policy and ambition, a wily dissembler; and, perhaps, though that is more questionable, a hypocrite. In his private relations he was unexceptionable; a dutiful son, an affectionate father and husband. It is proper also to observe, in answer to the self-seeking imputed to him, that on the commencement of the struggle between Charles and his parliament, he did not wait to see which was the strongest, but fearlessly girt his sword on the patriot side. His great crime was the common one of statesmen; he did not prefer the public weal to his own aggrandisement.

The national character abroad received new lustre under the protectorate. But the wisdom of Cromwell's foreign policy has been differently construed. One party has urged that he ought to have formed an alliance with Spain, in preference to France, a growing rival power: another, that a war with Spain was politic, as exposing to our arms her transatlantic possessions. True wisdom, perhaps, consisted in abstaining from an offensive alliance with either belligerent, and the maintenance of a strict neutrality. But Cromwell repeated the errors of Charles I. Both tried to govern without parliaments, and both plunged the country into impoverishing foreign wars, which entailed expenses that mainly contributed to the embarrassment of their governments.

Although the protector was more eminent for shrewd practical sense than intellectual acquirements, he was not insensible to the claims of genius and literature. He saved the two universities from being over-run by a ruthless fanaticism. He founded a college at Durham; purchased and presented to Dublin university the library of archbishop Usher; employed, patronised, or pensioned Milton, Waller, Usher, Andrew Marvell, Dr. Pell, and Hartlib; and offered, it is said (Mac. Hist., vi. 264), a secretaryship to Hobbes, the philosopher of Malmesbury.

Apart from "the good old cause," which Oliver embroiled or defeated, his history presents many redeeming excellences. His crime was ambition. His capacity for governing men, and moulding them to his purposes, all allow to have been wonderful; but his abilities were executive rather than projective. Boldness, energy, and decision were the active talents which placed him in the foremost rank of military commanders, and in war was his chief distinction. He was an adjunct of the times, the natural product of his age. Most political convulsions elicit some master-spirits to

fashion and direct them. Bonaparte was the giant child of the French revolution,—Cromwell, of the commonwealth. Had the latter lived, or been otherwise constituted than he was—had he been more of a philosopher, and less of an enthusiast—or had he been more of a legislator, and less of an adroit politician, he would not have achieved his greatness. Appearing during a civil war inflamed by religious contests, he came out in season, and his extraordinary but peculiar talents of subtlety, fanaticism, and resolution, found an appropriate field for exercise and development.

It is hard to say whether a zeal for civil or religious freedom was most predominant in the strife with Charles Stuart. Though the country was violently agitated during almost twenty years by different sects and parties, it does not appear any of them evinced very perfect notions of religious toleration. Presbyterians were just as intolerant of popery and prelacy, and the independents of quakers and unitarians, as the papist had been of the Lollard and Lutheran. All were persecutors when they had the power; and, in the "Events and Occurrences" during the commonwealth and protectorate, will be found melancholy examples of victims offered to the Moloch of persecution. These, however, were rare instances. The right of private judgment, claimed by the independents, involved in its development universal toleration. Cromwell himself, who favoured the independent sectaries, was really of a tolerant disposition, and the catholics never suffered so little molestation as under the protectorate. In 1655 he was provoked, by the persecution of the Vaudois, to issue a proclamation for the enforcement of the penal statutes; but it was not acted upon. He even tolerated Judaism, having permitted the settlement of the Jews in England after an exclusion of nearly three centuries, in spite of the denunciations of some bigoted churchmen and lawyers.

It was pre-eminently a religious age, and the army of the commonwealth an extraordinary assemblage of saintly heroes, who rivalled the crusaders in valour and holy fervour.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1653. *April 22.* Cromwell, with his council of officers, published a declaration, with reasons for dissolving the parliament, and authorizing all civil officers to proceed, as formerly, in the execution of their respective offices.

May 6. Addresses to Cromwell and his council of officers, from several counties, approving the dissolution of the parliament, and promising to stand by them.

June 2. The Dutch fleet, under Van Tromp, and the English, under general Monk, being about 100 men-of-war on a side, engaged off the North Foreland. At the first broadside admiral Deane was killed by a cannon ball. The fight lasted two days, and the English obtained a great victory, taking and destroying twenty of the enemies' ships, and pursuing them to their own harbours.

8. Cromwell issued, in his sole name, letters of summons to 156 persons, chiefly recommended by the congregational churches,

to appear at Whitehall, the 4th of July, to take upon them the administration of the government.

June 20. Ambassadors arrived from Holland to treat of peace.

July 4. The persons summoned by Cromwell met in the council-chamber at Whitehall, to the number of about 120, to whom Cromwell declared, they had a clear call to take upon them the supreme authority of the commonwealth; and then produced an instrument, under his own hand and seal, whereby he did, with the advice of his officers, devolve the supreme authority and government of the commonwealth into the hands of the persons met; and that they, or any forty of them, should be acknowledged the supreme authority of the nation; but that they should sit no longer than the 3rd of November, 1654; and three months before their dissolution, should make choice of successors, who were not to sit above a year. Cromwell assured

them he had not chosen one person in whom he had not this good hope, "That he had faith in Jesus Christ, and love to all saints." This assembly resolved, that no person should be admitted to any office or place in government, unless the parliament was satisfied of his real godliness; which occasioned this convention to be called "The godly parliament," by others, "The little or barebone's parliament," from one Praise-God Barebone, a leatherseller in Fleetstreet, who distinguished himself by his speeches.

July 5. Cromwell and his officers being withdrawn, the assembly adjourned to the next day in the parliament-house, and being met, chose Francis Rouse, provost of Eton, and a member of the long parliament, their speaker.

12. The sergeant-at-arms, Brickhead, attended the speaker with the mace.

25. The general assembly of Scotland being met at Edinburgh, colonel Cotterel declared that they ought not to sit without authority from the parliament of England; and thereupon dismissed them, commanding that three of them should not meet together for the future.

29. The English fleet, under Monk and Blake, fought the Dutch, commanded by Van Tromp, upon their own coast, and obtained a great victory, destroying thirty of the Dutch men-of-war, and Tromp himself was killed in the engagement with a musket-shot. No ships were taken on either side. The victors lost two ships, six captains, and 500 seamen killed. It was the seventh and last fight between the two commonwealths; all fought within little more than the compass of a year.

Aug. 20. John Lilburne, who had opposed all the governments he had lived under, and particularly Oliver's, being tried for remaining in England after an act made for his banishment, was acquitted; but it being ascertained that he had been plotting with the royalists abroad, he was committed to the Tower. He was next removed to Elizabeth-castle, Jersey, and discharged, a little before his death, in 1657. He died a quaker, a new sect which had just appeared.

24. An act was passed for solemnizing marriages by justices of the peace.

Oct. Captain Hayton fell upon a squadron of French men-of-war, and took several.

Nov. 1. Parliament chose a new council of state.

Dec. 12. It was moved in the house, that the sitting of this parliament any longer would not be for the good of the commonwealth, and that it was fit they should resign their power to the lord-general; and the speaker, with many of the

members, went to Whitehall, where, by a writing, they presented to Cromwell a resignation of their power. But some of the members continuing still to sit in the house, colonel White came with a guard, and forced them out. This proceeding was a manœuvre of Oliver and his creatures, who had become alarmed at the spirit which had begun to appear among some of the members to investigate the abuses of the law-courts, the laws and public revenue, and the constitution of the existing government. Lambert and the council of officers also prepared to resign their functions, declaring that the government of the commonwealth should reside in a single person, Oliver Cromwell, the captain-general, and his title should be "Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland."

Dec. 16. The council of officers sent for the commissioners of the great seal, with the lord-mayor and aldermen of London, and caused to be read a writing called "The Instrument;" by which Cromwell was made protector. It also stipulated as follows:—1. A parliament to be called every three years by the protector: 2. The first to be assembled on the third of the following September: 3. No parliament to be dissolved till they have sat five months: 4. Such bills as were offered to the protector, if not confirmed in twenty days, to be laws without: 5. That his council should not exceed the number of twenty-one, nor be less than thirteen: 6. That no one protector, after the present, should be general of the army: 7. The protector shall have power to make war and peace: 8. That the protector and his council may make laws, which shall be binding on the subject, during the intervals of parliament. The same afternoon, the protector, attended by a strong guard of soldiers, and all the great officers of state, with the lord-mayor and aldermen of London, came from Whitehall to Westminster-hall, and a chair of state being set for him in the chancery-court, he stood on the left of it uncovered, till a large writing on parchment was read, containing the power with which he was invested, and how he was to govern the three nations, and the oath to be taken by him. Having subscribed this writing, and taken the oath, tendered him by Lisle, one of the commissioners of the broad seal, he sat down in the chair of state covered, and the commissioners delivered up the broad seal to him, and the lord-mayor his sword, which he immediately returned again, and the court arose and went to Whitehall, the lord-mayor uncovered, carrying the sword before the protector in grand procession. Cromwell was dressed in a suit and cloak of black velvet

with long boots, and a broad gold band round his hat.

By the above instrument of government it was also provided, that the number of members for England should not exceed 400; for Scotland, 30; and for Ireland, 30. The number of members to be elected for each county and borough are specified and regulated according to the size of the respective counties; the corporations are allowed to choose 1 each, and many of the smaller boroughs excluded, and some new ones, as Manchester and Leeds, enfranchised. Only the city of London was allowed to choose six, and some of the larger cities two each: the universities to choose one each. None but persons of integrity to be chosen, of which the protector was judge. Any person worth 200*l.*, and qualified in point of principles, may be an elector. Sixty members to be a quorum. The persons to be of the protector's council are nominated in the instrument, and upon any vacancy, the parliament are to nominate others; seven to be a quorum. A yearly revenue to be raised, for maintaining 10,000 horse and 20,000 foot, and a good fleet at sea. The office of lord-protector to be elective, and not hereditary. The election to be by the council, immediately after the protector's death, and only the royal family disabled to be elected. The great officers to be chosen by consent of parliament, and in the intervals of parliament, by the council. All denominations of Christians to be tolerated but the disciples of popery and episcopacy. The same day a proclamation was published by the council, requiring all persons to conform and submit themselves to the government thus established; and the protector was proclaimed, all over England, with the same solemnity as the kings of England were heretofore.

1654. *Feb.* 8. The protector being invited to an entertainment in the city, went in regal state. The city companies were placed on each side in all their pageantry, from Temple-bar to Cheapside. The lord-mayor and aldermen met him at Temple-bar, on horseback, in their scarlet gowns; and Vyner, the lord-mayor, having delivered the protector the sword, and received it again, carried it bareheaded before his highness to Grocers' hall. The protector at this entertainment knighted Vyner.

Mar. 4. The Dutch ambassadors having audience of the protector in the banquetting-house, acquainted him that all the provinces had consented to the articles of peace, and desired a cessation of arms.

27. Monsieur Bordeaux, ambassador from the French king to Cromwell, made his public entry, and on the 29th had his audience at the banquetting-room, Whitehall. Ambassadors were received by the

protector standing on a platform raised three steps above the floor, on which was a chair of state. They were instructed to make three reverences; one at the entrance, a second at the midway, and a third at the lower step, each of which Cromwell acknowledged by a slight inclination of the head. The ambassadors of the States were invited to dine with him. Oliver sat alone on one side of the table; they, with some lords of the council, on the other.

April 5. Peace signed by the States ambassadors; and obtained by promising to make all damages good that were sustained by the English for nearly thirty years past. They consented to strike the flag to the English ships, to pay 300,000*l.* for the affair at Amboyna, and to deliver up the island of Poloron in the East Indies. The ratification of peace was presented to Cromwell in a silver box. The two provinces of Holland and Zealand lost 1500 ships, that were taken by the English.

12. An ordinance by the protector, with advice of his council, for uniting Scotland into one commonwealth with England.

May. General Monk, who had been decorated with a gold chain by the protector, returned to his command in Scotland, and was magnificently entertained at Edinburgh.

30. Christina, queen of Sweden, resigns the crown in the twenty-seventh year of her age.

June 23. Southworth, a catholic clergyman, 72 years of age, executed. On the scaffold he reproached his persecutors with their inconsistency in taking up arms for liberty of conscience, yet shedding the blood of one who happened to differ with them in religious opinion.

July 6. Mr. Vowel and colonel Gerard condemned for high treason, in conspiring the death of the protector. Vowel was hanged at the Mews-gate, and Gerard beheaded on Tower-hill, July 10. The same day Don Pantaleon Sa, the Spanish ambassador's brother, who had quarrelled with Gerard, and killed another gentleman he took for him, was beheaded on Tower-hill.

19. General Middleton, who commanded for Charles II. in Scotland, is routed by Morgan.

Aug. The Portuguese ambassador going down to Gravesend, in order to embark for Portugal, was arrested by some merchants of London, of whom he had borrowed great sums of money, and prevented proceeding on his voyage.

Sept. King Charles, finding his residence in the French court unacceptable, on account of the treaty between that crown and Cromwell, removed from thence the beginning of June last; and having spent some time with his sister, the princess of

Orange, at Aix la Chapelle, &c about this time came with his little court to Cologne, where he resided about two years and a half.

Sept. 3. Being Sunday, the parliament of the three kingdoms met, and, after hearing a sermon in the abbey, attended the protector to the painted chamber, where he made a short speech to them, and directed them to go to their house, and adjourn themselves to the next day.

4. Cromwell came to Westminster-abbey in royal state, and having heard a sermon, went to the painted chamber, where seating himself, and the members sitting uncovered upon benches, he put off his hat, and made them a long speech, principally to show the advantages the nation had already reaped from his administration, and denounced those religious and political levellers who would destroy liberty, property, law, and religion, to introduce their visionary schemes. The members being retired to their house, chose Lenthall their speaker, who had been speaker of the long parliament.

12. Great debates happening in the house, as to the legality of the present parliament and the "instrument" of government, the protector came to the painted chamber, and sent for the members, and severely reprimanded their presumption; after which he placed a guard at the door of the house, and would suffer none to enter who would not subscribe a recognition, "That he would be true and faithful to the lord-protector; and that he would not propose or give consent to alter the government, as it is settled in one single person and a parliament." Whereupon 130 of the members signed it the first day, and more of the members afterwards, to the number of 300. Bradshaw, Harrison, Haslerig, and other republicans refused to sign it. The house endeavoured to explain away the force of the recognition, and resolved, "That it did not extend to the whole 42 articles contained in the instrument of government, but only to that which declared the government to be in a single person and successive parliaments."

19. Fleetwood, who had married Ireton's widow (Cromwell's daughter), was made governor of Ireland, and two years after was succeeded by Henry Cromwell, son of the protector.

29. Cromwell having taken a fancy to drive his own carriage, is thrown on the pole, and his life in jeopardy. A pistol, which he had concealed on his person, went off during the accident.

Oct. 19. A grand debate in the house whether the protectorship should be elective or hereditary, and the affirmative carried by a majority of 200 to 60.

The kirk of Scotland refused to observe the fast-day ordered by the protector, it being their principle, "Not to receive any directions for the keeping fasts from the civil magistrate."

The parliament voted Cromwell to be lord-protector during life.

Oct. 24. Voted, "That no law should be altered or repealed, or new laws made, or any tax imposed, but by assent of parliament."

27. Voted, "That a new parliament should be assembled every third year, but not to sit above six months, unless prolonged by act of parliament."

30. That learned antiquary, Mr. John Selden, died.

Nov. 17. Cromwell's mother died, and was buried in Westminster-abbey; she was daughter of sir Richard Stewart.

30. The house inquires into the theological opinions of John Biddle, who may be styled the father of the English unitarians. The presbyterians in the commons ordered his books to be burnt: next year the same party prosecuted him for blasphemy, as a capital offence. The dissolution saved his life, and Cromwell sent him to the castle of St. Mary, in Scilly, where he allowed him a pension of 100 crowns for his support. He died in Newgate, in 1662.

Dec. 5. Vote for choosing successive protectors. Voted, "That Whitehall, St. James's, the Mews, Somerset-house, Greenwich, Hampton-court, and the manor of York be kept unsold for the protector's use."

Voted, that 200,000*l.* a year shall be settled on the protector and his successors. According to a statement of a sub-committee of the commons, the following was the amount of the revenue of the three kingdoms:—

Excise and customs in England	80,000
Excise and customs in Scotland	10,000
Excise and customs in Ireland	20,000
Monthly assessments in England	72,000
Monthly assessments in Ireland	96,000
Monthly assessments in Scotland	96,000
Crown revenue in Guernsey and Jersey	2,000
Crown revenue in Scotland	9,000
Estates of papists and delinquents in England	60,000
Estates of papists and delinquents in Scotland	30,000
Rent of houses belonging to the crown	1,250
Post-office	10,000
Exchequer revenue	20,000
Probate of wills	10,000
Coinage of tin	2,000
Wine licences	10,000
Forest of Dean	4,000
Fines on alienation	20,000
	£1,200,000

1655. *Jan.* 22. Parliament not answering the protector's expectations, he dissolved them, after they had sat barely five lunar months, according to one of the articles in his instrument of government.

Mar. 11. Sir Joseph Wagstaffe, colonel Penruddock, and others, assembled about 200 horse, and proclaimed the king at Salisbury; they took Cromwell's judges and sheriff prisoners, who held the assize there; but they were soon suppressed. Wagstaffe escaped beyond sea; Penruddock was condemned and executed at Exeter, May 16, 1655; as were several other gentlemen there, at Salisbury, and other places; and many more sold to the West Indies for slaves.

14. The quarterly expenses of the protector's family amounted to 35,000*l.*

Manning, who betrayed the king at Cologne, and was the occasion of the ruin of many of the royalists, by the intelligence he sent to Cromwell, was shot in Germany.

31. Dr. James Usher, archbishop of Armagh, and primate of Ireland, died, and was buried at Cromwell's charge, in Westminster-abbey, the 17th of April.

April 3. An ordinance of the protector's, for better regulating the jurisdiction of the court of chancery, commanded to be put in execution; and the 6th of June following, Whitelock and Widdrington, two of the commissioners of the broad seal, were turned out for not obeying it, and the seal was committed to colonel Fiennes and major Lisle.

A Dutch caricature represents the servility with which the courts of France and Spain had sought the alliance of the protector: the Spanish ambassador approaching, in humble posture, the lord-protector, to perform a most degrading office; while the French ambassador, eagerly pulling him back, says, "Give place, sir,—that honour belongs to my master."

An ordinance by Cromwell's sole authority, whereby all with estates above 100*l.* a year, that had borne arms for the king, or declared themselves in his interest, were to pay a tenth part of their property to support the charge of the commonwealth, without regard to former compositions, or of any articles upon which they surrendered.

Apr. 13. Admiral Penn and Venables arrived at St. Domingo, but were unsuccessful there. They next set sail for the island of Jamaica, which they took from the Spaniards, the 3rd of May, and the English have remained in possession of it since. Admiral Blake about the same time battered Tunis, destroyed nine ships in the harbour, and compelled the Tunisians to release the English captives.

Sept. Penn and Venables returned from America, and were both, for ill conduct, sent to the Tower.

Vane, who had been living in retirement

since the usurpation of Cromwell, put forth some able pamphlets, and the protector, unable to conciliate the republican party, which he had abandoned, summoned four of their leaders, Bradshaw, Ludlow, Vane, and Rich, to appear before the council (Cont. Mac. Hist. vi., 215). The result was, that Bradshaw was removed from the chief-justiceship of Chester, Vane committed to Carisbrooke-castle, Ludlow discharged on bail, and Rich imprisoned at Windsor. Harrison, the anabaptist, who had at first assisted Cromwell in his ambitious objects from godly motives, but deserted him when he found he had no intention of establishing the kingdom of Christ, was confined in Pendennis-castle in Cornwall. Lord Willoughby and other royalists were committed to the Tower.

The protector ordered a last, and a collection for the persecuted protestants in Piedmont.

Oct. Order of council against publishing any newspaper without leave of the secretary of state; and another order against publishing unlicensed books and pamphlets. The protector divided England and Wales into twelve districts, and in every district placed a major-general, who had not only an absolute command of the forces in his division, but a very great power in civil causes. These generals had all the authority which was before divided among committee-men, justices of the peace, and other officers. They committed all suspected persons, levied monies, sequestered those who refused to pay, and had power to list horse and foot upon occasion, and from them lay no appeal but to the protector himself.

24. Articles of peace between England and France signed, and proclaimed on the 28th of November. By this treaty it was agreed that Cromwell should send 6000 men to the assistance of the French in the Netherlands, against the Spaniards; that Dunkirk and Marlyke should be invested by their united forces, and when taken, put into the hands of the English; and that neither king Charles or the princes his brothers, should be suffered to reside in France. Cromwell would not suffer the French king to call himself king of France in this treaty, and obliged him to set his name after his own, as protector both of France and England.

Nov. 2. A committee was appointed for promoting and encouraging trade and commerce.

Dec. Instructions to the major-generals to take security of all those who had been in arms for the king, for their peaceable demeanour and obedience to the protector's government.

1656. *Feb.* 16. Spain declared war against England.

April. A quaker in Colchester starved himself to death upon presumption that he could fast forty days.

Sept. Several Spanish galleons were destroyed by the English fleet near Cadix, and one of them was taken with a prodigious treasure on board, amounting to two millions of dollars.

17. Cromwell's third parliament met, to whom he made a speech in the painted chamber, but he suffered none to enter the house who were not approved by his council, and had obtained a certificate to that effect. A motion was made by one Pack, an alderman of London, to invest Cromwell with the title of king, which was seconded by a great many members, some of them his known enemies, and opposed by some of his intimate friends; however, it was carried by a majority, that the crown should be offered to the protector. Sir T. Widdrington was chosen speaker. One hundred members were refused admittance into the house, refusing to sign the engagement.

Oct. 27. The protector came to the painted chamber, and passed an act, that the passing of bills should not determine the present parliament. Another for renouncing and disannulling the pretended title of Charles Stuart; and a third for the security of the protector's person, in which it was made high treason to conspire his death. A fourth for taking away the court of wards; and a fifth for the exportation of several of our native commodities.

31. A committee was appointed to examine into the blasphemy of James Naylor, the quaker, who personated Jesus Christ at Bristol and other places.

Dec. 8. Resolved, that James Naylor is guilty of horrid blasphemy, and that he is a grand impostor, and a great seducer of the people.

17. The speaker pronounced judgment against Naylor, that he be whipped and pilloried, and his tongue bored through with a hot iron. Naylor had been discharged from the army as invalid, and parliament would have acted more creditably by sending him to a lunatic asylum, than spending their time in devising cruel punishments.

Cromwell, desirous of increasing the population and prosperity of the West India colonies, ordered all females of disorderly lives to be arrested and shipped for Barbadoes. He had on a former occasion, for similar purposes (Ling. Hist., xi. 260), forcibly taken up 1000 young girls in Ireland, and sent them to Jamaica.

1657. *Jan. 19.* A plot discovered against the protector. Miles Syndercombe, who had been cashiered in Scotland, conspired with one Cecil, and one troop of Cromwell's

lifeguard, to kill the protector; but Syndercombe was betrayed by his confederates, and condemned to die; the judges declaring it to be treason by the common law, to conspire the death of any chief magistrate, whether king or protector.

Mar. A rising of the fifth-monarchy men, who sought to establish Christ's kingdom, and make the Bible the law of the land. Venner, a wine-cooper, was the chief conspirator. A few arrests were the only result.

23. Treaty of alliance, between England and France, against Spain.

Apr. 13. A committee of parliament offered their reasons to the protector for his accepting the title of king. Whitelock, a wily lawyer, urged that the title of king was not only by an original common consent, but that the law fitted thereto; and that a new title must have a new constitution to make the laws relate unto it; and, that no new constitution could be so firm as the restitution of the old one would probably be.

20. Lambert, Pride, Desborough, Cromwell's brother-in-law, and Fleetwood, his son-in-law, with other officers of the army, petitioned against his accepting the title of king, and threatened him if he did.

Blake attacked the fleet of Spanish galleons as they lay under the castles in the Canaries, and burnt them all. He died on the 17th of August, on his return home, and was buried, September 4, at Cromwell's expense, in Henry VII.'s chapel, in grand style. He was an inflexible republican and sectarian, who had been engaged in hostilities, by sea or land, since the commencement of the civil war. Blake, in his early days, had stood candidate for a fellowship at Oxford, but (Brodie, Brit. Emp. iv. 317) lost it from lowness of stature.

May 8. The protector having weighed the consequences of taking the regal title, commanded the parliament to attend him in the banqueting-room, where he made them a speech, concluding, "That he could not, with a good conscience, accept the government under the title of king."

25. Parliament waited upon Cromwell with another petition, desiring him to execute the office of chief magistrate of the three kingdoms, under the title of lord protector; in this new instrument they enlarged the powers he had assumed to himself in his first instrument of government; they empowered him to nominate his successor, to create a second legislative chamber, which, to avoid offence to the republicans, was to be styled not the upper, but "the other house," and gave him the annual sum of 1,300,000*l.* for the support of his government.

June 26. Cromwell was again inaugu-

rated in his office of protector in Westminster-hall. The ceremony being ended, he went in state to Westminster-hall gate, where he took coach and went to the house, and passed several bills. The same day the parliament was adjourned to the 20th of January.

July 30. Dr. William Harvey, who first clearly established the circulation of the blood, died.

Nov. 11. Cromwell marries his youngest daughter Frances to Mr. Rich, a grandchild of the earl of Warwick. On the 17th his third daughter Mary, was married to lord Falconbridge; the following is the style in which the latter event was announced in the court gazette of the day:—"Whitehall, Tuesday, November 17. Yesterday afternoon his highness went to Hampton-court, and this day the most illustrious lady, the lady Mary Cromwell, third daughter of his highness the lord protector, was there married to the most noble lord, the lord Falconbridge, in the presence of their highnesses and many noble persons."—*Merc. Polit.* Nov. 19.

Dec. 7. Cromwell sent an agent to the duke of Savoy, to negotiate in favour of his protestant subjects.

11. Writs were issued to several persons, to the number of sixty, to give their attendance at Westminster, and compose a house of lords.

25. Cromwell dispersed several congregations that were met together to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ.

The protector's administration was extremely vigilant. Thurloe, his secretary, had spies every where. Manning, who had access to the royal family, had kept a regular correspondence with him. Postmasters, both at home and abroad, were in his pay; carriers were searched or bribed; secretaries and clerks were corrupted. The greatest zealots in all parties were commonly those who conveyed private information to him. It is said he expended 60,000*l.* a-year in procuring intelligence. Burnet says the royalists were completely entangled in his nets, and they could not make the least movement without being discovered. He could disconcert any project by confining the persons who were to be the actors in it; and as he restored them again to liberty, his severity passed only for a general suspicion.

1658. *Jan. 20.* The commons met, as did also the new-created house of peers, in pursuance of their summons from Cromwell; he sent for the commons up to the upper house by the black rod the same day, and then made a speech to both houses, which he begun in the royal style, "My lords, and gentlemen of the house of

commons." Then he ordered his lord keeper Fiennes to deliver his mind more at large; whereupon Fiennes made a long speech, and insisted much upon the adaptation of the present constitution to the genius of the English. The commons re-admitted their excluded members, and exclaimed against the constituting a house of lords, and even questioned the protector's authority to summon them. In the lords were several gentlemen of ancient families, and some of the colonels and officers of the army; but none of the nobility, except lord Eure, sat in the house; the earl Warwick, though allied by marriage to Cromwell, refused to sit with colonel Hewson and colonel Pride, the first having been a shoemaker, and the other a drayman.

Feb. 4. The protector finding the commons about to unravel all his schemes, came to his house of peers and sent for the commons, and after he had made a speech setting forth the plots against his authority, and declaring that he would have "kept under a woodside a flock of sheep, rather than undertake such a government," he proceeded to dissolve, after sitting fourteen days, this his fourth and last parliament.

General Lambert was dismissed from his preferments because he refused to take the new oath of allegiance to the protector *singly*, without reference to the commonwealth. He retired on a pension of 2000*l.* in lieu of 10*l.* per diem, which he had before received. Upon Cromwell being confirmed in the protectorate, he called his eldest son Richard to court, and made him chancellor of Oxford.

Mar. 17. A plot of the cavaliers against Cromwell was discovered; whereupon he sent for the lord mayor and aldermen, and ordered them to provide for the defence of the city. A pamphlet was published, entitled "Killing no Murder," generally ascribed to colonel Titus, but by Mr. Godwin, on the authority of Thurloe, to colonel Sexby, a staunch republican, who soon after died suddenly in the Tower. This pamphlet gave Cromwell great uneasiness; he wore armour under his clothes, carried pistols in his pocket, and changed his bed-chamber almost every night. Cromwell, afraid to trust common juries, erected a high court of justice for the trial of the conspirators.

June 2. Sir Henry Slingsby and Dr. Hewet were condemned as traitors, and beheaded the 8th; but Mr. Mordaunt, another conspirator, was saved by his wife bribing the chief witness to abscond.

17. Dunkirk surrendered to the French, and was put into the hands of the English.

Aug. 6. Mrs. Claypole, Cromwell's eldest daughter, died, of cancer and grief, from

the death of her son. The protector was confined with gout at the time, and deeply regretted the loss of this his favourite daughter.

The French, by the assistance of the English, over-ran great part of Flanders, taking Winoxburgh, Furnes, Menin, Oude-nard, and Ypres.

Aug. 12. Cromwell being taken ill of a fever at Hampton-court, returned to Whitehall, where he died Sept. 3, in the 60th year of his age, having held the title of protector four years, eight months, and eighteen days. It was the anniversary of his two greatest victories, Dunbar and Worcester; and on the same day happened the greatest storm of wind that ever was known. It is doubtful whether he appointed his son Richard his successor. When one of his physicians expressed some apprehensions of danger, from the intermission of his pulse, he answered, God assured him of his recovery; for his chaplains who were dispersed in several parts of the palace to pray for his recovery, all of them brought him this answer of their prayers, he shall recover. But finding his dissolution approaching, he inquired of his chaplains, whether a man could fall from grace? To which being answered, he could not, he replied, "I am safe, for I am sure I was once in a state of grace."

Sept. 4. Richard Cromwell, the late protector's eldest son, was proclaimed lord protector. He received the compliments of condolence and congratulation from the foreign ministers, from the army and navy, from 100 congregations and churches, and from counties, cities, and boroughs, with promises of adhering to his highness with their lives and fortunes against all opposers.

Oct. 14. Fleetwood made lieutenant-general of the forces, in compliance with the petition of the officers.

Nov. 23. The late protector was buried with great pomp in Henry VIIIth's chapel, in Westminster abbey, after lying in state in Somerset house, at the expence of 60,000*l.* The charge for black cloth only was 6,920*l.* The coffin containing the body of Cromwell, had been privately deposited some time before in Westminster abbey, and it was only to his effigy these costly honours were now paid.

1659. *Jan. 27.* Richard met parliament, and made a speech to both houses, after which commissioner Fienes was chosen another. Mr. Chaloner Chute was chosen speaker of the commons. This parliament had been elected according to the ancient system of election: it divided into three distinct parties:—1. Protectorists; about one half the members, consisting of Scotch and Irish representatives, named by the

executive, and of actual and expectant placemen, mostly lawyers, to the number of 170. 2. Republicans, who did not amount to fifty; but in that number were Bradshaw, Haslerig, Vane, Ludlow, Okey, Scot, Weaver, and Walcot, whose energy, eloquence, and ability were pre-eminent. Fairfax, who had again appeared on the stage, also ranked in their number, though a concealed royalist. 3. About 100 moderates, waiters on providence, and masked Stuartites.

Mar. 28. The commons resolved to transact business with the other house. In the examination of accounts, the annual income of the three kingdoms came to 1,848,717*l.* and the yearly expence to 2,201,540*l.* and to maintain the conquest of Scotland cost yearly 163,619*l.* Complaints were made of royalists having been sold for slaves in the West Indies.

Apr. 6. Fleetwood and Desborough, who headed the Wallingford-house party, consisting of republican commoners, and a section of the army, demand of the protector the dissolution of parliament.

22. Parliament dissolved by proclamation; after which Richard withdrew to Hampton-court, and his authority ceased, though the government continued in his name.

May 6. Fleetwood and the general officers published a declaration, inviting the members of the long parliament to return to their seats, and re-establish in its integrity the 'good old cause.'

7. Lenthall the speaker, and several of the members of the long parliament, met in the house of commons to the number of about forty-one; but Prynne and other of the presbyterian members who were excluded in the year 1648, attempting to enter with them, they were stopt. They published a declaration, setting forth their intentions to preserve liberty, property, and magistracy, without a "single person, kingship, or house of peers;" and commanded that all writs, patents, &c. should run again in the name of the keepers of the liberties of England.

21. Treaty of the Hague between England, France, and Holland, to maintain the equilibrium of the north.

25. Richard made his submission to parliament, when they made provision for his debts and support, and ordered him to quit Whitehall in six days. After the restoration, he went to France, and continued some years in obscurity in Paris; but upon the rumour of a war between France and England, he removed to Geneva. Some years before Charles II. died, he returned to England, and died at Cheshunt in Hertfordshire.

June 8. A statement of the public debts was presented to the house by colonel Downes, from the committee of inspection, whereby it appeared that there was owing to the

Land forces of England, Scotland, and Ireland, to the 20th of June 1659	600,944
To the navy	692,640
That the growing charge to the 1st Dec. 1659, for the land forces amounted to	447,236
And for the navy	607,645
Making in all	£2,348,466

June 22. Letters arrived of Henry Cromwell's submission to the government: he was then lord-lieutenant of Ireland.

Aug. 1. Charles II. removed from Brussels to Calais, to be ready, if occasion offered, to come over.

A general insurrection organized by the old club of royalists in London, called 'The sealed knot,' it was discovered by sir Richard Willis, who had long been the paid spy of Cromwell among the royalists, and still gave intelligence; most of the leaders were taken and committed to prison: only sir George Booth and sir Thomas Middleton assembled about 3000 men and took possession of Chester on the 19th. These Lambert engaged near Nantwich, and routed them, and sir George was afterwards taken prisoner at Newport Pagnel, in a woman's habit, on the 23rd.

Oct. 5. Desborough presents a threatening petition to parliament from the council of officers.

12. Parliament, after three days' debate on the army's petition, deprives of their commissions Lambert, Desborough, and other officers, for their violence, which occasioned a mutiny amongst the soldiers.

13. Lambert with the military met the speaker going to parliament with his life-guards, dismounted the officer that commanded them, and turned the speaker back with his guards. He deposed the parliament again, and with his officers assumed sovereign power.

14. The officers of the army appointed Fleetwood their general. After a lapse of ten days, a new council was formed to carry on the government, consisting of Lambert, Fleetwood, Desborough, Berry, Vane, Whitelock, Sydenham, Harrington, Salway, and Wanton.

26. The officers constituted a council of twenty-three men, most of them general officers, to take upon them the government, and these they called a committee of safety, requiring all people to obey them, till another form of government should be

erected, which they declared should be without a single person, kingship or lords.

Oct. 29. Letters arrived that Monk was dissatisfied with the proceedings of the army, and that he had secured Berwick.

31. Serjeant Bradshaw, the president of the high court of justice that condemned the king, died of a quartan ague, which had held him a year. A few days before, in parliament, he boldly protested against the recent military usurpation; and in his last moments affirmed, that were he again to sit in judgment upon Charles I. he would vote as he had done.

Nov. 1. The committee of safety constituted Whitelock keeper of the great seal.

2. Letters arrived from Edinburgh, that Monk and many of the officers had declared for the parliament against the officers of the army of England; and that Monk had imprisoned some of his officers, and turned out others, that did not agree with him.

5. Commissions were issued by the committee of safety for raising forces, and general Lambert marched northward.

10. Letters were sent from the fleet, and from the officers in Ireland to Monk, proposing an accommodation between him and the army of England.

12. Three commissioners arrived at London from Monk, to treat with commissioners from the committee of safety.

17. Letters arrived, that general Monk had summoned a convention in Scotland, and told them, he had a call from God and man to march into England, to settle the peace there; he required them to suppress all insurrections in his absence, and demanded money for his troops, which they promised to levy.

18. Monk encamped at Coldstream near Berwick, where he continued about a month. Lambert remained with his forces, consisting of about 12,000 men, at Newcastle.

24. The governor of Portsmouth declared for the parliament. The committee of safety sent and blocked up the town, but the soldiers deserted and were received into the town. Vice-admiral Lawson entered the Thames to support the Parliament. Desborough's regiment also declared for the parliament.

Dec. 24. The authority of the committee of safety expired, and the famous long parliament resumed the government. General Fairfax declared for a free parliament, and was joined by great numbers of gentlemen on Marston-inour; whereupon Lambert's forces at Newcastle deserted him, and joined Fairfax, who took possession of York, and opened a correspondence with Monk.

1660. Jan. 1. Being Sunday, Monk passed over the Tweed, and marched into

England, with four regiments of horse, and six of foot. He received a letter from the parliament to stop his journey, but paid no regard to it.

Jan. 9. Lambert, sir Henry Vane, and several others of the committee of safety, were confined by the parliament. Monk advanced to York with his army, where he was entertained by lord Fairfax, who with the gentry of Yorkshire addressed him to procure a free parliament.

16. Scot and Robinson, the republican commissioners from the parliament, met Monk at Leicester, and discouraged the addresses made to him for a free parliament.

Feb. 1. An order for the soldiers in and about London to march out, and make room for Monk's soldiers, as he required in his letters from St. Alban's, dated the 28th of January.

4. Monk marched into London, and took up his quarters in Whitehall. Monk's army consisted of near 6000 men, and the parliament's regiments in London of 10,000 horse and foot.

6. Monk was introduced into the parliament-house, where he made a speech, and among other things desired they would be careful that neither the cavalier nor fanatic party have a share in the civil or military power; but desired that the presbyterian members, forcibly secluded in 1648, might be admitted without any previous oath or engagement. Petitions were presented to restore the secluded members. The secluded members, to the number of four-score, attending Monk at Whitehall, he told them, that the settlement of the nation lay in their hands; and took leave to represent, that the old foundations were so broken that they could not be restored, but upon the ruin of the nation: that it was the interest of London to have a commonwealth, the only government capable of making her the mart for the trade of Christendom; and that he thought a moderate, not a rigid, presbyterian government most acceptable in church affairs, recommending to them a supply for the army, the dissolving themselves, and summoning a new parliament.

7. The common council of the city of London met, and refused to pay the assessment levied by parliament.

9. Parliament commanded Monk to destroy the gates of the city, and pull up their posts and chains, suspecting them to be in the king's interest; which Monk executed, and took up new quarters. Praise-God Barebone presented a petition, that the members, and every person holding a public office, should take oath to abjure Charles Stuart, and government by a single person.

Feb. 11. Monk, by the remonstrances of his friends, came to know his error, embroiling himself with the city, and resolved to repair it; he marched with his troops into the city, and wrote to the parliament complaining of and reproaching their unsettled conduct. Parliament sent deputies to Monk to satisfy him, but without success.

12. Monk drew up his forces in Finsbury fields, excused what he had done by order of the parliament, dined with the lord mayor, held a consultation with him and the court of aldermen, and declared for a free parliament; which occasioned a general joy, and rumps were burnt in bonfires, from one end of the town to the other, and the king's health publicly drank.

20. Monk made the secluded members, before their admission, sign articles in favour of the army, and to dissolve the present parliament.

21. The secluded members took their places, and voted Monk to be general of the forces in England, Scotland and Ireland.

22. Monk still protested he would oppose to the utmost the setting up of Charles Stuart, a single person, or a house of peers.

Mar. 5. Order for printing and setting up in churches the solemn league and covenant.

6. Lambert was committed to the Tower by the council of state.

10. Letters from admiral Lawson, that he and the officers of the fleet would submit to the determination of the parliament and of Monk. An act passed for putting the militia into the hands of persons of quality; but by it every officer was to declare, that the war, undertaken by the parliament against the late king, was just and lawful. The engagement to be true and faithful to the commonwealth, without a king or a house of lords, repealed, and orders for taking it expunged.

16. An act passed for dissolving the parliament, after it had continued in several forms nineteen years, four months, and thirteen days, with a proviso not to infringe the rights of the house of peers; the commons then broke up, to attend their private affairs, and make interest to be re-elected; having first constituted a council of state, consisting of thirty-one persons, among whom were general Monk, Arthur Annesley the president, lord Fairfax, and sir Anthony Ashley Cooper.

17. The council of state took upon them the administration of the government, and issued several proclamations for preservation of the public peace, &c.

April. Sir John Grenville, having brought a letter from Charles II. to general Monk, returned to Brussels the beginning of this month, with a satisfactory

answer. The general, when he had read the king's letter, assured sir John, that his heart had ever been faithful to the king, but that he had not been in circumstances to do him any considerable service till then. That he was not only ready to obey his majesty's commands, but to sacrifice all for his service. This was communicated verbally, Monk being too wary to commit anything to paper. Monk cashiered several officers, and substituted others more faithful in their places.

Apr. 4. The king removed from Brussels to Breda, from whence he sent letters to the parliament, the general, &c., with a vague declaration of the terms on which he would accede to the sovereignty.

9. General Lambert having made his escape out of the Tower, a proclamation was published for apprehending him. Inguldsby, formerly a regicide, but now a royalist, being sent with a detachment, took him prisoner near Daventry, without striking a stroke; together with colonels Cobbet, Creed, Okey, Axtel, and others.

25. The convention parliament met at Westminster-abbey, and after sermon went to their respective houses: the earl of Manchester was chosen speaker of the lords, and sir Harbottle Grimstone, a presbyterian, of the commons. The elections had gone generally in favour of the presbyterian and moderate party; the republicans were mostly shunned.

May 1. Sir John Grenville delivered the king's letters and declaration to the two houses, to general Monk, and admiral Lawson, which were read in parliament; whereupon they voted that the government ought to be by king, lords, and commons; and the commons voted 50,000*l.* for his majesty's present occasions. Attempts were made by sir Matthew Hale, the eminent chief-justice, and by Prynne, to impose limitations on the royal power, prior to the king's accession, but they were stifled by the perfidy or selfishness of Monk, who for his own ends sought to introduce the king in full possession of all the tyrannical prerogatives claimed by Charles I.

3. The city of London and the Fleet declared for Charles.

5. Easter term adjourned.

7. The king's statue was set up again in Guildhall, and the commonwealth's arms taken down.

8. The king was solemnly proclaimed,

at which both houses assisted, in London and Westminster.

May 10. A day of thanksgiving was observed in London, and the common prayer read before the lords.

14. The king was proclaimed in Ireland.

A committee of six lords and twelve commoners attended the king at the Hague, with an invitation to return and take the government of the kingdoms, and presented the king with the 50,000*l.* that had been voted him; the duke of York with 10,000*l.*, and the duke of Gloucester with 5000*l.* A deputation of the city of London attended Charles at the same time, with assurances of their duty and affection, and a present of 10,000*l.* and 1000*l.* to each of his brothers. Whereupon the king knighted all the citizens that came on this errand.

23. Charles left the Hague, and arrived at Dover the 25th, where he was met by Monk at the head of a numerous body of nobility and gentry.

29. Being the king's birth-day, he made a triumphant entry into the city of London and came to Whitehall. The same night Charles is said to have taken Barbara Villiers, afterwards duchess of Portsmouth, from her husband. He had abandoned his mistress, Lucy Walters, mother of the duke of Monmouth, to poverty and neglect.

ISSUE OF OLIVER CROMWELL.

Richard, who succeeded him in the protectorate. He died in 1712, aged 86, and his remains were deposited in the chancel of Hursley church.

Henry, lord lieutenant of Ireland, who died in 1674.

Bridget, married first to Ireton, afterwards to Fleetwood.

Elizabeth, married to John Claypole, esq., of Northamptonshire.

Mary, married to lord Fauconberg.

Frances, married first to a grandson of lord Warwick, and afterwards to sir John Russel of Cambridgeshire.

Two natural children have been ascribed to Oliver, namely, general Toilemache, by lady Dysert afterwards duchess of Lauderdale, and Dr. Millington, by Mrs. Lambert.

The late representative of the protectoral house was Oliver Cromwell esq. the great-grandson of Henry Cromwell, and who long practised as a solicitor in Essex-street, Strand. He died at Cheshunt-park, Hertfordshire, May 31, 1821.

REVENUES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Abstract of the Money raised in England, from Nov. 3, 1640, to Nov. 5, 1659.
Sinc. Hist. Rev. pt. I. 176.

Six subsidies at 50,000 <i>l.</i> each	.	.	.	300,000
Poll money and assessments to disband the Scotch and English armies	.	.	.	800,000

	£.
Voluntary contributions for the support of the good cause against malignants	300,000
Ditto ditto for the relief of the Irish Protestants	180,000
Land-tax or various assessments for the maintenance of the army	32,172,321
Excise for 16 years at 500,000 <i>l.</i> per annum	8,000,000
Tonnage and poundage for 19 years at 400,000 <i>l.</i> a year	7,600,000
Duty on coals	850,000
Duty on currants	51,000
Postage of letters	301,000
Weekly meal for six years	608,400
Compositions for court of wards and other feudal services	1,400,000
Wine licences	312,200
Vintner's delinquency	4,000
Incomes of offices sequestered for the public service for fifteen years	850,000
Sequestration of the lands of bishops, deans, and inferior clergy for four years	3,528,632
Tenths of all the clergy and other exactions from the church	1,600,320
Bishops' lands sold at ten years' purchase	2,420,224
Dean and chapter lands at ten years' purchase	1,411,852
Rectory and glebe lands at twelve years' purchase	6,203,586
Fee farm rents for twelve years	2,963,176
Other rents belonging to the crown and principality of Wales	376,000
Sale of the crown lands and principality (120,000 <i>l.</i> per annum)	1,200,000
Sale of forest lands and houses, &c. belonging to the king	656,000
Sequestrations of the estates and compositions with private individuals in	
England	4,564,986
Compositions with delinquents in Ireland	1,000,000
Sale of the estates of delinquents in Ireland	2,245,000
Ditto of Irish lands	1,322,500
Ransom of captives	102,000
New River water at eight years' purchase	8,000
Total	83,331,198

From this it appears that the sums raised by taxes, the sale of church property, crown lands, and other revolutionary expedients, averaged, during the nineteen years of the commonwealth, 4,385,850*l.*, nearly quadruple the ordinary revenue of the country, as first settled at the restoration of Charles II.

CHARLES II. A. D. 1660 to 1685.

THE commonwealth chiefly fell from its inability to subject the military to the power of the civil government. Amidst the anarchy which followed the death of Oliver Cromwell, internal peace and order could only be re-established by acquiescence in the ambition of a new military chieftain of corresponding ability, or by the return of the exiled family. Although experience has proved a restoration to be mostly unsatisfactory, it afforded the easiest solution to existing difficulties, and would have been an unmixed national benefit, had it been executed with less precipitancy. The Scots, aided by the English presbyterians, were the chief instruments in the return of Charles II., as they had been in the dethronement of his predecessor. But they acted unwisely and without forethought. Either regardless of the public liberties, or deceived by the consummate dissimulation of general Monk, or carried away by the popular impatience, they admitted the king to the full exercise of those dangerous prerogatives that had cost the people so arduous a struggle, first to abridge, and then to abolish. It was a bequest as fatal to the Stuarts as the poisoned mantle of antiquity, and hardly less injurious to the nation.

The first years of the new reign were occupied in the act of indemnity, the disbandment of the army, church affairs, the settlement of the king's

income, and his marriage with the infant of Portugal; a discreet and virtuous princess, whose character won the esteem, though it failed to secure the love, of her faithless husband. In the settlement of ecclesiastical affairs, an exclusive system was introduced, chiefly through the high churchism of Hyde, lord Clarendon. Not only were prelacy and the parliamentary rights of the bishops restored, which might be expected, but an act of uniformity was passed, by the conditions of which nearly all the presbyterian clergy were driven to a resignation of their livings.

A question of great difficulty, was that of restitution. Since the year 1642, a considerable portion of the landed property in each county had changed owners. The crown lands, those of the bishops, deans and chapters, and of a few eminent royalists, had, under the authority of the commonwealth, been granted away as rewards, or sold to the highest or the most favoured bidder. These were now reclaimed; forcible entries were made, and as the revolutionary purchasers were not allowed to plead a title derived from the late government, the church, the crown, and the dispossessed royalists, re-entered triumphantly on their ancient possessions.* It was a case of hardship, as many had purchased their estates at the full market value of the time. The bishop and chapter lands had been sold at ten years' purchase, the rector and glebe lands at twelve, and those of the crown at thirteen years' purchase. It was only to the purchasers of the last any indulgence was shown; the rest were ejected with reckless severity, and when they alleged the equity of their contracts, it was contemptuously replied, that they had taken 'the risk with the benefit.'

It has been observed of this reign, that it was signalized by good laws, but bad government. The habeas corpus act, by affording a more definite guarantee against arbitrary imprisonment, both as to time and place, was a valuable addition to personal security. An effort was made to restrain the issuing of general warrants of apprehension and seizure; that is, warrants wherein no names are mentioned; but this abuse continued unchecked till the famous judgment of the court of common pleas in 1764. Some constitutional points however of importance were decided; as that the house of lords has no original jurisdiction in civil suits; that it has no power to alter or originate a bill of supply; and that an impeachment by the commons is not abated by a dissolution of parliament. The lords had now acquired the important privilege, first of recording their dissent in the journals of the house, and afterwards of inserting the grounds of it. Instances of the former occur at the period of the reformation (Hal. Const. Hist. i. 50); but the latter practice was hardly known before the long parliament.

Many of the occurrences of Charles's reign are the most unfortunate, and some of them the most disgraceful in our annals. The great plague of 1665 was, in 1666, followed by the no less frightful conflagration of the metropolis, and in the next summer, our fleets were compelled to retire before the Dutch, who advanced triumphantly up the Thames, burning and destroying with impunity our shipping in the Medway. After the retirement of Clarendon, a succession of corrupt ministers directed the councils of the king. In 1670, he threw himself into the hands of five unprincipled men, collectively denominated the CABAL, who supported him in every attempt to make himself independent of parliament. All the worst acts of Charles originated in his pecuniary necessities; to meet which he resorted to the most scandalous expedients, as the sale of Dunkirk to the French, the piratical but unsuccessful attack on the Smyrna fleet of the

* Ling, Hist. Eng. xii, 21. Hal. Const. Hist. ii. 420.

Hollanders, and the shutting up of the exchequer, which was a virtual national bankruptcy. In 1669, he entered into negotiations with France, by which he became the regular pensioner of Louis XIV. According to a secret treaty, it was stipulated that Charles, on consideration of an annuity, should assist the French king in his ambitious designs against the States; and secondly, on the first favourable opportunity, should effect a compulsory change in the national religion. Nothing could be more flagitious, or a greater betrayal of regal duties. Parliament was equally corrupt with the sovereign. Both sides of the house took foreign bribes. A regular practice of paying the members for their votes was introduced, first by Clifford, and afterwards more systematically, from 1673 to 1678, during the shuffling and dissembling administration of the earl of Danby.

Charles strictly observed the maxim long imputed to Roman Catholics, of not keeping faith with heretics. His whole reign, as respects religion, was a gross falsehood. After selling himself to Louis on condition of introducing popery, he persecuted it, or connived at its persecution by his ministers. He professed himself a protestant all his life, and died, if he died of any religious persuasion, a papist.

An attention to the state of religion is indispensable to a correct understanding of the events of this period. Popery was then, as long subsequently, though with far greater reason, the panic fear of the age. The public abandonment of protestantism by the duke of York naturally alarmed the community, and originated the great intrigue of altering the succession, by substituting, in place of the presumptive heir to the crown, the duke of Monmouth. The discovery of a pretended plot to kill the king and establish popery, kept up the popular excitement. Notwithstanding the infamous characters of Oates and Bedloe, and the improbable nature of their disclosures, they obtained general belief both in and out of parliament. The duke of York withdrew to Brussels, and many noblemen and others became the innocent victims of the national delusion. The commons, however, failed to carry the bill of exclusion, chiefly from the pertinacious resistance of the lords. By their violence, the Whigs frustrated their purpose; many became apprehensive of a renewal of the civil war, and the king, dexterously availing himself of a sudden re-action in public feeling, dissolved at Oxford the last parliament he ever assembled. Tory addresses were obtained, by the aid of the gentry and clergy, from all parts of the kingdom, and high monarchical principles again came in vogue. A dangerous blow was levelled at the foundation of public liberty by new modelling municipal corporations, which enabled the court, not only to pack juries for judicial purposes, but to influence the return of parliamentary representatives. An unsuccessful attempt, by lord Russell, Algernon Sidney, and other determined members of the popular party, only accelerated the advance to arbitrary government. After the discovery of the lye-house plot, Charles was as absolute as any sovereign in Europe. All that was requisite to complete the old fabric of despotism was the re-establishment of the courts of Star-chamber and High-commission, with a shorter way to the pockets of the people than through the votes of their representatives. These might have been obtained, had not the king's sudden death, subjecting the machinations of tyranny to a less skilful direction, arrested the march of absolutism.

The personal character of Charles was of that palpable kind that hardly needs dissection. His wit and licentiousness, his gaiety and good-humour, his love of women, indolence, and aversion to serious pursuits, are traits of

the "merry monarch," which have been repeatedly emblazoned. A confirmed voluptuary, he valued things as they ministered to his sensual enjoyment. Without virtue himself, he was careless of it in others; nor did he believe in its existence. Ambition, vanity, avarice, or some other form of selfishness, was, in his opinion, the only spring of human action. Hence all were alike to him; he felt neither sympathy nor hatred; no gratitude to friends, nor resentment against enemies. Conduct was viewed as it regarded himself only. Observing on the torturing cruelties practised by the earl of Lauderdale in Scotland, he remarked, "I perceive that Lauderdale has been guilty of many bad things against the people of Scotland, but I cannot find that he has acted anything contrary to *my interest*." Notwithstanding the selfishness and regal demerits of Charles, he kept up his popularity with the multitude, chiefly from that rakish good-nature which, with the unreflective, often wins affection, though it cannot procure esteem. It is, however, the social position, not the deserts, of this profligate and heartless sovereign, that has given him a place in history. Posterity owes nothing to men who live only for themselves, save forgetfulness, if not contempt or execration.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1660, *June 1.* The king made a speech to both houses, and passed a bill for constituting the present convention of parliament.

6. A proclamation was issued for the regicides to surrender themselves within fourteen days, on pain of exception from pardon for their estates and lives. Nineteen surrendered, while nineteen others, suspecting deceit, kept out of the way.

July 5. The king and the dukes of York and Gloucester, and great officers of state, with both houses of parliament, were magnificently entertained by the city of London at Guildhall.

6. The practice of touching for the king's evil was resumed this day. It was performed in the banqueting-room, the king striking with both his hands the neck or face of the patients, and the chaplain saying, "He put his hands upon them, and he healed them."

Aug. 13. A proclamation was issued against duelling; and another on the 14th for restoring and discovering the king's property. In Scotland, during the commonwealth, justice had been administered by English commissioners, without any regard to the laws and constitution of that kingdom: whereupon the king, by his proclamation, ordered these tribunals to be abolished on the 22nd of August, and that the kingdom should be restored to its ancient form of government. A committee of the three estates was convened, the great officers of state appointed out of the native nobility, and a parliament summoned to meet at Edinburgh the 12th of December,

to whom the king referred the preparing an act of indemnity. In Ireland, colonel Ewers endeavoured to raise a party to oppose the restoration, but it was soon suppressed by sir Charles Coote, and the king established in the peaceable possession of the three kingdoms without bloodshed.

29. Charles went to the house of peers, and having made a speech, he passed the act of indemnity; out of which were excepted,—1. Fifty-one individuals actually concerned in the death of the late king: 2. Vane and Lambert: 3. Lord Monson, Haslerig, and five others, as far as regarded liberty and property: 4. all judges in any high court of justice; and Hutchinson, Lenthall, St. John, and sixteen others, as to eligibility to public offices. The nineteen regicides who had surrendered, were to be tried for their lives, but not to be executed without a special act of parliament. Of the regicides, 25 were already dead, 19 had escaped, and 29 were in custody.

Sept. 3. The duke of York re-married to Ann Hyde, daughter to lord-chancellor Clarendon, who, in his courtly horror at the degradation of royalty, pretended that he had rather have seen her "the duke's concubine than his wife."

20. A proclamation issued for the cessation of hostilities with Spain.

Henry duke of Gloucester died of the smallpox, in the 21st year of his age.

Oct. 9. Trial of the regicides began at the Old Bailey, before a court of 34 commissioners, some of whom, as Monk, Holles, Annesley, Montague, Cooper, Manchester, and Say, had been the zealous colleagues

of the accused in the civil war. Of the 29 that were tried, 10 were convicted, namely, Harrison, Scot, Scrope, Jones, Clements, Carew, all of whom had signed the warrant; Cook, the solicitor at the high court of justice; Hacker and Axtel, who commanded the guard on the occasion; and Hugh Peters, chaplain to the army. Scrope had surrendered on faith of the proclamation. All met death courageously, proud of the cause in which they suffered.

25. The king published his declaration, showing wherein he required a conformity to the ecclesiastical government, and in what cases he was willing to dispense with it. Nine of the old bishops were restored to their sees, and seven or eight others were newly consecrated.

Nov. The army, which in the three kingdoms amounted to 60,000 men, was gradually paid off and disbanded, with the exception of Monk's regiment—the Coldstream, and another of horse. Another regiment was formed out of the troops brought from Dunkirk; and thus began, under the name of guards, the present standing army.

Dec. 4. A tract published by one Drake, entitled, "The Long Parliament revived," for which the author was impeached by the commons; but the proceeding was dropped.

8. An order of both houses for hanging the bodies of Oliver Cromwell, John Bradshaw, Henry Ireton, and Thomas Pride upon the gallows at Tyburn, and afterwards burying them under the gallows. This expiatory office was performed as respects the first three, January 30th, their bodies being buried under the gallows, and their heads set on poles at the top of Westminster-hall. Their estates became forfeited by a bill of attainder.

17, 19. Ordered, that Francis Windham, Esq., and Mrs. Lane, be each of them presented with 1000*l.* for their service in preserving the king after Worcester fight.

29. The convention parliament was dissolved, having passed acts for the regulation of the post-office, the perpetuation of the excise, the abolition of the court of wards, and the settlement of the revenue. The king's revenue, for defraying the charges of government, was augmented to 1,200,000*l.* per annum. His father's income averaged 900,000*l.* By the abolition of tenures by knights' service, landlords got rid of some troublesome feudal burthens on their estates; they gave the king an equivalent, charged on the excise; thus making the poor pay for the relief of the rich.

30. The earl of Argyle was committed to Edinburgh-castle for high-treason.

The Royal Society, founded by the king's letters-patent, for the improvement of philosophy, mathematics, physic, and all use-

ful knowledge; of which the first promoters and members were Dr. Ward, Mr. Boyle, lord Brounker, Dr. Wilkins, Dr. Wallis, sir William Petty, Dr. Goddard, Dr. Willis, Dr. Bathurst, Dr. Wred, and Mr. Rook.

Tea, coffee, and chocolate are mentioned in a statute of this year. Asparagus, artichokes, cauliflowers, and a variety of salads were about the same time introduced into England.

1661. *Jan. 1.* A parliament met in Scotland.

10. The millennium or fifth-monarchy men rise in the city, to proclaim "King Jesus against all the powers of the earth." They were headed by a fanatical wine-cooper named Venner; but they were soon suppressed, and Venner and Hodgkins, on the 19th, were executed over against the meeting-house in Coleman-street; Prichard and Oxmin, at Wood-street end; and on the 21st, nine more in other places.

Charles created above 160 baronets this year.

Mar. 25. A conference at the Savoy, concerning the liturgy, between twelve bishops and as many presbyterian ministers, with nine assistants on each side, appointed by the king. The presbyterians demanded so much, and the bishops would concede so little, that nothing was done.

April 22. The king, according to ancient custom the day before the coronation, went in great state from the Tower to Westminster, on horseback.

23. Being St. George's day, the coronation was solemnized in the usual manner, by archbishop Juxton.

May 8. Parliament met, and the king rode from his palace at Whitehall, attended by the nobility in their robes, to Westminster-abbey, and heard a sermon before he went to the house. The same day the convocation met at St. Paul's, who confirmed the form of Common-prayer formerly published, and added the two offices or forms of prayer for the 30th of January and the 29th of May, and made other additions to the liturgy.

Episcopacy was received in Scotland, and four ministers came at London, and were ordained, and afterwards consecrated bishops, and the Scottish privy-council forbade all meeting at synods and presbyteries, till authorized by the bishops. The Scotch parliament also rescinded the solemn league and covenant, declared the power of the militia to be solely in his majesty, and condemned the act of the 16th of January, 1647, which related to the sale of the late king's person, declaring that it was most sinful and disloyal. Thus all the Scotch had been struggling for during thirty years, was undone in a few months by the dexterous management of Middleton, the king's com-

missions, aided by a servile, or, according to Burnet, mostly drunken parliament. The presbyterians met and murmured in conventicles, but the popular fervour received a new direction, in the persecution of witchcraft and popery.

Sir Robert Holmes was sent with a squadron of men-of-war and some soldiers, and reduced New York, and all that part the Dutch had taken from the English in Long Island; from thence he sailed to Africa, and took Cape de Verd, and some other places.

The house of commons ordered all their members to receive the sacrament, according to the prescribed liturgy within a certain time, upon pain of being expelled the house.

20. An order of both houses for burning "*The Solemn League and Covenant in London and Westminster*," on the 22^d instant, by the hands of the common hangman, which was executed accordingly in town, and afterwards all over England.

28. The earl of Argyll having been convicted of high-treason, was beheaded at Edinburgh, and his head set upon the Tolbooth, where the marquis of Montrose's had been placed. It was the baseness of Monk, in betraying the private correspondence of this nobleman, which chiefly led to his conviction.

The acts for erecting a high court of justice for the trial of the late king; for subscribing the engagement against a king and house of peers; for declaring England a commonwealth; for renouncing the title of Charles Stuart; and another for the security of the lord-protector's person, were all burnt by the common hangman in the middle of Westminster-hall, while the courts were sitting.

June 7. The funerals of sir Charles Lucas and sir George Lisle, whom, at the surrender of Colchester, Fairfax had ordered to be shot, were solemnized there.

23. Treaty of alliance between England and Portugal.

July 12. The estates of Pelham, Skippon, and several others of the deceased regicides, to the number of twenty-one, were confiscated; and lord Monson, sir Henry Mildmay, and Mr. Robert Wallop were brought to the bar of the house of commons, and confessed their crimes. They were ordered to be degraded of their honours and titles, and drawn in sledges, with ropes about their necks, from the Tower of London to Tyburn, and back again, and to remain prisoners in the Tower during their lives.

30. Parliament adjourned to the 20th of November, having passed an act for the preservation of his majesty's person, as also an act against tumultuous petitioning; and another for repealing the act

which excluded the bishops from the house of lords.

Sept. 12, 14. The bodies of about 20 persons, buried in Henry VII.'s chapel and the church of Westminster, disinterred by the king's order, and buried again in the churchyard. Among these were the remains of Cromwell's mother, of his daughter Mrs. Claypole, of colonel Mackworthy, Pym, Dorislaus, Stroud, and May the historian.

30. At the public entry of the Swedish ambassador, happened a rencounter between the French and Spanish ambassadors for precedency, and many of their retinue were killed on both sides at Tower-hill; but the Spanish ambassador's coach got before the Frenchman's at last.

Nov. 20. Parliament met, and the bishops took their places again in the house of lords.

Parliament petitioned the king to order all officers and disbanded soldiers to depart twenty miles from London.

Dec. 13. The society of Lincoln's-inn, according to ancient custom, chose a master of the revels this Christmas, which fell upon John Lort, Esq., who entertained the king at dinner at Lincoln's-inn.

20. The king came to the house, and, after giving his assent to the corporation act, prorogued the house.

1662. Jan. 10. Parliament met, when the chancellor informed the house that major Wildman and others, engaged in plots against the government, had been arrested.

Mar. 9. Cardinal Mazarine died.

April 16. Miles Corbet, John Okey, and John Barstead, three of the regicides, being outlawed for high-treason, were taken and sent over from Holland. Being brought to the King's-bench bar, a rule was made for their execution the 19th instant.

May 17. The king went to the house and passed several acts. The commons voted 60,000*l.* to be distributed among the poor cavaliers, who had been sufferers in the late troubles. Parliament was prorogued to the 18th of February, after having made an act for the uniformity of public prayers, and the administration of the sacrament, and the act for collecting chimney-money. The last was a tax of two shillings upon every hearth or chimney. By the act of uniformity, every parson, vicar, and curate were obliged to declare and subscribe their "assent and consent" to the Book of Common Prayer before the feast of St. Bartholomew, 1662, upon pain of losing their ecclesiastical preferments. The uniformity and corporation acts destroyed the influence of the presbyterians in the church and municipal corporations.

21. The marriage between Charles and the infants of Portugal was solemnized at

Portsmouth. She was then about 24 years of age. Besides Tangier, on the coast of Barbary, and the island of Bombay, in the East Indies, the king received with her 2,000,000 of croisadoes, about 300,000*l.*; in consideration whereof, she had a jointure of 30,000*l.* per annum settled upon her. Before the consummation of the marriage, the king, in a treaty with Portugal, engaged to assist that kingdom against Spain, with 3000 foot and 1000 horse, and eight frigates; and obliged himself never to restore Dunkirk to that crown.

June 2. The lord-mayor and aldermen of London attended the king and queen at Hampton-court, to congratulate them upon their marriage, and made the queen a present of a purse of gold.

14. Sir Henry Vane having been convicted of high-treason on the 6th, was beheaded on Tower-hill. He defended himself on his trial with spirit and ability. He was accused only of transactions subsequent to the king's death, and pleaded that if complying with the existing government was a crime, all the nation had been equally criminal. He further urged that he had in every change adhered to the house of commons as the root of all lawful authority. He suffered with resolution: attempting to address the people from the scaffold, he was rudely interrupted by drums and trumpets. Like all the leading republicans, except Ludlow, he was infected with fanaticism, which gave an indirect and equivocal character to his conduct.

General Lambert was also condemned, but behaving with humility, he was reprieved at the bar, and banished for life to Guernsey, where he survived thirty years, amusing himself as a florist and flower-painter, an art he had learnt from Baptist Gaspar.

Aug. 24. St. Bartholomew's day, the act of uniformity taking effect, about 2000 presbyterian and independent ministers lost their preferments. Four times the number of episcopalians lost their preferments, under the long parliament, for refusing the covenant, but they were allowed a fifth of the profits of their benefices. But a motion in the commons, to make a similar allowance on the present occasion to non-conforming ministers, was lost by 94 to 87. In both the clergy were ejected just before the Michaelmas tithes were paid.

Sept. 3. William Lenthall, speaker of the long parliament, dies. He was a lawyer only of moderate abilities, and had discredited himself by volunteering his evidence against the regicides on their trial.

Oct. 10. An order of council for waggons to have their wheels four inches broad.

17. An order of council for the sale of Dunkirk to the French king for 500,000*l.*

This was a contrivance of Clarendon for supplying the king's extravagance, having already squandered the queen's portion, as he soon did the produce of this disgraceful transaction.

The corporation act was enforced with great rigour, and the walls of Gloucester, Coventry, Northampton, Leicester, and Taunton were demolished, because they had distinguished themselves by siding with parliament. A plot was discovered, formed by the fifth-monarchy men, six of whom were executed. The plot served the court for a pretence to seize 500 or 600 persons, and to disarm all those suspected; to make those they had taken give bonds not to take up arms against the king; and to increase the standing guards.

Dec. 11. George Philips, Thomas Tonge, Nathaniel Gibbs, and Francis Stubbs, fanatics, were convicted of conspiring against the government, and executed on the 22nd.

By a report of Dr. Charles D'Avenant, inspector-general of the customs, in 1662, the

Imports amounted to . . .	4,016,019
Exports, to	2,022,812

1663. *Feb. 18.* Parliament met, and the king made a speech, wherein he intimated his desire to indulge the dissenters.

27. An address of the commons against his majesty granting any indulgence to the dissenters.

Twenty-six baronets were created this year.

April 9. A proclamation, in compliance with an address of both houses, ordering popish priests to quit the kingdom, under penalty of death.

28. The commons inquired into the public revenue, and found it under 1,100,000*l.*, whereupon they granted four entire subsidies, and the convocation as many, which was the last supply the convocation gave before they submitted to be taxed by the commons. An act passed for settling the profits of the post-office and wine licences on the duke of York, which brought in 21,000*l.* a year.

July 4. A review in Hyde-park of the guards, amounting to about 4000 men. This was the whole standing army of the time, and excited alarm, as dangerous to liberty. Charles and his brother were of opinion that if their father, at the beginning of the civil war, had possessed a small regular force, he might easily have beat the parliamentarians.

10. Articles of high-treason were exhibited in the house of lords against the earl of Clarendon, by the earl of Bristol, which being referred to the judges, they resolved, that a charge of high-treason could not be originally exhibited by one peer against another in the house of lords; and, that

if the matters alleged were true, yet there was no treason in them; whereupon the charge was dismissed by the house of peers.

July 27. The king prorogues parliament. A bill for the better observance of the sabbath was stolen from the table, and when the king came to give the royal assent, could not be found.

Aug. 26. The king, with the queen and court, went from London to Bath; thence to Oxford, where they were splendidly entertained by the university, and returned to Whitehall, Oct. 2.

1664. Jan. 5. A plot being discovered in the north, a commission of oyer and terminer was sent down to York, where 21 of the conspirators were convicted, and afterwards executed in several places. Lambert and Ludlow were designed for their generals.

Feb. 15. John Twynn convicted of high-treason, in printing treasonable papers, and executed; and Thomas Brewster, bookseller, and others, were convicted of publishing seditious libels, fined and imprisoned. One of the libels was written by Milton, to justify the execution of Charles I., and to maintain the lawfulness of subjects taking up arms against tyrants.

March 16. Parliament met, and the king in his speech intimated his desire that the triennial act might be repealed.

Knighten baronets created this year.

Apr. 6. An act passed that the sitting of parliaments should not be discontinued above three years, and that within three years after the determination of the present or of any future parliament, the king should issue writs for calling another.

May 17. The king came to the house, and gave his assent to the conventicle act, by which any meeting of more than five persons for any religious purpose, not according to the Book of Common-prayer, is prohibited, under severe penalties. Both houses prorogued.

June 1. Sir George Downing, the English ambassador, presented a memorial to the States General, showing that the damages the English merchants had sustained by the depredations of the Dutch, amounted to seven or eight thousand pounds, and demanded satisfaction.

11. The city lent his majesty 100,000*l.* towards the second war with the Dutch.

Sept. 27. A market granted to be held in St. James's for all manner of provisions, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays; and a market for cattle on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Hay-market, in the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields.

Dec. 4. The duke of York returned from cruising, having taken about 130 Dutch merchant-ships, and particularly their Bourdeaux fleet, as they were returning

home laden with wine and brandy, before the war was declared. This was justified by the Dutch admiral, De Ruyter, sailing upon our factories at Cape Verd on the coast of Africa, his attempting the island of Barbadoes, and the depredations of the Dutch in the East Indies, and on the high seas upon the English merchants, in time of peace.

24. A comet appeared.

1665. Feb. 24. A Dutch impostor was whipped through the streets of London, for giving out that the Dutch had destroyed all the English factories upon the coast of Guinea.

Mar. 4. Parliament prorogued, having passed the bill for granting 2,477,500*l.* to be paid in three years, by twelve quarterly assessments, to begin from the 25th of December, 1664. This was the first money-bill where the clergy, by their own consents, given in convocation, were taxed with the laity. They obtained in exchange the privilege of voting as freeholders; but the convocation, surrendering the exclusive right of taxation to the commons, lost from this time its authority as a separate estate.

War proclaimed against the Dutch.

Eighteen baronets were created this year.

The city of London built a man-of-war, called the "Loyal London," at their own charge, a frigate of that name being unfortunately burnt.

31. An order for confining Charles Fox, the founder of the quakers, in Scarborough-castle.

April 5. A fast observed for the success of the war against the Dutch.

21. The duke of York takes command of the fleet, consisting of 98 sail of the line, and four fire-ships. It was divided into three squadrons—the red, the white, and the blue.

26. The great plague breaking out in St. Giles's, an order of council was issued, requiring the lord-chief-justice to take proper measures to prevent the spreading of the infection. The symptoms generally of the approach of this malady were shivering, nausea, headache, and delirium. On the third or fourth day, buboes or carbuncles arose, and if these could be made to suppurate, recovery might be expected. But sudden faintness, and macules appearing on the breast, were fatal tokens, and within an hour life was extinct. At first the mortality was chiefly among the labouring classes, carrying off in a larger proportion the children than the adult—the females, than the males.

May 30. Parliament was prorogued.

June 3. The English obtained a victory over the Dutch off Harwich, taking 18 capital ships, and destroying 14 more. Admiral Opdam, who engaged the duke, was blown up with all his crew. The En-

glish lost only one ship, but several officers were killed: among the rest, the earls of Falmouth, Portland, and Marlborough; lord Muskerry and admirals Hawson and Sampson. The Dutch lost 18 ships, four admirals, and 7000 men slain or prisoners. The new mode of fighting in line, and each captain keeping his station, was introduced by the duke in this war, and continued the rule of naval war till Rodney's victory of April 12, 1782.

June 30. A thanksgiving observed at London for the victory over the Dutch, and on the 4th of July, all over England. Medals were struck in honour of the duke of York's victory. On one side of the medal was a bust of the duke, with a description of his titles; on the reverse, a trophy with ships engaged, and the motto, "*Nec minor in terris.* Jun. III. MDCLXV."

July 5. A fast ordered to be observed on account of the plague, the first Wednesday in every month. A order of council that the justices of Westminster and the out-parishes abide at their habitations, to take care of the infected, and prevent the spreading of the plague.

27. The king and court removed to Salisbury, on account of the plague, leaving the care of the city to the duke of Albemarle, who did great service in relieving the sick, and giving his orders to prevent the spreading of the infection. Archbishop Sheldon also remained in town, and performed many charities.

A nefarious attempt to surprise a fleet of Dutch merchant-ships, in the neutral port of Bergen, defeated.

Aug. 7. A proclamation prohibiting the keeping Bartholomew and Sturbridge fairs.

15. The receipt of the exchequer was removed to Nonsuch.

The weekly returns of mortality for this and the preceding month were, 1006, 1268, 1761, 2785, 3014, 4030, 5312, 5568, 7496. The city was a scene of desolation; all houses shut up, the streets deserted, and scarce anything to be seen there but grass growing; innumerable fires to purify the air, coffins, pest-carts, red crosses upon doors, to denote the presence of the plague, with the inscription, "*Lord have mercy upon us!*" and continued cries of "*Bring out your dead!*"

Sept. 5. Fires made in London three days and nights, to purify the air. It was observed to have been calm weather in this plague.

19. The number of deaths in the week, ending this day, was upwards of 10,000. This was the greatest mortality. The high winds of the autumnal equinox setting in, cooled and purified the air; and the weekly burials rapidly decreased.

28. The king and court arrived at Oxford.

Oct. 9. Parliament, which had been twice prorogued on account of the plague, met at Oxford, and the king made a speech to both houses in the great hall of Christchurch, desiring supplies for the war. After which the chancellor made a speech, giving an account of a republican plot, which was to have been put in execution on the 3rd of September last.

15. Michaelmas term adjourned to Oxford.

31. Parliament prorogued after passing the five mile-act, which prohibited non-conformist ministers from coming within five miles of a town sending members to parliament, or in which they had been ministers. The episcopalians having deserted their pulpits during the plague, and the presbyterians occupied them, the act was to prevent such intrusion in future.

Nov. 23. About this time appeared one Valentine Greatrakes, an Irish gentleman, who undertook to cure many diseases by stroking, and is said to have been successful in several instances. Flamsteed, the astronomer, when young, was submitted to the treatment of this Hibernian.

Dec. 12. Seventy-three parishes were pronounced clear of the plague, and those who had fled into the country returned in crowds to take possession of their houses. 68,596 persons had died, within the year, of this distemper; which raised the bills of mortality to 97,306. One-third more may be added for omissions, augmenting the deaths to 130,000.

1666. Jan. 6. Proclamation for removing the exchequer from Nonsuch to Westminster again.

13. Hilary term ordered to be held at Windsor.

26. The French king declared war against England. The Daues also entered into an alliance with the Dutch against England.

Feb. 1. The king and the duke of York came to Whitehall, and received the compliments of the city upon their return.

9. The courts of justice sat again at Westminster.

10. War declared against France.

Sixteen baronets were created this year.

April 26. John Rathbone, an old army colonel, and seven others, who had been officers or soldiers in the civil war, were convicted of high-treason at the Old Bailey, in conspiring to take the Tower, murder the general, and fire the city; all which was to have been executed on the 3rd of September, a day deemed lucky to the republicans. Rathbone and the other prisoners were executed at Tyburn, April 30.

29. Lord Morley was tried by his peers, and convicted of manslaughter, in killing Mr. Hastings.

June 1. The Dutch fleet, consisting of 90 sail, under the command of De Ruyter and Tromp, encountered that part of the English fleet commanded by the duke of Albemarle, consisting of about 50 sail, who maintained the fight for three days, though the Dutch were joined by 16 sail more the second day.

4. Prince Rupert having joined the duke, the battle was renewed, and fought with such obstinacy that neither side had occasion to triumph, but they were forced to retire to their respective harbours to refit. The English in this battle had 10 ships taken and burnt; 1700 men killed and wounded, and 2000 taken prisoners. The Dutch lost 15 ships, admiral Everts, 21 captains, and 5000 seamen. De Wit was on board the Dutch fleet, and is said to have invented chain-shot on the occasion, which did great damage to the rigging of the English ships.

30. An order of council issued for driving the cattle off Romney-marsh, to prevent their being carried away by the enemy.

July 25, 26. The English and Dutch fleets engaged again: the English gained a complete victory, destroying above 20 Dutch men-of-war, and driving the rest into their harbours. In this action, the Dutch lost four of their admirals, besides 4000 other officers and seamen. The loss on the side of the English inconsiderable.

Aug. Algernon Sydney solicited a gift of 100,000*l.* from the French king, to assist in the establishment of a republic in England.

14. A thanksgiving for the successes against the Dutch.

Sept. 2. A fire broke out in London, where the monument now stands. It originated in a baker's shop; and the houses being chiefly of wood, and a strong east wind blowing, it spread with fearful rapidity. In the space of four days were destroyed 88 churches, the cathedral of St. Paul, the city gates, the Exchange, Custom-house, Guildhall, Sion-college, and other public structures, hospitals, schools, libraries, 13,200 dwelling-houses; in all, 400 streets. Two-thirds of the metropolis were in ruins, extending over a surface of 436 acres, from the Tower along the Thames, to the Temple-church, and from the north-east gate, along the city wall, to Holborn-bridge. During the continuance of the fire, the king and his brother, with many of the nobility, exerted themselves, and by directing the blowing-up ranges of houses with gunpowder, bounds were put to the conflagration. Notwithstanding the extent of the fire, only six persons lost their lives. The property of all kinds destroyed was estimated at 7,385,000*l.* Dreadful as this calamity was, at the time, to the in-

habitants, it was productive of consequences which made amends for the losses sustained by individuals. Before the fire, the streets were narrow, built chiefly of wood, and leaving little room for a free circulation of air: the metropolis was unhealthy, generally visited by the plague twice or thrice every century; a calamity which ceased after the fire.

5. The king issued a proclamation for the relief of the sufferers by the fire.

6. A proclamation issued for keeping markets for the supply of the city of London, and for the preventing tumults, and appointing a meeting of the merchants. 200,000 sufferers were compelled to encamp in the fields about Islington and Highgate.

13. A fast proclaimed, to be observed the 10th of October, on account of the fire.

21. The parliament met.

Oct. 1. An address of both houses for putting the laws in execution against priests and jesuits. A general suspicion was abroad that the papists were the authors of the late fire; but after a thorough inquiry by the privy-council and house of commons, not the slightest foundation for such a charge could be discovered. An unfortunate lunatic falsely charged himself with the crime, as a means of self-destruction.

War declared against Denmark.

Nov. 27. The presbyterians in Scotland rose in rebellion against the anti-christian institution of bishops; and having assembled a body of 1500 men at Pentland-hill, led by their teachers, were defeated by the king's troops, and 500 of them killed in the action.

Complaints had been made in 1663, that the landed interest was depressed by the annual import of 60,000 Irish beeves, and a proportionate number of sheep: to prevent which, an act passed to prohibit the bringing of cattle from Ireland. This was evaded by importing the dead carcase in place of the live animal; and a bill passed this year, extending the prohibition to salt beef, bacon, and pork.

The streets of a populous town, if not paved, must be inevitably raised in the course of ages by the accumulation of rubbish. The workmen in digging, after the fire, found three different streets above each other; and at twenty feet under the surface, discovered Roman walls and tessellated pavements. So deep is Roman London buried by the accumulation of ruins above the original surface.

1667. *Jan. 18.* A bill passed for laying twelve-pence upon every ton of coals that should be brought into the port of London for ten years, the better to enable the lord-mayor and aldermen to recompense those whose grounds should be taken from them, in order to enlarge the streets, &c. An

office was set up for insuring houses from fire, which was contrived by Dr. Barbon, one of the most considerable builders in the city.

Feb. Differences arose between the two houses concerning the trial of lord Mordaunt, for illegally imprisoning Mr. Toleur; the lords declaring, that in case of misdemeanor, the peer accused ought to sit within the bar, and have counsel allowed him, which the commons denied.

8. The king came to the house, and having passed the bill of supply, amounting to 1,800,000*l.*, the bill for rebuilding the city of London, and some other uses, the parliament was prorogued.

June 11. The Dutch sailed up the Medway as far as Chatham, made themselves masters of Sheerness, and burnt the Royal Oak, the Loyal London, and the Great James, with several other English men-of-war. They likewise burnt a magazine full of stores, to the value of 40,000*l.* and blew up the fortifications, retiring with the loss only of two of their ships, which ran aground, and were burnt by themselves. The English, apprehensive of their coming up to London Bridge, sunk thirteen ships at Woolwich and four at Blackwall.

29. Peace was concluded with the French, Danes, and Dutch, at Breda.

July 28. Mr. Abraham Cowley, the poet, died at Chertsey in Surrey, and was buried in Westminster-abbey the 3rd of August following.

Aug. 24. Peace with France, Denmark, and the States, proclaimed at London. Complaints were made against the court, and suspicions raised against the king, for concluding so dishonourable a peace, after the immense sums freely granted by the people for prosecuting the war.

30. The great seal taken from lord Clarendon, who had made himself generally unpopular; with the king, for opposing his licentiousness; with the non-conformists, by opposing liberty of conscience; and with the republicans, by his arbitrary principles of civil government.

Oct. 10. Parliament met at Westminster, pursuant to the prorogation.

16. Commons resolve that the power assumed by judges of imprisoning or fining jurors who return verdicts contrary to their direction, is illegal.

23. The king laid the first stone of the Royal Exchange, was treated by the lord mayor, and knighted the two sheriffs.

Nov. 12. Clarendon impeached of high treason, but the lords resolved that he could not be committed, because no specific charge was contained in the impeachment.

30. The earl of Clarendon secretly withdrew to France, leaving an apology behind

him, addressed to the house of peers. The lords communicated the earl's apology to the house of commons, who voted it scandalous and malicious, a reproach to the justice of the nation, and ordered it to be burnt by the common hangman.

Dec. 19. An act passed by commission for the banishment of the earl of Clarendon. The earl was a haughty, overbearing, high-churchman, of whom Evelyn remarks, that he 'never did, nor would do, anything but for money.' His writings betray an extraordinary disregard of veracity.

1668. *Jan. 13.* Sir William Temple concludes the triple alliance, by which England, Holland, and Sweden bind themselves to assist Spain against the ambition of France under Louis XIV.

16. Duel between the duke of Buckingham and the earl of Shrewsbury, in which the former had one of his seconds killed on the spot, and Shrewsbury was mortally wounded. Buckingham had lived in open adultery with lady Shrewsbury, and it is said, in the dress of a page, she held the duke's horse, while he was fighting with her husband.

31. The king divides his council into four committees: 1, for foreign affairs; 2, for the admiralty and navy; 3, for trade and plantations; 4, for grievances. After the banishment of Clarendon, the new cabinet, or as it was then called, 'the king's cabal,' consisted of the duke of Buckingham, master of the horse, lord keeper Bridgman, lord Arlington, secretary of state, and sir William Coventry, one of the commissioners of the treasury.

Feb. 13. Peace between Spain and Portugal concluded by the mediation of England.

14. Sir William Penn was accused of having embezzled great quantities of rich goods, taken in a Dutch prize, whereby the king was defrauded of 115,000*l.*

April 4. Messenger, Beaseley, and other rioters, made an insurrection in London, under pretence of pulling down brothels; four of them were convicted of high-treason, and executed.

May 4. A petition of the house of peers to the king, to settle the precedence of the English peers before the foreign nobility.

One Brewer, with about 50 Walkons, who wrought and dyed fine woollen cloths, came into England, and instructed the English in their manufacture, which enabled them to sell cheaper by 40 per cent. than before.

22. Peace between France and Spain, by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Dec. About this time the king became apprized of the conversion of James duke of York, to the catholic religion. (Ling. Hist. xiii., 201). Charles is said to have followed

his brother's example; though it is more probable that the profligate monarch, like most of his courtiers, had yet 'his religion to choose.' The court had become a scene of undisguised licentiousness. Sedley and lord Buckhurst were among the conspicuous gallants. Charles took two actresses from the stage, Davies and Nell Gwynne; the former had shone as a dancer, the latter in boys' characters. Both had splendid establishments provided them, but the witty and eccentric Gwynne, became the most fascinating mistress. Castlemaine still preserved her ascendancy, and revenged herself by taking the same liberties in which her royal paramour indulged.

Algernon Percy, earl of Northumberland, died; he was succeeded by his son, who died in two years after, and with him was extinct that ancient and noble family.

1669. *April 5.* Cosmo de Medicis, prince of Tuscany, arrived at London. He visited Cambridge and Oxford.

July 9. The new theatre at Oxford, the gift of archbishop Sheldon, opened, and Dr. South, the university orator, made a speech upon the occasion.

16. A proclamation for suppressing seditious conventicles.

Aug. 10. Henrietta-Maria, queen-dowager to king Charles I. died at St. Colombe, near Paris, in the 60th year of her age, and was buried at St. Denys in France, the 7th of November.

Sept. 28. The Royal Exchange being re-built, was first opened.

Oct. 19. Parliament met, when the king proposed an union with Scotland. The earl of Lauderdale, being made high-commissioner in Scotland, met the parliament of that kingdom the same day, and proposed an union with England; and told them his majesty was resolved to maintain the ancient episcopal government of the church.

Nov. 6. Both houses presented the king an address of thanks in the banqueting-room, for issuing his proclamation for suppressing conventicles, and desired a continuance of his care in that point, and appointed a committee to inquire into the behaviour of the non-conformists.

1670. *Jan. 4.* George Monk, duke of Albemarle, captain-general of the forces, died at the Cock-pit, and was succeeded in his honours by his son the earl of Torrington. The duchess of Albemarle, who had been successively washerwoman, mistress, and wife to the duke, died at the same place, *January 23rd.*

This year died the celebrated Mr. Prynne. He was a considerable instrument in bringing about the late civil war, as he was of the restoration; after which he was received into favour, had the records

of the Tower committed to him, which he put in good order; he represented the city of Bath in the present parliament.

Feb. 22. The differences between the two houses, concerning the judgment of the peers against the East-India company in the case of a private trader named Skinner, were compromised by the mediation of the king, and the proceedings against the company agreed to be raised out of the journals. It was the last attempt of the lords to claim an original jurisdiction in civil causes.

April 11. The conventicle act renewed; which gave rise to a sharp persecution of the non-conformists, especially the quakers. Penn and Mead were tried for preaching, but the jurors, after a confinement of 35 hours, acquitted them; they were, however, punished for contempt, in refusing to uncover their heads in presence of the court.

The queen being childless, a project was started to obtain a royal divorce; with the view of forwarding this object, the king revived a custom of his predecessors, and began to attend the debates of the lords. 'It was,' he said, 'as good as going to a play.'

A cabinet council constituted, consisting of five lords, the dukes of Bucks and Lauderdale; lord Clifford; the earl of Arlington; and lord Ashley, afterwards earl of Shaftesbury. They obtained the name of the 'Cabal,' from the initial letters of their five names composing that word. They are supposed, as well as Charles, to have been pensioners of France, and to have advised the king to conclude a treaty with that crown, whence he might be furnished with money without applying to parliament.

30. The body of the duke of Albemarle interred in Henry VIIIth's chapel, at the king's charge.

May 15. Henrietta-Maria, duchess of Orleans, youngest daughter of Charles I., came into England, and was met at Dover by her brothers, the king and the duke of York. Here the court remained about a fortnight, and then the duchess returned to France. She left a favourite maid, Querouaille, whom the king adopted for a mistress, and created duchess of Portsmouth. One object of Henrietta's visit to this country, was to consummate the secret treaty with France, by which it was stipulated, that Charles should make a public declaration of his conversion to popery; that he should receive from Louis three millions of livres to suppress any insurrection in England consequent on such declaration; and that he should join the French in a war against Holland.

June 30. Henrietta, the duchess of Orleans, in her 26th year, dies suddenly at

St. Cloud, not without suspicion of being poisoned by her husband for infidelity.

Dec. 6. The duke of Ormond was taken out of his coach, and wounded in the night near Clarendon-house, where he then resided; with great difficulty he disengaged himself, and got clear of the assassins, who designed to have carried him to Tyburn, and hanged him there. This desperate attempt was made by Blood and his confederates, who afterwards stole the crown.

25. Sir John Coventry, member of parliament, having indulged in a joke on the king's mistresses, had his nose slit in the streets of London, by the courtiers.

This year died Henry Jenkins, aged 170, being born in 1500. He was a poor fisherman in Yorkshire, and lived in the reigns of eight kings and queens of England.

1671. *Feb. 9.* Lord Lucas made a warm speech in the presence of Charles, concerning the vast subsidies granted by the commons, which speech was published, and was ordered to be burnt by the common hangman.

28. The duke of Monmouth, who had contrived the outrage on Coventry, in a drunken frolic, with the young duke of Albemarle and others, deliberately kills a ward beadle. Charles to save his son, pardoned all the murderers.

Mar. 6. The king passed several bills, amongst the rest one to prevent malicious maiming and wounding, occasioned by the attempt upon sir John Coventry.

31. Anne, duchess of York, eldest daughter of Clarendon, late lord chancellor, died at St. James's, in the 34th year of her age, and was buried in Henry VIIth's chapel, April 5th. From her marriage proceeded eight children, two of whom only survived her, Mary and Anne, who were afterwards queens of England.

The duke of York abjured the protestant religion, and made an open profession of the popish.

A yacht belonging to the king fired at the Dutch fleet, to engage them to strike the flag.

April 17. The lords having made some alteration in the rate of an impost on sugar, it was resolved by the commons, 'That in all aids given to the king by the commons, the rate or tax ought not to be altered by the lords.'

22. The king gave the royal assent to several bills, among the rest, to one for the better settling the maintenance of the clergy of the parishes in London, destroyed by the late fire; and then the parliament was prorogued.

May 9. Blood and his confederates, attempting to steal the regalia out of the Tower, were apprehended but pardoned, though Blood confessed he was guilty of

this crime, as well as of seizing the duke of Ormond, and of several attempts to kill the king. He had also a revenue of 500*l.* per annum, settled on him by Charles, who was so pleased with the ruffian's manners, that he ordered him to remain as a gentleman at court.

The monument erected in memory of the great fire, was begun this year, by sir Christopher Wren, and finished in 1677. The inscription, ascribing the fire to the papists, is more a record of popular error, than of truth.

This year died lord Fairfax and the earl of Manchester; also the duke of Somerset, and the critic, Meric Causabon, prebendary of Canterbury.

1672. *Jan. 2.* Wishing to provide funds for the war against the Dutch, the king, with the advice of the cabal, shut up the exchequer, by which he obtained the command of 1,300,000*l.* This iniquitous act ruined many bankers and capitalists, who, as had been usual since the time of Cromwell, had advanced money to government on the credit of the taxes. It was promised that the restriction should not continue above a year, and that interest at the rate of eight per cent. should be allowed.

Feb. 12. Treaty between France and England against Holland; April 14, Sweden joined the confederates against the states.

26. The king issued a proclamation in Ireland, granting a license to all papists to live in corporations, in free exercise of their trades.

Mar. 14. Prior to a declaration of war, the English, under sir Robert Holmes, make an unsuccessful attempt to seize the rich Smyrna fleet of the Dutch.

15. A declaration of indulgence published for suspending the penal laws against dissenters.

16. The king published a declaration for liberty of conscience.

17. War declared against the Dutch; among the reasons urged for hostilities were, commercial differences in the East Indies, refusal of the Dutch to strike their flag in the narrow seas, and personal insults to the king, by medals and defamatory publications.

April. By the treaty between England and France, 6000 of the British troops were to join the French army; whereupon the duke of Monmouth embarked for Flanders, and assisted in taking several towns from the Dutch.

May 28. The duke of York engaged the Dutch in Southwold-bay. The battle was very obstinately fought from morning till evening; several great ships and some thousands of men were destroyed, among the rest the earl of Sandwich, admiral of

the blue, whose ship was set on fire and blown up.

29. This being the anniversary of the king's birth and restoration, the new conduit erected by sir Thomas Vyner in Stocks market, was first opened, and run with wine for several hours.

June 12. A proclamation issued to restrain the spreading of false news, and licentious talking of matters of state and government.

July. The French king having over-run great part of Holland, took possession of Utrecht, and kept his court there; the Dutch were obliged to lay their country under water. The English and French fleet menaced the Dutch coasts, and would have made a descent, but were driven off by stormy weather. The prince of Orange was made stadtholder, and captain-general of the Dutch; and pensioner De Witt, who had long governed the affairs of the United Provinces, with his brother Ruart Van Putten, were torn in pieces by the mob the 20th of August following.

Aug. 16. A proclamation was issued for making current his majesty's farthings and halfpence, and prohibiting those made by private persons to be paid or received in trade.

1673. Feb. 5. The king made a speech to both houses, declaring the necessity of a war with the Dutch, and desiring supplies. He told them his indulgence to dissenters had a good effect, and he would admit of no contradiction in that point. The lord chancellor Shaftesbury the same day made a speech, wherein '*Delenda est Carthago*,' the Dutch must be extirpated; they were England's eternal enemy by interest and inclination.

7. The commons voted the king an eighteen months' assessment of 70,000*l.* a month. This large grant was obtained by the court buying over (Burnet ii., 83), by places and gratuities, the two leaders of the opposition, sir Thomas Lee, and Mr. Garroway.

10. Resolved, by a majority of 168 to 116, that 'penal statutes in matters ecclesiastical, cannot be suspended but by act of parliament.'

Writs under the great seal, and not by the speaker, having been issued, during the recess, for electing members to fill up the house in vacant places, the commons voted those writs to be irregular, and expelled the members who had been elected upon them.

19. The commons addressed Charles to revoke his declaration of indulgence to dissenters.

23. The king sent the commons a message, in answer to their address, that he did not pretend to suspend any laws,

wherein the properties, rights, or liberties of the subject are concerned, or to alter any thing in the doctrine or discipline of the church of England, but only to take off the penalties inflicted on dissenters.

27. The commons not satisfied with the king, entered into new measures, and resolved not to pass the money bill till they procured a redress of grievances, and particularly a revocation of the declaration for liberty of conscience.

Mar. 8. The king having received another address from both houses against the dissenters, promised to retract his declaration; and assured them, that what he had done in that particular, should not for the future be drawn into 'consequence.'

9. The cabal was much displeased with the king's concessions, and the earl of Shaftesbury, finding him yield to the representations of the parliament, made his court to the whigs.

29. The royal assent was given to the Test Act, which required all officers, civil and military, to receive the sacrament according to the rites of the church of England, and make a declaration against transubstantiation. Shortly after, the test was refused by the duke of York, and he resigned all his employments. Lord Clifford followed his example. Prince Rupert obtained the command of the fleet.

June 9. The great seal taken from Shaftesbury, and given to sir Heneage Finch, and sir Francis North succeeded the latter as attorney-general. North did not vacate his seat on this occasion, as had been usual since the resolution of 1614, which declared that in future, no attorney-general should sit in the commons, because by his office he is an assistant of the house of lords (Ling. Hist. xii., 283). All his successors have sat without molestation.

14. An order of council that no papist, or reputed papist, come to court.

Aug. 11. Prince Rupert gained a third victory over the Dutch; but the French squadron standing neuter the latter part of the day, it was not so complete as it might have been.

20. Parliament met, and the commons voted an address to the king, against the duke of York's marrying the princess Modena, or any other person not of the protestant religion.

27. The king came to the house, and in his speech desired supplies for the Dutch war, and money to discharge the goldsmiths and bankers, to whom he was indebted by shutting up the exchequer.

Nov. 4. The commons having drawn up an address against a standing army, and other grievances, were suddenly sent for to attend the king in the house of lords, and were prorogued to the 7th of January.

1674. *Jan. 7.* Parliament began its twelfth session, much incensed against the court.

14, 15. The duke of Bucks and the earl of Arlington examined by the commons, as to the advice they had given in the privy council.

Feb. 4. Both houses having addressed the king for a fast, one was appointed and held.

7. The commons resolved, that the keeping any standing forces, other than the militia in the nation, was a grievance. That according to law, the king ought to have no guards but the gentlemen pensioners, and the yeomen of the guard; and, that it was impossible effectually to deliver this nation from a standing army, till the life-guards were pulled up by the roots.

11. Parliament prorogued by the king.

28. Peace with Holland proclaimed. By this peace the Dutch agreed to strike to the English in the British seas; to settle the commerce with the Indies; and that the English planters at Surinam (which the Dutch had possessed themselves of) should have liberty to sell their effects, and retire; and that the Dutch should pay the king of England 200,000*l.* in lieu of all claims, except those relating to India.

April 22. An order of council issued, for prosecuting those who built on new foundations in the cities of London and Westminster.

June. The king sent sir William Temple into Holland to offer a mediation, which the states accepted. At the time that Charles held the office of mediator he received a pension from France of 200,000*l.* annually.

Hyde, earl of Clarendon, died, at the city of Rouen in Normandy, where he had resided for the most part, during the seven years of his exile, employed chiefly in composing his history of the grand rebellion.

About the same time died John Milton, the author of 'Paradise Lost,' Latin secretary to the long parliament, and afterwards to Oliver Cromwell.

Dec. 18. Charles, having at his entertainment at Guildhall in the city of London, the 29th of October last, accepted of the freedom of the city, by the hands of sir Thomas Player, chamberlain; this day the lord mayor and court of aldermen waited upon the king at Whitehall, and presented him with the copy of the freedom of the city, in a box of massy gold, the seal thereof hanging in a gold box, which was set over with diamonds.

1675. *Mar. 16.* Under a pair of stairs in the Tower, were found two bodies supposed to be those of Edward V. and his brother Richard, murdered by their uncle

Richard III. in 1483. They were interred in Westminster-abbey.

April 13. Parliament opened by the king. Dr. Gilbert Burnet, once a chaplain or dependant of the duke of Lauderdale's, appeared at the bar of the house, as an evidence against him, and betrayed the private conversation he had with his lordship.

26. Articles of impeachment were drawn up against the earl of Danby, but disagreed to by the house.

May 15. Dr. Shirley brought an appeal to the house of lords against sir John Fagg, a member of the commons, and was ordered to be taken into the custody of the serjeant at arms; afterwards serjeant Pemberton, and all the council that appeared for Shirley at the lords' bar, were taken into custody: whereupon the commons ordered the usher of the black rod to take the serjeant at arms into custody; and the contest was carried to a greater height between the two houses than was ever known before.

June 9. Both houses prorogued by the king on account of their differences, though a single act had not been passed. It was a very stormy session. According to Coleman, 200,000*l.* was spent in bribing the members of the commons, part of it advanced by lord Danby, and the Dutch and Spanish ambassadors.

July 1. Luzancy, a French impostor, makes a public abjuration of popery in the pulpit of the Savoy, and pretends to disclose a horrible plot against the government.

Aug. 19. Charles duke of Lenox, natural son to Charles II. by Querouaille, duchess of Portsmouth, created duke of Richmond, and the king assigned to him the domain of Aubigné, given to him by the king of France.

Oct. 14. Parliament met, and voted 300,000*l.* to build twenty large ships.

A test proposed in the commons to be taken by each member, disclaiming any bribe or pension; but the motion was got rid of, by the members slipping out of the house.

The trade with France being taken into consideration, it appeared, that of silk and linen manufactures only, there were imported annually from France, the value of 800,000*l.*; of wine, brandy, and other commodities, 300,000*l.*; besides an incredible number of toys, lace, and rich cloths. The total of imports from France amounted to 1,500,000*l.*; of exports to France, to 170,000*l.* Exclusive of about 600,000*l.* of French wines, silks, and other goods smuggled into this country.

Nov. 19. The differences between the two houses, in the case of Shirley and Fagg, revived; the commons resolved, that whosoever should prosecute any appeal before the lords, against any commoner from

any court of equity, should be deemed a betrayer of the rights and privileges of the commons of England, and should be proceeded against accordingly; and ordered this resolution to be affixed to the lobby, Westminster-hall gate, and all the inns of court. The lords on the contrary, resolved, That the paper posted up against the judicature of the house of peers, was illegal, unparliamentary, and tending to the dissolution of the government.

Nov. 22. The king finding the disputes between the two houses arise to such a height prorogued them to Feb. 15th, 1677, having passed no public bills, and but three private bills, one whereof was for the rebuilding of Northampton. This prorogation being for above a year, it was held equivalent to a dissolution, as the statute of Edward III. required parliaments to be held once a year.

24. A proclamation prohibiting the importation of any of the commodities of Europe into the plantations, which were not laden in England; and for putting the laws relating to the plantation trade in execution.

1676. Jan. 8. A proclamation having been issued, for suppressing coffee and tea houses, another came forth permitting them to be re-opened, on condition the keepers should prevent sedition, and the reading of libels in them.

Feb. 7. Charles concludes a treaty with Ravigni, by which it is agreed the king of France should pay Charles a yearly pension of 100,000*l.*, subsequently augmented to 200,000*l.* (Ling. Hist. xiii. 4.) It was a seasonable relief to the necessitous monarch, and lessened his dependence on parliament. He withdrew to Windsor, where he spent his time in the amusements of fishing, the superintendance of improvements, and the society of friends. The country was never more prosperous than during his retirement.

Oct. 8. A great part of Wem in Shropshire burnt.

1677. Feb. 15. Parliament met, and the king required them to avoid all differences between the two houses; to provide a strength at sea, and a supply for the support of government; and assured them he should agree to whatever they could propose for the security of their religion and properties. The duke of Buckingham made a speech, endeavouring to show that the parliament was in effect dissolved, by the prorogation being made for above a year. He was seconded by the earl of Shaftesbury, the earl of Salisbury, and lord Wharton: whereupon they were all four sent to the Tower, for contempt of the authority and being of the present parliament. Buckingham, Salisbury, and Whar-

ton were released soon after, on submission: but Shaftesbury remained prisoner thirteen months, when he was discharged after begging pardon on his knees at the bar of the lords.

April. During the recess, the imperial ambassador received 10,000*l.* and the Spanish ambassador 12,000*l.* to purchase votes in the lower house; and Courtney the French envoy was similarly commissioned. In January, Charles received part of his French pension, and spent it in buying votes.

Nov. 4. Princess Mary married to the prince of Orange, at St. James's, by the bishop of London. Her portion was 40,000*l.*

1678. Jan. 28. The parliament met, and his majesty acquainted the house with his having concluded an alliance with the Dutch for the preservation of Flanders; that he had recalled his troops out of the French service, and married his niece the princess Mary to the prince of Orange; and desired supplies to support his alliance, and pay his niece's portion.

30. The commons voted the sum of 70,000*l.* for solemnizing the funeral of Charles I. and erecting a monument to his memory. The equestrian statue at Charing-cross was erected with part of this money.

April 10. A fast observed in London.

July 1. By royal charter, bearing date this day, a body corporate was constituted by the name of, the governors of the charity for the relief of the poor widows and children of clergymen, with license to possess any estate, not exceeding the yearly value of 2000*l.* Upon the accession of Dr. Turner's gift, which amounted to about 18,000*l.* the governors (Dec. 16, 1714) obtained an augmentation of the said grant, by a license to possess the yearly value of 3000*l.* above the said 2000*l.* per annum.

Aug. 11. Peace between France and the states concluded at Nimeguen. Spain acceded to the treaty of Nimeguen Sept. 17, giving up Franche Compté, &c. The emperor the 5th Feb. following; and Sweden on March 29th.

14. The prince of Orange fell upon marshal Luxemburgh, near Mons, three days after the peace was concluded between France and Holland, by which 4000 lives were sacrificed.

Dr. Tonge, a clergyman, laid certain papers before lord treasurer Danby, importing a conspiracy against the king and the protestant religion, by the jesuits; afterwards called the popish plot. The confederate of Tonge, in rearing this singular fabric of imposture, was a Titus Oates, originally a weaver, and then an anabaptist preacher.

Sept. 6. Tonge and Titus Oates having

drawn up a narrative of the plot, Oates made oath of the truth of the narrative before sir Edmundbury Godfrey, a justice of peace of St. Martin in the Fields.

28. Tonge and Oates laid their narrative before the council, and were examined; they were afterwards ordered lodgings in Whitehall, and guards for their security.

30. Oates having accused sir George Wakeman the queen's physician, Mr. Colman, secretary to the duke of York, and Mr. Langborne, a counsellor in the Temple, as being in the conspiracy, they were apprehended; together with Thomas Whitebread, provincial of the jesuits, and several other persons.

Oct. 17. Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, before whom Oates had sworn his narrative, having been missing from his house some days, was found dead, with his sword through his body, in a field on Primrose-hill, and the coroner's inquest gave their verdict that he was strangled.

20. A proclamation offering a reward of 500*l.* to any one that should discover the murderers of sir E. Godfrey.

22, 23. Oates examined by the lords and commons. The earl of Danby communicated the plot to the commons, which the king was much displeas'd at. The commons acquainted the lords of the plot, and both houses made their addresses to the king, upon which he issued a proclamation.

25. Oates having charged the earl of Powis, viscount Stafford, lord Arundel, lord Petre, lord Bellaysse, and sir Henry Titchburne with the plot, they surrendered, and were committed to the Tower. A proclamation issued for a general fast; on the 30th another, commanding all popish recusants to depart ten miles from the metropolis; and another for the discovery of all popish recusants in the king's guards.

31. The commons resolv'd, that there was a hellish plot of the papists to assassinate the king, and subvert the established religion and government.

Sir Edmundbury's corpse being embalmed, was carried in a solemn manner from Bridewell-hospital, of which he was one of the governors, to the church of St. Martin in the Fields, where he was buried. The pall was supported by eight knights, all justices; all the aldermen attended, and seventy-two ministers walked two and two before the body, and others in the same form after it, which closed the procession.

Nov. 4. A debate in the commons concerning the excluding the duke of York from succeeding to the crown.

7. William Bedloe, formerly an ostler to lord Bellaysse, and a convicted robber, became an evidence in the popish plot, and tempted by the reward, pretended to discover the murderers of Godfrey. Bedloe

declared he had heard that 40,000 men were to meet at St. Jago, as pilgrims, and to come over from Spain, but knew nothing of any fleet to convey them.

9. The king made a speech to both houses, assuring them he was ready to pass any bill to make them safe and easy in the reign of his successor, so as it did not tend to impeach the right of succession in the true line.

12. Mr. Price, captain Spalding, and five others arrested, being charged by Bedloe with the plot.

A proclamation forbidding papists to depart five miles from their houses without a license.

17. A proclamation offering a reward of 20*l.* for the discovery of a jesuit.

18. The commons sent sir Joseph Williamson, secretary of state, to the Tower, for signing warrants for commissions to some popish recusants.

A debate arising on the bill for disabling papists to sit in parliament, and high words passing between sir Jonathau Trelawney (afterwards bishop of Winchester) and Mr. Ash; sir Jonathan struck Mr. Ash, which Mr. Ash returning, they were about to draw their swords, but the members interposed: sir Jonathan was sent to the Tower, and Mr. Ash severely reprimanded by the speaker.

21. Staley, a catholic goldsmith, convicted on the testimony of a Scotchman of infamous character, of saying, '*Here's the hand that will kill the king,*' and other treasonable words; for which he was executed the 26th at Tyburn.

27. Coleman, secretary to the duchess of York, convicted of high-treason, in carrying on a correspondence with Le Chaise, the French king's confessor, in order to subvert the established religion and government; he was the first victim to the perjuries of Oates and Bedloe, and was executed the 3rd of December, professing his innocence to the last.

28. A proclamation issued, offering a pardon and 200*l.* to any person concerned in the popish plot, to come in and make a further discovery. Dugdale, formerly a servant of lord Aston's, became an evidence against his lord, and the other popish lords.

30. The king passed the bill for disabling papists to sit in either house of parliament; this exclusion, originating in an absurd alarm, continued 150 years.

Oates and Bedloe charged the queen with being concerned in the plot; whereupon the commons addressed the king, that the queen and all her family, and all papists and reputed papists, be removed from Whitehall. They resolv'd also upon another address, that all papists and reputed papists in the kingdom of England,

be apprehended and secured. The king, resenting the insolence of Oates, put him under a stricter guard; whereupon the commons addressed Charles that Oates be freed from restraint, and a competent allowance granted him.

Dec. 6. The commons impeached of high-treason the five lords in the Tower, but did not exhibit articles.

17. William Ireland, Thomas Pickering, Thomas Whitebread, and John Fenwick, priests, and John Grove, a lay-brother, arraigned for conspiring to assassinate the king. The jury discharged Whitebread and Fenwick, for want of evidence; but the other three were convicted. Ireland and Grove were executed the 24th of January, and Pickering, on the 9th of May, 1679. They all protested to the last their entire innocence of the treasons; they were convicted by the perjuries of Bedloe and Oates.

21. The earl of Danby, lord treasurer, was impeached by the commons for endeavouring to subvert the constitution, and introduce arbitrary government. Lord Danby affirmed, he had never done any thing of great moment, for which he had not always had his majesty's command.

France, a silversmith, being accused by Bedloe of being one of the murderers of sir Edmundbury Godfrey, was apprehended and sent to Newgate.

23. France accused Green, Berry, and Hill, of the murder, who were apprehended. He afterwards retracted his evidence, but chained on the floor of his prison, and bereaved of reason, he re-affirmed the truth of his first story.

1679. *Jan. 4.* Titus Oates being allowed ten pounds a week for subsistence, petitioned for a further allowance.

25. A proclamation was issued for dissolving parliament; it had sat eighteen years, and was called the pension parliament.

The earl of Pembroke was this year committed to the Tower, for abusing the consecrated bread and wine, but dismissed by the lords, because there was no other evidence against him but lord North's chaplain, upon the earl's denying the charge, upon his honour. He was also tried by his peers for murder, but found guilty of manslaughter.

This year died Henry Oldenbury, secretary to the royal society, and first publisher of the philosophical transactions. Also Andrew Marvel, the clever and incorruptible representative of Hull.

Several persons threatened and tortured to make them confess the murder of sir Edmundbury Godfrey

Feb. 10. Green, Berry, and Hill, convicted, on the contradictory evidence of Bedloe and France, of the murder of God-

frey, executed, amidst asseverations of innocence, on the 21st instant.

28. Charles sent a letter to the duke of York, to withdraw; whereupon James with his family, embarked for Flanders, to reside at Brussels.

Mar. 6. Parliament met, and the king made a speech, acquainting them that he had disbanded part of the army, and should disband the rest as soon as he had supplies to enable him to do it. That he had commanded his brother to be absent, that there might be no colour to surmise he was governed by popish councils; and that he had not been idle in prosecuting the popish plot, and putting the laws in force against papists. He desired supplies suitable to the necessities of the state, and hoped that it would prove a healing parliament. The commons choose Mr. Seymour for speaker, but the king not approving him, serjeant Gregory was substituted.

21. Oates, besides the earl of Danby, charged sir John Robinson, colonel Sackville, and captain Goring, members of the commons, with the plot. The commons addressed that Bedloe might be paid the 500*l.* for the discovery of Godfrey's murder, and that the 20*l.* reward be paid to those who discovered the popish priests; and that the king would take Bedloe into his protection; with which Charles complied. Both houses concur in a resolution of the certainty of the plot, and in an address for a fast.

23. The king having granted the earl of Danby a pardon, the commons resolved on an address, to represent the illegality of it, and the dangerous consequences of granting pardons to persons impeached. The commons examined into the earl's pardon, to which the chancellor excused himself putting the seal.

April 1. The commons released colonel Sackville from the Tower, but he was expelled the house for speaking slightly of the plot.

4. Articles of impeachment were carried up against the five popish lords in the Tower.

15. The earl of Danby surrendered himself, and was committed to the Tower.

21. Charles, acting under the advice of sir W. Temple, constituted a new council of thirty—half whigs, and half Tories. They were selected partly for their property, as a balance to the house of commons. Their income was computed at 300,000*l.*; that of the commons at 400,000*l.* Shaftesbury was made president of the new council.

An alleged design was discovered to burn the city of London. The house of one Bird being set on fire by his servant, Elizabeth Oxley, who was taken, and confessed one

Stubbs, a papist, bribed her to it for five pounds. Stubbs was taken, and confessed father Giffard, his confessor, put him upon it. This accident made the commons address the king for the execution of the jesuits before condemned.

24. Mr. Reading, barrister, was tried and convicted at the king's-bench bar, for tampering with Bedloe, to conceal part of his evidence against the popish lords, fined 1000*l.*, to be imprisoned for a year, and stand in the pillory in Palace-yard.

27. The commons resolved, That the duke of York being a papist, the hope of his succeeding to the crown had given the greatest countenance and encouragement to the present conspiracies of the papists against the king and protestant religion, and ordered lord Russell to carry up the said vote to the lords for their concurrence. The commons addressed the king for the execution of Pickering, and several condemned popish priests and jesuits.

30. The king came to the house, and repeated his former declaration to consent to any laws for the security of the protestant religion, so as the right of succession in his brother was not defeated.

May 3. Dr. Sharp, archbishop of St. Andrew's, murdered in his coach near Magus Muir, by Balfour, Danziel, and ten other fanatical covenanters.

5. The commons resolved, "*That the pardon pleaded by the earl of Danby, to their impeachment, was illegal and void,*" and demanded judgment of the lords against him.

8. The lords acquainted the commons that they had appointed Saturday, the 10th instant, to hear the earl of Danby by his counsel, to make good his plea; whereupon the commons resolved, that no commoner presume to maintain the validity of the pardon pleaded by the earl of Danby. The lords acquainted the commons also, that the 14th instant was appointed for the trial of the five popish lords: but the two houses not agreeing as to the proceedings in the trial, they were not tried this session.

15. The commons order a bill to be brought in, to disqualify the duke of York from succeeding to the crown. It was put into the form of an address, and presented to the king, who thanked them, and said "he would always endeavour to secure the protestant religion."

During these proceedings a difference arose between the houses as to the right of the bishops, being only lords of parliament, to sit on the trial of the impeached lords.

23. Twenty-seven members of the late parliament discovered to have been pensioners of the court.

25. The king sent a message to the

house by lord Russell for the execution of Pickering, and for their assistance in putting the fleet in good repair.

27. Parliament being about to pass a strong resolution relative to the late corruption, it is suddenly prorogued, the royal assent having first been given to the habeas corpus act. This important statute for securing the subject against arbitrary imprisonment, was at last obtained, chiefly through the management of Shaftesbury, and is some set-off against the many offences of that changeling minister.

June 1. Covenanters defeat Graham of Claverhouse at Drumlog.

13. Thomas Whitebread, provincial of the jesuits, William Harcourt, rector of London, John Fenwick, procurator of the jesuits, John Gaven and Anthony Turner, priests, tried and convicted at the Old Bailey, of high-treason, in conspiring to assassinate the king, and subvert the established religion and government. They were executed at Tyburn, the 21st, professing their innocence to the last.

14. Richard Langhorne, a counsellor, convicted of high-treason, as a conspirator in the popish plot, and executed the 14th of July. These convictions were on the evidence of Bedloe and Oates, and were chiefly obtained from the partial summing up of Scroggs, and the mean acquiescence of the other judges.

22. The duke of Monmouth defeated the covenanters at Bothwell-bridge in Scotland, and among the prisoners, took several of the murderers of the archbishop of St. Andrew's, who were afterwards hanged.

July 13. Sir G. Wakeman and others tried for treason, are acquitted, Oates being convicted of a barefaced perjury.

Aug. 27. Lewis and several popish priests executed at Uske in Monmouthshire, for exercising their functions.

Sept. 2. The king being taken very ill, the earl of Essex and lord Halifax advised him to send for the duke of York, who came over from Flanders.

Oct. 15. The king informs the council he meant to prorogue parliament for a twelvemonth, which astonished the council, and sir William Temple advised his majesty to form a new council. Sir W. Temple and others retired into the country, and the affairs of the kingdom remained in the hands of the earl of Sunderland, Mr. Hyde, and Mr. Sydney Godolphin.

23. Thomas Dangerfield examined by the council, concerning the meal-tub plot. It is supposed at first to have been a contrivance of the papists, to discredit the witness of Oates's plot, and fix a charge of treason on the presbyterians. But the mystery of it was never clearly unravelled. From the heads of it being found in a

paper contained in a tub of meal, it obtained the name of the "*Meal-tub Plot*."

Nov. 12. A proclamation, offering 100*l.* for the discovery of every priest or jesuit.

17. This being queen Elizabeth's birthday, the effigies of the pope, the devil, sir George Jefferies, Mr. L'Estrange, &c. carried in procession, and burnt at Temple-bar by the whig mob.

26. The people being excited to petition in a tumultuous manner for the sitting of the parliament, a proclamation issued, prohibiting the promoting such petitions.

Sir Walter Hungerford, and several Wiltshire gentlemen, having petitioned for the sitting of parliament, were reprehended by the king, as were several other petitioners; such petitions were generally rejected by the grand juries of the counties; and counter-addresses, from the gentry and merchants, presented, expressive of abhorrence of the practices of the petitioners.

The terms *whig* and *tory* had now become the fixed names of the two great political parties which for a century and a half divided the nation. The first had long before been given to the covenanters in the west of Scotland, and was supposed to convey the double opprobrium of poverty and sedition. The second originated in Ireland, and is derived from *toruighim*—"to pursue for plunder." (Ling. Hist. xi. 135.) It imported a leaning towards popery and despotism, and was first applied to the natives of Ireland, who having been deprived of their estates, supported themselves by depredations on the English settlers. The whigs, or *petitioners*, were directed by the earl of Shaftesbury, in opposition to the *abhorers* or addressers.

A report was spread of the duke of Monmouth's legitimacy, and that the king was actually married to Mrs. Walters, the duke's mother; this the king, by a public declaration, affirmed to be false.

1680. Jan. 9. Sir Robert Peyton committed to the Tower, for some words concerning a plot, on the evidence of Mrs. Cellier, the colleague of Dangerfield.

Feb. 5. Benjamin Harris convicted of publishing seditious libels, fined 500*l.*, and pilloried. Also, Francis Smith and Langley Curtis, booksellers.

24. The duke and duchess of York arrived at Whitehall, and appeared at court.

March 8. Charles and the duke of York were entertained by sir Robert Clayton, the lord-mayor, at his house in the Old Jewry.

9. A proclamation, declaring no person should be pardoned who killed another in a duel.

April 7. An order of council prohibiting bonfires on the 29th of May, or on any other festival, without permission.

May 11. An indictment for high-treason

being preferred to the grand-jury of Middlesex, against the countess of Powis, as concerned in the popish plot, upon the evidence of Dangerfield, the bill was ignored.

16. A proclamation, prohibiting the printing of newspapers and pamphlets without a license. The judges had unanimously declared such practice to be illegal.

June 23. Lord Castlemaine tried at the King's-bench bar for high-treason, as concerned in the popish plot; but the jury not crediting Oates and Dangerfield, the witnesses, he was acquitted.

29. Richard Radley, convicted of scandalous words against the lord-chief-justice Scroggs, fined 200*l.*

July 14. The two sheriffs having refused to qualify a new election, when two presbyterians were chosen, in opposition to the two court candidates; at the close of the poll the numbers were—Cornish, 2483; Bethel, 2276; Box, 1428; Nicholson, 1230.

17. John Giles, convicted of assaulting and wounding Mr. Arnold, sentenced to stand three times in the pillory, and fined 500*l.*

23. An insurrection of the field conventiclers in Scotland, led by one Cameron, dispersed by colonel Bruce, and Cameron killed.

Aug. 2. Lady Tempest and Mrs. Preswicks tried at York assizes for high-treason, in being concerned in the popish plot, and acquitted; but Thwing, a priest, was convicted. Sir Thomas Gascoigne, sir Miles Stapleton, and Mr. Ingleby had been tried as accomplices in the same plot, and acquitted. The principal witness was Bobron, a discarded superintendent of the coal-mines of Sir Thomas.

20. William Bedloe died at Bristol, and in his dying words averred to the lord-chief-justice North the truth of the popish plot, and that the queen and the duke of York were concerned in it, except as to the design against the king's life.

Sept. 13. Mrs. Cellier convicted of a libel, called "*Malice Defeated*," sentenced to stand three times in the pillory, and fined 1000*l.*

Oct. 9. A fine of 100*l.* set upon Mr. Shipton, for defaming Oates, Bedloe, and Dugdale, witnesses to the popish plot.

Before the meeting of parliament, the earl of Shaftesbury, with lords Russell and Cavendish, and ten other lords, accompanied by Oates, went to Westminster-hall, and at the King's-bench bar, by a bill in form, presented the duke of York as a popish recusant, and the duchess of Portsmouth as a national nuisance. The judges got rid of the application by the sudden dismissal of the grand-jury.

20. The duke of York returns to Scotland, by desire of Charles.

21. Parliament met at Westminster, and the king made a speech, acquainting them with the alliance he had made with Spain, and again offers to give them any satisfaction for the security of the protestant religion, but altering the succession. He recommended a further examination of the popish plot, and the bringing the lords in the Tower to their trials: he recommended also to them the preservation of Tangier, but above all, a perfect union among themselves. The commons immediately expelled some of their members who had been abhorers, and addressed his majesty to remove others from places of trust. They expelled sir Francis Withens, and sent him to the Tower, for being an abhorrer: they also expelled several other members on the same account. They recommended Dr. Tonge, the first discoverer of the plot, to his majesty, for some ecclesiastical preferment; but he died the December following, without reaping any advantage by it.

26. Dangerfield examined at the bar of the house; and, notwithstanding the infamy of his character, he is, amid the prevalent horror of popery, listened to with credulous attention.

27. The commons resolve, "That it is the undoubted right of the subject to petition for the calling of a parliament, and that to traduce such petitions as tumultuous and seditious, is to contribute to the design of altering the constitution."

Nov. 2. A bill brought in for disabling James, duke of York, to inherit the crown. The object of Shaftesbury, and some of the whigs, was to alter the succession, and supersede the king's brother by Monmouth.

11. Hetherington, Murphy, the two Fitzgeralds, and several other Irishmen, came over, and gave information of a popish plot in Ireland, before the house of commons.

13. James Skein, Archibald Stewart, John Spreuel, and other Scotch rebels being taken, justified the lawfulness of killing the king, and the murder of the archbishop of St. Andrew, and in December following were convicted of treason and rebellion.

Nov. 15. The commons having passed the exclusion bill, it was carried up to the lords by lord Russell; but it was thrown out by that house at the first reading, by 63 to 30, the king being at that time present in the house. All the bishops present, 14 in number, voted against the bill.

17. Being queen Elizabeth's birth-day, the pope, sir George Jefferies, and Mr. L'Estrange were again burnt in effigy.

22. A comet appeared at Falmouth for a week, and the next month in other parts of England.

24. The commons voted an impeachment against chief-justice North for draw-

ing up the proclamation against petitioning for a parliament. The like against sir William Jones, a judge of the king's bench, and against sir Richard Weston, a baron of the exchequer.

30. William viscount Stafford brought to his trial, before the house of peers, as a conspirator in the popish plot. The duchess of Portsmouth sat near the commons at the trial, "dispensing her sweetmeats and gracious looks among them."

Dec. 7. Lord Stafford convicted of high-treason, by 55 to 31, and beheaded the 29th. Lord Russell and some others, questioning the king's power to remit the hanging, drawing, and quartering, Bethel and Cornish, the sheriffs of London and Middlesex, applied to the commons for direction, who declared they were content lord Stafford should be beheaded only.

30. The commons vote that no member shall accept any place without leave of the house, and brought in a bill for uniting the king's protestant subjects. This bill met with great opposition, and was relinquished for one which exempted the protestant dissenters from the penalty imposed on the papists, by the act of the 35th of Elizabeth. It passed both houses.

According to Hallam (Const. Hist. ii. 547), the leaders of the opposition,—sir Thomas Littleton, Mr. Garroway, Mr. Hampden, Mr. Powle, Mr. Sacheverell, and Mr. Foley were in the practice of receiving gratuities from the French king, of 300 or 500 guineas, as testimonies of his favour. Lords Holles and Russell were also in communication with France, but received no pecuniary remuneration. Their objects appear to have been patriotic—to detach France from the king, defeat the popish faction, and procure the dismissal of a corrupt minister and parliament.

This year died the earl of Rochester; Samuel Butler, author of "Hudibras;" and the famous painter sir Peter Lely.

1681. Jan. 5. Articles of impeachment were drawn up against chief-justice Scroggs, principally for discharging the grand-jury, when a presentment of recusancy was about to be preferred against the duke of York.

7. The commons resolved, that until a bill be passed for excluding the duke of York, they could not give any supply without danger to his majesty, and extreme hazard to the protestant religion. They also resolved, that whoever should lend the king any money upon any branch of his revenue, or buy any tally of anticipation, should be adjudged a hinderer of the sitting of parliaments, and be responsible for the same in parliament.

10. The commons having notice that the king would prorogue them this day,

came early to the house, and resolved, 1. That whoever advised his majesty to prorogue the parliament, was a betrayer of the king and kingdom, and the protestant religion: 2. That the penal acts against recusants ought not to be extended to protestant dissenters: 3. That the prosecuting of dissenters upon the penal laws, at this time, was grievous to the subject, a weakening to the protestant interest, and dangerous to the peace of the kingdom. After which the king sent for them up to the house of peers, and the parliament was prorogued.

Jan. 8. A proclamation, dissolving parliament, and calling another, to meet at Oxford.

25. Sir Robert Peyton, having been brought upon his knees, and expelled the house of commons, he challenged Mr. Williams, the speaker, who complaining to the council; sir Robert Peyton was sent to the Tower.

Feb. 23. Edward Fitzharris, the son of sir Edward Fitzharris, of Ireland, committed for a libel, aspersing the late king and the present.

Mar. 11. Several of the whig party having been tampering with Fitzharris in Newgate, to make him accuse the queen and the duke of the popish plot, the government thought fit to send him from Newgate to the Tower.

The earl of Essex and fifteen other lords petition the king to allow parliament to meet at Oxford.

14. The French king concludes a secret treaty, by which he stipulates to pay Charles 200,000 livres for the current year, and 500,000 crowns the two following years, on condition he shall gradually withdraw from the Spanish alliance.

Charles and his court set out for Oxford, where they were received by the university with all demonstrations of loyalty and affection.

17. Many of the members of parliament came armed, with numerous retainers, to Oxford; particularly the members for the city of London came with a numerous body of well-armed horse, with ribbons in their hats, with this inscription,—“No popery! No slavery!”

21. Parliament met at Oxford, the gallery at the public schools being prepared for the lords, and the convocation-house for the commons.

22. The commons voted that the votes of the house of commons should be printed.

26. The expedients proposed instead of the bill of exclusion in this parliament were, “That the whole government, upon the death of the king, should be vested in a regent, who should be the princess of Orange, and if she died without issue, then

the princess Anne should be regent; but if the duke of York should have a son educated a protestant, then the regency should last no longer than his minority; and that the regents should govern in the name of their father while he lived, but that he should be obliged to reside five hundred miles from the British dominions; and if the duke should return to these kingdoms, the crown should immediately devolve on the regent, and the duke and his adherents be deemed guilty of high-treason.”

28. The bill of exclusion was read again the first time, and ordered a second reading; whereupon the king came privately to the lords, and having sent for the commons, he told them he observed such heats amongst them, and such differences between the two houses, that he thought fit to dissolve the parliament. Immediately after, the king set out for Windsor, apprehensive of insult from the armed followers of some of the members.

April 8. The king published a declaration with his reasons for dissolving the two last parliaments, ascribing to them factious and arbitrary proceedings. It had a powerful effect, and was ordered to be read in all the churches. An able reply was put forth by the opposition, entitled “A just and modest Vindication of the Proceedings of the Two Last Parliaments,” the production of Somers, Sydney, and Jones. Addresses of congratulation were presented to Charles for his deliverance from the republicans, and were favourably received by the king. But the lord-mayor and common-council waiting upon the king at Windsor, with one of a different kind, were denied admission, and ordered to attend at Hampton-court, where they received a reprimand from the lord-chancellor.

13. Mr. L'Estrange began to publish his “Observations,” and both he and Mr. Dryden endeavoured to expose the whigs.

Francis Smith, a publisher of seditious libels, was committed to Newgate.

May 16. An indictment was found against the earl of Danby, for being concerned in the death of sir Edmundbury Godfrey, upon the evidence of Fitzharris; but he afterwards retracting his evidence, the indictment dropped.

June 5. Mr. Thomas Ashenden having written a libel against the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, made a public recantation of his errors in the cathedral church of Peterborough.

12. Lord William Howard, being charged with contriving the treasonable libel for which Fitzharris was convicted, is committed to the Tower, and the court of king's bench refused to admit him to bail.

July 1. Oliver Plunket, titular primate

of Ireland, and Edward Fitzharris executed as traitors at Tyburn. Plunket was the last victim of the popish plot imposture.

2. Earl of Shaftesbury committed to the Tower for high-treason: some of the rabble hooted him. His papers being searched, there was found a treasonable association drawn up for excluding the duke of York, and compelling the king to submit to such terms as the whigs should impose upon him.

23. Prince of Orange arrives in England.

28. The duke of York, as high-commissioner, opened the parliament in Scotland, which passed many acts in favour of the king; one for the security of the protestant religion professed in that realm was ratified: to this was annexed an oath to be taken by all officers in church or state. Passive obedience was preached up in all the pulpits.

Aug. 4. The king sent the loyal London apprentices a brace of bucks, to their feast at Saddlers' hall.

14. Parliament of Scotland passed an act, asserting that the right of succession to the crown cannot be defeated by religious differences.

17. Stephen College, the protestant joiner, who had been tried and acquitted at the Old Bailey, was convicted of treason, and executed at Oxford on the 31st.

30. Titus Oates was turned out of his lodgings at Whitehall, and deprived of his pension, for his conduct on the first trial of College.

Sept. 7. The king published an order of council, for the entertainment and assistance of the French protestants, who fled hither for shelter, for which the French church in London returned him their thanks.

27. The king and court were splendidly entertained at Cambridge.

29. The loyal party in the city carried it for the election of a mayor, but two whigs were chosen sheriffs.

Oct. 19. John Rouse, the leader of the Wapping mob, having an indictment preferred against him at the Old Bailey for high-treason, and the facts sworn by eight witnesses; yet the sheriffs are said to have so packed the grand-jury, that it was thrown out.

Nov. 9. Francis Smith was convicted of printing a seditious libel, called "A Noble Peer's Speech."

24. An indictment of high-treason preferred against the earl of Shaftesbury, at the Old Bailey, for framing an association to exclude the duke of York by force, and coerce the king. The jury, refusing credit to the witnesses, threw out the bill, to the great joy of the citizens, who celebrated it by bonfires, ringing of bells, and cries of a "Shaftesbury," a "Monmouth," and a "Buckingham."

Dec. 19. The earl of Argyle was convicted of high-treason in Scotland: after which, escaping out of prison, sentence was passed upon him in his absence.

1682. Jan. 3. Sympson Tonge made it appear that his father, Dr. Tonge, and Titus Oates, forged and contrived the popish plot.

25. The duke of York's picture in Guildhall defaced and torn. The lord-mayor and court of aldermen offered a reward of 500*l.* to any one that would discover the offender.

Feb. 3. Thomas Thynne, Esq., shot in his coach, in Pall-mall, by assassins hired by count Koningsmark, and the next day captain Vratz, Borosky, and Stern, the assassins, were apprehended; and on the 19th, count Koningsmark himself was taken at Gravesend in a seaman's habit.

Sir Samuel Moreland invented a machine which, by the strength of eight men, would force the water in a continual stream from the river Thames to the top of Windsor-castle, and sixty feet higher, at the rate of sixty barrels an hour. The experiment was repeated several times before the king, queen, and court, the latter end of this year. Charles gave sir Samuel a medal, with his effigy set round with diamonds, and constituted him master of mechanics, to testify his admiration.

Feb. 28. Count Koningsmark and the three assassins were tried at the Old Bailey. The three assassins were convicted, but the count being favoured by the court, was acquitted. Vratz, Borosky, and Stern were hanged in Pall-mall the 10th of March; and afterwards Borosky, who shot Mr. Thynne, was hanged in chains near Mile End.

Count Koningsmark and Mr. Thynne were rivals for lady Ogle, and the count apprehended the lady was more inclined to Mr. Thynne than himself. She was the duke of Newcastle's daughter, said to be a virgin widow, and esteemed one of the greatest fortunes in England.

Mar. 4. The king and court went down to Newmarket; and the duke of York arrived there from Scotland on the 11th.

April 19. Some whig citizens having appointed a thanksgiving or festival, in order to count their number, an order of council was issued to the lord-mayor, to suppress any such meeting, as an unlawful assembly.

22. The duke of York accepted of an invitation from the Artillery-company, and dined with them at Merchant Tailors'-hall.

May 3. The duke of York embarked on board of the *Gloucester* frigate for Scotland. On the 5th, the *Gloucester* struck upon the sand called "The Lemon and Oar," about 16 leagues from the mouth of the Humber, and was lost, with most of

the ship's crew and passengers: only the duke, and some few that he took with him in the pinnace, were saved; among whom was Mr. Churchill, afterwards duke of Marlborough, for whose preservation the duke of York was extremely solicitous. It was said that the sinking mariners gave an hurra when they saw the duke in safety, and with joyful acclamations went down.

The whigs rendered themselves obnoxious to the court, particularly to the duke of York, by the pamphlets they published. One, under the title of "The Life of Julian the Apostate," made a great noise; in which a parallel was drawn between the duke of York and that prince: the necessity of an expulsion was shown, and passive obedience exploded as a Mahometan doctrine. The animosity against the whigs was now so excessive, that even in the administration of justice the judges forgot common decency. Pilkington, the sheriff, was fined in an action brought by the duke of York, for words scandalously spoken, to the amount of 100,000*l*.

May 8. An order of council issued, prohibiting persons of quality to converse with the duke of Monmouth.

The earl of Shaftesbury brought an action of *scandalum magnatum* against Mr. Craddock, for saying he was a traitor; but upon the defendant's motion to have a jury out of the county, the earl dropped the action.

25. Disputes between the sheriffs and lord-mayor, as to the right to adjourn a common-hall.

27. The duke of York returned from Scotland, being met at Erith by Charles in his barge.

The court formed a design against London and other corporations, and resolved to annul the charter of London.

Willmore, the foreman of the jury that ignored the bill against College, convicted of kidnapping a boy.

June 20. Nathaniel Thomson, William Pain, and John Farewell tried and convicted of reflecting on the justice of the nation, in condemning Green, Berry, and Hill, for the murder of Godfrey, who committed suicide. They were fined 100*l*. a-piece, and Thomson and Farewell sentenced to the pillory.

24. The corporation of Evesham surrendered their charter.

26. The sheriffs of London, Pilkington and Shute, for continuing the poll for new sheriffs, after the common-hall was adjourned by the lord-mayor, committed to the Tower, but admitted to bail, the 30th inst.

July 5. Aaron Smith, convicted of publishing seditious libels, sentenced to stand in the pillory, and pay a fine of 500*l*.

11. Mr. Goodenough, the under-sheriff

of London, fined 100*l*. for not altering the pannel of a jury at the command of the bench at Hicks'-hall.

15. An order of council issued for again beginning the election of sheriffs in London; whereupon Mr. Box and Mr. North were chosen, to the satisfaction of the court.

This year the king received two extraordinary embassies; one from the king of Fes, in Morocco, the other from the king of Bantam, in the isle of Java.

Oct. 19. Shaftesbury, alarmed at the increasing power of the court and the decline of the whigs, withdrew privately to Holland. Charles began to turn their own weapons against them. Having got sheriffs to his satisfaction, he was enabled to pack juries, as his opponents had done; and the new-modelling of corporations, by the issuing of writs of *quo warranto*, gave him the nomination of members of parliament for the chief towns, while the county representation was mostly devoted to him.

Prince Rupert died at his house in Spring-gardens, and was buried in Henry VIIIth's chapel at Westminster.

Dec. Several persons that had been apprehended for a riot, by crying out a "*Monmouth*," on the 5th of November, were convicted, sentenced to stand in the pillory, and pay a fine to the king.

13. On order of council against kidnapping and spiriting people away to the plantations.

18. Heneage Finch, earl of Nottingham, and lord-chancellor of England, died. Sir Francis North, lord-chief-justice of the Common-pleas, was made lord-keeper on the 22nd.

1683. A penny-post first set up in London by an individual named Murray. After a few years, it was claimed by the government, as interfering with the general-post.

Jan. 22. Anthony Ashley Cooper, the first earl of Shaftesbury, dies at Amsterdam, of the gout in the stomach, in his sixty-second year. He was a bold, scheming politician, of dubious principles and abandoned private habits. He distinguished himself in the civil war both as a commoner and a soldier, and had an active share in the Restoration. If he did not contrive the popish plot, he became its managing director, to promote his party purposes. He was one of the Cabal, and while lord-chancellor, deservedly popular.

April 7. The city of Norwich accept of a new charter. New charters were granted last year to Maidstone and Derby.

24. Mr. Papillion and Mr. Dubois caused sir William Pritchard the lord-mayor, sheriff North, and several other aldermen to be arrested and detained till one the next morning; whereupon the lieutenantancy raised

the militia, and the lord-mayor, &c., were released.

May 1. A patent was granted to Robert Fitzgerald, Esq., for making salt water fresh.

2. The king, to revenge himself of the old magistrates of London, issued out a commission for trial of the authors of the disorders at the election of sheriffs the last year, which by the commission was called a riotous and unlawful assembly.

8. Pilkington and Shute, the late sheriffs, lord Grey of Werk, alderman Cornish, and others were tried at Guildhall, for continuing the poll for sheriffs after the common-hall was adjourned, and assaulting the lord-mayor, &c. They were convicted and fined. Pilkington, 500*l.*; Shute, 1000 marks; and the lord Grey, Bethel, and Cornish, 1000 marks each, and the rest in lesser sums.

June 12. The court of King's-bench gave judgment against the city, in the *quo warranto* brought against their charter. The charter was declared forfeited, but judgment could not be entered until the king's pleasure should be further known.

14. The plot or conspiracy to assassinate the king at the Rye-house, in Hertfordshire, was discovered by a letter from Joseph Keeling to lord Dartmouth and secretary Jenkins. By Keeling's deposition, the conspirators were to seize Charles and the duke of York, and to massacre the magistrates of London and the officers of state. The Rye-house was a farm near Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire, through which Charles usually passed in his road from Newmarket, and belonged to Rumbold, one of the boldest of the assassins. Here it was proposed by the conspirators, to attack the king and his guards; but a fire happening at Newmarket, Charles returned to London sooner than he intended, and before the conspirators were prepared to put their design in execution.

18. The city of London made their submission to the king at Windsor, and complied with the regulations he was pleased to prescribe them. The principal was, that the king was to have a veto on the appointment of the lord-mayor, sheriffs, or other officers of the city. The corporation also re-erected a statue of Charles I. in the Royal Exchange, the former one having been demolished.

23. A proclamation was issued for apprehending colonel John Rumsey; Richard Rumbold, maltster; Richard Nelthorp, Esq.; Edward Wade; Richard Goodenough; captain Walcot; William Thomson; James Burton; and William Hone, conspirators in the Rye-house assassination plot; and a reward of 100*l.* was offered for the apprehending any one of them.

28. A proclamation, offering a reward

of 500*l.* for apprehending the duke of Monmouth and others, who had fled from justice.

Lord Howard of Escrick, one of the conspirators, discovers to the government that the earl of Essex, lord Russell, and others were concerned in the Rye-house conspiracy, whereupon they were apprehended.

July 2. The lord-mayor, aldermen, and common-council of London, congratulate Charles and the duke of York upon the discovery of the Rye-house plot; and addresses came from all parts of the kingdom to the same effect.

13. The city having delayed to comply with the terms of the court, the judgment of forfeiture of charter was entered up.

William lord Russell was tried and convicted of high-treason, in conspiring the death of the king, and to that end consulting with others to raise a rebellion, William Hone and John Rouse were also convicted, and with Walcot and lord Russell received sentence of death on the 14th, but captain Blague was acquitted. The earl of Essex, a nobleman of good qualities but melancholy temperament, who had often maintained the lawfulness of suicide, cut his throat in the Tower.

20. Walcot, Hone, and Rouse, executed at Tyburn, and confessed the treason of which they had been convicted; only Walcot denied he was to be concerned in that part relating to the assassination.

Lord Russell beheaded in Lincoln's-inn-fields. He was conveyed in his own carriage, and met his fate with fortitude. Like lord Stafford, he refused to give any sign to the executioner, who having deliberately taken aim, at two strokes severed the head from the body. In the written speech circulated after his death, he expressed his belief in the reality of the popish plot; that his zeal in favour of the exclusion of James, originated in a desire to obviate the danger of popery, and disclaimed any intention of altering the form of the government. He denied that his offence was treason, as there was no levying of war, but admitted being present when there was some loose talk by others of surprising the guards. Upon which it was held that whoever comes into an assembly more than once, where rebellion is proposed, though he says nothing, is in law presumed to consent to it, and guilty of high-treason; it is misprision if he does not discover it the first time.

24. The judgment and decree of the university of Oxford, passed in convocation, against the doctrine of resistance, and other tenets, were presented to the king with great solemnity, and very graciously received.

28. The king published a declaration,

containing a narrative of the Rye-house plot; and Sunday the 9th of September was appointed to be observed as a thanksgiving for his deliverance.

Princess Anne was married to prince George of Denmark, who being a protestant, it gave much satisfaction.

Sept. 5. The election of sheriffs having been put off from Midsummer to this day, Peter Daniel was nominated for one by the lord-mayor, and confirmed, and Samuel Dashwood, esq. was chosen for the other; Mr. deputy Ailworth was chosen chamberlain of the city in the room of sir Thomas Player, who was removed.

12. The siege of Vienna was raised by the king of Poland and the duke of Lorraine, before which city the Turks are said to have lost 70,000 men.

28. Sir George Jeffreys, the infamous judge, made lord chief justice of the king's-bench.

Oct. 4. The municipal franchises of the city being forfeited, the king granted a commission to sir William Pritchard, the present lord-mayor, and commissions to the sheriffs, Daniel and Dashwood, to exercise their respective offices during pleasure, and Mr. Jenner was made recorder of the city in the room of sir George Jeffreys.

13. The king sent commissions into the city to sixteen of the former loyal aldermen and eight new ones, to act as aldermen in the several wards.

28. The king granted a commission to sir Henry Tulse, to exercise the office of lord-mayor of London during pleasure, and he was sworn in the usual manner in Westminster-hall.

Nov. 7. Algernon Sidney arraigned at the king's-bench bar, for high-treason, especially for a treasonable libel, wherein he asserts power to be originally in the people, and delegated by them to the parliament, to whom the king was subject, and might be called to account.

8. The duke of York and prince of Denmark accepted of an invitation from the Artillery company, and were entertained at Merchant-tailors' hall.

20. Samuel Johnson, a clergyman, convicted of writing a seditious libel, called Julian the Apostate, reflecting upon the duke of York, for which he was fined 500 marks, and his book burnt by the hangman.

21. Algernon Sidney brought to trial, and convicted of high-treason; he was condemned the 26th, and on the 7th of December was beheaded on Tower-hill, glorying that he died for the good old cause, in which he had been engaged from his youth. He had been appointed one of the high court of justice that condemned Charles I. though he did not sit there. He was the first man accused of treason and

condemned to die for writing any thing without publishing it; Jeffreys contending that in law *scribere* was *agere*, and the writing of a treasonable though private paper amounted to an overt act of treason. He delivered a writing to the sheriff before his death, complaining of the injustice done him; he represented the infamous life of lord Howard and the judges, as corrupted men, only promoted to serve the designs of the court.

25. The duke of Monmouth submitted, and was admitted to the king's presence; he signed a paper acknowledging his being concerned in the late conspiracy, except that part of it against Charles's life, and obtained his pardon; but relapsing again, he demanded the paper of the king, who restored it, and he was banished the court and went into Holland.

1684. The maintenance of the poor was estimated by D'Avenant, at 665,000*l.* per annum.

Feb. 6. John Hampden, esq. was tried for a misdemeanor, in confederating with other persons to make an insurrection; he was fined 40,000*l.* and to give security for his good behaviour during life.

About the beginning of December began a very hard frost, which continued to the 5th of February without intermission; the Thames was frozen and covered with booths as at a fair; coaches plied from Westminster to the Temple, and from other stairs; an ox was roasted whole, bulls baited, and the like.

7. Lawrence Braddon and Hugh Speke were convicted at the king's-bench bar, of a misdemeanor, in conspiring to make the people believe that the earl of Essex was murdered by those who had the custody of him; and endeavouring to suborn false witnesses to prove it; judgment was given against them the following term, when Braddon was fined 2000*l.* and Speke 1000*l.* and to give security for their good behaviour during life.

12. The earl of Danby, after several attempts to regain his liberty, was at length admitted to be bailed by the judges of the king's-bench. The earl of Powis, lord Arundel of Wardour, and lord Bellayse, who had been impeached for the popish plot, were likewise admitted to bail; as was also the earl of Tyrone in Ireland, but lord Petre died in the Tower, about a month before, professing his innocence.

14. Sir Samuel Barnardiston was convicted of a misdemeanor, in defaming the government by several letters or libels, asserting that the plot of which lord Russell, colonel Sidney, &c. were convicted, was a sham; he was fined 10,000*l.* and to find sureties for his good behaviour during life.

Mar. 19. The Dutch having fallen upon

some Spanish ships in the Downs, the king issued a proclamation for preserving the neutrality of the ports, roads, and creeks, upon the English coasts, directing the commanders of his men-of-war to oppose the aggressors.

Apr. 2. Lord Dartmouth returned from Tangier, having blown up and demolished the place, and spoiled the harbour.

7. The castle of Dublin burnt.

21. A rule was made for the execution of James Holloway, who had been outlawed on an indictment for high-treason, on the 30th instant, being one of the conspirators in the Rye-house plot; he was taken in the West-Indies and brought to London.

Langley Curtis having been convicted of printing a libel, called 'The Lord Russell's Ghost; or, the Nightwalker of Bloomsbury,' containing reflections on the government, was sentenced to pay 500*l.* and stand in the pillory.

30. George Squadron, steward to the earl of Clare, was convicted of speaking seditious words against the government, and afterwards adjudged to pay a fine of 100*l.* and to stand in the pillory.

May 2. Several gentlemen having opposed the new charter granted to the town of Nottingham, an information was exhibited against them, and they were convicted of a riot in the court of king's-bench.

3. The duke of York having brought an action of *scandalum magnatum* against John Dutton, esq. the last Michaelmas-term, he was convicted, among others, of the following words, viz.: "The duke of York is a papist; and I will be hanged at my own door, before such a damned popish rascal shall inherit the crown," &c. The jury gave the duke 100,000*l.* damages. The duke brought his action against Titus Oates.

June 11. Francis Smith, a bookseller in Cornhill, was convicted of publishing a seditious libel, called, 'The Raree Show;' containing reflections on the king, the duke, and the whole administration. He was adjudged to pay a fine of 500*l.*, to stand in the pillory three times, and give security for his good behaviour during life.

14. Sir Thomas Armstrong having been outlawed upon an indictment for high-treason, as a conspirator in the Rye-house plot, was apprehended at Leyden in Holland, by order of the states, and sent over in one of the king's yachts, and this day being brought to the king's-bench, a rule was made for his execution on the 20th. His head was set upon Westminster-hall between Cromwell's and Bradshaw's, and his quarters on the city gates.

18. Titus Oates having let judgment go by default, in an action of *scandalum*

magnatum, brought against him by the duke of York; the jury upon a writ of inquiry, executed in the court of king's-bench, gave the duke 100,000*l.* damages. It was proved, that besides his calling the duke traitor, he had said, "He was a son of a whore, and a rascal, and he hoped to live to see him hanged."

July 7. The town of Plymouth accepted of a new charter, as did several other corporations, finding it acceptable to the court.

Nov. 6. Sir William Pritchard, the late lord mayor, having brought his action against Thomas Papillon, for arresting him and detaining him in prison, having no just or probable cause of action, the plaintiff had a verdict, and the jury gave him 10,000*l.* damages.

Dec. 12. Twenty-five corporations in Coruwall, and six in Devonshire, having surrendered their charters, they were presented to Charles by the earl of Bath.

16. This day the Hamburgh company erected the statue of Charles in the middle of the area of the Royal Exchange.

17. Charles proposed the erecting Chelsea-college into an hospital for decayed cavaliers, but did not live to put his design into execution.

24. Robert Baillie of Jerviswood convicted of high-treason at Edinburgh, in being concerned in the conspiracy with the lords Shaftesbury, Essex, and Russell, to subvert the government; he was condemned and executed the same afternoon.

1685. *Jan.* The whole of this month was spent in prosecuting delinquents against the king and the duke, and in receiving and granting new charters on certain conditions. All complaints were suppressed, and the whole kingdom subdued, the city of London not excepted, which had always opposed absolute power. The king published a formal declaration, thanking the corporations for the surrender of their charters.

4. The government offered a reward of 1000*l.* to any one that should apprehend colonel Danvers, the author of a seditious libel, concerning the death of the earl of Essex.

Feb. 2. The king seized with a fit of apoplexy.

6. Charles died at Whitehall, in the 55th year of his age, and the 37th of his reign, reckoning from the death of Charles I. and twenty-five years after his restoration; he was buried in Westminster-abbey. He had but one wife, Catherine, infanta of Portugal, who survived him many years; he had no issue by her.

A suspicion prevailed, though without any foundation, that the king had been poisoned. In his person Charles was tall and well-proportioned, his complexion

swarthy, his features austere; which severity of countenance formed a contrast with the agreeableness of his manner. He evinced in his last moments a great solicitude about his mistresses and natural children. But according to Burnet, he 'said nothing of the queen, nor any one word of his people, nor of his servants; nor did he speak one word of religion, or concerning the payment of his debts, though he left behind him about 90,000 guineas, which he had gathered either out of the privy purse, or out of money sent him from France, or by other methods, and which he kept so secretly that no person whatsoever knew any thing of it.'—*History of his Own Time*, ii. 284.

NATURAL ISSUE OF CHARLES II.

James duke of Monmouth, his eldest son, by Mrs. Lucy Walters; born at Rotterdam in Holland, in 1649; married to the sole daughter and heiress of Francis earl of Buccleugh, in Scotland.

Mary, by Mrs. Walters, unmarried first to Mr. William Sarsfield, of Ireland, and afterwards to William Fanshaw, esq.

Charlotte - Jemima - Henrietta - Maria Boyle, alias Fitz-Roy, his daughter, by Elizabeth viscountess Shannon, married first to James Howard, esq., grandson to the earl of Suffolk; and afterwards to sir Robert Paston, bart., created earl of Yarmouth.

Charles, surnamed Fitz-Charles, by Mrs. Catharine Peg, who died at Tangier. A daughter also by Mrs. Peg, who died in her infancy.

Charles Fitz-Roy, duke of Southampton, his eldest son by Barbara Villiers, daughter and heiress to William Villiers, viscount Grandison, and wife to Roger Palmer, earl of Castlemain; created duchess of Cleveland, with remainder to Charles and George Fitz-Roy her sons, and their heirs male respectively.

Henry Fitz-Roy, duke of Grafton, his second son by Barbara Villiers.

George Fitz-Roy, duke of Northumberland, his third son by Villiers.

Charlotte Fitz-Roy, his daughter by Villiers, married to sir Edward Henry Lee of Ditchley, in the county of Oxon; afterwards created earl of Lichfield.

Charles Beauclere, duke of St Alban's, his son by Mrs. Eleanor Gwynne, the player, who refused all titles of honour.

Charles Lennox, duke of Richmond, his only son by Louisa Querouaille, a French lady, maid of honour to the duchess of Orleans, the king's sister; created duchess of Portsmouth.

Mary Tudor, his daughter by Mrs. Mary Davies, married to Francis lord Ratcliffe, son and heir of Francis earl of Derwentwater.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

12 Car. II. cap. 13. Reduces the interest of money from eight to six per cent.

Cap. 16. Enables disbanded soldiers to exercise their trades in any place.

Cap. 18. Enacts that all merchandize be imported in British bottoms, except what comes from the place of its growth or manufacture, and that three-fourths of the seamen be English; and that ships loading in the plantations, bring their merchandize directly to England.

Cap. 24. Abolishes court of wards, tenures *in capite*, and knight's service; butlerage, prisage, and purveyance; granting in lieu to the king a revenue of excise and customs.

Cap. 28. Is the first statute by king, lords, and commons, that laid an excise on beer and ale.

Cap. 32. Prohibits the exportation of wool and fuller's earth.

Cap. 33. Confirms all marriages made by justices of the peace during the commonwealth.

Cap. 35. Post-office erected.

13 Car. II. cap. 4. Uniformity of service and sacraments; form of ordaining priests and deacons.

Cap. 9. Contains articles for the better government of the navy.

Sess. 2, cap. 2. Provides against frivolous and vexatious suits.

14 Car. II. cap. 6. Contains directions for mending the highways.

Cap. 7. Prohibits the exportation of leather and raw hides.

Cap. 12. Authorizes two justices of peace to remove poor people, and to transport rogues and sturdy beggars.

Cap. 29. Prohibits the melting silver coin.

Cap. 33. Prohibits the printing impious books.

15 Car. II. cap. 2. Inflicts a penalty of ten shillings on wood-peelers, besides the value to the owner, and in default, to be sent to the house of correction.

16 Car. II. cap. 6. Deprives seamen of their pay that refuse to fight and defend their ships, and rewards those that behave well out of the cargo.

Cap. 7. Inflicts a penalty of treble the value won, on those that cheat at play, and makes all securities for money won at play void, exceeding 100*l*.

17 Car. II. cap. 3. Churches standing near each other may be united, with the consent of the bishop and patron.

Cap. 7. Facilitates proceedings on distress and avowries for rent.

18 Car. II. cap. 2. Requires all persons to be buried in woollen.

22 & 23 Car. II. cap. 1. Made felony to maim any person, by cutting the tongue,

putting out an eye, slitting a nose, or lip, or disabling any limb or member.

Cap. 7. Burning stacks of corn or hay, barns, outhouses, or buildings, or killing or destroying horses, sheep, or other cattle in the night-time, to be adjudged felony. Also persons maiming or hurting cattle, destroying plantations of trees, or throwing down enclosures, to forfeit treble damages.

Cap. 9. In personal actions where the damages do not exceed forty shillings, the plaintiff shall recover no more costs than damages.

Cap. 10. *Statute of Distributions*, whereby if a man die intestate, one third part of his personal estate shall go to his wife, and the rest among his children (equally), who have not been provided for in his life-time; but the heir-at-law, though he receives the inheritance, to have his full share of the personality. If there be no children, or representatives of them, the wife shall have half, and the residue shall be divided among the next of kin to the intestate, and those who represent them; but no representatives shall be admitted among collaterals after brothers' and sisters' children. If there be no wife, all shall be distributed among the children, and if no child, to the next of kin to the intestate, in equal degree, and their representatives.

Cap. 25. Qualification to kill game fixed at 100*l.* per annum for life, or a lease of ninety-nine years of 150*l.* per annum.

29 Car. II. cap. 3. *Statute of Frauds*. All leases, estates, interests of freehold, or terms of years where the agreement is not put in writing and signed by the parties,

shall have no greater effect than estates at will.

No action shall be brought to charge a defendant on any promise, or upon any contract or sale of lands, or on any agreement not to be performed within a year, unless such agreement be in writing, and signed by the party.

All devises of lands shall be in writing, and signed by the testator, and subscribed in his presence by three witnesses.

No contract for goods of the value of ten pounds or upwards shall be good, unless the buyer receive part, or give something in earnest, or some note thereof in writing be signed by both parties.

Cap. 9. The writ *de Hæretico comburendo* is abolished.

31 Car. II. cap. 2. *Habeas corpus act*, by which prisoners on application to the judges may obtain their discharge, unless detained by legal process. Gaoler refusing a copy of a warrant of commitment, penalty 100*l.*, or judge denying a writ of habeas, penalty 500*l.* The statute also provides against the arbitrary imprisonment of Englishmen in distant prisons in Scotland, Ireland, Guernsey, Tangier, or other parts beyond seas. *Magna charta* had long before made provision against arbitrary imprisonment, but like many other constitutional enactments was obsolete in practice.

32 Car. II. cap. 2. Against the import of cattle from Ireland.

Other statutes of this reign have been already mentioned.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Permanent Income of the Crown in 1663.

	£.
Customs	400,000
Royal domains	100,000
Dean forest	5,000
Post-office	26,000
Hereditary excise	274,950
Hearth money	170,603
First fruits and tenths	18,800
Coinage and pre-emption of tin	12,000
Wine licenses	20,000
Miscellaneous branches	54,356

£1,081,709

Summary of the Money received by Charles II. during the whole course of his reign.

Permanent income of the crown, at the rate of 1,100,000 <i>l.</i> for 24 years	£.
Parliamentary grants for the public service	26,400,000
Queen's marriage portion	13,414,868
Sale of the domains	250,000
Price of Dunkirk	500,000
Pensions and donations from France	400,000
Plunder	950,000
Shutting up the exchequer	640,000
Extortions	1,325,526
	100,000

£43,983,394

Expenses of the Crown for one year, as allotted by the Council, January 26, 1676.

	£.
Household	52,247
Buildings and repairs	10,000
Privy purse	36,000
For the queen	23,000
Public intelligence	5,000
Treasurer of the chamber	20,000
Great wardrobe	16,000
Band of pensioners	3,000
Robes	4,000
Jewel-office	4,000
Pensions, including the queen's mother, duke of York, &c.	89,000
Ambassadors	40,000
Judges, masters in chancery, &c.	49,000
Master of the horse	10,000
Casual disbursements	10,000
Hawks, harriers, tents, toils, &c.	1,500
Secret-service money	20,000
New-year gifts	3,600
Tower expenses for prisoners	768
Management of excise and customs	63,500
Angel gold, for healing medals	2,000
Liberates out of the exchequer	1,500
	£462,115

	£.	£.
<i>Peace Establishment.</i>		
Navy	300,000	} 552,000
Army	212,000	
Ordnance	40,000	
<i>Miscellaneous Expenses.</i>		
Garrison of Tangier		57,200
Interest of the king's debts		100,000
		£1,171,313

LANDED PROPERTY IN IRELAND.

A question of great difficulty after the Restoration was the settlement of the landed property of Ireland. Those who adhered to the Stuarts in their exile, or whose estates had been forfeited by rebellion, sought, at this juncture, either rewards for their loyalty or to recover their former possessions. The reconciliation of their claims with the possessive rights of the Cromwellian settlers formed the arduous point of arbitration. The republicans, who held their possessions by the right of the sword, were ready to defend them by the same title; and the result was, awards greatly in their favour, establishing the protestant ascendancy on that basis of proprietary influence, which, even to the present time, constitutes its chief strength.

From a MS. paper referred to by Mr. Lingard, it appears that the profitable lands forfeited in Ireland, under the commonwealth, amounted to 7,708,237 statute acres, leaving undisturbed about 8,500,000 acres belonging to the protestants, besides some

lands never seized or surveyed. Of these forfeited lands, nearly two-thirds were confirmed to the protestants, and of the remainder, a portion almost equal in quantity, but not in quality, to one-third, was appropriated to the catholics.

In 1675 the forfeited lands had been disposed of as follows:—

Granted to the English

	Statute acres.
Adventurers	787,326
Soldiers	2,385,915
Forty-nine officers	450,380
Duke of York	169,431
Provisors	477,873
Duke of Ormond and colonel Butler's lands	257,516
Bishops' augmentations	31,596
	4,560,037

Granted or disposed of to the Irish.

	<i>Statute acres.</i>
Decrees of innocence . . .	1,176,520
Provisors . . .	491,001
King's letter of restitution . . .	46,398
Nominees in possession . . .	68,360
Transplantation . . .	541,530
	2,323,809

The forty-nine officers are those who claimed arrears for services, under the king, before 1649. The duke of York received a grant of all the lands held by the regicides who had been attainted. Provisors were persons in whose favour provisoes had been made in the acts. Decrees of innocence applied to those who had taken no part either with the parliament or the rebels. Nominees were the catholics named by the king to be restored to their mansion-houses and 2000 acres contiguous. Transplantation refers to the catholics whom Cromwell forced from their own lands and settled in Connaught. 824,391 acres remained unappropriated.—*Ling. Hist.* xii. 75.

MEN OF LETTERS.

William Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood, and founder of the Harveyian oration, Oxford, 1574—1657.

John Selden, eminent scholar and member of the long parliament, 1547—1654. "Titles of Honour;" "History of Tythes;" "Marmora Aruudelliana;" "Mare Clausum;" "Table Talk," a posthumous publication. These, with many other works of less importance, were collected by Dr. Wilkins, in three vols. folio, 1726.

James Harrington, "Oceana," 1611—1677.

James Usher, learned Irish prelate, 1580—1656. Sermons, theology, history.

Thomas Hobbes; morals, politics, and metaphysics, 1588—1679.

William Dugdale; antiquities and history, 1605—1686.

William Chillingworth; sermons and controversial theology, 1602—1644.

Isaac Barrow, eminent mathematician and divine, 1630—1677.

John Pearson, bishop of Chester, 1612—1686; "Exposition of the Creed."

Brian Walton, 1600—1661; "Polyglott Bible," in six vols. folio, 1657.

Jeremy Taylor, eminent Irish prelate, 1613—1667; "Theologica Eclectica," "Golden Grove," "Holy Living and Dying."

Algernon Sydney, "Discourses on Government," 1617—1693.

Sir Thomas Browne, physician and celebrated writer, 1605—1682; "Vulgar Er-

rors," "Urn Burial" with the "Garden of Cyrus," "Religio Medici."

Edmund Castell, a learned divine, 1606—1685; "Lexicon Heptaglotton," a dictionary of seven languages, which cost the author seventeen years' of labour, and ruined his fortune.

Thomas Fuller, eminent historian and divine, 1608—1661; "Holy State," "Church History of Britain," "Histories of Cambridge University and Waltham Abbey," "The Worthies of England," a posthumous publication, and the most popular of his works.

Earl of Clarendon, statesman and historian, 1608—1673; "History of the Grand Rebellion," 3 vols. folio; "Life, and continuation of his History," "Contemplations on the Psalms," "Miscellaneous Tracts."

Thomas May, translator, poet, and historian, 1595—1650.

Andrew Marvell, an able and witty writer, 1620—1675; "The Rehearsal Transposed," "An Account of the Growth of Popery and Arbitrary Power in England." His works collected by captain Thompson, 3 vols. 4to. 1776.

Isaak Walton, "The Complete Angler," 1593—1683.

Bulstrode Whitelock, distinguished parliamentary and lawyer, 1605—1676; "Memorials of the English Affairs from the Beginning of the Reign of Charles I. to the Restoration," folio, 1682.

Mrs. Hutchinson, "Life of colonel Hutchinson."

William Prynne, lawyer and antiquary, 1600—1667. His works make 40 vols. folio and 4to.; "Histrio Mastix," directed against theatrical exhibitions, and "Collection of Records," three vols. folio, are the most celebrated.

The contemporary writers of works of imagination were, Milton, Butler, Walker, Davenant, Shirley, Wither, Donne, Suckling, Rochester, Denham, Roscommon, Cowley, and Maxwell.

VARIATION IN PRICES.

It is important at this period to notice the alteration in prices which had taken place in Europe. The money value of labour, commodities, taxes, the income of the crown, and every other description of revenue, was affected by the increased supply of the precious metals from America. This change began to show itself towards the latter part of the sixteenth century. In 1550 the rich mines of Potosi were discovered, but it was twenty years after before any very sensible effect was produced on prices in England. From about 1570 to about 1640, during a period of about seventy years, silver sank two-thirds in

value, and a quarter of corn, instead of being commonly sold for two ounces of silver, came to be sold for six or eight ounces.

Between 1630 to 1640, or about 1636, the full effect of the discovery of the American mines, in depreciating the value of silver, had, in the opinion of Dr. Smith (*Wealth of Nations*, B. I., ch. xi.), been completed, and the value of that metal did not sink lower in proportion to the value of corn than at that time.

This great alteration in the measure of value was a principal cause of the pecuniary difficulties which pressed upon the first princes of the Stuart dynasty; and the civil war itself may be ascribed in a greater degree to the discrepancy between the royal income and expenditure, than the resistance of the commons to prerogatives dangerous to public liberty. Parliament kept both James I. and Charles I. at nearly the same amount of revenue as their predecessors, though its command over commodities had been so materially reduced. Under the commonwealth the public expenditure greatly augmented, but it was chiefly occasioned by the nominal rise of prices. The first parliament of Charles II. voted 1,200,000*l.* as the ordinary revenue of the crown, but in the latter years of his reign it amounted to more. The revenue of James II. amounted to near 2,000,000*l.*

MORALS—MANNERS—COSTUME.

A striking result of the Restoration was almost an instantaneous revolution in the moral habits of the people. Under the commonwealth all men were virtuous, or compelled to wear its exterior garb; but no sooner were the restraints, imposed by the strictness of puritanism, removed, than vice stalked through the land without disguise. The court set the fashion. Buckingham, Rochester, sir Charles Sedley, and the Killigrews were most distinguished by their wit and libertinism. Charles laughed at their follies, and by his example, and that of his cavaliers, licentiousness and debauchery became prevalent in the nation. Ebriety and the pleasures of the table were freely indulged in. Love was treated more as an appetite than a passion, and delicacy and sentiment entered little into the attachments formed between the sexes. Conversation was corrupted as well as conduct. The coarsest jests and most indecent words were admitted among the highest classes, and even disgraced the literature of the day. The stage, copying the living manners of the time, united the profligacy of the French with the rudeness of English manners. Nearly all the actresses were in the keeping, many of

them the wives, of the nobility. The king, as before observed, took two of his favourite mistresses from the theatres—Davies and Nell Gwynne. Each bore him a child, which was ennobled, and Davies received a costly establishment in Suffolk-street. Gwynne might have received a coronet, like the duchesses of Cleveland and Portsmouth, but she always refused a title.

It was in the company of his mistresses that Charles spent much of the time which was due to the service of the nation. "He delighted," says Sheffield, "in a bewitching kind of pleasure called sauntering." Even when the council had assembled to deliberate in his presence, the truant monarch would prefer wiling away his time in their fascinating society.

Speaking of this licentious era, Dr. Burnet says (*Hist. of his Own Time*, i. 368), "At this time the court fell into much extravagance in masquerading; both king and queen went about masked, and came into houses unknown, and danced there with a great deal of frolic. In all this they were so disguised that none could distinguish them." It would have been well had the gayeties of the court been always so innocent as masquerading, or, as Pepys mentions, gipsy-parties and fortune-telling; but some of the gallants of the time perpetrated with impunity offences of a darker character. Sir John Denham and lord Chesterfield have both been accused of murdering their wives by poison; and the latter to have aggravated the horrors of his offence by administering the fatal dose in the holy wine of the communion (*Life of Lord William Russell*, 2nd edit. 44). An incestuous connexion with his sister Henrietta, duchess of Orleans, has been imputed to the king. The abandoned duke of Buckingham, after the fatal duel, already mentioned, with the earl of Shrewsbury, introduced the countess to his wife in his own house, and is said to have slept with his adulterous paramour the same night in the bloody shirt in which he had slain her husband.

The extravagant pretensions to piety of the former age had much propagated the spirit of irreligion; and most men of learning and genius lay under the imputation of deism. Among the number may be reckoned Shaftesbury, Halifax, Buckingham, Mulgrave, Essex, Rochester, sir William Temple, and Algernon Sydney. Charles himself was considered an infidel. But it is probable he had no settled opinions of religion; though he died, after a very singular death-bed scene—if what Burnet relates be true—in the communion of the church of Rome.

The costume changed with manners after the Restoration. "Charles II.'s beauties

were the very reverse of their mothers in dress as in demeanour. The starched ruff, the steeple-crowned hat, the rigid stomacher, and the stately fardingale were banished with the gravity and morality of their wearers. A studied negligence, an elegant *déshabille* is the prevailing character of the costume in which they are nearly all represented; their glossy ringlets escaping from a single bandeau of pearls, or adorned by a single rose, fall in graceful profusion upon snowy necks, unveiled by even the transparent lawn of the band or the portelet; and the fair round arm, bare to the elbow, reclines upon the voluptuous satin petticoat, while the gown of the same rich material piles up its voluminous train in the background." (Hist. Brit. Costume, 301.) The numerous engravings from the celebrated painters of this period have rendered generally familiar the style of dress worn by court ladies.

The fashion of male costume did not improve during this reign. The most elegant and picturesque style of dress ever worn in England appears to have been in Charles I.'s time, from 1625 to 1648. It has acquired the appellation of the Vandyke dress, being the habit in which that artist painted, and is frequently seen on the stage. It degenerated into extravagance in the reign of his successor, Charles II., when the periwig and petticoat-breeches were introduced; and the doublet, which at the beginning of his reign was very short, became elongated to the middle of the thigh, and assumed the form of the modern coat. So extraordinary a head-dress as the periwig demanded a different covering to the high-crowned hat or broad-leaved Flemish-beaver. The crown was lowered and the brim raised. In lieu of the chivalric plume worn on one side of the head, a row of feathers was placed round it, and the first approach made to the cocked hats of the eighteenth century.

Neckcloths or cravats of Brussels and Flanders lace were worn towards the close of this reign, tied in a knot under the chin, the ends hanging down square.

A STANDING ARMY.

The origin of a permanently embodied military force may be dated from the commencement of this reign. At the Restoration the revolutionary army in the three kingdoms amounted to more than 60,000 (Ling. Hist. xii. 16), and was a source of constant anxiety to the king and his ministers. By

a cautious procedure; a careful attention to the wants and feelings of the men; by flattering them for loyalty and discipline; by gratuities, and the liquidation of their arrears, regiment after regiment was successively disbanded without exciting mutiny or any public expression of discontent. The want of a similar dexterous policy was the chief error of the long parliament, and laid the foundation of the Cromwellian usurpation.

But it was not the intention of Charles to govern without a defensive force, only he sought to embody one on which he could more implicitly rely than the soldiers of the commonwealth. For this purpose guards were established for the protection of the royal person, formed partly out of the best-affected troops of the protector, and partly by the creation of new regiments. In this way began the standing military force of the kingdom. To general Monk's regiment, raised ten years previously at Coldstream, were added, in 1660, two more regiments, forming the Coldstream foot-guards. In 1661 the Life-guards were raised; composed and treated like the old *Guardes du Corps* of the French, being formed principally of gentlemen of fortune, who themselves or their fathers had fought in the civil wars. In the same year the Blues were embodied, and called the Oxford Blues, from their first commander Aubrey, earl of Oxford. To these were added the 1st Royal Scots, brought over from France at the Restoration; the 2nd or Queen's, raised in 1661; the 3rd or Old Buffs, from their accoutrements being composed of buffalo leather, embodied in 1665; the Scotch Fusileers (now the 21st foot), raised in 1678, and so called from carrying the fusil invented in France in 1630; and the 4th or King's Own, raised in 1680.

These formed at first a force of about 5000 men; but in the latter part of the next reign this force was augmented to 30,000. Parliament, however, never sanctioned the enrolment of this large army, nor did it vote the money required for their maintenance. They were embodied by the authority of the crown only, and were paid for either out of the civil list, or by diverting money voted for other purposes.

It was on this unconstitutional force that James II. mistakenly depended for the success of his anti-protestant and arbitrary schemes. At the revolution of 1688 the raising or keeping a standing army in the kingdom in time of peace, without consent of parliament, was declared unlawful.

JAMES II. A. D. 1685 to 1688.

THERE was so little of art in the character and policy of this prince, that both seem sufficiently elucidated, without the aid of commentary, by the events and occurrences of his reign. James was a bigot, who, in the blindness of his zeal to introduce the Roman worship, overlooked every obstacle. It may be doubted even whether he sought absolutism, except as ancillary to the accomplishment of his ruling infatuation. Had the designs of the king been limited to the establishment of a secular despotism, it is probable he would have succeeded; for Charles had left the way open to him by his triumphs over the whigs, aided by the doctrine of blind loyalty and passive obedience which the episcopal clergy had diffused through the community. But the conscience of the nation on religious matters was not to be forced. Churchmen and dissenters, tories and whigs, all perceived, by the undisguised measures of the king, by his introduction of papists into the army, his councils, the magistracy, and on the bench; by the new-modelling of corporations; his forcible interference with the rights of the universities; his establishment of an ecclesiastical commission for the cognizance of spiritual offences; his embassy to the pope; his assumption of a dispensing power in respect of the penal statutes; and his insidious attempt to establish liberty of conscience—that is, liberty for his own sect first, and an intolerant ascendancy afterwards—that protestantism was in danger; and they at once, and unanimously, seceded from their allegiance.

James was deposed from the government of three kingdoms with as little disturbance as a parish changes its overseer. So complete a national defection is without a parallel. A change of government was effected without bloodshed or popular commotion. Profound tranquillity prevailed throughout the country, and the administration of the prince of Orange was submitted to, as if he had succeeded in the most regular manner to the vacant throne. The fleet received his orders; the army, without murmur or opposition, allowed him to remodel them, and the city promptly supplied him with money for his present necessities. Such is the omnipotence of public opinion, and the ease and safety with which a great political revolution may be effected, when the people are unanimous in their resistance to tyranny.

The abdicated monarch had hardly any private virtues to redeem his public errors. Sincere he doubtless was in his bigotry, and disinterested even to weakness, in its maintenance, but his sincerity was that of a monk; for while making the most solemn promises to maintain the religion and liberties of the people, his whole reign was directed to their subversion. It is extraordinary that a man who was generous enough to avow his own sentiments at whatever risk, should wish by every means, fair or foul, to deprive others of the same privilege. Bravery has been imputed to him, but his courage was problematical: he did not evince it at the battle of the Boyne, nor in some of the incidents of the Dutch war. If not actively, he was passively cruel; the rewards he bestowed on Jeffreys, and the brutal jests in which he indulged on the sanguinary proceedings of that ruffian judge, are an indelible stain on his memory. When shipwrecked in the north, he evinced more anxiety about the preservation of himself, his dogs, and priests, than the ship's company, or of his brother-in-law Hyde, who

accompanied him while duke of York. He had the character of a man of business; but it seems as if he merited it more by dogged industry than dispatch or discrimination. Although cold and formal in manner, he did not escape the licentious contagion of his brother's court, and had several avowed mistresses.

Upon the whole, in the love of the polite arts and the virtues of private life, James was inferior to Charles I, while he had some of his worst vices. He was quite as obstinate as his father. Opposition might change his resolves but never weakened his convictions. There might be something English in this, as well as in the character of his intercourse with the French monarch. James, while receiving the money of France, was always indignant at the idea of England being considered the vassal or dependent state of that kingdom. Louis remarked on the inconsistent pride of the Stuart, by observing, "The king, my brother, is proud, but he is very fond of the French pistoles." In his connexion with France, as in his domestic government, he evinced his defective intellect. Meditating a great struggle with his own subjects, it was obviously his wisest policy to cultivate a cordial understanding, which he did not, with his Gallican neighbour.

James survived his dethronement ten years. As his punishment was milder than his father's, so it was productive of more enduring benefits to the nation. By his expulsion, two important constitutional advantages were secured. First, the supremacy of the law was established, and the slavish maxim,—“From God the king, from king the law,”—corrected: it was settled that kings might do wrong, and their rights were not indefeasible. Secondly, the authority of parliament was acknowledged, and the claims of prerogative more definitely ascertained. The contest had lasted five hundred years, and ended by making the crown a derivative of the commons, in lieu of the contrary, as heretofore contended. It was not however a popular movement. The masses had no share in the Revolution of 1688; it was effected by the aristocracy of church and state, who reaped its chief benefits. But it had this advantage to the people—it brought them one turn nearer the goal of political power, which in a latter age they have reached.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1685. Feb. 6. James II., the only surviving son of Charles I., succeeded to the crown in the fifty-second year of his age, and was proclaimed with the usual solemnity, a few hours after Charles had resigned his breath. Wine was distributed, as in the time of James I. among the crowd, to drink the king's health. Same day James made a speech in council, assuring them he should endeavour to follow his brother's example, especially in his great clemency; that, though he had been reported to be a man of arbitrary power, he should invade no man's property, but endeavour to support the government in church and state, as by law established.

7. Congratulatory addresses presented from the bishops, universities, and public companies.

Feb. 9. A proclamation for continuing

the collection of the customs and excise, which had legally expired on the death of the late king. Parliament summoned to meet May 19th.

12. James, contrary to law, hears mass openly in the queen's chapel.

14. Charles II. buried privately in Henry VIIth's chapel.

The duke of Ormond made lord-steward of the household; the earl of Arlington, lord-chamberlain; lord Newport, treasurer; lord Maynard, comptroller; and Henry Savile, Esq., vice-chamberlain; in which offices they had served the late king.

16. The earl of Rochester constituted lord-high-treasurer of England.

18. The marquis of Halifax made president of the council; the earl of Clarendon, lord privy-seal; the duke of Beaufort, lord-president of Wales; and lord Godol-

plain, lord-chamberlain to the queen. Henry Buckley, esq., was made master of the household, and sir Stephen Fox senior clerk of the green cloth. The earl of Sunderland retained his former situation of secretary, but intrigued for the staff held by Rochester, and became the mover of the secret Cabal of catholics—Arundel, Belasyse, Powis, Castlemaine, Talbot, and father Petre, whom James privately consulted.

The king published two papers, taken out of the late king's strong box, to manifest he died a papist.

March. Addresses were presented from almost every county, city and borough in the kingdom. That from the quakers had the following sentence:—"We are come to testify our sorrow for the death of our good friend Charles, and our joy at thy being made our governor. We are told thou art not of the persuasion of the church of England any more than we; and therefore we hope that thou wilt grant unto us the same liberty which thou allowest thyself."

28. The parliament of Scotland being opened, the same day the king's letter to them was read. The duke of Queensborough, the king's high-commissioner, made a speech, assuring them of his majesty's resolution to maintain the church, as by law established, together with the people's liberties; and recommended the suppressing that fanatical party who had brought them to the brink of ruin, and were not more rebels against the king, than enemies to mankind.

30. Court of Claims sit at Westminster to hear the claims of persons to do services at the approaching coronation.

April 16. Being Holy Thursday, the king, attended by his guards and the gentlemen pensioners, proceeded in state to receive the sacrament.

A proclamation for the discharge of recusants who had not taken the oaths of allegiance and supremacy. By this the dissenters obtained a respite from persecutions under the conventicle act; and some thousands of catholics and 1200 quakers were liberated from prison: 200 of the latter sect, however, were still retained for non-payment of tithes.

James claimed the arrears of the French pension due to the late king (Ling. Hist. xiv., 15), and solicited a continuance of the same disgraceful allowance. Louis remitted to Barillon, his agent, 2,000,000 of livres for the purpose.

23. Coronation of the king and queen according to the protestant ritual. James retrenched some of the ceremonies, as that of the cavalcade from the Tower to Westminster, saving a charge of 60,000*l.* Bishop Turner preached the coronation sermon.

May 8. Titus Oates, who had been the

cause of the death of many innocent victims, on account of the popish plot, clearly convicted, under two indictments, of perjury. He was condemned to pay a fine of 1000 marks on each indictment, to be stript of his canonical habit, to be twice publicly whipped, and to stand every year of his life five times in the pillory. After the revolution he brought writs of error against these judgments in the house of lords; but the house refused to reverse them. The king, however, pardoned the remainder of his punishment, and allowed him a pension of 6*l.* a week.

19. Parliament met, and the commons chose sir John Trevor for speaker.

The earl of Argyle landing in Scotland with a body of troops, raised a rebellion.

22. The king made a speech to both houses, repeating the declaration he had made in council on his accession. He desired the continuance of his revenue during life as it was granted last year; and he acquainted them with Argyle's rebellion. A congratulatory address in reply was unanimously voted. The parliament consisted chiefly of men devoted to the court. Many complaints were made of violence used at elections. The election of members was taken out of the hands of the inhabitants, and compulsory charters were substituted, and given to select bodies. In Cornwall the earl of Bath put the officers of the guards' names in most of the charters of that county, so that the king was sure of forty-four votes on all occasions.

24. The duke of Monmouth sailed from the Texel with a frigate and two small vessels; he was nineteen days at sea.

30. Thomas Dangerfield, convicted of writing a scandalous libel, called "*His Narrative.*" He was sentenced to stand twice in the pillory, be whipped from Aldgate to Newgate one day, from Newgate to Tyburn another day, and to pay a fine of 500*l.*

The commons were so liberal in their supplies, that the king sent them word he desired no more this session.

Mr. Richard Baxter was brought to trial for a scandalous libel, called "*A Paraphrase on the New Testament,*" reflecting on the bishops and clergy of the church of England; of which he was convicted the 29th of June, and adjudged to pay a fine of 500 marks, and give security for his good behaviour for seven years.

June 3. Dangerfield having received his punishment of whipping the last day, as he was returning in a coach from Tyburn to Newgate, Mr. Robert Francis, a barrister of Gray's-inn, met him at Gray's-inn-gate, and reproaching him with his crimes, Dangerfield spit in his face; whereupon Francis struck at him, or run him into the eye with

his cane, which occasioned the death of Dangerfield some hours after. Mr. Francis was afterwards convicted and executed for murdering him.

11. The duke of Monmouth landed at Lyme, in Dorsetshire, with about 150 followers, and arms for 5000 more. He published a declaration, rewiling the king, and charging him with introducing popery and arbitrary power.

13. A bill of attainder brought into the commons against the duke, which received the royal assent on the 16th inst.

15. A proclamation against publishing the duke of Monmouth's declaration; and another, offering a reward of 500*l.* to any one that should bring the duke dead or alive.

17. The earl of Argyle's forces were dispersed, and the earl himself taken.

18. Monmouth having increased his forces to 3000 men, took possession of Taunton Dean.

21. The duke marched to Bridgewater, his army being increased to 5000: he was there proclaimed king, and marched towards Bristol, but hearing of the advance of the king's army towards him, he fell back to Bridgewater, and defeated a body of the king's horse quartered at Philips Norton.

22. Monmouth published a declaration, offering 5000*l.* for king James's head; and another, declaring the parliament of England a seditious assembly.

25. Rumbold the maltster, an accomplice in the Rye-house plot, being taken among Argyle's followers, was executed at Edinburgh with others.

30. The earl of Argyle beheaded at Edinburgh, upon a former sentence, for high-treason. Thirty-five years before, Argyle had been an exulting spectator of the execution of the marquis of Montrose. He met death firmly, affirming to the last, his hatred of "popery, prelacy, and all superstition" whatsoever.

July 2. The king having given the royal assent to several bills of supply, and some other acts, parliament adjourned.

6. Monmouth defeated by the earl of Feversham and lord Churchill, at Sedgemoor, near Bridgewater. The victors lost 300 men in killed and wounded. Of the insurgents, 500 fell on the moor, and 1500 were made prisoners. Resistance was chiefly made by the Mendip miners, who fought with scythes and the butt-ends of their muskets. The duke fled almost before the battle began, accompanied by lord Grey, and Busse, a German count. All three were taken within two days. The duke was found lying in a ditch, covered with fern, on Cranborn-chase, and was conducted to Kingwood. Two days after, he was removed to London, made the most humiliating submissions, and obtained a personal

interview with James, who refused to pardon him.

15. The duke was brought to a scaffold on Tower-hill, and beheaded. He was attended by Dr. Lloyd, Dr. Tonnison, and Dr. Hooper, who laboured to make him profess the doctrine of non-resistance, as a test of adherence to the church of England, and confess his crime in living in adultery with lady Harriet Wentworth, but all to no purpose: he had been prematurely married to the duchess, and denied the sinfulness of either, and expressed his assurance that he should ascend to heaven. The executioner performed his office so unskillfully that five blows were struck before the head was severed. Monmouth was 36 years old.

26. A thanksgiving was observed for the late victory over the rebels.

Aug. 27. Lord-chief-justice Jeffreys being sent into the west, with four other judges, to try the rebel prisoners, arrived at Winchester, where the grand-jury found an indictment of high-treason against Alicia Lisle, the widow of Mr. Lisle, who was one of the judges of Charles I. She was convicted of harbouring John Hicks, a non-conformist minister, and Nelthorp, who were in Monmouth's rebellion, and sentenced to be burnt; but the punishment was changed to beheading, which was executed at Winchester the 2nd of September. Mrs. Lisle's attainder was reversed at the revolution: first, because Hicks, the principal at the time of her trial, had not been convicted; and secondly, because of the violent and illegal conduct of Jeffreys.

At Dorchester, Jeffreys condemned twenty-nine, who were immediately executed. In another place, 200 persons were indicted, and fourscore were executed. Out of the whole number, some were pardoned; many whipped and imprisoned; above 800 transported to the plantations; and 330 executed as felons and traitors. Those executed had their quarters set up on the highways. Some purchased their lives from the judge. Mr. Prideaux alone gave him 14,000*l.* for his life.

Major-general Kirk, who was sent down with the judge, committed many cruelties; he caused nineteen persons to be executed at Taunton, without any trial, with the drums playing at the time of execution. In the same town, whilst at dinner with his officers, he ordered thirty condemned persons to be hanged while he was at table; namely, ten in a health to the king, ten to the queen, and ten to Jeffreys. But one action the most cruel was, a young girl throwing herself at his feet to beg her father's life, he made her prostitute herself to him, with a promise of granting her request; but having satisfied his lust, was so

inhuman as out of a window to show the girl her father hanging on the sign-post. The spectacle so affected the poor girl that she became insane.

Sept. 5. Lord-keeper North dies, and is succeeded by lord Jeffreys, who had been created baron of Wem after his cruelties in the west; which James, with unfeeling facetiousness, was fond of reverting to, as "Jeffrey's campaign."

Oct. 11. Colonel Talbot came over from Ireland, was made earl of Tyrconnel, and lieutenant-general of the Irish army.

19. Henry Cornish, esq., alderman of London, Mr. William Ring, John Fernley, and Elizabeth Gaunt were tried at the Old Bailey for high-treason, and convicted. Ring, Fernley, and Gaunt, of concealing persons who were in Monmouth's rebellion; Mr. Cornish, as a conspirator in the Rye-house plot. Mrs. Gaunt was burnt; Ring and Fernley hanged and quartered at Tyburn; Mr. Cornish, in Cheapside, on the 23rd instant.

20. Marquis of Halifax removed from the council, as not agreeing in the plots of the king.

30. Richard Nelthorp and John Ayloff standing outlawed, as being concerned in the Rye-house plot, were executed as traitors: Nelthorp, before Gray's-inn gate; and Ayloff, before the Temple gate.

Nov. 9. Parliament met, and the king made a speech to both houses, telling them that he had increased his standing forces, that the kingdom might no longer be exposed to such wretched attempts as had been lately made; and desired a supply to maintain his troops. The army, which before consisted of but 7000 men, had been increased to 15,000. Besides permanently keeping up this large force, James aimed at officering it with catholics, and during the session obtaining a modification of the habeas corpus act.

12. Ferdinando d'Adda arrives with the powers of a papal nuncio, but without any public character. Dr. Leyburn, the catholic bishop, had lodgings assigned him in Whitehall, and a pension of 1000*l.* a year.

17. The commons in their address to his majesty offered to indemnify the recusant officers who had omitted the test, but intimated their desire that the king would not continue any recusants in office for the future. James returned a sharp answer, reproaching the commons for want of confidence.

26. Lord Brandon, by the name of Charles Gerrard, esq., was tried at the king's-bench bar, and convicted of high-treason, in conspiring to raise a rebellion, depose the late king, &c. He was condemned the 28th instant, but afterwards pardoned, through the influence of Mason,

his wife's sister, and one of the king's mistresses.

Dec. 4. Charles Bateman, a surgeon, was convicted of the conspiracy against the late king, in which Sidney, &c. were concerned. Sentence was passed on him as a traitor the 11th, and he was executed at Tyburn the 18th instant.

16. The earl of Clarendon appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland.

30. John Hampden, esq. being arraigned for high-treason, in conspiring against the late king, with lord Russell, &c. pleaded guilty, but was pardoned through a bribe of 6000*l.* to Jeffreys and Mr. Petre.

1686. Jan. 14. Lord Delamere was tried by his peers for high-treason, in being concerned in the late rebellion in the west, the lord chancellor Jeffreys being lord high steward, but Saxon, the only positive evidence, prevaricating, he was acquitted.

21. Catherine Sedley, one of the maids of honour to the queen, created countess of Dorchester. She had succeeded Arabella Stuart as the king's favourite mistress. Of two children James had by the countess (though report assigned them to colonel Graham), one married the duke of Buckingham, and the mother herself married lord Portmore.

The king used many means to accomplish his designs; he caused the judges to give it as their opinion, that he had a power to dispense with the laws. Dr. Cartwright cast a gloss upon the king's promises, in his sermons, that his majesty's promises were free donatives. He was made bishop of Chester.

Feb. 12. The earl of Tyrconnel having new-modelled the Irish army, by substituting catholic officers and soldiers in place of protestant, came to England, and was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, in the room of the earl of Clarendon. Things were carried to such a height against the protestants in Ireland, that many English merchants withdrew their effects.

Mar. 5. The king sent a letter to the archbishop, to prohibit the clergy to preach on controverted points.

10. The king granted a general pardon to his subjects, in which many that had been in rebellion were excepted; but the earl of Stamford took the benefit of it. Among the exceptions, were the girls of Taunton, who had presented the bible and sword to Monmouth. For the pardon of these a fine was demanded proportionate to the circumstances of the parents, and the whole sum was divided among the queen's maids of honour.

26. An order of council issued, for regulating the method of binding apprentices to be sent to the plantations.

April 21. Several judges removed, and others whom James thought favourable to his claim of a dispensing power, substituted. The king made a call of sergeants at law, among whom were several catholics, one was knighted, and a little after, another lawyer of the same religion was made a judge. The motto used by the sergeants was *Deus, Rex, Lex.*

26. Sir Christopher Milton, a catholic, made one of the barons of the exchequer.

29. The king summoned the parliament of Scotland to meet, and wrote them a letter, "recommending to their special care his innocent Roman catholic subjects." The earl of Murray, as lord high commissioner, seconded James's letter, and concluded with saying, "by this you will shew yourselves the best, and most affectionate subjects, to the best, the incomparablest, and most heroic prince in the world." An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain for the catholics, the private exercise of their worship.

May 5. From a letter of Bonrepans of this date, it appears the number of refugees in England, in consequence of the revocation of the edict of Nantes, was 4500, of which he could only prevail on 509 to return to France.

14. Miles Prance found guilty of perjury, in the evidence he gave against Green, Berry and Hill, at their trial for the murder of Godfrey. He was adjudged to pay a fine of 100*l.*, to stand three times in the pillory, and be whipped from Newgate to Tyburn, which last was remitted.

June 21. Judges affirm the power of the king to dispense with penal laws in particular cases.

July. A letter was sent by the king to the bishop of London, to suspend Dr. Sharp, for some unbecoming reflections in his sermons.

The king ordered his army, to the number of fifteen thousand men, to encamp on Hounslow-heath, where he had a pavilion erected, and a popish chapel, and spent part of the summer in his camp, under the command of the earl of Feversham.

17. The earl of Powis, lord Arundel, lord Bellasyse, and lord Dover, all catholics, sworn of the privy council. The papists were allowed openly to profess their religion; and the jesuits who erected colleges and seminaries in most of the considerable towns, were publicly consecrated in the king's chapel, and sent down to exercise their functions in their respective dioceses, under the title of vicars apostolical; monks appeared in their habits at Whitehall; and places were bestowed upon papists. Many of the clergy showed their aversion to the royal mandate, not to speak on controverted points of religion, particularly Tillotson

Stillingfleet, Tennison, Wake, Patrick, Sharp, Sherlock; all famous for their writings.

Aug. 3. The ecclesiastical commission, granted in July, was first opened. It was directed to the archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor Jeffrey, the bishops of Durham and Rochester, the earl of Rochester, lord high treasurer, the earl of Sunderland, president of the council, and the lord chief justice Herbert, or any three of them, of whom the lord chancellor to be one, to make a quorum; of these the archbishop never acted, and the bishop of Rochester soon declined the service.

4. The bishop of London being summoned by the high commissioners, to answer for a contempt in not suspending Dr. Sharp, the rector of St. Giles's, appeared before them.

23. Buda, the capital city of Hungary, taken by the imperialists, after it had been in possession of the Turks 145 years.

31. The bishop of London tendered a plea to the jurisdiction of the high commission court.

Sept. 9. The bishop of London was suspended from exercising his episcopal office, by the high commission. Dr. Sharp was also suspended, but only for a few days. The king endeavoured to gain many proselytes; the earl of Sunderland, who had obtained a pension of 4500*l.* a year from the French king, turned papist, but refused to make a public abjuration.

Oct. 8. The earl of Tyrconnel, in Ireland, was sworn of the privy council in England, being a catholic.

Nov. 10. Sir William Stephens had an action brought against him by sir Thomas Dupper, gentleman usher to the king, for the fees of knighthood; sir William pleaded that his knighthood was conferred upon him without his consent; to which the plaintiff demurred, and the demurrer being argued the same day, the court gave it for the plaintiff.

16. Dr. Samuel Johnson, once chaplain to the late lord Russell, and who had been formerly convicted and punished for writing a libel called "Julian the Apostate," was again convicted the last Trinity term, of writing a pamphlet entitled "An Address to the English Protestants in King James's Army;" advising them not to be instrumental in introducing popery and arbitrary power. He was this day adjudged to stand three times in the pillory, to pay a fine of 500 marks, and to be whipped from Newgate to Tyburn: but before the sentence was executed, he was brought (*Nov. 20*) before the high commission-court, and formally degraded, and then delivered over as a layman into the hands of the secular officer, to undergo his punishment.

The same day judgment was given against Mr. Edward Whitaker, who had been convicted of justifying the rebellion in forty-one, and the execution of Charles I. for which he was fined 1000 marks.

Dec. The earl of Castlemain sent ambassador to the pope; was coldly received, and at last recalled, the king being much mortified.

The white staff was taken from the earl of Rochester, who was found not to be shaken in his protestant principles. At the earl's dismissal, the king assigned him a pension of 5000*l.* upon the post-office; and on the 5th of January, lord Bellasaye was made one of the commissioners for executing the office of lord treasurer. At the same time the earl of Sunderland appeared so conformable to the king's religion and arbitrary measures, that he was in greater favour than ever.

Colonel Kirk was spoken to, to change his religion, but he briskly replied, "He was pre-engaged; for he had promised the king of Morocco, that if ever he changed his religion, he would turn mahometan."

1687. *Feb.* 9. A letter from the king was brought to the university of Cambridge, to admit Alban Francis, a benedictine monk, to the degree of master of arts, without administering the usual oath, which the university refused.

12. The king sent a proclamation to Scotland for allowing liberty of conscience to all recusants there, with which the Scots comply; and the council published the king's proclamation.

Some bishops favoured the court, and prevailed with their clergy to send addresses of thanks to the king: of this number were Crew, Barlow, Cartwright, Wood, and Watson. But Parker, bishop of Oxford, was not so successful, since he could find but one clergyman in his whole diocese, who would sign such an address.

Mar. 11. James Fitz-James, natural son to James II. by Mrs. Churchill, sister to the duke of Marlborough, created duke of Berwick.

Apr. 4. The king published a declaration, allowing liberty of conscience to all his subjects, suspending and dispensing with the penal laws and tests, and even with the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, on admission into offices civil or military. Addresses of thanks for this liberty were daily presented to the king, by the dissenters, from all parts of the kingdom; neither anabaptists, quakers, independents, or presbyterians, delayed to make the highest professions of loyalty and gratitude. The quakers, that they might without compromising their principles, conform to the etiquette of the court, left their hats in

Sunderland's office, so that they might be introduced to the king uncovered.

9. The vice chancellor and senate of Cambridge were summoned to appear before the commissioners for ecclesiastical affairs, in the council chamber, on the 21st of April, to answer what should be objected against them by his majesty, for refusing to admit Francis, the benedictine monk, agreeable to his mandate. This was the first avowed attempt to introduce papists into either of the universities.

11. The king sends his mandate to Magdalen college, Oxon, to elect Mr. Anthony Farmer, president, who had promised to become a papist, whom they rejected, and elected Dr. Hough, who was chosen by a great majority. The bishop of Winchester swore him in, and admitted him to his office.

15. An order of council for promoting the collection for the relief of the French protestants. In the course of the year, 15,500 refugees arrived from France; of these 13,500 settled in the neighbourhood of London, in Spitalfields, where they established the silk manufacture. Subscriptions to the amount of 63,713*l.* were raised for their relief. Single persons gave 500*l.* or 1000*l.*

The king closeted several members of parliament to gain them over to him; but finding he could not get a majority in his favour, he was resolved to dissolve the parliament.

28. Sir Richard Allibon, a papist, was made one of the justices of the king's-bench; and Mr. sergeant Powell one of the barons of the exchequer.

May 5. A proclamation issued for establishing a manufacture of white paper in England.

27. Sentence of deprivation passed against Dr. Pechell, vice chancellor of Cambridge, by the ecclesiastical commissioners, for his contempt in not admitting father Francis to a degree, without taking the oaths; and the senate were reprimanded, and ordered to send up copies of their statutes.

June 9. The benchers and barristers of the Middle Temple, repeating their fulsome address to the king for the assertion of his dispensing power, they thank him 'for asserting his own royal prerogatives, the very life of the law and their profession; which prerogatives, as they were given by God himself, so no power on earth could diminish them.'

22. The ecclesiastical commissioners declared the election of Mr. Hough to be president of Magdalen college, void; and that Dr. Aldworth be suspended from being vice president, and Dr. Fairfax from his

fellowship, for their contempt in not electing Mr. Farmer.

July 2. After repeated prorogations, parliament was dissolved; the king trusting to his own artifices, and the co-operation of the dissenters, to obtain one more favourable to his designs.

3. Ferdinand d'Adda, nuncio from the pope, admitted to an audience of their majesties at Windsor. The duke of Somerset had orders to attend the pope's nuncio to his audience. He desired to be excused; which so incensed the king, he removed him from his place of groom of the chamber, and took from him his regiment of dragoons.

Quo warrantos were issued out against divers corporations, and every means used to obtain a favourable parliament.

Aug. 14. James sent a second mandate to Magdalen college, requiring them to choose the bishop of Oxford their president, which they refused.

Sept. 4. In his progress through the country, the king coming to Oxford, threatened the fellows of Magdalen for their contempt, in not electing the bishop of Oxford; on the 16th of November, the sentence of expulsion was pronounced against the fellows, by visitors appointed to visit that college; and by the ecclesiastical commissioners, they were disabled to hold any ecclesiastical preferments.

20. The king visits Chester. Penn, and Barclay preached in favour of the declaration.

Oct. 29. The king, prince of Denmark, pope's nuncio, and foreign ministers, entertained at the lord-mayor's feast at Guildhall.

Nov. 11. Father Edward Petre, the jesuit, sworn of the privy council.

16. The commissioners empowered by the king, expelled twenty-five fellows, only two having made their submission, doctors Smith and Charnock; all the college was filled with papists; the bishop of Oxford was made president, and Charnock vice president.

25. A proclamation for restraining the number and abuses of hackney-coaches.

Dec. 25. A proclamation, appointing the 15th of January to be observed as a thanksgiving within the bills of mortality, for the queen's being pregnant; and the 29th of January, in the rest of England.

A board called 'regulators' established under pretext of reforming corporation abuses, but in reality to mould municipal bodies to the purposes of the court. The lord lieutenants of counties were also instructed to return lists of persons for sheriffs and mayors, favourable to the repeal of the test and penal laws. But the higher classes

were found generally hostile, and the king was fearful of calling a parliament.

31. Dr. Gifford, the catholic bishop, by a mandatory letter of the king, made president of Magdalen college.

1688. *Jan. 17.* The king sent a letter to the states general, to demand the return of the six English and Scotch regiments in their service; with which the states refused to comply.

22. The duke of Berwick made governor of Portsmouth.

30. Three catholic bishops appointed, Drs. Gifford and Smith, and Phillip Ellis, a monk.

Feb. 10. A proclamation for suppressing unlicensed books and pamphlets.

Mar. 2. A proclamation, prohibiting his majesty's subjects to enter into the service of foreign states: and another, the 14th, for recalling all those who were in the service of the states general, by sea or land.

20. Exeter and several other corporations having surrendered their charters, accept new ones.

25. In order to retain the working classes in the protestant religion, charity-schools were set up for children in and about London: the first were opened at Norton Falgate, and St. Margaret's, Westminster.

In reply to an application from James, the prince of Orange said, that the catholics ought to enjoy liberty of conscience, but he could not agree to the repeal of any statute made for the security of the protestant religion. This answer gave the people of Eugland hopes, that the prince of Orange and his consort would not abandon them in their present necessity.

April 27. The king issued another declaration of liberty of conscience; in which the former declaration of the 4th of April, 1687, is recited.

May 4. An order of council was published, commanding the last declaration, of the 27th of April, to be read in time of divine service, in all churches and chapels in London and Westminster, and ten miles distance, upon the 20th and 27th instant; and in all other churches and chapels in the kingdom, on the 3rd and 10th of June; and that the bishops should cause the said declaration to be distributed in their respective dioceses, to be read accordingly.

18. The archbishop of Canterbury, the bishops of St. Asaph, Ely, Chichester, Bath and Wells, Peterborough, and Bristol, sign a petition to his majesty, to dispense with their distributing and reading the said declaration. Same day the petition was presented, but the king remained firm in his purpose. Meanwhile the petition had

been printed, and was openly distributed in the streets of London.

20. Declaration read in a few only of the churches.

June 8. The bishops were summoned before the council, when the king asked them, if they had signed the petition? After some demur, they acknowledged their signatures; but as peers, refused to give other security than their word, to answer for the offence in the court of king's-bench. Upon which they were committed to the Tower; they were conveyed by water, amidst the cheers of the people, and the officers and soldiers of the garrison, soliciting their blessing, received them on their knees.

10. Birth of a prince of Wales, and a proclamation issued for observing a thanksgiving. Many reports spread, that the birth of the prince was an imposture, to secure the crown unto a popish successor.

15. The seven bishops were brought by habeas corpus from the Tower to the king's-bench bar, and were admitted to bail on giving their own recognizances, the archbishop in 200*l.* and the other bishops in 100*l.* each. The people testified their joy by bonfires, and drinking to the 'seven champions of the church.'

29. Trial of the seven bishops in Westminster-hall, for publishing 'a seditious, false, and malicious libel,' as their petition to the king was termed. It was alleged not to be seditious, because it was presented in private; nor false, because the matter of it was true; nor malicious, because it was drawn from them by necessity, and presented with a good intention. The jury spent the night in vehement debate. In the morning they brought in their verdict of not guilty; it was received with shouts of applause, and the news spreading from the metropolis to the camp at Hounslow, where the king was dining with lord Feversham, he heard with surprise and alarm the acclamations of the soldiers.

An order of council for inserting the name of James prince of Wales in the prayers for the royal family. A proclamation also was issued against profaneness and debauchery.

Sir Richard Holloway, and sir John Powell, justices of the king's-bench, are displaced, for giving their opinions against the court in favour of the seven bishops; and sir Thomas Powell, one of the barons of the exchequer, and sir Robert Baldock, the king's sergeant, were made justices of the king's-bench in their room.

30. A meeting at the house of the earl of Shrewsbury, at which that nobleman, with the earls of Devonshire and Danby, the bishop of London, lord Lumley, admiral Russell, and Sydney, afterwards the

earl of Romney, subscribed in cipher an address to the prince of Orange, stating that of the common people, nineteen out of twenty were impatient for a change, and that the nobility and gentry, though they did not express themselves with equal freedom, were animated with the same sentiments; that if the prince were to land with a force he would be joined by the chief part of the army; that the present was a most favourable moment, and the subscribers, with others, were ready to join him. (Ling. Hist. xiv. 214.) This memorial is supposed to have been conveyed privately to the prince by admiral Herbert, afterwards earl of Torrington, who having been refused permission to leave the kingdom, escaped in the dress of a common sailor. The prince under pretence of watching the movements of Louis, collected a force for the invasion of England, and instructed his dependants to represent the prince of Wales to be a supposititious child.

Contemporary with these proceedings, a secret association was formed in favour of the prince, among the officers of the army encamped on Hounslow-heath, and a communication established between them and the club at the Rose tavern in Covent-garden, of which lord Colchester was the chairman.

July 10. Smyrna destroyed by an earthquake.

21. James duke of Ormond died at Kingston-hall in Dorsetshire, in the 79th year of his age.

Sept. 4. Sir John Shorter, lord-mayor of London, died; and sir John Eyles was the next day appointed his successor by the king.

9. D'Avaux, the French ambassador at the Hague, presented a memorial to the states general, upon their great armament by sea and land: and declared that the first act of hostility, committed by their troops against king James, his master would look upon as an absolute rupture of peace with him.

10. Colonel Beaumont, captain Paston, and four captains of the duke of Berwick's regiment, broke, for refusing to recruit their companies with Irish.

The earl of Shrewsbury mortgaged his estate for 40,000*l.*, and went over to the Hague to the prince of Orange, to offer his money and sword. Also lord Mordaunt, lord Churchill, and several others, besides many eminent citizens of London.

14. Louis proclaims war against the emperor, and Philipsburgh was besieged by the dauphin. This unexpected employment of the French force left the prince of Orange at full liberty to pursue his designs against his father-in-law. The Dutch felt

so greatly relieved by this turn of affairs, that public securities in Holland rose 10 per cent.

Sept. 17. Colonel Skelton, the English envoy, being looked upon to be at the bottom of the memorial of D'Avaux, was recalled, and committed to the Tower; but soon after made lieutenant thereof.

21. The king published a declaration, setting forth that he intended a legal establishment of liberty of conscience; that he would inviolably preserve the church of England; and that he was contented that the Roman-catholics should remain incapable of being members of parliament.

23. James received intelligence that the preparations of the Dutch were intended against England. He put Portsmouth and Hull under the government of papists, and depended on the army and navy, though the fidelity of both was doubtful. By the levy of new regiments, and the arrival of 6500 men, in detachments from Scotland and Ireland, the army was raised to 40,000. It was placed under the command of the earl of Feversham. The fleet, consisting of 37 men-of-war and 17 fire-ships, was under lord Dartmouth, an old and trusty adherent. The regular force in Scotland amounted to 2316 men; in Ireland, to 7000.

26. The misguided monarch discovered too late the storm that was ready to burst upon him, and sought to regain the lost affections of the people by popular concessions. The displaced deputy-lieutenants and magistrates were restored; and the king solicited the advice of the bishops he had lately persecuted. Compton, bishop of London, was restored to the exercise of episcopal jurisdiction.

28. A proclamation, giving an account of the intended invasion from Holland, and requiring all persons to prepare for the defence of their country; and the writs that had been issued for calling a parliament in November, were revoked.

29. Sir John Chapman, Knt., was elected lord-mayor of London. The same day a proclamation for a general pardon was published.

Oct. 1. The prince of Orange published a long memorial, drawn up by Dr. Burnet, then an exile at the Hague, setting forth the reasons of his intended expedition. It was followed by a declaration, addressed to the people of England and Scotland, in which the prince states that his objects are to facilitate the calling a free parliament, to inquire into the birth of the prince of Wales, and secure the protestant religion, which was in great danger. The states-general also published a declaration, setting forth the reasons that had obliged them to assist the prince with ships, men, and ammunition.

2. By the advice of Jeffreys, the old charter of London is restored.

3. The king having desired the advice of the bishops and others, nine of the lords and bishops attended James with ten propositions, as the best means to restore his affairs; the substance of which was, that he would refrain from the encouragement of popery; suffer the law to take its course, call a parliament, and redress the complaints of the people.

11. The commission for ecclesiastical causes was dissolved.

A public form of prayer composed by the archbishop, to be used during the apprehension of an invasion.

12. An order was issued for restoring Magdalen-college to its rights.

15. The prince of Wales was christened in the chapel of St. James's, by the name of James-Francis-Edward. His holiness, represented by his nuncio, was godfather; and the queen-dowager, godmother. The depositions of forty persons of honour as to the certainty of the prince of Wales's birth, of whom twenty-three were protestants, were taken and enrolled in chancery.

16. The prince of Orange took leave of the States in a solemn manner, and on the 19th embarked on board a frigate of thirty guns. The force prepared for the expedition consisted of 700 transports, under the convoy of 60 men-of-war, 4500 cavalry, 11,000 infantry, with vast supplies of military equipments. Accompanying the prince were marshal Schomberg, count Nassau, general Gingle, and the best Dutch officers; the earl of Macclesfield, Dr. Burnet, Peyton, Wildman, Ferguson, and other exiles; admirals Herbert and Russell; the sons of lords Winchester, Halifax, and Dauby; and 800 French refugees.

17. A proclamation for restoring corporations to their ancient charters and franchises.

19. The prince of Orange, after being delayed for a fortnight by stormy weather, which had given rise to most ominous predictions, set sail from Helvoetsluys. Admiral Herbert led the van, vice-admiral Evertzen brought up the rear, and the prince was in the centre, carrying the flag with English colours, and their highnesses' arms surrounded with this motto, "The protestant religion and liberties of England," and underneath, the motto of the house of Nassau, "*Je maintiendrai.*" The intention was to sail for the coast of Yorkshire, where the earl of Danby expected them; but a violent storm arising in the night, the prince was compelled to return to his former anchorage. At the fleet's being dispersed, the States issued a report that the prince could not undertake the voyage again till next

spring, which made James revoke some of his popular concessions.

20. A proclamation issued, commanding all horses, oxen, and cattle to be removed twenty miles from the places where the enemy should attempt to land.

The king shut up the Romish chapels, and removed father Petre from the council-board.

28. Viscount Preston made secretary of state, in the room of the earl of Sunderland, who was found to have betrayed James's councils to the prince of Orange.

Nov. 1. William, with the Dutch fleet, set sail again.

2. The king demanded of the bishops, whether they invited over the prince of Orange, as he suggested in his declaration, which some of them denied; but James demanding their denial in writing, they first asked time to consider, and after bearing that the prince was on the coast, refused.

Letters of pardon were granted to several of the most obnoxious persons,—chancellor Jeffreys, sir Nicholas Butler, bishop of Chester and Durham, and upwards of 20 more.

2. A proclamation against the publishing or dispersing the prince of Orange's declaration.

3. The prince's fleet entered the Channel, passing by the Gunfleet in a foggy day. The English could not raise their anchors, and were kept in by easterly winds.

5. The prince of Orange lands at Torbay, in Devonshire. He addressed a letter to the officers of the English army, containing his reasons for undertaking the protestant cause; he also sent one to the fleet. The terrible executions exercised on the followers of Monmouth, deterred any one for several days, joining him. Major Burrington was the first person who came to his standard, and he was followed by the gentry of Devon and Cornwall.

6. The king published a manifesto, in answer to his son-in-law's declaration.

7. Lord Delamere took up arms in Cheshire, and declared for the prince; the earl of Danby, with lord Lumley, in Yorkshire; and the earl of Devonshire, in the midland counties.

8. The prince of Orange arrived at Exeter. An association was signed by the gentlemen, who joined the prince there. Lord Cornbury, son to the earl of Clarendon, with almost three entire regiments, went over to the prince.

13. Lord Lovelace was taken at Cirencester, going over to the prince.

16. The king holds a military council. The duke of Grafton and lord Churchill, who were the first to desert, were vehement in expressions of loyalty.

17. Several lords spiritual and temporal

petitioned the king to call a parliament, which James promised to do when the prince left the kingdom: it was impossible, he said, to have a free parliament while an enemy was in the country who could return 100 votes.

The king determined to assemble his troops on Salisbury-plain, and sent a reinforcement to Portsmouth. He printed a list of the prince's army, which was too contemptible to inspire him with fear. Hearing the city of London, and the counties of Kent and York were preparing to address him for an accommodation with the prince, he declared all those his enemies who should pretend to advise him to treat with the invader of his kingdoms.

19. James arrives at Salisbury, and intended next day to review the troops, but was prevented by a bleeding at the nose.

20. The earl of Bath made himself master of Plymouth, where the Dutch fleet lay secure. The earl of Shrewsbury and sir John Guize forced the duke of Beaufort to surrender the city of Bristol. The earl of Danby secured York, having disarmed and turned out all the papists. Colonel Copley took Hull, and made lord Langdale, a papist, prisoner. The duke of Somerset and the earl of Oxford offered the prince their services.

22. The duke of Grafton, lord Churchill, with several other persons of quality, and a large body of troops, deserted James at Salisbury.

24. On the king's return to London, his son-in-law, prince George of Denmark, the duke of Ormond, and others, deserted him.

26. James returned from Salisbury to Whitehall, where he found that the princess Anne went away the night before, after prince George her husband, and joined him at Oxford. The king was touched at this universal defection; and, on learning the departure of his daughter, exclaimed, "God help me! my very children have forsaken me!"

28. A great council of peers assembles to advise James. Writs are issued for the calling a parliament to meet at Westminster the 15th of January.

Dec. 8. The king sent the marquis of Halifax, the earl of Nottingham, and lord Godolphin to treat with the prince; whereupon the prince of Orange sent proposals to James, by the earls of Clarendon and Oxford.

The queen and the young prince were sent over to France.

10. The king took water at Whitehall stairs, and embarked for France, accompanied by sir Edward Hales, Mr. Sheldon, and a Frenchman. He sent orders to the earl of Feversham to disband the army, and threw into the fire the parliamentary writs not issued. In crossing the Thames

from the horseferry, James threw the great seal into the water, that nothing might be done legally in his absence.

11. A declaration of the lords spiritual and temporal in and about London and Westminster, assembled at Guildhall, setting forth that they would apply to the prince of Orange to procure a free parliament, and secure the public peace.

12. An alarm was spread of a general massacre intended throughout England by the disbanded Irish troops. So great was the panic in London, that lights were placed in the windows during the night, and every man provided arms to defend his family from the cruel Irish. But the next day, discovering there was no ground for these fears, the people recovered from their consternation. These false alarms were probably meant to provoke a massacre of the papists; and have been ascribed to one Meeke, a noted libeller. The mob demolished and plundered several mass-houses, and the houses of the Roman-catholics in London, particularly the Spanish ambassador's. Lord-chancellor Jeffreys was taken in disguise at Wapping, and sent prisoner to the Tower, where he died soon after of calculus.

The common-council of the city sent deputies to the prince, to invite him to come to London.

13. An order of the prince, and another of the lords in London, were issued for re-assembling the disbanded troops under their proper officers.

14. The prince of Orange came to Windsor.

The king, being driven back by contrary winds to Feversham, was taken for a jesuit, and abused by the rabble.

The king in his journey to London, sent the earl of Feversham to invite the prince to the palace of St. James's. William ordered Feversham to be imprisoned in the Round-tower.

The duke of Grafton, marching at the head of a regiment to take possession of Tilbury-fort from the Irish, an Irish officer rode up to him and fired a pistol at him, for which he was shot dead on the spot.

16. The king returned to Whitehall, and was received with the most joyful acclamations by the people. The same night he published an order of council against tumults, and the plundering of houses, and other disorders; which was the last regal act he executed in England.

17. The prince of Orange's forces took possession of all the posts about Whitehall and St. James's; and then the prince sent an order at midnight, for the king to remove from Whitehall, which the king submitted to, and went to Rochester under a Dutch guard.

18. The prince arrived at St. James's, where he received the congratulations of the nobility and persons of quality.

20. The aldermen and common-council of London attended the prince to congratulate his arrival.

21. Most of the lords and persons of quality signed the engagement, or association, that was drawn up at Exeter, to stand by the prince.

22. The lords spiritual and temporal about town, assembled in the house of lords at Westminster.

23. The king embarked on board a small frigate, with the duke of Berwick, his natural son, and Abodie, a Frenchman. He landed safe at Ambletuse in France, and hastened to join his wife and child at the castle of St. Germain's.

The prince having received intelligence of the king's departure, published an order, requiring all those who had served as members in any of the parliaments held in the reign of king Charles II. to meet him at St. James's the 26th instant, together with the aldermen and common-council of London. The peers ordered all papists to depart the city of London, and not to remove above five miles from their homes.

25. The lords, to the number of about ninety, assembled at Westminster, and addressed the prince of Orange to send circular letters to the several counties, universities, cities, and boroughs, to send members to represent them, to meet and sit at Westminster the 22nd of January. They also addressed the prince of Orange to take upon him the administration of public affairs, and the disposal of the public revenue, till the meeting of the intended convention on the 22nd of January.

26. Those who had been members of parliament in the reign of Charles II., and the aldermen and common-council of London, attended the prince of Orange at St. James's, to whom the prince made a speech, desiring them to advise him how to pursue the ends of his declaration, in calling a parliament, and restoring the rights and liberties of the kingdom. This assembly of the commons and citizens addressed the prince to summon a convention, to meet the 22nd of January, as the lords had done.

28. The prince returned an answer to the lords, that he would endeavour to secure the peace of the nation, and issue his letters for assembling the convention, as they desired, and apply the revenue to the public uses, &c. He returned the same answer to the commons and citizens.

The French ambassador having been very active to promote divisions amongst the peers, the prince ordered him to depart the kingdom in twenty-four hours.

30. The prince received the sacrament

at St. James's chapel, from the bishop of London, to remove any apprehensions of a design to alter the discipline of the established church. The same day he issued a declaration, authorizing all officers and magistrates (except papists) to continue to act in their respective offices and places, till the meeting of the convention.

The prince visited the queen-dowager, who asked him to release her chamberlain, the earl of Feversham, which he granted.

Jan. 1689. The prince of Orange issued his declaration, for the better collecting of the public revenue.

5. An order issued by the prince for the withdrawing his troops out of the cities and boroughs of England, at the time of electing the members of the convention.

8. An order by the prince that none of his soldiers should quarter in any private house without the owner's consent.

The prince assembled the Scotch nobility and gentry residing in London, and desired their advice for securing their religion and liberties: the Scots proposed the calling a convention in Scotland, to meet the 14th of March, and that the prince should take upon him the administration of the government of that kingdom in the mean time.

10. The prince sent a letter to the city of London, to desire the loan of 200,000*l.* which they granted, and raised in four days' time, sir Samuel Dashwood subscribing 60,000*l.*

16. A declaration published by the prince, for the payment of the seamen's wages; and on the 19th, another for the payment of the land forces.

The archbishop and seven other bishops sign the association, after some words were softened in it, that gave them uneasiness.

The dissenting ministers waited on the prince, praying his protection.

The prince sent for the princess, to strengthen his claim to the crown, but she was retarded by the frost in Holland.

King James wrote a letter to the privy-council, informing them of his reasons for flight; also another to both houses of convention, which they rejected.

22. The convention being assembled at Westminster, the marquis of Halifax was chosen speaker by the upper house, and Henry Powle, esq. by the lower; after which a letter was presented them by the prince of Orange, recommending the settlement of the kingdom, the condition of the Protestants in Ireland, and, above all, dispatch and unanimity in their resolutions.

Great debates arose in the house of peers on the question, "Whether, the throne being vacant, it ought to be filled up by a regent or a king." It was carried against a regency by 51 to 49. The lords next

resolved, by 55 to 46. that there was an original contract between king and people.

Addresses were presented to the lords, desiring that the prince and princess of Orange may be settled on the throne, which were discountenanced by the prince, as tending to promote tumults.

Both houses addressed the prince, and returned him thanks for delivering them from popery and arbitrary power, and his care in the administration of the public affairs, and desired him to continue it; and that he would take particular care of Ireland.

28. The commons resolved, "That king James II. having endeavoured to subvert the constitution, by breaking the original contract between king and people, and, by the advice of jesuits and other wicked persons, having violated the fundamental laws, and withdrawn himself out of the kingdom, hath abdicated the government, and that the throne is thereby vacant." Mr. Hampden carried this resolution up to the lords.

31. A thanksgiving observed in London and Westminster, and the parts adjacent, for the deliverance by the prince of Orange, and on the 14th of February all over the rest of England.

Feb. 2. The lords sent back the resolution of the commons, with amendments, namely, instead of the word *abdicated* they put *deserted*; and omitted the words, *and that the throne is thereby become vacant*; which occasioned long and warm altercations between the two houses; but at length the lords agreed to the resolution without any amendment. They also passed a resolution that the prince and princess of Orange shall be declared king and queen of England. But the commons delayed to concur in this hasty settlement of the crown, till they had completed a declaration for the security of the public liberties.

7. Both houses agreed that the prince and princess of Orange should be king and queen of England, but the sole and regal power should be in the prince, only in the name of both. This resolution completed the change in the monarchy, and fixed the new basis of this extraordinary revolution. King James reigned three years, nine months, and eleven days.

ISSUE OF JAMES II.

James had four sons and four daughters by his first wife, Anne Hyde, daughter of lord Clarendon, none of whom lived to be four years of age, except the princesses Mary and Anne, who were successively queens of Great Britain. He next married the princess of Modena, Mary d'Este, daughter of Alphonso d'Este, duke of Modena, on the 12th of November, 1673, by

X
or

whom he had four daughters and two sons, of whom only two survived infancy, namely, James Francis Edward, styled the pretender, and Louisa Maria Teresa, born on the 18th of June, 1692, who died at St. Germain in France, on the 8th of April, 1712.

James had the following natural issue by Mrs. Churchill, sister to the duke of Marlborough:—1. James Fitz-James, born in 1671, styled duke of Berwick, and who acquired great distinction in war. He commanded the French and Spaniards at the battle of Almanza, so fatal to the English in the year 1707; he reduced Barcelona in the year 1714; and lastly was made choice of to command the French armies in Germany, in the years 1733 and 1734, where having laid siege to Philipsburg, his head was taken off by a cannon-ball, as he stood upon the trenches to take a view of the enemy's works.

2. Henry Fitz-James, usually styled grand prior, who died in France, leaving a daughter.

3. Lady Henrietta, married to sir Henry Waldegrave, afterwards lord Waldegrave.

4. Another daughter died a nun in France.

5. James had a daughter by Mrs. Sedley, daughter of sir Charles Sedley, created countess of Dorchester, and married to the earl of Portmore.

6. He had also by Mrs. Sedley, a daughter named Catharine, born in 1681, and married in 1699 to James, earl of Anglesea, by whom she had issue, a daughter, but was separated from him by act of parliament, and was afterwards married to Sheffield, duke of Buckingham, by whom she had issue, Edmund Sheffield, in 1712, who succeeded his father in honour and estate, but died before he was of age, and the duchess died not long after him.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

There having been but one parliament in this reign, there were not many statutes made, besides those already mentioned; the chief were these that follow.

1 Jac. II. cap. 8. Prohibits the importation of gunpowder, arms, and utensils of war without licence.

Cap. 10. Impowers the justices of peace to provide carriages for the king and court, in their progress and removals.

Cap. 15. Lays a duty upon coals, towards finishing the cathedral of St. Paul's.

Cap. 17. Enforces and explains the laws for the settlement of the poor.

Cap. 18. Enacts, that no administrator shall be cited to render an account of the personal estate of the intestate, otherwise than by inventory, unless at the instance of some person in behalf of a minor, or of one

having a demand out of such estate, as creditor or next of kin.

PUBLIC REVENUE, A.D. 1688.

	£.
Tonnage and poundage	600,000
Excise on beer and ale	666,383
Hearth-money	245,000
Post-office	65,000
Wine Licenses	10,000
New duties on wine and vinegar	172,901
Duties on tobacco and sugar	148,861
Duties on French linen, brandy, silk, &c.	93,710
	<hr/>
	£2,001,855

James had a larger revenue than any of his predecessors. At the accession of the Stuarts in 1603, the public income was about 500,000*l.* a year. (Sinclair, Hist. Rev. 202.) Eighty-six years after, when James II. was expelled, it appears to have augmented to above two millions; the average annual increase being 17,441*l.*; and which may be partly ascribed to the depreciation in the value of money before explained (p. 248).

Under the government of the Stuarts, many new branches of revenue were introduced, such as excises, the post-office, monthly assessments, &c.; and many old resources were either abandoned as unproductive, or abolished, on account of their oppression. Hence subsidies were given up, and the whole fabric of feudal exaction, of wardship, marriage, and knight's service, together with benevolences free gifts, and compulsive loans.

During the short reign of James II. of four years, there was coined in gold, 2,113,638*l.* and in silver, 518,316*l.*; in all 2,631,954*l.*

COMMERCE—LABOURING CLASSES—PRICES; POPULATION.

Notwithstanding the vices of political government under the Stuarts, Hume has truly remarked, that the commerce and riches of England never in any period increased so fast, as from the restoration to the revolution. The wars with the Dutch, by disturbing the trade of that republic, promoted the navigation of this island; and after Charles had made a separate peace with the states, his subjects enjoyed unmolested the trade of Europe. The conquest of New York and the Jerseys greatly extended the English empire in America; and the prosecution of the dissenters, though unjust in itself, tended greatly, by inducing them to seek liberty of conscience on the other side the Atlantic, to augment the population and riches of the colonies. Dr. Davenant affirms, that the shipping of

England more than doubled during these twenty-eight years. Sir Josiah Child observes, that in 1688, there were on the 'Change more men worth 10,000*l.*, than there were in 1650 worth 1,000*l.*; that 500*l.* with a daughter was, in the latter period, deemed a larger portion than 2000*l.* in the former; that gentlewomen in those earlier times, thought themselves well clothed in a serge gown, which a chambermaid would, in 1688, be ashamed to be seen in; and that, besides the great increase of rich clothes, plate, jewels, and household furniture, coaches were in that time augmented a hundred-fold.

These improvements in the condition of the middle orders, were almost the exclusive results of the nation's progress in navigation and commerce. The era of manufacturing prosperity was nearly a century later, when by mechanical discoveries the foundation was laid for the growth of our great staple manufactures in cotton, linen, and woollen. But in the seventeenth century, several new manufactures had been established in the subordinate branches of industry; as in iron, brass, silk, hats, glass, paper, &c. One Brewer, leaving the Low Countries, brought over the art of dyeing woollen cloth, which was a great saving to the nation. The use of coal for fuel, the establishment of the post-office, and the passing in 1661, of an act for the erection of turnpikes, greatly facilitated domestic industry.

The great body of the people were still deemed of so little consideration, that hardly any details elucidatory of the condition of the LABOURING CLASSES can be found. The few facts we have to communicate on the subject, have been chiefly collected by the industry of sir F. Eden in his 'History of the Poor.'

In 1610, the wages allowed by the justices of one of the midland counties to labourers in husbandry, were from sixpence to tenpence a day without meat; and to women haymakers, fourpence a day without meat. In these ratings the magistrates estimated that half the day's earnings were equivalent to diet for one day, which is a less proportion than would be requisite at present. About this period beef or mutton was 3*½*d per pound. Wheat was rather higher than in the middle of the following century. The average price of middling wheat from 1606 to 1625 was 1*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* per quarter; whereas the average price for the twenty years ending in 1743, was 1*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

While such wages and prices continued, it was impossible labourers could purchase in abundance either bread or butcher's meat. They sustained a further disadvantage in

the absence of many esculent plants, which are now cultivated in the fields, and which were then either little known or exclusively confined to the tables of the rich. Potatoes at present are a general article of diet; in king James's reign they were considered a delicacy. Tea and sugar, which now form regular articles of cottage economy, were still greater rarities. The former article was not imported in any considerable quantities, till after the establishment of a new East India company, with liberty to trade to China and Japan in 1637. In 1660 tea is for the first time subjected to the excise, together with coffee and chocolate. It is singular, however, that the duty was imposed on the liquor prepared from these articles, in lieu of the articles themselves; from which it may be inferred none of these beverages were made by private families, but purchased as spirits are at this day, ready prepared from the compounders.

In 1633, the following prices are directed to be observed in London by poulterers, victuallers, and woodmongers; the last an almost obsolete class of retailers in England, though still common in France.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The best peshant cock	6	0
A peshant henne	5	0
The best turkey cock in the market	4	4
A heron	2	6
A bitterne	2	6
A duck	0	8
A dozen of larks	0	10
A snipe	0	4
A pewit	0	10
A dozen of blackbirds, fieldfares, or thrushes	1	0
The best fat goose in the market	2	0
Ditto at a poulterer's shop	2	4
A greene goose	1	2
A capon fat and crammed of the best sort	2	4
A pullet fat and crammed of the best sort in the market	1	6
A henne of the best sort	1	2
A rabbit of the best sort	0	8
A dozen of wild pigeons	1	8
Ditto of tame pigeons	0	6
Three eggs	0	1
A pound of the best salt butter	0	3 <i>½</i>
A pound of the best fresh butter	0	6
A pound of tallow candles	0	3 <i>½</i>
A sack containing four bushels of the best charcoal	1	2
A sack containing four bushels of best largest and small coals	0	6
1000 of the best Kentish billets at the water side	16	0

POPULATION seems to have slowly increased during the whole of the seventeenth century. At the death of Elizabeth,

in 1603, England and Wales are supposed to have contained from four to five millions, which probably rather exceeded the means of employment and subsistence. From the acts of that princess to restrain the erection of cottages, and the severe measures adopted by lord Burleigh to get rid of the idle and unemployed, it is plain great inconvenience had begun to be felt from the excessive growth of the population. In a proclamation issued by Charles I., it is intimated that the metropolis was becoming so large that it could neither be 'governed nor fed;' it then contained about one-tenth part of its present inhabitants. The ravages of the plague, which were the natural consequence of the insufficient food and unwholesome mode of living of the people, checked the multiplication of their numbers, so that in the long interval from the accession of James I. to the expulsion

of James II., the population increased little more than half a million. It continued to increase at the same slow rate for nearly a century longer, till about the middle of the reign of George III., when it received such an impulse from the sudden development of manufacturing industry, that in fifty years the numbers of the people nearly doubled, increasing from 7,953,000 in 1780, to 13,894,574 in 1831.

The subjoined statements will elucidate the preceding observations, and show the commercial and economical relations of the country at the important era of the Revolution of 1688. They are collected from the contemporary writers—Dr. Davenant, sir William Petty, and Gregory King, all of them able and (the last in particular) ingenious expositors of the statistics of the kingdom:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS IN 1688.
(*Davenant's Works*, vol. ii. p. 270.)

	Value here. £.	Value abroad. £.
<i>Exported.</i>		
By ourselves	3,310,000	4,120,000
By foreigners	1,000,000	1,250,000
	<hr/> £4,310,000	<hr/> £5,370,000
<i>Imported.</i>		
By ourselves	5,570,000	2,870,000
By foreigners	1,550,000	1,150,000
	<hr/> £7,120,000	<hr/> £4,020,000

MERCHANT SHIPPING OF EUROPE, IN 1690.
(*Sir William Petty's Estimate.*)

	Tons.
England (perhaps Scotland and Ireland included)	500,000
United Provinces	900,000
France	100,000
Hamburgh, Denmark, Sweden, and Dantzic	250,000
Spain, Portugal, Italy, &c.	250,000
Total of Europe	<hr/> 2,000,000

POPULATION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

(*Estimate of Gregory King, founded on the Returns of Inhabited Houses assessed to the Hearth-tax in 1690.*)

In London and the Bills of Mortality	500,000
In the other cities and towns	800,000
In the villages and hamlets	4,100,000
	<hr/> In all 5,500,000
The number of inhabited houses	1,300,000
The number of families	1,300,000

In 1687, sir W. Petty makes the number of inhabitants of Paris, 488,000; Amsterdam, 187,000; Venice, 134,000; Rome, 125,000; Dublin, 69,000; Rouen, 66,000; Bristol, 48,000.

In the Appendix to Sir John Dalrymple's *Memoirs* is the following estimate of religious denominations in England, in William III.'s reign:—

Conformists	2,477,254
Non-conformists	108,676
Papists	13,856

This exhibits considerable change of opinion. In 1603, the number of communicants and recusants, certified to the privy-council, in each diocese of England, was—

Of communicants	2,057,033
Of recusants	8,465
	<hr/>
	2,065,498

FAMILIES AND THEIR INCOMES.

Number of Persons and Incomes of the several Families of England, calculated for the year 1688, by Gregory King.—D'Avenant's Works, vol. ii., p. 184.

Number of Families.		Heads per Family.	Number of Persons.	Income per Family.	Total of Incomes.
				£. s.	£.
160	Temporal lords	40	6,400	3,200 0	512,000
26	Spiritual lords	20	520	1,300 0	33,800
800	Baronets	16	12,800	880 0	704,000
600	Knights	13	7,800	650 0	390,000
3,000	Esquires	10	30,000	450 0	1,200,000
12,000	Gentlemen	8	96,000	280 0	2,880,000
5,000	Persons in greater offices	8	40,000	240 0	1,200,000
5,000	Persons in lesser offices	6	30,000	120 0	600,000
2,000	Eminent merchants & traders	8	16,000	400 0	800,000
8,000	Lesser merchants & traders	6	48,000	193 0	1,600,000
10,000	Persons in the law	7	70,000	154 0	1,540,000
2,000	Eminent clergymen	6	12,000	72 0	144,000
8,000	Lesser clergymen	5	40,000	50 0	400,000
40,000	Freeholders of the better sort	7	280,000	91 0	3,640,000
120,000	Freeholders of the lesser sort	5½	660,000	55 0	6,600,000
150,000	Farmers	5	750,000	42 10	6,375,000
15,000	{ Persons in liberal arts and } sciences	5	75,000	60 0	900,000
50,000	Shopkeepers and tradesmen	4½	225,000	45 0	2,250,000
60,000	Artisans and handicrafts	4	240,000	38 0	2,280,000
5,000	Naval officers	4	20,000	80 0	400,000
4,000	Military officers	4	16,000	60 0	240,000
500,556		5½	2,675,520	68 18	31,688,800
50,000	Common seamen	3	150,000	20 0	1,000,000
364,000	{ Labouring people and out- } servants	3½	1,275,000	15 0	5,460,000
400,000	Cottagers and paupers	3½	1,300,000	6 10	2,000,000
35,000	Common soldiers	2	70,000	14 0	490,000
849,000		3½	2,795,000	10 10	8,950,000
	Vagrants; as gipsies, thieves and beggars		30,000		60,000

WILLIAM III. A.D. 1688 to 1702.

It would be a partial representation of the great ends of the Orange revolution to ascribe its accomplishment chiefly to the fears of the church and aristocracy. There were such obvious motives for resistance to the Stuart, that it is unnecessary to resort to the recondite and problematical one of insecurity in the landed possessions of the clergy and nobility, to account for the origin of the political confederacy by which it was effected. The blind and wilful course of James II. threatened the extinction of all the nation had been struggling for, during centuries, in religion, civil liberty, and legislation. It was a common danger, and all classes united to repel it. But no sooner was safety attained, than the ordinary results of a coalition of parties followed, and whigs, tories, and republicans—if any such existed in 1688—resumed their former relative attitudes of selfish intrigue and malignant hostility. William III. was hardly seated on the English throne ere he found himself the king of rival factions rather than of a united people; and what aggravated the distastefulness of his position, is the fact that the statesmen who had betrayed the counsels of his predecessor, and sought him as their deliverer from Popery and Despotism, were among the first to open treasonable communications with the exiled prince he had supplanted. The jacobitism of the tory peers may admit of extenuation, but hardly any apology can be made for the treacherous intrigues with the court of St. Germain, carried on by the whig revolutionists; the earls of Shrewsbury and Marlborough, admiral Russell, and probably the earl of Devonshire himself, were implicated.*

It was the double and selfish perfidy of the politicians who surrounded William that doubtless gave a tone to his public administration. Finding himself among partisans whose motives he could not comprehend, who by secret conspiracy sought to pull down the idol they had openly erected, his constitutional reserve and wariness deepened into mistrust and dissimulation. In lieu of English, he sought Dutch counsels—the advice of Bentinck, Ginckle, Zuylewstein, D'Auverquerque; and the policy of England became subordinate to the policy of the stadtholdership of Holland.

With the exception of those among the whigs, whose motives in keeping up a secret correspondence with the Jacobites must have been to secure themselves, in case of a re-action, from the consequence of their own proceedings, something may be said in explanation of the defective allegiance of the other revolutionists. Although the tories joined in the invitation to the prince of Orange, they must have been shocked at such a signal departure from their favourite principle of hereditary right; and when their protestant fears had subsided, they seem to have had compunctious visitings of the injustice done by the perpetual exclusion of James and his infant son from the throne of their ancestors. In Scotland, the whigs alone favoured the exaltation of William; and in Ireland, the majority being catholics, both parliament and people openly adhered to the banished prince. As to the non-jurors in England, they were swayed by theological considerations. According to them, the rights of princes are divine and indefeasible; rebellion always a sin, and obedience to 'the higher powers' an unchangeable obligation which neither time, place, nor circumstance can loosen. The press groaned with pamphlets on these controversial topics, which have

* Macintosh, *Hist. of Rev. of 1688*, p. 577; *Hal. Const. Hist.* iii., 167.

now become as void of interest as the sophistical wranglings of the schoolmen. William was a tranquil, but not disinterested spectator of the polemical warfare of Drs. Sherlock, Tillotson, Burnet, Sancroft, and the other rival prelates who strove in the conflict. Himself a calvinist, he sought universal toleration; but his political authority was weakened by efforts to establish liberty of conscience: for though he conciliated the dissenters, this advantage was more than neutralized by alienating the regards of the more powerful party of the episcopal church.

The foreign policy of the country is a prominent feature in the history of William III. Of the thirteen years of his reign, nearly ten were years of war. He aspired to the distinction of being head of the protestant interest, and acting as umpire of all national contests; so that a cannon might not be fired in Europe without his permission. In furtherance of these ambitious aspirations, he was unscrupulous as to the means he employed: parliament was bribed; the morals of the people corrupted; and the pernicious expedient introduced, of borrowing on remote funds, by which was engendered a swarm of loan contractors, speculators, and stock-jobbers, whose chief harvest is a nation's difficulties. It is to this monarch we owe the practice of issuing exchequer-bills, of raising money by lotteries, the stamp-duties, the multiplication of the excise laws, and most of those other financial contrivances by which posterity has been burthened, and wars of folly and despotism supported.

The ostensible object of the continental alliances of William, was to curb the restless ambition of Louis XIV. Unless, however, William by the war in the Netherlands, diverted France from the invasion of England, he does not appear to have reaped any other advantage in his contest with the French monarch. After the long, bloody, and exhausting war, terminated by the peace of Ryswick, France was left as powerful as ever for aggressive encroachment. Neither was the king consistent in his endeavours to effect the humiliation of his Gallican opponent. The objects embraced by the treaties for the partition of the Spanish monarchy, were the reverse of those he sought to accomplish by the preceding war, and tended to the aggrandizement of France. It was the secrecy with which the king concluded the partition treaties, without communicating them to any of his English ministers, except the earl of Jersey, combined with the unsatisfactory results of the French war, that disgusted the nation with his foreign connexions. The overthrow of the Whig ministry followed, and the impeachment of Somers, Portland, Halifax, and Orford. Death soon after removed William from the scene, leaving to his successor the costly conceit of the Grand Alliance, formed for the maintenance of the diplomatic chimera of a balance of power in Europe, by preventing the consolidation of the French and Spanish monarchies in the Bourbon family.

William was undoubtedly an illustrious prince, possessing courage, energy, fortitude; and though not generally successful in war, a superior military commander. A demeanour more free, bland, and gracious, was all that was wanting to have made him as amiable as he was heroic and magnanimous. He was the last king of England, who has displayed shining abilities for the government of mankind, either in the capacity of a soldier or statesman. Under him the constitution assumed a new aspect. Though parliament did not deviate further from the line of succession than necessary to reach a protestant head, yet the prince of Orange ascended the throne as an elective monarch with limited prerogatives. Beyond this, the constitutional changes of the revolution did not extend. There

was no interference with the veto of the king in legislation, or his power over the sittings and duration of parliament; nor with the constitution of the peerage, the house of commons, or municipal corporations. Still the power lost by the crown, and which parliament acquired, was productive of great practical improvements in the government, as the subjoined enumeration of the changes introduced in king William's reign will establish.

First, The commons acquired the complete power of the purse, which is usually considered paramount to all other authority. Prior to the Revolution, the whole supply for the public service was placed at the disposal of the sovereign; but it was now resolved that a definite sum should be set apart for the maintenance of the king and his government, or what is now called the civil-list, the rest for the public defence and contingent expenditure. Estimates of the charges of the army, navy, and ordnance were to be annually submitted to parliament; and the sums voted for these and other branches of service were limited to the specific objects to which they were appropriated. The annual appropriation of the supplies by the commons admitted them into co-parcenary with the executive, and enabled them once a year at least to put an estoppel on its proceedings. This would have been a guarantee against bad government had the commons themselves been made responsible to an intelligent and adequate constituency.

II. The censorship of the press was suffered to expire without renewal. So that the liberty of the press was so far established that no restraint was imposed prior to the publication of literary works.

III. An approach was made to religious toleration, by exempting dissenters from penalty for non-attendance at the established places of worship, and protecting their meeting-houses from insult. The bigotry of the age would not admit a more comprehensive scheme; and even these indulgences were denied to papists and unitarians.

IV. Parliaments were made triennial.

V. The number of placemen in the house of commons was reduced, by the exclusion of the commissioners of stamps and excise. Pensioners, and all civil and military officers, were excluded by the Act of Settlement; but this provision was relaxed in the next reign.

VI. The judges were so far made independent, that they were secured in their offices during good behaviour, and not removable at the pleasure of the crown. They were still, however, left exposed to the seductive influence of promotion.

Lastly, An approach was made to the establishment of a definite ministerial responsibility. According to the Act of Settlement, members of the privy-council were required to subscribe their names to measures to which they had consented and advised. This, like some other constitutional securities, was abrogated in the reign of Anne, but it gave rise to the CABINET in a more definite form, as a portion of the privy-council responsible (if any be) for the measures of the administration.

The changes effected in the constitution by these measures were so great that it may be justly remarked that since the accession of king William, foreigners have been accustomed to look to parliament, not to the executive, for the principles and conduct of the government.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

689. Feb. 12. The princess of Orange arrived at Whitehall from Holland.

13. Both houses attended the prince and princess of Orange with a declaration, asserting the rights and liberties of the people. The substance of this important constitutional declaration, which some months after became a statute of the realm, was as follows:—That the pretended power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, by regal authority, without the consent of parliament, is illegal. That levying money for the use of the crown by pretence of prerogative, without grant of parliament, for longer time, or in other manner than the same is or shall be granted, is illegal. That it is the right of the subject to petition the king, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal. That the raising or keeping a standing army within the kingdom in time of peace, without the consent of parliament, is against law. That subjects who are protestants may have arms for their defence suitable to their condition, and as allowed by law. That elections of members of parliament ought to be free. That the freedom of speech and debate, and proceedings in parliament, ought not to be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of parliament. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. That jurors ought to be duly empanelled and returned, and jurors who pass upon men in high-treason ought to be freeholders. That all grants and promises of fines and forfeitures of particular persons before conviction are illegal. And for redress of grievances and amendment of the laws, parliaments ought to be held frequently.

The prince refused the crown, unless the power, as well as the name of king, was conferred upon him; insisting that the princess should have no share in the government; and if parliament would not yield to this, he threatened to return to Holland, which silenced his opposers in the debates concerning the abdication. Evelyn says (Diary, vol. ii., p. 1), that the bishops were for making the prince-regent to "save their oaths."

The prince and princess were proclaimed king and queen with the usual solemnity.

14. The Privy Council to consist of the prince of Denmark, the archbishop of Canterbury, the duke of Norfolk (earl-marshal), the marquisses of Halifax (privy-seal) and Winchester, earls of Danby (president of the council), Lindsey (lord-cham-

berlain), Devonshire (lord-steward), Dorset (lord-chamberlain), Oxford and Shrewsbury (secretaries of state); the earls of Bedford, Bath, Macclesfield, and Nottingham; the viscounts Fauconberg, Mordaunt, Newport, Lumley; the lords Wharton, Montague, Delamere, Churchill; Messrs. Bentinck, Sidney, Powle, Russell, Hampden, and Boscawen; sir Robert Howard, sir Henry Capel. Sir John Holt was appointed lord-chief-justice of the king's bench; sir Henry Pollexfen, of the common-pleas; and twelve able judges were chosen. D'Auverquerque was made master of the horse; Zuyestein, of the robes; and Schomberg, of the ordnance: the treasury, admiralty, and chancery were put in commission. The Revolution had been effected by the co-operation of whigs and Tories; but, according to Burnet, the whigs were a majority both in council and the chief offices.

A proclamation issued for continuing all inferior and civil officers in their respective offices and places.

16. An order of council for altering the prayers for the royal family.

18. William made a speech to both houses, recommending dispatch in settling the affairs of the kingdom, particularly in providing for Ireland.

Warm debates on the bill for turning the convention into a parliament, there having been no writs issued for assembling the members, and when the act passed, several members withdrew into the country.

27. Admiral Herbert was sent with 30 men-of-war to cruise on the Irish coast.

The commons voted a temporary aid of 420,000*l.*, to be levied by monthly assessments.

March 1. William sent a message to the commons, desiring them to take off the duty of hearth-money, which was looked upon as a popular act. Every hearth or chimney paid 2*s.* per annum. Being the day appointed for taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, several members of both houses refused, and acquired the name of NON-JURORS. Among them were the primate Sancroft, and eight other bishops; namely, Turner of Ely; Lake of Chichester; Ken of Bath and Wells; White of Peterborough; Lloyd of Norwich; Thomas of Worcester; and Frampton of Gloucester. The five first were of the number of the seven bishops sent to the Tower by James II., for refusing to promulgate the declaration of indulgence. The example of the bishops was followed by many of the inferior clergy, who were deprived of their benefices. The oaths were also refused by the duke of Newcastle, the earls

of Clarendon, Lichfield, Exeter, Yarmouth, and Stafford, with the lords Griffin and Stawell. The principle of this non-jurisdiction was the high Tory doctrine of the divine indefeasible right of sovereigns without settlement or limitation.

5. The king having acquainted parliament that James II. had sailed from Brest with a body of French troops, in order to land in Ireland, both houses agreed on an address, that they would stand by king William with their lives and fortunes, in supporting his alliances abroad, in reducing Ireland, and in defence of the protestant religion.

Dr. Gilbert Burnet elected bishop of Sarum. Primate Sancroft refused to consecrate Burnet, but granted a commission to four suffragan bishops to exercise his metropolitan authority.

12. King James landed at Kingsale in Ireland. The earl of Tyrconnel had collected 30,000 foot and 8000 horse to join James on his arrival.

The royal Scotch regiment of horse, quartered at Abingdon, and great part of Dunbarton's regiment, declared for king James, and marched for Scotland, but were overtaken and reduced by the Dutch troops under general Ginckle. This incident gave rise to a bill, now become annual, for punishing mutiny and desertion, forming the military code of the army.

14. A letter from William, to the convention of Scotland, was read in that assembly.

16. The HABEAS CORPUS ACT suspended for the first time. A new settlement of the revenue made, and a distinction made between the ordinary and extraordinary revenue: 600,000*l.* was voted for a civil-list, leaving all the remaining supplies to be voted upon *estimate*, and appropriated to specific services, approved by parliament. An act for annulling the attainder of the late lord Russell, received the royal assent. After which William made a speech, and intimated his desire that the dissenters might be admitted into places of trust and profit, and that new oaths might be framed for their satisfaction; but the houses rejected the proposal.

Sheriffs and lord-lieutenants of the counties appointed.

April 11. The coronation oath being altered for the occasion, William and Mary were crowned at Westminster by the bishop of London. The ceremony was performed the same day at Edinburgh.

16. A medal of gold, of three pounds' value, was given to every member of the commons.

18. Lord Chancellor Jeffrey died in the Tower, and was buried there.

19. The toleration act passed for the relief of the dissenters.

26. The commons addressed his majesty to declare war against France, and promised to stand by him.

29. King James met the parliament of Ireland at Dublin.

May 11. The deputies from the convention of Scotland made a formal offer of that crown to William and Mary at the Banqueting-house.

12. An alliance against France between the Emperor, king William, and the States-general concluded at Vienna.

15. Bishop Burnet publishes his pastoral letter, making William and Mary to have a right to the crown by conquest.

The late judges were called to an account by the lords, for giving judgment against the earl of Devonshire for assaulting colouel Culpepper in the presence-chamber, and setting a fine of 30,000*l.* upon him, and committing him to the king's-bench for non-payment, for which they begged pardon; and the peers resolved that the fine was exorbitant, and that a peer cannot be committed for non-payment of a fine to the king.

26. Viscount Dundee killed in an engagement with general Mackay; after which the interest of James declined in Scotland.

31. A bill brought in for reversing the judgments against Titus Oates for perjury, but it would not pass; however William pardoned Oates, and settled a pension of 300*l.* per annum upon him, which he and his wife enjoyed as long as they lived, which was many years after.

June 14. Fourscore clergymen and upwards came in a body to Westminster-hall, to take the oaths to king William.

18. James coined brass money in Ireland, and set the value of silver upon it, and issued a proclamation, prohibiting any from giving more than 1*l.* 18*s.* for a guinea.

July 20. The Irish parliament passed an act of attainder against all protestants who had assisted William. Three thousand protestants were attainted, amongst whom were two archbishops, one duke, seventeen earls, eighteen barons, and eighty-three clergymen; all of whom were declared punishable by death and forfeiture. By another act, the Irish parliament declared itself independent of that of England.

22. An act for abolishing episcopacy in Scotland, received the royal assent.

24. The princess Anne was delivered of a son, christened William, and afterwards created duke of Gloucester.

25. The royal assent given to an act for an additional duty of excise upon beer and ale, and to an act to vest in the two universities the presentation of benefices belonging to papists.

30. Kirk threw relief into Londonderry, the town being reduced into a starving condition, and bravely defended by Dr. Walker, for above three months after the governor Lundee had deserted that command.

Aug. 16. An address of the lords for paying the servants of Charles II. the arrears of their wages.

20. An act for payment of the States the charges of the prince of Orange's expedition to dethrone his father-in-law, amounting to 600,000*l*.

28. An alliance offensive and defensive with the States.

A commission granted to ten bishops, and the same number of dignitaries, authorizing them to make such alterations of the liturgy and canons, and such reformation, as might conduce to the unity of the church, by conciliating the protestant dissenters.

Oct. 13. The non-juring bishops suspended.

19. Parliament met, and the king proposed an act of indemnity. A committee of the commons being about to inquire who were the persons who advised the judicial murder of lord Russell and Sydney, the tory marquis of Halifax thought it expedient to withdraw from public life.

24. William accepted his freedom in the grocers' company.

26. The earls of Peterborough and Salisbury voted to be impeached of high-treason, by the commons, for departing from their allegiance, and being reconciled to the church of Rome; also that sir Edward Hales and Obadiah Walker be committed to the Tower.

Nov. 2. The commons voted a supply of 2,000,000*l*., to be raised by a land-tax of three shillings in the pound, and other additional duties on tea, coffee, and chocolate.

6. The commons resolved on an address to the king, for a proclamation for apprehending general Ludlow, one of the regicides, and a proclamation was issued accordingly on the 14th, but he had returned to Holland first, with the Dutch ambassador.

21. An order of the lord-mayor, offering 500*l*. for the discovery of the person who defaced king William's picture in guildhall.

The convocation met, with a view of the settlement of the church.

An act to erect courts of conscience in Bristol, Gloucester, and Newcastle.

Great complaints were made against the commissioners employed in victualling the navy, who had furnished unwholesome food, which had occasioned a mortality in the fleet. Mr. John Shales was displaced as purveyor-general of the army, and the king recommended that commissioners be

sent over to Ireland to take care of the provisions.

Dec. 16. The declaration of rights, presented to the king on his accession, passed into an act of parliament, called the Bill of Rights; and the succession to the crown settled, to the exclusion of papists.

18. The commons addressed the king to make a provision of 50,000*l*. per annum for the prince and princess of Denmark. The promoting this address occasioned such a misunderstanding between the queen and princess, that the queen would have no correspondence with her afterwards.

1690. Jan. 27. Parliament prorogued; in his speech, the king informed the house he designed again to venture his person, in the spring, in Ireland.

The gentlemen of England were greatly distressed about this time by paying three shillings in the pound land-tax, and a poll-tax, scarce any of them knowing how to retrench their expenses, the taxes of all kinds lessened their revenues so considerably.

Feb. 6. A proclamation for dissolving the parliament.

20. A fast appointed for the success of the forces in Ireland, on the 12th of March, and afterwards on the third Wednesday in every month.

March 14. The count de Lauzun lands in Ireland with 5000 French troops.

19. The king sent a squadron, under admiral Russell, to convoy the king of Spain's bride, sister to the queen of Portugal, from Holland to the Groyne.

20. The second parliament of this reign met, when the king made a speech to both houses, acquainted them that he intended going to Ireland, and desired their assistance in that war, and the settlement of his revenue, which he *proposed to anticipate and borrow money upon*. The whigs had lessened their popularity by their vindictive measures; and in the new parliament, the tories obtained a majority. William's confidence was also lessened by their restrictions of his prerogatives.

The earl of Marlborough was sent with 10,000 men to join the Dutch army in Germany, which he effected.

April 1. The commons granted a supply of 2,200,000*l*. between that time till Michaelmas, of which 200,000*l*. was raised by a poll, and a million by a credit in the revenue bills.

May 20. An act for reversing the judgment in a *quo warranto* against the city of London, and for restoring that city to its ancient rights and privileges. Another act for encouraging the manufacture of white paper.

30. A proclamation for apprehending several Lancashire gentlemen, and others,

who were charged to have received commissions from James II., and conspired to make an insurrection in his favour.

June 11. William embarked at Highlake, for Ireland, and arrived at Carrickfergus the 14th instant, being attended by prince George of Denmark, the duke of Ormond, the earls of Oxford, Manchester, and Scarborough, Mr. Boyle, and several other persons of quality: the same evening went to Belfast, where he was met by the duke of Schomberg, the prince of Wirtemberg, major-general Kirk, and other general officers.

16. King James set out from Dublin, for the army.

17. Queen Mary published a proclamation for all papists to depart ten miles from London and Westminster, and another to confine them within five miles of their dwellings.

22. William reviewed his army, amounting to 36,000 men.

30. As the king was viewing the posture of the enemy, who lay encamped on the other side of the Boyne, he received a slight hurt on the shoulder, by a shot from a field-piece. They killed a man and two horses close by his side. The duke of Schomberg was offended at the council when the order of battle was formed, and retired to his tent, where it was sent him. On the eve of the battle, William rode through the camp by torch-light. He ordered his men to wear green boughs in their hats, as James's wore white paper in theirs.

The French defeated the English and Dutch fleets, commanded by the earl of Torrington, off Beachy. In the action, the English lost two ships, two of their captains, and about 400 men. The Dutch lost two admirals, with a great number of men, and were obliged to sink several of their ships, to prevent them falling into the enemy's hands. Both admirals were blamed; ours for not fighting, and the French for not pursuing the victory.

July 1. BATTLE OF THE BOYNE.—It was fought on the banks of the Boyne, between king William and his father-in-law, king James. The Irish foot would not stand a charge, and William easily won a decisive victory. However, the French and Swiss made an orderly retreat, chiefly from William having omitted to secure the pass of Dulceek, and James retired to Dublin; and, having observed there was no dependence upon the Irish troops in their own country, he embarked at Waterford for France. In this battle, duke Schomberg was killed by an accidental shot—as it was thought—from his own men, the bullet entering at his neck. Dr. Walker, who defended Londonderry so bravely, was also killed in this engagement. The loss on the

side of James was 1500, among whom were the lords Dongan and Carlingford, sir Neil O'Neil, and the marquis d'Hocquincourt. Many prisoners were taken, the chief of whom was lieutenant-general Hamilton. James stood upon the hill of Dunore, an inactive spectator of the whole battle.

The young Schomberg behaved with gallantry, and revenged the death of his father, who was aged 82 years. The English lost 500 men; William himself was near sharing the same fate as Schomberg, a cannon ball having carried away part of his boot, and broke a horse's leg close by him. All writers concur in giving William the highest praise for the conduct, courage, resolution, and presence of mind he displayed throughout the action.

4. James had no sooner left Dublin than the papists abandoned the city, which the protestants assumed the government of. William issued a proclamation to pardon all the common people who would return to their abodes by the 1st of August, and deliver up their arms to justices appointed.

The same day the French, commanded by marshal Luxemburgh, defeated the Dutch, commanded by prince Waldeck, in the plains of Fleury, in Flanders, which was occasioned by the cowardice of the Dutch horse, who abandoned their foot at the first charge; but never infantry made a braver retreat than the foot did, after the horse had forsaken them.

Drogheda surrendered to king William. King William became possessed of all the papers of James, by which he discovered a design had been formed against his life by one Jones; but upon William undertaking the expedition, it was dropped.

A proclamation issued in England to apprehend several noblemen, gentlemen, and a military officer, on suspicion of disaffection, and for maintaining a correspondence with the enemy.

19. A proclamation to postpone the assizes, on account of a menaced invasion of the French.

22. The French landed some troops in Torbay, and burnt Tiamouth.

25. Waterford surrendered to William, before it was formally besieged.

27. The king left the camp at Carrick, and went to Dublin, in order to embark for England, but found letters informing him that everything in England was quiet, upon which he resolved to stay and reduce the Jacobite party.

Aug. 8. William laid siege to Limerick.

9. Admiral Torrington removed from his command, and confined in the Tower; and sir Richard Haddock, Henry Killigrew, esq., and John Ashby were made joint admirals of the fleet.

26. At the siege of Limerick, a breach

twelve yards wide being made, the king detached Mons. de la Barthe, a brave protestant officer, with nine companies of grenadiers, to begin the attack; they mounted the breach, but were repulsed, after an obstinate dispute of four hours, when the king lost 1200 men.

30. William forced to raise the siege of Limerick.

Sept. 5. William and prince George embarked for England, and on the 10th inst. arrived at Kensington. The king left the government to lord Sidney and Thomas Coningsby, esq., as lords-justices of Ireland, and the command of the army to count Solmes.

9. The king receives addresses from all parts of the kingdom upon his victory of the Boyne.

21. The earl of Marlborough arrived with a strong squadron before Cork, and being joined by the duke of Wirtemberg, laid siege to the town, which surrendered upon articles, the 28th. The duke of Grafton, being a volunteer at this siege, as he was leading an attack, was mortally wounded.

Oct. 1. A proclamation issued for observing the 19th instant as day of thanksgiving in England, for the successes in Ireland; and particular prayers were appointed to be used on that day, and on every Wednesday and Friday during the war with France.

2. Parliament met, and William made a speech to both houses, desiring further supplies, and acquainted them that the reason Ireland was not yet quite reduced, was because the supplies were not given in time last year to answer the desired purpose.

9. The commons voted an army of 69,000 men, and a supply of four millions and upwards.

28. The earl of Marlborough returned with his prisoners to England, and arriving at Kensington, was received by their majesties with great respect.

Nov. 8. Belgrade retaken by the Turks.

14. Captain Campbell, brother to the earl of Argyll, by the assistance of sir John Johnston, seized and forcibly married Miss Wharton, a rich heiress of thirteen years of age, for which sir John Johnston was afterwards hanged; and an act of parliament passed for making void the marriage between Campbell and Miss Wharton.

Dec. 19. Admiral Torrington tried on board the *Kent* for cowardice and treachery, and acquitted; but the king took his commission from him the next day.

1691. Jan. 16. The king went over to Holland, attended by the dukes of Norfolk and Ormond, the earls of Devonshire, Dorset, Essex, Nottingham, Scarborough, and Selkirk, the bishop of London, and many

other persons of quality; and on the 21st, arrived at the Hague.

ROYAL CONGRESS.—At a congress of the princes of Germany and the Imperial, English, Italian, Spanish, and Dutch ministers, a declaration was drawn up, wherein they solemnly protested before God, that their intentions were,—1. Never to make peace with Lewis XIV. until he had made his reparation to the Holy See, and annulled all his infamous proceedings against Innocent XII. 2. Nor until he had restored to each party all he had taken since the peace of Munster. 3. Nor till he had restored to the protestants of France all their possessions and goods, and an entire liberty of conscience. 4. Nor till the estates of the kingdom of France be established in their ancient liberties, so that the clergy, the nobility, and the third estate may enjoy their ancient and lawful privileges. 5. Nor till their kings for the future shall be obliged to call together the said estates, when they desire any supply, without which they should not raise any money, on any pretence whatsoever; and till the parliaments of that kingdom, and all other his subjects were restored to their just rights, &c. And the confederates invited the subjects of France to join with them in this undertaking, for restoring them to their rights and liberties; threatening ruin and devastation to those that refused.

TRIALS FOR TREASON.—Sir Richard Graham, viscount Preston, John Ashton, and Edmund Elliot, gents., were arraigned at the Old Bailey for high-treason, for that on the 29th of December last, they conspired to raise a rebellion against the king, and to procure the French to invade this kingdom. They were all taken on the 31st of December, near Gravesend, in a smack they had hired to carry them to France, the government being apprized of the design.

17. Lord Preston tried and convicted; and on the 19th, Mr. Ashton was convicted. Mr. Ashton was hanged at Tyburn, the 28th instant, but not quartered; lord Preston, on promising to make further discoveries, was pardoned. Elliot was never put to trial, either because there was not sufficient evidence against him, or that he had discovered the design to the government. The circumstance which cast Mr. Ashton was his taking up the packet which lord Preston had dropped, and concealing it in his bosom, in which were treasonable papers and letters; though Mr. Ashton knew nothing of the contents of those letters, as he insisted on his trial, he was going over as a passenger, and knew nothing of lord Preston's design; but imagining there might be something in the packet that might affect lord Preston, his friend, he endeavoured to conceal it.

18. On the king's arrival on the coast off Goree, it being foggy, and he four miles from the shore, he took a boat in order to land; they lost sight of both ships and shore, and were exposed to the danger of the sea for eighteen hours, and were near perishing, the sea being so rough. William landed next day at Aranien Haak, and a few miles from thence was met by the deputies of the States, who conducted him to the Hague.

26. The king made his triumphal entry at the Hague; was complimented and congratulated on his narrow escape. He took his seat as stadtholder in the assembly of the States.

Feb. 1. Sancroft and the other non-juring bishops deprived.

March 12. William set out from the Hague for the Netherlands.

The great congress broke up the beginning of March, when the French king had then advanced to Mons, with an army of 80,000 men, with the Dauphin, the dukes of Orleans and Chartres. William hearing of the advance of the French, ordered prince Waldeck to Halle, which was appointed the general rendezvous. The king followed, March 27th, and formed an army of 50,000 men.

April 10. Mons surrendered to the French; whereupon William returned to the Hague, and from thence came to England, where he arrived on the 13th instant.

Great part of Whitehall was this month consumed by fire, occasioned by the carelessness of a female servant. It destroyed most of the rooms, according to Evelyn's account, formerly occupied by Charles II.'s mistresses.

May 1. William set out for Holland, and arrived at the Hague on the 3rd inst.

31. Dr. John Tillotson, dean of St. Paul's, consecrated archbishop of Canterbury, and succeeded by Dr. Sherlock, master of the Temple, in the deanery.

General Ginckle invested the town of Baltimore, and after six days' siege, it surrendered; 780 prisoners were taken, and near 300 Rapparees, or Irish freebooters, who had mixed themselves with James's forces to wait the fortune of the war.

July 9. Queen Mary sent a letter to the justices of Middlesex, for promoting the reformation of inanners.

12. Cardinal Pignatelli elected pope; takes upon him the name of Innocent XII. The battle of Aghrim fought in Ireland, where St. Ruth, the French general, being killed in the beginning of the action, the Irish were defeated, and general Ginckle obtained a complete victory. There were 7000 of the Irish killed on the spot, while the English had only 600 killed and 960 wounded. The Irish took shelter in Limerick.

Aug. 14. Earl Tyrconnel, who had been

devoted to popery and the Stuarts, died at Limerick, having survived partly his authority and reputation.

19. The imperialists under the command of prince Lewis of Baden, defeated the Turks at Salankemen, and Cupergli, the grand vizier, was killed in the action.

A great mortality raged at York, where 11,000 persons died.

Sept. 3. The lord Dartmouth sent to the Tower, being suspected of a correspondence with James. He died there soon after, of apoplexy.

The French over-ran Savoy, and laid siege to Coni, which was raised at the approach of prince Eugene with 8000 men; the French left behind most of their cannon, stores, &c.

Admiral Russel and sir Cloudesley Shovel were sent to cruise off Brest, to intercept the French fleet commanded by Tourville. These fleets took several vessels, but Russel at last was overtaken by a storm, on September 2nd, and obliged to put into Plymouth, where the *Warwick* and *Coronation* were both lost in coming to an anchor. The nation complained aloud of Russel's mismanagement, and the commons then examined into his orders, by which he was acquitted.

Oct. 3. TREATY OF LIMERICK.—The city of Limerick surrendered to Ginckle, with the castles of Ross and Clare, and all other places and castles that were in possession of the Irish, which put an end to the war in Ireland. The articles of this surrender, which were ratified by the lords-justices, are famous in Irish history. By them a general indemnity is conceded to the Irish, and they are reinstated in all the privileges of subjects, on condition of taking the oath of allegiance only, without the oath of supremacy. They were also restored to the same liberty, in the exercise of religion, as they enjoyed in Charles II.'s reign. Ginckle received the thanks of parliament for his services; was created earl of Athlone, with a hereditary pension.

19. William arrived at Kensington from Holland.

22. Parliament met, and the king desired supplies, and told them there was a necessity of keeping in pay an army of 65,000 men, and a good fleet at sea.

Nov. 26. A thanksgiving observed for his majesty's safe return, and reduction of Ireland, whereby he was established in the full possession of the three kingdoms.

1692. Jan. 7. The philosophical Robert Boyle, esq., died. He left a sum of money for a monthly sermon against atheism, now called "Boyle's Lecture."

The East India company and some private merchants had a contest, which was referred to the house of commons, who pe-

tioned the king to dissolve the present company, and to grant a new charter.

William Fuller, who pretended to prove the prince of Wales spurious, and to give evidence of a plot to parliament, was voted by the commons to be a notorious cheat and impostor, and sentenced to stand in the pillory.

King James sent over colonel Parker and others, to give his friends intelligence of his motions, and of an intended invasion from France. Parker, with one Johnson, had formed a plot to assassinate William.

The earl of Marlborough deprived of all his offices, having lost the confidence of the king, by his intercourse with the exiled family. His countess was also forbid the court, and the princess of Denmark was desired to dismiss her from her family, which she refused. It caused a quarrel between her and the queen, upon which the princess retired to Siën-house.

The colony of New England fitted out and sent 32 ships, with 2000 land-forces on board, to attack Quebec; but they miscarried, and lost near 1000 persons, and contracted a debt of 140,000*l*.

Feb. 21. A proclamation against vice and profaneness.

Mar. 5. William embarked for Holland, where he arrived the next day at the Hague, from whence he went to Loo.

26. Queen Mary issued a proclamation for a monthly fast.

30. The queen-dowager, having committed the care of her palace and servants to the earl of Feversham, set out for Portugal, her native country, by the way of France.

April 2. King James sent a letter into England, directed to several lords and commons, notifying the queen's being with child, and requiring them to be witnesses of the labour, that they might have no colour to pretend they were imposed upon again. He also sent over a declaration, dated at St. Germain's, of his intention to endeavour the recovery of the throne, and boasted the aid of France. He offered pardons and rewards to all the prince of Orange's soldiers who would join him, but exempted a number of the nobility and gentry from the same. James's agents were employed in raising troops privately in the counties of York and Lancaster.

The Train-bands of London and Westminster were ordered out and reviewed in Hyde-park, to the number of 10,000.

The queen sent orders to admiral Russell to proceed with the fleet to sea.

May 5. A proclamation issued for parliament to meet the 24th instant, queen Mary having received intelligence of an invasion intended by France; and on the 9th another proclamation issued for apprehend-

ing the earl of Lichfield, lord Griffin, and other disaffected persons.

15. Namur invested by the French king in person.

16. An address from the officers of the fleet to queen Mary, to assure her of their loyalty.

19. **VICTORY OFF LA HOGUE.**—The English and Dutch fleets, commanded by admiral Russell, engaged the French fleet, under admiral Tourville. The French fleet was entirely defeated, and driven to their own coast; and at La Hogue and other places, no less than twenty-one of their largest men-of-war were destroyed, within two or three days after the battle. Among the rest, the French admiral's ship, the *Rising Sun*, was set on fire, within sight of the army that was assembled to have made a descent upon England. Admiral Carter was killed, whose last words refuted the opinion the Jacobites had formed of him. Finding himself wounded, he ordered the captain to fight the ship as long as she could swim. The French fleet consisted of sixty-three ships, and the confederate fleet of ninety-nine; but scarce one half could come to an engagement: the English lost not one ship in this victory. As soon as the fleet arrived at Spithead, the queen sent 30,000*l*. to be distributed among the sailors, and gold medals for the officers. She also ordered the bodies of admiral Carter and captain Hastings to be interred at the charge of the crown.

July 24. The battle of Steinkirk was fought. The confederates were commanded by king William in person, and the French by the duke of Luxemburg. The English were forced to retreat, with the loss of 6000 men killed, wounded, and prisoners. Among the killed were general Mackay, sir John Lainer, sir Robert Douglas, and the earl of Angus.

Aug. 4. The chevalier de Granvale was hanged in Flanders, for conspiring to assassinate William. One Dumont and Leefdale were also concerned. Dumont enlisted in the king's army to perpetrate the design, but his conscience accusing him, he made a full discovery, and was suffered with Leefdale to escape with their lives, on account of their evidence.

A plot was formed of a pretended association in favour of James, by one Young, a prisoner in Newgate, who counterfeited the hands of the earls of Marlborough, Salisbury, and several others; some of whom were apprehended till the forgery was detected.

An earthquake at Port Royal in Jamaica, which destroyed 3000 people, and sunk part of the town.

13. A proclamation against libelling the government.

Nov. 4. Parliament met, and the king made a speech, wherein he told the commons there was an absolute necessity for their raising at least as great supplies as they did the last year; that he had no particular interests of his own but what was in common with theirs; and as he had done, so he should continue to expose his life in their service.

Marlborough and other peers, imprisoned on the false testimony of Young, released.

The commons vote, "That all orders for the management of the fleet shall pass through the admiralty."

A bill passed the lower house for incapacitating persons holding certain civil and military employments to sit in the commons, but was thrown out, by a majority of two, in the lords. It was the first of a series of place bills which met with the same fate.

A bill passed both houses for establishing triennial parliaments, which the king rejected. The reason the triennial bill passed was, that whigs and Tories at this time were running a race of popularity for factious purposes.

11. The negroes in Barbadoes conspired to destroy their masters, for which many of them were executed.

24. A trial in the court of king's-bench, the duke of Norfolk v. sir John Jermaine, for *crim. con.*, and the next morning the jury brought in their verdict for the plaintiff, 100 marks damages.

1693. **Jan. 20.** The highest land-tax—namely, 4s. in the pound, granted.

21. A complaint made to the commons of a pamphlet, endeavouring to show that William and Mary's rights to the subject's allegiance was founded upon conquest. This, with bishop Burnet's pastoral letter, which advanced the same notion, was burnt by the hands of the common hangman.

26. An act for levying duties of excise upon ale and beer, and for securing recompences to those who should advance 1,000,000*l.* towards the war. By this act, every contributor advancing 100*l.* was entitled to his share of an annuity of 100,000*l.* for his life, and if a contributor or his nominee died, his share was to go among the survivors; or a contributor, instead of his share in that sum, might have a certain annuity of 14*l.* per annum for his 100*l.* (and the like for every other 100*l.* he should advance), during his own life or the life of his nominee. It is the first instance of an annuity with benefit of survivorship or *tontine* act.

A practice prevailed at this time of pressing landmen for the sea service by the officers of the fleet, who carried them over to Holland, and sold them to the officers of the army; whereupon the commons ordered

their speaker, sir John Trevor, to lay this oppression before the king, who ordered that no officers should presume to press landmen for the future.

The commons also complained of the embezzling the forfeited estates in Ireland, and disposing of them, and desired that no grants might be made of the forfeited estates as the king had promised them. To which the king answered, that this should be remedied, but granted vast estates, however, out of those forfeitures to lord Portland and other favourites.

31. Lord Mohun tried by his peers, for the murder of William Mountfort, the player, and acquitted. Lord Mohun and captain Hill had made an attempt to carry off Mrs. Bracegirdle the actress, in which being disappointed, they laid wait for Mountfort, whom they thought to be concerned in the rescue, and Hill run him through, while the peer was talking with him in Surrey-street, near Mrs. Bracegirdle's lodgings, late at night.

The assembly of the kirk of Scotland being dissolved by the king, their clergy insisted they had a right to sit without the king's leave, and actually continued their session, and then adjourned themselves to another day, though the king had dissolved them.

Massacre of Glencoe in Scotland, in which Macdonald and a great many highlanders were in the night butchered in cold blood, after they had submitted and taken the oaths, upon a proclamation issued to indemnify them if they came in by a certain day and surrendered themselves. Every one afterwards wished to shift the blame of this wholesale assassination, which was divided between the king, lord Breadalbane, secretary Stair, and captain Campbell, the savage executioner.

Feb. 7. Robert Young tried at the king's-bench, for forgery and subornation of perjury, in counterfeiting the hands of several noblemen, to an association against the king, particularly of the bishop of Rochester, who was taken up upon it. Young was convicted, and sentenced to stand three times in the pillory, and pay a fine of 1000*l.*

16. The French, within a year, had captured 300 sail of English vessels, when we had only taken from France 69 merchant ships.

The French refugees, by the aid of some English merchants, erected the royal lute-string manufactory, and obtained the king's patent.

March 14. An act to encourage the apprehending of highwaymen, with the reward of 40*l.* Another act enabling the people of Yorkshire to dispose of their personal estates by will. Parliament prorogued.

Sir John Somers, attorney-general, and an able lawyer and statesman, made lord-keeper, after the great seal had been many years in commission.

31. William embarked at Gravesend for Holland.

Six hundred protestant families who had come from Switzerland permitted to settle in Ireland.

April 14. A proclamation for a fast on the second Wednesday in every month.

May 15. The fleet assembled at St. Helen's, and were joined by the Dutch. It consisted of 102 sail.

18. The French invested Heidelberg, and took it about four days after, and entirely destroyed the town, as they had before destroyed Spire, Mannheim, Frankendale, and other towus in the Palatinate.

June 16. Admiral Rook, with twenty-three men-of-war, having the Turkey fleet under his convoy, was attacked off Cape St. Vincent by the whole French fleet, under the command of admiral Tourville. Twelve English and Dutch men-of-war, and above fourscore merchantmen were taken or destroyed by the French. The enemy by this gained one million of money.

July 29. BATTLE OF LANDEN.—The confederats army, commanded by king William, was entirely defeated by the French, under the command of Luxemburg at Landen. Count Solmes, the Dutch general, had his leg shot off by a cannon-ball, and was taken prisoner; and the duke of Ormond was wounded and taken prisoner. On the other side, the duke of Berwick was taken prisoner by the English. The numbers of the killed and wounded are variously reported; by some it is said there were not less than 30,000 killed on both sides; but the confederates being entirely routed, the loss must have been much greater on their side than on the French. William had detached 25,000 men to force the French lines, which Luxemburg took advantage of, and attacked him in his camp: however, it was so well fortified, that the French were repulsed several times, and the confederates would have gained the victory, if the Dutch horse had not run away. The confederates lost their camp, artillery, and baggage; and had not a little river stopped the pursuit of the French, their loss had been still greater.

Mr. Anthony Wood censured at Oxford, for reflecting on the late earl of Clarendon. Those sheets of his book intituled "*Athenæ Oxonienses*," vol. ii., wherein were the reflections, were burnt, and himself fined 3*l.*, and expelled the university.

Sept. 19. St. Malo bombarded by a squadron of men-of-war, commanded by captain Benbow, for three days, and taking advantage of the night, they sent in a

fire-ship to reduce the town to ashes, but when within pistol shot, she struck upon a rock, and the engineer set fire to her, the explosion of which unroofed 300 houses, and shook the whole town like an earthquake.

24. The French, under the command of Catinat, defeated the confederates under the command of the duke of Savoy, and prince Eugene at Marsaglia, near Turin. Duke Schomberg, who commanded the troops of England, was mortally wounded and taken prisoner. This was the first battle where the foot charged with bayonets on their loaded muskets, to which stratagem the success of the French in this battle was attributed. Soon after this action pikes were laid aside, and bayonets used in their place, all over Europe.

Nov. 2. A proclamation for a thanksgiving for the preservation of the king, and his safe return, to be observed the 12th instant, within the bills of mortality, and on the 26th in other parts of England.

The king, on his return, found the nation unsettled, and resolved upon a change of the ministry.

7. Parliament met, and William made a speech, wherein, having mentioned the defeats the confederates had met with on land, and the miscarriages at sea, he imputed the first to the superior numbers of the enemy, and assured them the other should be inquired into.

The French king found his troops starving in the midst of their victories, by a dreadful famine, which afflicted the kingdom. He attempted to conclude a separate peace with some of the allies, which they rejected.

The commons voted for the supplies of the ensuing year 5,000,000*l.*

26. Dr. Sancroft, late archbishop of Canterbury, died, in the 77th year of his age.

Dec. 16. A libel, intituled, "*A Clear Confutation of the Doctrine of the Trinity*," ordered to be burnt by the hands of the common hangman.

20. The commons resolved to augment the English troops to upwards of 83,000 men. They resolved to add six regiments of English horse, four of English dragoons, and fifteen of English foot, to be commanded by officers that were his majesty's natural born subjects.

1694. Jan. 25. An act to repeal the 34th of Henry VIII., which limited the number of justices of peace in Wales. Another place bill was rejected by the king. The last act was to incapacitate members from holding places under government.

An earthquake, when Messina in Sicily was overturned in a moment, and 18,000 persons perished, and in the whole island to the number of 60,000.

Feb. 14. The commons voted a duty

upon leather, soap, wine, the tonnage of all ships and vessels; also on hackney-coaches and stage-coaches, and upon paper and parchment, and likewise a poll-tax.

17. In Dublin above 100 men were killed, by the blowing up of a magazine of 218 barrels of gunpowder.

The commons resolved that lord Falkland, a member of that house, by begging and receiving 2000*l.* of his majesty, contrary to the ordinary method of issuing and bestowing the king's money, was guilty of a high misdemeanor and breach of trust; and that he be committed to the Tower; but he was soon set at liberty.

Mar. 23. An act for relief of the orphans, and other creditors of the city of London. The city had spent the money they were intrusted with, belonging to the orphans of deceased citizens, in building Bedlam, the Monument, and other projects; and now to pay the orphans a perpetual interest of 4 per cent. for the money so wasted, they were obliged to assign their revenues.

April. A corporation was erected for the Greenland trade, by the name of the company of London merchants trading to Greenland.

25. The royal assent was given to an act for securing certain recompences and advantages to such persons as should voluntarily advance the sum of 1,200,000*l.* It was raised in ten days; and the subscribers being incorporated, was the foundation of the BANK OF ENGLAND. The institution of a national bank had the effect of raising the value of exchequer bills, tallies, and other government securities.

May 6. The king embarked for Holland.

June 3. The duke of Savoy, at the instance of England and Holland, issued a declaration, allowing the Vaudoise the free exercise of their religion.

8. The English fleet, with a body of land forces, came before Brest, and general Talmash landed with the first 600 men, where they found such preparations made to receive them, that they thought fit immediately to retire to the ships; but the tide going out, the flat-bottomed boats were not able to get off. Most of those that landed were killed or wounded. Among the rest, general Talmash himself was mortally wounded, and died soon after his return to Portsmouth.

28. Stamp duties instituted.

The hackney-coach-office established.

July 12. Lord Berkeley bombarded Dieppe; on the 16th, Havre de Grace; and on the 26th, Dunkirk. These bombardments were attended with the loss of the *Grenada* bomb, which blew up with all her crew; the fleet returned on the 25th to St. Helen's. It was remarked that the expense of these bombardments was more

than equivalent to what the enemy suffered by them.

Aug. 14. A proclamation, offering a reward of 400*l.* for the taking of colonel Parker, who had been committed to the Tower for high-treason, in conspiring against the king, and had made his escape on the 11th instant. Several other persons were committed for the said conspiracy.

Sept. 5. A fire happened at Warwick, which burnt down the great church, and most of the town.

Sir Cloudesly Shovel attempted to burn the forts that defended Dunkirk towards the sea, by some new invented machines, but failed, and returned to the Downs.

28. The East India company had a second charter granted, altering the preceding one.

Nov. 2. William arrived at Canterbury from Holland.

12. Parliament met, and the king made a speech to both houses, wherein he told them that their affairs were in a better posture, both by sea and land, than when he parted with them; for that this year a stop had been put to the progress of the French arms. He earnestly recommended to them the furnishing him with further supplies, as the only means to procure an advantageous peace; and he recommended the discharging the debt for transport-service for Ireland.

22. Dr. Tillotson, archbishop of Canterbury, and a prelate of great wisdom, temper, and moderation, died suddenly, in the 65th year of his age; and he was succeeded by Dr. Thomas Tenison, bishop of Lincoln.

30. The commons voted a supply of 4,700,000*l.* and upwards, for the maintenance of the sea and land forces for the year ensuing.

A rainy autumn destroyed such a quantity of corn, that wheat was sold in London at 3*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* per quarter. This dearth continued seven years, owing to a succession of cold and wet seasons; and was felt in most parts of Europe, especially in Scotland, where many died of famine.

Dec. 21. Queen Mary taken ill of the small-pox at Kensington.

22. The royal assent given to the act for the frequent meeting of parliament, called "The Triennial Act."

28. Queen Mary died in the 33rd year of her age, and the 6th of her reign. She was deeply regretted both by the king and the nation; yet such was the violence of faction, that a Jacobite clergyman had the incendency to select the following text for her majesty's funeral sermon:—"Go now, see this accursed woman, and bury her, for she is a king's daughter."

31. The lords and commons waited upon

William with an address of condolence upon the death of the queen.

1695. *Feb.* Several gentlemen from Lancashire, who had been committed and tried at Manchester, for conspiring against the government, and been acquitted for want of evidence, complained to the parliament of being maliciously prosecuted; but it was resolved that the government had sufficient cause to prosecute these gentlemen; and the commons also ordered Mr. Standish, of Standish-hall in Lancashire, to be taken into custody.

11. An act to exempt apothecaries from serving offices, or upon juries; and an act for rebuilding the town of Warwick.

March 4. The military in England, extorting subsistence-money of the innkeepers for want of their pay, a complaint was made to the commons, and several agents and officers cashiered or imprisoned.

The king appointed commissioners for the building of Greenwich hospital, and granted a considerable sum out of the civil-list for that purpose.

5. Queen Mary was buried from Whitehall (where she had lain in state) in Henry's chapel. Her funeral sermon was preached by archbishop Tenison. The great bell in every church in England was ordered to toll three hours that day.

The princess Anne was taken into favour and an apartment assigned her at St. James's. The king presented her with most of the late queen's jewels.

7. Mr. Craggs, one of the contractors for clothing the army, was committed to the Tower by the commons, for refusing to produce his books, or be examined.

Mr. Guy, a member of the house, was committed to the Tower, for taking a bribe of 200 guineas.

Henry Killgrew, Henry Villars, and Richard Gea, esqs., commissioners for licensing hackney-coaches, were dismissed at the instance of the commons, for receiving bribes.

Injunctions were sent by the king to the bishops, for preserving the discipline of the church. One was, that the clergy be obliged to residence, and the abuse of pluralities redressed.

11. A declaration issued for the better discipline of the army, and the due payment of their quarters; to prohibit the soldiers from extorting subsistence-money.

Mr. Bird, an attorney, was brought upon his knees by the commons, for bribing their members.

12. **BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.**—There appearing almost a universal corruption in all classes, and the commons being informed of vast sums advanced by the East India company, and the chamber of London, among their members, for facilitating

some bills relating to those bodies, a committee was appointed to inquire into the truth of the facts. Sir John Trevor, the speaker of the commons, was found to have received 1000 guineas of the city of London, on passing the orphans' bill. Whereupon sir John himself having the disagreeable office of putting the question from the chair, was voted guilty of a high misdemeanor, and expelled the house. The duke of Leeds, president of the council, was accused by the commons of having received 5500 guineas from the East India company, for procuring a charter of confirmation. His grace protested his innocence before the commons, and affected to wish a speedy trial. He was only saved from impeachment by the withdrawal of Roberts, a principal witness, to the continent.

14. Resolved, "That whoever should discover any money, or other gratuity given to any member of the house, for matters transacted in the house relating to the orphans' bill, or the East India company, should have the indemnity of the house for such guilt."

26. Resolved by the commons, that Mr. Hungerford, a member of that house, was guilty of a high crime and misdemeanor, in receiving twenty guineas for his pains and service, as chairman of the committee to whom the orphans' bill was committed, and that he be expelled the house. Ordered, that sir Thomas Cook, a member of the house, and governor of the East India company, having refused to give an account of the money of the East India company, by him distributed in bribes, be committed to the Tower, and a bill brought in to oblige him to give such account.

The Welsh copper-office was incorporated.

The famous painter David Teniers died.

April 22. An act for granting certain duties upon marriages, births, burials, and upon bachelors and widowers, for the term of five years, for carrying on the war against France with vigour. The duties imposed were, 4s. on every burial; 2s. on every birth; and 1s. per annum on every bachelor or widower; with increased rates on the rich.

LAND BANK.—A new bank was projected, as a fund upon which, 2,564,000*l.* should be raised for the public service. It was prohibited from lending money but on landed securities, or to the government exchequer. For securing the interest on the capital, duties were laid on stone and earthenware, and on tobacco-pipes. The scheme is said to have been projected by Dr. Chamberlaine, and was petitioned against by the bank of England, but was sanctioned by an act of parliament.

23. Sir Thomas Cook being examined by a committee of both houses, confessed the distributing about 70,000*l.* in behalf of the East India company among the friends of certain courtiers and commoners, but would not acknowledge that he knew that either the ministers or senators themselves had received any of it. However, the commons thought they had sufficient evidence to ground an impeachment on against the duke of Leeds; and were proceeding to impeach sir John Trevor, Mr. Guy, and others, for bribery; but the court procured the parliament to be prorogued, and only sir Thomas Cook, sir Basil Firebrace, Bates, and Craggs, were imprisoned, to satisfy the demands of the people.

April. The marquis of Halifax died, a statesman of fine talents, obscured by vacillation. Burnet, who was present at his death, said he had the charity to hope Halifax "died a better man than he lived."

May 3. Parliament prorogued by the king, after the royal assent had been given to a bill for a general pardon, and another for the imprisonment of Cook, Firebrace, and Bates.

The parliament of Scotland met, the marquis of Tweeddale being his majesty's high commissioner. In this parliament the massacre at Glencoe was inquired into. It had made a great noise through Europe, and was deemed derogatory to the king himself; whereupon commissioners were ordered to inquire into it. Captain Campbell, who directed the military execution, produced his orders from Duncanson, the major of the regiment. The major produced his orders from colonel Hamilton; and he, it seems, received his orders from secretary Stair; but Hamilton did not appear when summoned before parliament, and the parliament were contented with voting it a barbarous murder, without visiting any one with punishment.

The parliament of Ireland met, under lord-deputy Capel, and granted the king a supply of 163,000*l.*, and a further sum on additional duties on certain merchandise.

12. William embarks for Holland.

July 5. Lord Berkeley, with a squadron of English and Dutch, bombards St. Malo's and other towns upon the French coast.

27. At a general attack at Namur, Mr. Godfrey, deputy-governor of the bank of England, being persuaded by king William to go with him into the trenches, and be witness of the bravery of the confederate troops, was killed by a cannon-shot, as he stood by the king.

Aug. 13. Marshal Villeroy began to bombard Brussels, and continued it for two days and nights, destroying about 2500 houses in the heart of the city, besides churches and other public buildings. This

was said to be done in retaliation for the towns the English had bombarded on the coast of France.

Sept. 2. The castle of Namur capitulated; and on the 5th the garrison marched out, when marshal Boufflers was arrested, to procure satisfaction of the French king for the garrisons of Dixmude and Deinse, whom he detained prisoners, contrary to the cartel. Boufflers was soon after released on parole given that the garrisons should be sent back. The confederates lost 12,000 men before Namur.

Oct. 10. William arrived in England from Holland.

11. A proclamation for dissolving parliament and for calling another, to meet on the 22nd of November. Meanwhile the king went to Newmarket, where he was complimented by the university of Cambridge. He afterwards made a tour through several counties, and on the 10th of November came to Oxford, where a magnificent entertainment was provided for him, but he refused to sit down and eat, supposed to be discouraged by a letter dropped in the street, intimating a design to poison him. He immediately took coach for Windsor, giving as a reason for his short stay, and not visiting the colleges, that he intended this as a visit of kindness, not of curiosity, having seen the university before.

Nov. 22. The whig interest was found much strengthened in the new parliament, which met this day. In his opening speech, the king insisted on the old topics; namely, the bravery of the English troops, the necessity of the war to curb the ambition of France, and the necessity of large supplies to support it. He further recommended the condition of the French protestants to them, the remedying the ill state of the coin; and lastly, desired they would use dispatch, that he might be early in the field the next campaign.

25. A fellow of University college, Oxford, affirming in a sermon (as Dr. Sherlock had before) that there were three infinite distinct minds and substances in the Trinity, this opinion was censured by a decree of the convocation at Oxford, as impious and heretical.

30. A proclamation for a general fast, for a blessing on the deliberations of parliament.

Dec. 10. RECOINAGE OF SILVER.—The commons resolved, that all clipped money should be recoined according to the established standard, and that a day be appointed for bringing it in.

31. A supply granted of 1,200,000*l.*, for supplying the deficiency of the clipped money, by a tax on windows. A reward of 5 per cent. was given to those that brought

is unclipped money to the mint, and 3*d.* an ounce was given for all wrought plate brought into the mint above the value; and for the greater expedition in coining, mints were erected in all the great cities in England, and the use of plate in public-houses was prohibited; but still the distress, occasioned by the want of coin for the payment of wages and other necessary uses, was extreme. Guineas were currently sold at the rate of 30*s.* at the time the clipped money was called in. The silver coin of England, which had been the worst, became the best, after this great recoinage.

1696. Jan. 16. A proclamation, offering a reward of 200*l.* for apprehending Mr. Fielding, for challenging and assaulting sir Harry Dutton Colt, a justice of the peace, for doing his duty in the execution of his office.

21. Royal assent given to the new treason act.

COUNCIL OF TRADE.—An unsuccessful attempt was made this session to establish a council of trade, with extraordinary and independent powers. The design proceeded so far that the commons voted—1. That a council of trade should be established, with powers for the more effectual preservation of trade; 2. That the commissioners forming the council should be named by parliament; 3. That none of the commissioners should be members of the house, &c. It was chiefly opposed, as tending to a radical change in the constitution, and an encroachment on the prerogatives of the crown.

In this year, Mr. Culliford, inspector-general, established the *Custom-House Ledger*, by which the official value of all exports and imports may be estimated.

22. The king having granted to the earl of Portland the manors of Denbigh, Bromfield, and Yale, being five parts in six of a whole county, and which was part of the principality of Wales, the commons addressed him to revoke this exorbitant grant; whereupon the king said, he would find some other way to show his favour to that earl.

26. The commons resolved, that the directors of the company of Scotland trading to Africa and the Indies, administering and taking here in this kingdom an oath *de fidele*, and under colour of a Scotch act of parliament styling themselves a company, and acting as such, and raising monies in this kingdom for carrying on the said company, were guilty of a high crime and misdemeanor; and that lord Belhaven, William Paterson, and the rest of the directors of the Scotch company, be impeached.

27. The *Royal Sovereign*, the largest man-of-war that had been built in England, burnt by accident, in the Thames.

Feb. 13. An injunction by William against disputes concerning the Trinity, occasioned by the controversy between Dr. South and Dr. Sherlock on that subject.

14. ASSASSINATION PLOT.—A conspiracy discovered by Mr. Pendergrass, to raise an insurrection in England in favour of king James, which was to be supported by a French invasion; and some of the conspirators were charged with a design of attacking William's guards, as he came from hunting, near Richmond, and either to take him prisoner or kill him; from whence this conspiracy obtained the name of the "Assassination Plot." The earl of Aylesbury was sent to the Tower.

23. A proclamation, offering a reward of 1000*l.* for discovering the duke of Berwick (supposed to be in England), sir George Barclay, sir William Perkins, or any other of the conspirators.

24. The king having passed an act for stating the public accounts, informed the house of the plot against his life. The same evening both houses attended William with an address, congratulating his escape. They entreated him to take more than ordinary care of his person, and declared that, in case his majesty came to any violent death, they would revenge it upon his enemies.

25, 26, 27. The members spent these days in framing and subscribing an association, wherein they declared, that William is the lawful king, and mutually engage to stand by and assist each other in his defence; and in case the king should come to a violent death, they bind themselves to unite in revenging it upon his enemies, and in supporting the succession of the crown, according to the act of 1 William and Mary. Ninety-two members of the house of commons, and fifteen of the peers, refused to sign the association voluntarily. An act was next passed to enforce the signing of the association, and those were declared incapable of any public trust who did not sign it.

Mar. 2. King James came to Calais, to embark with a body of troops for England, but the presence of admiral Russell in the Channel frustrated his design.

11. Robert Charnock, Edward King, and Thomas Keys, were convicted of high-treason, and executed at Tyburn on the 18th.

18. A proclamation, offering a reward of 500*l.* for apprehending lord Montgomery and sir John Fenwick.

Apr. 3. Sir John Friend and sir William Perkins executed for treason at Tyburn, where Mr. Collier, the priest, gave them absolution.

7. Mr. Collier, Mr. Snatt, and Mr. Cook, were presented in the king's-bench for ab-

solving sir John Friend and sir William Perkins, and on the 8th, Mr. Snatt and Mr. Cook were committed to Newgate.

21. Brigadier Rockwood, major Lowick, and Charles Cranburn convicted of high-treason, as conspirators in the assassination plot. They were executed at Tyburn the 29th instant. These were the first prisoners that had the benefit of the act for regulating trials which allowed counsel.

27. An act passed for taking away the custom of Wales, which hinders persons from disposing their personal estates by will. An act also for receiving the affirmation of quakers in lieu of an oath. Parliament prorogued.

May 5. King William embarked at Margate, and landed in Holland the 7th inst.

23. A proclamation for a fast, for the success of the campaign.

June 17. John Sobieski, the martial king of Poland, died, in his 70th year, and was succeeded by Augustus, elector of Saxony, after having changed his religion.

27. The parliament of Ireland met, and expelled Mr. Sanderson, the only member of their house who had not signed the association.

Aug. Admiral Benbow having been sent to block up Du Bart in Dunkirk, the latter found means to escape in a fog, and fell in with a Dutch squadron of six frigates and many merchant ships, which he took. He was attacked by a convoy to a fleet of outward-bound ships, who forced Du Bart to burn four of the Dutch frigates and thirty-four merchant ships. Thus ended the naval operations of this year.

29. The duke of Savoy made a separate peace with France, and the confederate army retreated into the duchy of Milan.

Sept. 8. Lord Murray appointed king's commissioner in Scotland. He called the parliament, who unanimously signed an association, similar to that of England. They voted 1,440,000*l.* Scots money, for maintaining their forces by sea and land.

The loss of the nation, upon the recoinage, amounted to 2,200,000*l.*

Oct. 6. King William returned from Holland, neither the confederates nor the French having attempted one siege, or entered upon any considerable action this campaign. The reason given for the inactivity of the English was, the great scarcity of money in England, upon the recoinage the silver this year; and it appears that both armies this campaign half subsisted themselves by the plunder of the miserable inhabitants of those countries that were the seat of war.

7. The neutrality of Italy agreed on between France and the confederates.

20. Parliament met, and the king recommended perseverance in the war; and

both houses, in their addresses, concurred with him.

A pamphlet, intituled, "*An Account of the Proceedings of the Commons, in-relation to the Recoinage of the clipped Money, and falling the Price of Guineas,*" was ordered to be burnt by the common hangman.

The commons voted a supply of upwards of five millions for the charges of the ensuing year, for the maintaining 40,000 seamen and 87,000 landmen. 15,000*l.* was annually voted for the relief of French protestants. The commons came to a resolution, "That the supplies for the service of 1697 should be raised within the year;" which was effected by a land-tax of three shillings in the pound, and a heavy capitation-tax in addition to the existing burthens.

PUBLIC CREDIT.—The land-bank that had been established by act of parliament last year, and was to have raised two millions and a half, did not produce the sum desired, which reduced the government to very great straits. Government tallies and debentures were at 40, 50, and 60 per cent. discount, and even bank-bills at 20 per cent. discount. As the sellers of the government securities and bank-notes became very numerous, they were offered, and in a manner cried, in Exchange-alley, where many rich men vastly increased their fortunes by buying them up; but such was the diligence of parliament in creating new funds for the discharge of the debts of the nation, in a course of time, that bank-bills rose to par again, on the parliament's increasing their stock another million, and continuing their term to the year 1710. But nothing supplied the want of cash better than the parliament's authorising the treasury to issue out near three millions of EXCHEQUER BILLS, which being allowed in taxes, and circulated by the bank for a moderate premium, contributed in a great measure to re-establish public credit.

Nov. 6. Captain Vaughan, commander of the *Royal Clancarty*, was convicted of high-treason, in that being a subject of king William (as Irishman), he had accepted a commission from the French king, and cruised upon the subjects of England, with an intent to take and spoil them upon the high seas, &c.

9. Sir John Fenwick had been indicted for high-treason, as concerned in the late conspiracy; but there being but one witness against him, he could not be convicted in the courts of law. Whereupon this day a bill was brought into the house of commons to attain him of high-treason, without allowing him a trial. This occasioned long debates in the house of commons. However, the party that was for the bill carried it,—189 against 156. In the house of lords also this bill occasioned warm de-

bates; but it was carried at length, by 68 against 61. The two main points on which the debates turned were—First, Whether any deviation from the established and legal mode of proceeding, and the assumption of so extraordinary a power as that of passing bills of attainder, on evidence inadmissible in the inferior courts, was in any case justifiable? Secondly, Whether, if such an arbitrary exertion of authority was ever to be vindicated, the case of Fenwick was of so great a magnitude as to justify the exercise of it? The Tories on these issues took the popular side, very much to the discredit of their whig opponents.

Sir George Rooke was called before the house, to give an account why the Toulon squadron was suffered to get unmolested into Brest; also sir Cloudesley Shovel was ordered to lay copies of his orders before the house; when they were both acquitted with honour.

Sixpence per month was deducted out of every seaman's wages, for the support of Greenwich-hospital.

The corporation of the Trinity-house began a lighthouse on the Eddystone-rock, near Plymouth.

King William appointed a board of commissioners for trade and plantations, consisting of a first-lord-commissioner and seven others, each with a salary of 1000*l*. The celebrated John Locke, esq., was appointed first-lord-commissioner.

An act was passed for the increase and encouragement of seamen, establishing a register of 30,000 men, in consideration of a yearly premium of 40*s*. each.

Dec. 5. The royal assent was given to an act for the importing and coining guineas and half-guineas.

8. Sir Charles Porter, lord-deputy of Ireland, dies suddenly of apoplexy.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.—A jesting paragraph, in a periodical paper called "*The Flying Post*" appeared about this time, reflecting on the credit of the exchequer-bills, and which appears to have caused great excitement in the commons. They ordered the printer, John Salibury, to be taken into custody, and gave leave to bring in a bill to prevent the writing, printing, or publishing news without a license. But on reflection, the house had the good sense to throw out the bill on the second reading, it appearing that less evils were likely to result from the abuses of the press than any legislative attempts to restrain them. It was the last open attempt to re-establish the censorship. The licensing act passed soon after the Restoration, and, founded on the Star-chamber decree of 1637, expired in 1679. It was revived in the reign of James II., and was continued, by renewals, to the year 1694, when all re-

straints previously to publication for ever ceased, with the exception of dramatic representations.

1697. *Jan. 10.* A proclamation, requiring all receivers of taxes to take in payment hammered silver money at 5*s. 8d.* per oz.

28. Sir John Fenwick was beheaded on Tower-hill.

Feb. 12. The earl of Aylesbury admitted to bail.

Mar. 18. A proclamation for a fast, imploring a blessing on king William and his dominions.

The Hand-in-hand fire-office incorporated.

Apr. An act for completing, building, and adorning the cathedral of St. Paul's, and for repairing the collegiate church of St. Peter, Westminster.

Tumults of the weavers in London, on account of calicos and other Indian manufactures imported. They very near seized the treasure at the East India house.

19. The earl of Sunderland made lord-chamberlain of the household, and seemed to have as great an influence in king William's court as he formerly had in king James's.

22. Sir John Somers made lord-chancellor.

25. William embarked at Margate, and landed in Holland the next day.

29. The conferences between the plenipotentiaries for treating of a general peace opened at Ryswick, Monsieur Letinroot, the Swedish ambassador, being mediator.

July 26. The earl of Portland and Marshal Boufflers adjusted the differences between William and the French king, near Brussels, without the privy of any of the allies, who were treating at Ryswick.

The loss sustained by the French navy during the war was 59 ships and 2224 guns; and that by the English was 53 ships and 1112 guns.

King William had an interview with the czar Peter I., emperor of Russia, who in disguise had accompanied his ambassador, to Holland, where he discovered himself to William.

Sept. 1. The imperialists, under the command of prince Eugene, obtained a signal victory over the Turks at Zentha, the grand vizier and upwards of 20,000 of his men being killed in the action.

11. The peace signed at Ryswick, between France, England, Spain, and Holland; and ratified by William at Loo, the 15th. By this treaty, France was to restore to the king of Spain, Barcelona, Roses, Gironne, and all that she had possessed herself of in Catalonia; as also Luxemburgh, Mons, Charleroy, and all other towns she had become master of in the Low Countries, as well as in America. In the treaty

between England and France, the only important article was, the French king's engaging not to disturb king William in the enjoyment of the British dominions.

12. At the treaty of peace the Dutch concluded a treaty of commerce for twenty years.

Oct. 19. Peace with France proclaimed in London.

22. The peace signed between the Empire and France. The same day the duke of Burgundy was married to the princess of Savoy.

Nov. 13. William embarked for England, and made a triumphant entry into London on the 16th.

Dec. 2. A thanksgiving observed for the peace with France.

3. The king informs parliament of the peace, laments the debts incurred on account of the army and navy and the insufficiency of the civil list; but under existing circumstances, thinks England cannot be safe without a standing army.

11. The commons resolved, that all the land-forces, raised since the 29th of September, 1680, should be paid off and disbanded. The patriots and anti-courtiers, exerting their united strength, carried this resolution, by 185 against 148, of whom 116 were placemen (Belshaw's Hist. Gt. Brit. i., 445). It had the effect of reducing the army to 8000 men; and the efforts of the whigs to keep on foot a larger number augmented their unpopularity.

20. Resolved, that in acknowledgment of the great things his majesty had done for these kingdoms, 700,000*l.* be granted him during life, for the support of the civil list.

26. The earl of Sunderland resigned the lord-chamberlainship, apprehensive of parliamentary impeachment, and very much to the regret of the king, who, according to Burnet, "earnestly desired he would continue about him." The post was kept vacant two years; and it is supposed the earl received the emoluments, though he was too timid again to venture, in the face of whig and tory enemies, to fill the office.

1698. Jan. 4. A fire happened at Whitehall, which entirely destroyed all that palace, except the Banqueting-house.

11. The czar of Muscovy came into England, and remained incor. He was magnificently entertained by William, and improved himself in the art of ship-building, and carried back with him many artificers. The king presented him with one of his royal yachts.

14. The earl of Portland, being sent ambassador to France, arrived at Paris the 21st. Mr. Matthew Prior, who was the English secretary at the treaty of peace at Ryswick, was secretary to this embassy.

Feb. 17. An address of the commons for a proclamation against immorality and profaneness, and for suppressing all pernicious books and pamphlets containing doctrines against the Trinity, and other fundamental articles of faith, and for punishing the authors and publishers.

A society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts was about this time erected, as a society for Reformation of Manners had been some little time before.

April 2. An act for dissolving the marriage between Charles, earl of Macclesfield, and Anne, his wife, and to illegitimate children of the said Anne. The earl having ceased to cohabit with his lady several years, she admitted another to her bed, and had two children, whereupon this act was obtained; but the earl having been in a great measure the occasion of his wife's infidelity, she had her fortune returned her by the act. The countess pleaded that her husband neglecting to cohabit with her when he returned from his travels, she had surprised him into a private meeting, and he not discovering the trick, her ladyship proved enceinte.

May 21. A complaint being made to the commons of a book, intitled, "*The Case of Ireland's being bound by Acts of Parliament in England,*" written by William Molyneux, of Dublin, which denied the dependence of Ireland on England, as to their being bound by English acts of parliament. They addressed his majesty, asserting the dependence and subordination of Ireland to the kingdom of England.

June 10. The lords presented an address to king William, desiring him to discourage the woollen manufacture in Ireland, and promote that of linen.

July 4. The commons having impeached John Goudet and others, for importing French lustrings, they confessed the fact; and this day the commons demanding judgment against them at the lords' bar, they were condemned in very great fines.

The commons took into consideration the trade of the African company, and voted that all traders should pay 10 per cent. for all goods shipped to the coast of Africa for the support of the forts and factories situated there.

5. EAST INDIA COMPANY.—The royal assent was given to an act for raising a sum not exceeding 2,000,000*l.*, upon a fund for payment of annuities, after the rate of 8*l.* per cent. per annum, and for settling the trade to the East Indies. The old East India company, consisting chiefly of tories, had offered to lend the government 700,000*l.* at 4 per cent., in case the trade to India might be confirmed to them, exclusive of all others. But another set, called the Associated Merchants, in which the whigs

predominated, favoured by the court, offering to lend the government 2,000,000*l.* at 8 per cent., the trade was given to the latter; and the old company was allowed to trade no longer than the year 1701, though they offered to raise the same sum, which was thought highly unjust. However, these two great bodies were afterwards united by act of parliament; but it is a striking proof of the increasing riches of the country, that notwithstanding the nation had been exhausted by a long war, and distressed by recoining all the silver, the whole sum of 2,000,000*l.* was subscribed within two days, and the subscribers incorporated.

7. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

20. William embarked at Margate, for Holland, vesting the government, as before, during his absence in a regency.

Aug. 19. Treaty of partition of the Spanish monarchy concluded between the ministers of France, England, and Holland, on the expected demise of the king of Spain. This treaty was followed by the triple league, offensive and defensive, between England, Holland, and Sweden.

Sept. The Scottish company sent 50 ships and 1200 men to make a settlement on the isthmus of Darien. They landed on the 4th of November, and erected a fort.

Dec. 9. Parliament met, and the king in his speech recommended the keeping up a considerable force by land and sea, the making some further progress in discharging the national debts, the employing the poor, the advancement of trade, and the discouraging vice and profaneness, but said not one word of the partition party.

John Archdale, a quaker, was elected a member of this parliament for the borough of Chipping Wycombe, Bucks; but upon his refusing to take the oath, a new writ was issued to Wycombe to choose another Burgess.

16. Commons resolve that the forces in England shall not exceed 7000, and those be *natural-born* subjects; and in Ireland, not to exceed 12,000. This resolution, imposing on the king the necessity of sending home his Dutch guards, was very mortifying to him.

1699. Jan. 26. A peace was concluded between the Emperor and Poland on one side, and the Turks on the other, at Carlowitz, by the mediation of lord Paget and Mr. Collier, the English and Dutch ministers; and the next month a peace was concluded between the Venetians and the Turks.

Feb. 13. An order was sent to the playhouses, that they should act nothing contrary to religion and good manners.

Mar. 18. King William sent the commons the following message, written with

his own hand:—"W. R. His majesty is pleased to let the house know that the necessary preparations are made for transporting the guards who came with him into England, and that he intends to send them away immediately; unless, out of consideration to him, the house be disposed to find a way for continuing them longer in his service, which his majesty would take very kindly."

24. The commons attended the king with an address, containing the reasons why they could not comply with his message; wherein they tell him they do not think the keeping up foreign troops consistent with the constitution.

28. The earl of Warwick tried before the house of peers for the murder of captain Coote, in a duel, where three fought on a side, half drunk, and in the dark, in Leicester-fields, but acquitted.

29. Lord Mohun tried for the same murder, and acquitted.

May 20. Christopher Codrington, esq., fellow of All-Souls, Oxford, was made captain-general and governor of the Carribee islands, in the room of his father, colonel Codrington, deceased.

June 2. The king embarked at Margate, and landed the next day in Holland.

July 16. Spencer Cowper, esq., was tried at Hertford assizes for the murder of Mrs. Sarah Stout, and acquitted.

Oct. 18. The king returned from Holland.

25. Charles duke of Shrewsbury made lord-chamberlain of the household. This nobleman had the rare fortune to be respected both by whigs and Tories. His generosity and fascinating manners acquired him the appellation of "King of Hearts."

Nov. 16. Parliament met, and the king's speech and address of the commons, in answer, exhibit symptoms of mutual mistrust and dislike.

Dr. Watson, bishop of St. David's, was deprived. This prelate was supposed to have paid a valuable consideration for his bishopric; and after his elevation had sold the preferments in his gift, with a view of being reimbursed. He was accused of simony, and deprived by sentence of the primate and six suffragans. He then pleaded his privilege; so that the affair was brought into the house of lords, who refused to own him as a peer after he had ceased to be a bishop. Lastly, he had recourse to the court of delegates, who confirmed the archbishop's sentence.

Dec. 14. FORFEITED ESTATES.—The commons, inquiring into the forfeited estates in Ireland, found that 49,517 acres of those lands had been granted to the earl of Romney; 108,633 acres to the earl of Albemarle; 135,820 acres to the earl of Port

land; 26,480 acres to the earl of Athlone; 36,148 acres to the earl of Galway; and 95,649 acres (being the private estate of king James, and worth 25,995*l.* per annum), to lady Elizabeth Villiers, countess of Orkney, a mistress of king William's.

15. Commons resolved to bring in a bill of resumption, to apply all the forfeited estates in Ireland, and the revenues of the crown there, since the 13th of February, 1688, to the use of the public.

1700. *Feb. 8.* A proclamation for banishing all popish priests and jesuits; and another for putting the law in execution against papists, and other disaffected persons.

It appearing that many dissenters, and persons of little property, were in commission of the peace about this time, the commons addressed the king, that men of quality and estate might be put in commission.

12. The lords addressed the king against the re-establishment of the Scotch colony at Darien; whereupon his majesty took occasion again to propose an union between England and Scotland.

The commons resolved, that a book, intitled, "An Enquiry into the Causes of the Miscarriages of the Scotch Colony at Darien," was a false, scandalous, and traitorous libel, and ordered it to be burnt by the hangman; and a proclamation was issued for apprehending the author.

21. The commons waited on the king with their resolutions, in relation to the Irish forfeitures; in answer to which, William told them he thought himself obliged in justice to reward those who had served well, and particularly in the reduction of Ireland, out of the estates forfeited to him there; and that their lessening the national debts and restoring the public credit, he thought, would best contribute to the honour, interest, and safety of the kingdom. The commons resolved, that whoever advised his majesty to return this answer, had used their utmost endeavours to create a misunderstanding and jealousy between the king and his people.

Mar. 15. A second treaty of partition of the Spanish monarchy was concluded, whereby archduke Charles was to have Spain, and most of the rest of the Spanish dominions, except Naples and Sicily, which were assigned to the Dauphin. This alteration was occasioned by the death of Ferdinand, electoral prince of Bavaria, who, by the former partitioning treaty, had been declared presumptive heir to the Spanish crown.

The commons voted 1000*l.* to each of the commissioners appointed to take an account of the forfeited estates in Ireland.

25. The Scotch petitioned the king to call a parliament in that kingdom, in order to re-establish the affairs of their American

and East India company, which they apprehended laboured under very great hardships both at home and abroad: whereupon the king promised them their parliament should meet the 14th of May.

April 8. The commons ordered their resolutions in relation to the forfeited estates in Ireland to be printed, and resolved further,—"That the procuring or passing exorbitant grants, by any member now of the privy council, or by any other that had been privy counsellor, in this or any former reign, to his use or benefit, was a high crime and misdemeanor;" and ordered a list of the privy council to be laid before the house.

9. The commons having tacked the land-tax bill, and the resumption of the Irish forfeitures together, occasioned several conferences between the two houses; but at length the lords yielded to the commons by his majesty's direction, money being very much wanted. The object of the commons in tacking a money-bill to that relative to the Irish forfeitures was to preclude the lords from altering the provisions of the latter.

11. The house being about to pass an address to the king to exclude foreigners from his counsels, it was suddenly prorogued.

May 21. The great seal being taken from lord Somers, sir Nathan Wright, a person of very inferior capacity, was made lord-keeper. This was followed by the resignation of lord Shrewsbury, the last of the great whig ministers, and the way left open for the accession of the Tories.

The parliament of Scotland met, and a vote was proposed, "That the colony of Darien was a legal and rightful settlement, and that the parliament would maintain and support it:" whereupon the high-commissioner adjourned them from time to time, to prevent the question being put; of which the Scotch complained in a national address to king William.

July 5. The king embarks for Holland.

20. An alliance having been entered into between the kings of Denmark and Poland and the czar of Muscovy, against the young king of Sweden, and his enemies falling upon him on all sides, a squadron of English and Dutch men-of-war were sent to his assistance, which entered the Baltic about this time; whereupon the Danes retired to their harbours, and on the 18th of August a peace was concluded between Sweden and Denmark, exclusive of Muscovy and Poland.

Aug. 9. The duke of Gloucester, the only child of the prince and princess of Denmark, was interred on the south side of Henry the VIIIth's chapel.

Nov. 1. The long expected death of Charles II., king of Spain, happened. He

died in the 39th year of his age, and the 36th of his reign; and, having been provoked by the partition of his dominions by the English and Dutch, he made his will the preceding month, and disposed of his crown to Philip, duke of Anjou, second son to the dauphin of France; and in case he died without issue, or the crown of France should descend to him, Spain to pass to the duke of Berry, his youngest brother; and in case he died, &c., or France descend to the duke of Berry, then Spain was to go to the archduke Charles, the Emperor's second son; and on failure of issue of the archduke Charles, then to the duke of Savoy, without any partition, or dismembering of the monarchy.

16. The duke of Anjou, grandson of the French king, declared king of Spain by the court of France, without any regard to the partition treaty.

23. Cardinal Albani elected pope, by the name of Clement XI.

Dec. 11. The king of Sweden gained a great victory over the Muscovites, near Narva. The Muscovite army was said to have consisted of 100,000 men, and the Swedes, commanded by their young king, Charles XII., to not more than 20,000; so unequal were the Russians to the Swedes at the beginning of the war in the north; but after it had continued seven or eight years, the Russian forces appeared equal to those of Sweden.

19. The Tories having acquired an ascendancy in parliament, and it not being so complaisant as the king desired, it was this day dissolved.

1701. Jan. The elector of Brandenburg was crowned king of Prussia.

Feb. 10. The new parliament met; and in the contest for the choice of a speaker, it was carried in favour of Mr. Harley, by 249 to 125, who declared for sir Richard Onslow—a clear demonstration of the predominance of the Tory interest.

THE CONVOCATION.—The convocation being opened, Dr. Hooper, dean of Canterbury, was chosen prolocutor of the lower house. This clerical synod had not sat for ten years, and its present conduct did not redeem its character; but being divested of all civil power, its folly and malignity were harmless. They began with presenting a dutiful address to the king, assuring him of their steady loyalty to his sacred person and government. The lower house next proceeded to censure several passages contained in a book written by John Toland, intitled, "Christianity not Mysterious;" while the upper house expressed their indignation at a book, intitled, "Essays on the Balance of Power," in which was the following passage:—"Are not a great many of us able to point out several

persons, whom nothing has recommended to places of highest trust, and often to rich benefices and dignities, but the open enmity which they have almost from their cradles professed to the divinity of Christ?" which their lordships seemed to apprehend was levelled against some of their order. But there happening to be a misunderstanding between the two houses about adjournments, there was no business done. The lower house however censured Bishop Burnet's "Exposition of the Thirty-nine Articles." The upper house declared their censure was scandalous, and they had no authority to examine the works of a bishop.

Feb. 14. The commons resolved to stand by and support his majesty and his government, and take such effectual measures as may best conduce to the interest and safety of England, the preservation of the protestant religion, and the peace of Europe.

28. John Paekhurst and John Paschall, esq., two of the commissioners of naval prizes, were ordered to be committed to the Tower by the commons, for neglecting their duty.

Mar. 12. ACT OF SETTLEMENT.—The resolutions of the committee, appointed to consider of the further limitations of the crown, were reported, and almost unanimously agreed to by the commons. They were to the following effect:—1. That all things properly cognizable in the privy council be transacted there; and all resolutions taken thereupon shall be signed by such of the privy council as shall advise and consent to the same. (This clause, as fixing too definite a responsibility on ministers, was got rid of in a subsequent statute.—*Hal. Const. Hist.* iii., 253.) 2. That no foreigner, though naturalized, shall be capable of a grant from the crown, to himself, or any in trust for him. 3. That England shall not be obliged to engage in any war for the defence of the foreign dominions of any succeeding king. 4. That succeeding kings shall join in communion with the church of England. 5. That no pardon shall be pleadable to an impeachment in parliament. 6. That no succeeding king shall go out of the British dominions without consent of parliament. 7. That no pensioner, or person in office under the crown, shall be a member of the commons. 8. That further provision be made for security of religion and the rights of the subject. 9. That the judges' commissions be *quam diu se bene gesserint*, and their salaries ascertained. 10. That, after king William and the princess Anne, the crown be limited to the princess Sophia of Hanover, and the heirs of her body, being protestants. These resolutions form the basis of the Act of Settlement, and do honour to the constitutional spirit of the

stories, who risked the favour of the king by their introduction.

A protest of the duchess of Savoy, daughter to the princess Henrietta, duchess of Orleans, (who was the youngest daughter of Charles I.) and next in blood to the crown of England, against altering the succession.

20. Both houses address the king on the ill consequences of the treaty of partition, and the danger to British interests, from the presence of foreigners in his councils.

27. A proclamation for apprehending John Glover, Alexander Cutting, William Aty, and William Clifton, for offering bribes to procure the election of burgesses to serve in parliament.

Apr. 14. Lord Somers heard at the bar of the commons against a pending impeachment, for his lordship's advising the partition treaty.

23. The commons addressed his majesty to remove from his councils lord Somers, earl of Oxford, and lord Halifax, who advised that pernicious partition treaty; as also the earl of Portland, who concluded it. The commons had resolved to impeach these noblemen, passing over, however, with manifest partiality, the earl of Jersey and sir Joseph Williamson, who were alike privy to the transaction.

May 9. Captain William Kidd, Gabriel Loft, Hugh Parrott, and Darby Mullins were convicted of piracy at the Admiralty-sessions, held at the Old Bailey, and were hanged at Execution-dock on the 23rd instant. Kidd had obtained, at the instance of lords Somers, Romney, Oxford, and Bellamont, who anticipated a share in his captures, a commission to cruise against pirates in the Indian seas; but instead of accounting to his employers, Kidd had turned pirate himself, and divided the spoil between himself and crew.

KENTISH PETITION.—A petition was presented to the house of commons from the justices of peace and grand-jury, at the quarter-sessions held at Maidstone, advising the commons, among other things, to turn their addresses into bills of supply, and "enable his Majesty to assist his allies before it is too late." The commons, exasperated at the boldness of this remonstrance, voted it scandalous, insolent, and seditious, and ordered those gentlemen who brought it to be taken into custody; namely, William Colepepper, Thomas Colepepper, David Polhill, Justinian Champney, and William Hamilton, esqs. The serjeant-at-arms afterwards acquainted the house that there was such a mob gathered about the petitioners, that he apprehended a rescue. Upon sending the Kentish petitioners to the Gatehouse, came out a libel, intitled, "Legion," asserting that the commons have no right to imprison any

but their own members. It concluded,— "For Englishmen are no more to be slaves to parliaments than to kings:—our name is 'Legion,' and we are many." Its author was the celebrated Daniel de Foe. The popular current was beginning to set strongly in favour of a war with France, and the whigs were recovering their popularity.

14. Articles of impeachment were carried up, against lord Somers, by Mr. Harcourt, wherein he was charged with advising the partition-treaty, and affixing the great seal to it, without the knowledge of the other lords-justices or privy council; nor did he cause the treaty to be enrolled in chancery, as usual. That he passed many exorbitant grants from the crown; that he procured the commission for captain Kidd, the pirate, and was to have shared the spoil with him; and that he had made divers arbitrary and illegal orders when he was lord-chancellor. Similar charges were alleged against the other impeached lords.

June 12. Act of settlement receives the royal assent. Also an act for appointing wardens and assay-masters for assaying wrought plate in the cities of Exeter, York, Bristol, Chester, and Norwich.

13. **DISPUTE OF THE TWO HOUSES.**—The lords sent a message to the commons with their resolutions.—1. That no lord of parliament, impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, and coming to his trial, shall, upon his trial, be without the bar. 2. That no lord of parliament, impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors, can be precluded from voting on any occasion, except in his own trial; and that they had appointed Tuesday, the 17th instant, for the trial of lord Somers. The commons answered, that, inasmuch as the impeached lords were to be allowed to vote for one another at their trials, for this and other reasons, they did not think fit to appear at the trial. At a conference, held the same day, between the two houses, in relation to the trial of the impeached lords, lord Haversham said, they (their lordships) hope justice shall never be made use of as a mask for any design; and that it was demonstration that the commons themselves thought the impeached lords innocent. Whereupon the commons immediately withdrew from the conference, and a charge was drawn up against lord Haversham, and sent up to the lords by sir Christopher Musgrave; and the commons refused to come to any further conference with the lords till justice was done upon lord Haversham for the indignity offered to the house of commons.

14. Articles were carried up against lord Halifax by Mr. Bridges.

June 17. The lords proceeded to the trial of lord Somers in Westminster-hall; and the commons not appearing, they acquitted him, by a majority of 56 to 31, and dismissed the impeachment.

20. The commons resolved, That the lords had refused justice to the commons, on the impeachment against lord Somers, by denying to settle the preliminaries to the trial, by a committee of both houses, and afterwards proceeding to a pretended trial of the said lord, which could tend only to protect him from justice, by colour of an illegal acquittal; and that all the ill consequences which might at this time attend the delay of the supplies given by the commons were to be imputed to those who, to procure an indemnity for their own enormous crimes, had used their utmost endeavours to make a breach between the two houses. The same day, the lords sent the commons a message that they intended to proceed to the trial of the earl of Orford on Monday next, and sent them also a copy of lord Haversham's answer. The commons ordered that none of their members should presume to appear at the pretended trial of the earl of Orford.

23. The lords resolved, That the resolutions of the commons, of the 20th instant, contained most unjust reflections on the house of peers, and were contrived to cover their affected and unreasonable delays in prosecuting the impeached lords, and did manifestly tend to the destruction of the judicature of the lords, &c.; and that all the ill consequences attending the deferring the supplies, were to be attributed to the fatal council of putting off the meeting of the parliament, and the unnecessary delays of the commons. The same day the lords unanimously acquitted the earl of Orford, as they had done lord Somers.

24. The lords ordered the charge against lord Haversham, and the impeachments against the earl of Portland and lord Halifax, to be dismissed, for want of prosecution by the commons.

In this dispute it seems to have been agreed, both by the lords and commons, that the partition treaties were of pernicious consequence, and that the transacting them privately, without communicating them to the privy-council, was a high misdemeanor in those that advised and transacted them. But whether the commons apprehended that the peers, who were generally in the interest of the old whig ministry, would not pass any severe censure on the impeached lords, or for what other reason, is uncertain; the commons seem to have been a little dilatory in their proceedings, and might possibly design that the lords should have lain under these impeachments

during the recess of parliament; there might be also something of party in the case; the impeached lords were the chiefs of the whigs, and had long reigned at court without control, and the Tories who succeeded them might have a view of preventing their return to their posts, as well as bringing them to justice.

July 1. King William sailed for Holland.

15. An alliance formed between William, the king of Denmark, and the States, and Denmark engaged to furnish 3000 horse, 1000 dragoons, and 8000 foot, in consideration of receiving a subsidy of 300,000 crowns a year during the war.

18. The king of Sweden defeated the Saxons, and on the 30th gave them a second defeat.

The French king recalled his ambassadors from the Hague.

Aug. 5. Prince Eugene, at the head of 40,000 imperialists, invades Italy, to establish the claims of the Emperor to the Spanish territories there.

Sept. 16. King James II. died at St. Germain, in the 68th year of his age. His body was deposited in the monastery of the Benedictines in Paris, and his heart sent to the nunnery of Chaillot. Sunk into the most abject extreme of superstition, he seemed to have relinquished the hope, and almost the wish, to recover his former greatness. He had become a Jesuit, and rarely failed making an annual visit to the abbey of La Trappe, practising all the austerities enjoined upon that rigid order. This, with hunting, his favourite amusement, were the sole occupations of his latter days. Upon his death, the French king immediately caused his son to be proclaimed king of England, Scotland, and Ireland, by the name of James III. Whereupon king William sent an express to the earl of Manchester, his ambassador at Paris, to return to England, without taking leave of that court; and ordered Mons. Poussin, the French secretary in England, to depart the kingdom.

King William concluded an alliance with the Emperor and the States-General against France, which obtained the name of "The Grand Alliance." The main objects of the contracting parties were to procure the Spanish Netherlands for a barrier to the Dutch; and the duchy of Milan, the kingdom of Naples and Sicily, and the Spanish places on the coast of Tuscany, for the Emperor; that the English and Dutch should possess such places as they could take from the Spaniards in the Indies; and that none of the parties should make peace without the consent of the other, nor before they had obtained satisfaction for the Emperor and a security

for the dominions and trade of the English and Dutch. It was further agreed that the crowns of France and Spain should never be united under the same prince; or the French ever be suffered to trade to the Indies. Lastly, all princes and states, particularly the princes of Germany, should be invited into this alliance.

King William lay dangerously ill in Holland for some time, after the conclusion of this treaty, but his illness was industriously concealed.

Oct. The Germans gained several advantages over the French in Italy; but there happened no decisive action.

Nov. 5. William returned from Holland.

11. A proclamation for dissolving the present parliament.

Dec. 30. The new parliament met, and the usual trial of strength between the parties took place on the choice of a speaker, the whigs carrying it in favour of Mr. Harley, in opposition to sir Thomas Littleton, by 216 to 212. The king, in a spirited address, called upon both houses to assist him in opposing the ambitious and perfidious designs of France. "If you do," said the king, "in good earnest desire to see England hold the balance of Europe, and to be indeed at the head of the protestant interest, it will appear by your right improving the present opportunity." Addresses, in answer, were presented, in accordance with the royal speech.

1702. *Jan.* 4. The earl of Manchester was made secretary of state; the duke of Somerset, lord-president of the council. The great seal was offered to lord Somers; and the earl of Carlisle succeeded Godolphin; so that it became again a whig administration.

10. Resolved, that the proportion of land-forces, to act in conjunction with the allies, should be 40,000 men; and that 40,000 men should be raised for the sea service.

Feb. Marshal Villeroi, general of the French and Spanish armies in Italy, was surprised at Cremona in his bed, and taken prisoner by the Imperialists under prince Eugene; but some of the Imperial troops not coming up so soon as was designed, the Imperialists were forced to quit the town again, though they brought off the marshal.

Prince Eugene, with a small body of troops, entered Cremona in the night, by a subterraneous passage, which had formerly been an aqueduct; and had it not been for the resistance he met with from two Irish battalions, and a thick mist, in which those that were to support him lost their way, he had continued master of the place.

26. King William, riding from Kensington towards Hampton-court, was thrown from his horse, and broke his

collar bone. He was carried to Hampton-Court, where the bone was set, and then returned to Kensington the same evening.

Mar. 2. The king was so weak that he was forced to stamp his name on a commission for giving the royal assent to acts of parliament. The last act so passed was that enjoining the taking the abjuration oath

6. The king had a succession of fits which took away all hope of his recovery. The earl of Albemarle arrived with gratifying news of the posture of affairs on the Continent; but he received the intelligence without visible emotion, and soon afterwards said, "Je tire vers ma fin."

8. About eight o'clock in the morning, king William died at Kensington, being in the 52nd year of his age, and the 14th of his reign, and was buried in Henry VIIIth's chapel, Westminster-abbey. He received the sacrament about five the same morning at the hands of the archbishop of Canterbury. Breathing with great difficulty, he asked Dr. Bidloo "how long this could last;" to which he answered, "Perhaps an hour." But the king offering his pulse, said, "I do not die yet." After taking an affectionate leave of the earl of Portland, he expired in the arms of one of his pages. On his left arm was found a riband, to which was fastened a ring, enclosing a lock of the late queen Mary's hair—a proof of the tender regard he entertained for her memory.

This prince was the posthumous son of William prince of Orange, by the princess Mary, eldest daughter of Charles I. On the 4th of November, 1677, he married his first cousin, the princess Mary, eldest daughter of James duke of York (afterwards king of England). She died on the 28th of December, 1694, by whom he had no issue; neither had he any natural issue. In his person he was not above the middle size, pale, thin, and valetudinary. He had an aquiline nose, sparkling eyes, a large forehead, and a grave aspect. He was very sparing of speech; his conversation dry and circumspect; his manner cold and disagreeable except in battle, when his deportment was free and animated. In courage and fortitude he was pre-eminent; and the neglect of his education was supplied by attentive observation and great natural sagacity. His chief defects were ambition; a reserve too nearly allied to suspicion and dissimulation; a fidelity in friendship, to prejudice and partiality. He was tolerant in religion from principle; as Charles II. had been from indifference.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 W. & M., Cap. 12. Gives several premiums for exporting corn and grain; namely,

5s. a quarter for wheat; 3s. 6d., for rye; 2s. 6d. a quarter for malt and barley; when wheat is under 40s. a quarter, rye, 32s., and malt and barley under 24s. a quarter.

Cap. 19. Repeals all the acts requiring dissenters to conform; and usually styled the Toleration Act.

Cap. 26. Gives the presentations belonging to papists to the universities.

Sess. 2., cap. 2. *Bill of Rights*.—Confirms the rights and liberties of the subject and settles the crown on king William and queen Mary, and afterwards on the princess of Denmark, excluding papists.

3 W. & M., cap. 3. Settles 4s. an acre for the tithe of flax and hemp; which is raised to 5s. by 11 and 12 W. III.

3 & 4 W. & M., cap. 9. Takes away clergy from those that rob houses or out-houses of the value of 5s. in the daytime; and it is made felony for a person to rob his lodgings.

Cap. 20. A penalty of 20*l.* is inflicted for hunting in parks, and 30*l.* for every deer killed.

Cap. 11. Declares what shall make a person an *inhabitant*, namely, executing some annual office, paying to the rates, or serving a year in any parish.

Cap. 12. Settles the rates of carriage of goods, and gives further rules for mending highways.

Cap. 14. Makes void all wills of land against creditors upon bond or speciality.

4 W. & M., cap. 4. Directs special bail to be taken in the country.

Cap. 8. Gives a reward of 40*l.* for taking a highwayman, with his horse, arms, money, and effects about him.

Cap. 16. Gives lands mortgaged a second time to the second mortgagee, &c.

Cap. 21. Makes the delivery of a declaration to the gaoler or his servant, a good service to the prisoner.

Cap. 23. Gives a penalty against unqualified persons having game in their custody; namely, not under 5*s.*, or more than 20*s.*, for every hare, partridge, &c. found in their custody; and such persons keeping dogs, nets, snares, &c., are subject to the like penalty. None shall keep any net, angle, or engine, for taking fish, but the owners of fisheries and rivers. Inferior tradesmen, apprentices, &c. fishing or fowling, subject to the above-said penalties, and to pay full costs in actions of trespass.

5 & 6 W. & M., cap. 22. Seven hundred hackney-coaches licensed in London to pay 50*l.* each for their license, and 4*l.* per annum. Stage-coaches to pay 8*l.* per annum.

6 W. & M., cap. 2. *Triennial Act*.—No parliament to continue more than three years, and to be held once in three years at least.

6 & 7 W. A penalty of 2*s.* for every oath or curse: on the common people, 1*s.*

7 W., cap. 3. *Treason Act*.—The prisoner in treason to have a copy of the indictment, a copy of the pannel; counsel to be assigned him; and two witnesses, examined on oath, necessary to convict. Upon the trial of a peer, all the peers to be summoned; whereas, before, the king appointed a certain number, usually between twenty or thirty, to try a nobleman.

Cap. 4. Candidates bribing or treating their electors after the writs are out, disabled to serve in parliament.

Cap. 6. Small tithes may be recovered by a warrant from two justices of peace.

7 & 8 W., cap. 7. A returning-officer returning a member contrary to the last determination of the house of commons, shall pay double damages and costs to the party duly elected. All securities for procuring a return are void, and the party giving such security, forfeits 300*l.*

Cap. 15. The parliament to assemble and sit six months on a demise of the crown, unless sooner dissolved by the successor.

Cap. 21. A bounty of 40*s.* per annum is given to every seaman who shall register himself in the royal navy, and those are incapable of being officers who are not registered. Registered men entitled to be provided for in Greenwich-hospital, and exempted from parish offices; nor shall they be obliged to serve as land soldiers. Every seaman shall allow 6*d.* a month, out of his pay, for the support of Greenwich-hospital.

Cap. 22. Merchandise shall be imported and exported to and from the British plantations in British-built ships, and navigated by three-fourths British mariners, on pain of forfeiture of the ship and goods. No person shall sell his plantation to a foreigner.

Cap. 25. Contains directions to the returning-officers for the election of members of parliament.

Cap. 34. Enacts that a quaker's affirmation shall be taken instead of an oath.

Cap. 35. Makes a penalty of 100*l.* where the parson marries a person without license or bans. The married couple forfeit 10*l.*; the clerk, sexton, and assistants, 5*l.* each.

Cap. 37. The king is empowered to license persons to purchase lands in mortmain for charitable uses.

Cap. 30. Irish hemp, flax, thread, yarn, and linen may be imported, and English sail-cloth exported, custom free.

8 & 9 W., cap. 11. Provision is made against frivolous and vexatious suits.

Cap. 16. Justices of peace at the quarter-sessions are empowered to make orders for enlarging highways.

Cap. 27. Creditors are relieved against escapes from prison, and pretended privileged places.

Cap. 30. Poor people are allowed to remove to other parishes, on bringing certificates with them, owning them inhabitants; and persons receiving collections, are required to wear badges. Justices of peace are empowered to give costs in appeals concerning settlements of the poor, and persons refusing to take poor children apprentices, forfeit 10*l*.

Cap. 31. Co-partners and joint-tenants are compellable to make partition.

Cap. 32. The number of brokers is restrained, and rules made to prevent the ill practices of brokers and stock-jobbers.

Cap. 36. The manufacture of lustrings and alamodes in this kingdom is encouraged, and the importation of foreign lustrings restrained.

9 & 10 W., cap. 11. No certificate man shall gain a settlement unless he execute some annual office or lease, 10*l*. per annum.

Cap. 15. Submissions to arbitration may be made rules of court.

Cap. 17. Inland bills of exchange may be protested as foreign bills are.

Cap. 27. Hawkers and pedlars to pay 4*l*. annually for licenses for every horse, ass, or mule, drawing or carrying goods.

Cap. 28. Watches, sword-hilts, and other silver manufactures are permitted to be exported.

Cap. 32. Persons denying any of the persons of the Holy Trinity to be God, or affirming there are more gods than one, or denying the Christian religion to be true, or the scriptures of Divine Authority, are rendered incapable of any office, ecclesiastical, civil, or military. The information to be within four days, and prosecution, within three months. Since repealed, so far as respects the denial of the Trinity.

10 & 11 W. Any person keeping a lottery, forfeits 500*l*., and the person drawing or throwing at it, 20*l*.

Cap. 23. Clergy taken away from persons stealing anything privately out of houses or out-houses, of the value of five shillings, whether the place be broken or not; but a felon discovering two of his ac-

complices, shall have a pardon. Persons prosecuting felons, exempted from parish and ward offices.

11 & 12 W., cap. 4. A reward of 100*l*. given for taking a popish priest, and such priest or schoolmaster shall suffer perpetual imprisonment. Every papist who shall not within six months after eighteen years of age take the oaths, shall be disabled to inherit lands or tenements; but the same shall go to the next of kin, being a protestant; and no papist, or any in trust for him, shall purchase any lands or profits out of them. Popish parents of protestant children may be compelled to allow them a maintenance by the lord-chancellor. By disqualifying papists from the purchase of lands, the object was doubtless to expel them the country; but the severity of this statute was much mitigated by the construction of the judges.

Cap. 6. Natives of the British dominions enabled to inherit the estates of their ancestors, notwithstanding the father or mother were aliens.

Cap. 10. Wrought silks of Persia, China, and India, and painted calicoes prohibited to be worn in England, but may be brought in and re-exported.

Cap. 12. Authorizes every person oppressed by a governor of the plantations, to prosecute them in the courts at Westminster.

Cap. 20. Exempts all woollen manufactures, corn, grain, bread, biscuit, and meal exported, from all manner of duties.

Cap. 21. Contains rules for the government of watermen on the river Thames.

12 W., cap. 2. *Act of Settlement*.—See page 289.

Cap. 3. Actions may be brought against members of parliament forty days after a prorogation or dissolution.

Cap. 7. Provision is made for preserving the Cotton-library.

13 W., cap. 6. Requires all persons in office, and members of the universities above eighteen, attorneys and schoolmasters to take the oath, abjuring the claims of the Stuarts; as also peers and members of parliament.

TAXES AND REVENUE.

The income of England in the year 1701 was as follows:—

Customs	£. 1,539,100
Excise	986,004
Post-office, &c.	130,399
Land-tax, 2 <i>s</i> . in the pound	989,965
Miscellanies	249,737
	<hr/>
	3,895,205
Income at the Revolution	2,001,855
	<hr/>
Increase at the death of William	£1,893,350

The total sums received by king William during the course of his reign were as follow:—

	£.
Customs	13,296,833
Excise	13,649,329
Land-tax	19,174,059
Polls	2,557,642
Tax on marriages, births, and deaths	275,517
Miscellanies (inclusive of permanent loans)	9,745,300
Temporary loans unpaid	13,348,680
	<hr/>
	£72,047,359

NATIONAL DEBT.

The public debt at the Revolution of 1688 was inconsiderable: it amounted to 664,263*l.*; the interest, to 39,855*l.* During the fourteen years of William III.'s reign, it increased to 16,394,701*l.*, and the interest, to 1,310,942*l.* Of this debt, about one-fourth was funded, and a permanent provision of interest provided; of the remainder three-fourths consisted of annuities on lives or terms of years that would be extinguished by the operation of the funds to which they were charged, and the unfunded debt, chiefly arrears, on account of the army, navy, and ordnance.

The following is the state of the National Debt, December 31st, 1701:—

PERPETUAL FUNDED DEBT:

	£.
1.—To the Bank of England, being their original stock bearing interest at 8 per cent.	1,200,000
2.—To the East India Company, being their original stock at 8 per cent.	2,000,000
3.—Bankers' debts, incurred by shutting the Exchequer	664,000
	<hr/>
Total funded debt	3,864,263
Terminal annuities and debts	9,861,047
Unfunded debt	2,669,391
	<hr/>
Total	£16,394,701

The causes assigned for the augmentation of the debt in king William's reign were the following:—1. The total inadequacy of the taxes to meet the necessary expenses of the State, and the reluctance a new government felt to impose such burthens on the nation as would raise the needful supplies within the year. 2. The expenses of the Revolution itself were considerable. To the Dutch alone were voted 600,000*l.* for the armament they had fitted out to bring about that event. The reduction of Ireland was attended with great charges; nor were the partisans of James II. driven out of Scotland without expense. 3. The loss and expense of the great recoinage, which amounted to the enormous sum of 2,415,140*l.* 4. The wars of the king. These formed the last and chief cause of the national encumbrances,

by not only entailing a vast additional expense in military and naval preparations, but operating very destructively on the commerce and industry of the kingdom.

The ruinous effects of William's wars are shown by the following comparison of the amount of tonnage that cleared outwards, in the year 1688, and the year before the conclusion of the peace of Ryswick, in 1697.

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1688	285,800	4,086,087
1696	174,791	2,729,520

The naval force of France and England was then nearly equal, each having a fleet of about 100 ships of war, of different rates, from 40 to 108 guns.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND HOLLAND.

(From Gregory King's "Political Conclusions."—Chalmer's Estimate, edit. 1804.)

The State and Condition of the Three Nations, of England, France, and Holland, compared one with another, in 1695.—The expense of the Three Nations in Diet, are thus estimated:—

	England.	France.	Holland.	In all
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1. In bread, bread-corn, cakes, biscuit, pastry, pudding, and all things made of meal or flour	4,300,000	10,600,000	1,400,000	16,300,000
2. In beef, mutton, veal, lamb, pigs, pork, bacon, kids, venison, conies	3,300,000	5,600,000	800,000	10,000,000
3. In butter, cheese, & milk.	2,300,000	4,200,000	600,000	7,100,000
4. In malt drink, or beer and ale only	5,800,000	100,000	1,200,000	7,100,000
5. In wine, brandy, spirits, and strong liquors, cider, perry, mum, mead, methegin, and made wines.	1,300,000	9,000,000	400,000	10,600,000
6. In fish, fowls, and eggs	1,700,000	3,900,000	1,100,000	6,500,000
7. In fruit, roots, and garden-stuff	1,200,000	3,600,000	400,000	5,200,000
8. In salt, oil, pickles, spices, grocery, and confecti- onary ware, jellies, sweet- meats, &c.	1,100,000	3,000,000	300,000	4,400,000
£	21,000,000	40,000,000	6,200,000	67,200,000

Hence we may observe, that if England contain 5,500,000 souls, France, 13½ millions, and Holland, 2,200,000, then each head spends, in diet, one with another, 3*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* per annum: viz.—each head, in England, 3*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*; in France, 2*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*; in Holland, 2*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* According to the following scheme:—

	England.	France.	Holland.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1. Bread-corn, &c.	0 15 8	0 15 0	0 12 9
2. Flesh-meat	0 12 0	0 8 0	0 7 3
3. Butter, cheese, and milk	0 8 5	0 6 0	0 5 6
4. Ale and beer	1 1 1	0 0 2	0 10 11
5. Wine, spirits, & strong liquors	0 4 8	0 12 11	0 3 8
6. Fish, fowl and eggs	0 6 2	0 5 7	0 10 0
7. Fruit, roots and garden-stuff	0 4 4	0 5 2	0 3 8
8. Salt, oil, pickles, grocery, &c.	0 4 0	0 4 3	0 2 8
£	3 16 4	2 17 1	2 16 5

Gregory King, who was contemporary with William III., estimates, that from 1688 to 1695, England had decreased in people 50,000; France, 500,000; and Holland (the only party who profited by the war) had increased 40,000.

MEN OF LETTERS.

Sir William Petty, a practical philosopher of great ingenuity and variety of talent, 1623—1687. "Political Arithmetic;" "Verbum Sapienti;" an account of the national wealth and expenditure, with a method of equalizing taxation. Petty was created M.D., and was chosen M.P. for West Looe, in the parliament convened in January, 1658. He was also employed as commissioner in the settlement of forfeited estates in Ireland.

Sir William Davenant, dramatic poet, 1605—1688. By grant of Charles II., Davenant became patentee of a theatre in Lincoln's Inn-fields, which he opened with an operatical drama of his own, called "The Siege of Rhodes."

Henry More, divine and Platonist, 1614—1687. "Enchiridion Ethicum," and "Divine Dialogues," 2 vols., folio.

Dr. Leighton, an exemplary prelate of the Scotch episcopal church, 1613—1684. Son of the Scotch divine so cruelly punished by the Star-chamber in 1630. An edition of Dr. Leighton's works, 6 vols., 8vo., 1808.

Ralph Cudworth, a learned divine and metaphysical writer, 1617—1688. "The Intellectual System of the Universe; the First Part, wherein all the Reason and Philosophy of Atheism is Confuted, and its Impossibility Demonstrated," folio, 1678; "A Treatise on Moral Good and Evil;" "A Treatise of Liberty and Necessity;" with others, among the unpublished MSS. of the British Museum.

Sir William Temple, eminent diplomatist and statesman, 1628—1701. "Observations on the United Provinces." "Miscellanies," 2 vols., 4to.; or in 4 vols., 8vo.

Thomas Sydenham, physician and medical writer, 1624—1689.

John Bunyan, 1628—1688. "The Pilgrim's Progress;" "Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners;" the last, a kind of autobiography of this popular allegorical writer.

Thomas Otway; "Venice Preserved;" "The Orphans;" "Don Carlos;" 1651—1684. His works, three vols., 8vo., 1812. by Mr. Thornton.

Nathaniel Lee, "The Rival Queens;" "Theodosius, or the Force of Love;" 1656—1692.

John Dryden, eminent poet, translator, and miscellaneous writer, 1631—1701. "Absalom and Achitophel;" "Religio Laici;" "The Hind and Panther;" "Alex-

ander's Feast;" "Mac Flecknoe," &c., with many others. Works by Malone and by Sir Walter Scott, 1818, 18 vols., 8vo.

Robert Brady, physician and historian; died in 1700. "Treatise on Burghs;" "Introduction to English History," in which Dr. Brady tries to prove that all English liberty has been concession from the crown.

John Tillotson, an eminent controversial prelate and composer of sermons, 1630—1694.

Richard Baxter, a celebrated non-conformist divine, 1615—1691. "Saints' Everlasting Rest;" "Call to the Unconverted."

Robert Boyle, a distinguished writer on natural philosophy, and author of several theological works, 1627—1691. He was the seventh son of the first earl of Cork, and founder of a Lecture (of 50*l.* a year) in defense of Christianity.

PROGRESS OF BANKING.

It appears that, prior to the year 1640, the Royal Mint had been used as a kind of bank or deposit for merchants to lodge their cash in; but Charles I. having in that year made a forcible application of the money, under the pretext of a loan to assist in the war against the Scots, the Mint lost its credit as a bank of deposit. After this, the merchants and traders in London generally trusted their cash with their servants till the breaking out of the civil war, when their clerks and apprentices frequently left their masters to join the contending parties. Upon which, in such unsettled times, merchants, not daring to confide in their servants, began, about the year 1645, to deposit their cash with the goldsmiths, both to receive and pay for them. Until then the business of goldsmiths had been solely confined to dealing in plate and foreign coins.

The goldsmiths gradually assumed the more regular functions of bankers; they began to discount bills, to make advances to necessitous merchants (weekly or monthly), and to receive the rents of gentlemen's estates (remitted to town), allowing interest to all who entrusted them with money, however short the period of deposit. This was found a great convenience; their transactions extended, and they rose in reputation till the year 1667, when the Dutch burnt our ships at Chatham, which caused a sudden *rumor* on the bankers, and impaired their credit and resources.

It was not, however, till the year 1672 that they were entirely broken up. In that year, Charles II. was so ill-advised as to shut the Exchequer and seize the treasure deposited there, intended for the payment of the interest and loans advanced by

bankers and other wealthy persons to government. The common practice had been to advance money to the government upon the security of the supplies voted by parliament; and it was repaid as the produce of the grants came into the Exchequer. By these advances the bankers received from 8 to 10 per cent. for money which their customers had placed in their hands without interest, or which they had borrowed at the legal rate of 6 per cent. As the payments came weekly from the Exchequer to the bankers, they were thereby enabled to answer the interest and other demands of their creditors; which now failing, they could neither pay principal nor interest to the crowds of creditors by whom they were besieged. The sums of which they were defrauded amounted to 1,328,526*l.* By this tyrannical act of Charles, ten thousand families were involved, and many of them entirely ruined. The king was afterwards necessitated to pay an interest of 6 per cent., for this plunder, out of the hereditary excise; the principal was never paid, though a moiety of it was subsequently incorporated into the national debt, and, finally, subscribed into the South-sea capital stock in the year 1720.

From this period the business of private banking appears to have been separated from that of the goldsmiths, and carried on as a distinct pursuit, nearly upon the principles of modern bankers, with the exception that they received interest on deposits.

No successful attempt had yet been made to establish a joint-stock or incorporate bank. Soon after the Restoration it was proposed to erect an *Office of Credit* for the reception of goods and merchandise; for the appraised value of which, notes were to be issued, which, it was imagined, the merchant would find less difficulty in negotiating, than in borrowing upon the goods themselves. In 1678 Dr. Lewis, an eminent clergyman, published his *Model of a Bank*, with observations on the great advantages that would result from it to the crown and the people. But with the recent example of the plunder of the Exchequer, and under the rash and needy administration of Charles II., it was not likely such proposals would be encouraged by the public; and it was only when the country had acquired a more principled government that the project of a national bank succeeded.

In 1694, the Bank of England was established, and the national bank of Scot-

land in the following year. These great chartered bodies were formed upon the model of those in Italy, Spain, and the Low Countries. That of Scotland was projected by an Englishman named Holland; that of England, by William Paterson, a Scotchman, who was afterwards engaged in the unfortunate attempt to establish a colony at Darien. The chief objects of the English bank were to supply the deficiency of money and the necessities of government. Nothing can more clearly show the low state of public credit at the time, and the scarcity of specie, than the terms parliament were compelled to grant. For the sake of receiving 1,200,000*l.*, government agreed to pay not only interest at the rate of eight per cent., and 4000*l.* for the expense of management—in all, 100,000*l.*—but the subscribers were to be incorporated for carrying on the trade of banking. They were entitled, however, to no exclusive privileges in banking, and were prohibited from engaging in any commercial undertaking other than dealing in bullion and bills of exchange. They were not allowed to advance any loan to the crown by way of anticipation, or on the credit of any branch of the public revenue. They might advance money upon the security of goods pledged to them, and sell by auction such goods as were not redeemed within a specified time. The charter was granted for only eleven years.

The company fell into serious embarrassments soon after incorporation, and, in lieu of supporting the credit of the nation, it had great difficulty in supporting its own. During the great recoinage of 1696, the Bank was compelled to suspend the payment of its notes. Owing to the judicious conduct of the directors, and the assistance of government, the Bank got over this her first crisis. But it was at the same time judged expedient, in order to place her in a situation better to withstand any future adverse circumstances, to increase her capital from 1,200,000*l.* to 2,201,171*l.* Her capital was again doubled in 1708. Upon this occasion she obtained her most important privilege; namely, that which prohibits the establishment of any rival banking firm with more than six partners. This important immunity is said to have been obtained by the Mine-Adventure company having commenced banking business, and begun to issue notes. After this, nothing very particular occurs in the history of the Bank till a period long subsequent.

ANNE. A.D. 1702 to 1714.

IN the courts of the Continent the duke of Marlborough described queen Anne as "a good sort of woman." Pious, charitable; an affectionate wife and kind mother, she was more eminent for domestic than public virtues. In her disposition she generally inclined to mildness and placidity, though not exempt from fits of sullenness and resentment. Her understanding was naturally good, but little cultivated by learning; nor did she exhibit any marks of extraordinary genius or personal ambition. She leant upon others, and neither possessed the dominant self-will nor mental vigour that trusts to its own powers. Warmly attached to the church and the tories, she was not very tolerant of religious or civil liberty. Her notions of government were those of her family,—narrow and despotic. Dr. Sacheverel was her model of spiritual conformity and obedience, and she countenanced several harsh attempts to check the growth of the dissenters. In principle, Anne was as prone to arbitrariness as queen Elizabeth, but her actions were constrained by the imbecility of her mind; and in strength of purpose, and the art of ruling, she was only a miniature representative of the great princess of whose character she was vain enough to be emulous.

The transactions of this reign were only secondarily influenced by the personal qualities of the sovereign. The queen loved her own way, and, with the ordinary infirmity of conscious incapacity, was extremely jealous of any semblance of interference with the exercise of her authority; yet she was the constant slave of favourites, who, in their turn, were the tools of intriguing politicians. Though her preferences and dislikes had often no better foundation than the predilections of the toilet, it was upon them that the policy of her administration and the destinies of Europe depended. By a chambermaid's intrigue, Bolingbroke triumphed over his rival, the earl of Oxford. It was because the queen fondly doated on the duchess of Marlborough that her reign was "adorned by the glories of Blenheim and Ramillies:" it was because Mrs. Abigail Masham artfully supplanted her benefactress in royal favour, that a stop was put to the war which ravaged the continent: it was in great part owing to the influence of the duchess of Somerset, another favourite lady, that the queen did not attempt to recall her brother, the Chevalier St. George.* Thus probably a feeble-minded princess, influenced only by her waiting-women, determined that the Pretender should be excluded from England, a tory and high-church ministry formed, and a Bourbon seated beyond the Pyrenees.

Of the twelve years of her majesty's reign, ten were years of fierce warfare, that laid waste the finest countries in Europe. The point at issue between France and the confederate powers was the succession to the Spanish monarchy; whether Philip of Anjou, a grandson of Louis XIV., or Charles, archduke of Austria, the second son of Leopold, emperor of Germany, should inherit the crown of Spain. England exerted her utmost force in this contest, both in men and money, though it was nearly indifferent to her interests whether Austria or France were aggrandized by

* Lord John Russell's *Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe*, 298; *Hal. Const. Hist.* iii., 283.

the acquisition of Spain and America. In England most wars have been popular at the beginning, and the reverse at the end. It was so with the war of the succession: the passions of the people were excited by the protection afforded to the Stuarts by the French king, his refusal to acknowledge the protestant settlement in the Hanover family, and inflammatory representations of his restless ambition. But the splendid triumphs of Marlborough and prince Eugene, unequalled since the days of Cressy and Agincourt, were an inadequate compensation for the decay of trade and rapid increase of the public debt and taxes; especially as their most decisive victories had seldom more important results than the capture of a fortress or military inroad: for it may be observed of these celebrated generals, that they knew better how to win battles than to conquer kingdoms. The nation became clamorous for peace; and its wishes being seconded by a new ministry, whose measures, either from public or factious considerations, were different from those of their predecessors, that of Utrecht was hastily concluded.

This famous treaty saved France; but she was exhausted, rather than beaten, in the struggle. The contrast of her condition at the accession of Louis XIV., and towards the close of his reign, must have been painfully humiliating to the vain-glorious grand monarch. In the chief elements of national strength, France was at the former period equal, in many respects superior, to this country. In commerce, manufactures, and naval power, she was equal; in public revenue vastly superior; and her population doubled that of England: but the peace left her quite enfeebled. Her revenue had fallen off greatly during the war; her currency was depreciated 30 per cent.; the choice of her people had been carried away, like malefactors, to recruit the armies; while her merchants and industrious artisans were weighed to the ground by heavy imposts, aggravated by the exemption of the clergy and nobility from taxation. France never completely recovered, under the Bourbons, the ruinous effects of her wars with king William and queen Anne.

As the Grand Alliance was most strenuously supported by the whigs, and as England was withdrawn from the contest by the tories, the policy of the Treaty of Utrecht has been sharply discussed by the partisans of the rival parties. In clandestinely entering upon a separate treaty with the common enemy before the main object of the confederacy had been accomplished, England seemed justly obnoxious to the reproach of treachery to the allies; but various circumstances may be alleged in extenuation. First, by the allies having long failed to furnish their stipulated quotas towards carrying on the war, the burthen was unfairly thrown on England. Secondly, the object of the war itself had changed during its progress. In consequence of the death of the emperor Joseph, and the election of his brother, the archduke Charles, to be emperor, the consolidation of the Spanish monarchy with the empire had become as perilous to the balance of power in Europe as the union of the crowns of France and Spain. Thirdly, it had been clearly manifested that a French, and not an Austrian prince, was the choice of the Spanish people. Fourthly, France was humbled by her reverses; she was no longer dangerous; and the terms upon which she was willing to treat appeared satisfactory guarantees against future disturbing encroachments. Lastly, England had ceased to have any interest in the war. Its continuance might win for the Dutch a stronger barrier of fortresses in the Netherlands; or the emperor might make further acquisitions on the Rhine; but this country had hardly

anything to gain or desire. Louis acknowledged the protestant settlement; the Pretender was exiled to Lorraine; and though Philip was left master of Spain, both him and his grandfather were ready to offer a solemn renunciation of its junction under one head with France; which last was in fact the great danger sought to be averted by the Grand Alliance.

Upon the whole, it may be inferred that the peace of Utrecht had many strong points of justification, though it will be seen that the ministers by whom it was concluded were, in the next reign, called to a severe account. Wars may be too precipitately entered upon, but peace can hardly ever be too hastily concluded.

A legislative UNION with Scotland had been a topic of consideration ever since the junction of the two crowns, and in this reign it was completed; chiefly through the exertions of Somers and lord-treasurer Godolphin. This important measure was more popular in England than Scotland, where it was stoutly opposed by Fletcher of Saltoun, the earl of Belhaven, and the dukes of Athol and Hamilton, though the quiet acquiescence of the last, with a majority of the Scots' parliament, was procured by a judicious distribution of honours and bribes towards the close of the negotiations.* Generally, the Scots viewed the termination of their constitution, and incorporation by a more powerful state, as political extinction; and slavery and poverty were anticipated. Events have disappointed these ominous predictions. The union of a poor, ill-governed country, with its richer and more intelligent neighbour, was likely to be productive of profit rather than loss. By the surrender of their legislative existence, they gave up no excellent form of civil polity. Their parliament was subservient to an intolerant church, bad in its composition, and in its practice little else than a factious and venal aristocracy.

The chief terms of the union will be found in the Events and Occurrences. Its basis was neither the relative population nor wealth of the two kingdoms, but a combination of both.

It was stipulated that Scotland should return forty-five representatives to the united parliament, and raise 48,000*l.*, by a land-tax, when England raised two millions. The ratio of population would have given Scotland about one-eighth of the legislative body, instead of something less than one-twelfth; but as she agreed to pay less than one-fortieth of direct taxes, she was not entitled to a much greater share of the representation.

It is a curious fact in the history of party, that some of the leading whigs, who had been mainly instrumental in effecting the union, supported a motion, made by the Jacobites a few years after, for its dissolution. The shifting combinations of PARTY from the settlement of the constitution at the Revolution, become very instructive. William III. was a whig, and his successor a tory; but except for short periods, no tory party was able in either reign to carry on the government upon tory principles. King William made no complete change of ministry during his reign, only modifying its composition in accordance to what appeared the prevailing sentiment of the parliament or the nation. It was composed of both parties; the whigs predominating till towards the close of his reign, when the tories acquired ascendancy. In the house of commons, which met in February, 1701, there was a majority of nearly two to one on the side of the tories. But their violence disgusting both the king and the nation, parliament was dissolved a few months after, when most of the counties and large towns chose whig members. Queen

* Belsham's *Hist. of Great Brit.*, ii., 261; *Hal. Const. Hist.*, iii., 453.

Anne's first ministry and first parliament were tory; but a change was soon wrought by the omnipotent influence of a court favourite over the queen. This was the famous Sarah, the wife of Marlborough, who from personal pique or other motive, happening to be a whig, turned the scale in their favour. Godolphin and Marlborough, in whom the queen reposed entire confidence, had been thought tories; they became gradually alienated from that party, and communicated their own feelings to the queen. The chief tory leaders in the cabinet, Rochester, Nottingham, and Buckingham, evincing a reluctance to carry on the war with the vigour Marlborough thought requisite, were removed from office.

In the new parliament of 1705 the whigs had a decided majority; and Godolphin declaring openly for them, his ministry generally had their support, though some of the principal offices were filled by tories up to 1708. In that year, the five leading whig peers, Halifax, Sunderland, Somers, Wharton, and Orford, in spite of the queen's dislike, forced themselves into the cabinet, and effected the removal of Oxford and Bolingbroke, who, though not regular tories in principle or connexion, were reduced, by their dismissal, to unite with that party. This administration subsisted till 1710, when it was overthrown by the circumstance of a new favourite lady having supplanted the old, by the popular discontent excited by the war, and the impolitic impeachment of Sacheverel. From this time, till the death of the queen, the administration was tory; and so popular had they become, that in the general election of 1713 four places out of five returned members of that denomination.

The abstract principles of the two parties are more divergent and easily discriminated than their practices. The whigs were more resolutely bent than the tories in subjecting the executive to parliamentary control, and incurred the fixed dislike of king William, in limiting the amount of his civil list, and appropriating the supplies. In queen Anne's reign the whigs were chiefly distinguished from their opponents in their more vigorous support of the war against France, as necessary to the maintenance of a balance of power in Europe; their disposition to tolerate the dissenters; and in their zealous attachment to the protestant succession.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1702. *Mar. 8.* Anne, princess of Denmark, the only surviving child of James II., by Anne Hyde, daughter of the earl of Clarendon, the historian, ascended the throne in the thirty-eighth year of her age.

11. The queen, in a speech to both houses, recommends a union between England and Scotland, expresses her determination to maintain the Protestant succession, and assures them that her "own heart is entirely English."

14. Resolved, that the same revenue which had been settled on king William, should be settled on her majesty for life. Subsequently the queen expressed her intention of applying 100,000*l.* of her first year's income to the public service.

15. Earl of Marlborough declared captain-general of the forces.

26. A proclamation for restraining the spreading of false news.

28. Earl of Marlborough sent ambassador to Holland.

Apr. 5. Marlborough returns, having concerted measures for opening the campaign against the French.

12. King William interred in the same vault with the late queen Mary and Charles II. The death of William caused much rejoicing in France and consternation among the allies; but the good understanding between the queen and parliament, and their resolution to adhere to the grand alliance, soon caused a re-acton.

17. Prince George of Denmark declared in council generalissimo of all the forces by sea and land.

23. Being St. George's day, her majesty was crowned at Westminster.

May 4. The queen, the emperor, and the States-general issued a declaration of war against France and Spain.

5. The house of lords resolved, that the report that the late king intended to exclude her majesty from succeeding to the crown, was false and groundless; and addressed her majesty to give orders to the attorney-general to prosecute the authors. Notice was also taken by the lords of a sermon preached by Dr. Binckes before the convocation, in which he drew a parallel between the sufferings of Jesus Christ and Charles I. It was voted scandalous and offensive to all Christians.

6. Great debates in council concerning the management of the war, whether one grand effort in Flanders, and the English general have the chief command of the army there, or we should only furnish our quota of troops, and leave the Dutch to defend their country at home, while England carried on the war by sea, and in the Spanish West Indies, and harassed the coasts of the enemy by frequent descents. The earl of Rochester, the queen's maternal uncle and head of the tory party, was for a naval war; but the earl of Marlborough, by the influence of the countess and lord Godolphin, carried it for a land war: whereupon Rochester retired from court.

15. A proclamation for a general fast for the success of the war.

In their convivial hours, the tories drank to the health of Sorrel, meaning the horse that fell with the late king; and under the appellation of the Little Gentleman in Velvet, toasted the mole that raised the hill over which the horse stumbled. As the horse had formerly belonged to sir John Fenwick, they insinuated that William's fate was a judgment upon him for his cruelty to that gentleman.

23. The lords addressed her majesty to encourage privateers who should attempt to possess themselves of the Spanish dominions in the West Indies.

24. The king of Sweden having made himself master of great part of Poland, entered Warsaw.

25. Royal assent given to an act for building churches and augmenting poor vicarages in Ireland, out of the forfeited estates. Parliament prorogued, the queen having first told them that she would maintain the toleration, but her principles would induce her to countenance those who had the truest zeal for the church of England.

June 9. Parliament of Scotland met, being the famous convention that assembled at the Revolution. Duke Hamilton, and a great number of the anti-revolutionists, looking upon this parliament to be

dissolved by the death of king William, withdrew, and refused to sit amongst them; but the queen's commissioner, the duke of Queensberry, produced her majesty's letter to them, and continued the session.

23. William Fuller having been prosecuted and convicted, in the king's-bench, for an impostor, and for publishing certain libels—the one intituled, "Original Letters of the late King James," &c.; the other, "Twenty-six Depositions of Persons of Quality and Worth,"—was sentenced to stand three times in the pillory, to be sent to the house of correction, and to pay a fine of 1000 marks.

New Ministry.—The queen's first ministry was nearly completed, and was mostly composed of the tory party. Lords Godolphin and Marlborough were then considered tories, and as such enjoyed a large share of the queen's confidence.

Earl Godolphin, *Lord-High-Treasurer.*

Prince George of Denmark (queen's husband), *Lord-High-Admiral.*

Earl of Nottingham, *Secretary of State.*

Sir Charles Hedges, *Secretary of State.*

Marquis of Normandy (afterwards Duke of Buckingham), *Privy-Seal.*

Sir John Leveson Gower (afterwards Lord Gower), *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Earl of Pembroke, *President of the Council.*

Henry Boyle (afterwards earl of Carleton), *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Duke of Somerset, *Master of the Horse.*

Duke of Devonshire, *Lord-Steward of the Household.*

Sir Nathan Wright, *Lord-Keeper.*

Earl of Rochester, *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Earl of Marlborough, *Captain-General of the Forces.*

The earl of Jersey, sir Edward Seymour, the earl of Abingdon, lord Dartmouth, and other decided tories, were appointed to places in the household, or sworn in of the privy council.

July 2. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

19. An order of council, that no officer or servant of her majesty should buy or sell any office or place in her household, on pain of being removed from her service.

Aug. 15. A battle fought at Luzara in Italy, between the Imperialists, under the command of prince Eugene, and the Spaniards and French, commanded by the duke of Vendôme. Great slaughter on both sides, and both claimed the victory. Eugene's army amounted only to 25,000; the confederates, to 40,000. Previously to the battle, the prince attempted to surprise the French by concealing his army behind the high dyke of Zero; but he was prevented by the accident of a French officer ascending the dyke and discovering,

to his amazement, the enemy's foot lying with their faces to the opposite declivity of the dyke, with all the horse in the rear ranged in order of battle.

The elector of Bavaria declared for France. The French tried to engage the Turks in a war with the emperor; but the grand vizier being strangled, prevented the execution of this design.

26. The queen and prince George set out from Windsor for Bath, and that night arrived at Oxford, where they were magnificently entertained.

29. Marlborough caused Venlo to be invested. On the 7th of September the trenches were opened, and on the 10th lord Cutts attacked fort St. Michael, sword in hand, and carried it before any breach was made; which was looked upon as one of the bravest actions that was performed during the war.

Sept. 17. The English troops, under the duke of Ormond, reembarked, after being guilty of many excesses, not having been able to approach Cadiz.

25. Venlo surrendered.

28. Robert Spencer earl of Sunderland, the great politician, died. His father fell at the battle of Newbury, and the earl was employed in diplomacy, where he soon acquired the plausible address, flexibility of principle, and disregard of popular liberty, for which he was eminent.

Oct. 6. Ruremond and Stevenswaert upon the Maese surrendered to Marlborough.

8. Five captains of admiral Benbow's squadron, in the West Indies, were tried on board the *Breda*, at Port Royal in Jamaica, for cowardice and breach of orders in an engagement with Du Casse. Captain Constable of the *Windsor* was cashiered and imprisoned. Vincent of the *Falmouth*, and Fogg, the admiral's captain, having signed a paper that they would not fight on the present occasion, they were only suspended, having behaved well in the action. Captains Kirby and Wade were condemned to be shot. They were sent to England, and shot on board ship at Plymouth, by virtue of a death-warrant for their immediate execution on their arrival. Admiral Benbow having his leg shattered by a chain shot in the engagement with Du Casse, died of that and other wounds in the West Indies, on the 4th of November. He was a rough but brave, honest, and experienced seaman, whose boisterous manner had produced a confederacy against him.

The elector of Bavaria surprised the imperial city of Ulm, the capital of Suabia, and published a manifesto, declaring he expected the circles of Suabia and Franconia should observe a neutrality; whereupon the ministers of Bavaria and Cologne were expelled the general diet of the empire.

12. Sir George Rooke, with the confederate fleet, attacked the French fleet, commanded by Chateaurenard, and the Spanish galleons, in the port of Vigo in Galicia. While the duke of Ormond landed his forces, and attacked the castles that secured the harbour, admiral Hopson broke through the boom that obstructed the entrance of the harbour, with infinite hazard. The English took four galleons and five large men-of-war; and the Dutch, five galleons and a large man-of-war. Six other galleons and about fourteen men-of-war were destroyed, with abundance of plate and rich effects.

13. A battle between the imperialists, under prince Lewis of Baden, and the French, commanded by marshal Villars, at Fridlingen. Both sides claimed the victory.

14. Marshal Boufflers abandoning the city of Liege, Marlborough took possession of it, and on the 23rd took the citadel by storm.

20. The new parliament met, and again choose Mr. Harley speaker.

22. The commissioners, appointed to treat concerning an union between England and Scotland, met for the first time at Whitehall.

27. The commons, in a congratulatory address to the queen on the success of her arms, said that "the conduct of the earl of Marlborough had signally *retrieved* the ancient glory of the English nation." Some debates arose upon the word *retrieved*, as seeming to cast a reflection on king William, and the word *maintained* was proposed in the room of it; but upon a division, it was carried for *retrieved*, by 180 to 80; which shows the tory and high church complexion of the commons. Alluding to this reflection on the late reign, a contemporary satire, by Mr. Walsh, M.P. for Worcestershire, says—

"Commanders shall be praised at William's cost,
And honour be *retrieved*—before it's lost."

Nov. 2. The commons voted 40,000 men for the sea service, and 350,000*l.* to be granted for guards and garrisons for the ensuing year. They also voted 70,933*l.* for ordnance, 833,826*l.* for the pay of the land-forces, and 51,843*l.* for subsidies to the allies.

5. The earl of Marlborough taken by a French party from Geldres, in his return from the confederate army to Holland; but not being known, he with great presence of mind produced an obsolete French pass belonging to his brother, general Churchill, which in the hurry was returned without examination; and after they had plundered the boat, the earl was dismissed. He proceeded on his voyage to the Hague, where he arrived on the 7th, a little after the re-

port of his being taken, and was congratulated on his escape.

Sir John Packington complained against the bishop of Worcester, of certain undue practices, in order to prevent his being elected a member for the county of Worcester. The commons resolved that the proceedings of the bishop, his son, and his agents, in order to the hindering the election of sir John, had been malicious, unchristian, and arbitrary, in high violation of the privileges of the commons. They addressed her majesty to remove him from being almoner, with which she complied, though the lords attended her with a counter address.

The borough of Hindon was convicted of bribery, and a bill introduced for disfranchising the town; yet, as Smollet notices, "no vote passed against the person who practised the corruption because he happened to be a Tory."

Nov. 12. The queen, attended by both houses and the great officers of state, went to St. Paul's, being a public thanksgiving for the successes of the campaign.

20. Commons resolve that a yearly sum of 100,000*l.* be settled upon prince George of Denmark, in case he should survive her majesty.

25. Haagen Swensden tried for feloniously stealing and marrying Mrs. Pleasant Rawlins, an heiress, and convicted, and executed for the same, 9th of December following.

28. Marlborough returned from Holland, and received the thanks of the lords and commons for his signal services during this campaign.

Dec. 2. The controversy between the upper and lower houses of convocation, as to the power of the lower house to adjourn themselves, continuing, the lower house offered to refer the dispute to her majesty, which the upper house declined.

7. The commons resolved, that the earl of Ranelagh, paymaster-general of the army, had misapplied several sums of the public money; and, to prevent any further prosecution, his lordship thought fit to resign his place: however, he was afterwards expelled the house of commons.

10. The queen sent a message to the commons, that she thought fit to grant the title of duke to the earl of Marlborough, and the heir males of his body; as also a pension of 5000*l.* per annum, out of the post-office, which she desired might be continued, with the honour, to the duke and his posterity. This occasioning warm debates, the queen let them know that the duke declined perpetuating the pension; and the house, by way of excuse, in an address, stated "their apprehension of the danger of making a precedent for the alien-

ation of the revenue of the crown, so much reduced by the exorbitant grants of the last reign."

The lords refusing to pass the bill for preventing occasional conformity, without such amendments as would elude the force of it; and being apprehensive the commons might tack it to a money-bill, in order to procure it a passage without mutilation, their lordships resolved, "That the annexing any clause to a money-bill, was contrary to the constitution and usage of parliament." This bill had its origin in an occurrence of the last reign. Sir Humphrey Edwin, a dissenter, who was lord-mayor of Loudon in 1697, had during his mayoralty attended in his formalities, with the city-sword, &c., at a meeting-house called Pinner's-hall. This was much exclaimed against at the time, and was now made the pretext of a bill for preventing, under severe penalties, occasional conformity, which was painted by the Tories as pregnant with the greatest danger (Belsham's Hist. Gr. Brit., ii. 154).

The queen ordered the words *Semper Eadem* to be used as her motto in her arms.

1703. Jan. 5. The queen representing to the parliament the great apprehensions the Dutch were under from the French king's augmenting his troops in Flanders, the commons agreed to augment the English troops there to 50,000 men, upon condition that the Dutch would prohibit all trade and correspondence with France; but this condition was never observed by the Dutch above one year during the war, though the English consented to much greater augmentations afterwards.

The commons foreseeing what immense sums must be carried to Flanders, to subsist the British troops, addressed, that they might be supplied in lieu with provisions from England; but this was not found practicable.

Feb. 4. The commons resolved, that Charles lord Halifax, auditor of the receipt of the exchequer, had neglected his duty, and was guilty of a breach of trust, in suffering misapplication of the public money, and addressed the queen that she would order the attorney-general to prosecute him. On the other side, the lords took upon them to examine the public accounts, and desired of the commons that their members who were commissioners of accounts might attend them; but the commons not complying with this message, their lordships proceeded in the examination, and resolved that lord Halifax had performed his duty, and had not been guilty of any breach of trust.

16. A conference between the two houses, where the lords asserted their right to examine the public accounts, and the

commons denied they had any right to intermeddle with them; the raising money, and applying it, being solely in the commons: whereupon the conference was broke up in great heat. The lords ordered their proceedings to be printed, and the commons followed their example.

25. Daniel De Foe published a pamphlet, intituled, "The Shortest Way with the Dissenters; or Proposals for the Establishment of the Church." It was a severe satire on the intolerance of the church party. The commons ordered it to be burnt by the common hangman, and the author persecuted. He was accordingly committed to Newgate, tried, condemned to pay a fine of 200*l.*, and stand in the pillory.

27. Parliament prorogued, after throwing out a place bill introduced by the whigs; the tories—Howe, Musgrave, and Seymour—opposing with great effrontery a measure they had advocated when not in power, and proposing in lieu, as more conducive to the independence of parliament, that the members should have a landed qualification. This novelty was rejected by the lords. The parties were so nearly balanced in the upper house that the queen, to secure a more decided majority next session, created four new peers.

The convocation, which sat at the same time as the parliament, was distracted by the same feuds and animosities that prevailed in that assembly, and were distinguished by the names of High-church and Low-church.

The practice of touching for the king's evil was about this period revived by the queen.

Mar. 13. An address to her majesty from the episcopal clergy of Scotland, showing how they were unjustly turned out of their benefices at the revolution; and entreating her majesty to compassionate them and their numerous families, who were reduced to a starving condition, on account of their adhering to the true apostolical church, of which her majesty was a member. The queen answered, they might be assured of her protection, and exhorted them to live peaceably with the presbyterian clergy.

Apr. 6. The duke of Marlborough laid siege to Bonne, which surrendered three weeks after. During the siege, the French surprised two battalions of the confederate troops in Tongeren, and made them prisoners, but by the capitulation of Huy they were released again.

May 6. The parliament of Scotland met, and soon manifested a very intolerant spirit, and disinclination even to accede to the protestant succession, in the princess Sophia, as established in England. Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun, an inflexible re-

publican, proposed that all places and pensions should be in the gift of parliament, and that the succession to the crown should be determined by a vote of parliament. The last suggestion was incorporated in the Act of Security.

June 1. A bill for the toleration of all protestant worship being presented to the Scotch parliament, the general assembly offered a strong representation against it, concluding in these words,—“That they were persuaded that to enact a toleration for those of the *episcopal way*—which God in his mercy avert!—would be to establish iniquity by a law.” An act soon after passed, making it equivalent to high-treason to declare that episcopacy ought to be restored. In these divisions, Fletcher, the republican, often voted with duke Hamilton, the head of the Jacobites.

Aug. 12. Admiral Shovel arriving before Althea, in Spain with the grand fleet, landed 2500 men, and published a declaration, inviting the Spaniards to come over to Charles III., and desert king Philip.

20. The queen and prince went to Bath.

Sept. 16. ACT OF SECURITY.—Parliament of Scotland adjourned, after the Act of Security had been touched with the royal sceptre, the dignified mode of signifying the royal assent in that kingdom. This act, which gave parliament the power to name a successor in case of her majesty's demise, gave such offence to the English parliament, that a bill was immediately introduced and passed, declaring the subjects of Scotland ALIENS so long as it remained in force, and prohibiting the importation of cattle into England, or the exportation of wool into Scotland. It had the effect of hastening the Union; for which the queen further prepared the way by conferring honours on those who seemed to have influence in Scotland, and by reviving the Order of the Thistle, which had been dropped by king William.

The grand seignior Mustapha deposed, and his throne usurped by his brother Achmet.

30. The commons of Ireland addressed her majesty, and acknowledged their dependence on the crown of England. High disputes arose concerning Irish forfeitures. Francis Annesley and others were expelled their seats in the house. They voted a provision for the half-pay officers, and abolished pensions to the amount of 17,000*l.* a year as unnecessary branches of the establishment. They likewise passed an act conformably to the English Act of Settlement.

Oct. The duke of Savoy agreeing to enter the grand alliance, so soon as it was discovered by the French, the duke of Vendôme made 22,000 of his troops prisoners

of war; which his highness retaliated, by seizing the French ambassador, and all the subjects of France in his dominions.

The commons of Ireland expelled Mr. Asgill their house, for publishing a book, whereby he endeavoured to show that man might be translated to heaven without dying; in which book the commons resolved there were many wicked and blasphemous doctrines.

Nov. 9. Parliament opened by the queen.

11. 12. The commons resolve to continue the maintenance, another year, of 50,000 men in Flanders; that 8000 should act in concert with Portugal; and that 40,000 men, inclusive of 5000 marines, be employed in the naval service.

25. About midnight began the most terrible storm ever known in England, the wind W.S.W., attended with flashes of lightning. It uncovered the roofs of many houses and churches, blew down the spires of several steeples and chimneys, tore whole groves of trees up by the roots. The leads of some churches were rolled up like scrolls of parchment, and several vessels and barges sunk in the Thames; but the royal navy sustained the greatest damage, being just returned from the Straits. Four third rates, one second rate, four fourth rates, and many others of less force, were cast away upon the coast of England, and above 15,000 seamen lost, besides those that were cast away in merchant ships. The loss that London alone sustained was computed at one million sterling; and the city of Bristol lost to the amount of two hundred thousand pounds. Among the persons drowned was rear-admiral Beaumont.

The commons granted the sum of 3,881,006*l.* 15*s.* for the maintenance of the forces, and for the discharge of the subsidies payable to her majesty's allies.

Dec. 6. The elector of Bavaria laid siege to Augsburg, which surrendered the 14th instant. He afterwards took the imperial city of Ratisbon, and, in a manner, made the diet his prisoners, and was joined by the French army commanded by marshal Villars. The Hungarians made an insurrection at the same time, under the famous prince Ragotski, and threatened Austria.

7. A bill directed against dissenters, to prevent occasional conformity, passed the commons, but was rejected in the lords, by a majority of twelve or thirteen voices. The bishops were equally divided. Lords Marlborough and Godolphin, to conciliate the tories, voted for it, though they declared the measure unseasonable.

12. A proclamation for a fast, on account of the great storm.

17. DISPUTES OF THE HOUSES.—The queen having informed parliament of a plot in Scotland, the lords appointed a com-

mittee of examination; at which the commons addressed her majesty, laying before her the concern they felt to see her prerogative violated by the lords, by wresting the examination out of her majesty's hands. The lords, on the contrary, resolved that they had an undoubted right to take the examination of persons charged with criminal matters, whether they were in custody or not, and to order them into the custody of the officers of the house; and that the address of the commons was unparliamentary, groundless, and without precedent.

A farther dispute happened between the two houses, in the case of Ashby and White, concerning the right of determining controverted elections. The commons resolved, that the right of an elector to vote was cognizable only in their house; and that Ashby having brought his action against the returning-officer for not receiving his vote, was guilty of a breach of privilege, and so were all the lawyers, attorneys, and other persons concerned in the cause; and ordered these resolutions to be fixed on Westminster-hall gate. The lords, on the contrary, resolved that if an elector's vote was refused, he had a right to bring his action; and that the commons, deterring people from bringing their actions, was hindering the course of justice, &c.

23. King Charles III. arrived at Spithead. The duke of Somerset, master of the horse, brought him an invitation to Windsor, where he arrived the 29th, and on the 31st returned with the duke to his seat at Petworth in Sussex. He set sail for Portugal the 5th of January; but being put back by contrary winds, it was the 27th of February before he arrived at Lisbon.

1704. Jan. 15. The duke of Marlborough went over to the Hague, to concert measures with the States-general, which being settled, the duke returned Feb. 24.

17. The queen published an order for the regulation of the playhouses, prohibiting them to act anything contrary to religion and good manners.

29. The papers relative to the Scotch plot submitted to the house of lords. This plot had its origin in the equivocal practices of Simon Fraser lord Lovat, a man of desperate enterprise, abandoned morals, and ruined fortune, who had been outlawed for having ravished a sister of the marquis of Athol. He had been employed by the Jacobites, but betrayed their secrets to the queen's government.

Feb. 7. QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY.—The queen sent a message to the commons, desiring that her revenue of the first-fruits and tenths might be settled for augmenting the maintenance of the poor clergy; and a bill was brought in for rendering her

majesty's intentions in that matter effectual. These ancient branches of the papal revenues produced at this time about 17,000*l.* a year, since greatly augmented by an annual grant of 100,000*l.* from parliament, and by the benefactions of private individuals. According to Burnet (*Hist. Own Time*, iv., 41), the annats and tenths in Charles II.'s reign chiefly went to the support of his mistresses and natural children. At the period of the queen's allocation of them for a clerical fund, they continued to be collected by the bishops, and were mostly assigned to courtiers—the earl of Sunderland enjoying a pension of 2000*l.* a year, charged on the first-fruits and tenths.

21. James Bouchier, formerly aide-de-camp to the duke of Berwick, tried and convicted of high-treason, in returning from France without license, was relieved.

24. A proclamation for apprehending John Tutching, the author of the "Observer," John Howe, the printer, and Benjamin Bragg, the publisher.

Mar. 17. The lords resumed the examination of the earl of Orford's accounts, in relation to his virtualing the fleet, while it wintered at Cadiz; and they confirmed an order the lords of the treasury had made to pass the said accounts.

The commons resolved that a book that was published, endeavouring to prove the mortality of the soul, and another, intitled, "*A Vindication of Religion against the Impostors of Philosophy*," contained doctrines destructive of the Christian religion; and ordered them to be burnt by the hangman.

April 3. Parliament prorogued. An act passed this session (4 Anne c. 10), allowing justices of the pence to apprehend such idle persons as had no visible means of subsistence, and deliver them to the military on paying them the levy-money allowed for passing recruits. Another bill was introduced to compel the several parishes in England to furnish the army a certain complement of men; but this was unanimously rejected "as a copy of what was practised in France and other despotic governments."

4. David Lindsey, condemned for high-treason, in returning from France without license. He was a Scotchman, and pleaded a Scotch pardon, but it was not allowed; however, the queen thought fit to grant him an English pardon.

7. The duke of Marlborough, general Churchill, &c., went over to Holland, in order to open the campaign.

8. Henry Sydney, earl of Romney, died. He was brother to the famous Algernon Sidney, and a nobleman of talent and accomplishment, much trusted by king William.

At the breaking up of the parliament, a pamphlet appeared, called, "*Legion's Humble Address to the House of Lords*," setting forth, that the house of commons had betrayed their trust, given up the people's liberties, and were become an unlawful assembly.

When it was known in France that the Scottish conspiracy was discovered, Fraser was, by the French king's order, confined in the Bastille, where he remained several years.

The English and Dutch forces arrived in Portugal, to the number of 12,000, the English, under the command of Schomberg, and the Dutch, under the command of general Fagel. Charles III. published a declaration, inviting his Spanish subjects to join him, and offering a pardon to all that should return to their duty within three months. The king of Portugal also published a declaration, asserting the title of Charles III. to the Spanish monarchy, and his reasons for appearing in his defence against Philip, whom he looked upon as an usurper.

May 16. Count Wratislaw, the imperial minister in England, having represented the distress the empire was reduced to, by the junction of the French and Bavarians, and the insurrection of the malcontents in Hungary, it was agreed between the queen of Great Britain and the States-general, that the duke of Marlborough should advance towards the Danube, with a powerful reinforcement of the confederate troops, and join the imperialists; and accordingly the duke began his march.

25. A proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l.* for discovering the author of the libel, intitled, "*Legion's Address*."

27. Two Dutch battalions surprised by the duke of Berwick on the frontiers of Portugal, and most of them made prisoners.

June 8. Duke Schomberg, disgusted with his command in Portugal, where he found neither horses for mounting the confederate cavalry, or anything else they had engaged to provide, in order to enable the allies to enter upon action, and the Portuguese generals insisting on the command of the English and Dutch, as well as their own troops, he desired to be recalled. The earl of Galway was appointed commander of the forces in Portugal, in his room, with a reinforcement of 8000 Dutch.

9. The Hungarian malcontents advanced within a league of Vienna, and put the imperial court into a great consternation.

July 2. The duke of Marlborough and prince Lewis of Baden attacked the Bavarian intrenchments at Schellenberg, near Donavert, and carried them after a short dispute, wherein 6000 were killed and

wounded on the side of the allies. The day after this action, the Bavarian garrison quitted Donawert, of which the allies took possession. The enemy had 8000 men killed, and the confederates took 16 pieces of cannon, and 13 stand of colours.

5. The confederate generals proposed terms of accommodation to the elector of Bavaria, which were in a manner agreed on; but, upon advice that marshal Tallard had passed the Black Forest, in order to join him, the elector broke off the treaty; whereupon the duke of Marlborough detached 30 squadrons of horse, who plundered the country of Bavaria to the walls of Munich. Upwards of 300 towns, villages, and castles were burnt and destroyed in this desolating incursion.

6. Parliament of Scotland met, and applied to her majesty to have the papers relating to what was called the Scotch Plot in England, laid before them; representing that the intermeddling of the English house of lords in that matter was an incroachment on the independence of Scotland, and her majesty's prerogative, as queen of that kingdom; and desired she should take such measures as might prevent all such intermeddling for the future.

The emperor and the malcontents of Hungary accept of the mediation of England and Holland.

21. The confederate fleet landed a body of troops in the bay of Gibraltar, commanded by the prince of Hesse, and attacked that place, which surrendered on the 24th. The seamen's attack was one of the boldest and most difficult ever made, being obliged to climb up rocks and precipices to come at the enemy. The land officers were of opinion it was impossible to carry those works, being defended by 100 guns mounted next the sea, and a mine was sprung at their landing, which blew up forty-two of them into the air, and wounded 60: however, the sailors pressed onwards, and carried most of the outworks at the first assault, and took in three days a fortress since made impregnable to all assaults.

30. Marshal Tallard joined the elector of Bavaria with an army of 22,000 men.

In Poland the war was still carried on between Charles XII. of Sweden, and Augustus, with unremitting fury and animosity.

Aug. 13. BATTLE OF BLENHEIM.—This decisive victory was won near the village from which it is named. The French and Bavarians amounted to about 60,000 men. Marshal Tallard commanded on the right, and posted twenty-seven battalions, with twelve squadrons, in Blenheim, supposing the allies would there make their chief effort; their left was commanded by the elector of Bavaria, assisted by general

Marsin. The confederates amounted to only 55,000 men, commanded on the right by prince Eugene, on the left by the duke of Marlborough. About noon the left wing of the allies passed, without molestation, the rivulet which separated them from the enemy's right; and, ascending the hill on which the French were posted, a furious and bloody conflict ensued. The French at length giving way on all sides, M. Tallard made an effort to gain the bridge thrown over the Danube between Blenheim and Hochstedt; but being hotly pursued, vast multitudes were either killed or forced into the river, and the marshal himself made prisoner. The troops enclosed in the village of Blenheim, finding themselves destitute of support, surrendered at eight in the evening at discretion. On the right, where Eugene commanded, the victory was not so decisive, the prince's cavalry, on which his main strength lay, having been three times repulsed; but after a prodigious exertion, he ultimately succeeded in driving the elector and Marsin from the field. The victory was complete; 10,000 French and Bavarians were killed, the greater part of 30 squadrons of cavalry perished in the Danube, and 13,000 were made prisoners. The loss of the allies exceeded 12,000. By this battle the French force in Germany was in effect annihilated. France was no longer formidable, and the empire was saved.

16. The French quit the city of Augsburgh, and the magistrates send a deputation, to desire the duke of Marlborough's protection.

17. A proclamation for a thanksgiving for the victory of Blenheim.

24. The confederate fleet, under sir George Rooke, engaged the French, commanded by the count De Thoulouse. The English having spent great part of their shot before Gibraltar, wanted ammunition, or they had gained a complete victory; however, the French were so battered, that they declined renewing the engagement the next day; and did not again attempt to dispute the dominion of the seas with the confederates during the war. The English killed and wounded amounted to 2358, of the Dutch, 400; and on the side of the enemy, officers only, near 200.

Oct. 22. The French and Spaniards laid siege to Gibraltar.

29. Parliament opened by the queen.

Nov. 5. Admiral Leake sailed from Lisbon, with a body of land-forces, for the relief of Gibraltar, where he arrived on the 9th, and found the French admiral de Pontis had blocked up that place with 13 men-of-war, which he surprised, took three, and run two of the largest ships on shore, obliging the enemy to raise the siege.

10. The electress of Bavaria made an entire surrender of that electorate to the imperialists; her highness being allowed a yearly pension out of the revenue of the electorate, for the support of her court and family.

Marlborough, when at Berlin, contracted for a reinforcement of 8000 men, to serve under prince Eugene in Italy, during the ensuing campaign.

The supplies voted for the war next year amounted to 4,670,486*l*.

23. The bill to prevent occasional conformity passed the commons a third time, but rejected by the lords.

24. Landau surrendered to the imperialists, after having lost near 4000 men.

Dec. 11. Sir Roger L'Estrange died, aged eighty-eight.

1705. Jan. 3. The standards taken at Blenheim put up in Westminster-hall.

6. The lord-mayor and aldermen of London invited the duke of Marlborough to dine with them.

Mar. 5. The parliament in Ireland met, and after passing several bills, was prorogued 16th of June following for one year.

The English parliament, after settling Woodstock on the duke of Marlborough, prorogued.

15. An order of council, whereby the Dutch have liberty to trade with France, notwithstanding the war.

Apr. 5. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

10. The queen and prince set out for Newmarket, and on the 16th were magnificently entertained at Trinity-college, in Cambridge. The queen knighted the famous Mr. Isaac Newton, mathematical professor.

May 5. Leopold, emperor of Germany, dies, and is succeeded by his son Joseph, who inherited the father's weakness and bigotry.

July 18. The duke of Marlborough forced the French lines near Tirllemont, and would have assailed the enemy in their strong camp of Parke, but the deputies of the States refused to allow the Dutch troops to join in the attack.

Aug. 16. A sharp engagement between the imperialists and the French at Cusno in Italy, where several thousands were killed on each side. Both parties claimed the victory, and sung *Tu Deum* for it.

Sept. 1. A pamphlet, called "*The Memorial of the Church of England*," was presented at the Old Bailey, and ordered to be burnt by the hangman.

3. The allies before Barcelona attacked the fort of Montjuic, which surrendered to the earl of Peterborough on the 6th; but the prince of Hesse was killed at the first attack.

Oct. 25. The new parliament met at

Westminster. Of 513 members, 457 were present at the choice of a speaker. The court declared for Mr. Smith, who had been chancellor of the exchequer, and was a man of ability. The Tories, in opposition, nominated Mr. Bromley, member for the university of Oxford. On the division, Mr. Smith carried it by 250 to 207 voices; so that it was evident the Whigs predominated; and having already a majority in the lords, the earl of Godolphin, who had hitherto affected neutrality, now declared in favour of the successful party. Both houses, in their addresses, concurred in the policy of the war, and expressed their determination to support it till the crown of Spain was fixed in the house of Austria.

The convocation met at the same time, but resuming with unabated animosity their old feuds, was indefinitely adjourned by the queen.

Dec. 14. Both houses presented an address to the queen, with their resolutions, That the church of England was in a safe and flourishing condition; and that whoever goes about to insinuate that the church is in danger, is an enemy to the queen, the church, and the kingdom; and desired her majesty to punish the authors of such reports.

30. Queen Catherine, dowager to Charles II. of England, and sister to the present king of Portugal, dies.

1706. Jan. 4. The duke of Marlborough proposed a loan of 500,000*l*. for the emperor, which was soon raised by subscription.

Mar. 19. Parliament prorogued.

Mr. Stephens, rector of Sutton in Surrey, being carried before a secretary of state for reflecting on the duke of Marlborough's conduct last campaign, begged pardon, and published a recantation.

It being customary on New Year's-day, for those who practised in chancery, to present the lord-chancellor with a New Year's gift, which amounted to 1500*l*. a year, the lord-keeper Cowper refused accepting the same, it appearing too much like bribery.

April 16. The commissioners of the respective kingdoms of England and Scotland having been again appointed, met the first time in the Cockpit, for treating of an union. They consisted of the principal ministers and officers of each kingdom, and certain preliminaries were agreed to, agreeably to which the negotiation was to be conducted; namely, that all the proposals should be made in writing; that every point when settled should be reduced to writing; that no point should be binding till all matters were so adjusted as to be fit to be laid before the queen and the two parliaments; and that all the proceedings should be kept secret.

May 12. Being Whit-Sunday, the duke of Marlborough obtained a complete victory over the elector of Bavaria, and marshal Villeroi at Ramillies. Twenty thousand of the enemy were killed, wounded, or prisoners; 190 standards were taken, with great part of their artillery and baggage. The loss on the part of the confederates was inconsiderable, not more than 2000 persons. Prince Lewis, of Hesse, and M. Bentinck were slain, and colonel Bringfield had his head taken off with a cannon-ball while holding the duke's stirrup. All the chief towns of the Netherlands surrendered after this decisive victory, and acknowledged Charles III. for their sovereign.

21. A proclamation for a thanksgiving for the victory at Ramillies, the reduction of the Spanish Netherlands, and the success of the allies in Catalonia.

27. The Portuguese advancing towards Madrid, king Philip retired towards the French frontier.

June 24. The marquis Das Minas and the earl of Galway took possession of Madrid, and on the 27th Charles III. was proclaimed in that city; whereupon Toledo and several other towns made their submission.

29. The confederate generals at Madrid sent expresses to Charles III. to hasten his march to his capital, and join them with all the forces he could assemble; but Aragon declaring for him, he marched to Saragossa, and trifled away so much time there, that king Philip drew an army together, superior to that of the allies.

July 6. Prince Eugene passed the Adige, in order to relieve Turin.

22. The articles of union between England and Scotland were signed by the commissioners of both kingdoms, and the next day presented to the queen.

Aug. 5. King Philip's troops took possession of Madrid again; and Toledo, Salamanca, and the other towns in Castile declared for him.

Sept. 5. Charles XII. of Sweden invaded Saxony; where all the great towns submitted to him except Dresden. His army lived there a whole year at discretion, draining the electorate of all its treasure and resources.

7. The duke of Savoy and prince Eugene attacked the French in their intrenchments before Turin, and obtained a complete victory. The duke of Savoy entered in triumph the same day into his capital, which was reduced to the greatest extremity, having endured a four months' siege. In this engagement the duke of Orleans and marshal Marsin were wounded, the marshal mortally, and near 5000 of the French killed. The allies took 250 pieces of cannon, 108 mortars, 7000 prisoners, and

all the tents, baggage, ammunition, and provision belonging to the French army. The allies lost 3000 men.

24. Peace concluded between the kings of Sweden and Poland, whereby Augustus stipulated to renounce the crown of Poland.

Oct. 13. The parliament of Scotland was convened for the last time, the duke of Queensberry opening the session, as high-commissioner, with unusual magnificence.

21. The elector of Bavaria sent a letter to the duke of Marlborough, and another to the States-general, proposing a treaty of peace between the confederates and France; but the allies refused to treat unless the French king offered satisfactory preliminaries to be the foundation of a treaty.

The earl of Sunderland, who had married the second daughter of the duke of Marlborough, was made secretary of state in the room of sir Charles Hodges. Notwithstanding this promotion, the power of the Marlborough family was gradually being undermined by the introduction of Mrs. Masham at court, and who, though introduced by the duchess, was in a fair way of supplanting her in the estimation of the queen. By means of Mrs. Masham, secretary Harley obtained private audiences of the queen, of which he availed himself, to represent the political thraldom in which her majesty was kept by the Marlboroughs, and that the war was unnecessarily protracted, for the profit of the duke, but to the great detriment of the nation. The queen, who was jealous of her authority, and secretly disliked the politics of the whigs, lent a favourable ear to these representations.

Dec. 3. Don Pedro, king of Portugal, died in the 58th year of his age, and was succeeded by his eldest son Don Juan IV.

The parliament of Scotland met, and next day agreed to a vote of thanks to Marlborough.

7. Both houses of convocation addressed her majesty, and congratulated her on the wonderful successes of this year's campaign.

19. The colours and standards taken at Ramillies were put up in Guildhall, by order of her majesty; and the same day the dukes of Marlborough, Ormond, &c., were entertained in the city.

21. Several tumults happened in Edinburgh, and other places, on the signing of the articles of the union.

1707. *Jan. 8.* The commons addressed her majesty, that she would at her own expense erect Blenheim-house as a monument of the glorious actions of the duke of Marlborough; and they would make some provision for the more honourable support of his dignity in his posterity; whereupon her majesty desired that a pension of

5000*l.* per annum might be settled as the honour and manor of Woodstock were.

The earl of Stair, who much favoured the union, died.

16. The act, for ratifying the articles of union, passed in Scotland. Yeas, 110; noes, 69.

Mar. 6. UNION WITH SCOTLAND.—The bill, for ratifying the articles of union, received the royal assent. The debates on this important measure were inconsiderable, and the chief objection urged was, in a protest from some lords, to the effect that the method of electing peers to sit in the house of lords was so great a constitutional change that it might be dangerous. The articles of union were twenty-five, and the substance of the most considerable as follows:—

1. That on the 1st of May, 1707, and for ever after, the kingdoms of England and Scotland shall be united into one kingdom, by the name of Great Britain.

2. The succession to the monarchy of Great Britain shall be the same as was before settled with regard to that of England.

3. The United Kingdom shall be represented by one parliament.

4. There shall be a communication of all rights and privileges between the subjects of both kingdoms, except where it is otherwise agreed.

9. When England raises 2,000,000*l.* by a land-tax, Scotland shall raise 48,000*l.*

16, 17. The standards of the coin, of weights, and of measures, shall be reduced to those of England, throughout the United Kingdom.

18. The laws relating to trade, customs, and the excise, shall be the same in Scotland as in England, but all the other laws of Scotland shall remain in force, though alterable by the parliament of Great Britain; yet with this proviso, that laws relating to public policy are alterable at the discretion of the parliament: laws relating to private rights are not to be altered but for the evident utility of the people of Scotland.

22. Sixteen peers are to be chosen to represent the peerage of Scotland in parliament, and forty-five members to sit in the house of commons.

23. The sixteen peers of Scotland shall have all privileges of parliament, and all peers of Scotland shall be peers of Great Britain, and rank next after those of the same degree at the time of the union, and shall have all privileges of peers, except sitting in the house of lords, and voting on the trial of a peer.

The respective churches of England and Scotland were confirmed in their rights and privileges as fundamental conditions of the union.

STATE OF THE PRESS.—As many severe and sarcastic writings had lately appeared, in which the whig ministry were sharply assailed, and the queen's person reflected upon, the government determined to make examples of the authors and publishers. Dr. Browne was twice pilloried for a copy of verses, intitled, "The Country Parson's Advice to the Lord-Keeper," and a letter he wrote to Mr. secretary Harley. William Stephens, rector of Sutton, in Surrey, underwent the same sentence, as author of a pamphlet, called "A Letter to the Author of the Memorial of the Church of England." Edward Ward was fined and set in the pillory for having written a burlesque poem on the times, under the title of "Hudibras Revived;" and the same punishment was inflicted on William Pittes, author of a performance, intitled, "The Case of the Church of England's Memorial Fairly Stated."

April 14. Battle of Almanza, in which the French and Spaniards, commanded by the duke of Berwick, defeated the Portuguese, English, and Dutch, commanded by the marquis Das Minas and the earl of Galway. The vanquished lost 14,000 men, exclusive of 800 officers, with all their artillery, standards, and ammunition. This disaster was ascribed to the cowardice of the Portuguese, who fled at the first onset.

24. Parliament prorogued to the 30th instant; the queen first informing both houses she intended the present members of the parliament of England should be members of the respective houses of the first parliament of Great Britain, on the part of England.

29. A proclamation, declaring that the members of the present parliament of England should be members of the first parliament of Great Britain, on the part of England.

30. The duke of Marlborough had an interview with Charles XII. of Sweden, in Saxony. The duke, whose abilities were equally adapted to the cabinet and the field, had been sent on this mission to sound the views of this warlike prince as to the grand alliance. Marlborough soon discovered that Charles was more influenced by his passions than policy, and returned with the favourable intelligence that his resentment was chiefly directed against France and the czar of Muscovy.

May 1. The union with Scotland took effect, and being the day appointed for a thanksgiving for the same, the queen went to St. Paul's in great state, the bishop of Oxford preaching before her.

4. Cowper, the eminent whig lawyer, made lord-chancellor.

20. Duke of Montrose, earl of Seafield, earl of Mar. and earl of Loudon, Scotch

noblemen, sworn of the privy council of Great Britain.

24. Marshal Villars forced the lines of Buhl, and laid several parts of Germany under contribution.

July 10. The duke of Savoy and prince Eugene, by the assistance of admiral Shovel and the confederate fleet, passed the Var, with an army of 40,000 men, and beat the French from their intrenchments on that river, whereby they opened themselves a passage through Provence to Toulon.

21. Charles III. proclaimed in Naples.

28. A proclamation, declaring what ensigns and colours should be worn by merchant-ships.

Aug. 21. The duke of Savoy finding the taking of Toulon impracticable, the French having assembled an army of 40,000 men within the lines that defended the place, he caused the town to be bombarded, and this day retired from before it, repassing the Var the 1st of September, and the Col de Tende the 4th, without being attacked by the French in his retreat.

The conduct of the allies this campaign lost them almost all the advantages they had gained by a long series of triumphs: 40,000 men were employed in the project of besieging Toulon, and 15,000 more were detached to Naples, while Spain was left to the mercy of the duke of Berwick and king Philip. Marlborough had opposed to him in Flanders the duke of Vendôme, who fully maintained the reputation he had acquired in Italy. The Frenchman chose his posts with so much judgment that Marlborough could not, without rashness, venture to attack him; so that the campaign ended without a siege, or even any attempt by way of diversion, to assist the allies in their attack on Toulon.

Sept. 29. A treaty was signed, between the emperor and the king of Sweden, at Leipsic, under the guarantee of queen Anne and the States-general.

Oct. 8. Marlborough left the army, which soon after went into winter-quarters.

9. An English fleet of merchantmen and transports, bound for Lisbon, were attacked by the Brest and Dunkirk squadrons off the Lizard; and three men-of-war, part of the English convoy, with several merchant-ships, were taken: the *Devonshire* man-of-war was blown up; the *Royal Oak* was boarded by the French, but cleared her decks, and got safe to Ireland.

22. Admiral Shovel, returning home with the confederate fleet from the Mediterranean, was lost, together with three of his ships, on the rocks of Scilly. The admiral was much respected; and his body being washed ashore, he was interred with distinguished honour in Westminster-abbey.

23. The first parliament of Great Britain met, and choose Mr. Smith speaker.

Nov. 3. The king of Prussia was declared sovereign of Neufchatel, which had been long contended for by thirteen competitors, who had engaged most of the princes of Europe in the dispute.

16. ROYAL NAVY.—Statement of the amount of the naval force likely to be fit for service in the ensuing year, inclusive of ships and vessels building or repairing:—

Rates.	No.	Men.	Guns.
First	4	3,190	410
Second	5	3,400	480
Third	38	17,330	2762
Fourth	61	18,200	3416
Fifth	39	6,260	1398
Sixth	29	3,100	664
Fire-ships	6	270	48
Bomb-vessels	7	205	28
Yachts	10	304	84
Advice-boats	1	40	10
Brigantines	3	135	30
Sloops	7	445	62
Store-ships	2	115	32
Hulks	0	0	0
Hoyas	0	0	0
Total	212	52,994	9424

18. Elias Marion, John Aude, and Nicholas Facio, French refugees, pretending to be prophets, were convicted as impostors and disturbers of the public peace. They had given some troubles to the authorities, had assemblies in Soho, under the countenance of sir Richard Bulkeley and John Lacy, and published predictions in an unintelligible jargon. They were sentenced to pay a fine of 20 marks each, and stand twice on a scaffold, with papers on their breasts denoting their offence; a sentence which was executed at Charing-cross and the Royal-exchange.

19. Great debates in parliament about the mismanagement of the last campaign, and the deficiencies of troops at the battle of Almanza.

27. As also concerning the losses the merchants had sustained for want of sufficient convoys.

The commons resolved to raise this year, for the service of the war, nearly the sum of six millions.

The convocation sat at the same time as the parliament, and would have opposed the union, but were prevented.

Mr. Asgill, a member of the commons, expelled for publishing a book, endeavouring to show that a man might be translated to eternal life, without passing through death, and his book was burnt by the hangman.

Dec. 19. Upon the debates in the lords

concerning the affairs of Spain, lord Peterborough's conduct was highly applauded.

23. Both houses addressed her majesty, and offered it as their unanimous opinion, that no peace could be honourable or safe, if Spain, the West Indies, or any part of the Spanish monarchy were suffered to remain under the power of the house of Bourbon; but desired that her majesty would make the most pressing instances with the emperor and the allies, to second her majesty's vigorous efforts in the prosecution of the war.

31. William Gregg, a clerk in Mr. secretary Harley's office, was committed for corresponding with France. He was tried at the Old Bailey the 19th of January, and condemned for high-treason. Some thought Mr. Harley was implicated, but he acquitted him at his execution at Tyburn, which was on the 28th of April. Two others, Valiere and Bara, were committed at this time for communicating to the enemy the stations of the British cruisers, the strength of convoys, and time of sailing of our merchant-ships.

1708. Feb. 11. Lords Godolphin and Marlborough having become jealous of the growing influence of Mrs. Masham and Mr. Harley, the queen was compelled to assent to Mr. Harley's dismissal. He was succeeded by Mr. Boyle, the chancellor of the exchequer, who was succeeded by Mr. Smith, the speaker. St. John, secretary at war, and sir S. Harcourt, attorney-general, resigned their places, the former of which was given to Mr. Robert Walpole, now distinguished by his business and parliamentary talents.

27. The government having had intelligence of an extraordinary armament in Dunkirk, and looking upon it to be designed against Great Britain, a fleet was manned out, under the command of sir George Byng, who this day came before Dunkirk.

Mar. 6. Sir George Byng having been driven from his station before Dunkirk into the Downs by stress of weather, the French fleet, commanded by M. Forbin, with the Pretender, who had assumed the name of the Chevalier de St. George, and twelve battalions of land-force, set sail; but were detained at Newport-Pitts by contrary winds till the 8th, when they set sail again for Edinburgh.

12. Sir George Byng arrived at Edinburgh Frith, and next day took one of the enemy's men-of-war, on board of which was lord Griffin, lord Clermont, and his brother, Mr. Middleton, the marquis De Levi, and several other French and Irish officers, with five companies of French soldiers. All the noblemen and persons of distinction in Scotland, supposed to be disaffected to the government, were imprisoned in Edinburgh-castle, or brought up to London.

22. A proclamation for apprehending James Ogilvy, and others, the Pretender's adherents.

Apr. 1. Parliament prorogued, and on the 15th instant dissolved by proclamation.

A remarkable debate took place during the late session relative to Scotland. Notwithstanding the union of the legislatures, it was a doubt whether a distinct executive government should not be maintained in that kingdom. But the commons were determined against it, and a bill was introduced, providing that there should be only one privy council in the United Kingdom. The court exerted all its influence against this bill, and it only passed the lords by 50 to 45. Sir Patrick Johnson presented sir George Byng with the freedom of the city of Edinburgh in a gold box, with an inscription, reciting the glorious occasion of their conferring it on him.

26. A proclamation for electing the sixteen peers of Scotland to sit in the parliament of Great Britain.

31. The duke of Marlborough went over to the Hague, and was met by prince Eugene and the deputies of the States. A long conference ensued on the plan of the next campaign.

May 15. Lord Griffin attainted of high-treason. He was afterwards reprieved, and died in the Tower.

20. A proclamation for distributing the prize and bounty-money the seamen were entitled to, in certain proportions.

28. Commodore Wager, with a squadron of four English men-of-war, engaged seventeen Spanish galleons near Carthagena, in the West Indies. The Spanish admiral, reckoned to be worth 30 millions of pieces of eight, was blown up, and the rear-admiral taken. Commodore Wager's share of this prize amounted to 100,000*l.*; and upon his return home he was made rear-admiral.

June 30. The affair of the ninth electorate adjusted, and the three colleges of the empire resolved to admit the elector of Hanover to sit and vote in the electoral college, which had been opposed for 16 years.

July 5. The French surprised the city of Ghent, there being no other garrison in the place but the burghers; and on the 6th they surprised Bruges.

11. BATTLE OF OUDENARDE.—The dukes of Burgundy and Berry, and the chevalier de St. George having taken the field with the duke of Vendôme, and laid siege to Oudenarde, were attacked near that place by the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene, defeated, and forced to retire to Ghent. It had been the intention of Vendôme to attack the allies when they were divided in passing the Scheldt, but

he was overruled by the presumption of the duke of Burgundy. The skill and bravery with which Eugene and Marlborough led on the troops excited general admiration. The French lost about 14,000 men and 100 standards, and were only saved from entire destruction by the masterly style in which Vendôme directed the retreat. The allies lost about 2,000 men.

15. Marlborough levelled the French lines between Ypres and the Lys, and put Artois and Picardy under contribution. At the same time the French laid Dutch Flanders under contribution.

27. The Muscovite ambassador having had his audience of leave, was arrested in the open street, for debt, by Mr. Morton, a laceman in Covent-garden, and some others of his creditors, and compelled to put in bail to the action, which was but for 50*l*. The Imperial, Prussian, and other ministers, demanded satisfaction for the affront put upon a public minister, which occasioned a law, the next session of parliament, for the protection of ambassadors.

Aug. 13. Prince Eugene sat down before Lisle, the capital of French Flanders, while the duke of Marlborough, with the grand army, covered the siege. The garrison consisted of twenty-one battalions, commanded by marshal Boufflers. Vendôme was indefatigable in his contrivances to interrupt this siege, particularly in cutting off the convoys, of which the allies soon stood in need. By throwing up entrenchments 70 miles in length, he secured all the passes of the Scheldt.

There was such a prodigious fall of flies in London about the middle of this month that in the streets the people's feet made as deep an impression upon them as upon thick snow. Vast quantities were swept into the kennel, but it does not appear any distemper arose from their corruption.

18. A proclamation for encouraging the design of erecting schools in the highlands of Scotland, for propagating religion.

Sept. 7. The allies attacked the counter-scarp of Lisle, and took it, but with the loss of 2000 men, and 16 of the engineers.

20. A proclamation against unlawful intruders into churches and parsonage-houses in Scotland. Another for putting the laws in execution against popery in Scotland.

21. At another single attack of Lisle, the allies acknowledged they lost above 1000 men, and prince Eugene was wounded by a musket-ball that grazed his skull, and being confined to his bed, the duke of Marlborough took upon him the direction of the siege.

29. A convoy of 800 waggons, marching from Ostend to the allied camp, under the command of major-general Webb, was

attacked near Wynnendale, by 24,000 men, commanded by the count de la Mothe; but the French were defeated, and the convoy arrived safe at Lisle on the 30th. Major-general Webb gained great honour by this victory, the enemy being nearly treble his number, and possessed of a train of artillery, which he wanted. The same day the French threw a great supply of powder into Lisle, having detached 2000 horse for that purpose, with every man a bag of powder behind him. They passed the lines of the allies, pretending to be friends, and above 1400 of them got into the town.

30. Prince Eugene being recovered of his wound, again took the command of the siege of Lisle.

Oct. 23. The town of Lisle surrendered, and the garrison retired into the castle, except the horse, which were allowed to march away. The allies acknowledged they had 12,000 men killed and wounded in taking the town only.

28. Prince George of Denmark died of asthma, at Kensington, and was privately interred in Westminster. He was in his fifty-fifth year, and had been twenty-five years married to the queen. His mildness of temper, want of ability, and uninspiring disposition, seem to have fitted him for the delicate position in which he was placed.

Nov. 18. The parliament of Britain met, being the first new parliament after the union; sir Richard Onslow chosen speaker. Owing to the death of prince George, the session was opened by commission. The whigs having a decided majority, the debates of the session were uninteresting. Addresses of condolence were privately presented to the queen from both houses, and expressive of their determination to support the war. The convocation met contemporaneously with parliament, but was not suffered to sit a single day. Writs of prorogation were successively issued to the end of the session, to interrupt its sittings; by which means a stop was put to much factious clamour and nonsense.

25. Earl of Pembroke appointed lord-high-admiral of England; lord Wharton, lord-lieutenant of Ireland; lord Somers, president of the council. The celebrated Mr. Addison appointed Wharton's secretary.

Dec. 3. Lords Haddo and Johnston being returned the representatives of two Scotch counties, it was resolved in parliament that the eldest sons of the Scotch peers are ineligible to sit in the commons as representatives of Scotland. This resolution was founded on an act of the Scotch parliament, confirmed by the union, and does not apply to England.

9. The citadel of Lisle surrendered to the allies, and the 11th instant the garrison

son marched out, being allowed their small arms, baggage, and twelve pieces of cannon. They were conducted to Douay.

30. Ghent surrendered after twelve days' siege, to the duke of Marlborough; and the French having abandoned Bruges, Plassandael and Leffingen, two or three days after, without waiting to be attacked, the duke sent detachments to take possession of those places. Marlborough was fortunate in the sudden reduction of Ghent; for the articles were scarcely signed, when the severest frost set in that had been known for many years. The very horses' hoofs froze to the ground, and the army must have perished, if the town had held out much longer.

A proclamation for a thanksgiving for the successes of the campaign.

1709. Jan. 11. George Brudenel, earl of Cardigan, renounced the Roman-catholic religion, and qualified himself to sit in the house of peers.

12. The commons resolved, that a pamphlet, proposing the taking off the sacramental test, was a scandalous and seditious libel, and ordered it to be burnt by the hands of the hangman.

28. Both houses addressed her majesty to marry again. The queen made answer to the petition, That the provision she had made for the protestant succession would always be a proof of her hearty concern for the happiness of the nation; but that the subject of their address was of such a nature, that she was persuaded they did not expect a particular answer.

Feb. 3. A third secretary of state appointed; namely, for North Britain.

The Bank of England offered to circulate 2,500,000*l.* in Exchequer-bills, on condition the term of their incorporation should be prolonged 21 years from 1711, and their stock of 2,201,171*l.* doubled by a new subscription; which being accepted, and books opened, the whole subscription required was filled in four hours' time.

18. Sir Edward Seymour died. He had sat in all the parliaments since the year 1661; been several times speaker of the commons; a privy-counsellor; comptroller of her majesty's household, &c.

The French king was so humiliated by his reverses, that he sent the president Rouille to Holland to settle preliminaries. But the States would enter into no arrangements without the privy of England and Austria.

Mar. 1. Marlborough arriving in England, received the thanks of the house of lords; and believing he had brought over proposals of peace with him, both houses addressed the queen the 3rd instant, That the French king might be obliged to own her majesty's title, and the protestant suc-

cession; and that the allies might be guaranteees of the same: that the Pretender might be removed out of the French dominions; and the fortifications and harbour of Dunkirk be demolished on the conclusion of a peace.

3. A proclamation for keeping the circuit-courts in Scotland.

April 21. Parliament was prorogued. Supplies voted this session, 6,457,850*l.*

TRIALS FOR TREASON.—A law passed this session for the regulation of trials for high-treason in Scotland. By one clause torture is abolished, and the forms of procedure more nearly assimilated to the milder practice of the English courts. But as a drawback on these ameliorations, the pains and forfeitures of the English law were extended to Scotland. This was vehemently opposed by the Scotch members, who declared it incompatible with the perpetual entails of the greater part of Scotch landed estates. After much debate, a clause was carried in the commons, that no estate in land should be forfeited upon a judgment of high-treason. This clause could only be carried in the lords with a proviso moved by lord Somers, "That it should not take place till after the death of the Pretender."

22. Mr. Steele publishes the first number of "The Tatler." Though crude in its plan, and containing some of the ordinary information of a newspaper, it was the foundation of that popular mode of instruction, by periodical essays, which gave a distinctive tone to British manners and sentiment.

28. An order of council, for the stopping all neutral ships going to France with corn during the great dearth in that kingdom.

A proclamation, prohibiting all plays, gaming-booths, and music-booths, at May-fair, in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-fields.

The duke of Marlborough and lord Townshend appointed plenipotentiaries to treat of a peace at the Hague. M. de Torcy was appointed on the part of France, and prince Eugene, assisted by count Zinzendorf, on the part of Austria.

May 7. The Spaniards, under the command of the marquis de Bay, obtained a victory over the Portuguese, and their allies, on the banks of the river Caya. Brigadier Pierce of the English, and his whole brigade, were made prisoners; as also major-general Sankey, and the earl of Barrymore.

21. James Abercromby, esq., of Edinburgh, a captain in the Coldstream regiment of guards, created a baronet.

28. The substance of the terms proposed by the allies to France were, That she should acknowledge Charles III. king of Spain, and lend her assistance, if necessary, to com-

pel Philip, the rival candidate for the throne, to withdraw from the Peninsula in two months; that she should put Strasburg, Brisac, &c., into the emperor's hands; that she should acknowledge the queen of Great Britain, and the protestant succession, expel the Pretender, and demolish Dunkirk; and that she should relinquish to the Dutch, Namur, Mons, Charleroy, Luxemburg, Furnes, Menin, Lisle, Ypres, Douay, Tournay, Conde, and Maugebe, in the Netherlands. Other articles there were, to the number of forty. But Louis XIV. refused to subscribe to such humiliating conditions, which it is supposed the allies were induced to offer him at the instance of Marlborough and Eugene, who secretly desired a continuance of hostilities. The French king, in a circular to the bishops, appealed to his subjects, who, though grievously impoverished by the war, sympathized with their humbled sovereign. In England both the whig ministry and the war began to be unpopular from this time. An opinion prevailed that the aggrandisement of Austria might be as dangerous to the peace of Europe as of France.

June 9. Rouille, the French minister at the Hague, returned to France.

About the beginning of this month, six or seven thousand Palatines were brought into England, recommended as great objects of charity. They proved idle and useless; and having been subsisted at the public expense about three months, some of them were sent back to Holland, and the rest to Ireland and the plantations in America.

16. An order of council, for a brief for the Palatines.

18. Marlborough and prince Eugene assembled the confederate troops near Lisle.

The pope acknowledged Charles III. for king of Spain.

27. The allies invested Tournay.

The king of Sweden being advanced too far into the territories of the czar of Muscovy, was defeated at Poltava, and his whole army destroyed, or taken prisoners, except 300 horse, with which the king escaped over the Boristhenes, and retired into the Turkish dominions.

28. The duke of Savoy forced the French lines at Feasons.

July 30. Tournay surrendered.

Aug. 1. King Augustus, marching into Poland, to recover the throne he had abdicated, published a manifesto, with the reasons for his returning thither.

Sept. 11. The battle of MALPLAQUET, near Mons, was fought; the allies being commanded by prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough; the French, by the marshals Villars and Boufflers. Each army consisted of about 120,000 men. The

French had posted themselves most advantageously in the woods of La Merte and Tanieres, defended by triple lines of entrenchments. After an obstinate, fierce, and bloody engagement, their lines were forced with the loss of 20,000 men, and the enemy retired in good order, having lost about half that number; nor were the allies in a condition to pursue them far. Marshal Villars being wounded in the action, Boufflers took upon him the command of the French army. The allies reaped no equivalent advantage to compensate them for the immense loss they suffered in this rash and desperate conflict.

Oct. 21. Mons surrendered to the allies.

24. A proclamation against forestalling of corn, it being about this time at an excessively high price.

Nov. 5. SACHEVEREL'S SERMONS.—Henry Sacheverel, rector of St. Saviour's, Southwark, a clergyman of the high church party, preaching at St. Paul's cathedral, before the corporation, upon the words of St. Paul,—“Perils from false brethren,”—indulged in a virulent attack on ministers and their measures. Divers of the bishops were reviled as “perfidious prelates and false sons of the church,” on account of their approval of the toleration of the dissenters. He affirmed the “church was in danger,” inculcated the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance, and exhorted the people to “put on the whole armour of God.” This sermon was printed at the request of the lord-mayor, was praised by the Tories and Jacobites, and circulated by them through the kingdom. Sacheverel had been chamber-fellow with Addison, the celebrated essayist, at Oxford. As a minister he was a man of narrow intellect and over-heated imagination. Had not the violence of faction, by an injudicious persecution, lifted him into importance, neither he nor his doctrines would scarcely have been heard of beyond his own parish.

23. William Beatinck, earl of Portland, king William's great favourite, died. He had, by his master's generosity, acquired a fortune equal to any nobleman in England.

Negotiations for peace were resumed during winter; but the French king objecting to the 37th article of the former preliminaries, that it was impossible for him to execute it, and deliver up the dominions of Spain in so short a time as was thereby limited, the Dutch broke off the treaty, in which the British ministers concurred, and preparations were made for the next campaign. The war became every day more unpopular in England; and it was charged on ministers that it was mainly continued to gratify the ambition and private interests of Marlborough.

Dec. 13. The commons resolved, that the sermons preached by Dr. Sacheverel at the assizes at Derby, the 15th of August last, and the sermon preached by him at St. Paul's, the 5th of November, were malicious, scandalous, and seditious libels, highly reflecting upon her majesty and her government, the late happy Revolution, and the protestant succession.

14. The doctor being brought before the house, acknowledged the sermon to be his, and that he was encouraged by the lord-mayor to print that of the 5th of November; but the lord-mayor denied that he encouraged the printing of it.

15. Dr. Sacheverel impeached at the bar of the lords, of high crimes and misdemeanors.

25. A severe frost set in. It lasted with little intermission three months. The Thames was frozen over, booths were built upon it, and there were all manner of diversions upon the ice.

1710. *Jan. 2.* The French king made new overtures of peace, offering to consent to all the preliminary articles except the assisting in dethroning his grandson; but they were rejected.

The commons addressed her majesty to bestow some benefice of the church upon Mr. Hoadley, who had so strenuously justified the principles on which the nation proceeded to the Revolution.

13. Articles of impeachment were carried up to the lords against Sacheverel. He petitioned to be admitted to bail, but was refused.

New seals for the court of King's-bench and Common-pleas were made.

Feb. 27. The trial of Dr. Sacheverel before the house of peers began in Westminster-hall. Among the managers for the commons were the principal ministers and law officers of the crown, and the recorder of London. Sacheverel had sir Simon Harcourt and four other able counsel. The eyes of the whole kingdom were turned upon the issue of this extraordinary prosecution. It lasted three weeks, during which time all other business was suspended, and the queen herself attended every day as a private spectator. A vast multitude attended Dr. Sacheverel every day to and from Westminster-hall, striving to kiss his hand, and praying for his deliverance, as if he had been a martyr and confessor. The queen's sedan was beset by the populace, exclaiming "God bless your majesty and the church; we hope your majesty is for Dr. Sacheverel." They compelled all persons to lift their hats to the doctor, as he passed in his coach to the Temple, where he lodged, and among others, some members of parliament.

Mar. 1. The mob that attended Dr.

Sacheverel to his trial attacked Mr. Burgess's meeting-house, and having pulled down the pulpit and pews, made a bonfire of them in Lincoln's-inn-fields. They pulled down the houses of eminent dissenters, and threatened the Bank; so that the directors were obliged to send to Whitehall for assistance.

2. A proclamation offering a reward of 100*l.* for apprehending any of the rioters that demolished the meeting-houses and insulted the members during Dr. Sacheverel's trial.

5. Sir John Holt died; he had been lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench twenty years.

7. The managers having been heard to make good their charge against Dr. Sacheverel, and his counsel having been heard in his defence, the doctor was permitted to speak for himself.

9, 10. The managers replied to the doctor's defence; after which, it was propounded by lord Nottingham, Whether the words supposed to be criminal ought not to be specified in an impeachment for high crimes and misdemeanors, as they were in indictments and informations? The peers resolved in the negative.

12. A proclamation for postponing the Lent assizes on account of the judges being detained at Dr. Sacheverel's trial.

13. An order of council for prosecuting certain persons who discountenanced the raising recruits for her majesty's service.

20. The lords, by 69 to 59, declare Dr. Sacheverel guilty.

23. The commons went up to the lords, and demanded judgment against Dr. Sacheverel; and the doctor being brought to the lords' bar, and made to kneel, the lord-chancellor pronounced sentence, That he should forbear to preach during the term of three years; that his two printed sermons, referred to in the impeachment, should be burnt before the Royal-exchange, on the 27th instant, by the hangman, in the presence of the lord-mayor and sheriffs.

Two months after, Dr. Sacheverel having been presented to a living in North Wales, made a sort of triumphal tour to the principality, in all the pomp and magnificence of a sovereign. He was sumptuously entertained by the university of Oxford, and different tory lords showed him the most idolatrous respect, as the suffering champion of their party. He was received in several towns by the magistrates of the corporation in their formalities, and often attended by a body of 1000 horse. At Bridgenorth, he was met by Mr. Creswell, at the head of 4000 horse, and the like number of persons on foot, wearing white knots edged with gold, and three leaves of gilt laurel in their hats. The hedges were

for two miles dressed with garlands of flowers, and lined with people; and the steeples covered with streamers and colours. Nothing was heard but the cry of "The church and Dr. Sacheverel." After the expiration of the period of his suspension, he was presented to the living of St. Andrew's, Holborn. Of the first sermon he preached 40,000 copies were sold. After this, we hear no more of him, except his quarrels with his parishioners. He died in 1724.

24. It was ordered by the house of lords that the Oxford decrees, lately published in a pamphlet, intitled, "An entire Confutation of Mr. Hoadley's Book of the Original of Government," should be burnt by the hands of the hangman, on the 25th instant; and they were burnt accordingly. The commons also voted the following books to be burnt:—"A Collection of Passages referred to by Dr. Sacheverel, in his Answer to the Articles of Impeachment;" 2. "The Rights of the Christian Church asserted;" 3. "A Defence of the Rights of the Christian Church;" and 4. "A Treatise of the Word Person," by John Clendon, of the Inner Temple, esq.; and they were burnt accordingly.

31. The allies signed a treaty for preserving the neutrality of the empire, in the wars between Sweden, Denmark, and Muscovy.

April 5. Parliament prorogued by the queen. In the course of the session a bill was brought in by Mr. Wortley for voting by BALLOT. It passed the commons, but in the lords was opposed by Wharton and Godolphin as dangerous to the constitution, and thrown out. Wortley went next year to Venice on purpose to inquire into the effects of the ballot, which prevailed universally in that republic.

7. Thomas Betterton, the actor, died. He was esteemed the greatest master of action, especially in tragedy, of his time.

12. Prince Eugene came to the Hague, and having concerted with the duke of Marlborough and the deputies of the States, the operations of the next campaign, these two great generals set out for Tournay, near which place the confederate forces were ordered to rendezvous.

14. Mortaign in Flanders taken by the English; the next day retaken by the French; and on the 18th taken by the English again.

18. Four Indian kings of the six nations that lie between New England and the French settlements in Canada, arrived in England, and were carried in two of her majesty's coaches to their audience.

June 14. Lord Sunderland dismissed, and the seals given to lord Dartmouth.

25. King William's statue, on Col-

lege-green, Dublin, being defaced, a proclamation was issued, offering a reward of 100*l*. to discover the person who defaced it; and two students of Dublin-college being convicted of the fact, were sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l*. each, and to be imprisoned for six months; and were expelled the college.

26. Douay surrenders to the allies, after they had lost 8000 men before it.

July 20. The French and the Dutch ministers break off the treaty at Gertrudenburg. They had agreed on all the preliminaries, when the Dutch insisted that the French king should take upon himself to compel his grandson Philip to quit the throne of Spain, and not leave the allies engaged in a war with Spain, while France should be in peace. To this Louis would not accede, but he would engage to contribute a sum of money to assist the allies in compelling his grandson to relinquish the Spanish throne.

Aug. 8. Lord Godolphin ordered to break his staff, and the treasury put in commission. Mr. Harley appointed one of the commissioners and chancellor of the exchequer. He was in fact made premier. Matthew Prior, the poet, made a commissioner of trade and plantations.

20. King Charles obtained a complete victory over king Philip's forces, commanded by marquis De Bay, near Saragossa. The remains of the Spanish army retired into Navarre. The city of Saragossa opened her gates to the conqueror, and Charles entered that city in triumph the same night.

Sept. 14. The great seal taken from lord Cowper.

21. A proclamation for dissolving the present parliament.

TONY MINISTRY.—The earl of Rochester made president of the council, in the room of lord Somers; the duke of Bucks, lord-steward of the household, in the room of the duke of Devon; Henry St. John, secretary of state, in the room of Mr. Boyle; lord Berkley, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster; and John Manley, surveyor-general. To prevent a total change of the ministry, the Bank was prevailed on to interpose; and accordingly sir Gilbert Heathcote, the governor, Gold, the deputy-governor, with Eyles and Scawen, two of the directors, were introduced to the queen by the duke of Newcastle, and represented that the public credit could not be supported but by the old ministry. The Imperial and Dutch ministers also took upon them to lay before her majesty the consequences of a change of her ministers; which affront the queen highly resented, and told the Dutch envoy she was surprised his masters should

take upon them to direct her what servants she should employ. The duke of Marlborough was the only whig suffered to retain his employments.

The parliament of Ireland addressed the lord-lieutenant, about this time, that they might be united with England, as Scotland was; but it was not approved of by the English court.

Her majesty granted the college of Dublin 500*l.* out of her privy purse, for the encouragement of that university.

28. King Charles enters Madrid: none of the grandees there compliment him on his success.

Mr. George Granville, afterwards viscount Lansdowne, an eminent literary character, made secretary of war, in the place of Mr. Walpole.

Oct. 11. The lieutenantcy of the city of London changed, several whigs being left out.

19. The duke of Ormond declared lord-lieutenant of Ireland, in the room of lord Wharton.

Nov. 1. Lord Havensham, a constant speaker in the house of peers, died.

25. The parliament met; it was composed almost wholly of tories, the popular excitement during the general election rendering it hardly safe to vote for a whig. Mr. Bromley was chosen speaker almost without opposition. The queen in her opening speech recommended the carrying on the war; expressed her determination to support the church, and "maintain the indulgences allowed by law to tender consciences." Lords and commons in their addresses expressed their full concurrence in the sentiments of the royal speech.

28. The Turks, at the instance of the king of Sweden, declared war against Muscovy.

Dec. 2. The allies began their march from the neighbourhood of Madrid towards Arragon, king Charles some days before having advanced towards Arragon. King Philip returned to Madrid, and met with a kinder reception than his rival, king Charles.

The czar Peter the Great reduces the entire province of Livonia, while Charles XII. remains at Bender with the Turks.

10. The allies, in their march from Castile towards Arragon, divided themselves into two bodies; the Germans and Portuguese, under count Staremberg, took one road, and general Stanhope, with the English forces, another, the better to assist the troops in their march; or, as other accounts allege, the reluctance of Stanhope to be commanded by Staremberg. The 8th instant, general Stauhope, with the British troops, consisting of eight battalions, and as many squadrons, halted at Brihuega, where he was surprised on the 9th by king

Philip's army, which surrounded the place. The English defended themselves with courage till the 10th in the morning, and then, having spent all their ammunition, were forced to surrender prisoners of war. Count Staremberg having advice of the distress the British troops were in at Brihuega, marched to their relief, but was met by Philip and the duke of Vendôme at Villa Viciosa, about a league from Brihuega, on the 10th instant, in the evening. A battle ensued, and Staremberg came off conqueror, though not half the number of the enemy. Learning, however, the fate of the British, he thought it prudent to continue his march towards Arragon.

Lieutenant-general Meredith, major-general Macartney, and brigadier Honeywood cashiered, for drinking damnation to the present ministry; but were permitted to sell their regiments.

12. The queen sent a letter to the convocation, authorising them to enter upon business. Dr. Atterbury, dean of Carlisle, had been chosen prolocutor of the lower house, and they soon found work, in taking cognizance of Mr. Whiston, the distinguished mathematical professor at Cambridge. Whiston had written a book, attempting to revive the Arian heresy, for which he had been expelled the university. He wrote another, in vindication of his doctrine, and dedicated it to the convocation. Indignant at this contumely, they were determined the professor should feel the effects of their resentment, had not archbishop Tenison expressed a doubt whether they could proceed criminally against a man for heresy. The judges being consulted, eight affirmed that they could, and four, that they could not. The queen was referred to, but no answer could be obtained, and the subject dropped.

28. Marlborough arrives in London, and is visited by the new ministers, but not thanked, as usual, by both houses of parliament.

1711. Jan. 12. The tories, by the aid of the sixteen Scotch peers, having a majority, to mortify the whigs, the lords returned the earl of Peterborough thanks for his great services in Spain.

19. Marlborough carries a surrender of all the places held by his duchess. Mrs. Masham was made privy-purse, in the room of the duchess; and the duchess of Somerset, groom of the stole. Mrs. Masham was the daughter of the learned Cudworth, and a friend of the celebrated John Locke.

Feb. 2. The lords inquire into the origin of the disasters in Spain, and impute them to the late ministry. The commons originate similar inquiries; and in an address to the queen, take notice of the misapplication of the public money to other purposes

than parliament appropriated it; of the notorious frauds of the brewers who served the navy; the leaving many millions of the public money unaccounted for, and the squandering away great sums upon the Palatines, who were a useless people, a mixture of all religions, and dangerous to the constitution; and they held that those who advised the bringing them over were enemies to the queen and kingdom. They represented that the late ministry depressed the friends of her majesty and the church, preferring only men of licentious and impious principles; and, that if her majesty had not displaced them, irreparable mischief must have accrued to the public. The commons animadverted particularly on the victualling-commissioners conniving at the brewers delivering less quantities of beer than contracted for; the captains and pursers of the ships agreeing to take so much short of what the government allowed the several ships' companies, in consideration the brewer allowed the captain and purser a sum of money, and put the rest in his pocket; the purser giving him a receipt for the whole. This practice was connived at by the ministry some years.

Marlborough set out for the army.

23. The commons having appointed a committee to consider of the great want of churches in London, the convocation ordered a committee to return the commons their thanks for the affectionate regard they had shown to the established church in this matter.

Mar. 5. Mons. Boileau died, aged 74.

8. The abbot de la Bourlie, commonly called the marquis of Guiscard, a French refugee, being under examination before a committee of council at the Cockpit, for corresponding with France, stabbed Mr. Harley with a penknife; but the knife, lighting upon a rib, snapped in two. Hereupon the committee drew their swords, and wounded Guiscard in several places before he could be secured: being committed to Newgate, he died there the 17th. Guiscard had been employed in the English service several years, and Mr. Harley had deprived him of a pension allowed by the crown.

13. Both houses addressed her majesty, declaring their concern for the attempt made on the chancellor of the exchequer by Guiscard, a French papist; and concluded, desiring she would cause all papists to remove from the cities of London and Westminster.

15. A proclamation for all papists to remove from the metropolis.

Apr. 6. The commons resolved, that in and about London and Westminster fifty new churches were necessary to be erected, for the reception of all such as were of the communion of the church of England, com-

puting 4750 souls to each church; and on the 9th instant they attended the queen with an address, declaring their opinion that the want of churches had contributed to the increasing schism and irreligion; and that therefore they should not fail to do their parts towards supplying that defect, notwithstanding the expensive war they were engaged in.

An Estimate of the Expense of building Fifty new Churches, in London, by Sir Christopher Wren.

	£.	s.	d.
St. Paul's cathedral	.736,752	2	3½
All-Hallows the Great	5,641	9	9
All-Hallows, Bread-street	3,348	7	2
All-Hallows, Lombard-st.	8,058	15	6
St. Alban's, Wood-street	3,165	0	8
St. Ann and St Agnes	2,448	0	10
St. Andrew's, Wardrobe	7,060	16	11
St. Andrew's, Holborn	9,000	0	0
St. Antholin's	5,685	5	10½
St. Austin's	3,145	3	10
St. Bennet's, Gracechurch	3,583	9	5½
St. Bennet's, Paul's wharf	3,328	18	10
St. Bennet Fink	4,129	16	10
St. Bride's	11,430	5	11
St. Bartholomew's	5,077	1	1
Christ's church	11,778	9	6
St. Clement's, Eastcheap	4,365	3	4½
St. Clement Danes	8,786	17	0½
St. Dionis Back-church	5,737	10	8
St. Edmund the King	5,207	11	0
St. George, Botolph-lane	4,509	4	10
St. James, Garlick-hill	5,357	12	10
St. James, Westminster	8,500	0	0
St. Lawrence, Jewry	11,870	1	9
St. Michael, Basinghall	2,822	17	1
St. Michael Royal	7,455	7	9
St. Michael, Queenhithe	4,354	3	8
St. Michael, Wood-street	2,554	2	11
St. Michael, Crooked-lane	4,541	5	11
St. Martin's, Ludgate	5,378	9	7
St. Matthew's, Friday-st.	2,301	8	2
St. Michael's, Coruhill	4,686	18	8
St. Margaret's, Lothbury	5,340	8	1
St. Margaret Pattens	4,986	10	4
St. Mary Abchurch	4,922	2	4½
St. Mary Magdalene	4,291	12	9½
St. Mary, Somerset	6,579	18	1
St. Mary-at-Hill	3,980	12	3
St. Mary, Aldermanbury	5,237	3	6
St. Mary-le-Bow	8,071	18	1
The Steeple of it.	7,388	8	7½
St. Nicholas, Cole-abbey	5,042	6	11
St. Olave's, Jewry	5,580	4	10
St. Peter's, Cornhill	5,647	8	2
St. Swithin's, Cannon-st.	4,687	4	6
St. Stephen's, Walbrook	7,652	13	8
St. Stephen's, Coleman-st.	4,020	16	6
St. Mildred, Bread-street	3,705	13	6½
St. Magnus, London-bridge	9,579	19	10
St. Vedast, alias Foster-lane Church	1,853	15	6

	£.	s.	d.
St. Mildred, Poultry	4,654	9	7½
The Monument, Fish-street-hill	8,856	8	0

Apr. 14. Louis, the dauphin of France, dies of the small-pox, in the 50th year of his age.

17. Joseph, emperor of Germany, dies at Vienna, of the small-pox.

20. The queen sent a message to parliament, informing them that she had agreed with the States-General to use all her interest for the election of Charles III. to the imperial dignity.

21. The marquis de Torcy transmitted to England some new proposals for a peace by Abbé Gaultier.

26. Mr. Harley, at his coming into the house of commons, was congratulated on his recovery by the speaker, in the name of the house.

May 2. Laurence earl of Rochester, president of the council, died. He was second son of lord-chancellor Clarendon, and a popular nobleman, of abilities and ambition, who in distributing his patronage, never sought for further recommendation than that the aspirant was a tory.

The duke of Bedford and the earl of Bath both died of the small-pox this month.

4. Sir Hovenden Walker, with a fleet of men-of-war and transports, seven regiments, and a battalion of marines on board, commanded by brigadier Hill, set sail for New England, in order to make an attempt on the French settlements of Canada and Placentia, in North America. They arrived at Boston, June 4; but on the 23rd of August eight of the transports, with 800 officers and soldiers, were cast away in the St. Lawrence; whereupon the rest, with the fleet, returned, and arrived at Portsmouth on the 9th of October.

9. Sir Cholmly Dering, knight of the shire for the county of Kent, being killed by a pistol-ball, in a duel with Mr. Thornhill, occasioned the bringing in a bill against duelling; but it did not pass.

23. Prince Eugene joined the grand army.

29. Mr. Harley, now earl of Oxford, constituted lord-high-treasurer of Great-Britain.

June 3. Prince Eugene having received orders to march with the imperial troops to the Upper Rhine, for securing Germany, the two armies decamped and repassed the Scarpe, prince Eugene taking his way towards Tournay, and the duke of Marlborough marching towards the plains of Lens.

4. The commons laid before the queen a representation of the mismanagement of the late ministry.—in the army, the navy, public offices, the treasury, and the new modelling of the borough of Bewdley.

12. Parliament prorogued, the queen having first thanked them for granting larger supplies for the war than any of their predecessors. The supplies voted this session were as follows:—

	£.
For 40,000 men for sea-service	2,080,000
Ordinary of the navy	120,000
For 40,000 land-forces	919,092
The queen's proportion of 3000	
Palatines	34,251
— of 4639 Saxons	43,251
— of Bothmar's regiment	9,269
Troops of augmentation	220,000
Ten thousand additional forces	177,511
Guards and garrisons	546,108
Ordnance for land-service	130,000
Interest of debentures	49,357
Transport-service	144,000
Subsidies to the allies	478,956
Forces in Spain and Portugal	1,500,000
For payment of 45,000 <i>l.</i> per annum to 1714, for specifying Exchequer-bills	157,500
	<hr/>
	£6,609,295

20. Lord Clermont and his brother, sons of the earl of Middleton, admitted to bail, after a close imprisonment of three years in the tower.

21. Charles XII. of Sweden, having instigated the Turks to declare war against the Muscovites, Peter the Great rashly advanced into the Turkish territories, and was surrounded on the banks of the Pruth by the grand vizier, and compelled to conclude a treaty, by which Asoph and other places on the Black Sea were surrendered to Achmet III.

27. A commission granted to take in subscriptions for the South-Sea company, and 4,000,000 of money subscribed in a few days.

In this month the duchess of Gordon sent a silver medal to the faculty of advocates at Edinburgh, with a head on one side, and the inscription *regius est*; on the other the British isles, with the word *reddite*. Dundas, the dean of faculty, presented this medal, and it is supposed a majority of the advocates voted for its reception. The Jacobites were now active to prepare the way for the Pretender.

July 9. The Convocation of Ireland assembled with the Parliament, and restored to their ancient rights.

14. The prince of Nassau, stadtholder of Friesland, was drowned, as he was ferrying over the river Amer, near Maerdyke, in his coach.

Aug. By masterly tactic combinations the duke of Marlborough turned the French lines at Arleux and Bac a Bachuel, without the loss of a man. Marshal Villars

had boasted these lines were impregnable, and the duke had at length reached his "ne plus ultra." Bouchain was immediately after invested by the allies.

12. The Portuguese entered into a private negotiation of peace with the French and Spaniards.

18. The government of Ireland disapproving the election of alderman Quin, who was chosen mayor of Dublin, that city petitioned the queen to have him confirmed; but their petition was rejected, and they were obliged to proceed to the choice of another.

20. The queen sent a letter to the archbishop of Canterbury concerning the state of religion; requiring his assistance in suppressing infidelity and profaneness, by enforcing the ecclesiastical laws and canons, and by exhorting the clergy to exemplary lives; she also recommended catechising, the encouraging of the charity-schools, frequent visitations and confirmations; and that he would consider wherein the discipline of the church was defective, that it might be remedied in convocation.

Sept. 3. Dr. Robinson, bishop of Bristol, made lord privy-seal, in the room of the duke of Newcastle, who was killed by a fall from his horse. The promotion of a bishop to a civil office was a novelty, evincing the devotion of the Tories to the church.

12. The French burnt several Portuguese men of war in the bay of Rio de Janeiro, took the town of St. Sebastian, and brought away the value of 7,000,000 of livres.

13. Bouchain surrendered to the allies, the garrison being made prisoners of war.

27. Proposals of peace made by M. Mesuager to Great Britain, on the part of France; and on the 9th of October they were communicated to the allies.

Oct. 4. Marshal Tallard, who had been prisoner in England since the battle of Blenheim, permitted to go to France four months upon his parole.

9. Sir Hovenden Walker returned to Portsmouth from the expedition to Canada; and on the 15th instant the admiral's ship the Edgar was accidentally blown up with 400 seamen on board, all the officers being ashore.

12. Charles III. of Spain elected emperor of Germany at Franckfort, by the name of Charles IV.

Nov. 8. The emperor sent a letter to the States-General, to dissuade them from entering into a treaty of peace; the Dutch however agreed with the English court to treat with France.

14. King Philip, with his queen, and the prince, his son, made his public entry into Madrid.

18. Marlborough returned to London.

20. Mr. secretary St. John notified to

the foreign ministers at London that her Majesty had fixed upon the city of Utrecht for the place of congress, and that the conferences would begin the first of January; and her majesty wrote letters to all the allies, to invite them to the congress.

Dec. Several lords were closeted; but were proof against all the court temptations.

6. Mrs. Schrimshaw died in the hospital in Rosemary-lane, near Tower-hill, in the 127th year of her age.

7. Parliament met, and the queen, in her opening speech, informed them that, "notwithstanding the arts of those that delight in war," both time and place were appointed for negotiating a general peace. In the debates on the address, it was proposed in the Commons to represent it as their opinion, "that no peace could be safe or honourable, if Spain and the West Indies were allotted to any branch of the house of Bourbon;" and though this clause was rejected, yet the Lords thought fit to insert a clause to that effect, and carried it against the court by 62 to 54. It seems to have been a fundamental point of foreign policy with the opposition; for bishop Burnet gravely relates that, when the queen condescended to ask his candid sentiments on the peace, he told her, "that it was his opinion that any treaty by which Spain and the Indies were left to king Philip must, in a little while, deliver up *all Europe into the hands of France*, and if any such peace were made she was betrayed, and we were *all ruined*: in less than three years she would be murdered, and the fires would be again kindled in Smithfield!"

19. A proclamation for a public fast, for a blessing on the intended treaty of peace.

21. Mr. Lockhart, from the commissioners of the public accounts, made a report upon some undue practices they had discovered in their examinations relating to the affairs of the army; namely, that the duke of Marlborough had taken to his own use, of the persons he contracted with for the soldiers' bread, 63,319*l.* and upwards: that he had reserved to himself also two and a half per cent. out of the pay of the foreign troops, amounting to 460,061*l.*, in all 523,380*l.*, being public money, and which he had never accounted for; that he had allowed his secretary, Mr. Cardonnell, to receive of the contractors 500 gold ducats on the signing of every contract; and Mr. Sweet, the deputy pay-master in Holland, to deduct one per cent. for all the money to be paid the contractors for bread.

That Robert Walpole, esq., when he was secretary of war, received of the contractors for forage in Scotland, to his own use, 500 guineas, and a note for 500 more: that sir David Dalrymple had 200 guineas of the Scotch contractors; and that the earl of Le-

ven, commander in chief in Scotland, received 100*l.* per annum of them.

23. The privy seal put in commission, in the absence of the bishop of Bristol, who was made one of the plenipotentiaries for the treaty of peace.

30. The duke of Marlborough deprived of all his offices. The places held by the duke and duchess were estimated to be worth 62,525*l.* per annum, exclusive of indirect sources of emolument.

Mr. Walpole and Mr. Cardonnell expelled the House of Commons, for converting the public money to their own use.

Twelve new peers created.

1712. *Jan.* 1. The duke of Ormond was constituted captain-general of all her Majesty's forces in Great Britain, and colonel of the first troop of guards.

2. The new peers introduced into the House, and the Scotch lords being also arrived, the court acquired a decided majority. Mr. secretary St. John said, "that if these twelve had not been enough, they would have given them (that is the whigs) another dozen." When the usual question of adjournment was about being put, the earl of Wharton excited mirth by asking one of them "whether they meant to vote individually, or by their *foreman*."

4. Prince Eugene arrived in England from the emperor, to endeavour to divert the queen from entering into a treaty of peace.

8. The marquis d'Uxelles, abbot de Polignac, and M. Mesnager, the three plenipotentiaries, arrived at Utrecht; as did also about the same time eight from the States-General; and bishop Robinson and lord Raby from England.

11. Brigadier Hill, brother to lady Masham, was made lieutenant of the Tower, in the room of lieutenant-general Cadogan.

17. The queen indisposed by the gout. In a message to the lords, she complains of the hardships sustained by the Scotch peers, it having been adjudged in the case of duke Hamilton, whom the queen had created duke of Brandon, that no Scotch peer, created a peer since the union, could sit in parliament, though the queen was at liberty to increase the peerage of England, as she saw fit, and consequently to make a greater majority of English peers in the house of lords than there was at the time of the union.

The general assembly of Scotland, in an address to the queen, complain of the toleration proposed to be allowed in that kingdom, which threatened the overthrow of their church, and gave a license to all manner of errors, irreligious disputes, and blasphemies. But her majesty, thinking a toleration in the north as reasonable as in the south, did not think fit to interpose.

Mr. Walpole was committed to the Tower.

24. The commons voted, That the two and a half per cent., which the duke of Marlborough deducted from the soldiers' pay, for bread and forage, was public money, and ought to be accounted for.

27. The countess of Sunderland and the lady Rialton, daughters to the duke of Marlborough, resigned their places as ladies of the bed-chamber.

29. The first general conference was held between the plenipotentiaries at Utrecht. The bishop of Bristol, attired in velvet robes, with his train borne by two pages, opened the congress, earnestly recommending "clearness, openness, and sincerity in the conduct of the present negotiation," though the English at the very time were tied up, by various secret engagements, as the Barrier Treaty with the Dutch, and provisional articles already signed with France.

Feb. 9. Royal assent given to an act for confirming the toleration granted to dissenters; to an act for settling the precedence of the electoral family of Hanover; and to an act relative to the naturalization of foreign protestants.

11. The French plenipotentiaries delivered in their proposals at the congress, which were styled, "A particular explanation of the offers of France for a general peace."

The dauphiness of France, Maria Adelaide of Savoy, died in the 26th year of her age. Six days after, her husband, Louis the Dauphin, died, in the 30th year of his age. His eldest son, who was five years old, died likewise a few days after.

16. The lords attended the queen with an address, expressing their resentment at the terms of peace offered by France, and renewing their promises to stand by her with their lives and fortunes, if she would continue the war. The queen returned an evasive answer.

Mar. 4. The commons attended her majesty with a representation, showing the hardships the allies had put on England in carrying on this war. They show, first, that the expense of England, in the beginning of the war, amounted only to 3,700,000*l.*, but was now increased to 6,900,000*l.* and upwards, by being obliged to supply the deficiencies of her allies; that the States-General were frequently deficient two-thirds of the quota of shipping they stipulated to provide, which not only increased the charge of the English, but was the occasion of great damage to the royal navy, and the destruction of the merchants' ships, which were destroyed for want of convoys, the English men-of-war being employed in other service: that the Dutch had also been deficient in the Netherlands upwards of 20,000 men of their

quota of troops : that the whole burthen of the war almost, in Spain and Portugal, had of late been thrown upon England ; the Dutch had every year lessened their troops in Spain and Portugal ; and the emperor, who was most nearly concerned, had no troops at all in pay there, till the last year of the war, and then but one single regiment : that, on the contrary, the English did not only maintain 60,000 men in the Spanish war, but the charges of the shipping only employed in that service amounted to above 8,000,000*l.* sterling : in short, that England had expended in the war, beyond its quota, above 19,000,000*l.* ; all which the late ministry had not only connived at, but, in many instances, contrived and encouraged upon private views : that though Britain had borne as great a share of the war as the whole confederacy, no advantages had been stipulated for her ; but, on the contrary, the late barrier treaty with the Dutch was destructive to our trade, and the putting Newport and other places in Flanders into their hands made the trade of the English to the Netherlands precarious, and the strength of that country, which Britain had so largely contributed to reduce, might hereafter be employed against Britain. Upon all which it was resolved, that lord Townshend, who negotiated the barrier treaty with the Dutch, and all others, who advised the ratifying it, were enemies to the state.

5. The plenipotentiaries of the allies at Utrecht delivered in their respective specific demands to the French plenipotentiaries, and insisted that the French should give a specific answer in writing to the specific demands of the allies ; but this the French refused, and proposed to treat verbally of the matters remaining in difference between them, which the British plenipotentiaries at length agreed to.

13. Prince Eugene had his audience of leave. Her majesty presented him with a sword of the value of 5000*l.* ; but he could not prevail upon her to continue the war.

17. A proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l.* to any one that should discover a Mohawk.

Apr. 14. The convocation, which sat with the parliament, still carried on hot disputes about the right of prorogation, and some non-jurors entertained odd notions about the Eucharist being a proper sacrifice, the necessity of priestly absolution, the invalidity of lay baptism ; and others condemned the supremacy of the crown in ecclesiastical matters.

May 10. Secretary St. John sent a letter to the duke of Ormond, with the queen's positive command that he should avoid engaging in any siege, or hazarding a battle, till he received further orders from England.

28. The duke of Ormond apprised prince Eugene of his orders not to act offensively. The neutrality of the British gave umbrage to the allies. It was warmly debated in both houses of parliament ; and the Dutch complaining to the bishop of Bristol that the order to the duke was without their concurrence, the queen was induced to consent to the siege of Quesnoy.

June 6. The queen came to the house of lords, and communicated to the parliament the terms on which a peace might be made.

8-10. Both houses addressed the queen, expressing their confidence in her wisdom in conducting the negotiation.

The commons resolved, that a certain preface of bishop Fleetwood's to his sermons, calumniating her majesty for changing her ministry, and hearkening to proposals of peace, was malicious and factious, tending to create discord, &c., and ordered it to be burnt in the palace-yard by the hangman.

11. The duke of Vendome died in Spain, as he was upon the road from Valencia to Lerida.

16. The bishop of Bristol represents to the States the necessity of a suspension of arms in the Netherlands. The duke of Ormond also acquainted prince Eugene and the field-deputies that he had received orders to agree with the French to a cessation of arms for two months, and to send 10 battalions to Dunkirk, which the French had offered to put into the hands of the queen as a security for the performance of the offers the French king had made.

The duke of Marlborough challenged lord Paulet, for insinuating in the house of lords that his grace contrived to knock his officers on the head, in order to fill his pockets, by disposing of their commissions ; but the duel was prevented.

The generals of the foreign troops in British pay, being commanded by the duke of Ormond to march, they all refused, except two, to leave prince Eugene's army.

Major-general Grovestein, governor of Bouchain, having been detached by prince Eugene, with about 1500 horse, dragoons, &c., made a successful incursion into France, and having ravaged, plundered, and burnt several open towns and villages in Champagne and Metz, and struck terror as far as Paris, made his retreat by Traerbach to Maestricht ; but the French, in revenge, plundered Tortole.

Mr. secretary St. John reported to the commons that their address relating to the rents of the bishops' lands in North Britain, which remained in the crown, having been presented to her majesty, she had commanded him to say that the profits of those lands should be applied to the support of such of the episcopal clergy there as should

take the oaths according to the desire of that house.

21. Parliament prorogued
Quesnoy surrendered to the allies.

July 7. The English take possession of Dunkirk.

8. King Philip published his renunciation of the crown of France.

16. Prince Eugene, with the confederate forces, and the British mercenaries, separated from the duke of Ormond, and the next day laid siege to Landrecy.

17. The duke of Ormond caused a cessation of arms between Great Britain and France to be proclaimed in his camp; as the marshal Villars did in the French camp the same day, of which he sent advice to the duke of Ormond that evening. The duke of Ormond, with the British forces, marching towards Dunkirk, they were denied entrance into Bouchain and Douay (in which last place the British hospital was) by the Dutch; whereupon the duke bent his march towards Ghent, of which city and Bruges he took possession on the 23rd inst., and detached six battalions to reinforce the garrison of Dunkirk. The rest of the British troops encamped between the Lys and the canal of Bruges and Ghent.

24. Marshal Villars attacked lord Albemarle, who was encamped, with thirteen battalions and thirty squadrons at Denain, to secure the communication of the allies with Marchiennes, where was their grand magazine. In this action Albemarle was taken prisoner; count Dhona, lieutenant-general and governor of Mons, was drowned in the Scheldt; count Nassau Wodenburgh killed; 3000 more killed and wounded, and as many made prisoners; and a vast quantity of ammunition and provisions were taken by the French.

26. Thomas duke of Leeds died, in the 81st year of his age.

27. A quarrel at Utrecht, between the French and Dutch plenipotentiaries, occasioned by the servants of the French ministers laughing at those of the Dutch, upon the news of their defeat at Denain. For this affront, the servants of the count de Rechteren, one of the Dutch ministers, fell upon the servants of M. Mesnager, and beat them; and when the French demanded satisfaction of count de Rechteren, he seemed to justify his servants. This accident long suspended the negotiations of peace.

31. Marchiennes surrendered to the French, and the garrison, consisting of 4000 men and upwards, were made prisoners of war. In this place was above 300,000 weight of powder, which the Dutch commissary caused to be sunk in the scarpe before the siege, and vast stores of provi-

sions and ammunition. Upon this reverse, prince Eugene raised the siege of Landrecy, and marched towards Mons on the 2nd of August.

The British ministry make an unsuccessful effort to induce the elector of Hanover and the king of Prussia to concur in the peace.

Aug. Henry St. John, lately created viscount Bolingbroke, sent privately to Paris, accompanied by Matthew Prior and Abbé Gaultier, to remove the difficulties that obstruct the suspension of arms between England and France. He arrived at Paris on the 6th, and two days after signed a treaty for the suspension of arms, both by sea and land, for four months. He was empowered by his instructions to conclude a separate peace with France, Spain, and Savoy. He agreed to the payment of 60,000*l.* per annum to king James II.'s dowager. He came back to London on the 18th, having left Mr. Prior at Paris.

18. A proclamation, declaring a suspension of arms between Britain and France.

29. The duke of Hamilton made master of the ordnance, and appointed ambassador at the court of France.

Sept. 15. Sidney earl of Godolphin, late lord-treasurer of England, died. He began his career of politics under Charles II.; voted for the exclusion of the duke of York, and became minister of James II.; voted for a regency on the flight of that monarch, and next became minister of William III., and under Anne attained the distinction of premier. Godolphin was a tory; and from the correspondence he kept up with the exiled family seems to have been a Jacobite; but the calculations of ambition in the latter part of his life gave him the semblance of the dominant party of the whigs.

Oct. 4. Quesnoy surrendered to the French, the garrison being made prisoners of war. According to the French account, this garrison completed the number of 40 battalions of the allies they had destroyed, or made prisoners, since the defeat at Denain, which happened the 24th of July.

Mr. Prior came over to England, and returned to France about the middle of November, with new instructions.

The British troops took up their winter-quarters in Ghent and Bruges, and refused to admit the Danes and other mercenaries to quarter amongst them.

The earl of Strafford came to London, in order to compose some differences at court.

The French and Imperial armies being marched into winter-quarters, prince Eugene repaired to the Hague.

Nov. 5. King Philip executed his renunciation to the crown of France.

15. A duel fought in Hyde-park, between the duke of Hamilton and colonel Hamilton

on the one side, and lord Mohun and lieutenant-general Mackartney on the other part. Lord Mohun was killed upon the spot; and his grace died of his wounds, as his servants were carrying him to his coach. Colonel Hamilton was wounded in the foot, and surrendered himself on the 22nd; but Mackartney made his escape, and, upon the relation of colonel Hamilton, it was generally believed that the duke was killed unfairly by Mackartney.

24. A proclamation, offering 500*l.* reward, for apprehending George Mackartney, esq., for aiding and assisting in the murder of duke Hamilton.

30. The duke of Marlborough having obtained leave of her majesty to go beyond sea, embarked at Dover for Ostend.

Dec. 29. The States-General agreed to come into the plan of peace proposed to them by the earl of Strafford, on the part of Great Britain, and to conclude and sign the peace jointly, and at the same time with her majesty.

1713. Jan. 26. The house of the duke of Powis, in Ormond-street, which he had lent to the duke d'Aumont, the French ambassador, was burnt down; whereupon the ambassador was assigned an apartment in Somerset-house. Duke d'Aumont having been annoyed for some time with scurrilous ballads and anonymous letters, it was alleged the fire was malicious.

30. A new treaty of peace between Great Britain and the States was signed.

Feb. 1. Charles XII. of Sweden having resided three years and upwards at Bender, in the Turkish dominions, and received great civilities from the Porte, was attacked in the palace the Turks had assigned him; and, having defended himself with great resolution, and lost most of his followers, was at length wounded and taken prisoner. He refused to quit the Turkish territories and return home, though he had received large sums from the Grand Seigneur to enable him to begin his march.

14. The treaty for the evacuation of Catalonia by the Imperialists, and for the neutrality of Italy, was concluded and signed. The same day a cessation of arms was agreed to at Utrecht, between the ministers of France and Savoy.

Mar. 15. The dukes of Berry and Orleans made their public renunciation of the crown of Spain, in the parliament of Paris.

30. TREATY OF UTRECHT signed with France by the ministers of Great Britain, Savoy, Prussia, Portugal, and the States-General. By this celebrated treaty, the protestant succession in England is recognised; the separation of the crowns of Spain and France secured; the harbour of Dunkirk demolished; Acadie, Hudson's-bay, Newfoundland, and St. Christopher's

ceded to England; Naples, Milan, and the Spanish Netherlands yielded to the emperor. Sicily was severed from Naples, and transferred to the duke of Savoy, with the regal title; and the Dutch obtained Namur, Charleroi, and other strong places for a barrier. The emperor of Germany, who had alone stood out, was allowed to June 1st to signify his assent or dissent to the terms of the treaty.

Apr. 9. Parliament met, when the queen informed them of the conclusion of peace. She expressed her displeasure at the numerous libels lately published, and exhorted them to consider of new laws to prevent this licentiousness, as well as for putting a stop to the "impious practice of duelling." Both houses presented warm addresses of congratulation in return.

17. The emperor Charles VI. publishes the Pragmatic Sanction, whereby, in default of male issue, his daughters should succeed, in preference to the sons of his brother, Joseph I.

May 5. Peace proclaimed, to the inexpressible joy of the nation in general.

29. Dr. Sacheverel's term of suspension having expired, he preached before the commons, who thanked him for his sermon, and immediately after the queen presented him to the valuable rectory of St. Andrew's, Holborn.

Copies of the commercial treaty with France being laid before the commons, gave rise to violent debates. Mercantile prejudice and political artifice combined to oppose the equalization of the duties on Portuguese and French wines; and the commons refused to give effect to the treaty of commerce, by a majority of 194 to 185 voices.

June 1. The earl of Findlater represented in the house of lords that the Scotch nation was aggrieved in many instances; that they were deprived of a privy council, and subjected to the English laws in cases of treason: that their nobles were rendered incapable of being created British peers; and that now they were oppressed with the burthen of the malt-tax when they had reason to expect they should reap the benefit of peace. His lordship then moved to bring in a bill for dissolving the union. For the sake of embarrassing the ministry, the motion was strenuously supported by the whig lords—Halifax, Sunderland, Townshend, &c.—who had only six years previous zealously supported the union. It was negatived, in a full house, by 71 to 69 peers.

25. A message to the commons, informing them that the civil-list was in arrear, and a grant of 500,000*l.* was requested. It was insinuated that the accounts submitted to the house were deceitful, and the real ob-

ject of the court was to obtain a large sum to influence the approaching general election. Most of the members having retired into the country, the grant was carried in a thin house.

The Pretender having retired to Lorraine, both houses addressed the queen to interfere to cause his expulsion from the duchy.

July 3. Dr. Francis Atterbury created bishop of Rochester and dean of Westminster.

13. Treaty of Utrecht signed by Spain. The emperor had refused to subscribe, and single-handed maintained the war against France, but without success.

16. Parliament prorogued, and soon after dissolved. The same day, gold medals, of the value of 4*l.* each, were given to the members of both houses. On one side was the queen's effigy, and round it the words—“*Anna Dei gratia* :” on the reverse, Britannia, and round it, “*Compositis venerantur Armis*.”

STATE OF PARTIES.—The earl of Dorset, one of the last whigs in office, was removed from the government of Dover-castle, which was given to the duke of Ormond; and the duke of Athol, a Jacobite, persued the duke of Montrose as lord-privy-seal of Scotland. Oxford, the treasurer, and Bolingbroke, the secretary, were competitors for ascendancy in the administration, and rivals in reputation for ability. The treasurer's parts were deemed more solid; the secretary's, more shining: both were what would now be termed liberal Tories, and both were intriguing and ambitious. Bolingbroke insinuated himself into the confidence of lady Masham, whom Oxford had offended; and sought to turn the author of his rival's elevation into an instrument of his disgrace. The queen inclined to the more bold and plausible course of Bolingbroke, especially as the supple secretary did not hesitate to join in her dislike to the Hanover family. The queen's aversion to the elector arose ostensibly from his opposition to the peace, and from her natural leaning to the restoration of her brother, the Pretender.

Nov. 2. The duke of Shrewsbury, lord-lieutenant, assembles the parliament of Ireland. The two houses were divided on the principles of whig and tory. The commons ordered the prosecution of Edward Lloyd for publishing the “Memoirs of the Chevalier de St. George.”

26. Conferences of Radstadt opened between prince Eugene and marshal Villars.

Dec. 11. The new parliament, after repeated prorogations, meets.

The queen retired to Windsor, where she had a severe attack of the gout, from which she slowly recovered. The hopes of the Jacobites visibly rose; the funds fell,

a great run was made upon the bank: but the queen informing the lord-mayor by letter of her intention to open parliament in person in February, the alarm subsided.

Mr. Richard Steele published “The Crisis,” in defence of the revolution and the protestant settlement, enlarging on the danger of a popish successor. On the other hand, the hereditary right to the crown of England was asserted in a huge volume, supposed to be written with a view to pave the way for the pretender. One Bedford was apprehended, and severely punished as the publisher of this treatise. Steele, Addison, and Halifax were the chief who employed their pens in defence of whig principles. Swift and Bolingbroke were the champions of the ministry.

1714. Mar. 1. Peace proclaimed with Spain; Gibraltar and Minorca were ceded to the English, and an exclusive privilege granted them of furnishing the Spanish West Indies with negroes, at the rate of 4800 slaves a year, for the term of thirty years, according to the Assiento Contract.

2. Parliament opened by the queen. She was carried in a sedan chair; and in a popular speech, endeavoured to remove the prevailing apprehension of danger to the protestant succession.

3. Peace of Radstadt signed between France and Germany.

A complaint in the commons of several scandalous papers, published under the name of Richard Steele, esq., a member of the house. Steele was ordered to attend in his place. Some paragraphs of his writings were read, and he tried to defend them. “The Englishman” and “The Crisis” were voted seditious libels, and their author expelled parliament.

Apr. 5. Resolved in the lords, on the motion of lord Wharton, by 76 to 64, that the protestant succession is not in danger under the present administration.

12. Baron Schultz demanded of the chancellor a writ for the electoral prince of Hanover to sit in the house of peers as duke of Cambridge, intimating that his design was to reside in England. The writ was granted with reluctance; and the queen expressed her disapprobation of the prince's intention of residing in England, in a letter to the princess Sophia.

13. Debates in the commons on the late treaties of commerce.

15. Resolved in the commons, by 256 against 208, That the protestant succession is not in danger; and secondly, That the queen be desired to renew her efforts for the removal of the pretender from Lorraine.

May 4. Mr. Bedford, who published the “*Hereditary Rights, &c.*,” sentenced to pay 1000 marks, and be imprisoned three years.

12. A bill introduced in the commons to prevent the growth of schism, and for the further security of the church of England. The design of it was to prohibit dissenters from teaching in schools. It passed the lower house by the great majority of 237 to 126. It was then carried by sir William Wyndham, the original mover of it, to the lords, where it excited the most violent debates. Bolingbroke, himself an infidel, had the effrontery to defend it as essential to the security of the church. It was opposed by the lords Cowper, Halifax, Wharton, Townshend, and Nottingham, the last a tory and zealous churchman, who had latterly attached himself to the whigs. Upon the general question, that the bill do now pass, it was carried by 77 to 72.

June 5. Rumours being abroad of the Jacobites enlisting soldiers, a proclamation issued, offering a reward of 500*l.* for the apprehension of the pretender.

8. Lord Oxford presents a memorial to the queen, vindicating the measures of his administration, and complaining of the obstructive cabals of Bolingbroke.

23. Dr. Clarke, rector of St. James's, having published opinions on the Trinity, deemed heretical by the convocation, he was struck out of the number of the queen's chaplains.

25. Royal assent given to the schism bill. It was to commence August 1st, but the queen dying on that day, it never took effect.

Same day (25th) Bothmar arrives with intelligence that the princess Sophia died on the 8th instant. She was the fourth and youngest daughter of Frederick, elector palatine, and Elizabeth, the daughter of James I. of England.

July 6. Twenty-one persons convicted in Ireland of high-treason, in having enlisted in the service of the pretender.

9. Parliament prorogued by the queen.

27. Oxford suddenly dismissed from the treasurership; and Bolingbroke for a moment seemed to have reached the summit of his ambition by the fall of his opponent. They had become so exasperated against each other, that they could not refrain from the most bitter altercations in the royal presence. A short time before, Oxford had threatened "to leave some people as low as he had found them," alluding to the new favourite and St. John. Lady Masham said to Harley, in her own house, "You never did the queen any service, nor are you capable of doing her any." Yet lord John Russell relates (*Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe*, 293) that Harley supped with her that same evening, in company with Bolingbroke.

29. The queen seized with a lethargic

disorder. She said she should not outlive the disputes of her ministers.

30. The symptoms of the queen became so alarming that the committee of the council, assembled at the Cockpit, adjourned to Kensington. The dukes of Somerset and Argyle, informed of her desperate situation, repaired to the palace, and, without being summoned, entered the council-chamber. Bolingbroke started at their appearance, but the duke of Shrewsbury thanked them for their readiness to assist at such a critical juncture, and desired they would take their places.

The queen was still sensible; and, upon the recommendation of the council, she delivered to Shrewsbury the white staff, bidding him "use it for the good of the people." By this preferment, Shrewsbury was at once in possession of the three greatest posts in the kingdom, under the titles of lord-treasurer, lord-chamberlain, and lord-lieutenant of Ireland.

31. A letter, signed by the privy council, sent by Mr. Craggs to the elector of Brunswick, to apprise him of the queen's situation, and the measures they had adopted to secure his peaceable accession.

Aug. 1. The queen expired of dropsy, in the fiftieth year of her age, and the thirtieth of her reign. She was in her person of the middle size, well proportioned. Her hair was of the dark brown colour, her complexion ruddy: her features were regular, her countenance was rather round than oval, and her aspect more comely than majestic. Her voice was clear and melodious, and her presence engaging. Her favourite amusement was hunting, which she practised in her chaise; but the gout increasing upon her, and becoming extremely unwieldy, she was constrained to forego this wholesome exercise. This circumstance, and her intemperate mode of living, probably hastened her dissolution. It is related by one writer that she was much addicted to spirituous liquors. Tindal contradicts this assertion, and states that her excess was principally in eating.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Anne, c. 7. Support of her majesty's household and of the honour of the crown; land revenue of the crown; duchy of Lancaster.

C. 25. Insolvent debtors delivering up their effects.—*Expired.*

C. 30. If a Jew refuse his protestant child a maintenance, the lord-chancellor may order such maintenances as he thinks fit.

1 Anne, stat. 2., c. 5. Gives an annuity of 14*l.* per annum for 89 years for every 210*l.* advanced.

C. 9. *Mariners* destroying ships, to pre-
 judice of owners, to suffer death. Wit-
 nesses for prisoners in treason, or felony,
 to be sworn same as witnesses for the crown.

C. 18. Punishing frauds of persons em-
 ployed in working up the woollen, linen,
 fustian, cotton, and other manufactures.
 2 & 3 Anne, c. 4. Registration of deeds
 and wills, West Riding of Yorkshire.

C. 11. *Queen Anne's Bounty*; granting
 first-fruits and tenths for poor livings.

3 & 4 Anne, c. 9. Promissory-notes like
 remedy on as bills of exchange; payment
 of inland bills of exchange.

4 & 5 Anne, c. 8. Succession to the
 crown in protestant line; oaths; meeting
 of parliament on queen's demise.

C. 10. Justices of peace may direct im-
 pressment of vagrants for *soldiers*. (This
 extraordinary act was revived by 30 Geo. 2.,
 cap. 8.)

5 & 6 Anne, c. 8. Union with Scotland;
ante, p. 312.

C. 9. Made legal to retake debtors that
 have escaped from King's-bench and Fleet
 prisons on Sunday.

C. 24. Discharging small livings from
 first-fruits and tenths.

6 Anne, c. 31. Preventing mischiefs by
 fires in the metropolis; fire-engines to be
 kept in each parish; houses to have party-
 walls; servants punishable by fine or im-
 prisonment for negligence.

7 Anne, c. 5. Entitling all persons to be
 naturalized on taking oath of allegiance;
 but multitudes of *foreign* beggars availing
 themselves of this act, it was repealed by
 10 Anne, cap. 5.

C. 12. Protects ambassadors from arrests
 for debt.

C. 14. For the preservation of parochial
 libraries.

8 Anne, c. 19. *Copyright Act*—The au-
 thor of a book and his assigns to have the
 sole right of printing it for fourteen years.
 But title of book to be registered with Sta-
 tioners' company. Nine copies to be de-
 livered to the universities. This act was in-
 troduced by Mr. Wortley, the husband of
 lady Mary, the celebrated letter writer;
 and seems to have been framed on the prin-
 ciple of the law for the protection of pa-
 tents for discoveries, passed in the reign of
 James I.

9 Anne, c. 5. Every knight of the shire
 to be qualified with an estate of 600*l.* per
 annum; every citizen and burgess, 300*l.*;
 oaths of qualification to be taken if de-
 manded.

C. 10. Fixing rates of postage by the
 General Post-office.

10 Anne, c. 19. Grants a duty on news-
 papers, advertisements, pamphlets, and
 soap.

12 Anne, sess. 2, c. 7. Teachers of

schools to declare conformity to church of
 England, and receive a license from the
 bishop.

C. 12. Bishops may assign stipends to
 curates not exceeding 50*l.*; provides against
 simony.

C. 16. Interest reduced to 5 per cent.;
 where more taken, bargain void.

C. 18. For the assistance of ships in
 danger of being lost at sea.

Mr. Chalmers (Comparative Estimate
 94) gives the following classification of
 the acts of parliament passed in this reign,
 tending to promote the commercial inter-
 ests and local improvements of the nation,
 as such interests were then understood.
 Acts passed for—

Encouraging shipping and foreign trade	. 17
Promoting manufactures	. 5
Roads, churches, bridges, and paving	. 26
Piers, harbours, &c.	. 10
Enclosures and agricultural im- provements	. 8
Management of the poor	. 5

For all these useful purposes . 71

TAXES AND REVENUE.

A great many new taxes were devised
 in this reign to support the expensive war
 against the Bourbons. Candles, leather,
 soap, paper, starch, and other necessary
 articles were subjected to the excise. Stamp
 duties on newspapers, pamphlets, and ad-
 vertisements were for the first time im-
 posed. An attempt was made to lay a tax
 on income. Resolutions were entered into
 by the house of commons to lay a per-cent-
 age duty upon the value of all stock in
 trade, upon money at interest, upon an-
 nuities, pensions, and salaries; but they
 were abandoned, as well as a proposal for
 taxing the transfer of the shares and capital
 stock of corporations and companies. A
 bill was introduced for a resumption of all
 grants of the crown since February 13th,
 1688, unless made after due consideration.
 It passed the commons, but was rejected by
 the lords (Sinc. Hist. Rev., Pt. iii, 18). A
 resolution of the former, to lay a tax upon
 all grants from the crown of one-fifth part
 of the value of the grant at the time it was
 made, had been previously evaded; the
 leading men in both houses being too
 deeply interested in grants of that nature
 to suffer such a bill to become law.

At the union with Scotland, a minute
 inquiry was instituted into the hereditary
 revenues of the crown, and the produce
 of the taxes. The following were the re-
 sults:—

Civil-List Revenues.

The excise on beer (2s. 6d. per barrel)	£.	286,178
Further subsidies of tonnage and poundage	256,841	
Post-office	101,101	
Fines in the Alienation-office	4,804	
Post-fines	2,276	
Wine licences	6,314	
Sheriffs' proffers	1,040	
Compositions in the exchequer	13	
Seizures of uncustomed and prohibited goods	13,005	
Revenue of the duchy of Cornwall	9,869	
Revenue of the principality of Wales	6,857	
Rents of crown-lands, leases, fines, &c.	2,906	
Total for the civil-list	691,204	
Land-tax	1,997,763	
Malt-duty	650,000	
All other taxes	2,352,836	
Total	£5,691,803	

The following is the amount of the sums received during the twelve years' reign of queen Anne:—

	£.
Customs	15,113,811
Excise	20,859,311
Laud-tax	21,285,909
Miscellaneous taxes and receipts	5,261,346
	62,520,377
Loans	59,853,154
Total	£122,373,531

MEN OF LETTERS.

Dr. Robert Hooke, inventor of the pendulum watch; a mathematician and natural philosopher, 1635—1703. "Micrographia;" "Theory of the Variations of the Compass;" and several papers in the Philosophical Transactions.

John Evelyn, a popular and miscellaneous writer, chiefly on subjects of natural history, 1620—1706. "Sylva, or a Discourse of Forest Trees;" "Terra, a Philosophical Discourse of Earth, relating to its Cultivation;" both these have been edited by Dr. Hunter. Evelyn's "Memoirs and Diary," the last extending from 1641 to 1705, was published in 1819, 2 vols. 4to.; and more recently his miscellaneous works were collected and published.

Dr. Thomas Sherlock, dean of St. Paul's, a distinguished polemical divine of the high-church class, 1680—1707. "Dis-

courses on Death and Judgment; with numerous controversial tracts on the Trinity.

Dr. Charles Davenant, inspector-general of exports and imports, 1656—1714. A popular writer in his day on subjects of trade and political economy. Sir Charles Whitworth published a collection of his tracts in 5 vols. 8vo., 1771.

Gregory King, draughtsman, writer on heraldry, and very ingenious political arithmetician, 1648—1712. It was from King Dr. Davenant obtained some of his most valuable statistical details. "The Order of the Installation of Prince George of Denmark and others, as Knights of the Garter;" "Political Conclusions," of which the most complete republication is affixed to Chalmers's "Comparative Estimate," edition 1804.

Thomas Rymer, the royal historiographer, died in 1713. "Fœdera;" a collection of treaties and public acts, from the year 1101, in 15 vols. folio: five more were added by Sanderson. Besides "Fœdera" and other writings, Rymer left unpublished fifty-eight volumes relating to English history, now in the British Museum.

John Locke, one of the most useful and celebrated of philosophical writers, 1632—1704. "Letter on Toleration," 1689; "Essay concerning Human Understanding," 1690; "Treatises on Government," 1690; "Considerations on Lowering the Value of Money," 1691; "Thoughts concerning Education," 1693; "Reasonableness of Christianity," 1695. Several of the MSS. writings of Locke have been published since his death: one edition, with a memoir, by the late lord King.

John Ray, a celebrated English naturalist, 1628—1705. "Catalogue of English Plants;" "Collection of English Proverbs;" "Wisdom of God manifested in the Creation;" "Philosophical Letters;" and some other publications.

John Pomfret, a poet, 1667—1703. "The Choice."

John Philips, a georgical and humorous poet, 1676—1708. "The Splendid Shilling;" "Blenheim;" "Cyder;" the last an imitation of the bucolics of Virgil.

Some of the most distinguished writers of this period will fall within the enumeration of a subsequent reign. The reign of queen Anne has been termed the Augustan age of English literature. But its popular writers are more distinguished by the classical beauties of their compositions than strength and originality of genius. If however we embrace a longer period, from the Restoration to the close of the reign of George I., we shall find men eminent in every branch of science and literature. Dr. Smollett has given the following graphic sketch, though his list is neither complete nor criti-

cally correct:—"Dr. Atterbury and Dr. Clark distinguished themselves in divinity—Mr. Whiston wrote in defence of Arianism—John Locke shone forth the great restorer of human reason—the earl of Shaftesbury raised an elegant though feeble system of moral philosophy—Berkeley, afterwards bishop of Cloyne, in subtlety and variety of metaphysical arguments, as well as in the art of deduction—lord Bolingbroke's talents as a metaphysician have been questioned since his posthumous works appeared. Great progress was made in mathematics and astronomy by Wallis, Halley, and Flamsteed;—the art of medicine owed some valuable improvements to the classical Dr. Friend and the elegant Dr. Mead. Among the poets of this era we number John Phillips, author of a didactic poem, called "Cyder," a performance of real merit; he lived and died in obscurity. William Congreve, celebrated for his comedies, which are not so famous for strength of character and power of humour, as for wit, elegance, and regularity. Vanburgh, who wrote with more nature and fire, though with far less art and precision. Steele, who in his comedies successfully ingrafted modern characters on the ancient drama. Farquhar, who drew his pictures from fancy rather than from nature, and whose chief merit consists in the agreeableness and vivacity of his dialogue. Addison, whose fame as a poet greatly exceeded his genius, which was cold and enervate, though he yielded to none in the character of an essayist, either for style or matter. Swift, whose muse seems to have been mere misanthropy; he was a cynic rather than a poet, and his natural dryness and sarcastic severity would have been unpleasing, had he not qualified them by adopting the extravagant humour of Lucian and Rabelais. Prior, lively, familiar, and amusing; Rowe, solemn, florid, and declamatory. Pope, the prince of lyric poetry, unrivalled in ethics, satire, and polished versification. The agreeable Parnell; the wild, the witty, and the whimsical Garth. Gay, whose fables may vie with those of La Fontaine, in native humour, ease, and simplicity, and whose genius for pastoral was truly original. Dr. Bentley stood foremost in the list of critics and commentators. Sir Christopher Wren raised some noble monuments of architecture. The most celebrated political writers were Davenant, Hare, Swift, Steele, Addison, Bolingbroke, and Trenchard."

Many of the political publications were published weekly, and sold for a penny or twopence each. Of this class was the tory *Examiner*, in which St. John and Swift were the principal writers. Opposed to it, in 1710, was the whig *Examiner*, to which

Steele and Addison contributed. But the origin of periodical essays on men and manners forms the chief literary distinction of queen Anne's reign. The first of these, the "Tatler," was begun by Steele in 1709: it was followed by the "Spectator" and the "Guardian" within the five following years. It is to these happy literary vehicles of general instruction and amusement that much of the moral discrimination and practical good sense of the middle ranks of England may be attributed. Their sale was very considerable; of the "Spectator," the most popular, sometimes 20,000 numbers were sold in a day!

SCOTLAND AT THE UNION.

The reign of queen Anne forms an important era in the history of Scotland, by closing the story of her separate constitution. The crowns had been united in the person of James I., and both nations continued to acknowledge the sovereignty of the same monarch in the person of Anne; but after the Scots' parliament had passed the act of security in 1703 (*ante* p. 306), it was doubtful whether the parliaments of the two countries would agree in the choice of her successor. Hence impended the great danger of a revival of those differences and, perhaps, of the hostilities that had anciently divided and mutually injured the two kingdoms. Happily, four years after, this crisis was averted by a reasonable exertion of vigour on the part of the English ministry, in effecting the legislative union, which removed all apprehension of future national conflicts.

If the pride of Scotland was not hurt, she had no other cause of regret at the loss of her political independence. For nearly two centuries she had been the constant scene of plots, strife, and dissension. Two evils had especially disturbed her peace and interrupted her prosperity. These were the feuds of the territorial aristocracy, and the struggles and alternate triumphs of the episcopalian and presbyterian worships, neither of which knew toleration. By the former, there was no security for property or industry; by the latter, liberty of conscience was denied. The union obtained for Scotland religious peace, by guaranteeing the permanent ascendancy of presbyterianism; but it was reserved for a subsequent reign to establish the entire supremacy of the law, by the extinction of the feudal jurisdictions of the nobility.

A few statistical facts may be properly adduced, to show the condition and resources of Scotland at this period. In the reign of William III., the post-office did not exist as a separate branch of the revenue. At the union it was farmed for 1194*l.* The rates paid for the carriage of

letters were as follows :—A single letter to any place within 50 miles of Edinburgh, 2*d.*; to any place within 100 miles, 3*d.*; and to all places in Scotland above 100 miles, 4*d.* The epistolary correspondence of the country must have been very limited, when even these rates, which remained unaltered until 1784, proved so very unproductive. The entire revenue of the kingdom amounted only to 110,694*l.* per annum; and the produce of the customs and excise show that there was hardly any commerce, and very little consumption of taxable articles.

Sir John Sinclair gives the following statement of the public income of Scotland at the union :—

	£.
Crown-rents	5,500
Feudal casualties	3,000
Customs	30,000
Excise	33,500
Post-office	1,194
Coinage impositions	1,500
Land-tax	36,000
Total	£110,694

Such was the revenue of Scotland at that time; hardly the patrimony of many individuals at present. Her population at the union is supposed not to have exceeded 1,050,000. Like all poor countries without large towns, commerce, or manufactures, Scotland was subject to frequent and destructive scarcities. A visitation of this sort, of peculiar intensity, and which also prevailed in England and on the Continent, afflicted her from 1693 to 1700. During these "seven ill years," as they were termed, many persons died of famine; several extensive parishes in Aberdeenshire were nearly depopulated; and some farms remained unoccupied for years afterwards. Fletcher of Saltoun is frequently quoted to show the miserable and disorderly state of Scotland. In one of his "Discourses," written in 1698, and colour-

ed, apparently, with the characteristic warmth of the Scotch patriot, he says,—

"There are at this day in Scotland (besides a great many poor families, very meanly provided for by the church boxes, with others who, by living on bad food, fall into various diseases,) 200,000 people begging from door to door. These are not only no way advantageous, but a very grievous burthen to so poor a country. And though the number of them be perhaps double of what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, yet in all times there have been about 100,000 of these vagabonds who have lived without any subjection or regard to the laws of the land, or even those of God and nature. Fathers incestuously accompanying with their own daughters; the son with the mother; and the brother with the sister. No magistrate could ever discover, or be informed which way one in a hundred of these wretches died, or that they ever were baptised. Many murders have been discovered among them—and they are not only an unspeakable oppression to poor tenants (who, if they give not bread or some kind of provision to perhaps forty such villains in one day, are sure to be insulted by them), but they rob many poor people who live in houses distant from any neighbourhood."

This describes the existing vagrancy and mendicity of Ireland; and such disorders long continued, for Scotland did not reap any special advantage from the union till the suppression of the rebellion of 1745. After that event, Jacobitism, which had become nearly extinct in England, ceased to subsist in Scotland, except as a sentiment of vague respect for an unfortunate family. It was followed by the substitution of a stipendiary and impartial magistracy for the hereditary jurisdictions of the landed proprietary. New roads were opened through the Highlands; schools established; peace, order, and security generally introduced, which paved the way for improvements of all kinds, in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures.

The memorable example of the parliamentary settlement of the succession to the crown tended materially to lessen the influence of the personal character of the sovereign on the government. The elective power, exercised by the legislature, placed the monarch himself nearly on the same level of responsibility as the national representatives; and it is hardly possible but he must have felt similar deference to the source whence he derived his title and authority. But other circumstances helped to reduce

within a narrower circle than that of his two immediate predecessors the active interference of the first prince of the Brunswick family in the conduct of public affairs.

George I. ascended the English throne in his fifty-fifth year, when men are usually more disposed to acquiesce in the settled routine than venture on novel, and perhaps, troublesome experiments. Moreover, the natural disposition and understanding of the king were not of a kind at any period of his life to carry him out of the established orbit. He was a person of as simple tastes as appearance; German in all his habits and attachments, even to that of his mistresses. In England he was a stranger, his home being Hanover. He was neither acquainted with the constitution, language, nor manners of his new subjects; nor did he ever care to become so. He naturally inclined to the seclusion of a private station; being shy and reserved in public, but easy and facetious among his intimates. During the fourteen years of his government of the electorate, he had acquired the reputation of a just and circumspect prince, who well understood, and steadily pursued his own interests, and would have been well content to end his days in the petty sovereignty of his ancestors, had not the ambition of others been greater than his own. Punctual in business, he was more dull than indolent; and the plain honesty of his temper, joined with the narrow notions of a low education, made him look upon his acceptance of the crown as an act of usurpation, which was always uneasy to him.* He had no taste for literature, or the arts; was amorous, fond of punch, and parsimonious. Avarice was so predominant in him, that he would raise no troops to secure the succession; and the principal whigs were obliged from their own purses to advance the sums necessary, to gain some ignoble men of rank, whom nothing else could induce to join them.† With these qualities, George I. was not likely to give much trouble to his ministers or the nation. The constitution was not likely to be endangered, though strict impartiality in government was hardly to be expected, considering the earlier and stronger ties by which the king was bound to his hereditary states than his acquired dominions.

In order to understand the political occurrences of this reign, it will be necessary to remind the reader of the state of parties. The Jacobites, or partisans of the house of Stuart, were very numerous; even queen Anne, as well as her ministers Oxford and Bolingbroke, are represented to have been in favour of the exiled family. The partisans of the Pretender, however, never openly avowed their designs, but were mostly included among the tories, who, with the whigs, formed the ostensible parties into which the nation was divided.‡ Many of the tories were not from principle opposed to the Hanoverian succession, but only dreaded the accession of that family from an apprehension that the whigs would then predominate, and engross all places of trust and emolument. The strength of the tories lay among the nobility and gentry, with the populace of London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, and the chief towns and cities of the kingdom. The whigs leaned for support on the dissenters, the Bank, and the monied in-

* Lord Wharncliffe's *Letters and Works of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu*, i. 107.

† Lord John Russell's *Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe*, i. 301.

‡ There was doubtless a third party now, as there always had been since the period of the civil war, but it was too insignificant for notice. Evelyn says (*Memoirs* ii. 1) that there were republicans at the Revolution who were for making the prince of Orange a stadtholder, after the example of the United Provinces.

terest. The abstract principles of both parties were nearly the same as at present; the tories inclining more inflexibly to the support of the church, hereditary right, and the royal prerogatives than the whigs, who held that these fundamental principles ought to bend to the changing interests and opinions of the community. The changes that have intervened are, that the tories have lost the support of the populace, and the whigs, of a portion of the commercial classes, by whose union a third, or radical party has been formed.

The whigs having dexterously availed themselves of the divisions of the tories, on the death of queen Anne, to pave the way for King George, that prince threw himself entirely into the hands of the friends who had most efficiently served him; and from his accession the principle may be considered to have been first attempted of carrying on the government, not by a balance or even unequally mixed administration, but by a cabinet composed exclusively of one party. "During the reign of William III., and the greater part of that of Anne," observes lord John Russell, "the offices of state were divided between the members of the two parties, with a view to conciliate both, and to exclude the more haughty and presumptuous leaders from acquiring a dictation over the sovereign. In the middle of the reign of Anne, the whigs obtained something like exclusive power; and towards the end of that reign, the tories possessed unbalanced authority; but their hesitation and misconduct totally deprived them of the confidence of the new king, and the whigs found themselves strong enough to keep out their opponents for nearly half a century. From this time we may observe in the ministry of England, greater unity of views, a more complete confidence among the members of it, and a more uniform policy towards foreign powers." The hybrid principle, however, was again resorted to in the next reign; and on the fall of Lord Granville, in 1744, the "broad-bottom ministry" was formed.

The leading policy of the whigs to support their administration appears to have been to conciliate the king's favour by indulging his German predilections; and secondly, by frustrating the designs of the disaffected. In pursuit of the first object, the treaty of Hanover was concluded, and the annexation of the duchies of Bremen and Verden to the electorate secured. England was not interested in either: they concerned only the king's hereditary states; yet in consequence of them, the nation was entangled in continental alliances, in expensive armaments, and financial difficulties. Ministers, unable openly to justify their policy, resorted to imaginary or exaggerated pretexts; as the necessity of their foreign connexions to the protection of commerce, the maintenance of the balance of power, and the protestant succession.

The measures of ministers, especially directed against the disaffected, were, the discomfiture of the rebellion of the earl of Mar and disarming of the Highlanders; repeated suspensions of the Habeas Corpus Act; the passing of the Septennial and Riot Acts; the introduction of the Peerage Bill; and their endeavours, at the beginning of the new reign, to inflict a severe and vindictive punishment on their tory predecessors.

Mar's rebellion was a rash and ill-conducted enterprise. Mr. Hallam observes (Const. Hist. iii. 311) that the clergy did great mischief; they inflamed the Jacobite prejudices of the people, but elicited no effective co-operation in the Pretender's cause. Few rose in arms to support the insurrection, compared with those who desired its success; and a supine herd of priests and country gentlemen hoped to gather, without risk, the

rewards of their noisy declamations in favour of hereditary right. Two peers and thirty other persons suffered for this unsuccessful treason. A great many more escaped from Newgate and other prisons, assisted by their numerous adherents.

The substitution of septennial for triennial parliaments forms as extraordinary an example of legislative temerity as ever the Long Parliament exhibited. The house of commons had been elected for three years, and they *elect*ed themselves for four years longer, and by the same right might doubtless have made their sittings for life or a perpetuity. This usurpation of the franchises of their constituents has been defended on the ground of the prevailing excitement and disaffection; and it does appear from the occurrences of this period, that the Revolution settlement might have been endangered by a general election. Others have vindicated the Septennial Act as a permanent improvement, by rendering less frequent the corruption and tumults of a general election. But as the last have been circumscribed by the parliamentary reform acts, and Jacobitism is extinct, there seems now little reason for not repairing the breach in the constitution, committed in a moment of emergency.

The Peerage Bill was introduced under the pretext of obviating the inconvenience of sudden augmentations of the peerage; as in the last reign, when there were at once twelve new creations: but the real design was so apparent, that it has been generally abandoned, as an indefensible expedient for perpetuating the whigs' domination. By this bill, the house of lords, after a few more additions, was to be limited to the existing number. As respects Scotland, one of the provisions of the union was to be abrogated, and she was to have twenty-five hereditary, instead of sixteen elective, members. Fewer the number of lords, and greater the importance of each, this novel project passed the upper house with little difficulty, but was rejected by the commons with a show of indignation, as an audacious attempt to exclude them and their posterity from the honour of the peerage. That the king should not only concur in, but actually recommend to the adoption of parliament, a scheme, depriving him of one of his most valuable prerogatives, shows how passive an instrument he was in the hands of his ministers.

It is observable that the bitterness of political, as well as religious differences has much abated within the last century. In the last and present reigns the rival parties waged as fierce political warfare as rival despots; and hardly anything would appease the rage of either whigs or Tories in their turn of triumph, save the exile or decapitation of their opponents. No sooner had the whigs got firmly hold of the government, than they commenced a fierce persecution of their predecessors. The earl of Oxford, viscount Bolingbroke, and the duke of Ormond were impeached of high-treason, and the earl of Strafford, of high crimes and misdemeanors. All the charges against them originated in the measures they had adopted in the accomplishment of the peace of Utrecht. But as these measures had been sanctioned both by the sovereign and the legislature, either previously or subsequently, it is impossible to conceive on what pretext of justice they could be impeached before the very tribunal that had concurred in their execution. The particular charge, magnified into treason, against Bolingbroke and Oxford was, that in the negotiation for peace, they had endeavoured to procure the city of Tournay for the French king, which by a most forced construction, was held to be an adhering to the queen's enemies, within the statute of Edward III. Bolingbroke and Ormond

withdrew to the Continent; the impeachment of Oxford was abandoned, after he had suffered two years' imprisonment in the Tower, owing to a disagreement between the two houses.

There are two events in the foreign history of this period which deserve to be noticed, because they will show the intolerance and superstition which still prevailed in two of the first kingdoms in Europe. The king of France, Louis XV., published a severe edict against all his protestant subjects: whoever performed any exercise of the reformed religion, if a man, was to be sent to the galleys; if a woman, to be shaved, and confined where the judges thought fit. The protestant preachers to be put to death; and those who had any communication, directly or indirectly, with such ministers, condemned to the galleys. To give their children foreign education, to be punished with a fine of 6000 livres; and the memory of those who died in the profession of the protestant religion to be prosecuted. To these were added various other penalties for dissuading sick persons from dying catholics, marrying abroad without license; and baptism and schooling were forbid to protestants.

The other event is the voluntary abdication of Philip V., king of Spain, at the age of thirty-nine, with an ambitious queen of thirty-one, leaving the throne to a son in his seventeenth year, and a daughter-in-law in her sixteenth year. To this renunciation he said he was induced that he might devote the remainder of his days to the service of God, meditate on death, and seek salvation disengaged from worldly cares. All he claimed was a yearly pension of 120,000*l.* to support him in the monastery of St. Ildefonso. The letter which he wrote to his son contained "pious exhortations on the duties of a Christian, and some directions for the worship of the Virgin, but none for the government of a kingdom."

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1714. *Aug.* 1. George I. duke of Brunswick-Lunenburgh, and elector of Hanover, succeeded to the crown on the demise of queen Anne, by virtue of acts of Parliament for securing the Protestant succession. He was born May 28, 1660, and was the eldest son of Ernest-Augustus, bishop of Osnaburgh, duke of Hanover, and elector of Brunswick-Lunenburgh, by the princess Sophia, fifth and youngest daughter of Frederick V. elector palatine and king of Bohemia, and the princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I. king of England. The new king's title was strictly elective; for admitting the male line of the house of Stuart to have been extinguished in the person of James II., the right of blood vested in the house of Savoy, descended from Henrietta, duchess of Orleans, daughter of Charles I. And the princess Sophia herself, being the youngest daughter of the palatine, more than fifty descendants of that prince, prior in the order of succession, were passed over by the accession of the Hanover family.

Upon the death of the queen, the privy-council being assembled according to the act of 4 & 5 of Anne, c. 8, three instruments of the same tenor were produced by

the archbishop of Canterbury, the lord-chancellor, and Monsieur Kreyenberg, the resident of Hanover, under the hand and seal of the elector of Brunswick, then George I., nominating nineteen persons to be added to the seven great officers appointed by the said act to compose the regency. The seven so appointed were, Tenison, archbishop of Canterbury; Harcourt, lord-chancellor; Sheffield, duke of Buckingham, lord president; Talbot, duke of Shrewsbury, lord high-treasurer; Legg, earl of Dartmouth, lord privy-seal; Wentworth, earl of Strafford, first lord commissioner of the admiralty; and sir Thomas Parker, lord chief-justice of the King's bench. The nineteen appointed by the king were, the archbishop of York; dukes of Shrewsbury, Somerset, Bolton, Devonshire, Kent, Argyle, Montrose, Roxburgh; earls of Pembroke, Anglesey, Carlisle, Nottingham, Abingdon, Scarborough, Oxford; lords Townshend, Halifax, and Cowper.

The lords justices, or regency, named by the king, were chiefly whigs, with the addition of those tory peers who had appeared the most zealous for the succession. Addison was appointed their secretary, and

Bolingbroke, who had so lately had the premiership within his grasp, was now seen waiting with his papers at the door of the council; "where many passed him with scorn, who a few days before would have given half their fortunes for his smile." The king was proclaimed with the usual solemnity. Parliament also met, pursuant to the act, and the members spent the three following days in taking the oaths.

An order of council issued for altering the prayers for the royal family.

The French king published an arrêt for legitimating his natural sons, the dukes of Maine and Toulouse, and capacitating them to inherit the crown of France after the princes of the blood.

3. The late queen was opened, and the next day her bowels were interred in Westminster-abbey.

4. The duke of Marlborough made a sort of triumphal entry into London, but his coach unluckily broke down at Temple-bar, and he was forced to get into another.

5. King George proclaimed at Edinburgh.

The lord chancellor made a speech to both houses of parliament, in the name of the regency, giving an account of their proceedings since the queen's death. They recommended to the commons the settling the king's revenue, and establishing the public credit.

6. Addresses of condolence and congratulation voted to the king by both houses.

An order of the lords justices for a general mourning, to begin the 15th instant.

King George was proclaimed at Dublin.

11. The commons voted his majesty the same revenues the late queen had, except the revenue of the duchy of Cornwall, which was by law vested in the prince.

14. N. S. The pretender, hearing of the queen's death, left Lorraine, and went to Versailles; but the French king refused to see him, alleging his engagements to the Hanover succession; whereupon the chevalier returned to Lorraine.

21. The lords justices gave the royal assent to an act for the better support of his majesty's household.

24. The private interment of queen Anne was solemnized in Westminster-abbey. She was interred in the same vault with Charles II., king William, queen Mary, and prince George of Denmark.

25. Parliament prorogued to the 23rd of September.

28. Orders arrived from Hanover to the regency, for preparing a patent for creating the prince royal prince of Wales, and for removing lord Bolingbroke from his office of secretary of state: and on the 31st the seals were taken from him, and the doors of his office locked and sealed up.

31. O. S. King George, with the prince, began his journey from Hanover towards England, and arrived at the Hague the 5th of September, where he remained till the 16th.

Sept. 7. N. S. The treaty of peace between the empire and France was signed at Baden.

8. An order of council against throwing squibs or fire-works on the day of his majesty's public entry.

11. The duke of Berwick stormed Barcelona, which was defended with great obstinacy; but in the evening the garrison retired into the new city, and beat the charge; on the 12th they surrendered, upon condition to have their lives saved, and that the city should not be plundered.

15. A proclamation, offering a reward of 100,000*l.* for apprehending the pretender, if he should attempt to land in the British dominions.

The earl marshal published an order, prohibiting all coaches coming into Greenwich park on the day of his majesty's entry, but those of the great officers, the nobility and their sons, the privy councillors and judges.

16. O. S. King George, with the prince, embarked for England, and arrived at Greenwich on the 18th in the evening: he was received by the duke of Northumberland, captain of the life-guard, and lord-chancellor Harcourt, at the head of the lords of the regency.

King Philip V. of Spain was married by proxy to the princess of Parma.

17. Lord viscount Townshend was sworn one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

19. There was a great court at Greenwich of all sorts: it was observed, that those who prospered in the late reign met with a remarkable neglect. The duke of Ormond, who came in great splendour to pay his respects, was refused admission: he was removed from the captain-generalship. The great seal was taken from lord Harcourt and given to lord Cowper. The earl of Oxford, late lord-treasurer, kissed his majesty's hand with the crowd, but was not vouchsafed any further notice.

20. The king made his public entry into London. The great guns at the Tower were fired when his majesty took coach, as also when he passed over London bridge; and on his majesty's arrival at his palace, the cannon in the Park were three times discharged.

21. A great court at St. James's; and among the rest, Mr. Aldworth, M.P. for New Windsor, was there, whom colonel Chudleigh branded with the name of Jacobite; whereupon a quarrel ensued, and they both went in a coach to Marylebone fields, and Mr. Aldworth was killed upon the spot.

22. His majesty declared in council his firm purpose to support the churches of England and Scotland, as they were by law established. The same day, the prince royal was declared prince of Wales, and took his place at the council-board.

29. Sir William Humphreys elected lord-mayor of London.

Oct. 1. The former privy council having been dissolved, a new one assembled this day.

The king of Sweden, after about four years' residence in Turkey, set out from Denizdash for his own dominions, being presented with several purses of gold by the sultan, to defray the charges of his journey.

5. **NEW MINISTRY.**—By this time the ministry was formed, and was as follows:— Lord Halifax, *First Lord of the Treasury*, and *Chancellor of the Exchequer*.

Lord Cowper, *Lord Chancellor*.

Earl of Nottingham, *President of the Council*.

Marquis of Wharton, *Lord Privy-seal*.

Viscount Townshend and Mr. Stanhope, *Secretaries of State*.

Earl of Oxford, *First Lord of the Admiralty*.

Earl of Sunderland, *Lord-lieutenant of Ireland*.

Duke of Marlborough, *Commander-in-chief*.

Duke of Shrewsbury, *Lord Chamberlain*.

Duke of Somerset, *Master of the Horse*.

Robert Walpole, *Paymaster of the Forces*.

Mr. Pulteney, *Secretary at War*.

Mr. Aislabie, *Treasurer of the Navy*.

Mr. Earle, *Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance*.

All the principal offices, both of the ministry and the household, were held by whigs. Shrewsbury was the only minister of the late queen, and Nottingham the only decided tory. Out of the privy-council a cabinet was formed, consisting chiefly of the lord-chancellor and Marlborough, the earls of Nottingham and Sunderland, the lords Halifax, Townshend, Somers, and general Stanhope. All these had distinguished themselves by open opposition to the late measures and the peace.

10. The lord-lieutenants and deputy-lieutenants were altered almost all over England.

15. The princess of Wales, with her two eldest daughters, having landed at Margate two days before, and lain one night at Rochester, passed through London to St. James's.

20. King George crowned at Westminster, with the usual solemnity; but as the procession was going by, several people were killed and hurt by the fall of scaffolds in Palace-yard. The rear was closed by a person of honour, especially appointed for the purpose. The procession marched on

foot upon blue cloth, to the abbey. While homage was being performed by the nobility, the treasurer of the household threw about the coronation medals, having the king's effigy on one side; on the reverse, the king sitting in an elbow-chair, Britannia crowning him; with the motto 'Georgius Rex, inaug. Oct. 20, 1714.' Dinner in the hall being ended and all things performed with great magnificence, about seven o'clock his majesty returned to St. James's, and the day concluded with bonfires, illuminations, ringing of bells, and other demonstrations of general joy.

23. Mr. Prior, the British resident in France, presented a memorial to that court, requiring that the canal and the new works at Mardyke be demolished.

29. The king, with the prince and princess, accepted of an invitation to the lord-mayor's feast; and his majesty ordered 1000*l.* to be paid into the hands of the sheriffs for the relief of poor debtors.

Nov. 1. Dr. John Radcliffe died, the most eminent physician of his time: he left 40,000*l.* to the university of Oxford, for the augmenting their library; 150*l.* per annum to the library-keeper; 5000*l.* to University college; 600*l.* per annum for two travelling physicians; and 600*l.* per annum to St. Bartholomew's hospital, &c.

2. A proclamation was issued for the suppressing of riots.

5. The earl of Stair was made commander-in-chief of the forces in Scotland, in the absence of the duke of Argyle.

15. The dukes of Marlborough and Shrewsbury, and several other persons of quality, received by the French mail the pretender's declaration, dated Lorraine, the 29th of August, asserting his right to these kingdoms; whereupon the minister of Lorraine was forbid the court.

16. An order of council for suppressing riots. The country was in a very perturbed state. The clamour of the church being in danger was revived; jealousies were excited; seditious libels dispersed; and dangerous tumults raised in different parts of the kingdom; Birmingham, Bristol, Chippenham, Norwich, Reading, and Oxford were filled with licentious disturbances. The popular cry was, "Down with the whigs! Sacheverel for ever!"

The latter end of this month the judges' salaries were advanced, namely, the three chiefs to 2000*l.* a year each, and the puisne judges to 1500*l.* each.

27. Several persons were tried and convicted at Bristol, for a riot, in insulting the dissenters, and breaking their windows.

29. Counter and the four other prisoners in Newgate, who were committed on suspicion of being concerned in the plot against king William, moved to be admit-

ted to bail according to the habeas corpus act, but were remanded to prison.

6. A proclamation issued for putting the laws in execution against papists, non-jurors, and disaffected persons; occasioned by the pretender's declaration, and popular tumults.

7. The Turks declared war against the republic of Venice.

11. An order by his majesty, prohibiting the clergy to intermeddle with affairs of state in their sermons, &c.

31. The earl of Strafford had his audience of leave of the states-general; and, being presented with a gold chain and medal, of the value of 6000 guilders, he returned to England.

1715. *Jan. 5.* A proclamation was issued for dissolving the parliament.

The earl of Strafford having been examined before the council, an order was made for seizing his papers on the 11th of January.

9. John Vine, a perfumer, was ordered to be prosecuted for a libel, intitled "Reasons humbly offered to the parliament for abrogating the observation of the 30th of January."

11. A proclamation offering a reward of 1000*l.* to any person who should discover the author, and 500*l.* for the printer of a libel, intitled "English advice to the freeholders of England;" which, the proclamation says, was designed to promote the interest of the pretender, and to raise disturbances in the approaching election of members of parliament. The 11th of August following, Mr. Hornby, a gentleman of one of the inns of court, was taken into custody, being charged with having written the said pamphlet.

15. A proclamation for calling a new parliament to meet March 17th. In this proclamation the king complained of the perplexity of public affairs, the interruption of commerce, and the heavy debts of the nation. He expressed his hopes that his "loving subjects" would send up to parliament the fittest persons to redress present disorders; and that in the elections they would have a particular regard to such as had "expressed a firm attachment to the protestant succession *when in danger.*" People generally construed this into a design to maintain party distinctions and encourage the whigs to a full exertion of their influence in the approaching elections.

18. The imperialists took possession of the provinces of Luxemburg and Limburg. About this time Mr. Steele was made governor of the playhouse.

20. Being appointed a day of thanksgiving for his majesty's accession, the king, with the prince and princess, went in the usual state to St. Paul's, where they heard a sermon on the occasion, which was preach-

ed by Dr. Richard Willis, bishop of Gloucester.

25. The duke of Bavaria took possession of his electorate again.

Feb. 6. The treaty of peace between Spain and Portugal was signed at Utrecht.

28. Lord Cornwallis and James Craggs, sen., esq., were made post-masters-general, in the room of sir Thomas Frankland and sir John Evelyn.

Mar. 17. Dr. Gilbert Burnet, bishop of Salisbury, died in the seventy-second year of his age. The bishop was a Scotchman, who had led an active public and literary life. He had a principal share in the revolution, and was cognizant of most public transactions in the four preceding reigns. His copious writings are a storehouse of historical, ecclesiastical, and biographical information. The accuracy of some of his statements has been impugned, but he appears too sincere and honest to be guilty of any intentional breach of veracity. His compositions are rough and unfinished; more remarkable for matter than execution. Bishop Burnet was, in short, a prelate of an open, benevolent, and bustling character, but vain, self-important, and garrulous.

NEW PARLIAMENT.—The parliament of Great Britain met. The commons chose Spencer Compton, esq. for speaker, who was approved by the king. The elections had been carried on with great warmth, and in several places the electors went the length of delivering express instructions to their representatives. A large majority of whigs was returned; but, according to Tindal, one-third part of the house was Tories. The result of this appeal to the people was curious, since at the general election two years previously five-sixths of the successful candidates had been Tories. It shows either the obedient loyalty of the people, or the great influence of the ministers in parliamentary elections.

21. Parliament opened by the king, who expressed his determination to make the established constitution in church and state the rule of his government. In their address the commons alluded to the dishonourable termination of the late war, and express a hope that the "reputation of the kingdom will in due time be vindicated and restored." This part was objected to by the Tories, and was an earnest of the bitter persecution of that party which followed.

25. Viscount Bolingbroke, observing a storm gathering, withdrew; and, on the 26th, embarked at Dover for France. In his lordship's office papers had been found which were thought sufficient ground for an impeachment both of him and his former colleagues.

Apr. 1. The commons addressed the king to lay the negotiations of peace and

commerce before the house ; with which his majesty having complied, a secret committee was appointed to inspect them, consisting of twenty-one members, chosen by ballot : of this committee Robert Walpole, esq. was appointed chairman. It was the same Walpole who in 1711 had been imprisoned in the Tower and expelled the house for corruption.

Mr. Matthew Prior, one of the late plenipotentiaries, underwent a strict examination by a committee of the privy-council.

2. The ratifications of peace between Spain and Portugal were exchanged.

12. Marquis of Wharton, lord privy-seal, died. He was a nobleman of varied talent, of considerable eminence both as a politician and libertine ; by his death the whigs lost a warm champion.

18. Watson and Mawson, two printers, were apprehended for printing a paper containing reflections on the king's speech ; and one Kelsey was also taken up for dispersing it.

22. A total eclipse of the sun about nine in the morning : the darkness was so great, for three minutes and thirteen seconds, that the stars appeared.

Sir George Downing having been married about thirteen years to Mrs. Mary Forester, a maid of honour to queen Anne, when he was about fifteen, and she twelve, sir George, upon his return from his travels, declared he had no inclination for his bride, and refused to cohabit with her ; whereupon she was persuaded to prefer a petition to the house of lords to be divorced. But it was resolved by a majority of fifty to forty-eight that the petition should be rejected. All the bishops were against granting the divorce.

28. Richard Steele, esq. knighted.

May 3. War was proclaimed by the Venetians against the Turks.

5. The artillery company prevailed with the prince of Wales to be their captain-general.

The king having granted his royal license to the convocation to enter upon business, directed them what subjects they should take under their consideration in a letter to the archbishop.

15. Earl of Halifax, first commissioner of the treasury, died. He was succeeded in the first instance by the earl of Carlisle, but soon after by Mr. Walpole, who with lord Townshend became the heads of the ministry. Lord Halifax had held the same office in the latter years of king William's reign. Like the earl of Oxford, the head of the opposite party, he was a munificent patron of literature. Pope caricatures his lordship under the name of Bufo, in his satires.

18. A squadron of twenty men-of-war,

commanded by sir John Norris, sailed to the Baltic to protect British commerce, the king of Sweden having refused to recognise the neutrality of either the English or Dutch.

28, 29. TUMULTS.—The first being the king's birth-day, and the last the anniversary of the restoration, there were very great mobs ; but the whigs complained that on the 29th they were insulted by the tories, if they refused to cry out "*high church and the duke of Ormond.*" The windows of several houses were broken that were not illuminated ; several companies of the trained bands, being upon guard at the Exchange, apprehended some of the rioters. One Bournois, a schoolmaster, who denied the right of king George, was tried and scourged through the city so severely that he died a few days after. The guards also began to grow mutinous on their receiving such coarse clothes, especially linen, as was not fit to be worn on the king's birth-day ; particularly the first regiment of guards, of which the duke of Marlborough was colonel. The soldiers threw some of their shirts into the king's and duke's gardens in the park ; and others they exposed in the streets, crying, "These are Hanover shirts." Such was the alarm, that the duke of Marlborough made a speech to his regiment, promising them new clothes, laying the blame upon the agent and tradesmen that were concerned in clothing them : but this satisfied no one that the duke was not concerned in this mean sort of speculation, and orders were sent from the court to the guards at Whitehall to burn the new shirts. The soldiers were often imposed upon in this manner in the war with France, when it was common for the officers to burn the new linen sent them over to Flanders, at the head of the battalions of guards, being not only coarse, but damaged cloth : and the soldiers had money deducted out of the remainder of their pay to find them more.

Mr. George Jeffries was seized at Dublin, with a packet directed to Dr. Jonathan Swift, dean of St. Patrick's. Several treasonable papers being found in this packet, Jeffries was obliged to give bail for his appearance, but the dean thought fit to abscond.

June 9. IMPEACHMENT OF THE TORIERS.—The committee of secrecy made their report ; but first, Mr. Walpole moved, that a warrant should be issued by the speaker to apprehend such persons as he should name, in order to their being examined ; and that no member might be permitted to go out of the house ; which being agreed to, warrants were issued for apprehending Mr. Matthew Prior, Mr. Thomas Harley, and several others. Mr. Prior was apprehended some hours after. Mr. Walpole delivered in two

books at the table, one of which contained the report; the other was an appendix to it, which contained at large those letters and papers which were referred to in the report. The report was in reading from one o'clock to half an hour past eight at night, when the farther consideration was adjourned till the next morning. The substance of the charges comprised in the report were the clandestine negotiation with Meanager; the extraordinary measures pursued to form the congress of Utrecht; the fatal suspension of arms by the duke of Ormond; the seizure of Ghent and Bruges in order to distress the allies and favour the French; Ormond's acting in concert with the French general; Bolingbroke's journey to France to negotiate a separate peace; Mr. Prior's and Shrewsbury's negotiation in France; the precipitate conclusion of the treaty of Utrecht.

10. After the report had been read a second time and ordered to be printed, Mr. Walpole moved to impeach viscount Bolingbroke of high treason. Then lord Coningsby standing up, said, "The worthy chairman has impeached the hand, but I impeach the head—I impeach Robert, earl of Oxford, of high treason." Mr. Auditor Harley, the earl's brother, spoke in vindication of that minister: he affirmed that he had done nothing but in immediate command of his sovereign; that the peace was a good peace, and approved as such by two parliaments; and that the facts charged to him in the report amounted only to misdemeanours. If the sanction of a parliament, which is the representative and legislature of the nation, be not sufficient to protect a minister from the vengeance of his enemies, he can have no security. Some whigs expressed their doubts whether the charges amounted to treason. But the house without a division resolved to impeach.

The Turks invaded the Morea, and besieged Napoli de Romania.

13. The Danes and Prussians made themselves masters of the isle of Usedom, belonging to Sweden.

14. Majorca was reduced to king Philip's obedience.

17. The commons ordered Mr. Prior into close custody.

21. Mr. secretary Stanhope impeached James duke of Ormond of high treason, and other high crimes and misdemeanours. Whereupon the duke shortly after withdrew out of the kingdom, repairing to the court of the pretender. The duke is supposed to have taken this step under the advice of bishop Atterbury, but contrary to the earnest solicitation of the earl of Oxford, whom the duke wished to accompany him. He parted from the earl with these words, "Farewell, Oxford, without a head." To which the

earl replied, "Farewell, duke, without a duchy."

John Aislable, esq. impeached Thomas earl of Strafford of the like crimes.

July 4. The duke of Argyle and his brother the earl of Isla were removed from all their places.

8. The duke of Bolton was made lord chamberlain of the household, in the room of the duke of Shrewsbury.

9. The articles of impeachment against the earl of Oxford having been read in the commons and agreed to after several debates, lord Coningsby carried them up, and at the bar of the lords impeached the earl of Oxford, praying in conclusion, that he might be sequestered from parliament, and committed to safe custody. Whereupon he was put into custody of the black rod at his own house. Upon his way home he was attended by the mob, crying "High church, Ormond and Oxford for ever!" Next day being brought to the bar, he received a copy of the articles, and was allowed a month to prepare his answer. The earl was suffering from severe illness, and Dr. Mead declared his life would be in danger if sent to the Tower; nevertheless, on a division, it was carried he should be sent there on the 16th instant.

20. Royal assent given to the Riot Act. After which the king informed the house of the intelligence he had received that the pretender was preparing to invade the kingdom. Both houses, in addresses, promised to support the king with their lives and fortunes. The habeas corpus act was suspended, and a reward of 100,000*l.* offered for the apprehension of the pretender.

25. Commissions were issued for raising thirteen regiments of dragoons, and eight regiments of foot.

29. The commons addressed, that the half-pay officers might be allowed full pay, that they might be in a readiness to serve.

30. Orders were given for fitting out a squadron of men-of-war, under the command of sir George Byng.

31. The horse and foot guards encamped in Hyde-Park; and a train of artillery was sent thither from the Tower.

Aug. 1. The earl of Mar withdrew from court, and went by sea to Newcastle, from thence to Scotland, where he assembled the adherents of the pretender on the 16th; namely, the marquises of Huntley and Tulibardine; the earls of Nithisdale, Linlithgow, Traquair, Southesk, Marischall, and Carnwath; the viscounts Kilsyth, Kenmure, Kingston, and Stormont; and the lords Drummond and Rollo.

2. An act to restrain all waggons, carriers, and others, from drawing any carriage with more than five horses at length.

Lord Coningsby carried up further articles of impeachment against Robert earl of Oxford.

3. A colber of Highgate was whipped from Holloway to that place, for reflecting on the government.

The mob demolished the pulpit, pews, &c. in a meeting-house at Nuneaton in Warwickshire; as they did at Oxford, and several other parts of England, about this time.

Upon advice of an intended invasion and insurrection, two associations were formed and signed at Edinburgh.

Oxford desired a longer time to answer the further articles exhibited against him the day before, being sick in bed; and had a fortnight's further time allowed him.

4. The articles of impeachment against Bolingbroke were read and agreed to in the house of commons, and carried up to the lords by Walpole, two days after.

5. Duke of Montrose resigned the place of secretary of state for Scotland.

6. Mr. secretary Stanhope carried up the impeachment against the duke of Ormond.

8. A proclamation promising a month's pay to such seamen as should enter themselves on board his majesty's ships of war.

10. Thomas Harley, esq., who was in custody of the serjeant-at-arms, was committed to the gate-house by the commons.

11. Nicholas Rowe, esq., was made poet-laureate, in the room of Nahum Tate, esq., deceased.

17. Don Bertran de Zara, the Morocco ambassador, died, and was buried in Westminster-abbey at the king's charge.

20. An act passed for the attainder of Bolingbroke and Ormond, unless they surrendered by the 10th of September.

24. The earls of Hume and Wigtoun, and George Lockhart, esq., were committed prisoners to Edinburgh castle.

28. The earl of Sunderland was appointed lord privy-seal.

30. Royal assent given to an act for encouraging loyalty in Scotland. By this law the tenant who continued peaceable while his lord took arms in favour of the pretender, was invested with the *property* of the lands he rented; on the other hand, the lands possessed by any person convicted of treason should revert to the superior of whom they were held. The act also contained a clause for summoning suspected persons to give bail, by which all the heads of the jacobite clans and others were summoned to Edinburgh; and those who did not appear were declared rebels.

Oxford petitioned again for a longer time to put in his answer; which was granted him.

Several state prisoners were brought to London from divers parts.

Sept. 1. DEATH OF LOUIS XIV. — The grand roi expired in the 77th year of his

age, and the 73rd of his reign, leaving for his successor his great-grandson, Louis XV., an infant in his fifth year. The regency was vested in Philip, duke of Orleans. For upwards of half a century Louis had reigned the dread and envy of the great powers. He was vain, unfeeling, unprincipled; the ruling passion of his life, the *glory* of conquest. For these he scrupled not to sacrifice the repose of nations and deluge Europe with blood. Under his government France presented a painful contrast of courtly magnificence and plebeian destitution. A wretched education made him a religious bigot: by the violence of his persecutions he drove from their homes his most virtuous and industrious subjects, whose exile France long felt in the decay of her manufactures and commerce. Softened by the public and domestic reverses of his old age, he seemed at length to feel for the distresses of the people: he discovered the chief errors of his course, except intolerance, and acknowledged, when too late to redeem the miseries he had occasioned, he had formed mistaken opinions respecting that *glory* which he had been so solicitous to acquire. His death occasioned a change in the politics of the French court. The regent sought the alliance of the English court, as more favourable to his ambitious designs on the French crown than the support of the pretender, whose machinations for raising an insurrection in this country were regularly communicated to the British government by the vigilance of lord Stair, the English ambassador.

Mr. Aislabe carried up the impeachment to the lords against Strafford.

2. Joseph Sullivan, a soldier in the first regiment of foot-guards, was seized with two others for enlisting men in the service of the pretender; as was, the next day, lieutenant-colonel Paul, who had a command in the first regiment of foot-guards.

3. The earl of Mar assembled his forces at Aboyne in Aberdeenshire, proclaiming the pretender by the name of James VIII.

Oxford's answer was delivered to the lords, who transmitted it to the commons. Walpole said it was merely a repetition of what had appeared in pamphlets. It was referred to a committee.

4. Lord Powis was taken into custody, and ten days after was committed to the Tower, on suspicion of being disaffected.

8. An attempt was formed to surprise the castle of Edinburgh, but was discovered.

9. John duke of Argyle, being appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in Scotland, set out for that kingdom, and arrived at Edinburgh the 14th. At the same time, the earl of Sutherland offered his service to raise the Highland clans, which was readily accepted; the duke of Roxburgh, the marquises of Annandale and

Tweeddale, the earls of Selkirk, Loudoun, Rothes, Haddington, and Forfar, the lords Torpichen and Belhaven, embraced this opportunity of showing their loyalty.

PROGRESS OF THE REBELS.—The earl of Mar set up his standard at Kirk-Michael. He continued there four or five days, and then, with his company, consisting of no more than 60 men, marched to Moulin, thence to Logarth, thence, increased to 1000, to Dunkeld, from thence, being 2000 strong, they set forward for Perth. This town was seized, September the 16th, by John Hay, brother to lord Kinnoul, at the head of 200 horse, preventing the earl of Rothes, who was then marching to secure it for the king, with 500 men. Here the rebels furnished themselves with arms, by sending out parties for that purpose, and by seizing a ship bound for the north to the earl of Sutherland, who was raising his tenants for the king. Mackintosh now joined them at Perth, with 500 stout men, well disciplined, and armed; these marched to the sea-coast of Fife, and there, with five other regiments, namely, in all 2500, having seized all the boats on that coast, embarked, and in spite of the king's ships in the Frith, 1500 of them landed safe on the Lothian side, the rest putting back. Mr. James Murray arrived at Perth from France, and took the character of secretary of state to the pretender. About this time a strong party attempted to surprise the garrison of Inverlochy, and took two redoubts, in which were an officer and twenty men; but the main garrison being on their guard, obliged them to retreat, and they marched thence into Argyleshire; they also, just before this, attempted to surprise the castle of Edinburgh. Lord Drummond, with ninety choice persons, all gentlemen, were picked out for the enterprise: they had corrupted one Ainsley, a serjeant, a corporal, and two sentinels in the castle; these were to assist upon the wall near the sallyport, by drawing up a scaling ladder; but all the joints of it not acting, it proved too short.

The university of Oxford elected the earl of Arran their chancellor, in the room of his brother the duke of Ormond, who was attainted of high treason; and this, notwithstanding the prince of Wales was proposed to them to be their chancellor.

Two men executed at Worcester, under the new riot act.

11. The court went into mourning for the French king.

21. Lord Lansdowne, and lord Duplin, son-in-law to the earl of Oxford, were apprehended on suspicion of disaffection. The king also required the consent of the commons for apprehending six of their members, namely, sir William Wyndham, sir John Pakington, Edward Harvey, sen. esq. of Coombe, Thomas Forster, jun., John An-

stis, and Corbet Kynaston, esqrs, which the house complied with. After which parliament was adjourned to the 9th of October; but they did not meet again till the 9th of January following.

25. The lieutenant of Middlesex, by virtue of an order in council, apprehended several papists, nonjurors, and others, who were committed to Newgate, and other prisons, for refusing the oaths.

26. Mr. Harvey, while in custody of a messenger, stabbed himself with a knife; but his wound did not prove mortal.

A proclamation, offering a reward of 1000*l.* for apprehending sir William Wyndham, who had made his escape from the messenger who went to take him at his house in Somersetshire.

27. General Cadogan went to Holland to hasten the embarkation of the Dutch troops the king required of the states, pursuant to the guarantee.

28. Francis Francia, a Jew, committed to Newgate for reasonable practices.

This month the Turks made a conquest of the Morea, and expelled the Venetians.

Oct. 3. Sir William Wyndham surrendered himself to the earl of Hertford, captain of a troop of horse-guards.

Mr. Forster, who accepted the post of general of the pretender's forces, assembled his troops at Greenrig in Northumberland; whereupon the government detached a body of troops to secure Newcastle.

The earl of Scarsdale was committed to the Tower.

The rebels were strong in the western counties, and intended to surprise Bristol, in order to make it a place of arms, but were disappointed; and at Bath, which was both their rendezvous and one of their arsenals, a quantity of arms and ammunition were seized; and the captains Lansdon, Doyle, and Sinclair, Sir George Brown, Mr. Mackarty, Mr. Macdonnel, and other conspirators, were apprehended, and brought to London, October 18. The design upon Bristol miscarrying, a project was laid to seize Plymouth; but that was also prevented, by timely securing several suspected persons, particularly Sir Richard Vivian, who was brought to London, October 8, by a messenger. At St. Columb, in Cornwall, the pretender was proclaimed; but Mr. Boscawen kept all things quiet in those parts.

A strong party of the Macdonalds, Macleans, and Camerons, attempted in vain to surprise Inverlochy.

Lancelot Errington and some others surprised the castle in Farne, or Holy Island; but a party sent from Berwick retook it sword in hand.

7. Sir William Wyndham was committed to the Tower. The same day, several persons were seized at Oxford by a detach-

ment of dragoons, commanded by major-general Pepper, who declared he would use military execution on all students who appeared without the limits of their respective colleges.

The contrast of politics of the two Universities was as marked at this period as at present. A royal present of books having been sent to Cambridge soon after the commencement of the tumults at Oxford, Dr. Trapp took occasion to indite the following :

Our royal master saw with heedful eyes
The wants of his two Universities :
Troops he to Oxford sent, as knowing why,
That learned body wanted loyalty,
But books to Cambridge gave, as well discerning,
That that right loyal body wanted learning.

To this Sir William Brown happily retorted :—

The king to Oxford sent a troop of horse,
For Tories know no argument but force.
With equal care, to Cambridge books he sent,
For whigs allow no force but argument.

8. Mr. Forster, with the Northumbrians, marched to Morpeth, where he was joined by seventy Scotch gentlemen from the borders.

11. A proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l.* for apprehending James Painter, esq., and others, of St. Columb, in Cornwall, who had proclaimed the pretender.

18. Joseph Sullivan, Robert Whitty, and Felix Hara, were convicted of high-treason, in listing men in the service of the pretender, and on the 28th were hanged at Tyburn.

19. The earl of Derwentwater, lord viscount Kenmure, the earls of Nithisdale, Carnwath, and Winton, joined Mr. Forster, with about 200 Scotch horse they had raised in Nithisdale and the west of Scotland.

22. Several persons were seized at York upon suspicion.

24. Mr. Forster, with his Northumbrians, joined brigadier Mackintosh at Dunse, ten miles from Berwick.

25. Duke of Somerset resigned his place of master of the horse, being disgusted at his son-in-law, Sir William Wyndham, not being admitted to bail.

Associations were entered into throughout the kingdom for the defence of the government, and the lords lieutenants of counties were empowered to form into companies such as should be willing to associate.

Lieutenant-general Carpenter, who was appointed to go against the Northumberland rebels, set out from Newcastle, and on the 27th lay at Wooler, intending the next day to face Kelso, where the rebels

were. Upon that, lord Kenmure called a council of war. Lord Wintoun proposed to march into the west of Scotland, join the clans there, and either cross the Forth some miles above Stirling, or send word to the earl of Mar that they would fall upon Argyle's rear, whilst he fell on his front. The English proposed to pass the Tweed, and attack Carpenter, whose troops did not exceed 900 dragoons. Neither scheme was executed. They decamped from Kelso the 27th, and marched to Jedburgh, where they staid two days. Having an opportunity of avoiding Carpenter, who was some marches behind, they resolved to cross the mountains, and march into England: but the Highlanders, as they had been advised by Wintoun, refused to enter England, and about 500 of them deserted. The rest, allured by money and large promises, followed the Northumbrians into England; and, in the way thither, came to Hawick, Langholme and Langtoun, the 30th. Mr. Forster having opened his commission, brought by Mr. Douglas from the earl of Mar, to act as general in England, marched towards Lancashire, proclaiming the pretender.

Nov. 1. They came to Brampton, where they halted one night.

2. Arriving at Penrith, the *posse comitatus*, and the militia of the county, had been drawn together by the sheriff, lord Lonsdale, and W. Nicholson, bishop of Carlisle, to the number of 12,000 men, in order to stop their progress, but at the insurgents' approach they shamefully dispersed.

3. The rebels came to Appleby, where they stayed two days.

5. Barrier treaty signed at Antwerp by the Imperial, British, and Dutch ministers.

6. The rebels advanced to Kendal, next day to Kirby Lonsdale, where they were joined by some papists from Lancashire. They next arrived at Lancaster, where they stayed till the 9th, and then proceeded to Preston; the horse arrived there that night, and the foot the next day. They were joined by a considerable number of gentlemen, all papists, which highly disgusted the Highlanders.

10. The insurgents enter Preston. Same day general Willis arrived at Manchester, and prepared to attack Forster.

The archbishop of Canterbury published a declaration, signed by himself and thirteen of his suffragans, testifying their abhorrence of the rebellion. Dr. Atterbury, bishop of Rochester, and Dr. Smallridge, bishop of Bristol, refused to sign it, and the latter was removed from the post of lord almoner to the king.

12. General Willis advanced towards Preston, to attack Mr. Forster, and passed Ribblesdale, about a mile from Preston,

without opposition. Forster was not aware of the approach of the king's forces; and to the neglect of securing this pass the ruin of the Northumbrians is, in a great measure, imputed; but their great misfortune was, that they were under no command; for, though Mr. Forster bore the name of general, every gentleman expected his own advice should be followed. However, when Willis attacked them in the evening at Preston, they behaved gallantly, and repulsed him, killing at least 300 of his men.

The parliament of Ireland met, and the lords justices passed several acts on the 25th, particularly one for recognising his majesty's title to the throne of Great Britain, France and Ireland.

13. General Carpenter, with his dragoons, joined Willis; when lord Derwentwater, and some other of the gentlemen in Preston, apprehending it impossible to resist their united forces, offered to capitulate, without the knowledge of the rest. The number of the prisoners taken in Preston was about 1500; among whom were Mr. Forster, the general, the earl of Derwentwater, lord Widdrington, the earls of Nithsdale, Wintoun, and Carnwath, viscount Kenmare, and lord Nairne, with about seventy-two English gentlemen, and 138 Scotch officers and gentlemen. The common soldiers were imprisoned at Chester and Liverpool, the noblemen and considerable officers were sent to London.

Same day, 3000 of the Dutch troops came up the river, and landed at Deptford.

BATTLE OF DUMBLAINE.—On the same day that the insurgents surrendered at Preston was fought the battle of Dumblaine between the duke of Argyle and the earl of Mar. On the 12th day of the month Argyle passed the Forth at Stirling, and encamped with his left at Dumblaine, and his right towards Sheriffmuir. The earl of Mar advanced within two miles of his camp, and remained till day-break in order of battle. In the morning, the duke drew up his forces, on the heights to the north-east of Dumblaine; but he was out-flanked on both wings. The clans that formed part of the right and centre of the enemy, with Glengary and Clanronald at their head, charged the left of the king's army, sword in hand, with such impetuosity, that in seven minutes both horse and foot were totally routed with great slaughter. In the mean time the duke of Argyle, who commanded in person on the right, attacked the left of the enemy, at the head of Stair's and Evans's dragoons, and drove them two miles before him, as far as the water of Allon; yet in that space they wheeled about and attempted to rally ten times, so that he was obliged to press them hard, that they might not recover from confusion. Argyle

returning from the pursuit, joined brigadier Wightman, who had taken possession of some enclosures and mud walls, in expectation of being attacked. In this posture, both armies fronted each other till the evening, when the duke drew off towards Dumblaine, and the rebels retired to Ardoch, without mutual molestation. Next day, the duke marching back to the field of battle, carried off the wounded, with four pieces of cannon left by the enemy, and retreated to Stirling. Few prisoners were taken on either side; the number of slain might be about 500 of each army, and both generals claimed the victory. The duke had in his army about 4000 veteran troops, the earl 8000; but they were new raised men, ill supplied, and their horses inferior in size to the English.

15. Simon Fraser, lord Lovat, contrary to the principles he had heretofore professed, drove the pretender's forces out of Inverness, and secured that important post for government.

16. Colonel Stern's regiment arrived in the Thames from Ghent, and brought prisoners with them, lord Clermont, son to the earl of Middleton, and Mr. Murray, who had been with Mar.

21. Lord Charles Murray, major Nairne, captain Lockhart, ensign Erskine, and captain Shaftoe, were tried by a court-martial at Preston, as deserters; all but Murray, a son of the duke of Athol, were shot, December 1st.

22, 23. Messrs. Dorrel, Gordon, and Ker, tried and convicted of high-treason at the king's-bench bar, and executed the 7th of December following.

25. Sir W. Carew and Sir Edward Seymour brought to London in custody.

30. The duke of Argyle passed the Em, and advanced within eight miles of Perth, which the rebels immediately abandoned, passing over the river Tay on the ice, and the pretender and the earl of Mar followed. Hence his grace pursued the flying enemy with the utmost expedition, with six squadrons of dragoons, three battalions, and 800 detached foot. Next day they proceeded to Dundee, whence the rebels retired to Montrose.

Dec. 4. Part of the Dutch forces arrived at Leith by sea.

9. The principal prisoners taken at Preston arrived in London: they were pinioned at Barnet, and so led through the city, as well the seven peers as the rest. The lords were committed to the Tower, the others to Newgate, the Fleet, and the Marshalsea.

10. General Cadogan arrived at Stirling, being sent to assist Argyle in attacking the earl of Mar.

12. Mr. Paul apprehended in the streets

of London, for being concerned in the insurrection.

14. Dr. Thomas Tenison, archbishop of Canterbury, died, aged 79. He had been primate twenty years, and held the dignity with great temper, firmness and ability.

17. Dr. Wake, bishop of Lincoln, nominated archbishop of Canterbury.

18. A special commission issued to Mr. Baron Bury, Mr. Justice Eyre, and Mr. Baron Montague, to try the prisoners that remained at Preston.

24. The oaths were at this time tendered to all persons, and those who refused were generally committed to prison: several justices were turned out of commission for not being so strict in imposing them as was expected.

25. The pretender landed at Peterhead, near Aberdeen, with some few gentlemen and officers. There he formed a court, appointing all the officers of state and household; made some peers and several knights; was proclaimed with great solemnity, and published his declaration, which was dispersed. The clergy and laity of Aberdeen presented addresses to him, full of duty and submission.

28. About this time most of the Dutch forces arrived in Scotland, and soon after a train of artillery arrived from England.

The winter was so very severe that several post-boys and others were frozen to death; the snow lay a yard deep in many places: the Thames was frozen, and all manner of diversions used upon the ice.

1716. Jan. 1. Mr. Wycherley, the dramatic poet, died, aged 81.

4. The pretender arrived at Glamis, and the next morning made his entrance into Dundee. The 7th he arrived at the palace of Scone; and on the 9th made his public entry into Perth; from whence he returned in the evening to Scone, where he formed a regular council, and performed several acts of state; particularly he issued six proclamations, one of which fixed his coronation on the 23rd instant.

9. Parliament met at Westminster. The king informed them that he had reason to believe the pretender had landed in Scotland; and that he should freely give up all the estates that should become forfeited to the crown by the rebellion towards the public expenses. Same day the seven lords in the tower were impeached of high-treason.

10. The impeached lords were brought to the bar of the peers, and the articles of impeachment read; and they were allowed till the Monday following to put in their several answers. At the same time, Mr. Forster was expelled the house of commons.

The pretender sent an order to the lord mayor of London to proclaim him.

13. Between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, the boy of one Walker, who kept a small gunpowder shop near Bear-quay, in Thames-street, between the custom-house and Billingsgate, being in an upper room with a light, and making rockets and squibs, unwarily set fire to the gunpowder; upon which the house blew up. The wind being high, the fire soon spread from that house to others towards Billingsgate, and backwards towards the warehouses, destroying upwards of 120 houses, and great quantities of merchandise. The loss was computed at 500,000*l.*: above fifty persons perished in the flames, or were buried in the ruins.

20. Mr. Shuttleworth, and four other of the Preston prisoners, were tried and convicted of high-treason at Liverpool.

27. Twenty of the Preston prisoners received sentence of death at Liverpool; and the day following, Mr. Shuttleworth, and four others, were executed.

31. The duke of Argyle being advanced to Tullibardine, received advice that the enemy had abandoned Perth that morning.

Feb. 5. Argyle advanced to Brechin, where he received advice that the pretender, the earl of Mar, and some others, embarked the night before at Montrose for France. After this the rebels dispersed.

9. The six impeached lords, who had pleaded guilty, were brought to the bar of the court erected for their trials in Westminster-hall, where lord Cowper, who was lord-high-steward on this occasion, made a speech, and endeavoured to show the heinousness of their offence; after which he pronounced the usual sentence in cases of high-treason; and they were remanded to the Tower.

Great intercession was made in behalf of the six condemned lords. The countess of Nithisdale, lady Nairne, and the countess of Derwentwater petitioned the king for mercy, but in vain.

18. The writs for executing the six condemned lords were delivered to the lieutenant, and the sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

A List of the most considerable Chiefs in Scotland, with the number of men they could raise.—*f* signifies those that favoured the government; *a*, against it; *n*, neuter; *m*, major part; *r*, in the rebellion.

<i>Dukes.</i>	<i>Men.</i>
<i>f</i> Hamilton	1000 <i>f</i>
<i>f</i> Buccleugh	1000 <i>f</i>
Gordon, 3000 <i>a n</i> , most with the M. of Huntley <i>r</i>	
<i>f</i> Argyle	4000 <i>f m</i>
<i>f</i> Douglas	500 <i>f</i>

<i>Dukes.</i>	<i>Men.</i>
<i>f</i> Athol, 6000 <i>a m</i> , with the <i>M.</i> of Tul-	
libardine <i>r</i>	
<i>f</i> Montrose	2000 <i>a m</i>
<i>f</i> Roxburgh	500 <i>f</i>
<i>Marquis.</i>	
<i>f</i> Annandale	500 <i>f</i>
<i>Earls.</i>	
<i>n</i> Errol	500 <i>a m</i>
<i>a r</i> Marishal	500 <i>a m</i>
<i>f</i> Sutherland	1000 <i>f</i>
<i>a r</i> Marr	1000 <i>r</i>
<i>f</i> Rothes	500 <i>f</i>
<i>f</i> Morton	300 <i>f</i>
<i>f</i> Glencairn	300 <i>f m</i>
<i>f</i> Eglinton	300 <i>f m</i>
<i>f</i> Cassilis	500 <i>f</i>
<i>n</i> Caithness	500 <i>a m</i>
<i>f</i> Murray	300 <i>a m</i>
<i>a</i> Nithisdale	300 <i>r</i>
<i>a</i> Wintoun	300 <i>r</i>
<i>a</i> Linlithgow	300 <i>r m</i>
<i>a</i> Hume	500 <i>r</i>
<i>r</i> Perth	1500 <i>r m</i>
<i>r</i> Wigtoun	300 <i>a m</i>
<i>a</i> Strathmore	300 <i>a r</i>
<i>f</i> Lauderdale	300 <i>f</i>
<i>r</i> Seaforth	3000 <i>r m</i>
<i>f</i> Dumfries	200 <i>f</i>
<i>r</i> Southesk	300 <i>r</i>
<i>f</i> Weerns	300 <i>f</i>
<i>n</i> Airly (Ogilvy)	500 <i>r m</i>
<i>a</i> Carnwath	300 <i>r</i>
<i>a</i> Panmure	500 <i>r m</i>
<i>f</i> Kilmarnock	300 <i>f</i>
<i>f</i> Dundonald	300 <i>f</i>
<i>a</i> Breadalbane	2000 <i>r m</i>
<i>Vicounts.</i>	
<i>a</i> Stormout	300 <i>a</i>
<i>r</i> Kenmure	300 <i>a r</i>
<i>Lords.</i>	
<i>f</i> Forbes	500 <i>f m</i>
<i>a</i> Lovat, Lady	800 <i>a m</i>
<i>f</i> Ross	500 <i>f</i>
<i>f</i> Rae	500 <i>f</i>
<i>a r</i> Nairne	1000 <i>m r</i>
<i>Clans.</i>	
<i>a</i> Sir Dan M'Donald	1000 <i>r</i>
<i>a r</i> Glengary	500 <i>a</i>
<i>a r</i> Clanronald	1000 <i>a</i>
<i>a r</i> Keppoch	300 <i>a</i>
<i>a r</i> M'Intosh	1000 <i>a</i>
<i>a r</i> * Mac Gregor	500 <i>a</i>
<i>a r</i> Stroen Robertson	500 <i>a</i>
<i>a</i> Macpherson	500 <i>a r</i>
<i>a</i> Sir Ewan Cameron	1000 <i>a r</i>
<i>a</i> Sir J. Maclean	1000 <i>a m</i>
<i>f</i> Laird of Grant	1000 <i>f</i>
<i>a r</i> Laird Appin	300 <i>a r</i>
<i>n</i> Macleod	1000 <i>f</i>

* Did nothing at Sheriffmuir fight.

<i>Clans.</i>	<i>Men.</i>
<i>a r</i> Mac Kenning	200 <i>a m</i>
<i>a r</i> Glenco	100 <i>a m</i>
<i>a r</i> Glenmoriston	100 <i>a</i>
Mac Neil	120
<i>a r</i> Straglass	100 <i>a r</i>

Feb. 22. The condemned lords petitioned both houses of parliament to intercede with the king in their behalf; and the lords presented an address, but did not prevail. The commons, to avoid impotunity, adjourned till after the day appointed for the execution.

23. Orders of council issued for executing the earls of Derwentwater and Nithisdale, and viscount Kenmure, the next day, and for reprieving the other three till the 7th of March; but Nithisdale made his escape out of the Tower that night in woman's apparel, furnished and conveyed to him by his mother.

The debates in council ran high upon this occasion; and the lord-president (the earl of Nottingham), who had taken the merciful side, soon felt the resentment of the court, himself, and all that were related to him, being turned out of their places soon after.

24. Derwentwater and Kenmure beheaded on Tower-hill. The conduct of the two lords excited very general sympathy, and their execution increased the prevailing spirit of disaffection to the government. Derwentwater was a brave, amiable, open, generous youth, whose untimely fate drew tears from the spectators.

Besides these lords, there had been seventy of the Preston prisoners tried at Liverpool, of whom sixty-six were found guilty, and twenty-two of them executed. The rest of the prisoners joined in a petition to the court, acknowledging their offence, and desiring transportation, which was granted to some of them; but many died in prison by the severity of the season and want of necessaries.

25. An express arrived from Madrid, bringing the ratification of the treaty of commerce between Britain and Spain, concluded on the 14th of last December.

The pretender, upon his return to France, deprived Bolingbroke of his place of secretary of state, for neglect of duty.

28. The dean and chapter at Westminster elected Charles earl of Arran high-steward of that city, in the room of the duke of Ormond.

Mar. 2. The marquis of Huntley and lord Rollo surrendered themselves to brigadier Grant, in the north of Scotland.

6. The Aurora Borealis, or northern lights, are said to have been first seen this evening.

8. About this time sir John Shelley

abjured the catholic religion; as did also the lord Teynham, and took his seat in the house of peers.

12. Mr. Isaac Briand was fined 2000*l.* by the court of aldermen, for marrying Miss Elizabeth Watson, an orphan of thirteen years of age, and a great fortune, without their consent.

14. Several of the Preston prisoners, endeavouring to make their escape out of Newgate, they were loaded with irons.

15. George earl of Wintoun was brought to his trial before the peers, in Westminster-hall, on the impeachment of the commons, for high-treason, and convicted on the 17th.

18. Dr. Hoadley, bishop of Bangor, was consecrated in Ely-chapel.

April 7. Bills of indictment for high-treason were found by the grand-jury of Middlesex against Thomas Forster, jun., esq., William Mackintosh, esq., and eleven more of the Preston prisoners.

10. Thomas Forster, esq., commonly called general Forster, made his escape out of Newgate; and, notwithstanding a proclamation, offering a reward of 1000*l.* for apprehending him, he escaped to France.

18. About fifty persons were brought to London, and confined in the Savoy, in order to make them witnesses against their brethren the Preston prisoners.

26. About this time general Cadogan finished the reduction of the Highland clans.

May 2. A thousand pounds was paid to sir Thomas John for transporting 130 of the Preston prisoners from Liverpool to the Plantations.

4. Brigadier Mackintosh, John Mackintosh, Charles Wogan, Robert Hepburne, James Talbot, William Dalmahoy, Alexander Dalmahoy, and John Tasker, eight of the Preston prisoners, made their escape out of Newgate, after mastering the keeper, turnkey, and disarming the sentinel. A proclamation was issued the next day, offering a reward of 1000*l.* for apprehending the first, and 500*l.* for each of the rest; but all of them safely reached the Continent, except Mr. Talbot, who was retaken.

The duke of Marlborough was seized with illness about this time, from which he never recovered to be capable of public business or rational recreation.

SEPTENNIAL ACT.—It was at first proposed only to suspend the Triennial Act for once, whereby parliament would have continued three years beyond the time it was to determine; but it was afterwards thought that a bill for the permanent elongation of the commons would be more convenient and effectual. This important revolution in the constitution of the legislature originated with the whigs. On the

17th of April, in the evening (Tindal's Contin. of Rapin, xix. 5), twenty court lords met at the duke of Devonshire's, where, after a short consultation, it was resolved the duke should immediately introduce the subject into the house of lords. Accordingly the next day the duke, whose father had been one of the chief promoters of the Triennial Act, stood up and made a speech on the inconvenience that attended short parliaments. He was seconded by the earls of Dorset and Rockingham, the duke of Argyle, lord Townshend, and other chiefs of that party. The motion was opposed by the earls of Nottingham, Abingdon, Poulet, and other leaders of the tories. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the arguments of each, as neither party was sincere. The whig party was decidedly unpopular, and it was from a dread of appealing to the sense of the nation that induced them to have recourse to this extraordinary expedient. Perhaps in the existing circumstances of the country they were justifiable, as a general election in the present excited state of the people might have endangered the protestant settlement. The tories, on popular grounds opposed the septennial bill, contending it was a violation of the constitution, and dangerous to the liberties of the people. There was little merit in their opposition, originating probably more in faction than principle. It afforded them an opportunity of annoying their opponents by assailing them with their own weapons. The whigs, from the conservative considerations of either preserving their places, or the revolution establishment, adopted the principles and reasonings of the tories. It was supported by all the ministerial peers, but unanimously opposed by the tories. The commitment, after the second reading, when there was the warmest debate, was carried by 96 to 61. On the principal division in the commons there were 284 for, and 162 against, the bill, which answers to the proportion of whigs and tories before assigned to the lower house. The bill was read a third time on the 26th, having been eight days in passing through its different stages. May 7th it received the royal assent. The chief speakers, for and against, were—

In the House of Lords.

<i>For the bill.</i>	<i>Against the bill.</i>
Duke of Kingston	Earl of Abington
Earl of Dorset	Earl of Poulet
Lord Carteret	Lord Trevor
Earl of Cholmondeley	Duke of Bucks
Duke of Newcastle	Lord Foley
Earl of Ilay	Earl of Aylesford
Duke of Argyle	Earl of Peterborough
Lord Parker	Earl of Nottingham

For the bill.
Lord Cowper

Against the bill.
Duke of Shrewsbury
Bishop of London
Earl of Anglesey.

In the House of Commons.

For the bill.
Mr. Lyddel
Mr. Trevanion
Mr. Molyneux
Sir John Brownlow
Mr. Hadden
Mr. Hampden
Mr. Molesworth
Mr. Smith
Lord Stanhope
Mr. Younge
Mr. Craggs
Lord Coningsby
Mr. Erle
Sir Richard Steele
Mr. Nevil
Colonel Graham
Sir Charles Turner
Sir Wm. Thompson
Sir Joseph Jekyll
Mr. Sec. Stanhope
Mr. Aislabe

Against the bill.
Mr. Robert Heysham
Mr. Chetwynd
Lord Paget
Mr. Snell
Mr. Shippen
Mr. Wykes
Mr. Hutchinson
Mr. Jefferies
Sir Thomas Cross
Mr. Bromley
Mr. Archer
Sir Wm. Whitelocke
Lord Guernsey
Sir Thomas Hanmer
Mr. Lechmere
General Ross
Sir Robt. Raymond
Mr. Hungerford
Mr. Ward.

May 8. A proclamation for a thanksgiving.

John Ferguson, esq., and James Hume, brother to the earl of Hume, tried before lord chief-justice King in the Marshalsea-court, Southwark, for high-treason. Mr. Ferguson was acquitted; Mr. Hume found guilty.

11. Alexander Menzies, esq., was tried at the bar of the court of Common-pleas, and convicted.

12. The two Douglasses, and three others, retracted their plea in the court that sat at the Marshalsea, and pleaded guilty. Francis Farquarson, esq., and Mr. John Innis, were tried and acquitted; whereupon the mob shouted. Some of them were fined and imprisoned for their insolence.

14. Colonel Oxburgh, who had been convicted of high-treason on the 7th inst., was executed at Tyburn. His quarters were buried, but his head set upon Temple-bar.

16. John Hall, a justice of Northumberland, and Robert Talbot, esqs., tried in the Exchequer-court at Westminster, and convicted.

17. Richard Gascoigne, esq., tried and convicted at the Exchequer-court, and the next day major Blair, captain Mackintosh, Mr. Nicholas Wogan, and Charles Ratcliffe, esq., brother to the late earl of Derwentwater, were tried and convicted.

19. An indictment of high-treason found

against lord Lansdown by the grand-jury of Middlesex.

25. Indictments of high-treason found against sir William Wyndham and Mr. Harvey, of Combe. Same day Mr. Gascoigne was executed at Tyburn.

26. Upon the expiration of the suspension of the habeas corpus act the earls of Scarsdale, Powis, and others admitted to bail.

29. Several persons committed for wearing oaken boughs, in memory of the Restoration.

31. The Widdringtons and some others retracted their plea, and pleaded guilty. Lord Nairne's son also, and several others, pleaded guilty.

June 3. Mr. Mackintosh and Mr. Macquean made their escape out of Newgate in women's clothes.

7. Lord Lovat made governor of Inverness, and captain of an independent company.

10. The guards were posted in several parts of the town, to prevent the wearing white roses; and Forden, the printer, was shot in Newgate-street by a foot soldier, and several others knocked down and maimed.

General Mackartney was tried at the King's-bench bar for the murder of duke Hamilton; and the jury, according to direction, found him guilty of manslaughter. The evidence of two park-keepers acquitted him of the capital charge of murder.— See the duel, p. 326.

16. Ralph Standish, esq., of Standish, tried for high-treason, and convicted.

22. The rev. Willoughby Minors was apprehended for a sermon he preached at Pancras on the 10th instant.

26. Royal assent given to an act for appointing commissioners to inquire into the estates forfeited by traitors and popish recusants. The account brought in of the estates so forfeited was as follows:

Estates forfeited in Scotland.

	£.	s.	d.
Wintoun	3,393	0	11
Southesk	3,271	10	2
Linlithgow	1,297	4	4
Keir	907	19	1
Panmure	3,456	11	10
Wedderburn	213	0	0
Ayton	323	10	5
Kilsyth	864	19	9
Bannockburn	411	14	9
East Reston	137	9	10
Mar	1,678	5	8
Invernie	361	12	1
Inventinsowl	347	6	5
Pow-house	377	9	6
Nutthil	72	7	10
Bowhill	27	14	7

	£.	s.	d.
Latriak	208	3	9
Glenbervy	75	12	10
Preston-hall	230	17	11
Wood-end	83	6	4
Fairney	153	8	7
Master of Nairne.	60	9	3
Dunborg	170	6	6
Karl Marischal	1,677	6	0
Kilkconquhar	237	8	9
Lord Nairne	740	10	3
Finglass	537	19	2
Cromlix	415	0	4
Nithisdale	809	19	7
Ineray	281	11	1
Kenmure	608	10	9
Drummond	2,566	9	6
Burleigh	697	10	7
Scarvann	110	5	3
Duntroon	54	4	9
Lagg	424	15	0
Carnwath	864	8	11
Baldoon	1,495	12	10
Total	£29,694	6	8

Estates forfeited in England.

Francis Anderson, esq.	1,425	13	1½
Hugh Anderson, esq.	131	5	5
John Ashton	60	8	8
Richard Butler	382	8	7½
Lord Bolingbroke	2,552	15	0
Richard Bilsborough	19	10	0
Thomas Briers	19	18	0
Robert Cowper	20	0	0
Richard Chorley, esq.	138	12	0½
George Clifton	5	10	0
George Collingwood, esq.	924	10	0
Edward Core	19	12	6
Robert Daniel	8	0	0
John Dalton, esq.	661	19	6
Karl of Derwentwater	6,371	4	5
Roger Dicconson	641	16	10
Thomas Errington	328	0	0
Thomas Forster, jun.	530	0	0
George Gibson	227	0	0
John Gregson	26	0	0
John Hall	70	0	0
Gabriel Hesketh	102	6	4
Gilbert Hodgson	327	9	3
Philip Hodgson	238	0	0
Jordan Langdale	79	0	0
John Leyburne	275	16	5
Duke of Ormond	21,163	5	8
Henry Oxborough	507	17	7
John Parkinson	5	17	6
William Paul	42	14	0
John Plessington	39	15	6
Robert Scarisbrick	388	3	4
William Shaftoe	784	0	0
Richard Sherburn	32	10	0
Ralph Shuttleworth	7	10	0
Richard Shuttleworth	78	0	0
Ralph Standish	671	10	10½
James Singleton	40	10	0

Thomas Stanley	246	18	10
Lord Seaforth	517	10	0
Edward Swinburn	305	0	0
John Sturzaker	10	0	0
John Thornton	1,585	17	4
Christopher Trapp	58	16	6
Joseph Wadsworth	12	0	0
Thomas Walton	97	0	0
Thomas Walmsley	51	17	6
Lord Widdrington	5,154	6	10
Edward Winkley	226	10	8
Richard Wytherinton	14	10	0

Scotch estates	£47,626	18	5½
	29,694	6	8

Total	£77,321	5	1½
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These estates, at 20 years' purchase, amount to	1,546,420	0	0
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Besides all which, Francis Anderson's reversion after the death of the lady Anderson, per annum.	400	0	0
Roger Dicconson, after the death of Samuel Richardson, per ann.	18	0	0
Thomas Forster, jun., after his father's death, per annum	600	0	0
William Paul, clerk, after the death of his mother, per ann.	14	0	0
Lord Seaforth, remainder, after payment of debts and legacies of Nicholas Kennet, per annum	571	3	0
Total.	£1,603	3	3

These reversions, sold at but ten years' purchase, amount to	16,030	0	
Timber to all these estates computed together	30,000	0	0
Besides personal estates, &c. seized	60,000	0	0

Total of these	106,030	0	0
The which above	£1,546,420	0	0

Makes forfeitures amount to	£1,652,450	0	0
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An act to oblige papists to register their names and real estates. An act for repealing so much of the act of the 12th and 13th years of king William, as provides That no person who should come to the pos-

session of the crown should go out of the dominions of England, Scotland or Ireland without consent of parliament. An act, for the more effectual securing the peace of the Highlands in Scotland. After which parliament was prorogued.

June 29. Ernestus Augustus, his majesty's brother, created duke of York and Albany in Great Britain, and earl of Ulster in Ireland.

The Dutch forces were all about this time re-embarked, and sent back to Holland.

July 3. Charles Ratcliffe, esq., and six more of the condemned prisoners reprieved.

4. John duke of Argyle was removed from all his employments, and a pension of 2000*l.* a year taken from him. His brother Archibald, earl of Ilay, was also removed, and succeeded by James duke of Montrose in the office of lord-clerk-register of Scotland.

6. William duke of Devonshire was made lord-president of the council.

7. The king resolved to visit his German dominions, and having appointed the prince of Wales guardian to the realm during his absence, set out from St. James's; embarked the same day; landed on the 9th in Holland; through which he passed *in cog.*; arrived at Hanover on the 15th; and on the 20th set out for Pymont, to drink the waters. A principal object of the king's continental visit was to frustrate the designs of Charles XII. of Sweden, who was extremely exasperated against the elector of Hanover for having entered into the confederacy against him in his absence; particularly for his having purchased the duchies of Bremen and Verden, which constituted part of the Swedish dominions.

An indictment of high-treason was found against Mr. Pitt, the keeper of Newgate, for suffering Mr. Forster, &c. to escape; on which he was tried the 14th instant, and acquitted.

13. The rev. Mr. Paul, and John Hall, esq., a justice of peace of Northumberland, executed at Tyburn as traitors. The last of them had been reprieved five times. Mr. Paul was vicar of Orton in Leicestershire, and had joined the Preston rebels. On the Sunday previous to his departure he preached a sermon at his own parish church from Ezek. xxi. 26, 27. "Thus saith the Lord God, Remove the diadem and take off the crown. Exalt him that is low above him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, and it shall be no more until he come whose right it is; and I will give it unto him." In his dying speech Mr. Paul professed himself a sincere member of the church of England, but not of the revolutionary schismatical church whose bishops had abandoned the king, and shamefully

given up their ecclesiastical rights, by submitting to the unlawful invalid lay deprivations of the prince of Orange.

21. Eight of the Preston prisoners broke out of the Fleet; but three of them were retaken.

23. A riot happened at a *mug house* in Salisbury-court, Fleet-street, which demolished the bar, wainscot, &c., and one of the mob was shot dead. London at this period was the rendezvous of the most desperate among the disaffected of the three kingdoms. Voluntary societies were formed to counteract their machinations, and the streets and taverns were often the scene of violent affrays and tumults. The houses at which each party met were distinguished by the name of *mug houses*, so called from the penny mugs in which each person was served with beer. At these houses ashen cudgels, like quarter staves, were kept in readiness, with which each party, upon advice of a tumult, sallied out either to disperse or support the multitude as suited their interests.

29. The earl of Nottingham lost his pension of 2500*l.* per annum.

30. The servants of the Preston prisoners were discharged out of Newgate, the Marshalsea, and the Fleet prisons, to the number of forty.

Aug. 2. The rev. John St. Quintin convicted, at Norwich assizes, of asserting that the pretender was landed in the west with 50,000 men, and drinking his health. He was sentenced to pay a fine of twenty marks, to be imprisoned for a year, and find sureties for his good behaviour for three years. Mr. Fern was also convicted of drinking the pretender's health, and calling king George a turnip-hoer; for which he was sentenced to pay a fine of forty marks, to be imprisoned for a year, and find sureties for his behaviour for three years. One Thomas Shirley was also convicted of saying "king George has no more right to the crown than I have;" for which he was sentenced to be whipped, and to find sureties for his behaviour for three years.

Lord Wintoun, who lay under sentence of death in the Tower, made his escape.

5. Prince Eugene gained a great victory over the Turks near Peterwaradin, in which the grand vizier and the aga of the janissaries were killed.

6. Two soldiers whipped almost to death in Hyde Park, and turned out of the service, for wearing oak boughs in their hats the 29th of May.

20. Mr. Bruce, a Scotch gentleman, changing clothes with his sister, made his escape from Newgate, leaving her there in his room; she was discharged after a short imprisonment.

21. Kenneth lord Duffus having been

attainted in Parliament, was taken at Ham-
burgh, brought to England, and this day
committed to the Tower.

29. Laurence Howell, a nonjuror, was
taken up for writing "The case of Schiam
in the church of England."

31. The ingenious Christopher Wren,
esq., was removed from the place of clerk
of the works.

Sept. 1. The earl of Sunderland had a
pension of 1200*l.* per annum settled on him.

3. The state prisoners at Edinburgh
were sent from thence to Carlisle to be tried,
to the number of eighty-nine.

5. Richard Price, William Price, Tho-
mas Bean, George Purchase, and John
Love, convicted of felony, in not dispersing
on the reading of the proclamation at the
late riot near the mug house, and were
hanged at the end of Salisbury-court, in
Fleet-street, the 22nd instant.

30. Several of the bearers who had at-
tended the funeral of Thomas Bean, who
was hanged for the riot in Salisbury-court,
going to St. Bride's church in procession
with their favours, were apprehended and
fined twenty marks each.

Oct. 2. Five more of the Preston pri-
soners executed; three of them at Lanca-
ster, and two at Preston.

14. Temevar taken by the imperialists.

22. A proclamation prohibiting all trade
to the East Indies but by the India company.

30. A riot happened at Oxford on the
prince of Wales's birth-day.

Nov. 17. The commissioners of the kirk
of Scotland drew up an address, "That the
oath of abjuration might be so qualified,
that tender consciences might take it;
many even of their ministers having re-
fused it.

19. Colonel Douglas, late governor of
the Leeward Islands, was adjudged by the
court of King's-bench, to pay a fine of 500*l.*,
and be imprisoned for five years, having
been convicted of mal-administration in
his government.

21. Thirty of the Preston prisoners
having been put on board a ship, to be
transported from Liverpool to the West
Indies, mastered the crew, and carried the
ship to France, where they sold both ship
and cargo.

25. A pension that had been allowed
the bishop of Edinburgh taken from him,
on his refusing to take the oaths.

28. Mr. Harvey and his bail discharged,
but sir W. Wyndham and others continued
upon recognizances.

30. Two French ships returned richly
laden from the river Mississippi, in the
gulf of Mexico, being the first that brought
over any merchandise from thence since
the settling that colony.

Dec. 4. A fire in Nightingale-lane, near

Limehouse-bridge, which burnt above 150
dwellings, besides warehouses.

10. Dalton, the printer, was convicted
of printing a libel, called "The Shift shift-
ed," sentenced to pay a fine of twenty marks,
stand in the pillory, and suffer a year's
imprisonment.

11. Charles Ratcliffe, brother to the late
earl of Derwentwater, made his escape out
of Newgate.

22. A thousand pounds was given by
the prince of Wales to the sufferers by fire
at Limehouse.

26. The judges at Carlisle passed sen-
tence on twenty-five of the Scotch prison-
ers; thirty-six others were discharged; but
the court broke up without giving orders
for the execution of any of the persons
condemned.

30. There having been quarrels between
the soldiers quartered at Oxford, and the
scholars and townsmen, on the 30th of Oc-
tober, the prince's birth-day, affidavits of
the fact were sent up to the council by each
party; and the committee of council, to
whom the matter was referred, gave it in
favour of the soldiers, as did the house of
Lords, by whom the matter was examined
afterwards.

The czar of Muscovy arrived in Holland.

BANK OF FRANCE.—In this year a bank
was established in Paris by the celebrated
John Law, of Lauriston. The objects of
this bank, according to Mr. Law's profes-
sions, were to increase the circulation of
money; to put a stop to the progress of usu-
ry; to facilitate the exchange between Paris
and the provinces; augment the circulation
of manufactures; and to enable the people
to pay more easily the heavy taxes to which
they were subjected. The letters patent,
establishing the bank, stipulated that its
capital should amount to about 300,000*l.*,
divided into 1200 shares of 250*l.* each. The
regulations of this bank were wise and salu-
tary. It would soon have rivalled that of
Amsterdam or England, and produced con-
sequences equally beneficial to France, had
not government interfered with its progress.
By an edict of council, dated Dec. 4, 1718,
the public were informed that his majesty
had taken Mr. Law's bank into his own
hands, under the name of THE ROYAL BANK;
of which Mr. Law was appointed director-
general; and branches were established in
different cities. The bank now became de-
pendent on the will of the sovereign; and
from this connexion originated two years
after the disastrous Mississippi bubble.

1717. Jan. 18. King George arrived at
Margate from Holland.

25. The episcopal clergy of Scotland,
having been before fined for not praying
for king George by name, were now forced
to fly their country or abscond.

The lords of session in Scotland refused to permit the commissioners for forfeited estates to take possession of them till the creditors were satisfied.

One hundred of the Preston prisoners, who had been confined in the Savoy, were put on board a ship to be transported to the West Indies.

29. Count de Gylleberg, the Swedish envoy, and his papers, were seized, and none permitted to speak to him: whereupon the foreign ministers demanded the reason of this extraordinary proceeding, and were told that he was carrying on treasonable practices against the government. Sir Jacob Banks, Mr. Cæsar of Hertfordshire, and major Smith, were likewise taken into custody on suspicion. At the instance of the British court, baron Gortz, the Swedish minister in Holland, was also seized, with his papers.

Feb. 6. The regent of France compelled the pretender to remove from Avignon.

8. Lord Lansdown discharged out of the Tower.

12. Sir William Wyndham and his bail discharged.

13. The alehouse-keepers and victualers of the county of Middlesex, to the number of a thousand, appeared at Hicks' hall, and were ordered to take the oaths before the justices in the vestries of their respective parishes, on pain of being deprived of their licenses.

So great was the alarm of insurrection and invasion, that a squadron of men-of-war was fitted out with all expedition, to be commanded by sir George Byng; general Carpenter, and several regiments were detached to Scotland; and all sea and land officers were commanded to repair to their respective posts.

20. Parliament met, and the king delivered a speech to the lord-chancellor, who read it to both houses. It informed them of the triple alliance concluded with France and Holland; that many defects of the treaty of Utrecht had been remedied; that the pretender was removed beyond the Alps; and that the letters of the Swedish minister, which he had ordered to be laid before them, contained an account of the intended invasion. Secretary Stanhope laid before them copies of the letters which passed between count Gylleberg, the barons Gortz and Sparre, and others, relating to a design of raising a rebellion to be supported by an invasion from Sweden; and, being printed, they were published two days after.

Mar. 2. The rev. Laurence Howell, author of the "Case of Schism," received sentence at the Old Bailey, to pay a fine of 500*l.* to the king; to remain in prison for three years, and until his fine should be paid; to find sureties of 500*l.*

each; and to be bound himself in 1000*l.* for his good behaviour during life; to be twice whipped; to be degraded and stripped of his gown by the hands of the common executioner, which was done in court accordingly.

12. The czar ordered a long memorial to be presented to the court of Britain, to vindicate himself from espousing the pretender. The czar resented the offer made by the elector, to join the Swedes against the Russians, provided Charles XII. would ratify the purchase of Bremen and Verden.

The convocation presented a loyal address; as did the University of Cambridge; but the University of Oxford, after some debates, could not agree upon presenting any.

15. General M'Cartney appointed to command the forces in Ireland.

Apr. 3. The king, by a message to the commons, asked an extraordinary supply to avert the Swedish invasion. It occasioned warm debates; as demanding a supply without communicating the particulars to which it was to be appropriated was unparliamentary. Mr. Shippen said, the message appeared to have been penned by a foreign minister, and that it was a great misfortune the king was as unacquainted with parliamentary proceedings as the language of the country. Mr. Walpole and Mr. Speaker appeared to be against it: however, it was at length carried in the committee, 164 to 149, that a sum not exceeding 250,000*l.* be granted.

9. When the question was again put in the house, it was carried but by four voices, 153 to 149. This grant was the first fruits of the continental connexion. The elector of Hanover quarrelled with the king of Sweden, and England was not only deprived of a valuable branch of trade, but obliged to support him in the prosecution of the war.

10. CHANGE OF MINISTERS.—The next morning Mr. secretary Stanhope let lord Townshend know that his majesty had no further occasion for his service as lord-lieutenant of Ireland; whereupon Mr. Walpole, Mr. Methuen, secretary of state, Mr. Pulteney, secretary at war, the duke of Devonshire, president of the council, and some others, immediately resigned their places. Almost a complete change of ministry followed. Mr. Stanhope was appointed to succeed Walpole both as first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer, the other four members of the treasury-board being also changed. Lord Sunderland and Mr. Addison were made secretaries of state; Mr. Craggs, secretary of war; the duke of Bolton, viceroy of Ireland, his place of lord-chamberlain being given to the duke of Newcastle. This change in the ministry is ascribed to the intrigues of lord Sunderland and secre-

tary Stanhope, who, following the king to Hanover, sought a favourable opportunity to supplant Walpole and Townshend in the royal favour. Only individual members of the administration were changed during the next four years.

27. The government ordered the sum of 5000*l.* to be paid the dissenters for the damage they had sustained by demolishing their meeting-houses, about the time of the late insurrection.

30. Sir George Byng having arrived in the Sound, with a fleet of thirty men-of-war, found no fleet prepared by the Swedes, or any army embarking, or any appearance of an enemy; advice being brought to England, the people were eased of their apprehension of an invasion.

May 3. The lower house of convocation made a representation against some doctrines published in Dr. Hoadley, the bishop of Bangor's "Preservative against the Principles and Practices of the Non-jurors," and in his sermon preached before the king on the 31st of March, upon the famous text, "My kingdom is not of this world."

4. EXHUMATION.—Joseph Bowen, a grave-digger, was convicted of taking the corpse of one Chidders out of Bethlehem churchyard, and selling it to a surgeon, having packed it up in a hamper to be sent to Oxford. He was fined forty shillings, and sentenced to be whipped from Newgate to Smithfield-bars.

6. Motion made in the commons that the land-forces might be reduced to the old establishment; namely, 7000 men for England, and 3000 men for Scotland; but it was carried in the negative by a majority of ten voices.

10. The lower house of convocation having drawn up their representation against the bishop of Bangor's doctrine, were prorogued, by a special order from court, before they could present it to the upper house. The convocation met several times after, but was promptly prorogued, and never again suffered to sit to do business.

About this time 10,000 of the land-forces were disbanded, which before consisted of 8000 horse and dragoons and 24,000 foot.

15. The South-sea company came to a resolution to lend the government two millions at 5 per cent., for paying off the lotteries of 1711 and 1712.

17. The Bank also resolved to lend the government two millions and a half at 5 per cent., for redeeming certain funds which carry a high interest, and for cancelling old exchequer-bills, and circulating new ones at a lower interest.

REDUCTION OF THE DEBT.—The principal business of this session was the discus-

sion of schemes for the reduction of the debt. A large portion of the debt was redeemable; the rest consisted of annuities for terms of years. Mr. Walpole, before his resignation, had a plan for lessening the interest and paying the capital of the redeemable debt. He proposed to reduce the interest of the redeemable funds by offering an alternative to the proprietors of annuities. His scheme was adopted by the new ministers, with some small alterations, which afforded Walpole a pretence for opposing it. In the course of the debate a warm altercation passed between him and Mr. Stanhope, by which it appeared they had made a practice of selling places and reversions. Mr. Hungerford, standing up, said "he was sorry to see two such great men running foul of each other; that, however, they ought to be looked upon as patriots and fathers of their country; and that since by mischance they had discovered their nakedness, the other members ought, according to the custom of the East, to turn their backs upon them, that they might not be seen in such a shameful condition." Both ministers giving their word of honour not to prosecute their resentment out of the house, the subject dropped. The Bank and South-sea company having agreed to lend their assistance to effect the proposed modifications in the public encumbrances, three bills were introduced for carrying them into effect. The taxes, which had been laid on before for limited periods, being rendered perpetual, and the produce of them being greater than the charges under the new arrangement, the surpluses were united, under the name of the SINKING FUND, and appropriated to the liquidation of the debt.

22. The earl of Oxford, who had now remained almost two years a prisoner in the Tower, presented a petition to the lords, praying that his imprisonment might not be indefinite. Some of the tory lords affirmed that the impeachment was determined by the prorogation of parliament, but the contrary was affirmed by a considerable majority, and a day fixed for his trial.

June 18. Belgrade invested by the imperialists.

24. TRIAL OF HARLEY.—The earl of Oxford was brought from the Tower by water, to his trial in Westminster-hall. After reading the articles, with the earl's answer, &c., Mr. Hampden, one of the managers for the commons, proceeded to make good the charge of high crimes and misdemeanors; and sir Joseph Jekyll was going on, when lord Harcourt moved the peers to adjourn; and it was resolved by them not to admit the commons to proceed in making good the articles for high crimes, &c.

till judgment was first given upon the articles for high-treason; which being communicated to the commons, they absolutely refused to proceed but in their own method; whereupon the debates and reflections ran very high between the two houses.

25. The earl of Oxford was carried to Westminster, and the commons desiring time to search precedents, the lords adjourned to the 27th instant.

27. Oxford was brought a third time to Westminster-hall, and the commons delivered in their reasons for adhering to their method, and the lords delivered a paper containing theirs, the chief of which was the competency of every court of justice to direct its own judicial proceedings. The commons demanded a *free conference*, which was refused.

29. The lords refused to come to another conference with the commons, but appointed the 1st of July to proceed in the trial, of which the commons took no notice, but adjourned to the 3rd of July.

July 1. The earl was brought again to his trial; and proclamation being made for his prosecutors to make good their charges, and none of the commons appearing, the earl was acquitted and set at liberty. He owed his escape to the dissensions among the ministers and to the late change in the administration. In consequence of this he was relieved from the inveterate persecution of Walpole; and numbered among his friends the dukes of Devonshire and Argyle, the earls of Nottingham and Ilay, and lord Townshend.

2. Some drummers of the guards were committed to the Marshalsea for beating a point of war before the earl's house, and congratulating him on his deliverance.

3. Oxford took his place in the house of peers.

The commons addressed his majesty to except the earl of Oxford out of the act of grace, with which he complied.

The king came to the house of peers, and after giving the royal assent to the act of grace and several other acts, parliament was prorogued.

Out of the act of grace were excepted the earl of Oxford, lord Harcourt, Matthew Prior, Thomas Harley, Arthur Moor, James Duke Crispe, Butler Nodes, Daniel O'Brien, William Redmayne, and Robert Thompson, as also Counter, &c., who were confined on suspicion of being concerned in the assassination-plot against king William. Upon the passing of this act, the remainder of the Preston prisoners were discharged, particularly 200 from the castle of Chester; but they had undergone such hardships in prison, that many of them reaped little benefit by it, being so disabled, that they could not stand when

they were dismissed to their respective homes.

21, 22. Dreadful storms of thunder and lightning in several parts of England.

Aug. 15. Count Gylleberg, the Swedish envoy, sent home, in exchange for Mr. Jackson, the British resident there.

16. n.s. The imperialists, under prince Eugene, gained a complete victory over the Turks near Belgrade; whereupon the town capitulated on the 18th, having endured a siege of two months.

22. An order of council that the military officers upon the coast should assist the officers of the customs in preventing the exportation of wool and running of goods.

The marquis de Lede, the Spanish general, made a descent on the island of Sardinia, with 6000 foot and 600 dragoons; and in a few days made himself entirely master of that island.

30. Dr. William Lloyd, bishop of Worcester, died, in the 91st year of his age; he was one of the seven sent to the Tower in the reign of James II.

Sept. 11. The earl of Peterborough was seized at Bologna by two Irish officers in the pretender's service, and carried to Urbino, upon suspicion that he had some design upon the pretender's life; but he was soon after set at liberty.

18. The Rolls in Chancery-lane, the residence of the master of the rolls, began to be rebuilt; towards which his majesty gave 5000*l*.

19. The Irish house of lords resolved that whoever should appeal from any decree of their house to the British house of peers were enemies to their country. This was occasioned by the appeal of Maurice Annesley to the peers of Great Britain.

Oct. 13. Lord Lovat had a pension settled upon him of 400*l*. per annum, in consideration of his services in the late insurrection.

22. Colonel Henry Lutterel was shot by an assassin, as he was going in a hackney-chair to his house in Stafford-street, in Dublin, and died the next day of his wounds.

Nov. 1. Orders were given for disbanding fifteen men out of each company of foot-guards; ten out of each troop of horse and dragoons; and ten out of each company of the marching regiments; which reduced the forces in England to about 16,000 men.

11. Dr. Welton, late rector of White-chapel, with his congregation, consisting of about 250 non-jurors, was surprised by the justices of peace and constables; and most of them refusing the oaths, they were ordered to be prosecuted.

21. Parliament opened by the king.

28. The young prince, son of the prince of Wales, was christened by the name of

George William, at St. James's, by the archbishop of Canterbury; the king and the duke of Newcastle godfathers, and the duchess of St. Albans godmother. The ceremony was productive of a difference between the grandfather and father. The prince of Wales intended his uncle the duke of York should stand in lieu of the duke of Newcastle.

29. The prince of Wales, by order of his majesty, removed from St. James's, and went to reside at the earl of Grantham's, in Arlington-street, whither the princess went with him; but the children remained at St. James's.

Dec. 4. Mr. Shippen, member of parliament for Saltash, was sent to the Tower for saying that the second paragraph of the king's speech seemed "rather calculated for the *meridian of Germany* than Great Britain; and that it was a great misfortune that the king was a stranger to our language and constitution."

22. A proclamation, declaring that guineas should be current at no more than one-and-twenty shillings; and half-guineas, double-guineas, and five-pound-pieces proportionably; that broad pieces of three-and-twenty shillings and sixpence should be reduced to three-and-twenty shillings, and those of five-and-twenty shillings and sixpence to five-and-twenty shillings; and smaller pieces proportionably. This was issued on account of the scarcity of silver coin, occasioned by the exportation of silver to the East Indies and other parts, and the importation of gold. Sir Isaac Newton, the warden of the Mint, made an elaborate report, which was referred to a committee of the house of commons, on the causes influencing the relative value of the precious metals.

A terrible inundation this year in Holland and Germany. Part of West Friesland and Groningen were laid under water, several villages were ruined, and great numbers of people and cattle lost. Part of Zealand also was overflowed, and 1300 inhabitants drowned. The countries of East Friesland, Oldenburg, Bremen, and Holstein suffered much. The city of Hamburg, Gluckstadt, and all the flat country near the Elbe received incredible damage.

1718. Jan. 23. The prince removed from the earl of Grantham's to the house he had purchased in Leicester-fields.

Feb. 6. The infant prince George William died.

9. A proclamation for putting in execution the laws made against unlawful clubs and combinations. It was chiefly directed against the wool-combers and weavers, who had begun to exercise the immunities of

bodies-corporate by passing by-laws, determining who had a right to trade, the number of apprentices and journeymen each master should employ, and the prices and materials of manufactures.

28. Ferdinando, marquis de Palcotti, brother to the duchess of Shrewsbury, was condemned for the murder of his servant; and was executed at Tyburn on the 17th of March.

Mar. 3. Richard Burridge, corrector of the press to the "*Weekly Journal*," was tried at Hicks'-hall for blasphemous words, and convicted. He was sentenced to be whipped from the New-church, in the Strand, to Charing-cross, to pay a fine of 20*s.*, and be imprisoned for a month.

6. James Shepherd, a youth eighteen years of age, apprentice to a coach-painter, and an enthusiast in Jacobitism, convicted of high-treason, in sending a letter to a non-juring clergyman, proposing a scheme for assassinating the king. He met death with intrepidity, proud of the cause of king James.

16. Earl of Sunderland made president of the council, which office he held, with that of secretary of state. Two days after, Mr. Craggs was appointed the other secretary.

21. The king went to the house of lords, and having passed the bills ready for the royal assent, parliament was prorogued.

April 19. Lord Cowper resigns the great seal.

28. Out of the annual pension of 15,000*l.* per annum, allowed to the French protestants by the government, 400*l.* per annum was ordered to be applied towards the relief of poor converts of any nation from the church of Rome.

May 12. Chief justice Parker, afterwards the earl of Macclesfield, made lord chancellor.

The government having notice that the Roman Catholics were about to celebrate the feast of St. Winifred, at Holywell in Wales, with great solemnity, sent down a party of dragoons, who seized their priest as he was officiating, with the image, plate, and other utensils, and found a parcel of writings, which discovered several estates settled to superstitious uses.

15. Sir John Pratt, one of the justices of the king's-bench, made lord chief justice of that court.

24. A pension of 4000*l.* per annum settled on lord chancellor Parker for life.

June 3. Several galley-slaves, confined on account of religion, were set at liberty at Marseilles, at the instance of his British majesty.

CARDINAL ALBERONI'S INTRIGUES.—The Spaniards having made great preparations,

for above two years past, to fit out a great fleet, consisting of 30 ships of the line and frigates, and prodigious quantities of ammunition and provisions, in order, as it was apprehended, to dispossess the emperor of his Italian dominions, king George, on his part, fitted out also a strong squadron, in order to maintain the neutrality of Italy. These preparations originated in the intrigues of Cardinal Alberoni, minister of Philip V. of Spain. The cardinal, who was a man of a lofty and aspiring genius, which delighted in bold and dangerous projects, at this time formed the design of recovering for Spain the kingdoms and provinces of which she had been divested. By the treaty of Utrecht, the kingdoms of Naples and Sardinia were ceded to Austria, together with Milan and the Low Countries; and Sicily, with the title of king, to the duke of Savoy. The pride of Spain was hurt, more than her interests were injured, by the severance of these remote provinces; and the scheme of Alberoni was to recover back her former possessions. The regent of France, from personal animosity to the Spanish monarch, joined the emperor and king George in opposing the designs of Spain, though he retained at bottom all the Bourbon prejudices against the house of Austria.

4. Sir George Byng sailed from St. Helen's with a squadron, consisting of twenty ships of the line, two fire-ships, two bomb-vessels, a hospital ship, and a store-ship. He arrived the 19th off Cape St. Vincent, whence he sent notice of his arrival to colonel Stanhope, the British envoy at Madrid; which being notified to cardinal Alberoni, threw him into a violent rage.

The Spanish fleet set sail from Barcelona to Sicily, then in possession of Victor-Amadeus II., duke of Savoy.

26. Peter I. of Muscovy, having caused his eldest son, prince Alexis Petrowitz, to be condemned to death, the dread of his approaching fate, as some say, threw him into a fit of sickness, which put an end to his life; but others suspected that he was taken off by poison. The unfortunate prince laboured under imbecility or perversity of mind, and is alleged to have formed criminal designs against the life of his parent. It was a case similar to that of Don Carlos, son of Philip II. of Spain, in 1568.

King George's picture in the Tholsel at Dublin was defaced by some rioters in the night-time, and 1000*l.* offered for discovering them.

July 1. The Spanish fleet arrives at Sicily. The marquis de Lede, general of the forces, made a descent on the island, near Palermo, with about 17,000 men, and was

well received by the inhabitants, most of the towns in that island setting open their gates, and offering to submit to king Philip.

10. Robert Harrison convicted of crying out in the streets "*King James the Third for ever!*" For which he was adjudged to stand in the pillory, to pay a fine of twenty marks, and to suffer six months' imprisonment.

The treaty of peace between the emperor and the Venetians on the one part, and the Turks on the other, signed at Passarowitz.

22. QUADRUPLÉ ALLIANCE.—A treaty of alliance between the emperor, Great Britain, and France, in order to settle the terms of treaties of peace between the emperor and the king of Spain, and between his imperial majesty and the king of Sicily, was this day signed at the secretary's office at the Cockpit, by the plenipotentiaries of his imperial majesty, and by several lords of his majesty's privy-council, and by the abbot du Bois, plenipotentiary of France. This alliance, upon the States General coming into it, afterwards obtained the name of the Quadruple Alliance; the principal design whereof was, to guarantee the succession in Great Britain and France, and to confirm the partition of the Spanish monarchy.

The house of Mist the printer was searched, and his servants taken into custody, for printing some unlucky queries on the Spanish war; as, *Who are you going to fight for? What have we to do in that quarrel? What will be the consequences? Whether the French will not run away with your trade? &c.*

31. Sir George Byng fell upon the Spanish fleet, consisting of twenty-six men-of-war, near Syracuse, and took and destroyed about fifteen of them.

Aug. 21. The rev. Edward Byssie convicted at the assizes, Wells in Somersetshire, on four several informations exhibited by the Attorney-general; two for seditious sermons preached by him at his parish church of Portbury, in that county; and the other two for seditious words against the government. The most obnoxious expressions were, that king George was an usurper, and that we had neither king, parliament, or laws, these thirty years. Nov. 27, he was adjudged by the court of King's-bench to stand twice in the pillory, to be imprisoned four years, to find sureties for his good behaviour during life, and fined 600*l.*

The pretender was married about this time to the princess Sobieski, third daughter to prince James Sobieski, the eldest son of John Sobieski, king of Poland, who gained that remarkable victory over the Turks when they were besieging Vienna. Her mother was daughter of the duke of

Newburg, the eldest branch of the Palatine family. This princess was seized at Innspruck, in her way to Italy, by the Emperor's orders, and kept prisoner there a considerable time, but found means to make her escape. The marriage was consummated; and she brought the pretender two sons.

Sept. 18. The citadel of Messina surrendered to the Spaniards.

Oct. 17. Dr. Bentley, the celebrated classical scholar, was declared, in a full senate of the university of Cambridge, to be *dejectus & exclusus ab omni gradu, jure & titulo*, by 108 voices against 50.

One Bowes was taken into custody, for proposing to a certain minister of state to go to Italy, and assassinate the pretender.

28. The king of Sicily coming into the Quadruple Alliance, it was signed at Whitehall by his plenipotentiaries.

30. Dr. Bentley exhibited a complaint in writing to the privy-council against the proceedings of the vice-chancellor and university of Cambridge; whereupon the vice-chancellor was required to attend the council the 6th of November, to answer the said complaint.

Nov. 6. The case of Dr. Bentley heard, and referred to a committee of council.

11. Parliament met, when the king informed them of the conclusion of the Quadruple Alliance, and of his confidence "in the ready and friendly resolutions of his good brother the regent of France." A motion was made in both houses for addresses, approving of the king's measures with regard to Spain: after great debates they were agreed to, and presented the 13th. The Commons voted 13,500 sailors, and allowed for their maintenance 702,000*l*. They also voted 12,435 men for the land-service, whose pay amounted to 526,964*l*. 11*s*. 8*d*. These sums, with what was voted for making good deficiencies, for the ordinary of the navy, and other things, amounted in all to 2,257,581*l*. 19*s*. The money was raised by a malt-tax, land-tax, and a lottery.

25. Bill for the limitation of the peerage introduced into the House of Lords.

30. Charles XII., king of Sweden, killed by a musket-shot received in his head, in the trenches before Frederickshall, in Norway. The death of this eccentric prince dissolved the alliance which he had formed with Peter the Great and the Cardinal Alberoni for raising the pretender to the throne of England. It produced great convulsions in Sweden, in the first shock of which baron Gortz lost his head on a scaffold.

Dec. 3. An order of council for making general reprisals on the Spaniards.

Advice was received that captain Woods

Rogers had taken possession of the Bahama islands for the crown of England, in July last. That 200 of the pirates that had possessed themselves of the isle of Providence had surrendered themselves, and the rest were expelled.

The prince de Cellamare, the Spanish ambassador at Paris, was put under a guard, and his papers sealed, for being in a plot to seize the regent, secure the king's person, &c., all which proceeded from cardinal Alberoni's intrigues, in order to hinder the regent from joining with England against Spain.

12. The king granted 1000*l*. out of his privy-purse for rebuilding the dormitory belonging to Westminster-school.

13. OCCASIONAL CONFORMITY.—Earl Stanhope, after declaring the wish of ministers to unite different sects in support of the government, brought forward a bill in the lords for repealing the acts against occasional conformity, the growth of schism, and such clauses of the Test and Corporation Acts as operated to the exclusion of Protestant dissenters from civil offices. The Tories were strenuous in their opposition to this bill; and lord Cowper joined them in sounding the alarm of *danger to the church*, should dissenters be admitted to the common privileges of citizens. Archbishop Wake, forgetting the principles to which he owed his advancement, contended that the acts in question were the bulwarks of the Anglican establishment. In opposition to his Grace, Hoadly, bishop of Bangor, demonstrated that under whatever false colours they might be disguised, the schism acts were acts of real persecution; that if the mere pretext of self-defence was once admitted as sufficient ground for oppression, all the heathen and Christian persecutions of every age might be justified. These sentiments were ably seconded by Dr. Kennet, bishop of Peterborough. The venerable prelate said the Church was a term often perverted by designing men; that "The Temple of the Lord—the Temple of the Lord are we," was of old the boast of the abandoned among the Jews, and used as a colour and incentive to every evil purpose. Lord Lansdown was conspicuous by the virulence of his high churchism, and launched into a furious invective against the dissenters for their conduct under the commonwealth. After long debate, it was agreed to leave out the clauses relative to the Corporation and Test Acts; in which state it was transmitted to and passed the commons. Sir Robert Walpole, who was then in opposition, from factious motives, joined the Tories in opposing the repeal.

16. War declared against Spain.

22. War declared at Paris against Spain.

29. The pretender being applied to by cardinal Alberoni, entered into his scheme for raising disturbances in Britain. For that purpose the duke of Ormond repaired to Spain the latter end of the year, and measures were taken to stir up their friends in this country.

1719. *Jan.* An army of 36,000 French marched towards Spain, under the command of the duke of Berwick; and ships of war were fitted out in France for several expeditions.

19. A proclamation by the lords justices of Ireland, offering a reward of 10,000*l.* to any one who should apprehend the duke of Ormond attempting to land in that kingdom.

27. A petition of the artificers in the iron manufacture in Birmingham presented to the Commons, complaining that several foreigners, Muscovites, had been lately put apprentices there.

Feb. 5. The earl of Stair, our ambassador, made his public entry into Paris.

6. Duke of Kingston made lord president of the council. Duke of Kent made lord privy-seal. Duke of Argyll made lord steward of the household. Earl of Sunderland made groom of the stole, and first gentleman of the bed-chamber. Sunderland from this time may be considered prime-minister.

A petition of the company of clock-makers presented to the commons, complaining of great numbers of artists in that trade having been seduced to leave this kingdom, and settle in France.

20. Baron Gortz was beheaded at Stockholm in Sweden.

28. **PEERAGE BILL.**—The duke of Somerset, after complaining of the increase in the peerage, moved that the number of English peers might not be enlarged beyond six above the present number; and that instead of sixteen elective peers in Scotland, twenty-five might be made hereditary on the part of that kingdom. This bill was intended as a restraint on the prince of Wales, who happened to be in opposition to the present ministry. It was opposed by the earl of Oxford, who said he would never give his vote for lopping off so valuable a branch of the prerogative, which enabled the king to reward merit and virtuous actions. It alarmed the Scottish peers and many English commoners, who saw in this bill the avenues of title and privilege closed against them. The real question at issue, as in most other disputes, was not, whether the measure proposed was advantageous or not to the nation, but whether the tory or whig interest should predominate in parliament.

March 2. The peers received a message from his majesty, that he was willing that

his prerogative should not stand in the way of so great and necessary a work as settling the peerage. It appeared in the debates on this head that the number of peers at the accession of James I. amounted only to 59, but at this time they amounted to 178, besides the 16 Scotch peers. Treatises were written on both sides of the question, and a national clamour beginning to rise, ministers declined proceeding with the bill.

15. A proclamation, offering a reward of 5000*l.* for apprehending the duke of Ormond; for every other peer attained 1000*l.*, and for every gentleman under the degree of a peer, 500*l.*

18. An embargo was laid on all shipping outward-bound.

26. The pretender arrived at Madrid in one of the king of Spain's coaches, attended by his life-guards, and was received with all the honours shown to a crowned head. Upon his arrival, the squadron which had been fitting out some time for this expedition sailed from Cadiz towards England. The duke of Ormond was the conductor of the undertaking, with the title of captain-general of the king of Spain, and was, in proper places, to publish a declaration. But when this squadron came to Cape Finisterre, a violent storm, which lasted two days, dispersed and disabled it from pursuing its course.

April 4. The earls of Mareschal and Seaforth, and the marquiss of Tullibardine, with about 400 men, landed in Scotland.

The widow Bowles of West Hanny, near Abingdon, Berks, died in the 124th year of her age. She retained her senses and the use of her limbs till within three or four days before her death.

11. Arrived 2500 Dutch auxiliaries in the Thames, and three Dutch battalions more landed in the north of England; the whole commanded by general Keppel.

13. The French took port Passages, in Spain, where they burnt six men of war that were almost finished upon the stocks.

15. The House of Peers resolved that the issuing money out of the chamber of London, for maintaining suits of law concerning controverted elections of the city magistrates, &c. was a gross mismanagement of the city treasure, and a violation of the freedom of election in the city.

18. Parliament prorogued.

The trustees of the forfeited estates delivered in an account of papists' registered estates, which amounted to 373,284*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

May 9. His majesty declared in council his intention of going to Hanover, and appointed the archbishop of Canterbury and twelve others, being the great officers of the crown, to be lords-justices in his absence. The end of his majesty's voyage

was to bring about a peace in the North, between the crowns of Sweden, Denmark, Prussia, and Muscovy. He succeeded with the three first, but could not with the last.

11. The king embarked at Gravesend, and after a short passage of seventeen hours, landed in Holland.

16. The French, under the command of the duke of Berwick, laid siege to Fontarabia, which surrendered June 5.

21. The earl of Mar and Mr. Stuart were seized by the regency of Geneva.

June 7. Sir John Norris sailed with a squadron of English men-of-war to the Baltic.

10. An engagement at Glenshields, in Scotland, between king George's forces, commanded by general Wightman, and the Spaniards and Highlanders, commanded by Mareschal, Seaforth, and Tullibardine. The latter were defeated, and the next day the Spaniards, to the number of 300, surrendered at discretion. The Highlanders in arms, about 1000 in number, dispersed, which ended the Spanish invasion.

17. DEATH OF ADDISON.—Joseph Addison, esq., late one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, died, aged 47. He left two papers, that were published after his death, entitled, "The Old Whig," in defence of the peerage bill, in which he treated his old friend sir Richard Steele, who had vehemently assailed that measure, with rather contemptuous asperity. Few men, however, have received more praise, and that deservedly, than Mr. Addison, both as a moral and literary character. His talents, as a man of business and a practical statesman, have been denied; but that may be ascribed to the timid and fastidious *caste* of his mind, without resorting to the hacknied notion of the unfitness of men of letters for active life. He left an only daughter, by the countess of Warwick.

20. The imperialists attacked the Spaniards near Franca-Villa, in Sicily, but were repulsed, with the loss of 5000 men, and their general, count Merci, dangerously wounded.

July 1. Devenish, a soldier in the foot-guards, tied to a tree in the park, and whipped a fourth time by the third regiment of guards, for words spoken in derogation of king George's title to the crown.

11. The Muscovites made a descent in Sweden, and ravaged the country in a terrible manner; but upon the approach of sir John Norris with the British squadron, they retired.

13. The duke of Ormond's house at Richmond purchased by the prince of Wales.

21. A proclamation for apprehending Tullibardine and the earls Mareschal and Seaforth, supposed to be concealed in the

Highlands; and a reward of 2000*l.* offered.

Aug. 1. St. Sebastian surrendered to the duke of Berwick.

11. The English seamen of captain Johnson's squadron, which lay before St. Sebastian, being joined by some of the French troops, which formed the siege of that place, attacked St. Antonio, and took and destroyed three large men-of-war which were upon the stocks, with a prodigious quantity of timber, and other materials, that the Spaniards had provided for building more.

Oct. 1. Vigo surrendered to viscount Cobham.

19. The castle of Messina surrendered to the imperialists. The British fleet, under sir George Byng, did great service in this siege, and destroyed several large Spanish men-of-war in the harbour.

24. Ormond sails from St. Andero with seven men-of-war, having on board 10,000 arms, and 1800 men, intending to make a descent on some part of Great Britain.

26. Cobham, with the British forces, abandoned Vigo.

30. John Matthews, convicted of high-treason, in printing the paper called "*Vox Populi*," &c., and executed at Tyburn on the 6th of November.

Nov. 9. A treaty concluded at Stockholm, by which the duchies of Bremen and Verden were ceded to the elector of Brunswick.

14. The king arrived at St. James's from Hanover.

23. Parliament opened by the king.

25. The peerage bill was again brought into the house of lords.

Dec. 3. The king of Spain, as a step towards a general peace, dismisses his restless minister Alberoni.

7. A long debate in the commons on the committal of the peerage bill, when it was carried in the negative, by 269 to 177.

This month a great many petitions were presented to parliament against printed calicos.

1720. Jan. 21. A proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l.* for taking any highwayman within five miles of London or Westminster, and also a pardon to any accomplice who should discover and apprehend such highwayman.

24. Cardinal Alberoni and his papers seized in the territories of Genoa, at the instance of the pope.

26. The king of Spain accepted the conditions of peace proposed to him by Great Britain and France.

27, 28. The South-sea company and the Bank of England offered their several schemes to the house of commons for discharging the national debt.

Feb. 1. Resolved that the proposals made by the South-sea company be accepted.

29. A proclamation for a suspension of arms at sea between Great Britain and Spain.

Mar. 16. Sir William Thompson, solicitor-general, before a committee of the commons, charged Nicholas Lechmere, esq., attorney-general, and one of his majesty's privy-council, with breach of his oath and duty, as a privy councillor, in that he acted as counsel, and received divers sums of money for his advice, in matters to him referred by the privy council as attorney-general.

22. Ulrica, queen of Sweden, sister of Charles XII., requested of the States permission to resign the exercise of the royal power to her consort, the prince of Hesse; and on the 24th he was declared king accordingly.

23. Philip York, esq., made solicitor-general, in the room of sir William Thompson.

27. The czar of Muscovy loudly complained of king George, for making peace with Sweden and Denmark without his participation; and his resident in London presented a memorial, full of complaints, to the same purpose.

This month South-sea stock gradually rose from 130 to above 300, and advanced to near 400; but, after some fluctuation, settled at about 330.

Apr. 7. Royal assent given to an act for enabling the South-sea company to increase their present capital stock, and for raising money, to be applied for lessening several of the public debts and incumbrances, and for calling in the present Exchequer-bills remaining uncancelled. South-sea stock rose to 340.

12. There was a subscription at 300.

16. Sir John Norris, with a squadron of twenty-three men-of-war, sailed from the Nore to the Baltic.

23. The king and prince were reconciled through the endeavours of the duke of Devonshire and Walpole.

28. A subscription of South-sea stock opened at 400.

May 7. Sir Robert Raymond appointed attorney-general, in the room of Nicholas Lechmere, esq.

20. South-sea stock rose to 550.

June 2. South-sea stock at 890.

The earl of Mar set at liberty by the regency of Geneva.

11. A terrible earthquake at Pekin in China. Many houses were demolished, and above 1000 persons perished in the ruins.

Parliament prorogued, after his majesty had complimented them on the measures they had passed for the payment of the national debt.

Viscount Townshend declared president

of the council; duke of Kingston, lord-privy-seal; duke of Grafton, lord-lieutenant of Ireland. Fifteen of the principal nobility and great officers of the crown appointed to be lords-justices.

A royal proclamation, declaring that all the new projects or bubbles then on foot, and which were above 100 in number, should be deemed common nuisances, and prosecuted as such; with the penalty of 500*l.* for any broker to buy or sell any shares in them.

15. The king embarked at Greenwich for Holland, where he arrived the next day. Upon his majesty's going abroad many of those that went with him withdrew their money out of the South-sea, which sunk the stock considerably; but the directors, by promising prodigious dividends, and other indirect arts, afterwards raised it again, and even advanced it to 1000, and held it up almost all the month of July to between 900 and 1000.

Paul Methuen, esq. was made comptroller of his majesty's household; Robert Walpole, esq., paymaster-general of his majesty's forces; and colonel Churchill, governor of the royal hospital at Chelsea.

27. Lord Kinsale presented to the king by the duke of Grafton; he asserted the ancient right of his family, of being covered in his majesty's presence.

MISSISSIPPI CRISIS.—About the time the South-sea delusion was being started in England a great monetary scheme was on the point of explosion in France. It was connected with the ROYAL BANK, the origin of which has been mentioned (see p. 353). It was proposed to vest the privileges of the bank, of all the great trading companies, the mint, and the receipt of the king's revenue, in one great company, which, having in their hands all the trade, taxes, and revenues of the kingdom, might multiply the notes of the bank indefinitely. The Mississippi Company was one of the public companies so consolidated. Like the rest, it had a certain number of shares in the market, and capital stock, and obtained grants of land in Louisiana, from which enormous profits were expected to be realised by planting and commerce. Upon this and other delusive expectations an incredible mass of paper was issued. Unexampled prosperity was apparently diffused through the country. Money was abundant; agriculture, commerce, and manufactures flourished; and the government was enabled to reduce the taxes. Mr. Law, the bank director, and accredited author of the national happiness, was adored as the Plutus of France. His levees were crowded with all ranks and degrees, eager to exchange their real for visionary wealth. Gradually, however, confidence began to

abate; the more reflective began to suspect that there was no good foundation for the vast fabric of credit, and hastened to convert their paper into specie, which was either hoarded or sent abroad, until there was not enough left for the common purposes of circulation. To avert the danger which now threatened the whole system, royal edicts were issued, restricting payments in specie; prohibiting the manufacture of plate without license; and declaring that all rents and taxes should be paid in notes, the value of which was to remain unchangeable. These had a temporary effect, but it was beyond the power of despotism to preserve the paper from depreciation, now that suspicion had been awakened. The ministry represented to the regent that it was necessary to equalise the value of the paper currency and coin, either by raising the denomination of the coin, or lowering that of paper. The latter unprincipled expedient was adopted. By an edict of May 21st, 1720, a monthly reduction in the value of shares and notes was ordered. As a necessary consequence, the notes lost all credit, and Mr. Law's banking system was destroyed. Some of the original proprietors acquired immense fortunes at the expense of thousands ruined. The public debt was got rid of by being nefariously paid in the depreciated shares and bank paper.

SOUTH-SEA SCHEME.—This was a project of sir John Blount, who had been bred a scrivener, and was possessed of all the cunning, boldness, and plausibility requisite for such an undertaking. He communicated his plan to Mr. Aislable, the chancellor of the exchequer. He answered all his objections, and the project was adopted. The pretence for the scheme was to discharge the national debt by reducing all the funds into one. An act passed, as already mentioned, for this purpose. At first the South-sea stock did not rise according to the expectation of the projector. To remedy this, Blount caused a report to be circulated that Gibraltar and Port Mahon would be exchanged for some places in Peru; by which means the English trade to the South-sea would be protected and enlarged. This rumour, diffused by his emissaries, acted like a contagion. In five days the directors opened their books for a subscription of one million, at the rate of three hundred pounds for every hundred pounds capital. Persons of all ranks crowded to the house in such a manner, that the first subscription exceeded two millions of original stock. In a few days the stock rose prodigiously, and the subscriptions were sold for double the price of the first payment. Without detailing the various scandalous artifices to enhance the price of stock and decoy the unwary, it is

only necessary to observe that, by the promise of enormous dividends and other infamous arts, the stock was raised to one thousand, and the whole nation infected with the spirit of stock-jobbing to an astonishing degree. All distinctions of party, religion, sex, character, and circumstances, were swallowed up in this universal concern, or in some such pecuniary project. Exchange alley was filled with a strange concourse of statesmen and clergymen, churchmen and dissenters, whigs and Tories, physicians, lawyers, tradesmen, and a multitude of women of all ranks and degrees. All other professions and employments were utterly neglected, and the people's attention engrossed by this and other chimerical schemes, which were known by the denomination of bubbles. New companies started up every day under the countenance of the prince and nobility. The prince of Wales was constituted governor of the Welsh copper company; the duke of Chandos appeared at the head of the York-buildings; the duke of Bridgewater formed a third for building houses in London and Westminster. The whole nation became stock-jobbers; persons of all ranks and professions, of both sexes, being wholly employed in attending to some bubble or other.

July 12. An order of council for dismissing about seventeen petitions for patents to raise joint stocks for various purposes. The capital proposed to be raised to carry out the different bubbles now afloat amounted to three hundred millions.

Aug. 1. A ship that came from Sidon to Marseilles in France brought the plague into that city.

6. The learned Madame Dacier, the celebrated critic and translator from Greek and Latin authors, died at Paris, in the 68th year of her age.

8. The imperialists made a cession of the kingdom of Sardinia to the late king of Sicily.

15. The lords justices gave orders to the attorney-general to bring writs of *scire facias* against the charters or patents of the York-buildings company, the Lustering company, English copper, and the Welsh copper and lead company; and also against any other charters or patents, where the patentees had exceeded the powers granted them.

17. South-sea stock fell to 830, including the midsummer dividend; but the directors buying the same day a considerable quantity of stock, it rose to 880. However, the disposition to sell continuing the two following days, the stock fell again to about 820, at which price the transfer books were opened on the 22nd.

24. The directors came to a sudden resolution to shut the transfer books; and,

the next day, to open other books for taking in a money-subscription of 1,000,000*l.* to the capital stock, at the rate of 1000*l.* for every 100*l.* capital stock; accordingly the books being opened, the intended sum was subscribed in less than three hours.

25. A proclamation requiring all ships coming from the Mediterranean to perform quarantine.

26. The transfer books were opened again; but South-sea stock, instead of advancing, being fallen under 800, the directors thought fit to lend their proprietors 4000*l.* upon every 1000*l.* stock for six months, at four per cent. But the annuitants being uneasy and clamorous, the directors came to a resolution, that thirty per cent. in money should be in the half-year's dividend due at Christmas next; and from thence for twelve years not less than fifty per cent. in money should be the yearly dividend on their stock. Though this resolution raised the stock to about 800*l.* for the opening of the books, yet it soon sunk again.

Sept. A rumour that the Spaniards were assembling troops in the vicinity of Gibraltar alarmed the stock-jobbers.

8. South-sea stock fell to 640; the next day to 550; and, by the 10th instant, it dropt to 400.

The number of those who had died of the plague at Marseilles was computed, at this time, to amount to eighteen thousand.

23. The bank of England agreed with the South-sea company to circulate their bonds, &c., and to take their stock at 400 per cent., in lieu of 3,775,000*l.* the South-sea company was to pay them. When the books were opened at the bank for taking in a subscription for supporting the public credit, the concourse of people was at first so great, that it was judged the whole subscription, which was intended for 3,000,000*l.*, would have been filled that day. But the fall of the South-sea stock, and the discredit of that company's bonds, occasioned a run upon the most eminent goldsmiths and bankers, some of whom having lent out great sums upon South-sea stock, and other public securities, were obliged to shut up their shops. The sword-blade company also, who had been hitherto the chief cash-keepers of the South-sea company, being almost drained of their ready money, were forced to stop payment. All this occasioned a great run upon the bank.

30. South-sea stock fell to 150.

Oct. 6. The lords commissioners of the treasury came to the bank of England, and subscribed in his majesty's name, and on his behalf, the sum of 100,000*l.* towards supporting the public credit.

25. Robert Lowther, esq., late governor of Barbadoes, taken into custody by order

of the privy-council, for his tyrannical and corrupt administration in that island. The lords of the admiralty complained, the governor had imprisoned two captains of men-of-war, who were going in pursuit of the pirates: that he had taken away their commission from Mr. Hall, who was appointed judge of the admiralty there by their lordships: that he had proceeded tyrannically against the missionaries for the propagation of the gospel. His case appeared so black, that the attorney-general, one of his counsel, refused to plead for him. However, he was admitted to bail by lord chief justice Pratt.

Nov. 10. King George landed at Margate, and the next day came to St. James's.

15. Two proclamations, one for England, and the other for Scotland, for a fast, on account of the plague in France.

19. The University of Cambridge presented an address to his majesty, on his giving them 2000*l.* towards building a library.

Dec. 8. Parliament being assembled, the king congratulated them on the favourable aspect of affairs abroad, but lamented the shock given to public credit at home. Commerce, he said, had extended; and he had the most flourishing navy of any nation to protect it.

12. The commons ordered that the directors of the South-sea company should forthwith produce an account of all their proceedings.

17. Resolved, that 10,000 men be allowed for the service of the year 1721, and 14,294 men for guards and garrisons in Great Britain, Guernsey, and Jersey.

21. Mr. Robert Walpole, now paymaster of the forces, laid before the commons a scheme to restore public credit, by ingrafting nine millions of South-sea stock into the bank of England, and the like into the East India company: and a committee was appointed to receive proposals from the bank, the South-sea company, and the East India company.

24. The South-sea company laid several books and papers before the commons. Mr. Shippen moved that the directors might lay before the house the inducements on which they took in the third and fourth money subscriptions at 1000 per cent.; also the scheme or calculation upon which they grounded the resolutions of making a dividend of thirty per cent. at Christmas, and of not less than fifty per cent. per annum for twelve years after. An order was made accordingly.

1721. *Jan. 6.* A committee of secrecy, thirteen in number, chosen by ballot, appointed to examine the books and papers of the South-sea company. Also a bill introduced by sir Joseph Jekyll to restrain

the deputy-governor, directors, cashier, and other officers from leaving the kingdom, and for discovering their estates and preventing the alienation of the same. The directors petitioned, in vain, to be heard by their counsel against the bill, which received the royal assent on the 25th instant. Lord Hinchinbroke moved, that the directors, &c., might be forthwith taken into custody, to prevent the escape of the most criminal, pending proceedings.

11. The king gave orders, that such of the directors of the South-sea company as were in any employment under the crown, should be forthwith discharged his service.

12. The sub-governor, deputy-governor, and about twenty-four of the directors, and Mr. Robert Knight their cashier, were examined by the house of lords; after which, their lordships resolved, that they had perjured, in giving false representations of several matters of fact; that, by lending money on stock and subscriptions, they were guilty of a notorious breach of trust; and that they ought to make good the losses the company had sustained by their fraudulent management.

14. The secret committee of the commons repaired to the South-sea house, took possession of it, and of all the books belonging to the several offices.

22. Mr. Knight, cashier of the South-sea company, absconded, and the next day embarked on board a vessel in the river that carried him to Calais.

23. A proclamation, offering a reward of 2000*l.* for securing and apprehending Robert Knight, cashier of the South-sea company.

Sir Theodore Janssen and Mr. Sawbridge, two of the members, coming into the house of commons, were voted guilty of a notorious breach of trust, as directors of the South-sea company, expelled the house, and taken into custody; with sir Robert Chaplin and Francis Eyles, two other directors, and members of parliament.

The lords examined Mr. Joye, deputy-governor of the company, who made a very frank confession, and communicated Mr. Knight's letter to Surman. After which sir William Chapman, Mr. Holditch, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Gibbon, and Mr. Chester, all late directors, were ordered to be seized with their papers.

Two days after, sir Harcourt Masters, and Mr. Astell, were examined by the lords, and discovered, that large sums in the South-sea stock had been given to several persons, both in the administration, and in the house of commons, for procuring the passing of the South-sea act, which occasioned some vigorous resolutions.

John Aislabie, esq. resigned the seals of chancellor of his majesty's exchequer.

24. The lords ordered several of the directors to be taken into custody of the black rod, and the commons several others to be taken into the custody of the serjeant-at-arms.

25. The czar of Muscovy sent a declaration to the English factory at Petersburg, representing in what an unjust manner his resident was sent away from the court of England, for which he might have made reprisals; but, as he perceived this was done without any regard to the interest of England, and only in favour of the Hanoverian interest, he was unwilling that the English nation, which had no share in that piece of injustice, should suffer by it; therefore he granted them all manner of security, and full liberty to trade in his dominions.

Feb. 2. The lords resolved, that the South-sea directors declaring 30 per cent. dividend for the half-year ending at Christmas, and 50 per cent. per annum for twelve years after, was a villanous artifice to delude and defraud his majesty's good subjects.

3. Mr. Knight was stopped by an order of the marquis de Prie, at Tirlemont, and committed prisoner to the castle of Antwerp.

4. Sir John Blount, the chief projector of the South-sea scheme, refused to be examined by the lords. This drew some severe reflections on ministers from the duke of Wharton. Earl Stanhope, in attempting to reply, burst a blood-vessel, and died next day.

8. Lord viscount Townshend made secretary of state, in the room of Stanhope.

9. Addresses from both houses to the king that he would procure the surrender of Mr. Knight, with his papers and effects.

13. Nathaniel Mist, the printer, being convicted of printing, in his "*Weekly Journal*," some reflections on his majesty for his interposing in behalf of the protestants of the Palatinate, was adjudged to stand twice in the pillory, to pay a fine of 50*l.*, suffer three months' imprisonment in the King's-bench, and to give security for his good behaviour for seven years.

16. The committee of secrecy made their report, in which it appeared that the following amounts of stock, at 150 to 180, were taken for the

	£.
Earl of Sunderland prime minister	50,000
Duchess of Kendal	10,000
Countess of Platen	10,000
Two nieces of the duchess of Kendal	10,000
Mr. Craggs, sen. (postmaster-general)	30,000
Charles Stanhope, esq.	10,000
Sword-blade company	20,000

It also appeared that Mr. Aislabie, late chancellor of the exchequer, had great

quantities of South-sea stock given him; and a great deal of South-sea stock had been taken in for members of both houses of parliament.

27. Lord Coningsby committed to the Tower by the house of peers, for reflecting on the lord-chancellor.

This month the marquis de Lede re-embarked with the Spanish troops, and returned to Spain, not having been able to drive the Moors from before Ceuta, notwithstanding accounts had been received of his repeated victories.

Mar. 4. John Carteret appointed secretary of state in the room of James Craggs, esq., who had died of the small-pox.

5. A proclamation, commanding all apothecaries to follow the dispensatory lately compiled by the college of physicians, London.

6. Mr. Joseph Hall convicted of publishing a blasphemous pamphlet, intitled, "A Sober Reply to Mr. Higg's Merry Argument of the Tritheistical Doctrine of the Trinity."

8. Pope Clement XI. died, aged 72, having reigned above twenty years.

The commons took into their consideration that part of the report of the secret committee which related to Mr. Aislable; and he was heard in his defence. But it being plainly proved that he had caused a book of accounts between him and Mr. Hawes to be burnt, and given him a discharge for the balance, amounting 842,000*l.*, it was unanimously resolved, that the said John Aislable had promoted the destructive execution of the South-sea scheme, with a view to his own exorbitant profit; and that he be expelled the house, and committed to the Tower. The commons came to the same resolution in relation to sir George Caswall, sheriff of London, and a member.

A motion was made, that it appeared to the house that 50,000*l.* of the capital stock of the South-sea company was taken in, by Robert Knight, for the use of Charles earl of Sunderland; upon which a warm debate arose, but by the influence of Walpole the motion was negatived by 233 to 172. Notwithstanding this vote, Sunderland resigned his office, and died about a year afterwards.

April 2. Robert Walpole, esq. appointed first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. By these appointments Mr. Walpole was again at the head of the administration, and so continued for more than twenty years; being the longest period any prime minister has remained in power in this country since the reign of Elizabeth. His reputation for ability stood higher than ever; but his character for integrity had suffered by his opposition to

the Spanish war, and his factions vote against the whigs on the schism bill.

Mr. Craggs, sen. having died about a month after his son, he was succeeded by Mr. Carteret and Mr. G. Walpole as joint post-masters-general. The report of the Secret Committee had deeply implicated both the Craggs in the South-sea affair. It is Mr. Craggs, jun. whom Pope has lauded in an epitaph inscribed on his tomb, in Westminster-abbey, beginning

"Statesman, yet friend to truth! of soul sincere,

In action faithful, and in honour clear!

Who broke no promise, served no private end," &c.

13. Sir John Norris, with a squadron of men-of-war under his command, sailed to the Baltic.

17. SOUTH-SEA FORFEITURES.—An estimate of the value of the estates of the late South-sea directors was delivered, upon oath, to the house of commons. It amounted to 2,014,000*l.*, of which 334,000*l.* was returned to them, in sums proportioned to the conduct and circumstances of each. Tindal (Contin. of Rapin, xix., 413) gives the following inventory of the estates and allowances of some of the directors and servants of the company:

	Inven- tories. £.	Allow- ances. £.
Sir John Fellowes, sub-governor . . .	243,096	10,000
Sir John Blount . . .	183,349	1,000
Mr. Chester . . .	140,372	10,000
Mr. Child . . .	52,487	10,000
Mr. Eyles . . .	34,329	20,000
Mr. Gibbon . . .	106,543	10,000
Mr. Hawes . . .	40,031	31,687
Sir Theodore Janssen	248,234	50,000
Sir John Lambert . . .	72,508	5,000
Mr. Read . . .	117,297	10,000
Mr. Sawbridge . . .	77,254	5,000
Mr. Surman, deputy-cashier . . .	121,321	5,000
Mr. Grigsby . . .	31,687	2,000
Sir Lambert Blackwell	83,529	10,000

Some additions were afterwards made to these allowances. Sir John Blount had 5000*l.*, instead of 1000*l.*; sir Lambert Blackwell, 15,000*l.*, instead of 10,000*l.*; and Mr. Hawes, 5000*l.*, instead of 31,687*l.* A motion was made to reduce sir Theodore Janssen's allowance to 30,000*l.*, but it was rejected. Mr. Aislable's affair occasioned debates proportionate to his great riches and the multitude of his friends. He was allowed all the estate he possessed on the 20th of October, 1718. His country-house, gardens, and park, with his wife's jewels and household goods, were also excepted from the forfeiture.

Apr. 28. IMMORAL CLUBS.—An order of council for the suppression of blasphemous clubs. "During," says Smollett, "the infatuation produced by the infamous South-sea bubble, luxury, vice, and profligacy increased to a shocking degree of extravagance. The adventurers, intoxicated by their imaginary wealth, pampered themselves with the rarest dainties, and the most expensive wines that could be imported. They purchased the most sumptuous furniture, equipage, and apparel, though without taste or discernment. They indulged their criminal passions to the most scandalous excess; their discourse was the language of pride, insolence, and the most ridiculous ostentation." Several societies were formed, of an atrocious description, for the encouragement of profaneness and debauchery. Among others, was one called the *Hell-Fire Club*, which excited a great noise. The rites of the initiated were said to resemble the practices of the Mohawks, and were of an abominable description. Several persons of quality, particularly the duke of Wharton, who inherited the wit and profligacy of his ancestor, were supposed to be members of this club. A bill was brought into the house of peers to suppress blasphemy and profaneness; but one lord apprehended that it would promote persecution; another, that it was repugnant to Scripture; others desired to be at liberty to speak and act as they saw fit. The bill was dropped. It was on this occasion the earl of Peterborough declared, that though he was for a parliamentary king, he was against having a parliamentary religion imposed upon him; and that the duke of Wharton pulled an old family Bible out of his pocket, to controvert some of the doctrines of the bishops.

May 1. The commons resolved, that it appeared to that house that James Craggs, esq., late postmaster-general, was a notorious accomplice and confederate with Robert Knight, and some of the directors of the South-sea company, in carrying on their scandalous practices; and that all the estates of the said James Craggs, over and above what he was possessed of December 1, 1719, be applied towards the relief of the unhappy sufferers in the South-sea company, for deterring persons from committing the like wicked practices in future.

7. His majesty caused to be published directions to the bishops for the preserving of unity in the church and the purity of the Christian faith, particularly in the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

8. Cardinal Conti was chosen pope, and took upon him the name of Innocent XIII.

18. Sir Richard Steele restored to the office of comptroller of the theatre.

28. The "*Weekly Journal*" a no-

torious Jacobite newspaper, having given an account of the restoration, and attempted to draw a parallel between the late times of rebellion and the present, the commons unanimously resolved, that the paper, intitled, "*The Weekly Journal, or, Saturday's Post*," &c., for Saturday, May 27, 1721, was a false, malicious, and scandalous libel. Mist, the publisher, was committed to Newgate. The repeated interferences of the commons with Mist's publication when its strictures did not concern their *own privileges*, has been noted by Mr. Hallam (Const. Hist., iii. 371) as an extraordinary assumption of parliamentary power.

June 7. Royal assent given to an act for regulating the journeymen tailors within the weekly bills of mortality.

16. The king, in a message to the commons, informs them that he had ordered two ships, suspected to be infected with the plague, to be burnt; and desired they would make provision for satisfying the owners.

25. Lord Carleton was made lord-president of the council, in the room of viscount Townshend.

July 11. The civil-list being in arrear to the amount of 550,000*l.*, the king was permitted to raise money, on the credit of the civil-list allowance, for discharging the debt, for which a provision was made by a deduction in salaries and pensions. A subsidy to Sweden, to the amount of 72,000*l.*, caused a warm debate. Lord Molesworth said, by our late conduct we had become the allies of all the world, and the bubbles of all our allies.

31. Several hundreds of the proprietors of the short annuities, and other redeemable public debts, of both sexes, came to the door of the house of commons, and demanded justice of the members, as they went into the house, in a tumultuous manner. Some of them tore off part of the comptroller's coat as he passed by. The house ordered the justices of the peace and constables of Westminster to attend for their protection. The justices having ordered the riot act to be read, the petitioners dispersed; but upon going off, they told the members that they first picked their pockets, and then would send them to gaol for complaining.

Aug. 10. Parliament having passed measures for restoring public credit and affording some relief to the South-sea sufferers, was prorogued.

SMALL-POX INOCULATION.—In the beginning of this month the experiment of inoculating, or as it was first called, "engrafting" for the small-pox, was tried upon seven condemned criminals with success. It was introduced from Constantinople by the celebrated lady Mary Wortley Monta-

gu, who, as it appears from her "Letters," had her own son inoculated in that capital, March 23, 1718.

12. A treaty of peace was concluded between England and the Moors.

About this time the congress at Cambray was opened, but proved altogether fruitless. *Sept.* 1. A peace between Russia and Sweden was signed at Niestadt. The czar refused the mediation of Great Britain, there being a personal enmity between him and king George.

3. A general court of the South-sea company was held, in which the sub-governor enlarged upon the advantages that might be gained by the Assiento contract, to which end the directors were fitting out a ship, whose cargo, amounting to 280,000*l.*, was provided, and acquainted them with the intention of carrying on a trade hitherto not meddled with by the company, the Greenland trade, so beneficial to Holland and Hamburg.

15. Matthew Prior, the distinguished poet, died at the seat of the earl of Oxford, aged 58. He was secretary to the congress held at the Hague in 1690, secretary to the embassy at the treaty of Ryswick, and secretary to two other embassies in France. Afterwards he was made secretary of state in Ireland, and was one of the plenipotentiaries at the treaty of Utrecht. Prior made his way in public life by his wit, aptitude, and companionable qualities, rather than by high moral or political endowments. He shared in the reverses of his tory friends; but was rich enough to leave 500*l.* for a monument, under which he was interred in Westminster-abbey.

Oct. 18. Mr. Knight, cashier to the South-sea company, made his escape out of the castle of Antwerp, carrying with him the serjeant who was appointed to guard him.

20. Sir John Norris arrived at the Nore with his squadron, from the Baltic, bringing over with him Mr. Law, the contriver of the Mississippi scheme.

22. The czar of Muscovy took the title of emperor of all the Russias.

23. A proclamation for a general fast, for averting the judgments of Heaven, to perpetuate the protestant religion, and the safety and prosperity of the kingdom.

27. The commons voted 7000 seamen for the service of the year 1722.

31. The commons voted 14,294 effective men for guards and garrisons for the year 1722.

Nov. 10. Lord Belhaven cast away, with all his ship's crew and passengers, except two sailors and a boy, near the Lizard Point, as he was going to his government of Barbadoes, in the *Royal Anne* galley.

28. Mr. Law, the projector, pleaded his majesty's pardon at the King's-bench

bar, for killing Edward Wilson, esq. in a duel, in the year 1694.

Dec. 4. The captives redeemed from Morocco, to the number of about 300 men, marched through the city of London to St. Paul's cathedral, to return thanks to God for their deliverance. They afterwards proceeded to St. James's, to return his majesty thanks, who was pleased to order them a further bounty of 500*l.* They next presented themselves before the prince, at Leicester-house, and his royal highness ordered 250*l.* to be distributed amongst them.

13. The quakers petitioned the commons that the words, "*In the presence of Almighty God,*" &c., might be omitted in their solemn affirmation. A bill was brought in accordingly, and passed into an act.

1722. *Jan.* 6. An advertisement in the "*Gazette,*" reciting, That on the 1st instant, between ten and eleven at night, Edward Crispe, esq., of Bury St. Edmunds, was assaulted in the churchyard there, and knocked down by persons unknown, and dragged to a dunghill, where he was most barbarously cut and mangled. A pardon, and 200*l.* reward, were offered to any one that should discover the perpetrators of the outrage.

10. Arundel Coke, barrister-at-law, and brother-in-law to the above-mentioned Edward Crispe, esq., with one Woodburne, a labourer, whom Coke had hired to murder Crispe, were committed to Bury gaol for the same. They were tried at the ensuing assizes, convicted, and executed March the 31st.

11, 12. Great debates in the lords concerning the French being permitted to build men-of-war in the ports of Great Britain. The court lords were for it, alleging that they would build them elsewhere, if they did not here, and the English might as well take their money. Earl Cowper, lords North and Grey, &c., opposed it as a most dangerous practice, it adding strength to a naval force of so formidable a neighbour, and occasioning a great expense of ship-timber, which was much wanted in England. It being questioned if this practice were lawful, the twelve judges (all except baron Montagu) gave their opinion that it was; whereupon lord Cowper moved to bring in a bill to prevent foreigners building men-of-war here.

13. An unsuccessful attempt made in the lords to prevent the continuance of the practice of keeping in pay the king's ships that came home during the winter.

15. A motion made in the commons to repeal so much of the quarantine act as gives the government power to remove to a ship or pest-house any person infected with the plague, or healthy persons out of an infected family, from their habitations; also as gives power for the drawing of lines

round any city, town, or place infected; it was carried in the affirmative, 115 to 40.

17. The London clergy petitioned the peers against the Quakers' bill; and it was rejected by 60 to 24. Among the last was the archbishop of York; who with nineteen other lords, entered their protests, with reasons.

Eleanora, duchess-dowager of Zell, mother to his majesty's consort, aged 84, died at Zell.

Feb. 3. The lord chancellor not coming to the house of peers till their lordships had waited above two hours for him, it was moved to choose a speaker *pro interim*; but the lord chancellor coming in, and excusing his stay, for that he had been attending the cabinet-council, prevented the choice. Then it was moved, that, in order to show their resentment, the house should adjourn to Monday; but it was carried in the negative, 49 to 31. Whereupon 24 peers entered their protests, with reasons.

7. An engrossed bill, for better securing the freedom of elections, passed the commons, and was sent up to the lords, who rejected it the 13th; which occasioned a protest, with reasons: but the peers ordered the said protest to be expunged.

Mahamood, a Persian nobleman, on the confines of Usbeck Tartary, usurped the throne of Persia, surprised the capital city of Ispahan, and deposed the sophi Shaw Sultan Hussein, his sovereign. The Turks reduced the frontier towns and provinces in Persia.

27. It was moved and carried in the lords, that such peers as should enter their protests, with reasons, should do the same before two o'clock the next sitting day, and sign them before the house rises.

March 7. The supplies being granted and the business of the session finished, parliament was prorogued.

A list was published about this time, of sixty peers, created, advanced, or called up to the house in this reign.

10. Parliament dissolved by proclamation. It had sat the full term which the Septennial Act, which had passed, allowed. Its dissolution was celebrated by bonfires, illuminations, ringing of bells, and other demonstrations of joy, in the metropolis.

A pamphlet was published about this time, called *The Freeholder*, who declares, he will not give his vote for any one, who will not promise to re-establish triennial parliaments, and make a strict inquiry into the application of the public money, particularly 250,000*l.* given to end the war in the north; the deficiency of 800,000*l.* in the civil list, since supplied by parliament; the reasons why the debt of the army, first estimated at 400,000*l.*, had swelled to above two millions, where 1,200,000*l.* was certi-

fied to belong to foreigners; and who shall not strictly inquire into the advantages accruing to Great Britain by the Baltic and Mediterranean squadrons, whereby the expenses of the fleet were increased more than three millions sterling above what was necessary in time of peace.

19. Dr. Willis, bishop of Sarum, laid the first stone in the foundation of the parish church of St. Martin's in the fields; and presented the workmen with a hundred guineas from his majesty.

A pamphlet appeared, styled, *The last Will and Testament of an old deceased Parliament*; being a recapitulation of most of their extraordinary votes and resolves the last session.

April 6. A reward of 500*l.* for apprehending Mr. Weston, formerly clerk of Gray's-Inn chapel, for publishing a treasonable libel, intitled, *The Second Part of the Advantages accruing by the Hanover Succession*.

17. Princesses Amelia and Carolina, daughters of the prince of Wales, inoculated for the small-pox, and both recovered.

DEATH OF SUNDERLAND.—In this month died the earl of Sunderland, leaving behind him considerable popular odium, on account of his supposed connexions with the South Sea directors. He was a minister of abilities, but violent and headstrong. His character had much resemblance to that of his father—bold, restless, insidious, ambitious, excelling in all the arts of courtly address, and distinguished by great extent of political knowledge and sagacity, but lacked moral and political rectitude. He married the eldest daughter of the duke of Marlborough, who soon followed him to the grave.

May. His majesty received full information of a conspiracy formed against him; the first notice of which came from the duke of Orleans, regent of France. A camp was immediately marked out in Hyde-park, to which the guards marched the next day. Orders were issued to all military officers to repair to their respective commands. General Macartney was dispatched to Ireland, to bring over some troops into the west of England. Messengers were sent to Scotland to secure some suspected persons; and the states of Holland were desired to keep in readiness the guarantee-troops, in order to be sent into England in case of need.

8. Viscount Townshend apprizes the lord-mayor of the plot.

9. Addresses presented from the city and other parts, expressive of unshaken attachment to the government.

A proclamation for putting the laws in execution against papists and non-jurors, and for commanding all papists to depart from the cities of London and Westminster,

and for confining papists to their habitations.

A petition from some eminent merchants of the city of London was presented to one of the secretaries of state, wherein they set forth that, confiding in the law of nations, they remitted to Paris and other places in France, merchandise and specie to the value of 1,400,000*l.* sterling: but that when they were disposed to call in their effects, they were paid in *state papers*, which were sunk to nothing: therefore, they humbly prayed his majesty's royal protection to procure them a reimbursement from the crown of France. The state-papers were the depreciated paper money issued by Law, in concert with the regent Orleans, in execution of the fraudulent Mississippi scheme, got up to cheat the public creditors and the nation; and which the French appear to have been trying to pass off on the British merchants.

June 11. His majesty having reviewed the foot-guards encamped in Hyde-park, was magnificently entertained by earl Cadogan, general of the foot, with the prince and a great number of the nobility, in a pavilion that prince Eugene formerly took from the grand vizier.

16. DEATH OF MARLBOROUGH.—About four o'clock, died at Windsor-lodge, aged 73, John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, captain-general of his majesty's forces, master-general of the ordnance, and colonel of the first regiment of foot-guards. The duke was the most distinguished public character of his age, uniting in a high degree all the qualities which form a courtier, soldier, and statesman. His person was eminently graceful; his disposition mild, his deportment affable, and the general tenor of his private and social life regular, and unblemished. He was ambitious, but free from haughtiness and ostentation. As a soldier cool, vigilant, and indefatigable: on the day of battle, he gave his orders with clearness and composure; leading on his troops without perturbation, and rallying those who were disordered without abusive reproofs. He was an able and successful negotiator, and managed a variety of civil business, either singly or in concert, with great ease, despatch, and cleverness. In council he was never dictatorial, but could bear contradiction without anger; and by cool argumentation bring others over to his own opinion. His quick parts, retentive memory, and solid judgment, the result of much experience, supplied the defects of education; for it is a singular fact that Marlborough was extremely illiterate. Avarice has been imputed to him, and to indulge this ignoble propensity he was guilty of many acts of degrading speculation. His desertion of king James, who

had deserted himself, and been deserted by the most virtuous and intelligent in the nation, may be more easily justified than his subsequent intrigues with the abdicated monarch. These double practices doubtless originated in the duke's inherent selfishness, which induced him, in common with others, to look forward to a restoration as an event of probable occurrence. Marlborough left four daughters, married into families of distinction, but no male issue.

18. Earl Cadogan made master-general of the ordnance, &c.

The foundation stone of the new theatre at Cambridge, laid by Dr. Cross, the vice-chancellor.

His majesty signified to the Middlesex justices his approbation of their endeavours to suppress gaming-houses.

July 30. Captain Kelly committed to the Tower for high treason, by a committee of council.

Aug. 7. A proclamation offering a reward of 1000*l.* for apprehending John Sample, alias Semple, who had escaped out of the custody of a messenger, to whom he was committed for treason.

9. The funeral procession of the late duke of Marlborough was performed with the greatest solemnity and magnificence. About half an hour after twelve the procession began, and passed along the road through St. James's-park and the Upper-park to Hyde-park corner, thence through Piccadilly, down St. James's-street, through Pall-mall, and by Charing-cross, through King-street to Westminster-abbey. The body was deposited in a vault at the foot of Henry VII.'s tomb, the choir singing, "Man that is born of a woman!"

13. A proclamation offering a reward of 1000*l.* for apprehending Mr. Carte, a nonjuring clergyman, accused of high treason.

24. Dr. Atterbury, bishop of Rochester, after having been examined by a committee of the privy-council, was committed prisoner to the Tower for high treason.

28. His majesty set out from Kensington; and being joined in his way by the prince of Wales, who accompanied him in his progress, went to the duke of Bolton's seat at Hackwood, where he lay that night; on the 29th he came to Salisbury, and supped and lodged in the bishop's palace; the 30th he reviewed the forces encamped on the plain, and returned to Salisbury again in the evening; on the 31st he went to Portsmouth, and the same day to the earl of Scarborough's at Stanstead, where the king lay that night, and the next day, being the 1st of September, he returned to Kensington. In his progress he gave orders for the releasing of such criminals as he thought proper objects of clemency: also

for releasing, at his own expense, all prisoners for debt in the gaols of those towns through which he passed; and at Salisbury he gave between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* to release insolvent debtors, and for other pious and charitable uses.

Sept. 20. Christopher Layer, a young gentleman of the Temple, was committed to the Tower for high treason.

28. Charles earl of Orrery having been examined by a committee of the privy-council, was committed prisoner to the Tower for high treason.

29. Lord North and Grey, having been taken on the 25th in the Isle of Wight, was committed to the Tower.

The north-west provinces of Persia on the Caspian sea, revolted to the czar of Muscovy.

Oct. 9. The new parliament met and chose Spencer Compton for speaker. The elections had been carried on with great zeal, but the ministers having exerted themselves, a decided majority were whigs and friends of the existing administration.

11. The king informed parliament of the conspiracy formed in favour of the pretender. As soon as his majesty had withdrawn, the duke of Grafton proposed the suspending the habeas corpus act for a year, which occasioned warm debates, but it was carried.

14. Louis XV. crowned at Rheims.

24. The duke of Norfolk was apprehended on suspicion of being in the plot, and committed to the Tower.

26. A protest was entered in the house of peers against the commitment of the duke of Norfolk; for that it was one of the undoubted privileges of that house, that no member be imprisoned during the sitting of the parliament, until the cause of imprisonment be communicated to the house.

31. Christopher Layer, esq., being arraigned at the King's-bench bar, requested to have his irons taken off before he pleaded; he said he was so loaded, that they were extremely painful to him, and hoped they would order them to be taken off, that he might have the free use of his reason. The court answered, that as to his chains, it must be left to those to whom the custody of him had been committed, but when he came to his trial they should be taken off.

Nov. 16. A declaration of the pretender having been communicated to the lords in a royal message, it was resolved, that the paper communicated to them, intituled, *A declaration of James III., king of England, &c. to all his loving subjects of the three nations, and to all foreign princes and states, to serve as a foundation of a lasting peace, and signed James Rex,* was a false, insolent, and traitorous libel, full of arrogance and presumption, in supposing the pretender in a condition to offer terms to his majesty.

Resolved also, that the copy of the said declaration be burnt by the hangman: in which resolutions the commons agreed.

21. Christopher Layer found guilty of high treason, in having enlisted men for the pretender's service.

23. A bill brought in for raising 100,000*l.* on papists and popish recusants, which was opposed, as looking a little too much like persecution, but was carried by a great majority.

Dec. 13. Gang Hi, the emperor of China, died about this time; and was succeeded by Yong Tehing, which signifies lasting peace, the name he made choice of when he ascended the throne. He banished the jesuits and all other popish missionaries; and imprisoned his subjects that refused to renounce christianity. Before this reign there were near two hundred christian churches in China; and several of the jesuits were ministers and officers in the Chinese court. Their quarrelling with the missionaries of other orders, and endeavouring to render one another odious to the Chinese, contributed very much to their expulsion; but their insinuating that the Pope was superior to all earthly powers, gave the deepest offence.

1723. Jan. 28. Advice, that the governors of New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, had held a congress at Albany, with the Sachims, or kings of the Five Nations, in which all former leagues with the Indies were confirmed.

Upon a scheme framed by an English merchant, named Colebrook, the emperor granted letters patent for establishing an East India company at Ostend, in the Austrian Netherlands; whereupon the states general issued a placard, prohibiting their subjects, under severe penalties, to interest themselves in the Ostend East India trade. But, notwithstanding all the opposition they met from the English, French, and Dutch, they opened a subscription for their capital stock, which was filled in a few days, several English merchants becoming contributors.

A patent granted to William Wood, esq. for coining farthings and halfpence for Ireland; also halfpence and two-pences for the plantations in America.

Feb. 1. The commons resolved, that the scheme of a lottery to be carried on in London, and drawn in Hamburg, in the king's German dominions, was an infamous and fraudulent undertaking.

4. A proclamation promising a reward of 100*l.* for discovering persons hunting in disguise in the counties of Berks and Southampton, who had obtained the name of *Blacks*, and had occasioned the act for making it felony, without clergy, to hunt in disguise.

15. The commons resolved, that viscount Barrington, a member of that house, had been notoriously guilty of promoting the Hamburg lottery, and for which offence he be expelled the house.

25. DEATH OF WREN.—The celebrated architect, sir Christopher Wren, died in the 91st year of his age, and was buried under the choir of St. Paul's, with the well known inscription, *Lector, si monumentum requiris circumspice*. After the fire of London, he was constituted surveyor-general for rebuilding the cathedral of St. Paul's, the monument, fifty parochial churches, and other public buildings of that city; all which he lived to finish. In 1669, he was constituted surveyor-general of all the royal works; which office he held till the 26th of April, 1718, when he was displaced from mere party motives. In 1680, he was elected president of the royal society, of which he had been one of the first promoters. The genius of Wren was peculiarly adapted to ecclesiastical architecture, which afforded domes and towers to his picturesque fancy; while in his palaces and private dwellings he has occasionally sunk into a heavy monotony, as in the modern part of Hampton court, and the royal hunting seat at Winchester.

Mar. 8. The bishop of Rochester having written a letter to Mr. Morrice, his son-in-law, concerning his defence, it was taken away by force from him in the Tower, and the king ordered it to be laid before the commons, who referred it to the committee for examining Layer.

The commons passed resolutions implicating several peers and others in the plot.

11. George Kelly and the bishop of Rochester voted guilty of the conspiracy.

15. Dr. John Friend committed to the Tower for high treason.

About this time, the *Revolution*, one of the pretender's ships, having been seized at Genoa, by a captain of a British man-of-war, was brought to Portsmouth; and four persons, taken on board of her, were brought up to be examined concerning their knowledge of the plot.

Apr. 3. The bishop of Rochester sent to the speaker of the commons, intimating, he should make no defence before that house; whereupon they examined the witnesses, and passed the bill against him.

26. John Plunket, one of the conspirators, heard at the bar of the lords, having only a solicitor. The king's counsel offering to read Neynoe's confessions before a committee of council, Plunket opposed the reading of them, observing, that the examinations of a dead man, neither signed or sworn to by him, ought not to be admitted in evidence: but the question being put, whether the examinations of Philip Neynoe,

since dead, should be read, in proof of the conspiracy in general, it was carried, after a long debate, in the affirmative; but the lords who voted for the reading them, refused to insert the words, *not taken upon oath, or signed by him*, though this was admitted to be the fact generally. Next day, the bill of pains and penalties to be inflicted on Plunket, being read a third time, was passed; against which several lords protested.

30. Mr. Walpole admits having paid Neynoe 350*l.* for the information he had communicated to government.

May 6. The bishop of Rochester heard at the lords' bar, against the bill for inflicting pains and penalties on him, assisted by his counsel.

17. Mr. Layer executed at Tyburn.

25. Philip lord Stanhope, son of Philip earl of Chesterfield, appointed captain of the yeomen of the guard.

26. The duke of Norfolk and other accused persons admitted to bail.

27. Royal assent given to an act for laying a tax on the estates of papists and nonjurors. An act for inflicting pains and penalties on the bishop of Rochester. An act for the more effectual execution of justice in a pretended privileged place, called the Mint, in Southwark. Plunket and Kelly were adjudged to be imprisoned during his majesty's pleasure, and were imprisoned accordingly; but Kelly made his escape from thence to France.

Parliament prorogued.

A patent passed the seals for pardoning Henry St. John, viscount Bolingbroke: but though restored to his honours and estate, he continued excluded from his seat in the lords, Walpole dreading the effects of his eloquence and activity in opposition. This was very mortifying to St. John, who found his former coadjutors, lords Oxford and Harcourt, in full possession of their legislative privileges.

June 21. Dr. Atterbury, bishop of Rochester, landed at Calais. The bishop was a man of ability, but restless, aspiring, violent, contentious, of little judgment, and questionable political probity. His hopes of attaining the primacy being disappointed by the death of queen Anne, he engaged with all the fervour of party rage in the most violent measures of the opposition; and was at length instigated by passion and revenge to embark in a wild and ill-conducted conspiracy, which terminated in his banishment. Hearing that Bolingbroke, whom in many things he resembled, was at Calais, on his return to England, Atterbury said, "Then we are exchanged."

July 23. John Middleton stood in the pillory at Charing-cross, for perjury, in swearing treasonable practices against

innocent persons; and was so severely treated by the mob, that he was taken down dead. The coroner's inquest brought in their verdict, *accidentally strangled*.

Advice from Rhode Island, that at a court of admiralty held, twenty-five pirates, taken by captain Solgard, commander of the Greyhound man-of-war, were found guilty, and ordered to be executed.

Sept. 3. Mr. Richard Cromwell, an attorney of Clement's-inn, grandson to Oliver Cromwell, the Protector, married to a daughter of sir Robert Thornhill.

21. Wood's HALPENCE.—The commons of Ireland addressed the king against Mr. Wood's halfpence, representing that it would occasion a diminution of the revenue, the ruin of their trade, and impoverishment of the people; and that Wood would gain 150 per cent. by his patent. To this Wood replied, that the kingdom wanted copper coin for their manufacturers: that it was better copper than the kingdom ever had: that the kingdom would lose nothing by the coin, and that his gains were no more than three halfpence a pound. The subject was referred to the English privy-council. They justified the conduct of the patentees upon the report of sir Isaac Newton, who had made an assay of the copper. Notwithstanding this, the ferment of the Irish nation was industriously kept up by pamphlets and lampoons, written by Dean Swift and others; so that Wood voluntarily reduced his coinage, to the detriment of the people, from the value of 100,000*l.* to 40,000*l.* Mr. Wood was a great proprietor of iron and copper works.

Oct. 19. Sir Godfrey Kneller, the king's painter, died. He was succeeded by Thomas Jervis, esq.

Earl Cowper died, at his seat at Hertingfordbury, this month, with the reputation of a lawyer of ability and integrity. He was twice lord-chancellor, a wbig, and steady friend of religious liberty.

Dec. 2. Philip duke of Orleans, regent of France during the minority of Louis XV., died at Versailles, in the 50th year of his age. The prince possessed talents for government, and patriotic intentions, which were obscured by the love of pleasure, in which he indulged without restraint or decorum. His confidential minister was the able, but profligate, cardinal Dubois. The new regent, the duke of Bourbon, kept up the friendly relations with this country.

4. Seven persons executed under the *black act*, for hunting armed, and in disguise.

28. The king arrived from Hanover.

REGIUM DONUM.—The princess of Wales, at the instance of Mr. Burgess, her secretary, represented to the king the destitution of several widows of dissenting ministers; upon which, his majesty was induced to

make an annual grant of 500*l.* for their relief. This grant was afterwards augmented, and partly applied to the assistance of poor dissenting ministers. At this day the *regium donum* has become an annual parliamentary grant of considerable amount, to the poor dissenting clergy of England and Ireland.

FABLE OF THE BEES.—In this year was first printed Dr. Mandeville's "Fable of the Bees, or private vices made public benefits;" in which, by plausible sophistry, he endeavoured to show that the luxury which marks an advanced state of society and the vices which it engenders, is often the cause of national prosperity. The novelty of the author's views and the publicity given to his work by the circumstance of its being presented as of immoral tendency, by the grand jury of Middlesex (then a common practice), gave it considerable temporary celebrity. Consistently with the doctor's notions, he inveighed against the prevailing zeal for the establishment of charity schools; not, as would appear, because of their tending to injure the poor, but to abridge the enjoyments of the rich.

1724. Jan. 4. Philip V. of Spain retired to the monastery of St. Ildefonso.

6. The bishop of London preached a sermon against masquerades, which, with the representations of some other bishops, had such an effect, that orders were issued there should be no more masquerades than the six subscribed for at the beginning of this month.

9. Parliament met, when the lord-chancellor read a paper called the king's speech, congratulating them on the improvement in public credit, and the flourishing condition of commerce and manufactures. Indeed the present was a period of great national beatitude. No war abroad, the government firmly established at home, and industry thriving.

Protections from foreign ministers, peers, and members of parliament, which were grown quite a nuisance, were ordered to be cancelled.

The congress at Cambray opened the 26th, N. S. Two years had been spent in adjusting the preliminaries; neither Charles nor Philip, the late rivals for the Spanish throne, being willing to renounce the titular sovereignty of the countries which he had agreed to abandon.

Feb. 7. The court of King's-bench ordered a mandamus to the university of Cambridge, to restore Mr. Bentley, master of Trinity college, to his degrees, and whatever else he had been deprived of.

25. Pope Innocent XIII. died.

Mar. 16. A very warm debate in the lords, concerning the continuing the 4000 additional men raised last year; and it

being carried in the affirmative, seventy-seven to twenty-two, protests were entered by seventeen lords.

20. The king ordered, that the duty of preaching at the chapel, Whitehall, should be performed by twenty-four persons, fellows of colleges in the two universities, twelve out of each university, two of them for every month, to be recommended by the dean of the chapel; and that a salary of thirty pounds per annum be paid to each.

April 1. The ferment in Ireland on account of Wood's halfpence induced Walpole to recall the duke of Grafton, whom he styled "a fair-weather pilot," and to send over lord Carteret as viceroy. By this act too he removed a formidable rival from the cabinet. Carteret was succeeded as secretary of state by the duke of Newcastle, who was succeeded by Grafton as lord-chamberlain.

24. The king prorogues parliament.

An order of council was made for printing bibles and common-prayer-books on good paper; that the correctors of the press should be approved by the archbishop of Canterbury, and bishop of London; and that the price of the books should be printed on the title-page.

May 14. A severe edict published in France against the protestants.

16. The king sent a letter to each of the universities, declaring his intention of establishing professors of modern history; and that he would allow each 400*l.* per annum.

18. Cardinal Ursini elected pope.

21. Robert Harley, earl of Oxford, died in retirement, aged 63. Harley had played a conspicuous part in three reigns; in the first as a whig, in the second as a tory, and in the present as the object of a vindictive persecution. He had a taste for literature, was the patron of Pope and Swift, and left behind a valuable collection of MSS.

Mr. Francis Cawood was convicted of projecting a bubble in the year 1720, called the North-seas, fined and imprisoned during the king's pleasure.

Thomas Payne was convicted of four several libels against the government, in a paper called the *True Briton*, fined 100*l.* for each, imprisoned for a year, and to give security for his good behaviour during life.

June. Dr. Henry Sacheverel died, after bequeathing 500*l.* to Dr. Atterbury, late bishop of Rochester.

July 24. Mr. Wood's patent and his conduct justified by the privy-council; and the complaints of the Irish parliament on that subject proved to be groundless.

The council of the city of Edinburgh prohibit the walking in the streets with pistols or dirks; and also forbid all servants wearing broad-swords.

25. A violent persecution in France against the protestants, in pursuance of an edict of the king.

The South-sea company fit out twelve ships of 310 tons each, in order to revive the English whale fishery in Greenland.

Aug. 18. Mr. Samuel Harris appointed professor of modern history and languages by his majesty, in the university of Cambridge; and Mr. David Gregory, in the university of Oxford.

20. Louis I, king of Spain, dying of the small-pox in the eighth month of his reign, the abdicated monarch, his father, was prevailed upon to resume the cares of royalty. Continuing, however, devoted to monkish exercises of religion, the business of government devolved on the queen, a princess of intrigue and ambition. Philip declined to resume his royal functions till the queen had prevailed upon the papal nuncio to take upon himself all the guilt the king incurred by the violation of his vow of resignation.

Sept. 29. Brigadier Mackintosh was taken with his brother (by a messenger) in the Highlands; but the brigadier made his escape again, though a proclamation, offering a reward of 1000*l.* was issued for his apprehension.

Oct. 9. The Swedes invited the French refugees, and other mechanics, to set up manufactures in their country.

Nov. 7. A tumult having been raised at Thorn, in Poland, in July last, occasioned by a popish procession, the protestants, whom the government charged to be the authors of it, had the following sentence passed on them by the chancellor of Poland, namely, the president and vice-president of the town, for neglecting their duty, and thereby countenancing the tumult, were adjudged to be beheaded, and their estates confiscated. Fifteen more, for assaulting the jesuits' college, were condemned to a like punishment. Several others, for having profaned the image of the blessed Virgin, to have their right hands cut off, and afterwards to be quartered and burnt. A multitude of other protestants were fined and imprisoned, for being accessory to the tumult. The protestant magistrates were displaced, and their church taken from them. All the protestant powers in Europe interposed to get these sentences reversed, and threatened Poland with a war in case of refusal, but to little purpose.

12. Parliament met, when the lord-chancellor congratulated them on the continuance of national prosperity.

16. John Shepherd, a notorious felon, executed at Tyburn.

20. Ten thousand men voted for the sea service, for the year 1725.

23. Mr. Pelham, secretary at war,

moved, that the same number of land forces should be maintained in Great Britain, as in the preceding year, namely, 18,264 men. The opposition enlarged on the danger of a standing army in a time of peace, but the motion was carried by 206 to 69.

Dec. 5. Great disorders having been committed in Wapping, by persons sheltering themselves for debt there, a bill was brought in to remedy the same.

27. GUY, THE BOOKSELLER.—Thomas Guy, esq., formerly a bookseller of London, and afterwards member of parliament for Tamworth, died, in the 81st year of his age. He amassed a fortune of nearly half a million by the sale of bibles, by the purchase of seamen's prize tickets, and by speculating in South-sea stock. He spent 200,000*l.* in building and endowing the hospital which bears his name, in Southwark. He also erected alms-houses at Tamworth, and benefited Christ's-hospital, and other charities. 80,000*l.* was to be divided among all those who could prove any relationship to him. Guy's executors were soon after incorporated by act of parliament, for the better administration of the trusts of his will.

The custom duties had increased from 1,555,000*l.* in 1720, to 1,740,000*l.* in 1723.

1725. Jan. 4. Thomas Parker, earl of Macclesfield, lord-chancellor of England, being charged with selling the places of the masters in chancery for extravagant sums, and permitting the masters to embezzle the suitors' money, resigned the great seal. He was succeeded by sir Peter King, lord-chief-justice of the common pleas, created baron of Oakham, and originally a grocer in the west of England.

6. The term of twenty-five years for opening the holy gates of the four great churches, and for obtaining the indulgences of the universal jubilee, being expired, Benedict XIII. with great state, performed the ceremony with a golden hammer at Rome.

21. Howard, earl of Suffolk, committed to the Tower by the house of peers, for granting written protections, contrary to the standing order of that house.

Feb. 2. Peter I. emperor of Russia died, aged 53, and was succeeded by his empress Catherine. He was deservedly surnamed "the Great." Into Russia he not only transplanted the arts of war and peace, manufactures, commerce, and naval science, but he also made provision for the diffusion of literature, by founding schools, colleges, an observatory, a botanic garden, museum, and printing-office.

9. A message from his majesty to the commons, acquainting them that he had reason to apprehend the suitors in the court of chancery were in danger of losing considerable sums by the insufficiency of the

masters; and that he had ordered the reports laid before him to be communicated to the house.

13. IMPEACHMENT OF MACCLESFIELD.—Sir George Oxendon moved that the earl of Macclesfield be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors. The substance of the charges against the lord-chancellor was, that he had embezzled the estates of widows, orphans, and lunatics; that he had sold the offices of masters of chancery at an exorbitant price, leaving in their hands large sums of the suitors' money to enable them to comply with his exorbitant demands; and that in several instances he had made divers irregular orders. Mr. Pulteney moved as an amendment, that this affair might be left to the consideration of a committee. Sir William Wyndham asserted that in proceeding by way of impeachment upon reports from above, they would make a dangerous precedent, and seem to surrender one of their most valuable privileges, the inquest after state criminals. It was carried for the impeachment.

STATE OF MANNERS.—About this time was published a list of the numbers that had been prosecuted by the societies for reformation of manners, from the 1st of December, 1723, to the 1st of December, 1724, in the cities of London and Westminster, and places adjacent, namely,

For lewd and disorderly practices	1951
For keeping of bawdy-houses	29
For exercising trades on the Lord's day	600
Profane swearers	108
Drunkards	12
Common gamesters	21
For keeping gaming-houses	2

2723

The number of persons prosecuted by the societies in and near London, for 33 years past, amounted to 89,393

The number of books given away by them 400,000

Mar. 27. Duke of Devonshire declared lord president of the council, in the room of lord Carlton, deceased.

Apr. 5. The French king having determined to separate himself from the infants of Spain, to whom he had been betrothed very young, in order to take a wife that was marriageable, she was sent back to Spain. The Spanish court in retaliation sent back to France Mademoiselle de Beaujelois, daughter of the late regent, and affianced to Don Carlos, second son of his catholic majesty; and in its eagerness for revenge offered to adjust all its differences with Austria under the sole mediation of England. The rupture of these matrimonial engagements appears to have been the prox-

imate cause of the treaty of Vienna and the new diplomatic combinations soon after formed among the European powers.

His majesty sent a message to the commons, to desire them to enable him to pay his debts due on the civil-list, which amounted to 508,367*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, and had been contracted the last three years: this request was complied with after some warm debates.

Macclesfield put in his answer to the charges against him.

20. Royal assent given to an act for regulating elections within the city of London, and for preserving the peace, good order, and government of the said city.

A petition of Henry St. John, late viscount Bolingbroke, presented to the commons, praying, that the family estate might go according to his marriage settlement, notwithstanding his attainder; which occasioned some debate, but was carried in his favour, 231 to 113.

26. The commons sent up their replication to the earl of Macclesfield's answer to the lords; and it being moved that a day be appointed for the trial of the earl at the bar of the house, the same occasioned a debate, and afterwards a protest; many of the lords being of opinion he ought to be tried in Westminster-hall, in the most public manner; but it was carried for a trial at the bar of the house.

30. TREATY OF VIENNA.—A treaty of peace signed between the emperor of Germany and king of Spain, whereby they confirmed to each other such part of the Spanish dominions as they were respectively possessed of, and formed a defensive alliance. They also signed a treaty of commerce, that gave umbrage to the English and Dutch, which occasioned another treaty in opposition to it. They also signed a private treaty, in which it was suspected the emperor engaged to concur in employing force for restoring Gibraltar to Spain; to use means for placing the pretender on the British throne; and that his two daughters, the archduchesses, should be married to the infants of Spain. Spain guaranteed the pragmatic sanction, the first power in Europe that had done so.

May 3. A bill being brought up to the house of peers, for disarming the Highlanders, occasioned a protest there; for that the disorders mentioned in the preamble were not proved: too great a power was given to the lord-lieutenants and justices of the peace; and because the behaviour of the Highlanders had of late been inoffensive.

6. The earl of Macclesfield's trial began and lasted to the 26th. The charges were fully proved, and he was sentenced to pay a fine of 30,000*l.*

14. The king allowed 1000*l.* per annum,

to encourage the presbyterian itinerant preachers in Scotland.

27. The king revived the order of the bath, thirty-eight in number including the sovereign. Mr. Robert Walpole and Mr. Thomas Coke, of Norfolk, were in the number of knights of the bath.

31. The king, after expressing in warm terms his approval of their conduct, prorogued parliament.

June 15. *Jonathan Wild*, the infamous thief-catcher, who had for many years screened from justice such criminals as obeyed his orders, and hanged multitudes of others, received sentence of death at the Old Bailey, having been convicted of receiving stolen goods, and taking a reward of the owners for returning them without discovering the robbers. The 24th instant being appointed for his execution, he took a large quantity of laudanum the night before, but brought it up again, and lived to be hanged at Tyburn the next day, though he was pelted with stones, and almost killed before he got there.

24. A tumult happened at Glasgow on account of the malt-tax. Twenty persons were killed or wounded on the occasion by the firing of the military, commanded by captain Bushel; which so exasperated the citizens, that arming themselves, they drove the captain from the city, compelling him to take refuge in the castle of Dumbarton. Bushel was afterwards tried for murder and condemned, but pardoned.

27. The earl of Macclesfield was carried to the Tower.

July 1. Peter lord King, late lord-chief-justice, sworn lord-high-chancellor of Great Britain.

A patent passed the seals about this time, for erecting a college in the island of Bermudas, for the propagation of the gospel among the Indians in America.

3. The king embarked for Hanover.

7. A treaty of peace between the emperor and king of Spain is concluded at Vienna. This treaty, with the three others concluded in April and May last, was negotiated by M. de Ripperda, a native of Holland, who from the condition of a private gentleman had been advanced, after the fall of Alberoni, to the rank of a grandee and prime minister of Spain.

16. General Wade, and the lord-advocate, having imprisoned 17 men and boys, and four women, on account of the late tumult at Glasgow, apprehended also the lord-provost and other magistrates of the city, and sent them the next day under a strong guard of dragoons to Edinburgh.

19. At their arrival near Edinburgh they were met by a vast concourse of people of all degrees, who attended them to the prison door, the magistrates being in their

coaches. After a short confinement the government thought fit to release the magistrates without bringing them to a trial.

22. The earl of Macclesfield, having paid his fine of 30,000*l.*, was discharged from imprisonment in the Tower.

Aug. 25. The French king married at Fontainebleau to princess Mary Leczinski, daughter of Stanislaus, late king of Poland.

Sept. 3. HANOVER TREATY.—A treaty of alliance concluded at Hanover between the kings of England, France, and Prussia, to counteract the alliance of Vienna. Denmark soon after joined the Hanover allies, and Russia the Vienna confederates. Prussia next August seceded from her engagement, having some personal object with the emperor; and Sweden joined first one and then the other alliance. Europe was divided into two great confederacies, having England and France at the head of one, and Austria and Spain at the head of the other. No war, however, resulted, the pacific policy of Walpole, seconded by cardinal Fleury, the new French minister, preserved the peace of Europe.

21. The parliament of Ireland returned thanks to his majesty for vacating Mr. Wood's patent for coining halfpence and farthings.

24. The French crown appeared to be near two hundred millions sterling in debt about this time, to discharge which, heavy taxes, that intolerably oppressed the people, were imposed for twelve years.

About this time, eleven of the Glasgow rioters were tried and sentenced to death; but their punishment softened into transportation by the king.

Oct. 15. The Highlanders were disbanded by general Wade.

Nov. 14. The princess Sobieski, wife to the pretender, retired into a monastery.

30. Curil, the bookseller, tried at the King's-bench bar, and convicted of publishing obscene books, tending to the corruption and depravation of manners.

Dec. The French king, by arbitrarily raising and lowering the value of the coin, causes great distress and difficulty among his subjects.

4. An order of the court of chancery, for the masters of that court to lodge the money and effects of the suitors, in their hands, in the Bank of England.

ORATOR HENLEY.—About this time John Henley, a clergyman of the established church, and better known as Orator Henley, made his appearance, and continued for thirty-five years after to interest the town by his talents and eccentricities. Being disappointed in his views of church preferment, he opened a chapel or "oratory," as he termed it, in Newport market, where he gave lectures on theological topics on Sun-

days, and other subjects on Wednesdays in every week. He struck medals for admission tickets, with a rising star for the device, and the motto *Ad Summum*, and below *Inveniam viam aut faciam*. Novelty procured him a multitude of hearers, but he was too imprudent to gain any permanent advantage from his project. His professed object was to introduce a more primitive form of religious worship by the peaceable weapons of reason, free discussion, and universal charity, but he failed to establish a regular congregation.

1726. Jan. 3. The king landed at Rye in Sussex, after a tempestuous passage.

20. Parliament opened by the king.

Feb. 19. The commons presented an address to his majesty, the principal drift of which was to assure him, that they would stand by and assist him in defence of his German dominions, if they were attacked by the emperor. The address was opposed on the ground that a war for such an object was contrary to the Act of Settlement, which was the basis of the title of the present family to the crown. It was defended by Mr. Horace Walpole, brother of the minister, and great professor of diplomacy at this time, and who obtained the name of "balance-master," from a long dull speech he delivered on the balance of power in Europe. It was carried by 285 to 107; and an address of similar import agreed to in the lords.

MALT-TAX IN SCOTLAND.—About this time an address was presented to the king from the royal boroughs in Scotland; wherein they declared, that the malt-tax was a burden too heavy for their country to bear; that their poverty, want of coin, great decay of their trade, and bad quality of their grain, were melancholy truths, too certain, and universally known; and were so many proofs of their inability to support the weight of this new tax. That this burden rendered them incapable of carrying on the fishing-trade, and such other branches of commerce and manufacture as Scotland was proper for, whereby they had hoped to improve that part of his majesty's dominions, and render themselves more able to serve his majesty; and therefore desired his majesty would grant them some relief in this particular.

Mar. 2. Several petitions were presented to the commons on the same subject.

10. A child was born this day at Lyford in Berks, whose father's name was Benjamin Loder, which when six years old was five feet high, and his arms and legs proportionably large; he at that time could easily lift one hundred weight with one hand, and half a hundred with one finger.

11. A bill was brought in, empowering mi-

nisters to compound with Mr. Richard Hampden for a debt he owed the crown, amounting to 48,000*l.* This deficiency was occasioned by his speculating in the South-sea scheme. The king recommended Hampden's petition, and the house complied with its prayer, in consideration of his great-grandfather, the famous John Hampden, who made such a noble stand against the first Charles.

18. The commons resolved, that satisfaction be made to Daniel Campbell, esq. for the damages he sustained by the rioters at Glasgow, amounting to four thousand pounds and upwards.

24. His majesty sent a message to the commons, to desire he might be enabled to increase the number of seamen already voted for this year; and make good such engagements as the exigences of affairs may require. This occasioned a debate, and was compared to another message sent to the house in 1717, to enable his majesty to defend himself against Sweden, when the parliament granted him 250,000*l.*, but could never get any account of its application. However, an address was agreed to, by 270 to 89 voices, to assure his majesty they would effectually provide for, and make good, all his expenses and engagements for the defence of the kingdom. Sir Robert Walpole had discovered such an effective mode of managing the commons, that whatever measures ministers suggested were readily acceded to by large majorities.

April 7. The South-sea company sent twenty-four ships to fish for whales in Greenland.

20. His majesty having sent a message to the commons, desiring they would enable him to increase the number of seamen already voted, this occasioned a debate in the peers, and afterwards a protest; for that this house was not consulted, which had an equal right to advise his majesty, and because the appellation of *parliament* was given to the commons separately, which could only be applied in conjunction.

May 14. The duke de Ripperda, prime minister of Spain, falling under the displeasure of king Philip, took refuge in the house of Mr. Stanhope, the English ambassador at Madrid.

16. John Ward, of Hackney, esq., having been convicted of forging a deed, was expelled the house of commons.

17. The duke de Ripperda being taken out of the English ambassador's house by force, occasions a misunderstanding between the courts of Spain and England. Ripperda made his escape out of the tower of Segovia, and sought refuge in England, where he lived three years in great splendour. But not finding his wild schemes of revenge adopted by the British court, he

transferred his services to the emperor of Morocco; and embracing the Mahometan faith, rose to the rank of prime minister. After experiencing other vicissitudes of fortune, he expired at Tetuan, in 1737, professing himself a penitent Roman-catholic.

24. The supplies being granted, partly without specific appropriation, with every thing else the court thought fit to ask, parliament was prorogued.

June 3. Admiral Hoser having been sent to America, with a squadron of men-of-war, to prevent the Spanish galleons coming to Europe, arrived at Porto Bello; whereupon the galleons unloaded their treasure again.

7. King George sends a letter to the royal boroughs of Scotland, to put them in mind of improving their fisheries and manufactures, with the money granted them for that purpose, at the union.

10. A messenger having been sent to Madrid with a letter, under the privy-seal, from his majesty to the duke of Wharton, who had entered the service of the pretender, commanding the duke to return to England; his grace being in his coach when it was delivered to him, contemptuously threw it into the street without opening it: he soon after declared himself a Roman-catholic. The duke had left England with a ruined constitution and fortune, and after a brief and extraordinary career of profligacy and extravagance, he expired at a convent near Tarragona, in the thirty-second year of his age. Pope has sketched his character with judgment. His great weakness appears to have been an indiscriminate lust of praise—of the wise and foolish, the virtuous and the base.

15. King George having sent a letter to the czarina, by sir Charles Wager, admiral of the Baltic squadron, to demand the reason of her sea-armament; and suggesting that she was in a confederacy with the pretender; the empress, in her answer, jeered the king, and told him that his fleet in the Baltic had a tendency to disturb rather than preserve the peace of the north. Catherine wanted Sleswic, or an equivalent for the duke of Holstein; and, not obtaining it, she joined the Vienna alliance.

The imperialists prohibited the importation of the English woolleu manufactures into Sicily.

16. The French king discharged the duke of Bourbon from his post of prime minister, and took the reins of government into his own hands; but declared, that he would be assisted by the bishop of Frejus, (afterwards cardinal Fleury) in the administration. The king also declared, as to the favours he had to grant, he would be applied to in his own person: in a word, he would in every thing follow the example of

the late king, his great-grandfather, Louis XIV. Bourbon was sacrificed to the resentment of the court of Spain, who never forgave him sending back the infants. Upon the disgrace of this minister, the courts of France and Spain appeared to have been reconciled; and it is observable, that the British court fell out with Spain about this period, on account of the seizure of Ripperda in the house of the English ambassador.

Aug. 17. The Spaniards delivered a memorial to the English minister at Madrid, desiring to know his Britannic majesty's intentions in sending sir John Jennings with a squadron of men-of-war upon their coast.

20. The East-India company obtained a charter for incorporating their towns of Madrasapatan, Bombay, and Fort William, to be governed each of them by a mayor and aldermen, who are empowered to make by-laws, and exercise criminal as well as civil jurisdiction, except in cases of high treason.

21. A dreadful earthquake at Palermo in Sicily.

Nov. 2. DEATH OF THE QUEEN.—Sophia Dorothea, queen of Great Britain, died at the castle of Ahlen, in the electorate of Hanover. She was born in 1666, and married to the king, then elector of Hanover, in 1682; by whom she had issue George Augustus, afterwards George II., born the 30th of October, 1683, and Sophia Dorothea, born the 16th of March, 1687, and married to Frederic William, king of Prussia, in 1706. The unfortunate queen never shared the throne of her husband; George I. during the whole of his reign having kept his wife confined in a Hanoverian dungeon. His conduct is ascribed to jealousy of the count Königsmark, a Swedish nobleman, who was assassinated in the electoral palace, and who in his youth had known Sophia Dorothea in the court of Zell. There are two accounts of this mysterious affair, one by lord Orford, and the other, published last year, by Dr. Cramer. Lord Orford, who, from his near relationship to the minister Walpole, was well acquainted with the secret history of this and the following reign, gives in his "Reminiscences" the following narrative:—"George I., while electoral prince, had married his cousin, the princess Dorothea, only child of the duke of Zell; a match of convenience, to reunite the dominions of the family. Though she was very handsome, the prince, who was extremely amorous, had several mistresses; which provocation, and his absence in the army of the confederates, probably disposed the princess to indulge some degree of coquetry. At that moment arrived at Hanover the famous and beautiful count Königsmark, the charms of whose person

ought not to have obliterated the memory of his vile assassination of M. Thynne. His vanity, and the beauty of the electoral princess, and the neglect under which he found her, encouraged his presumption to make his addresses to her, not covertly; and she, though believed not to have transgressed her duty, did receive them too indiscreetly. The old elector, flamed at the insolence of so stigmatized a pretender, ordered him to quit his dominions next day. The princess, surrounded by women too closely connected with her husband, and consequently enemies of the lady they injured, was persuaded by them to suffer the count to kiss her hand before his abrupt departure; and he was actually introduced by them next morning into her bedchamber before she rose. From that moment he disappeared; nor was it known what became of him, till on the death of George I., on his son, the new king's first journey to Hanover, some alterations in the palace being ordered, the body of Königsmark was discovered under the floor of the electoral princess's dressing-room; the count probably having been strangled there the instant he left her, and his body secreted. The discovery was hushed up. George II. entrusted the secret to his wife, queen Caroline, who told it to my father: but the king was too tender of the honour of his mother to utter it to his mistress; nor did lady Suffolk ever hear of it till I informed her of it several years afterwards. The disappearance of the count made his murder suspected, and various reports of the discovery of his body have of late years been spread, but not with the authentic circumstances."—*Lord Orford's Works*, iv. 280-1. Dr. Cramer's narrative, in his "Memoirs of the countess Maria Aurora of Königsmark," published at Leipsic, in 1836, confirms the previous impression that the princess was innocent, but indiscreet in her acquaintance with Königsmark. The executive part of the tragedy appears to have been performed by the electoral prince himself and the *Hoff fourier* or *court-quarter-master*: they first poniarded, next cut off the count's head, secreting the body in "a vault." After this George separated from the electress, who for the remainder of her life was imprisoned, under the title of the duchess of Halle. Attempts were repeatedly made by the electoral family to effect a reunion betwixt her and her consort, all which she indignantly rejected. It is said (*For. Quart. Rev.* No. 37) that, after that consort had ascended the English throne, a similar proposal was made to the princess by some influential persons in this country, to which she replied, "If I am guilty, I am not worthy to be your queen; if I am innocent, your king is not worthy to be my husband."

1727. *Jan. 17.* Parliament opened with a long and elaborate speech, read by the lord-chancellor, informing them of the secret and offensive alliance concluded between the emperor and Spain; that the placing the pretender on the British throne was one of the secret articles of the treaty; that Russia had been concerned in the invasion, had not she been prevented by the British fleet in the Baltic; that the Spanish minister was recalled abruptly, and had left a memorial behind him little short of a declaration of war; that the king of Spain was actually assembling an army in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar, but the real intention was the invasion of England. The speech touched on all these points, which at this period were the stirring themes of popular excitement,—the balance of power in Europe, the security of British commerce, the designs of a popish pretender, the present happy establishment, the religion, liberties, and properties of a protestant people; and concluding with requesting liberal supplies, and that they might, as last year, be left at the disposition of the crown. The ministerial address, in answer to the speech, was carried in the commons by 251 to 81.

23. Twenty thousand men were voted for the sea service, and 41 a man per month for maintaining them. For the land service 26,383 men were voted, and 885,494*l.* for their maintenance. The total of land forces, including 10,000 men in Ireland and foreign garrisons, was about 40,000, exclusive of 12,000 Hessians in British pay.

27. Four shillings in the pound land-tax voted by the commons.

Feb. 6. A motion in the commons for papers, tending to show that a promise had been made to restore Gibraltar, is negatived by 204 to 99.

7. A motion that copies might be laid before the house of such memorials, or representations, from Denmark or Sweden, as induced his majesty to send a squadron of ships last year to the Baltic, at so great an expense, negatived by 196 to 79.

13. A subsidy voted to the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel.

14. The king, in answer to an address of the commons, informs them that it is impossible without detriment to the public service to communicate the particulars of the expenditure of a sum of 125,000*l.*, which is charged in the public accounts as expended for securing the trade of the kingdom, and preserving the peace of Europe. In consequence of the unlimited votes of credit passed by the commons in 1726 and 1727, it appears that the sum of 435,000*l.* was expended during these two years in *secret services*.

15. Ferdinand Farnese, duke of Parma,

died, and was succeeded by his brother Don Antonio Farnese.

22. The Spaniards, having invested Gibraltar, opened the trenches before it this day.

Advice came to England that admiral Hosier had been obliged to retire from Porto-Bello to Jamaica with his squadron, on account of the great mortality among the seamen; but intended to put to sea again when he had remanned his ships. The orders of this brave officer were so restrictive and equivocal that he was deprived of all liberty of action. He died of a broken heart, or fell, with most of his men, the victim of a destructive climata. The ships also were said to be ruined by the worms, and loud complaints were made in England of the waste of men and lives in this disastrous expedition. Smollett says it was "a mean piratical scheme to rob the court of Spain of its expected treasure, even while a peace subsisted between the two countries."

The office of registrar of the Court of Chancery granted to Charles duke of St. Alban's for three lives.

25. The Swedes accede to the treaty of Hanover, and have a subsidy granted them of 50,000*l.* per annum.

Mar. 4. Part of the flotilla arrived at Cadiz with eight millions of pieces of eight on board; and, a few days after, the rest of the flotilla arrived in the ports of Spain with ten millions more.

M. de Palm, the emperor's resident, ordered to depart the kingdom, having two days before presented in Latin a memorial to his majesty, wherein he tells him that in his speech at the opening of the parliament he had declared several things as undoubted truths, some of which were strained to a wrong sense, some very distant from the emperor's intentions, and others absolutely void of all foundation; principally, that imaginary alliance which in the speech is called offensive. And as to the secret article, said to be made in favour of the pretender, his imperial majesty affirms that there exists no secret article or convention whatever, which contains, or can tend to prove, the least title of that assertion.

Expresses were sent from the court of Spain to all the seaports of that kingdom to seize the effects of the British subjects residing in Spain.

11. The equestrian statue of king George in Grosvenor-square very much defaced, and a libel left at the place.

20. DEATH OF NEWTON.—Sir Isaac Newton, master of the Mint, president of the Royal Society, and one of the most celebrated philosophers and mathematicians in Europe, died, being 85 years of age. Sir Isaac had been master of the Mint since the year 1699, and it was prior to this ap-

pointment that he made those wonderful discoveries in optics, fluxions, and the laws of the universe, which have immortalised his name. He left an estate of 32,000*l.*, which, as he died intestate, became the property of his legal heirs, the descendants of his sister Mrs. Conduit, having himself led a life of celibacy. Flamsteed's "Memoirs and Papers," and some other publications, have recently thrown a new light on the personal history and character of this great master of the exact sciences. Newton appears at one time to have laboured under an aberration of intellect, and he did not always preserve that equanimity of mind, and absence of literary jealousy, which have been commonly imputed to him.

23. John Conduit, esq., member of parliament for Whitchurch, appointed master of the mint.

28. A complaint made that several post letters, directed to members of parliament, had been intercepted, and taken out of the boxes appointed for the same at the door of the house.

Letters of reprisals granted against the Spaniards.

The body of Sir Isaac Newton lay in state in the Jerusalem-chamber, and was buried from thence in Westminster-abbey.

Apr. 7. Chavigny, the French minister, at the general diet at Ratisbon presented a declaration to the diet, importing, That the preparations which were making in France were only for the preservation of peace, and not to invade the territories of Germany; that the report, as if the king of France's ambassador at the Porte had solicited the Turks to come to resolutions against the peace of the empire, was a calumny. The imperial commissioners at the diet were highly offended at this declaration, and published, a few days after, an imperial decree, full of invectives against the steps taken by the courts of Great Britain and France; particularly against his Britannic majesty's speech to his parliament. Isaac le Heup, the British minister at Ratisbon, delivered the next day to the diet a declaration of the same import as Chavigny's, which raised a great ferment among the imperialists.

David Collier, earl of Portmore, governor of Gibraltar, arrived at that place with reinforcements, that raised the garrison to 6000 men, so that this place had nothing to fear from the attempts of the Spaniards.

12. Warm debates in the commons on the vote of credit and non-appropriation of the supplies. The same subject caused a high debate and strong protest in the lords on the 17th and 18th instant. But ministers, with their large majorities, carried every measure they wished.

16. A treaty of alliance between Den-

mark, Great Britain, and France signed at Copenhagen.

28. Sir John Norris sailed with a squadron of men-of-war for the Baltic.

May 6. Catherine I., empress of Russia, died of drinking tokay, in the 39th year of her age, and was succeeded by Peter, grandson of Peter the Great, born the 22nd of October, 1715. Catherine, who was the daughter of a peasant, was married to Peter I. in 1712; and such was her influence over him, that in 1724 he raised her to the imperial rank. Her government was chiefly directed by prince Menzikoff, whose mistress she was when the emperor saw and became enamoured of her youth and beauty.

15. The king prorogues parliament after acknowledging their zeal, liberality, and despatch.

20. **PEACE OF PARIS.**—Notwithstanding the new alliances formed, mutual recriminations and preparations for war, the preliminary articles for a general pacification were signed at Paris, by the ministers of the emperor, the king of Great Britain, the French king, and the States-general. This happy termination of existing differences was chiefly effected by the mediatorial interposition of the king of France, and the aversion of the powers at variance to a war that might again embroil Europe. By the preliminaries, the emperor agreed that all commerce from the Austrian Netherlands to the East Indies shall be suspended for seven years. That all privileges of commerce which the English and French nations, and the subjects of the States-general have heretofore, by virtue of treaties, enjoyed, as well in Europe as in the Indies, shall be restored to that usage and regulation as was stipulated with each of them by treaties antecedent to the year 1725. A cessation of hostilities was agreed to, and it was settled that a congress should be formed at Aix-la-Chapelle, where the rights of the contracting powers were to be determined.

May 25. The young czar of Muscovy was espoused to the princess Mary, eldest daughter of prince Menzikoff, his prime-minister; at which the council of regency were so incensed that they prevailed on the czar to banish Menzikoff and his daughter to Siberia.

June 3. There being a prospect of general peace, and the king not having for two years visited Germany, he embarked at Greenwich for that purpose.

10. **DEATH OF THE KING.**—The king landed at Vaert in Holland on the 7th instant, and proceeded from thence to Utrecht by land, being attended by the Dutch guards through the territories of the States. He arrived at Delden on Friday the 9th in-

stant, about 11 o'clock at night, in all appearance in perfect health. He ate his supper, and, among other things, part of a melon. Setting out about three the next morning, he had not travelled two hours before he felt some griping pains, and being come to Linden, where his dinner was provided, could eat nothing. He was let blood, and had such remedies as were thought proper given him. Being desirous to reach Hanover, he bid his people drive on with all speed; and falling into a lethargic paralysis, he said to a gentleman in the carriage, "*C'est fait de moi.*" At 10 at night he arrived at the palace of his brother, the duke of York, at Osnaburg; but his lethargy increasing, he expired about midnight. George I. was in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and reigned over Great Britain twelve years, ten months, and ten days. The king was of middle stature, plain in his dress and manner. His issue and marriage with Sophia Dorothea have been mentioned, on the death of that princess in the preceding November.

COURT OF GEORGE I.

Courts are seldom exemplary for moral purity, but the licentiousness of that of England was aggravated by the dissoluteness of German manners imported in the train of George I. But the new irregularities differed from those prevalent in the reign of Charles II. They were less open and riotous—they were not paraded at fairs and races, in the playhouses and at taverns, but kept within the precincts of the palace. This may have been an accidental circumstance, originating in the advanced age and retired habits of the king, who generally tried to avoid the gaze of his subjects; so that if he went to the opera, it was in a sedan-chair, and when he got there, took refuge in the box of the maids of honour, seated behind one of his mistresses. In consequence the concubinage of this reign was not greatly corruptive by public obtrusion, and appears to have given little offence to the community. It is probable, indeed, that only vague rumours had reached the people of the situation of the unhappy queen Dorothea, of the fatal catastrophe by which it was preceded, and of the courtézans who followed the king from Hanover. The secret history of every age is mostly reserved for the next generation; and it is only in the Works of lord Orford, and the Letters of lady Mary Wortley Montagu, and other posterior publications, that we find unrolled the scandalous chronicle of the court of St. James's.

George I. was accompanied to England by three ministers and as many favourite ladies. His ministers were Bothmar, who

had been the king's agent in England in queen Anne's reign—Berrstorff, who was opposed to the acceptance of the crown, and jealous of the superiority of England—and Robotun, who had been private secretary to William III. His mistresses were mademoiselle Schulenberg, madame Kilmansegg and the countess Platen.

Madlle. Schulenberg, created duchess of Kendal, was about the king's age, and had "lived in that figure" at Hanover forty years, without meddling with the affairs of the electorate, content with the small pension he allowed her and the "honor of his visit when he had nothing else to do, which happened very often." She was lodged in St. James's palace, and said to be united to the king by a left-handed marriage—a kind of transaction which is marriage in the church and concubinage in law. This lady seems to have been a sort of housekeeper to the king; presiding over his evening parties, consisting of the Germans who formed his familiar society, a few English ladies, and fewer Englishmen.

Madame Kilmansegg was passed forty, and is described by lady Mary as "both luxurious and generous, devoted to her pleasures, and seemed to have taken lord Rochester's resolution of avoiding all sorts of self-denial. She had a greater vivacity in conversation than ever I knew in a German of either sex. She loved reading, and had a taste of all polite learning. Her humour was easy and sociable. Her constitution inclined her to gallantry."* But the "best-beloved mistress of the king," according to the same authority, "was the beautiful countess of Platen," created countess of Darlington. She had a daughter, Lady Howe, by the king, decorously called her "niece." Mr. Secretary Craggs, the friend of Pope, was the reputed gallant of the countess. His father had been footman to lady Mary Mordaunt, and confidential agent of the duke of Marlborough in his amours and money affairs. Both the Craggs were speculators in South-sea stock, as well as the duchess of Kendal and her nieces, as will be seen by reference to the Occurrences (ante p. 365). Neither of the Craggs long survived the disappointment and exposure of the South-sea affair. It is of young Craggs, who seems to have been both amiable and athletic, that lady Mary relates the ludicrous adventure of being carried up stairs "like a sack of wheat," and left breathless in the royal presence.

The amorous liaisons of George I. were very numerous: besides those mentioned, lord Orford states that he was about forming a new connexion with Miss Brett, when he was carried off by an apoplectic stroke.

* Lord Wharnclyffe's Letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, l. 110.

Not living with the queen, his court naturally became the resort of the prominent licentiousness of his own and former reigns. It is related of the witty lady Dorchester (Orford's Works, iv. 316), the mistress of James II., that happening to meet the duchess of Portsmouth and lady Orkney at the drawing-room of George I., she exclaimed "God! who could have thought that we three w— should have met here?" Lady Orkney was the favourite mistress of king William, and Dean Swift says "the wisest woman he ever knew."

It was hardly possible that the occurrences of this reign would be intelligible without a brief advertence to its secret history. The mistresses of princes have often more influence on public measures than their wives. Lord Halifax is described as seeking the treasurer's staff by furnishing madame Kilmansegg with "money and a lover,"—Paul Methuen, a young and handsome lord of the treasury*. Such practices and the conduct of George I. require to be judged by a moral standard different from the present. The courts of the Continent were at this period places of gross debauchery and atrocious crimes. The treatment of queen Dorothea, and the tragical end of count Königsmark, himself an assassin, tolerated in the electoral court, are occurrences strangely repulsive to modern notions. All Europe would shudder at such a judicial sacrifice as that ascribed to Peter the Great. Christina of Sweden ordered the murder of her secretary in the palace of Fontainebleau, without the French authorities taking any cognizance of the affair, though of public notoriety, or the ex-queen being expelled from France. In England such crimes could not have been perpetrated with impunity. Still, though fast-days and thanksgiving days were much more in vogue than at present, manners were more openly indecorous and licentious. Most men of letters either had kept mistresses, or lived on terms of intimacy with those of others. Pope and Martha Blount have always been suspected, and it is well known he was audacious enough to make a "declaration" to lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Congreve was understood to have been the gallant of Henrietta, duchess of Marlborough, who was vain of the connexion. Prior, who made himself generally agreeable, has been reproached with spending his nights with "a poor little alehouse-keeper's wife." Dean Swift's amours were disgusting, being both selfish and sensual.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

1 Geo. I., stat. 2, c. 5. For preventing
* Lord Wharnccliffe's Letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, l. 116.

tumults and riotous assemblies, and the more effectual punishing of rioters.

C. 6. To restrain waggons, carriers and others from drawing any carriage with more than four horses in length.

C. 14. Militia act; and for obliging an annual account to be made of trophy money.

C. 18. For preventing fresh fish taken by foreigners from being imported; for the preservation of the fry of fish; for allowing the import of lobsters and turbot in foreign bottoms; and for the preservation of salmon in England.

C. 20. For discouraging disaffection in Scotland.

C. 38. *Septennial Act*; for repealing the triennial provision of 6 and 7 W. and M. c. 2, s. 3, and enabling parliaments to sit seven years.

C. 48. To encourage the planting of timber-trees, and prevent the burning of woods.

C. 55. Obliging papists to register their names and real estates.

C. 56. Disabling any person from being chosen a member or sitting in the house of commons who has a pension for any number of years from the crown.

3 Geo. I., c. 10. For better levying the tenths of the clergy.

C. 15. For better regulating the office of sheriff, and ascertaining their fees.

C. 21. Allowing the export of Irish linen to the plantations.

4 Geo. I., c. 11. For punishing burglary and robbery, and exporters of wool.

C. 1. *Private Act*; enabling George Bubb, esq., (afterwards lord Melcomb, the author of the Diary,) to change his surname to Dodington.

5 Geo. I., c. 4. For strengthening the Protestant interest.

C. 27. To prevent the seducing of artificers.

6 Geo. I., c. 5. For better securing the dependency of Ireland on the crown of England.

7 Geo. I., c. 7. To encourage the woollen and silk manufactures, and for more effectually employing the poor by prohibiting the use of all printed, painted, or stained calicos in apparel, household stuff, or furniture.

C. 12. For employing the manufacturers, and encouraging the consumption of raw silk and mohair yarn, by prohibiting the wearing of buttons and button-holes made of cloth, serge, or other stuffs.

8 Geo. I., c. 16. For taking off the duty on salt used in the curing of white herrings.

9 Geo. I., c. 7. For amending the laws relative to the settlement, employment and relief of the poor.

C. 28. For abolishing the privileges of the Mint in Southwark.

10 Geo. I., c. 17. For preventing theft and rapine on the northern borders of England.

11 Geo. I., c. 24. For regulating the manufacture of cloth in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

C. 28. For regulating buildings, and preventing mischief by fire in the metropolis.

12 Geo. I., c. 12. Regulating the sale of beer in the metropolis.

13 Geo. I., c. 23. For preventing disputes respecting wages in the woollen manufacture, and limiting time of prosecutions when wages are paid otherwise than in money.

C. 24. For preventing frauds in the dyeing trade.

TAXES, REVENUE, AND DEBT.

Some financial events occurred in this reign deserving of notice. By the annual land-tax bill the estates of papists and nonjurors were taxed double. But not satisfied with imposing that burthen, the parliament, in 1722, laid the additional sum of 100,000*l.* upon their real and personal property, and to prevent evasion, specific sums were assessed upon each county and upon some of the cities of the kingdom. The tax notwithstanding produced only 96,000*l.*

The prodigality of ministers in the management of the civil-list revenue was such that a great debt accumulated. In order to procure some assistance for discharging it without imposing any new aid for that purpose, two companies, called the Royal Exchange and London Assurance companies, were established, each of which agreed to pay 300,000*l.*, for the use of the king. This was subsequently reduced to 150,000*l.* each.

The customs, excise, and stamps increased, but not materially, during this tranquil period. At the time of the king's death, the public revenue produced, on a medium of four years, as follows:—

	£.
Customs	1,530,361
Excise	1,927,354
Stamps	132,665
Duty on houses and windows	131,011
Hackney coaches and chairs	9,523
Hawkers and pedlars	8,055
6 <i>d.</i> per pound on places and pensions	31,524
First-fruits and tenths	16,437
Post-office	75,545
Salt duty	185,505
Small branches of the civil-list revenues	55,892
Taxes under the name of the general fund	58,755
Total appropriated revenue	£4,162,627

	£.
Brought forward	4,162,627
Land-tax at 4 <i>s.</i>	2,000,000
Malt, 6 <i>d.</i> per bushel	750,000
Total	£6,912,627

Exclusive of 150,000*l.* for deficiencies in the malt and land-tax in 1726.

A financial operation was carried into effect in 1716, which reduced the interest of the public debt. All those taxes which had from time to time been granted for the payment of various annuities were at once made perpetual, and directed to be paid into three great funds. The interest of the public debt was reduced from six per cent. to five. And whatever surpluses might remain after paying the reduced interest were ordered to be thrown into a fourth fund, called the *sinking fund*, because it was designed to pay off the principal and interest of such debt as had been contracted prior to 1716.

By this operation the interest was reduced, while the capital of the debt remained at nearly the same amount as at the accession of George I. The following is a statement of principal and interest on the 31st of December, 1714 and 1727:—

	PRINCIPAL.	INTEREST.
1714—	£53,681,076	£2,811,904
1727—	£52,092,235	£2,363,564

COMMERCE AND SHIPPING.

The foreign disputes of George I.'s reign were short and unexpensive, and little interrupted the progress of commerce. Capital appears to have been adequate to the wants of trade, as the mercantile rate of interest fell to three per cent., and government seldom borrowed at more than four. Several impolitic restraints on the export trade of the country were abolished. The free export of British-made linen was allowed in 1717; and four years after, an act was passed abolishing all custom duties on the exportation of any goods or merchandise of the produce or manufacture of Great Britain, except on alum, lead, tin, coals, and some other articles of less importance; while all sorts of drugs and foreign articles used in dyeing were admitted duty free.

Of domestic manufactures those of iron, brass, and copper, were considered the third in extent, and *said* (Chalmers' Estimate, 107) to employ 230,000 persons. The silk manufacture, which had received a powerful impulse from the immigration of French protestants, continued to prosper. In 1719 the first mill for throwing silk was erected at Derby, by Sir Thomas Lombe, and three years after the annual value of this manu-

facture was raised to 700,000*l.* Lombe, who had become acquainted with his machinery in Italy, received a parliamentary reward of 14,000*l.* for the public service he had rendered by its introduction into this country.

The year 1720 is memorable for the South Sea scheme, by which the nation was diverted from the regular pursuits of industry to projects of every imaginable description. As the rise, progress and termination of this national infatuation have been detailed in the Occurrences, further notice of it is unnecessary. It was the first of those monetary crises which subsequent events will show to be of almost periodical occurrence, and though extremely disastrous in their consequences, never impose any lasting check on speculative avidity.

There was no material increase in mercantile shipping. Mr. Chalmers gives the average tonnage of the vessels that cleared outwards in the three first and three last years of the reign of George I. From 1713-15, the average amount of tonnage of English ships outwards was 421,431; of foreign 26,573: value of cargoes 7,696,575*l.* From 1726-28, the average was 432,852 tons, English, and 23,651 tons foreign; value of cargoes, 7,891,739*l.*

MEMEN OF LETTERS.

Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun, an able political writer and Scots patriot, 1653-1716. Tracts and some of his speeches are published, in one volume octavo, entitled "The Political Works of Andrew Fletcher, esq." He had been a pupil of bishop Burnet, and as a mode of providing for the vagrant poor of Scotland, recommended the adoption of a system of predial slavery; a scheme which, probably, originated in his too classical admiration of the freedom of the ancient republics.

Robert South, celebrated for his "Sermons," 11 vols. 8vo., and his controversy with Dr. Sherlock on the Trinity; 1633-1716.

Simon Ockley, an eminent Orientalist, 1678-1720. "The History of the Saracens," 2 vols. 8vo.; "Life of Hai Ebdn Yorkdan;" "Introductio ad Linguas Orientales."

Thomas Parnell, essayist and author of "The Hermit;" 1679-1717.

George Farquhar, a clever dramatic writer, 1678-1707. "The Beaux Stratagem," &c.

Matthew Prior, poet, and political writer, 1664-1721.

Joseph Addison, a popular, but rather declining name in English literature, 1672-1719. "The Spectator;" "Cato; Defence of the Christian Religion;" "The Freeholder;" "Dialogues on Medals."

Nicholas Rowe, eminent dramatist and

poet, 1673-1718. "Tamerlane;" "Jane Shore;" "Lucan's Pharsalia."

Sir John Vanbrugh, architect and successful dramatist, 1672-1726. "The Provoked Wife;" "The Confederacy."

Dr. Gilbert Burnet, a celebrated English prelate and writer, 1643-1715. "History of the Reformation in England;" "History of his Own Times," first published by his son; "Life and Death of the Earl of Rochester;" "Exposition of the thirty-nine Articles."

Sir Isaac Newton, the most celebrated of natural philosophers, 1642-1719. "Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia," 1683; "Arithmetica Universalis," 1707. These were preceded by valuable papers in the Philosophical Transactions, communicating the most important discoveries in optics, fluxions, &c. A complete edition of sir Isaac Newton's works was published by Dr. Horsley, Lond. 1779, 5 vols. 4to. Sir Isaac left behind him an immense mass of unpublished manuscripts relative to chronology, church history, &c., which after his death were examined by a committee of the royal society; but none were thought worth printing except his "Observations upon the prophecies of Daniel and the Apocalypse."

John Flamsteed, a celebrated practical astronomer, to whose elaborate tables sir Isaac Newton was much indebted; 1646-1719. "On the true and apparent Diameters of all the Planets," 1673; "Ephemerides," 1674; "Historia Cœlestis Britannica," a posthumous work, 3 vols. folio.

STATE OF THE POOR.

The distress occasioned by a succession of bad seasons, the decay of trade, and the impoverishing wars of William III. and queen Anne, attracted attention to the destitute state of the poor. In 1697 the celebrated John Locke, in his capacity of one of the commissioners of the board of trade, drew up a report on the state of the poor, in which he expressed an opinion that one half of those who receive parish aid are able to get their livelihood. He recommended a stricter enforcing of the vagrant laws, and the establishing of working schools for the employing of those who are able, but unwilling to labour.

The year 1698 was signalled by the establishment of Charity Schools for the instruction of children who could not otherwise obtain the benefits of education. They originated in the benevolence of a few individuals in London, and speedily became great favourites with the community. Besides instructing children in reading, writing, and ciphering, they also clothed them; apprenticed the boys to trades, and prepared the girls for domestic service. The trustees

of charity schools formed themselves into a voluntary association in 1700, and formed rules for their better regulation.

In 1704 the celebrated Daniel Defoe published an address to parliament, entitled "Giving alms no charity," in which he lays down the following positions:—There is in England more labour than hands to perform it; and, consequently, a want of people, not of employment. 2. No man of sound limbs and senses can be poor, merely for want of work. 3. All workhouses, corporations, and charities for employing the poor, and setting them to work, are public nuisances which *increase the poor*. That there is abundance of employment, he proves by the difficulty of enlisting men for the army. He considers the improvidence of the poor a principal cause of their wretchedness. "We are," says he, "the most *lazy diligent* people in the world: there is nothing more frequent than for an Englishman to work till he has got his pocket full of money, and then go and be idle or perhaps drunk till it is all gone." Defoe's observations on the tendency of employing the poor in workhouses, being to lessen employment out of them, appear unanswerable, and have formed the staple of all the arguments subsequently employed on the same subject. It is, however, justly observed by Mr. Ruggles, that, although Defoe pretends that he could propose a regulation of the poor which would put a stop to poverty, beggary, parish assessments, and the like; he waves the performance of his promise, for this very inadequate reason; because he will not "presume to lead a body so august, so wise, and so capable, as the honourable house of commons," to whom his treatise is addressed.

Only one statute of importance, affecting the poor, was passed in the reign of George I. To check the facility with which justices had granted orders for parochial relief, the 9th Geo. I. c. 7 enacts, that no person shall be relieved, till oath be made before

a justice, of reasonable cause, and till the applicant has applied to a vestry, or two overseers, and been refused relief, and the justice has summoned the overseers to show cause why such relief was not given. It also provides that the parish officers, with the consent of the major part of the parishioners, may purchase or hire any house in the parish, and contract with persons for the *lodging, employing, and keeping* of poor persons. Many parishes immediately availed themselves of the power to farm out their poor, granted by the act.

Immediately after the introduction of the workhouse system, such was the aversion of the poor to the confinement and employment it subjected them to, that the number of claimants for parish aid was, in most places, reduced a half. Besides reducing the number of paupers, the workhouses appear *at first* to have maintained them at a much lower rate than they could be supported by weekly pensions at their own houses. Before the erection of a workhouse at Hampstead, in the year 1727, the poor received from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. each person, in out-pensions; in the house they cost about two shillings a week each person. Of the usual expense of maintaining a pauper in the reign of George I. an estimate may be formed from the following particulars:

At Hanslope, in Buckinghamshire, in 1724, the average cost of the diet, lodging, and maintenance of each person in the workhouse was 1s. 6d. weekly.

At Westham, in Essex, the average maintenance of each person for a year in the workhouse was five pounds.

The diet in Stroud Workhouse cost 1s. 8½d. a week each person.

In St. George's, Hanover-square, in 1730, 154 poor were lodged and dieted four weeks for 55l. 1s. 7d., or nearly 1s. 9¾d. weekly for each.

In St. Giles's, Bloomsbury, the diet of a pauper in 1727 cost 1s. 7¾d. a week.

GEORGE II. A.D. 1727 TO 1760.

THE introduction to the reign of George I. would in its chief features apply to his successor. Both princes were foreigners by birth, language, habits, and sentiments. In their personal qualities, in honesty and tenacity of purpose, in a love of justice and aversion to tyrannic violence, in parsimoniousness of disposition, in subserviency to factious and venal ministers, in German predilections, in busy meddling with and championship of neighbouring states, there are between them no points of contrast. It is only therefore the events and occurrences of this reign, not the character of the prince, that call for specific delineation. Individually the king

was a *yeoman*, choleric and sturdy, illiterate and tasteless, of narrow and inveterate prejudices, without any prominent excellence or defect in intellect or manners to remove him from the ordinary level of humanity; and it is the adventitious circumstance of being the sovereign of three kingdoms that renders him an historical personage.

In the comparatively tranquil period of half a century the country gradually recovered from the exhausting wars of king William and queen Anne. Of the thirty-three years of the present reign only thirteen were years of war, the remainder of peace and prosperity; and the hostilities which twice interrupted the progress of the community neither seemed to originate in any imperative claim of national honour or advantage.

The *first* war of George II. began with Spain in 1739; it continued with that power singly during four years, and then became a continental war of more general hostilities, and was concluded by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748. This war was without adequate cause. Ostensibly the protection of British commerce, and the vindication of the national honour insulted by the *guarda-costas* of Spain, were the pretexts for hostilities. But these differences might have been amicably adjusted, had not the turbulent spirit of the people, satiated by the enjoyments of a long peace, been inflamed by the artifices of a parliamentary opposition, who saw in the advent of war the downfall of the pacific administration of Sir Robert Walpole. Such was the clamour raised on the alleged outrages perpetrated by the Spaniards on our ships and seamen that the minister, contrary to his better judgment, was precipitated into hostilities; and as the war was hastily begun it was ingloriously concluded. Our Debt was considerably augmented, but except crippling the navy of France, and supporting the succession of Maria Theresa to the imperial throne, no object was gained. Even the right of search, which was the chief, if not the only ground of the contest with Spain, was conceded to that kingdom, or at least not mentioned at the peace.

It ought however to be recorded to the credit of the country that we adhered to the Pragmatic Sanction, and were the only European power that had the good faith to observe that famous German edict. Prussia unfairly attacked the young queen, and in utter disregard of their engagements with her father the emperor Charles VI., France, Spain, Sardinia and Bavaria, joined in the confederacy. It was an instructive instance of the inutility of those treaties of guarantee, in which so much diplomacy is often wasted to bind nations contrary to their passions or their interests.

The *next* was a colonial war. It began in 1755, about the respective boundaries of France and England in America, and was protracted into the next reign. Though frivolous in origin, and disastrous in its early progress, it terminated triumphantly. Canada was conquered from the French and annexed to England; their settlements in Africa and Asia destroyed; and the foundation of a vast empire laid in the East by the courage of Clive, Watson, Pococke, Lawrence, Coote, and other able and enterprising British officers. It was only in this contest England discovered her strength. Under the prudent ministry of Walpole her resources during a lengthened peace had been steadily accumulating, and now that they were directed by the energies of the first William Pitt her might was felt in every corner of the globe. Still she could not boast of continental victories; neither in this nor the former war. At Fontenoy her honour was saved but the battle lost. The French, when again opposed to the duke of Cumberland twelve years after, did not repeat the error which saved the English monarch at Dettingen. By superior generalship they compelled his Highness to conclude the ignominious

convention of Cloister Seven; the disgrace of which Pitt tried to retrieve by a breach of faith in evading the terms of the capitulation. Our ally, the king of Prussia, after the most extraordinary vicissitudes of fortune, was driven from his capital and all but annihilated at the close of the present reign.

The relations of George II. with this prince were singular. In the former war he was our enemy, the gallant queen of Hungary the popular idol, and the great Frederick, persecuted with every term of opprobrium: in the latter the philosopher-king became our "magnanimous ally," and every year the populace of London commemorated his birth-day by fire-works and illuminations. The contradictory objects of the two continental wars have exposed our foreign policy to severe animadversion: in the first we sought the aggrandisement—in the second the abasement of the house of Austria; and these conflictive results were sought to be justified on the pretext of maintaining the balance of power in Europe. But by what mode the advance of Prussia from insignificance into a primary state could preserve the exact European poise, on which England's salvation was represented to depend, remained an unsolved riddle.

England being the umpire, or European constable, had formed an indispensable condition of foreign policy since the accession of king William. Contrary, however, to the legitimate function of our assumed office, our meddling was more frequently the cause of national quarrels being fomented or at least protracted, than of the general peace being maintained. Notwithstanding the enormous sacrifices our foreign interventions had imposed on the nation, the system had never once been abandoned since the revolution. In the present reign Wolfenbittel, Hesse Cassel, and other petty states were kept constantly in the pay of England, each stipulating to furnish a contingent of troops at our bidding. These subsidy-treaties were unceasingly denounced by the party in opposition; they were the great theme of popular vituperation; but no sooner did whig, tory, or hybrid attain power, than they followed the course of their predecessors. It was, in fact, the secret of royal favour. The indulgence of the king's conceit about the Germanic balance was a principal means by which Walpole so long maintained his authority; and the Leicester-house coterie, though while out of place they reprobated Walpole's policy, no sooner superseded him than they employed the same talisman; with this difference, that what was before chiefly the idol of the king and his courtiers, was made, by the eloquence of Pitt, the idol of the nation.

The REBELLION of 1745 forms an interesting episode in the military events of this reign. It was a generous effort for the unworthy scion of an unfortunate but unimprovable race. In 1741, soon after the breaking out of the Spanish war, the leading Jacobites held a meeting at Edinbúrg, where they formed an association to restore the Stuarts*. It was signed by seven persons, in imitation of the seven who signed the famous invitation to the prince of Orange in 1688. Among them were, James Drummond, called the duke of Perth, Cameron of Lochiel, sir James Campbell, and the faithless lord Lovat, who in the rising of 1715 had made himself conspicuous by his zealous services in behalf of the electoral dynasty. Without foreign aid, success in this desperate enterprise was hardly within the limits of probability. It was more like a spirited irruption of marauders, causing momentary terror, than an organised invasion for the overthrow of a powerful kingdom. The established government was unpo-

* Lord John Russell's *Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe*, ii. 221.

pular from its corruptions, and the reigning family from its German interests and repulsive demeanour; but its sway was mild and constitutional; and it is evident, from the numerous voluntary associations formed to resist the insurgents, that the people were too thoroughly Protestant and enlightened to seek a remedy for existing grievances in the intolerance and despotism of a popish sovereign. Thirty years had elapsed since the former attempt; in the interval had arisen a new pretender and a new generation, bound by weaker ties and recollections: add to which the fact that no large section (either lay or clerical), even of the tories, were now hardy enough to maintain the exploded doctrine of indefeasible legitimacy, and there is enough to account for the general indifference with which this ill-concerted expedition was received. It will be seen from the list of executions and forfeitures in the Occurrences, that many Highland chiefs, who gallantly staked their lives and fortunes in the cause, were involved in its disastrous issue.

Notwithstanding the ill success of 1715 and 1745, the duke de Choiseul, in 1770, projected another attempt to restore the exiled family*. But Charles Edward had then become enervated by his vices, and offered to the world a very humiliating spectacle of fallen greatness. He was indeed, as well as his father, less worthy of respect than the contemporary Brunswick kings. Without absolutely wanting capacity or courage, both princes gave evidence of their paternity, "by constantly resisting the counsels of wise men, and yielding to those of priests†."

The constitutional events of this reign were not of prominent interest. Whig ascendancy continued, and public men were divided only by struggles for power, not the conflicting claims of prerogative and legislation, the boundaries of which had been settled. A longer residence in England had made George II. more familiar with our language and constitution than his predecessor; still he was so much of a stranger as to be very dependent on the ministers assigned him by a parliamentary majority, and seems to have been generally indifferent to any question of government beyond the interest of his electoral dominions, which he pertinaciously stood up for, and successfully promoted, by the successive agency of his chief servants, Walpole, Pulteney, Pelham, Newcastle, Granville, and Pitt, the future earl of Chatham.

Both the executive and popular branches of the constitution acquired strength. A standing army, in peace, of 16,000 or 17,000 men had now become an accredited portion of the public establishments. The Scotch rebellion, the prevalence of disaffection, and the absurd fear of a descent by the French in flat-bottomed boats afforded plausible reasons for the maintenance of this unconstitutional force. But some men of independent principles tried to supersede the regular army by a national militia, under the authority of the crown, but commanded by gentlemen of landed estate, and not liable to be marched out of its proper county except in war. This scheme was reluctantly adopted by the government in 1757; but the nation never reaped the anticipated fruit; for, in lieu of the army being disbanded, it was kept up in undiminished force, and the militia became an auxiliary to it, in place of a substitute.

The increase of the revenue and of revenue laws summarily administered, augmented the influence of the crown. But the undisguised practice of parliamentary corruption, and the retention by the government in its pay

* *Wraxall's Memoirs of my Own Time*, i. 300.

† *Hal. Const. Hist.*, iii. 340—3rd edit.

of a body of hireling public writers, were still more dangerous to civil liberty. Sir Robert Walpole has been exposed to the greatest obloquy for these practices. No specific case of corruption was ever brought home to him; still the coarse, mercenary spirit of the man, and his avowed sentiments, are sufficient to sanction the imputation, were it not directly established by the lavish expenditure of secret-service money during his administration, and the refusal of Scrope and Paxton, the one secretary, the other solicitor to the treasury, to answer questions put to them relative to sums that had passed through their hands. Both Mr. Hallam and lord John Russell seem to admit the corruption of this minister, but the latter doubts whether his government was more so than that of the half century which preceded or followed it*. The direct bribery of parliament is supposed to have continued to the end of the American war†.

The popular power was chiefly strengthened, first, by the passing of a Place Bill, which had the effect of reducing the enormous number of the dependents of the court in the house of commons. Next by the publication of the parliamentary debates. This began in the last reign, in Boyer's Annual Register, and was continued monthly in this, in the Gentleman's Magazine, which commenced in 1731. Being in direct violation of a resolution of the commons passed in 1729, it was very stealthily ventured upon, and the initials and final letters of the speakers' names only were printed. It was evidently considered a bold experiment, either to report the speeches or reflect on the conduct of public men; for it is observable in the contemporary History of England, by Dr. Smollett, that the names are given with similar precautions, when he comments on the character or measures of the chief men of the administration.

Lastly, the growth of commercial opulence augmented the influence of the middle orders. It does not appear many commercial families had reached the peerage, but the mercantile interest formed a distinct phalanx in the house of commons, headed by sir John Bernard, an able financier and eminent merchant of London. By the qualification act of queen Anne the territorial aristocracy sought to preserve their parliamentary ascendancy, but the smaller boroughs having become a marketable commodity, rich capitalists found an easy entrance to the legislature. This was first observed in the general elections of 1747 and 1754: but though bribery had been prevalent since the revolution, Mr. Hallam thinks (Const. Hist., iii. 402,) neither corruption nor the sale of seats, like any other property, was openly practised till near the end of the reign of George II.

A domestic event of deep interest is the rise of METHODISM, which soon branched into two denominations of religionists, under their respective leaders, Wesley and Whitefield—regularly ordained priests of the established church—the first of them adopting the Arminian, the last the Calvinistic dogmas of theology, corresponding in this respect to the Jansenists and Molinists of France. Professing still to adhere to the communion of the church of England, of which they prided themselves of being the only genuine members, they purposed to engraft, like St. Francis, Dominic, and Ignatius Loyola, on the parent establishment a stricter and more spiritual discipline; and for which holy office of regeneration they believed themselves specially appointed by the "call" of the Almighty. Zealous efforts were made to promulgate the new doctrines among the American colonists; and in 1739 the fervid eloquence of Whitefield began to attract public atten-

* Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe, ii. 472.

† Hal. Const. Hist., iii. 354.

tion in England, especially by his successful appeals in the open air to the colliers of Kingswood, near Bristol. The practice of field-preaching being found eminently popular and effective, it was adopted in Moorfields, on Kennington common, and other places in the neighbourhood of London. The Methodists rapidly increased, and some respectable but mistaken zealots recommended that the government should interfere to check these novel ebullitions of enthusiasm. Except, however, some excesses of the multitude at Taunton and a few other towns, no effort was made at coercion. Toleration was the leading policy of the time, and it is a well-known and memorable declaration of George II. that "during his reign there should be no persecution for conscience sake." The beneficent intention of the monarch being seconded by the wisdom of his ministers, and the forbearance of the Anglican prelacy, the notions of the new sectaries were left, as all new notions should, to their own merits and the interpretation of the community. It was an age of inquiry—if Fanaticism was abroad, there was also an active spirit of intelligence and philosophy. Pope, Addison, Bolingbroke, Swift, and Halley in England; Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau, D'Alembert, Leibnitz, Euler, and the Bernouillis on the continent, deservedly excited more interest than kings, or their satellites of noisy politicians and pestilent warriors.

It was also, as will be apparent from the statistical details at the end of this reign, a period of slow but steady industrial improvement. Shipping increased; the ports and harbours of the kingdom were multiplied or repaired; agriculture, commerce, and the manufacturing arts flourished. Under numerous enclosure acts the waste lands were reclaimed, new roads were opened and old ones improved, bridges were erected, and numerous rivers widened and deepened for facilitating internal communication; vast quantities of corn were annually exported. The balance of payments, in return for the excess of our exports in grain and other commodities, kept up the circulation almost without the aid of a paper currency. Commercial interest ran steadily at three per cent. The prices of the public securities rose above par, so that ministers were enabled to reduce the annuities by offering the usual alternative to the creditors of either, the payment of the principal or the acceptance of a lower rate of interest. The abundance of money caused many local improvements to be entered upon, especially in the capitals of London and Edinburgh.

The condition of the great body of the people was good. Wheat in 1750 was 32s. a quarter; malt 3s. a bushel. The wages of agricultural labourers were 6s. in winter and 7s. in summer. In 1740, according to Mr. Barton's tables, the wages of carpenters, bricklayers, masons, plumbers, and other domestic artificers were 16s. weekly. Artificers' wages fell a trifle, and wheat rose to 41s. per quarter, in 1760.

Notwithstanding these favourable circumstances, the descriptions of Smollett, Fielding, and other contemporary writers seem to imply a great increase of crime and immorality in this and the preceding reign. Assassinations, robberies, assaults, and incendiary fires were unusually prevalent, and the people generally degraded by habits of intemperance, riot, and debauchery. As the half century that had elapsed from the death of queen Anne was unprecedentedly pacific and prosperous, the causes of such anomalous results of great national advantages deservedly claim the investigation of the moralist and legislator.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1727. *June 14.* A messenger arrives at Chelsea to inform sir Robert Walpole of the death of George I.; upon which sir Robert repaired to their majesties at Richmond, and from thence attended them to Leicester-house, where some of the privy-council had assembled. The same evening the king addressed the privy-council, and took the oath of security to the church of Scotland.

George II. was in the forty-fourth year of his age. He married September 2, 1705, the princess Wilhelmina Charlotte Caroline, daughter to John Frederick, marquis of Brandenburg Anspach, by whom he had two sons, Frederick Louis prince of Wales, born at Hanover, January 31, 1707, and William Augustus, born at London, April 15, 1721. She had likewise borne four princesses: namely, Anne, Amelia, Caroline, Mary, and was afterwards delivered of Louisa, married in the sequel to the king of Denmark. The king had lived upon indifferent terms with George I. He is described (Wharnccliffe's Montagu Letters, i. 117) as a prince of fiery temper, with little discretion; but he was much governed by the queen, who with good temper tolerated his marital infidelities.

15. George II. proclaimed king.

16. Orders issued for a general mourning.

22. Gerald de Courcy, lord Kinsale, in Ireland, was presented to the king, and had the liberty to assert the ancient right of his family, of being covered in his majesty's presence.

27. Parliament met, when the king expressed his determination to adhere to the policy of his predecessor.

STATE OF PARTIES.—At the king's accession the nation had some reason to wish for an alteration of measures. Hardly any progress had been made in the reduction of the public debt. The kingdom was involved in a labyrinth of treaties and conventions, by which it stood engaged, in pecuniary subsidies, to many powers upon the Continent, with whom its real interests could never be connected. Dangerous encroachments had been made in the constitution by the repeal of the triennial act; by frequent suspensions of the *habeas corpus* act; by repealing clauses in the act of settlement; by votes of credit; by habituating the people to a standing army; and above all, by establishing a system of parliamentary corruption, which ministers carried on by the misapplication of the civil-list, crown-lands, secret-service money, and the multiplication of places and pensions. At

first some change appeared in contemplation, and the king appeared disposed to place his confidence in sir Spencer Compton (afterwards earl of Wilmington), speaker of the house of commons; but he declined the responsibility of conducting the government, and sir Robert Walpole being steadily supported by queen Caroline, he was continued at the head of the administration. Lord Townshend continued to direct the foreign affairs of the country, his colleague, the duke of Newcastle, not being eminent for official ability. Mr. Pelham, the duke's brother, and secretary-at-war, was more esteemed for integrity of purpose than admired for talent. Lord Chesterfield, the ambassador at the Hague, and soon afterwards lord-steward, began to attract notice by his various accomplishments. John duke of Argyle, commander-in-chief of the forces in Scotland, presented an uncommon union of civil and military abilities. So did lord Carteret, the viceroy of Ireland. At the head of the Tories was sir William Wyndham, a man of great energy and eloquence. Shippen, who had earned the prefix of "honest," was calm, shrewd, sarcastic, and clever in finance. Mr. William Pulteney (afterwards earl of Bath) possessed great natural talents, highly cultivated. He and his cousin Daniel, both of whom formerly held office with Walpole, were considered the heads of the followers of the late earl of Sunderland. It was with this section of Whigs that Walpole proposed to form an union to crush their Tory opponents under the stigma of Jacobites. Some of lord Sunderland's friends, however, inheriting their leader's hatred, refused to coalesce with him; others saw with envy the monopoly of power in the hands of a private gentleman. In the course of opposition these malcontent Whigs joined the Tories. The mass of opposition, too, which at the commencement of this reign began to be organised against Walpole's ministry, was further augmented by a small body of independent members, of whom the distinguished merchant sir John Bernard, the member for London, was the leader.

July 3. Resolved that a civil-list of 800,000*l.* be granted the king; being an increase of 100,000*l.* over the allowance of his predecessor, in consideration of his majesty's large family.

7. Resolved that a provision be made for the queen, in case she shall survive his majesty, of 100,000*l.* per annum, during her life.

17. Parliament prorogued, his majesty first thanking the commons for their liberal grants, and expressing his happiness to see the nation in a prosperous condition, holding the balance of Europe, defending their just possessions, and vindicating the honour of the crown of Great Britain.

29. John Byng, viscount Torrington, placed at the head of the admiralty, in the room of lord Berkeley.

Aug. 7. Orders given by the Spaniards for making reprisals on the English in America.

Parliament dissolved.

23. Admiral Hosier died on board his ship in America.

25. Lieutenant-general Wade made commander-in-chief of his majesty's forces in Great Britain.

Sept. 4. The body of George I. interred in the night at Hanover.

27. Augustus Schutz, esq. appointed keeper of his majesty's privy purse.

Oct. 11. The coronation of George II. and queen Caroline solemnized at Westminster.

16. The tinnors of Cornwall, provoked by a scarcity of corn, plundered the granaries.

1728. Jan. 23. The new parliament met, and chose Arthur Onslow speaker. The elections had gone greatly in favour of ministers, and peace being established both at home and abroad, the session was void of interest. Grants of subsidies to the states of Germany gave rise to some debates, especially one to the petty duke of Wolfenbuttel, who gravely guaranteed to his Britannic majesty the possession of his three kingdoms, with 5000 men, on condition of an annual subsidy of 25,000*l.* for four years! The absurdity of the treaty with this mighty potentate was such, that lord-chancellor King refused to affix the great seal to it, till ratified by parliament, and the money actually voted.

9. An address for a particular account of the sum of 250,000*l.* granted to the crown, having been presented to his majesty, sir Paul Methuen reported the king's answer, to the effect that the said sum had been expended in strengthening alliances, and fulfilling engagements of the utmost importance to these kingdoms, and which required the greatest secrecy; and therefore a particular account could not be given without prejudice to the public service.

Mar. 1. A proclamation, promising a reward of 100*l.* for apprehending a street-robber within London or Westminster, and five miles thereof, above all other rewards; and promising a pardon to all persons who are accomplices, provided they shall not have given a wound.

Apr. 23. The king set out for Newmarket,

accompanied by sir Robert Walpole and a numerous retinue of noblemen. Next day he dined in the hall of Trinity-college, Cambridge, and made the university a present of 2000*l.*, to defray the expenses of the entertainment.

The preliminaries being adjusted between the courts of Great Britain and Spain, the siege of Gibraltar was raised, the British fleets recalled, and his majesty's plenipotentiaries, Stephen Poyntz, esq. and William Stanhope, esq., set out for the congress, which was agreed to be held at Soissons in France, in order finally to adjust all matters in dispute between the contending parties, by the mediation of France.

About this time died Dr. John Woodward, who erected a professorship for natural philosophy in the university of Cambridge, and left a handsome annual revenue for the endowment of it. He also left the university the offer of his collection of fossils and other natural curiosities, which they purchased for 2000*l.*, and constituted the Rev. Mr. Mason, of Trinity, the first professor.

May 8. Vice-admiral Hopson, who commanded the fleet on the coast of Spanish America, met with the fate of his predecessor admiral Hosier. He died on board his ship, in that unwholesome climate, which carried off not only the two admirals, but double the ships' crews; the ships were so eaten up with the worms, that it was with difficulty they returned to Europe, where most of them were rebuilt, or broken up.

13. SINGULAR SUICIDE. — Counsellor Hagen, formerly secretary to the famous baron Gortz, and since bailiff of Diepholt, shot himself through the head, having first written the following letter to the king of Great Britain:—

“Sire,—Before I approach the throne of the most high God, it is incumbent upon me to beg your majesty to excuse me for quitting your service, and dying in one of your castles; fate would have it so. Be pleased, sire, to forgive me what is amiss, and have compassion for me: for I am inwardly persuaded and assured that God will have mercy upon me where I am going. God send you a happy reign. [This was written an hour before his design was put in execution.]

(Signed) “*Samuel Fred. Hagen.*”

“P. S. Sire,—My accounts of your money are very just and exact.”

A paper of the following tenour also was left on his table:—

“I am quite weary of eating and drinking, weary of shamming my creditors, weary of being burthensome to my friends, weary of being vexatious to my enemies, and, lastly, tired with myself; and therefore I

leave the world with all the alacrity imaginable." He was buried in a new suit of clothes he had not worn till that day.

27. Charles Leopold, duke of Mecklenburg, was deposed by the emperor, and his younger brother, duke Christian Lewis, was appointed administrator of the duchy, with an allowance of 35,000 dollars per annum. This deposition was protested against by some of the German states, and by the kings of England and France, as contrary to the constitutions of the empire.

28. Parliament prorogued after the royal assent had been given to some local and other acts.

June 1. The congress of Soissons meet, and the plenipotentiaries being all seated in elbow chairs at a round table, count Sintendorf, the imperial ambassador, made a speech to the assembly; after him, cardinal Fleury another; and then the several ministers produced their full powers.

14. Treaty of Nipchoo ratified between Russia and China, by which the boundaries of the two empires are settled; a Russian resident at Pekin allowed, and 200 merchants allowed to trade to China once in three years.

Sir William Wolsely, of Staffordshire, was drowned in his own coach, being overturned by a rapid stream of water, occasioned by a thunder-shower, which broke down a mill-dam just above the road. The footman and horses were drowned, but the coachman saved himself by catching hold of an apple-tree.

Aug. 3. Ernest Augustus, prince of Brunswick, duke of York, and bishop of Osnaburg, uncle to his Britannic majesty, died. He was succeeded in the bishopric by the elector of Cologne, agreeably to the pactum by which Osnaburg is alternately possessed by a prince of the house of Brunswick and that elector.

15. The queen of Sardinia died. She was daughter to the princess Henrietta, wife of the duke of Orleans, and a daughter of Charles I.

The grand-jury of Middlesex presented Mist's journal, of the 24th instant, as an infamous libel, reflecting on his majesty.

A very rich lead mine discovered near Inverlochly, in North Britain.

Sept. 5. A royal pardon granted to the late earl of Mar

28. A patent granted to Henry Brown, esq. for the new invention of making canons, both in iron and brass, much shorter and lighter, and which, with less powder, will carry farther than those of equal bore now in use.

The assembly of Massachusetts colony in New England, having voted the sum of 1400*l.* to be paid to Mr. Burnet, their governor, for the current year, and 300*l.* to

defray the charges of his journey from New York to Boston, he refused to receive the same, as contrary to his majesty's instructions, and insisted on a settled salary; for otherwise, he observed, the governor must be always dependent on the assembly; and appealed to themselves, if the allowance for the governor had not been sometimes kept back till other bills had been consented to.

The Spaniards continued to make prizes of the English ships in America, notwithstanding their signing the preliminaries for a suspension of hostilities, and agreeing to treat of a general peace at Soissons.

Dr. Berkeley, dean of Derry, set sail for the Bermudas with his family, and several rich relations and friends, with stores and goods, in order to settle there, and erect a college for the education of the natives of America; but met with so many difficulties, that he returned to Ireland again, where he was advanced to a bishopric.

Oct. 11. The duke de Ripperda made his escape from Spain, and arrived in London.

26. Advice that two-thirds of the city of Copenhagen were burnt down by a fire which began on the 20th instant, and lasted three days.

The streets of London and Westminster being very much infested by robbers, orders were sent to the magistrates to endeavour to apprehend such felons, and to suppress the night-houses where they were harboured; and a reward of 40*l.* was promised for apprehending any felon returned from transportation, these being the most desperate and barbarous of the street-robbers. They are also required to suppress gaming-houses and gin-shops, where idle and pilfering people resort.

Nov. 1. An order of council, declaring that upon any public mourning, no person should be required to put their coaches, chairs, or servants in mourning.

Dec. 4. Prince Frederick arrived at St. James's from Hanover.

18. The plenipotentiaries being removed from Soissons to follow cardinal Fleury and the court of France, the negotiations were continued at Fontainebleau.

1729. Jan. 21. Parliament opened by the king, who complains of the dilatory proceedings of the congress at Soissons. The prince of Wales was introduced into the house of peers, and took the oaths and his seat.

Feb. 12. The grand jury, in their presentment to the court of King's-bench, complain of the pernicious increase of gin-shops, which harbour the vilest and meanest of the people; of the increase of street-beggars and atrocious crimes; they also presented "the fashionable and wicked diversion called masquerade," especially

that carried on at the King's-theatre, Hay-market.

18. STATE OF THE PRISONS.—James Oglethorpe, esq., a member of the commons, having a friend in the Fleet-prison, named Castel, an ingenious architect, whom he used to visit there; and being informed that the hardships Castel suffered in that prison had been the occasion of his death, he moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the gaols of this kingdom. A committee being appointed accordingly, of which Mr. Oglethorpe was chairman, they visited the Fleet-prison on the 27th of February, and examined several of the prisoners; among the rest, sir William Rich, whom they found loaded with heavy irons by the warden, Mr. Bambridge; whereupon they ordered his irons to be struck off: but the committee had no sooner withdrawn, than Bambridge ordered sir William to be put in irons again, in which condition they found sir William the next day. Upon this the house resolved, that Thomas Bambridge, esq., warden of the Fleet, be taken into custody of the sergeant at arms.

26. PUBLICATION OF THE DEBATES.—It is unanimously resolved in the commons, "That it is an indignity to, and a breach of the privilege of, the house, for any person to presume to give, in written or printed newspapers, any account or minutes of the debates or other proceedings of the house or of any committee thereof; and that, upon the discovery of the author, &c., this house will proceed against the offenders with the utmost severity." Mr. Hallam observes, (Const. Hist. iii. 399,) that there are former resolutions to the same effect.

Mar. 5. A salary of 2500*l.* per annum settled on lord Londonderry, governor of the Leeward islands, and a present of 6000*l.* made him.

14. The commons resolved, that from the peace of Utrecht the British trade and navigation have been greatly interrupted by the continual depredations of the Spaniards, who have seized very valuable effects, and have unjustly made prize of great numbers of British ships in the American seas, to the great loss of the subjects of this kingdom, and in manifest violation of the treaties subsisting between the two crowns; and they presented an address to his majesty, that he would use his utmost endeavours to prevent such depredations, and procure a reasonable satisfaction for the losses sustained; and secure his subjects the free exercise of commerce and navigation to and from the British plantations in America.

18. A debate in the lords on a letter written by George I. in 1721, in which he promised to procure the consent of parlia-

ment to the restitution of Gibraltar to the king of Spain.

20. Mr. Oglethorpe, from the committee to inquire into the state of prisons, reported the resolutions of the committee; the substance of which was, that Thomas Bambridge, the warden of the Fleet, had connived at the escape of rich debtors, and been guilty of cruelty and extortion to others. A bill was subsequently brought in, to disqualify him from holding the wardenship, and the attorney-general directed to prosecute some of his accomplices. It afterwards, however, appeared that some of the members of the inquest were actuated by other motives than those they professed; and the committee was suffered to sink into oblivion.

25. Both houses addressed his majesty, that he would, for securing the trade of this kingdom, take effectual care in the present treaty to preserve his undoubted right to Gibraltar and the island of Minorca.

April 1. The jubilee began at Rome.

3. The duke of Wharton (said to have been in the enemy's army before Gibraltar) was proclaimed a traitor.

23. CIVIL LIST ARREARS.—It being represented in the commons, that the civil list revenues fell short of producing the annual sum of 800,000*l.*, it was moved, that the sum of 115,000*l.* be granted to his majesty, upon account of arrears to be replaced out of such arrears of the said revenues as should be standing out at his majesty's demise. This was a surprise to a great many members, because in the former session the several duties and revenues granted for the support of his majesty's household appeared by the accounts then laid before the house to produce more than the annual sum of 800,000*l.* for which they were given: however, it was carried in the affirmative, by 241 voices against 115.

May 10. In the lords a strong protest is signed against the grant of 115,000*l.* to supply the deficiency of the civil list.

13. Sir Paul Methuen resigned his post of treasurer of his majesty's household.

15. A commission passed the great seal, constituting queen Caroline guardian and lieutenant of the kingdom, during his majesty's absence.

17. Hismajesty set out for Hanover, from St. James's, and landed in Holland on the 20th instant.

June 2. The fellows of Trinity-college, Cambridge, exhibited articles of complaint against Dr. Bentley, before the bishop of Ely, the visitor, relating to his conduct as master of the said college; and the articles being above threescore in number, were allowed to be made good against the doctor, at the hearing on the 7th instant. Where-

upon the doctor applied to the court of King's-bench for a prohibition.

7. *CASE OF BAMBRIDGE*.—Mr. Bambridge, late warden of the Fleet, was brought by *Habeas Corpus* from Newgate to the King's-bench bar, where the matters he was charged with were read; 1. A commitment of the house of commons for the many barbarities in the execution of his office. 2. An indictment for the murder of Mr. Castel. 3. A charge of felony for stealing goods of the value of 27*l.* the property of Elizabeth Sparkes. His counsel moved that he might be admitted to bail, the first commitment being expired with the session of parliament; and he had been acquitted of the second charge on a fair trial; and on the third there was no indictment found. But the court refused to bail him, because one of the king's witnesses was absent at the last sessions of the Old Bailey; and the court ordered his detainer till next session.

The elector of Hanover, and the duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel, refuse to withdraw their forces out of Mecklenburg, or part with the chest of the revenues thereof, until an entire satisfaction be given them for the arrears of the charges they have incurred, in putting the sentence of the Aulic council in execution against the duke of Mecklenburg.

A misunderstanding happened between the courts of Great Britain and Prussia, on account of the Prussians forcing some Hanoverians to enlist into their service, and the Hanoverians seizing some Prussian officers and soldiers by way of reprisal.

Aug. 24. William Rowland, a poor clergyman, who was convicted of writing a libel, reflecting on Thomas Raylton, and Nathaniel Blackerby, esqrs., for dismissing some who were brought before them for sodomy, stood in the pillory at the Royal Exchange, in his canonical habit for an hour; during which time he preached to the people, and complained of the injustice of his sentence, particularly of the recorder his judge; whereupon the people, and amongst them several women, made a collection for him.

Sept. 1. *DEATH OF SIR RICHARD STEELE*.—This was one of the most celebrated of the literati of the two last reigns. He died of paralysis in his fifty-eighth year, after a life of considerable variety, having been successively in the army, member of parliament, manager of a theatre, political, dramatic, and essay writer. It is in the last character he is most distinguished; "The Tatler," which Sir Richard commenced, being the precursor of "The Spectator" and other periodical essayists. "The Tatler" was crude in its plan, containing a portion of the information of a common newspaper, but in humour, liveliness and

urbanity, was hardly exceeded by any of its imitators. Sir Richard twice married ladies of good property, but his imprudence always kept him embarrassed, and reduced him to shifts unworthy of his character and opposed to his principles. He died in Wales at a seat of his second wife, who had an income of 600*l.* or 700*l.* a year.

12. His majesty arrived at Kensington from Hanover.

27. A fire happened at Constantinople, which burnt down twelve thousand houses, and seven thousand people perished in the flames.

28. A defensive treaty concluded on the 9th of November, n. s., at Seville, between the crowns of Great Britain, France and Spain. To this treaty Holland acceded November 21st. The question between this country and Spain as to naval captures, was left to future adjudication by commissioners.

Nov. 7. Thomas Betton, merchant and ironmonger, having left great sums for charitable uses, the company of ironmongers obtained a royal licence to purchase lands of the value of 1000*l.* per annum, to be disposed of according to the last will of the said Thomas Betton.

28. Mr. Woolston received sentence on four informations preferred against him for blasphemy, &c. On the first three he was to pay a fine of 25*l.* each, and the fourth he was fined 25*l.*, to suffer one year's imprisonment, to give security for his good behaviour during life, himself in 2000*l.* and his sureties in 1000*l.* each. Woolston was a person of eccentric opinions and is celebrated for his allegorical interpretation of the Scriptures. Though Morgan, Collins, Tindal and other deistical writers, were very busy during this reign, Woolston was the only one persecuted. On his trial, chief justice Raymond first declared Christianity to be a part of the law of England, and that a scurrilous mockery of its doctrines is a misdemeanor punishable at the common law.

The Algerines commence hostilities against the Dutch, taking four of their merchant ships.

30. Prince Dolghoruky, prime minister to the young czar, Peter II., prevailed on him to espouse his daughter, Catharine Alexewina.

PUBLIC CALAMITIES.—This month was remarkable for four great calamities, three of which affected almost every country in Europe. 1. The perpetual stormy weather, by which abundance of shipping, as well as men's lives, were lost. 2. A sickly season, people being taken with colds, and afterwards fevers, which carried them off in a week's time. In London only there died near a thousand a week: and the rest of the great towns in Europe were equally

unhealthy, and country places not much less. 3. There were continual rains, which caused such inundations as destroyed abundance of men and cattle. 4. The fourth affected only the cities of London and Westminster, and the neighbourhood of those cities, which proceeded from the number of footpads and street-robbers, insomuch that there was no stirring out after it was dark for fear of mischief: these villains knocked people down, and wounded them before they demanded their money; but the offering a reward of 100*l.* for apprehending any one of these offenders, in some measure put a stop to their outrages. The bills of mortality amounted to near thirty thousand in London this year, which was an increase of about 2000 on the average mortality.

1730, Jan. 1. On new-year's day in the evening, there was so thick a fog about London that chairmen mistook their way, and fell into the canal in the park with their fare; several people fell into Fleet-ditch; the boats lost their way on the Thames, and some were run down.

3. Count Bonneval, who deserted the French service and afterwards the emperor's, went over to the Turks, and turned Mahometan, began about this time to discipline the Turkish troops after the Christian model, and taught them fortification; for which service he was made a bashaw.

13. Parliament having assembled, the king congratulated them on the establishment of the peace of Europe by the treaty of Seville, and the prospect of a reduction in the sea and land forces; lamenting at the same time the distresses of the poor artificers and manufacturers.

19. The czar, Peter II., died of the small-pox, in the fifteenth year of his age, and the third year of his reign; he was succeeded by the princess Anne, duchess of Courland, and daughter of John Alexowitz, elder brother of the czar Peter the great.

Feb. 10. Pope Benedict XIII. died.

Col. Chartres was this month tried for a rape on his servant-maid, for which he was convicted, and condemned to die, and all his goods and chattels forfeited; but he afterwards obtained a pardon on paying a large sum to the girl, and applying some other parts of that vast estate he had acquired by gaming, in making friends at court. He was upwards of sixty years of age, and many thought that though he deserved to be hanged for a thousand other crimes, he was guiltless of that of which he was convicted.

March. A motion in the lords to address his majesty, that a list of all pensions, payable by the crown, might be laid before the house; it was resolved in the negative. The bill for excluding pensioners from the com-

mons having passed that house, was also thrown out by the lords.

An order of council that masters of ships should pay no more than 25*s.* for a new Mediterranean pass, and 15*s.* for a renewed pass.

24. FOREIGN LOANS.—Royal assent given to an act to prohibit any of the king's subjects to lend money to any foreign prince or state without his majesty's license. This act was made to prevent any person's lending money to the emperor; to the passing whereof several objections were made in the commons, as that it would be a restraint upon commerce: that by denying this liberty, and restraining all foreign loans, we made Holland the market of Europe, for money to the nations on the continent; the Dutch would not refuse to furnish the emperor whenever he asked it, and it was imprudent to deny the subjects of Britain the advantage that might be made of such a loan.

26. The landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, father of the king of Sweden, died; and his Swedish majesty was declared successor to all his dominions.

The retail tradesmen applied to parliament for a law to suppress hawkers and pedlars, who ruined their trade, and defrauded the country people of their money; but they could obtain no relief.

30. A fire broke out so suddenly at the end of Fetter-lane in Fleet-street, that above thirty people lost their lives in it, though not above three houses were burnt.

GAOL FEVER.—The lord chief baron Pengelly, and several of his officers and servants, dying at Blandford in Dorsetshire on the western circuit during the lent assizes; as also John Piggot, esq., high sheriff of Somersetshire; it was supposed to proceed from the stench of some prisoners brought to their trials, there having been such instances formerly: particularly at Oxford, where the judge, high sheriff, grand-jurymen, and some hundreds, lost their lives at that assizes, by the infection they took when the prisoners were brought to their trials.

The Corsicans take arms against the republic of Genoa.

April 21. A proclamation prohibiting all persons lending money to any foreign prince or state without his majesty's licence.

The lord mayor, aldermen and common-council, petitioned his majesty to suppress the play-house in Goodman's-fields; with which his majesty concurring, they ceased acting there for some time.

15. Parliament prorogued.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—The charter of the company was this session renewed and their privileges extended to Lady-day, 1769. They agreed to accept an interest of four

instead of five per cent. on a loan to government of 3,200,000*l.*, and paid a premium of 200,000*l.* They were restricted from holding lands and tenements in Britain above the value of 10,000*l.*

June. Three Algerine rovers, from forty to fifty guns, appeared in the channel this month and took several Dutch ships.

Philip, earl of Chesterfield, appointed lord-steward of the household, in the room of the duke of Dorset.

RETIREMENT OF TOWNSHEND.—Lord Harrington was made secretary of state, in the room of lord Townshend, who, cured of ambition, retired to cultivate his paternal acres and introduce the turnip husbandry into Norfolk. Townshend is represented as a statesman of good abilities and open generous nature. He married Sir Robert Walpole's sister "Dolly," whose "folly had lost her reputation in London." (Wharnccliffe's *Montagu Letters*, i. 104.) After Townshend's retirement, Walpole met with no contradiction in the cabinet. Upon being asked the cause of his difference with his brother-in-law, he replied, "As long as the firm of the house was Townshend and Walpole all did very well; but when it became Walpole and Townshend, things went wrong, and a separation ensued." About the same time the duke of Dorset was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland in the room of lord Carteret; the duke of Devonshire privy seal, and lord Trevor president of the council.

July 2. Cardinal Laurence Corsini was elected pope on the 12th July, after the conclave had sat four months: he succeeded Benedict XIII. At his accession he was seventy-eight years of age, and took the name of Clement XII.

Advice came this month, that fifteen sail of ships and sloops trading with the Spaniards on the coast of Terra Firma, were all taken by the Spanish guarda costas: they consisted of English, French, and Dutch vessels; but most of them were English from Jamaica. This traffic with Spanish America was given up by the treaty of Seville, to the great loss of the people of Jamaica.

The colony of Pennsylvania was augmented this year, by the arrival of 6200 people, chiefly from Ireland.

The whale fishery appeared to be very considerable on the coast of New England, New York, and New Jersey; there having arrived in Old England 154 tons of train or whale oil, and 9200 of whalebone, from those coasts about this time.

In the first fifteen days of this month, there arrived from our American sugar colonies, upwards of 10,000 hogsheads of sugar, and 15,000 gallons of rum: besides great quantities brought to Bristol, Liverpool, and

Glasgow, which were computed to be half as much more. In the last fifteen days of the preceding month of June, were brought into the port of London, 8175 hogsheads of sugar, and 36,866 gallons of rum.

The Spaniards hired above threescore English merchant ships in the ports of Spain, to transport their forces into Italy. This demonstration arose from the emperor having marched large bodies of troops into Italy.

The czarina lately finished the canal between the lake Ladoga and the great river Wolga; so that a communication by water was opened between the Baltic and Caspian seas, for vessels of eighty tons burden; being a navigation of 2800 miles, through the heart of Muscovy.

The Algerines having taken two outward bound Dutch East-India men, the last month, and carried them into Algiers, commodore Schryver, who commanded a squadron of men-of-war in the Mediterranean, reclaimed them; but the Algerines refused to part with them, till the commodore consented to give them half the treasure on board, and most of the provisions.

21. James, earl of Waldegrave, was appointed ambassador to the court of France.

Sept. 3. Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia, and duke of Savoy, resigned his crown into the hands of his son Charles Emanuel, prince of Piedmont. The abdicated prince was then sixty-four years of age, and designed to lead the life of a private nobleman, with the countess-dowager of St. Sebastian, whom he designed to marry: he reserved a revenue of 100,000 crowns per annum: he did this after he had reigned fifty years with as great reputation as any sovereign in Europe.

Cardinal Coscia was prosecuted for embezzling the late pope's treasure, and the oppressions he was guilty of during his administration.

17. Sultan Achmet deposed, and his nephew sultan Mahomet advanced to the throne, by the janisaries.

Oct. Five kings or chiefs of the Cherokee Indians, being brought over to England from Carolina, by sir Alexander Cummins, about midsummer last, were presented to the king, and submitted themselves, with their country, to the crown of Great Britain. Having been treated here very much to their satisfaction, and dismissed with presents, they embarked at Portsmouth, on board the *Fox* man-of-war, and returned to their own country.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—England was at this period infested with thieves and incendiaries, the consequence of internal prosperity conjoined with an inefficient police. This defect arose from the absurd notion that laws

necessary to prevent violence and rapine were inconsistent with the civil liberties of Englishmen. As a natural result, miscreants of all kinds became more daring and savage. Not content with robbing, they wantonly maimed and often barbarously murdered their victims. They circulated letters, demanding specific sums of money from individuals, to be deposited in certain places, on pain of firing their houses and murdering their families. In this way they set fire to the house of a rich merchant in Bristol, who had refused to comply with their extortions. The same sort of villany was practised in the metropolis and other parts of the kingdom, so that government was obliged to interfere, and offer rewards for discovering the ruffians concerned in such execrable designs.

The *Marlborough* Indianan burnt in the river Thames by the saltpetre on board taking fire. And another ship was burnt on the coast of Norfolk, having the baggage of his excellency Horace Walpole on board.

The French having made some attempts to restore the harbour of Dunkirk, and both the English and Dutch taking umbrage, the French pretended to fill it up again; but worked so leisurely as if they never designed to effect it.

Mr. Archdeacon Stubbs having presented a valuable collection of manuscripts to the university of Oxford, written by sir Henry Spelman and Mr. Stephens, in vindication of the monarchy, hierarchy, universities, spiritual courts, tithes, &c., they were bound up, and placed in the Bodleian-library.

Nov. 18. Another proclamation, offering a pardon and a reward of 300*l.* to any person who should discover his accomplices in sending threatening letters; and his majesty prohibits all his subjects to pay or deposit any money, or to do any other act, in compliance with such villains as threaten to burn houses, or murder such as do not follow their directions.

21. The king and queen returning from Kew-green to St. James's, were overturned in their coach, near lord Peterborough's, at Parson's-green, about six in the evening; the wind having blown out the flambeaus, so that the coachman could not see the way.

Dec. The prince-royal of Prussia still kept in prison, and lieutenant Katte, one of his favourites, was beheaded before his face, the prince being obliged to stand at the prison window and see the execution. A young lady of fifteen, whom the prince seemed to be fond of, was whipped through the town, for no other crime than because the prince liked her.

The negroes of South Carolina entered into a conspiracy to murder their masters,

but the plot was discovered. There were at that time near 30,000 blacks, and not more than 3000 whites in the colony.

Mr. Colley Cibber, the player, made poet-laureate. The salary is 100*l.* a year, and a butt of sack, or 50*l.* in lieu of it.

1731. Jan. 1. Edward Cave, a printer, publishes at St. John's-gate, Smithfield, the first number of the Gentleman's Magazine, the professed object of which is announced to be, to form "a collection or magazine of the essays, intelligence, &c. which appeared in the 200 half-sheets per month, which the London press was then calculated to throw off, besides written accounts, and about as many more half-sheets printed elsewhere in the three kingdoms."

2. A reprieve was sent to Newgate for a convict, on condition of his permitting an experiment to be tried on his ear by Mr. Cheselden, which was to be performed by cutting the tympanum to cure deafness; but the experiment was not made.

9. The duke of Parma died, and in his will declared that his duchess was three months pregnant; and entreated the allied powers to have compassion on his people, and to defer the execution of their projects till the duchess was confined. If the child was still-born, or died afterwards, he willed that the infant Don Carlos should succeed in his dominions and allodial estates; and in case Don Carlos should die, his next brother should succeed, by virtue of the right the queen of Spain, their mother, had to the succession. The duke, however, was no sooner dead, but 2500 imperialists entered Parma; but the German general Stampe declared that they would pay for everything they had, and should not intermeddle in the administration of civil affairs, but leave it entirely to the regents nominated by the duke's will; and the people took their oaths to obey the young prince the duchess was pregnant of. The imperialists also made proclamation that they took possession of the duchies of Parma and Placentia for the infant Don Carlos; and that if the duchess-dowager should not be delivered of a prince, the said infant might take the investiture of the emperor whenever he thought fit, provided he came without an army.

20. So deep a snow fell that the Scotch peers and commissioners were obliged to have the roads cleared before they could safely travel, as they were compelled to walk several miles on foot, and above fifty men were employed to remove the snow.

21. The king opens parliament.

A medal was struck at the Tower in honour of sir Isaac Newton.

25. A dreadful fire broke out at Brussels, in the archduchess's apartments, which consumed the palace, with all its rich furniture, and almost all the records and state

papers. The archduchess and her ladies very narrowly escaped.

A melancholy accident happened at Bordeaux, where 40 monks died in one night, supposed by poison; and at Enghein, near Brussels, several nuns died suddenly, from an unknown cause. The surviving sisters, with the bishop's consent, quitted the cloisters, and returned to their friends.

The workmen, in digging in a garden at Waverly, in Surrey, where an abbey was founded about 700 years ago by the bishop of Winchester and abbot of Waverly, they found a leaden pot, containing the heart of a man preserved in spirits, not in the least decayed, supposed to have been that of the founder.

29. A justice of the peace, who had challenged a counsellor employed against him, came to Westminster-hall, and asked his pardon in open court, by that means had a rule of court, which was issued against him, withdrawn.

Feb. 10. The subsidy of 25,000*l.* per annum paid to the duke of Wolfenbuttel came under debate. It was insisted by the country party that such subsidies were of no service to Great Britain; they were only paid to protect his majesty's foreign dominions, which was contrary to the act of settlement. But it was carried in favour of the duke.

A calculation was made in the two courts of King's-bench and Common-pleas of the number of attorneys, when it appeared there were above 4000.

16. The king purchased for 2400*l.* the Westminister water-works, for the better perfecting of the Serpentine-river in Hyde-park.

There were lately discovered in the Brazils, coffee-trees, the berries of which are smaller, but their virtues equal to those of Turkey.

A petition was presented to the commons by the merchants of Bristol trading to America, complaining of the interruption of their trade, and depredations of the Spanish guarda costas, which, notwithstanding the resolution of that house, and his majesty's endeavours to obtain a reasonable satisfaction, had lately plundered several vessels belonging to Bristol and other ports, and had treated the men who had fallen into their hands in a barbarous manner: they therefore desired that some adequate remedy might be applied, to prevent such outrages for the future, from a power at present in alliance with us.

During this session a second pension-bill was brought in, and passed the commons with great unanimity; but was rejected again by the peers.

Advice received this month that the kingdom of Chili had been swallowed up by an earthquake that had lasted 27 days, when

innumerable persons perished, with all the city of St. Jago.

Mar. 5. A convention concluded between Great Britain and the emperor, whereby it was agreed that 6000 Spaniards should be admitted into Tuscany and Parma; that the Ostend-company's charter should be cancelled; and that the Pragmatic sanction, containing a settlement of all the emperor's hereditary dominions on his female issue for want of males, should be guaranteed by Great Britain.

COLONIAL TRADE.—A petition was about this time presented to the king from Barbadoes, showing, that this colony was very much declined of late, for several reasons: 1. That his majesty's subjects of this island pay 10 per cent. more than the French or Dutch by way of duty; 2. That the French and Dutch send their sugar, rum, molasses, &c. to Ireland, and the northern colonies in America, and can afford them cheaper than the subjects of Britain, on account of the heavy duties the inhabitants of Barbadoes pay; and, 3. Because the French and Dutch carry their rum and sugar directly to any ports in Europe or America; whereas the British subjects are obliged to carry their goods first to England, whereby they lose their market, and are put to extraordinary expenses: and further, that the Irish and British northern colonies supply the French and Dutch sugar-islands with lumber, beef, pork, and other provisions, without which the French and Dutch could not well subsist in their colonies, and take sugar, rum, and molasses in return. They therefore pray that a law may be made to prohibit the importation of sugar, rum, and molasses, of the growth of foreign plantations, into any of his majesty's dominions; and that no lumber or provisions may be exported from any of the British colonies in America, to any of the foreign colonies there; and that they might be at liberty to carry their sugars and other produce of the island to any country of Europe directly, without landing them first in England.

Apr. 8. Mrs. Elizabeth Cromwell, daughter of Richard Cromwell the protector, and granddaughter of Oliver Cromwell the protector, died at her house in Bedford-row, in the 82nd year of her age.

DEATH OF DEFOE.—The celebrated author of *Robinson Crusoe*, and a great many satirical, political, and commercial publications, died this month, aged 68, at his house in Cripplegate, leaving a widow and six children. Defoe had been a most industrious author and speculative tradesman, but died insolvent. He stood several persecutions, and on one occasion,

"Careless, on high, stood unabashed Defoe."

But these were the results of party bitter.

ness and the character of the author of the most interesting story in the language now stands out as that of a person of singular ingenuity and undoubted probity.

The criminal conversation of father Girard, rector of the Jesuits at Toulon, with Miss Kitty Cadiere, when she came to confession, was the general talk in Europe at this time. The father was condemned to be burnt by the parliament of Aix, but by the assistance of some of his order made his escape.

May 7. Parliament prorogued.

The debates of this session were conducted with much personal bitterness; and the members did not confine themselves to the house, but took the field against each other in periodical papers and pamphlets. The paper called *The Craftsman* had risen into high reputation all over England for its wit, humour, and argument. Some of the best writers in the opposition, including lord Bolingbroke and Mr. Pulteney, made use of this vehicle to convey their animadversions on sir Robert Walpole, who on his side employed a wretched tribe of scribblers. It was in consequence of two pamphlets written in opposition, by lord Hervey and Pulteney, and some recrimination they produced in the house, that his lordship challenged the latter, and had well-nigh lost his life in a duel fought in Hyde-park.

One judicious act passed this session, the 4th G. II., c. 26, for preventing delays of justice, occasioned by the use of the Latin tongue, and providing that pleadings and processes should be in the English language. The sticklers for old usages opposed this salutary amendment by alleging that the change would render useless the ancient records, which were written in that language; and far from expediting, would introduce confusion and delay by altering the established form of judicial proceedings. Common sense, however, triumphed over cavilling prejudice.

June 4. At the sessions, Old Bailey, a person was condemned, and afterwards hanged, for forging a bond, being the first that was put to death for forgery.

A terrible fire happened at Blandford in Dorsetshire, which burnt down the whole town, with the church, except 26 houses. The loss amounted to near 160,000*l*.

5. A fire at Tiverton in Devonshire, which burnt down 200 houses; for both which towns very large collections were made. The loss amounted to 1,500,000*l*.

15. A proclamation, prohibiting his majesty's subjects to assist the malcontents in Corsica.

22. Advice that the *Prince George*, an English ship, being cast away upon the coast of China, the governor and magistrates of Canton collected upwards of 660*l*,

and distributed it among the unfortunate officers and sailors that escaped.

July 1. William Pulteney, esq., having given offence to the king, he ordered his name to be struck out of the council-book; and that he be put out of the commission of the peace.

11. A new treaty signed at Vienna between the emperor and the crowns of Great Britain and Spain, confirmatory of a preceding one relative to the eventual succession of Don Carlos to the duchies of Tuscany and Parma.

19. A pitch-pot boiling over between two ships on the river Thames, they took fire and communicated it to six others, all of whom were destroyed.

20. Mr. Franklin, the publisher of the *Craftsman*, taken into custody for publishing an alleged libellous pamphlet. The counsel insisted he should give bail for his good behaviour, as well as for his appearance; whereupon he brought his habeas corpus. The case coming to be argued before lord-chief-justice Raymond and the rest of the judges of the King's-bench, it was determined, That he need not give bail for his good behaviour; accordingly he was admitted to bail on giving security for his appearance only.

Aug. 1. Sir Charles Wager, with a fleet under his command, arrived at Cadiz.

13. A litter of young lions was whelped at the Tower, from a lion and lioness whelped there six years before.

28. Charles Boyle, earl of Orrery, died. He was one of a family distinguished for talent, and is himself known as the editor of a new edition of the Greek "Epistles of Phalaris;" of which Dr. Bentley questioning the authenticity, he wrote an answer, entitled, "Dr. Bentley's Dissertation on the Epistles of Phalaris Examined;" it originated a classical controversy involving all the wits of the age. Bentley, however, triumphed over a list of opponents, including Swift, Pope, Atterbury, Garth, Middleton, Dodwell, and Aldrich, and showed that the epistles were not the production of the tyrant of Agrigentum, but of a Greek sophist who lived centuries later. Lord Orrery's name was given to the well-known astronomical machine, first made by Mr. George Graham, whom his lordship patronised.

Sept. 1. The imperialists assisted the Genoese with a body of troops, to reduce the malcontents in Corsica.

The duchess-dowager of Parma declared this month that she was not with child, or ever had been, as she once gave out; whereupon the imperial troops took possession of the duchies of Parma and Placentia, in the name of Don Carlos.

28. Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia

and duke of Savoy, who had abdicated the government, and placed his son on the throne, either being weary of a private life, or incited by the countess his consort, or lastly, looking on himself to be slighted and ill-used by his son and ministers, formed a design to remount his throne. But the young king, under pretence of his having discovered a conspiracy against his government, caused his father to be made prisoner and kept in close confinement, and the countess be removed to a distance from him to prevent further troubles.

Oct. 11. The lottery established by a late act began drawing, and the 10% tickets rose to sixteen guineas.

The warehouse-keeper belonging to the charitable corporation of pawnbrokers absconded, carrying off a great many jewels, and other valuable goods pledged to the company, for the apprehending of whom 1000*l.* was offered.

25. A fire in the Cottonian library at Westminster, which destroyed several valuable manuscripts before it was extinguished.

Dec. 3. The trial of Franklin came on before the judges of the King's-bench, for publishing a libel against the government, by way of a Hague letter, in the *Craftsman*; of which he was found guilty.

The statue of king William III., in cast brass, was erected by subscription in Queen-square, Bristol, which had been rejected by the citizens of London.

BULL UNIGENITUS.—In France they were this year distracted with religious disputes occasioned by the bull unigenitus, directed against the doctrines of Jansenius. This bull was opposed by the parliament and lay tribunals of the kingdom; but many bishops, and the jesuits in general, were its strenuous supporters. "All the artifices," says Smollett, "of priestcraft were practised on both sides to inflame the enthusiasm and manage the superstition of the people. Pretended miracles were wrought at the tomb of abbé Paris, who had died without accepting the bull, consequently was declared damned by the abettors of that constitution. On the other hand, the jesuits exerted all their abilities and industry in preaching against the Jansenists; in establishing an opinion of their superior sanctity, and inspiring a spirit of quietism among their votaries, who were transported into the delirium of possession, illumination, and supernatural converse."

1732. Jan. 13. The king opens the session with an elaborate speech, chiefly eulogistic of his own measures in concluding the late continental alliances; sir R. Walpole having brought parliament into such servile management that addresses from both houses, in accordance with the royal

sentiments, were in this as in former sessions, readily obtained.

28. The protestants of Saltsburg being driven out of their country, were invited to settle in Brandenburg by the king of Prussia.

31. The rev. Mr. Doiley of Ingatestone, Essex, gave 3000*l.* to the corporation for support of clergymen's widows and children.

Feb. 3. A petition presented to the house of commons from the charitable corporation, complaining that they had been defrauded by their servants of vast sums. This society had been formed under the plausible pretext of lending money at legal interest to the poor and to others, upon security of goods, in order to screen them from the rapacity of pawnbrokers. Their capital was at first limited to 30,000*l.*, but by licenses from the crown they increased it to 600,000*l.* In the preceding October, George Robinson, member for Marlow, the cashier, and John Thompson, the warehouse-keeper, disappeared in one day. Upon a meeting of proprietors, it was found that for a capital of 500,000*l.* effects to the amount of 30,000*l.* only could be found, the remainder having been embezzled. The above petition being referred to a committee, they soon discovered an iniquitous scheme of fraud, which had been acted by Robinson and Thompson, in concert with some of the directors, for embezzling the capital and cheating the proprietors.

22. Dr. Francis Atterbury, bishop of Rochester, died in exile at Paris, in the 70th year of his age.

Mar. 12. The queen of France delivered of a princess, being her fourth child, and the king but twenty-two years old.

30. A court of honour was held at the Herald's-college, when it was moved against sir John Blount for bearing a coat of arms not belonging to him.

31. Sir John Eyles reprimanded by the speaker of the house of commons, for directing the secretary of the commissioners for the sale of forfeited estates to set his name to an order for the disposal of the earl of Derwentwater's estate, in the sale whereof great frauds were discovered.

Apr. The pope published an edict for making Ancona, in the gulf of Venice, a free port.

A riot happened at Cambridge, on the taking up a corpse out of the churchyard of a neighbouring village, to be dissected. It being carried into Emanuel-college. Mr. Pern, a justice of peace, granted his warrant to search the college for it: the constables broke into the college, but did not find the body.

3. Royal assent given to a grant of 14,000*l.* to sir Thomas Lombe, for his erecting three Italian machines for making or-

gansine silk, and preserving the invention for the benefit of the kingdom; and a further term of fourteen years was granted him for the sole privilege of making and working the engine. By this invention one hand will twist as much silk as above fifty could do twice, and do it much better. Lombe's machine was erected upon the Derwent, and contained 26,586 wheels and 97,746 movements. It was worked by a water-wheel, which revolved thrice in a minute, and at each turn produced 73,726 yards of silk thread. Hot air was conveyed to every part of the machine by a fire engine.

May 8. It was resolved in the house of commons, that sir Robert Sutton, sir Archibald Grant, William Boroughs, George Jackson, Benjamin Robinson, William Squires, George Robinson, John Thompson, Richard Wooley, and Thomas Warren, having been guilty of many fraudulent practices in the management of the charitable corporation, that they be required to make satisfaction to the poor sufferers out of their estates, and that bills be brought in to prevent them leaving the kingdom.

22. The house of lords ordered, that notice be given to the respective judges of the courts of Westminster-hall, that all peers of parliament have an inherent right to answer upon a protestation of honour only, and not upon common oath; and that the same be inviolably observed.

June 1. Parliament prorogued.

3. The king set out for Hanover, queen Caroline being appointed guardian of the kingdom in his absence.

19. Press warrants issued, and great numbers of sailors taken out of homeward-bound ships.

The English who were lately driven by the Spaniards from the bay of Campeachy to South Carolina carried with them several plants of the logwood tree to cultivate there, the soil and climate being suitable.

The duchess of Marlborough advanced 300,000*l.* on the salt duty revived the last session.

22. The trustees for establishing the new colony of Georgia met the first time at their house in Old Palace-yard.

Mr. Durand, a protestant preacher in the Cevennes, in France, was hanged, for assembling a congregation in those mountains, contrary to the laws of France.

30. The grand fleet of Spain, with 500 transports, and 26,000 men on board, arrived near Oran, on the coast of Barbary, the 28th instant, N. S.

July 1. The Moors attacked the Spaniards, but were defeated; whereupon the Moors abandoned the city of Oran, and the fortress of Mazilginvir, the Spaniards taking possession of them.

5. The emperor, shooting at a stag, accidentally killed the prince of Swartzenberg, his master of the horse.

Advice that the duke de Ripperda, lately minister in Spain, was minister to the emperor of Morocco.

25. The apothecaries' company began to erect their magnificent green-house and hot-house, in their medicinal gardens at Chelsea.

31. A magnificent silver chair of state, made here for the throne of the empress of Russia. The workmanship cost equal to the value of the metal, which weighed 1900 ounces.

Aug. This year was remarkable for its plentiful harvest.

3. The bank of England laid the foundation of their new house.

Sept. 26. The king returns from Hanover.

Oct. 2. A new play-house in Goodman's-fields was this day opened.

The Dutch apprehended themselves in great danger at this time, from an army of worms, which eat up their piles and timber-work that supported the dykes against the sea, and threatened to lay their country under water. They prayed and fasted with uncommon zeal, in terror of this calamity, which they did not know how to avert in any other manner. At length they were delivered from their fears by a hard frost, which effectually destroyed these dangerous reptiles.

13. An order was published by the lord mayor and aldermen, that all prisoners acquitted at the Old Bailey should be discharged without fees. They passed another order, that all prisoners dying in Newgate should be delivered to their friends without fees; and the same orders to be observed by the keepers of Ludgate, and the two Compters.

23. His majesty granted a commission to the lords of the Admiralty, empowering them to erect a corporation for the relief of poor widows of sea-officers, and gave 10,000*l.* towards it. An admiral's widow to be entitled to 50*l.* per annum, a captain's to 40*l.* a lieutenant's to 30*l.* and all other officers' widows to 20*l.* per annum, each.

31. Victor Amadeus, late king of Sardinia and duke of Savoy, died.

Nov. 6. James Oglethorpe, esq. embarked at Gravesend, with some poor families, in order to fix a colony in Georgia on the south of Carolina. They founded the town of Savannah on the river of that name, and which, from its vicinity to Florida, was viewed with jealousy by the Spaniards.

22. The South-sea company came to a resolution to discontinue the Greenland whale-fishery, finding they had been losers by it.

29. The city of Avelino, in Naples, was quite, and the city of Oriano almost, ruined by an earthquake.

Dec. 26. The dissenters, having well weighed the consequences of applying to the parliament for a repeal of the corporation and test acts, came to the resolution, at a meeting of the deputies of the several congregations of dissenters in London and Westminster, and within ten miles of the same, to withdraw their petition.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 14, 1731, to December 12, 1732.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	9144	Males	11655
Females	8644	Females	11703
In all	17788	In all	23358
Decreased in the burials this year, 1904.			
Whereof have died,			
Under two years of age	.	.	9502
Between two and five	.	.	1517
Five and ten	.	.	716
Ten and twenty	.	.	611
Twenty and thirty	.	.	1627
Thirty and forty	.	.	2175
Forty and fifty	.	.	2121
Fifty and sixty	.	.	1741
Sixty and seventy	.	.	1581
Seventy and eighty	.	.	974
Eighty and ninety	.	.	660
Ninety and a hundred	.	.	121
A hundred	.	.	3
A hundred and one	.	.	3
A hundred and two	.	.	4
A hundred and five	.	.	2

William Leland, gent., of Lisnasken in Ireland, died, aged 139 years. He was almost as remarkable for his stature as his age, being very tall and big-boned.

1733. *Jan.* The excise scheme being set on foot, chiefly for the relief of the landed interest, there was a general meeting of the tobaccoists about London, in order to oppose it.

Advice that Thomas Kouli Khan, general of the Persians, had seized on the person of his sovereign, Shah Thomas, and usurped his throne.

S. The jesuits were expelled Paraguay, in South America, for despotic acts.

16. The parliamentary session began, but as the minister continued to be steadily supported by his majority, and no change had intervened in the relations of parties, it promised to be only an annual repetition of former addresses, debates, motions, and arguments.

Sir Charles Wager succeeded lord Torrington as first commissioner of the Admiralty.

This was a sickly season: people were afflicted with head-ache and fever, which

very few escaped, and many died of; particularly between the 23rd and the 30th of January, there died upwards of 1500 in London and Westminster.

Feb. The Dutch attempted to limit and restrain the traffic of the Swedes and Danes to the East Indies; and tried to engage the English in interrupting the navigation of those powers, as they had the Flemings in the affair of the Ostend company: but the English not having now a Dutch stadtholder for king, were wise enough on this occasion to keep aloof from the selfish quarrels of Holland.

21. A proclamation prohibiting all persons to receive or utter in payment by tale, any broad pieces of twenty-five or twenty-three shillings, or the half or quarter pieces; and requiring the collectors of the revenue to receive the same by weight, and the mint to allow four pounds one shilling per ounce for them.

The pension-bill was passed through the house of commons again.

A motion made by the opposition, to reduce the land forces from 17,709 men to 12,000, was negatived by 239 to 171. Upon this occasion, Mr. Horace Walpole, the great diplomatist of the day, remarked "that the number of troops then proposed was absolutely necessary to support his majesty's government, and would be necessary so long as the nation enjoyed the happiness of having the present illustrious family on the throne." To which Mr. Shippen replied, that the question seemed at length to have taken a new turn; since, in former debates, the continuance of the army for only one year had been contended for; but now the mask was thrown off, and the house was given to understand that it was intended to be perpetual.

23. A motion made for taking 500,000l. from the sinking fund for the service of the current year, and continuing the land-tax at one shilling in the pound, which occasioned great debates.

26. The sheriffs of London presented a petition to parliament for leave to fill up Fleet ditch, and erect a market on the spot.

Pension bill rejected in the lords.

Mar. 1. A great flood in the north of England.

7. Sarah Malcolm, who murdered her mistress, Mrs. Duncomb, and two others, in the Temple, was executed in Fleet-street.

14. The excise scheme was first introduced into the house of commons, which occasioned great debates. It was simply a plan for converting the duties on wine and tobacco, which had been hitherto duties of customs, into duties of excise. The ferment which this proposition excited was almost unprecedented. The debate was protracted

till two in the morning, and the minister's first resolution carried only by a majority of 266 to 205. Some other divisions followed, which were still closer.

16. Upon the question that the four excise resolutions be agreed to, it was carried by 249 to 189, and a bill forthwith ordered to be brought in.

April 11. About noon, the sheriffs of London, accompanied by many of the most eminent merchants, in two hundred carriages, came down to the house to present their petition against the excise bill. Sir John Bernard moved, that they might be heard by their counsel, and this was only negatived by 214 to 197. Petitions were also read against the bill from Nottingham and Coventry. The minister's majority being small, and the opposition general, he wisely determined to abandon this unpopular measure. Several persons were apprehended the same evening for insulting sir Robert Walpole, as he passed through the court of requests, and committed to the Gatehouse, but soon after discharged; and this night and the next rejoicings were made in London and Westminster, by ringing of bells, bonfires, and illuminations: the chancellor of the exchequer was burnt in effigy. The chief arguments urged against the ministerial measure were, that it would produce an additional swarm of excise officers, appointed and paid by the treasury, so as to multiply the dependents of the crown, and enable it still further to influence the freedom of elections; that tradesmen would become slaves to excisemen and warehouse-keepers, as they would be debarred all access to their commodities except at certain hours, when attended by those officers; and that should such a law be once tolerated, it would in all probability be some time or other used as a precedent for introducing excise laws into every branch of the revenue; in which case, the liberty of Great Britain would be no more.

Several peers were dismissed from office on account of their opposition to the excise bill. The staff of lord steward of the household was taken from the earl of Chesterfield. Lord Clinton was deprived of his place of gentleman of the bedchamber, as also of the lord-lieutenancy of Devonshire.

27. The interregnum diet opened in Poland, to consider of the choice of a new king, in the room of Frederic Augustus, deceased.

REMARKABLE SUICIDE.—Richard Smith, bookbinder, confined in the King's-bench for debt, persuaded his wife to follow his example in making away with herself after they had destroyed their child. This wretched pair were found hanging in their bedchamber at about a yard's distance from each other; and in a separate room their

infant lay der'd in a cradle. They left two written papers explanatory of their motives, of which the chief was the dread of poverty; and appealed to their neighbours, for the industrious but unavailing efforts they had made to earn a livelihood.

May 5. The earl of Moreton made vice-admiral of Scotland, with a salary of 2000*l.* per annum, in the room of the earl of Stair.

10. The commons resolved, that out of the money arising by the sale of lands at St. Christopher's his majesty should be enabled to apply the sum of 80,000*l.* for a portion to the princess royal, on her marriage with the prince of Orange.

June 1. The house of lords inquired into the conduct of the South-sea company, as to the disposal of the estates forfeited by the misconduct of the directors in 1720.

11. Royal assent having been given to acts for the appropriation of half a million of the sinking fund to the public service, and for a marriage portion to the princess royal, parliament was prorogued.

July 4. A waggon laden with silver, which had been taken from a Spanish privateer by the Garland man-of-war some months since, arrived at London under a strong guard of sailors.

6. The public act began at Oxford, where no *terra filius* was suffered to make his speech as usual.

10. It was computed that there were 800,000 quarters of corn exported to Portugal this year, for which they paid near a million of pounds sterling.

Aug. Sir John Gonson, sir Francis Child, William Peer Williams, esq., and others, were appointed commissioners to inquire into the fees of the several offices belonging to the court of chancery, and the extortions practised in those offices.

11. His majesty ordered 3000*l.* to be expended in repairing Holyrood, Edinburgh.

31. Fifty tons of halfpence and farthings were issued from the Tower for the service of Ireland.

Sept. 3. At Carlton, in Yorkshire, a vaulted sepulchre eight feet long and five broad, was discovered, having in it large human bones, and a helmet standing over the head in a niche. Some Saxon characters appeared on the wall, and the date 992, which was seventy-four years before the conquest.

Oct. 5. The elector of Saxony, son of the late king Augustus, proclaimed king of Poland by the bishop of Cracow. The claims of this prince were supported by Austria and Russia; while those of his rival Stanislaus, who had been raised to the throne of Poland by Charles XII. of Sweden and compelled to abdicate, were supported by France, Spain, and Sardinia.

High disputes between the patentees of the playhouse and the actors.

14. The king of Sardinia declared war against the emperor.

M. de Chavigni, the French minister, presented a manifesto to the court of Great Britain, containing the French king's reasons for declaring war; the chief whereof was, the emperor's combining with the Russians to drive his father-in-law king Stanislaus from the throne of Poland.

16. The duke of Devonshire's fine house in Piccadilly burnt down by accident.

19. The French army having passed the Rhine near Strasburg, laid siege to Kehl, which surrendered a few days after.

30. Sir Philip Yorke made lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench.

Henrietta duchess of Marlborough died; by which the title of duke of Marlborough descended to the earl of Sunderland, son of the lady Anne, second daughter of the late duke of Marlborough.

Nov. 4. The city of Milan surrendered to the king of Sardinia.

7. The prince of Orange arrived at Greenwich, from whence he came to Somerset-house, where he was taken ill on the 11th instant, which occasioned his marriage with the princess royal to be put off.

10. A Spanish squadron of men-of-war and transports, having 25,000 men on board, set sail from Barcelona to Italy.

24. The states-general signed a treaty of neutrality with the French for the Austrian Netherlands, without consulting either the emperor or Great Britain.

29. Charles Talbot, solicitor-general, made lord-chancellor of Great Britain, in the room of lord King, who resigned.

30. The British exportation of corn was so great, that the freight rose from twenty-five shillings to forty-five shillings per ton, and the price of wheat in some places to four shillings per bushel.

Dec. 10. Colonel Norton's will confirmed, whereby he left the parliament his executors and trustees, to dispose of his estate to charitable uses.

Dr. Berkeley, who attempted to erect a college for the education of the Indians at the island of Bermudas, being returned from America without success, was made bishop of Cloyne in Ireland.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 12, 1732, to December 11, 1733.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	8811	Males	14372
Females	8654	Females	14861

In all 17465 In all 29233

Increased in the burials this year 5575, chiefly owing to the severe mortality in January and February. Died under two

years of age 11,738; lived to one hundred and upwards, twelve.

1734. Jan. 17. Parliament met, and the king in his speech noticed the war which had commenced on the continent, and the necessity of increasing their forces.

Feb. 12. The late lord-chancellor King had a pension of 3000*l.* per annum settled upon him.

20. General Laschi, with 20,000 Russians, invested the city of Dantzic, summoning them to dismiss king Stanislaus, and submit to king Augustus.

21. Eight hundred and eighty pounds were collected at the annual feasts for the benefit of the sons of the clergy.

28. Kouli Khan defeated the Turks before Babylon, killed 20,000 men, and lost 10,000.

Mar. 12. The Irish peers residing in London met to consider of their claims to attend the procession of the royal wedding, and not having received summons to attend it as peers of the kingdom of Ireland, unanimously resolved, that neither peers nor peeresses should attend the said wedding as common spectators, or send for their tickets.

13. A motion made for repealing the septennial bill: after great debates it was negatived, 247 to 184.

14. This night the nuptials between the prince of Orange and the princess royal were solemnised, in the French chapel at St. James's.

21. A bill for naturalising the prince of Orange was read three times in the house of commons the same day.

28. A bill to prevent stock-jobbing passed both houses.

Apr. 8. A written message to the commons, by his majesty, importing, that he had settled 5000*l.* a year on the princess royal; and desired they would enable him to make that grant for the life of the princess, which would otherwise determine on his majesty's death. With which message the commons complied.

11. The king prorogues parliament after thanking them for the many signal proofs they had given him for seven years, of their duty and attachment to his person and government; and concluded with a prayer, that Providence would direct his people in the choice of their representatives.

18. A proclamation for dissolving the parliament.

22. The prince and princess of Orange set out for Holland from St. James's, and arrived the 26th at Rotterdam.

27. The bishop of Ely, after a long hearing, upon articles exhibited against Dr. Bentley, master of Trinity college, gave judgment, that the said Dr. Bentley was guilty of dilapidations of the goods of the

college, and of the violation of the statutes; and that he had thereby incurred the penalty of deprivation of his office of master of the college. On the 29th a mandate was sent down, for depriving him, pursuant to his lordship's sentence.

May 14. Don Carlos made his public entry into Naples; and assumed the title of king of Naples and Sicily.

25. The Spaniards, under the command of the count de Montemar, defeated the imperialists, commanded by count Visconti et Bitonto, in the kingdom of Naples; after which Don Carlos met with little opposition in the reduction of Naples and Sicily.

27. The French landed 1700 men near Dantzic, who endeavoured to force their way into that city, but were repulsed; and the squadron that brought them was obliged to retire to Copenhagen, lest they should have been intercepted by the Russian fleet.

June 1. The duke of Berwick opened the trenches before Philipsburg; but was killed at that siege by a cannon ball, on the 12th instant.

4. The election of the sixteen peers for Scotland coming on this day, the courtiers prepared one list and the country party another. A protest was made by a great many Scots peers, importing, that they suspected a list of sixteen peers had been named by the minister to be elected; and that undue means had been used to induce the peers to vote at this election: which, if it appeared to be true, they declared the election to be illegal. Lord Elphinstone declared, that offers had been made to himself for his vote.

5. The bank removed to their new house in Threadneedle-street.

28. General Oglethorpe, with Tomo Chichi, and several other Indian chiefs, arrived from Georgia.

29. The city of Dantzic was obliged to capitulate; but gave king Stanislaus an opportunity of making his escape into Prussia.

A battle was fought near Parma, between the imperialists, commanded by count Merci, and the French and Sardinians, commanded by marshal Coigny; wherein four or five thousand men were killed on each side; amongst them count Merci, the German general.

Fifty gentlemen were nominated to serve as sheriffs for London, last Midsummer-day, four of whom had sworn off, and thirty-five had paid their fines of 400*l.* each; which sums amounted to 18,000*l.* and were ordered to be appropriated to the building a mansion-house.

Several turnpikes having been pulled down in the counties of Hereford and Gloucester, and threatening letters sent to the commissioners to deter them from erecting

them again, a reward of fifty pounds was offered for apprehending any of the rioters.

July 10. King Augustus was proclaimed in the city of Dantzic; all the Polish lords in the interest of Stanislaus having signed an act of submission.

Aug. 16. Upon an examination, by the lord-chancellor, &c., of the coinage at the Mint, it appeared there had been 43,940 pounds' weight of gold coined, which made by tale, 1,955,330*l.* sterling; and of silver 8842 pounds' weight, which made by tale, 271,000*l.* 4*s.*

Sept. 15. The imperialists surprised marshal Broglio's quarters, on the banks of the Secchia in Italy. The marshal escaped in his shirt, but his treasure was taken.

The imperialists attacked the French and Sardinians near Guastalla, but were repulsed with great loss. There were fourteen or fifteen thousand men killed and wounded on both sides.

Nov. 2. An edict was published in France, requiring all the English, Scotch, and Irish in that kingdom, who were in no employment, from the age of eighteen to fifty, whether they had or had not been formerly in the Irish regiments in the French service, to repair to enlist in some of those regiments, in fifteen days, on pain to such as have already served, to be treated as deserters; and that the rest be treated as vagabonds, and sent to the galleys. The English ambassador, lord Waldegrave, presented a memorial against this edict; it being thought ungrateful that British subjects should be treated worse than any other nation, after they had suffered the house of Bourbon to wrest the Spanish dominions in Italy from the emperor.

Mr. Ward returning from France, where he had done a great many cures, having cured a servant of the lord-chief-baron Reynolds in a very desperate case, by his pill and drop, which his lordship acknowledged by a public advertisement this month, Mr. Ward's medicines came into high reputation, and he was attended by all degrees of men; but gave his medicines to the poor gratis.

1735. *Jan. 14.* NEW PARLIAMENT.—The fourth septennial Parliament met, and re-elected Arthur Onslow, treasurer of the navy, speaker. The elections had made no perceptible change in the composition of the house, nearly the same members were returned; the leaders of parties were the same; and nearly the same motions, amendments, debates and arguments were reproduced. In a division upon the address the opposition mustered 185 against 265.

Books were opened at the bank for taking subscriptions for a loan of 250,000*l.* to be made to the emperor on security of the silver mines in Silesia; and the subscrip

tion was filled in three hours' time, and soon after bore a premium.

30. Some noblemen and gentlemen met at a French tavern in Suffolk-street, and had an entertainment of calves' heads, some of which they dressed up in bloody cloths, and exposed them to the mob, whom they treated with wine and strong drink, and caused a bonfire to be made before the door in the evening; but the people at length detesting the barbarous frolic, broke the windows of the house, and had made it as fatal a day to some of the company, as it was to the beheaded king, if the guards had not come to their assistance.

A dispute between the pope and the king of Spain; his catholic majesty insisting that his son Don Louis, seven years of age, should be made archbishop of Toledo; but at length his holiness consented.

Feb. 7. A motion being made for employing 30,000 men in the sea service, some proposed 20,000; but, after a debate, it was resolved to employ 30,000 seamen; and it appeared in this debate, that his majesty had already added 7000 seamen to the 20,000 raised the last year.

14. Resolved that the land forces be augmented to 25,744 men.

20. Petition against the undue return of the Scotch representative peers dismissed.

28. A statue of George II. by the famous Mr. Rysbrack, carved out of a block of white marble that weighed eleven tons, formerly taken from the French by sir George Rooke, was set up in the great parade of the royal hospital at Greenwich, at the expense of Sir John Jennings the governor.

Advice that two of the servants of the Portuguese ambassador having rescued a criminal from justice as he came by the ambassador's house, the king of Spain sent a party of soldiers, who forced their way into the ambassador's house, and took nineteen of his servants prisoners on the 22nd instant, which occasioned a breach between the courts of Madrid and Lisbon, in which Great Britain interposed.

CHARITY SCHOOLS.—All the charity schools, except those of St. Margaret, Westminster, and at Norton-Falgate, had been established since the year 1697. There were, in 1735, within the bills of mortality, 132 schools; boys in them 3158, girls 1965; in all 5123. The number of children educated since their beginning to 1734, was 21,399; of which 8678 had been put out apprentices, and 7598 to services, the rest provided for by their parents, &c. The other charity schools in England were in number 1329; the boys educating therein 19,506, girls 3915. The schools in Scotland were 109; the boys 3009, girls 1047. The schools in Ireland 168; boys 2406, girls 600. Total in England, Scotland, and

Ireland, schools 1738, children educating 35,606.

HOSPITALS IN LONDON.—1138 children were boarding and educating in Christ's Hospital; 125 were put out apprentices last year, and eight died in the hospital. In St. Bartholomew's hospital, 4803 persons, as well foreigners as natives, were last year cured, and many of them relieved with money to carry them to their habitations; 316 died, and 684 were remaining under cure: in all 5803. In St. Thomas's hospital there were 4688 persons cured and relieved in like manner, 307 died, and 666 remained under cure; in all for one year 5661. At Bridewell 325 miserable and indigent people were relieved, and ninety-one apprentices brought up in divers arts and trades. At Bethlem, 140 distracted persons were admitted, of which 104 were cured, and thirty-three died; there were remaining 197 patients.

April. The king of Portugal having made reprisals on the Spanish ambassador, by apprehending as many of his servants as were seized of the Portuguese ambassador's at Madrid, both sides assembled their forces and prepared for war.

May 15. Royal assent given to an act for applying the forfeited estates of the earl of Derwentwater, valued at 8000*l.* per annum, with 10,000*l.* which the fraudulent purchasers were obliged to refund, to the support of Greenwich hospital.

17. This morning early, his majesty went in his chair to Whitehall, from thence in a barge to Lambeth, where the coaches received him and carried him to Gravesend, in order to embark for Holland.

27. Sir John Norris sailed with the grand fleet to Lisbon, to protect the Portuguese against the Spaniards.

29. The Persians entirely defeated the Turks. Thamas Kouli Khan, soon after the battle began, ordered his troops to fly before the Turks, towards a wood, where they were pursued by the Ottoman army; upon a signal given, the Persians faced, and opening in the middle, a train of artillery, which was coucealed, began to fire upon the Turks, making a terrible slaughter: being immediately charged by the Persians, they retreated in confusion, leaving near 60,000 killed and wounded.

Two very fine tombs were finished at Hanover this month, for George I. and his brother, the duke of York.

June 9. Sir John Norris arriving at Lisbon, all manner of refreshments were sent on board the fleet, which was supplied gratis with provisions during its stay there.

10. That celebrated antiquary Thomas Hearne, of Edmund Hall in Oxford, died; 1500*l.* was found in his study.

Queen Caroline ordered a cave to be erect-

ed at Richmond, and adorned it with astronomical figures and characters, to which she gave the name of Merlin's cave.

A committee of the aldermen of London reported that Stocks-market appeared to be the properest place to build a mansion-house for the Lord Mayor.

24. The court of King's-bench made a rule for a mandamus to issue, requiring the vice-master of Trinity college in Cambridge to read the sentence of deprivation against Dr. Bentley: but the vice-master, being a friend of the doctor's, quitted his office, and the sentence was never executed.

The Protestants in Bohemia were severely persecuted by the Austrians, and the king of Prussia interposed in their behalf.

July. A new hospital was founded near Mile-End, by the Drapers' company, in pursuance of the will of Mr. Bancroft, for twenty-four old men and 100 boys: for which uses the testator left about 23,000*l*.

The court of Spain having published several memorials, showing the ill consequences of sending the British fleet to the coasts of Spain and Portugal, in regard to the Spanish commerce; admiral Norris declared that the king of Great Britain did not propose, by sending that fleet to Portugal, to make himself a party in the quarrel; he should only endeavour, by his good offices, to make up the differences between those two powers; and that the principal end in fitting out the British squadron, was to protect the Brazil fleet, in their return to Portugal.

The Czarina sent 30,000 Russians to the assistance of the emperor.

Aug. 1. Parliament prorogued.

Sir Thomas Lombe made a trial of the silk brought from Georgia; and declared it to be the best working silk he ever saw.

About the same time 160 Highlanders, men, women and children, were sent to Georgia, to be settled on the river Alatomaha.

Oct. The kingdom of Bohemia presented a memorial to the emperor, showing that the too earnest desire of the nobility and gentry of Bohemia, to travel into France, ought not to be tolerated; for they not only carried away the money of the country, but reaped no other fruit by their travels, than a vain introduction of French fopperies and trifling novelties; and therefore entreated his majesty to prohibit the Bohemians travelling into France without leave. The emperor promised to issue an edict accordingly; and also forbid the importation of French toys into the empire, and all other goods proper for luxury, which only served to drain the German nation of money.

16. An order of the common council issued for the better lighting the city of

London; and that the lamps should burn till morning.

26. His majesty arrived at Harwich from Hanover.

31. Mr. Oglethorpe embarked for Georgia again, and with him the rev. Mr. John Wesley, fellow of Lincoln college in Oxford; the rev. Mr. Charles Wesley, student of Christ-church college; and the rev. Mr. Ingram, of Queen's college, as missionaries: accompanied by many poor English families.

Mrs. Drummoud, a young Scottish lady, having turned Quaker, came up to London, and preached; and in most of the great towns in England, particularly to the whole university of Cambridge, on the Castle-hill.

Nov. A great riot near Ledbury in Herefordshire, where several people assembled, and pulled down six or seven turnpikes; but being opposed by the justices of peace, with their posse, a smart engagement ensued, in which the rioters were defeated, and some of them made prisoners.

Dec. 28. Preliminary articles of peace concluded between the emperor and France without the privity of the maritime powers, or even of the allies of France, the kings of Spain and Sardinia; the chief of which were a mutual restitution of conquests, the acknowledgment of Augustus for king of Poland, and of Don Carlos for Naples and Sicily.

Christenings and Burials, within the bills of mortality, from December 12, 1734, to December 9, 1735.

Christened.		Buried.	
Males	8,658	Males	11,699
Females	8,615	Females	11,839
In all	16,273	In all	23,538

Decreased in the burials this year 2524. Thirteen lived to a hundred or upwards.

There died at Edinburgh, and were buried in the Grey Friars church-yard, in the year 1735, men 159, women 251, children 519, still-born 45; in all 974. Decreased in the burials 285.

Born at Norwich, from Jan. 1, to Dec. 31, last, males 432, females 375; in all 807. Buried males 447, females 438; in all 885. Decreased in the burials this year 78.

The following are the christenings, marriages, and burials in Paris and the suburbs, for the years 1732, 1733, and 1734:

	1732	1733	1734
Christenings	18,605	17,835	19,835
Marriages	4,103	4,132	4,133
Burials	17,532	17,446	15,122

At Amsterdam died this year 6533, which is 1231 less than in the year 1734, and 4058 less than in 1733.

According to the yearly bill of mortality published at Vienna for 1735, there died

in that city and its suburbs 5545, and the number of births amounted to 5876.

An Account of Corn exported from Christmas 1734, to Christmas 1735.

	Qrs.	Bu.
Barley	57,520	3
Malt	219,781	7
Oatmeal	1,920	6
Rye	1,329	4
Wheat	153,343	5

Bounty paid.

	£.	s.	d.
By barley	7,190	0	11½
By malt	26,433	18	0½
By oatmeal	240	1	10½
By rye	232	13	3
By wheat	38,335	18	6

Total £72,432 12 7½

1736. Jan. 15. Parliament opened by the king, who congratulated them on the prospect of a continental peace, which would enable him to ease the burdens of the people by a reduction in his sea and land forces.

SALE OF SPIRITS.—The justices of peace having inquired into the number of houses which sold Geneva, found there were in the limits of Westminster, the Tower, and Finsbury divisions, exclusive of London and Southwark, 7044 houses and shops where that liquor was publicly sold by retail, besides what was privately sold in garrets, cellars, and back-rooms.

Feb. 16. Being spring-tide the Thames overflowed; so that in Westminster-hall the counsel were carried out in boats to their coaches: the Privy-garden, and the Parade in St. James's Park, were inundated, as was part of the Tower-wharf.

18. **SPLENDID ENTERTAINMENT.**—Count Kinski, the imperial ambassador, gave a grand entertainment at Somerset-house, to the nobility and foreign ministers, on account of the marriage of the first arch-duchess to the duke of Lorraine. There were several tables and courses, and near 300 of the nobility and gentry were there by particular invitation: at night there was a splendid masquerade, and tables covered with the choicest sweetmeats. His majesty and most of the royal family were present; the king was dressed in a blue Turkish habit, the vest white, with a turban buttoned up with diamonds of immense value, and went away between one and two, when the nobility and gentry unmasked: the prince of Wales was masked, and dressed in the habit of a Venetian merchant; the duke was first in a Polish dress, but changed his habit to that of an Imperial hussar, with a fine Turkish scymitar; the princess Amelia was in a rich green velvet habit, representing a sultana, and a turban with

a large diamond button on it, adorned with crescents; the princess Caroline was in that of a shepherdess, but exceedingly rich: the duchess of Marlborough and the duchess of Portland were in the old English dresses worn in queen Elizabeth's days, richly adorned with jewels; viscountess Weymouth was in a Spanish dress; the Spanish ambassadress and the duchess of Wharton were dressed alike in two pilgrims' habits, and talked very much with the king. Most of the company had fine gold and silver favours, the noblemen on their heads, like cockades, and the ladies at their breasts. At one o'clock the great gallery was thrown open, where was a fine cold supper in an ambigu, consisting of 150 dishes.

20. A petition being presented against the abuse of spirituous liquors, the house of commons resolved that their low price was the principal inducement to the excessive use thereof: and that, in order to prevent such abuse a duty be laid on all such liquors sold by retail, of twenty shillings a gallon; and fifty pounds per annum be paid for a licence to retail them. The merchants of Liverpool and Bristol petitioned against the bill founded on these resolutions as likely to lessen the consumption of rum and spirits distilled from molasses. In consequence a clause was inserted in favour of the compound known by the name of *punch*, and distillers were permitted to exercise any other employment.

Mar. 2. The Quakers petitioned the commons, that they might not be sued in any court for tithes. And a bill was ordered to be brought in accordingly: against which almost all the clergy in England petitioned; and counsel were heard both for and against the bill; which passed the commons by a great majority. By this bill two justices of peace were to determine all controversies for tithes, where Quakers were the defendants. But after a debate for committing the bill, on a second reading in the lords it was carried in the negative, 54 non-contenters against 35 contenters.

5. A bill introduced into the commons, to restrain alienations in mortmain. Against it the two universities, the corporation of the sons of the clergy, and the corporation of queen Anne's bounty petitioned. But it passed through both houses, and received the royal assent. By this bill all people are restrained from devising lands to charitable uses, by will or by deed, if not executed twelve months before their decease: and the universities are restrained from purchasing livings, but excepted as to the rest.

Royal assent was given to an act for repealing in England and Scotland the statutes against conjuration, WITCHCRAFT, and dealings with evil and wicked spirits.

A stop was thus put to the ignorant cruelty sanctioned by the 1 Jac. I., and the statute book relieved of a portion of its load of trumpery.

Apr. 10. Prince Eugene, the famous general, found lifeless in bed, supposed to have been carried off by an apoplectic fit. He was born at Paris in 1663, and was the grandson of Charles Emanuel, duke of Savoy. His mother was the intriguing countess of Soissons, a niece of cardinal Mazarine. Being refused, first an abbey and then a regiment, by the French court, he entered the German service, in which he soon distinguished himself by his valour and conduct against the Turks. He was the companion of Marlborough in his great victories; and had long been, both in politics and war, one of the most eminent men in Europe.

14. *AFFAIR OF PORTEOUS.*—Andrew Wilson, condemned for robbing collector Stark, was executed at Edinburgh, attended with numerous guards to prevent a rescue, which was apprehended; but though nothing of that kind was attempted, captain Porteous, the commander of the city guard, on a parcel of boys throwing stones at the executioner as he was cutting him down, fired among the people, as did also his guard, after his example, and about twenty persons were killed or wounded. The captain, and others, guilty of this rash act, were committed to prison. Afterwards it was discovered that the captain fired first, and then ordered his guard to fire, without any order from the magistrates, who attended, and were themselves in danger of being killed, a ball having grazed on the side of the window up stairs, where they stood.

16. Addresses were presented on the marriage of the prince of Wales with the princess of Saxe Gotha, from the lords and commons. On which occasion Mr. George Lyttleton and Mr. William Pitt seized the opportunity of pronouncing very elegant panegyrics on the prince and his amiable consort.

27. At eight in the evening, the marriage was solemnized between the prince of Wales and princess of Saxe Gotha. About twelve the illustrious pair were put to bed, when the king did the bride the usual honours, and company were admitted to see them. Great rejoicings in every part of the town, ringing of bells, bonfires, and illuminations. The monument was illuminated with upwards of one thousand lamps.

May 19. The royal assent being given to the mortmain act, and an act for building Westminster-bridge, parliament was prorogued.

22. The king set out for Hanover.

This month a gentleman distributed the

following charities:—1000*l.* to the society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts; 1000*l.* for the augmentation of poor livings; 1000*l.* to the corporation of the sons of the clergy; and 500*l.* for the propagation of christian knowledge: all which he paid in ready money to the respective societies without discovering his name.

June 22. Captain Porteous, who commanded the guard at Edinburgh, and fired upon the people who were assembled to see the execution of a smuggler, found guilty of wilful murder.

July 14. When the courts were sitting in Westminster-hall, between one and two in the afternoon, a large bundle of brown paper was laid near the chancery court, with several crackers and parcels of gunpowder inclosed; which burst, and the explosion threw out several printed bills, that gave notice that this being the last day of term, the five following libels would be burnt in Westminster-hall, between the hours of twelve and two: namely, the gin act, the mortmain act, the Westminster-bridge act, the smuggler's act, and the act for borrowing 600,000*l.* on the sinking fund. One of these printed bills being carried to the court of King's-bench, the grand jury presented it as a false and scandalous libel; and a proclamation was issued on the 17th for discovering the persons concerned in this audacious outrage, and a reward of 200*l.* offered for the author, printer, or publisher.

IRISH IMMIGRANTS.—In the last week of this month were great tumults and riots at Hackney, Shoreditch, Spitalfields, and other places in and about London, occasioned by the Irish labourers; who, coming over at this time of the year to harvest-work, and underworking the natives, several thousand English labourers assembled, and endeavoured to drive the Irish from the neighbourhood of London; and the Irish being pretty numerous, and standing on their defence, several were wounded on both sides: but the militia being raised, and some regular troops sent to disperse them, the riot was suppressed without any great mischief done.

Aug. Captain Porteous, who commanded the guard at Edinburgh, reprieved by the queen-regent for six weeks.

A war commencing this summer between the Russians and the Turks, the Russians took Azoph and overran Crim Tartary: on the other hand, 2000 houses were burnt down by accident in the city of Moscow.

12. A great fire at Petersburg.

Sept. 7. About ten at night a body of men entered the city of Edinburgh, and seized on the fire-arms, drums, &c. belonging to the city guard, secured all the gates, beat an alarm, and marching to the prison where

captain Porteous was, set the Tolbooth door on fire when they found they could not break it open, and having dragged out Porteous, hanged him upon a sign-post; after which they returned the arms to the guard-house and left the city. It was the day the judges had fixed for the execution of Porteous. Some persons of consequence were supposed to be concerned in this daring exploit; to which they were stimulated by a remembrance of the pardons that had been granted to divers military delinquents in Scotland, who had been condemned by legal trial. A reward of 200*l.* was offered, but the perpetrators were never discovered.

19. Mrs. Mapp, the famous bone-setter of Epsom, continued making extraordinary cures: having set up an equipage, this day she came to Kensington and waited on her majesty.

As a preventive of robberies glass lamps were set up in London for the better lighting the city. The night-watch was also put on a better footing. The space between Fleet-bridge and Holborn-bridge was ordered to be converted into a market.

Oct. 23. A treaty of subsidy was concluded with the Hessians, in consideration of a body of their troops entering into the service of Britain.

A Jew having sold 1000 lbs. of dyed tea, was prosecuted for the cheat, and obliged to pay 10*l.* for every pound weight of the said dyed tea.

Dec. 7. Mr. Nixon, the nonjuring clergyman, tried at the King's-bench bar for a misdemeanor in making and publishing a scandalous libel, dispersed in Westminster-hall on the 14th of July, and blown up, with five acts of parliament. He was condemned to pay 200 marks, suffer five years' imprisonment, and be brought before the courts at Westminster, with a parchment round his head declaring his offence.

24. The sudden death of the two last dukes of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel, originated a suspicion that it was by violence. It seems, above five years ago, a design was formed to destroy by poison the present reigning family. The two last dukes fell a sacrifice to this project; and the present duke must have suffered the same fate, had he not been saved by a seasonable discovery. The persons concerned were thirty-six in number, but the chief conspirator was one baron Wolff, who had been for many years at the court of Brunswick; he was committed close prisoner to the castle of Hartz: they also seized the greatest part of his accomplices, but some of them made their escape. The duke appointed commissioners to try the prisoners, and the baron, finding his crimes fully detected, made an ample confession of the whole plot.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 9, 1735, to December 7, 1736.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	8,471	Males	13,695
Females	8,020	Females	13,886
In all	16,491	In all	27,581
Increased in the burials this year		4043.	

<i>Died:</i>	
Under two years of age	10580
Between two and five	2706
Five and ten	993
Ten and twenty	816
Twenty and thirty	2139
Thirty and forty	2445
Forty and fifty	2357
Fifty and sixty	2121
Sixty and seventy	1666
Seventy and eighty	1114
Eighty and ninety	557
Ninety and one hundred	83
A hundred	1
A hundred and five	1
A hundred and eight	1
A hundred and sixteen	1

The bounty paid on the exportation of grain this year amounted to 55,931*l.*

1737. Jan. 11. The lord-mayor received from the prince of Wales, 500*l.*, to be applied to the releasing poor freemen of the city of London out of prison.

14. The king, returning from Hanover, landed at Lowestoff in Suffolk, after a very stormy passage.

26. All the prisoners for debt, in White-chapel gaol, were discharged by the executors of the late Mr. Wright, of Newington-green.

Feb. 1. The king being indisposed by a tempestuous passage from Holland, parliament was opened by commission. Except some complaints of divers tumults to obstruct the execution of the laws, the royal speech was void of interest.

14. Dr. John Potter, bishop of Oxford, nominated archbishop of Canterbury, on the death of archbishop Wake. The late primate filled the metropolitan see twenty-one years. Before his elevation he was distinguished by liberal sentiments, which he belied in his later years by a pertinacious opposition to the laudable efforts of ministers to abolish religious disqualifications. His successor was eminent for learning, but morose and haughty in demeanour.

Lord Hardwicke, lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench, appointed lord-chancellor of Great Britain, in the room of lord Talbot, deceased. Mr. justice Lee was made lord-chief-justice.

22. ROYAL DISPUTES.—A motion was made in the commons by Mr. Pulteney, on the 22nd, and in the lords on the 25th. by

the lord Carteret, to address his majesty to settle 100,000*l.* per annum on the prince of Wales. It was opposed by sir R. Walpole, as an encroachment on the prerogative; as an officious intermeddling with the king's family affairs; and as an effort to set his majesty and the prince at variance. But a misunderstanding appears to have already taken place in the royal family; and a copy of a message from the king to the prince was produced, in which the king offered to pay the prince 50,000*l.* per annum out of the civil list, over and above the revenues of the duchy of Cornwall, and settle a jointure on the princess. To this message the prince had returned a verbal answer, importing that the affair was now out of his hands, and therefore he could give no answer to it. The debates being finished, and the message, with the prince's answer, being read, the question was put to address his majesty to settle 100,000*l.* per annum on the prince, which was resolved in the negative in the house of peers, 103 to 40. In the house of commons also, it was resolved in the negative, 234 against 204. The prince, who was the opponent of the minister and the head of the opposition, highly resented, and with great apparent reason, that out of a civil list of 800,000*l.* a revenue of 50,000*l.* per annum only should be allowed him; although his father when prince had 100,000*l.* out of a civil list of 700,000*l.* It was the cause of an entire alienation between the two courts of St. James's and Leicester-house; and the prince was not even permitted, in her last illness, to visit the queen, who expired in the November following.

Mar. 5. Great numbers of footmen assembled with weapons, in a tumultuous manner, and broke open the doors of Drury-lane theatre, fighting their way to the stage door, which they forced open, and hindered the proclamation being read by colonel de Veil; however, he caused several of the ringleaders to be taken and committed to Newgate. A great many people were wounded in the scuffle; the audience frightened and forced to retire; among whom were the prince and princess, and a great many persons of distinction. The pretence for this disturbance was, that the footmen were locked out of the upper gallery, which they claimed a right to.

Apr. 4. A bill introduced into the lords for punishing the city of Edinburgh, owing to the affair of captain Porteous.

26. Three Scottish judges having been summoned, it was debated, whether they should be interrogated at the bar, at the table, or on the woolstack. Some Scottish lords asserted that they had a right to be seated next the English judges, but this claim was rejected; and it was carried, 63

to 51, they should appear at the bar in their robes.

May 12. Dr. Ratcliffe's trustees laid the foundation of his magnificent library, at Oxford; for the building whereof the Doctor left 40,000*l.*

A message to the commons, to settle a jointure of 50,000*l.* a year on the princess of Wales.

June 1. The commons, in committee on the Porteous bill, sent down from the lords, strike out the clauses for imprisoning the provost, for demolishing the Netherbow-gate, and for abolishing the municipal guard of Edinburgh; and agree only to clauses for disabling the provost, and fining the city 2000*l.*, to be paid to the widow of Porteous. In this state the bill received the royal assent.

A proposal was made by sir John Bernard, for reducing the interest on the public funds to three per cent. But this, not being approved by the ministry, was dropped.

The states of Courland elected for their duke the count de Biron, a great favourite of the czarina.

2. Royal assent given to an act for prohibiting the representation of dramas not approved by the lord-chamberlain. This act was warmly debated, but the influence of the minister carried it rapidly through its different stages. Walpole had been much annoyed by political pamphlets and theatrical pieces, which assailed his conduct and government. By this act he hoped to choke up some of those channels of censure and abuse. A manuscript farce, called the *Golden Rump*, fraught with treason and virulence, which had been sent to the minister, and by him descanted on in the house, was made the immediate pretext for this infringement of the liberty of the press. Upon the same day parliament was prorogued, his majesty having first lamented the spirit of insubordination and licentiousness pervading the community.

July 2. The emperor declared war against the Turks, and the duke of Lorraine marched towards Nissa with the grand army; while other bodies advanced towards Walachia and Bosnia. The Muscovites about the same time advanced towards Oczakow, with an army, commanded by general Munich; while general Lasci, with another army of Russians, invaded Crim Tartary.

John Gaston, great duke of Tuscany, died at Florence, on the 9th instant, without issue, in the 67th year of his age; whereby the male line of the house of Medici became extinct, and the duke of Lorraine came into the possession of the dukedom of Tuscany.

13. Oczakow surrenders to the Russians.

31. Advice, that the Derby Indiaman, a ship worth 90,000*l.*, was pusillanimously

surrendered by captain Anselm, to the pirate Angria.

Aug. 4. The convention of the royal boroughs in Scotland, having presented Mr. Speaker Onslow with a suit of fine table-linen of their own manufacture, the speaker returned them his thanks; and assured them, that as far as his influence went, he would promote the manufacture of home-made linen: he sent them 100*l.* to be applied to the use of the manufacture. Whereupon the governors ordered it to be distributed into prize-money, to such as should make the best table-linen, in the years 1738, 1739, and 1740.

25. The town was alarmed with a report of her majesty's death, and the tradesmen were providing mourning for her funeral; but next day it appeared her majesty was in good health at Hampton-court.

The Danes set up manufactures of silk and woollen, for the encouragement whereof the king published an edict, requiring his subjects that received salaries or pensions to contribute 10*l.* per cent. per annum out of their revenue, for their support.

Sept. 10. The king sent a message to the prince by the dukes of Grafton and Richmond, complaining of his undutiful behaviour, and desiring that he would leave St. James's-palace. Upon which the prince withdrew to Kew on the 14th instant.

29. Sir John Bernard elected lord-mayor of London.

30. Fleet-market opened.

Grain being very dear, there were great riots in the west of England, particularly among the miners, who seized upon the corn that was carrying to market, broke open the warehouses in the port towns, and carried off the corn, under pretence that it was designed for exportation.

Oct. 13. A proclamation for suppressing riots by the tinnners, and others, in Cornwall.

Nov. 4. The archbishop of Canterbury, lord-chancellor, lord-president of the council, lord privy-seal, the principal secretaries of state, and others, were appointed to examine the fees in the several courts of law.

20. **DEATH OF THE QUEEN.**—At eleven this evening died queen Caroline, in the fifty-fifth year of her age. Her premature death was occasioned by a rupture, which, from a false delicacy, very inconsistent with the general magnanimity of her character, she concealed too long from her physician. When near her end, she said to sir Robert Walpole, while his majesty was present, "I hope you will never desert the king, but continue to serve him with your usual fidelity;" and, pointing to the king, she added, "I recommend his majesty to you." The influence of the minister suffered no diminution by the death of his patroness, who was a woman of superior attainments,

great sagacity, and exemplary conjugal virtue. The queen's favourite study was theology, and she has been accused of scepticism. In her last moments, though urged by the bishops, she declined to receive the sacrament; but fervently joined in the Lord's Prayer. She was the correspondent of Leibnitz, and the admirer and patron of Whiston. Her good sense, amiable disposition, and personal attractions gave her an ascendancy over the king which no rival could undermine.

Dec. 14. Fire at the King's printing-office, Blackfriars. The loss estimated at 20,000*l.*

17. Queen Caroline privately interred in Henry the VIIIth's chapel.

A yearly bill of mortality for the city and suburbs of DUBLIN, ending March 31, 1738:—

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	672	Males	1023
Females	737	Females	1483
In all 1409		In all 2506	

Increase this year, births 53; burials 289.

1738. *Jan. 24.* Parliament met, and the king made a speech to both houses, recommending as usual dispatch and unanimity.

Feb. A motion for reducing the army from 17,704 men to 12,000, negatived by 249 to 164.

The universities waited on his majesty with books of verses, condoling the queen's death.

21. One Connin, a carpenter at Gibraltar, having brought his action against general Sabine, governor of that fortress, for trying him by a court-martial, and causing him to receive 300 lashes, recovered 700*l.* of the general in the court of King's-bench. The reason the carpenter was used so barbarously, it seems, was, because he opposed an officer of the garrison, who sought to seduce his wife.

William Pitt made one of the gentlemen of the bed-chamber to the prince of Wales.

Mar. **DEPREDACTIONS OF THE SPANIARDS.**—Early in this month petitions were presented to parliament from the West India merchants and others, trading to the plantations, complaining of the depredations committed by the Spaniards in America. Ever since the treaty of Seville, the Spaniards had insulted and distressed the commerce of Great Britain. They disputed the right of English traders to cut logwood in the bay of Campeachy, and gather salt on the island of Tortugas; though that right was acknowledged by implication in the treaties which had been concluded between the two nations. The captains of their armed vessels, known by the name of guarda-costas, had made a practice of boarding and plundering British ships, on pre-

tence of searching for contraband commodities, on which occasions they had behaved with the utmost insolence and cruelty. Some of their ships of war attacked a fleet of English merchant ships at the island of Tortugas, as if they had been at open enmity with England. They had seized a great number of British vessels, imprisoned their crews, and confiscated their cargoes, in defiance of justice and humanity. It was of these outrages the petitions complained; and several merchants were examined at the bar of the house, in support of their allegations.

11. A proclamation for putting in execution the act against retailing spirituous liquors. The populace were so enraged against the Gin Act, that it occasioned numberless tumults in the metropolis. The passion for this spirit was such, and so little regard was paid to the law by which it was prohibited, that within two years 12,000 persons were convicted within the bills of mortality of having sold it illegally. Nearly one half that number was cast in the penalty of 12*l.*; and 3000 paid 10*l.* each, rather than be committed to the house of correction.

16. Captain Jenkins, the master of a Scottish merchant ship, examined at the bar of the house of commons. According to his relation, he was boarded by a guardacosta, who, after ransacking his ship and ill-treating his crew, tore off one of his ears, and throwing it in his face, told him "to take it to his king." Upon being asked what he thought when he found himself in the hands of such barbarians, Jenkins replied, "I recommended my soul to God and my cause to my country." These words, and the display of his ear, which, wrapped up in cotton, he always carried about him, filled the house with indignation. It is observable, however, of "the fable of Jenkins' ear," as Burke calls it, that it had happened seven years ago (Coxe's Memoirs of Walpole, i. 579), and was one of the many relations got up, and aggravated, for the purpose of forcing the minister into a war, and thereby displacing him.

28. Counsel having been heard in the commons on the petitions of the merchants and others trading to America, the matter was debated in a full house. About 450 members were present. An address to the king was agreed to; but the pacific policy of the minister was inimical to the adoption of vigorous measures.

May 13. Anniversary feast of the sons of the clergy. The collection for placing out the children of clergymen was —

At the rehearsal and feast-day	£.	s.	d.
At St Paul's	.	386	7 7
At the hall	.	520	8 0

£906 15 7

Henry Haines, for printing the *Craftsman*, of the 2nd of July, 1737, was sentenced to pay a fine of 200*l.*, to suffer two years' imprisonment, and to find security for his good behaviour for seven years.

20. Upwards of sixty public and private bills received the royal assent; after which parliament was prorogued.

24. Between seven and eight, the princess of Wales was delivered of a prince at Norfolk-house, St. James's-square, afterwards George III.

July 25. On the Thames 1500 seamen were impressed for the royal navy.

Aug. 4. About 200 medals in gold and silver of Oliver Cromwell were lately struck at his majesty's mint, from a die of Cromwell, cut during his protectorate at the Tower of London, and lately bought at Lisle in Flanders by an English virtuoso on his travels, who brought the die to London.

Sept. 23. The celebrated Dr. Edmund Boerhaave, professor of physic and chemistry at Leyden in Holland, died in the 70th year of his age.

The pope issued a bill of excommunication against freemasons.

Oct. 4. The Hanoverians attacked the town of Steinhorst, in possession of the Danes, and took it; which occasioned a rupture between Denmark and Hanover. The regency of Hanover would not have ventured on this aggression without reliance on their powerful ally; and the difference was subsequently compromised by England stipulating to pay Denmark 250,000 crowns per annum for three years.

9. The Muscovites demolished the fortress of Oczacow before they went into winter quarters, it being too remote from the rest of their territories to be defended against the Turks without a great expense.

30. The French ambassador at Stockholm signed a treaty with the Swedish ministers, whereby the French king promised to pay to the crown of Sweden, during ten years, a subsidy of 90,000 livres; and Sweden promised not to make any treaty during that time with any other power without the consent of France.

Nov. John Asgill died in the rules of the King's-bench, aged nearly 100 (ante p. 313).

7. The definitive treaty between the emperor and the French king was signed at Vienna, whereby France guaranteed the Pragmatic sanction; that is, the possession of all the Austrian dominions to the female heirs of the emperor.

Dec. A convention was concluded this month between their British and Danish majesties, in relation to the territory of Steinhorst; and his majesty withdrew his troops from thence.

Christenings and Burials, within the bills of mortality, from December 13, 1737, to December 12, 1738:—

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	8,212	Males	12,750
Females	7,848	Females	13,075
In all 16,060		In all 25,825	
Decreased in the burials this year, 1998.			
Died:			
Under two years of age	.	.	9600
Between two and five	.	.	2366
Five and ten	.	.	784
Ten and twenty	.	.	783
Twenty and thirty	.	.	2072
Thirty and forty	.	.	2439
Forty and fifty	.	.	2363
Fifty and sixty	.	.	2106
Sixty and seventy	.	.	1551
Seventy and eighty	.	.	1121
Eighty and ninety	.	.	529
Ninety and a hundred	.	.	101
A hundred	.	.	2
A hundred and two	.	.	4
A hundred and three	.	.	2
A hundred and five	.	.	1
A hundred and eleven	.	.	1

The decrease in mortality may have arisen from the less consumption of spirits in consequence of the Gin Act. It seems to have operated favourably for the rearing of infants, as there is a decrease in the deaths of those under two years of age, compared with the preceding year (ante p. 412), to the amount of 980. The greater sobriety of parents had doubtless great influence in this striking result.

1739. *Feb.* 1. On the commencement of the session the king informed parliament a convention had been concluded with Spain.

8. A copy of the Spanish convention of Pardo laid before the house of lords.

12. A satire written by Mr. Whitehead, reflecting on several peers, was voted a scandalous and malicious libel; and, the author absconding, Robert Dodsley, the printer, who attended, was ordered to be taken into custody; after some debate, wherein the lords who were against it observed, that it was not usual to take a printer or publisher into custody, where he appeared and discovered his author.

17. George Whitfield, the founder of the Calvinistic methodists, preaches from his first field-pulpit to the colliers of Kingswood, near Bristol; a race of men ignorant of religion, of brutal manners, and uncouth dialect.

Mar. 8. Debate in the commons on the Spanish convention, in which both parties summoned their forces: 400 members had taken their seats by eight in the morning, and an address of approval was only carried by a majority of 28 in a house of 492 members.

Apr. 7. As the workmen were digging in Stocks-market, for the foundation of the Mansion-house, they took up a grave-stone which had been there 297 years. The letters and figures, with a curious coat of arms upon it, appeared but very little defaced.

19. Dr. Nicholas Saunderson, professor of mathematics in the university of Cambridge, died, aged 57. When a year old he lost his eye-sight through the small-pox. Yet he became a very learned man and popular lecturer.

27. Lord Santry tried at Dublin, and found guilty by his peers of the murder of his servant. He was young, and the last of the family, and, great interest being made, the king was prevailed upon to relieve him during pleasure.

May. The first stone of a methodist chapel was this month laid in Bristol. Some difficulty soon after arising as to the liability of the feoffees, Mr. Wesley took the management of the chapel into his own hands, as he did that of others, and thereby established unlimited authority over his followers, which the present Conference inherits from him.

There being a great scarcity of corn in many of the provinces of France, the duke of Orleans caused 100,000*l.* to be expended in the purchase of corn from this country, to be distributed at a moderate price among the poor in those provinces where he had any interest.

Lord Walpole, eldest son of sir Robert, made auditor of the Exchequer, in the room of the late earl of Halifax, a place for life worth 5000*l.* per annum. Edward Walpole, esq., second son of sir Robert, made clerk of the pells in the Exchequer, in the room of his brother.

The Danes, by a subsidy treaty, engaged to keep, during three years, 5000 foot and 1000 horse in readiness, for the service of Britain. But as it was stipulated they should not serve in the fleet, nor against France or Spain, except in Germany, nor be carried beyond sea, people were much puzzled to know the kind of service they were engaged for.

The terms of the convention not being settled, vigorous preparations for war were made in this month.

June 10. The centre house in Grosvenor-square, valued at 10,000*l.*, was raffled for, and won by Mrs. Hunt, a grocer's wife in Piccadilly, and Mrs. Brathwaite, her lodger.

14. Parliament prorogued, after the royal assent had been given to an act restraining lotteries, raffles, and gaming. Also to an act granting 5000*l.* to Joanna Stevens for the discovery of a nostrum for the cure of calculus, but the medicine did not answer expectations.

July 10. An order of council was made for making reprisals on the Spaniards.

At this time there were upwards of 260 members in the house of commons who had places under the government, with salaries from 250*l.* to 11,000*l.* a year.

Aug. Advice that Nadir Shah had invaded India, and penetrated into the heart of that country; whereupon the Turks were at liberty to recall their troops from Persia, and bend their whole force against the Christians: that the imperialists had been defeated at Kroska, near Belgrade; and that the Turks had laid siege to that city.

Sept. 5. The Spanish ambassador leaves London.

12. Peace between the emporor and the Turks.

20. The king of Spain granted commissions to cruise against the English, and seized the English shipping in his ports.

Oct. 1. Advice that Nadir Shah had defeated the Great Mogul, and made him prisoner in his capital of Delhi.

17. A charter granted for erecting an hospital for foundling children; for which it was computed the sum of 30,000*l.* was collected among the nobility and gentry before the patent passed.

23. War proclaimed against Spain at Charing-cross and the Royal-exchange.

28. The St. Joseph, a Spanish ship, taken by Admiral Haddock near Cadiz, arrived at Spithead. This prize was valued at 100,000*l.*

Nov. 5. There being a mutiny among the workmen in the yards at Woolwich, a battalion of guards and a troop of horse were sent down; upon which they dispersed, but refused to work, unless some privileges were allowed them, which they claimed as their right.

6. A riot of the journeymen weavers in Spitalfields, and a battalion of guards sent to disperse them.

15. Parliament being assembled, the king stated he had summoned them thus early on account of the war with Spain, and to which the Spaniards had been encouraged through "the heats and animosities which had been fomented in the kingdom." Addresses of support were tendered from both houses; and Mr. Pulteney and other oppositionists who had seceded from the commons on account of its approval of the Pardo convention, now resumed their places. Walpole, who had taken the opportunity to pass several popular measures in the interval, met them with a sarcastic speech to the effect that public business had gone on very well in their absence, and that if they had returned only to "oppose and perplex," their presence would be no gain to the country.

20. First meeting of the nobility and

gentry at Somerset-house to receive the charter of the Foundling-hospital. It was read by Thomas Coram, esq., the first petitioner, and empowered them to purchase lands to the value of 4000*l.* per annum. Their common seal,—Pharaoh's daughter and her maids taking Moses out of the bull-rushes.

26. A proclamation for a public fast for imploring God's blessing on our arms against Spain.

There were 30,000 men on the establishment of Great Britain, 12,000 on that of Ireland, and 6000 marines to be raised as fast as possible, and 6000 Danes to be taken into our service, if wanted; which, with 30,000 men in the electorate of Hanover, would make upwards of 80,000 troops.

Advice that Nadir Shah had put out the eyes of the Great Mogul and his prime-minister, and destroyed 300,000 of the inhabitants of Delhi.

Dec. 25. A severe frost began.

A general bill of all the Christenings and Burials, within the bills of mortality, from Dec. 12, 1738, to Dec. 11, 1739:—

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	8,228	Males	12,416
Females	7,953	Females	13,016

In all 16,181

In all 25,432

Decreased in the burials this year, 393.

Died under two years of age, 9,687. Lived to 100 or upwards, 13.

The number of burials last year at Vienna amounted to 6142, and of christenings to 6060. At Amsterdam there died last year 7507 persons, which is 255 less than the year preceding; and there were 2581 marriages, namely, 1653 in the Calvinist churches, and 928 in the other churches.

1740. Jan. 7. At Kirkaldy, as fourteen apprentices and servants were making merry according to the custom there, on the first Monday in the year, in a hollow below a rocky eminence, the rock fell and crushed them to death.

Advice of the death of the pope, having a few days before signed an indulto, whereby he gave the king of Spain leave to raise 2,000,000 of crowns upon the clergy of Spain, not even excepting the jesuits.

The frost continued very intense through this month, and the damage done to the shipping by the ice immense. Coals were sold at 2*s.* a bushel in London; water still dearer. The necessities of the poor were very great, not being able to work at their trades; but the rich were never more charitable. The frost was general in Europe.

A conspiracy against the czarina was discovered; for which four princes of the Dolghoruky family were executed at Novogorod: this plot was formed in favour of the princess Elizabeth.

Feb. 2. Orders for a general embargo.

5. A proclamation, offering every able sailor who would enter into his majesty's service two guineas bounty money; every ordinary man thirty shillings; and constables were offered two guineas for every sailor they should impress.

A bill was introduced for a general registry of seamen. It was opposed by sir John Bernard, on the ground that it would obviate the distinction between 'a sailor and bondsman,' and was ultimately abandoned.

14. Several fires at Dublin and Exeter, which from the scarcity of water raged uncontrolled.

16. The great frost began to abate; and by the 20th instant the Thames was open, to the great joy of every body.

23. The king having sent a message to the commons on the 8th instant, desiring a further supply, and no message having been sent to the lords, some of the peers apprehended it to be a great slight; upon which a motion was made, that it was contrary to the custom of parliament that a message, signed by his majesty, asking a further supply for carrying on the war, should be sent to the house of commons singly, without taking any notice of the house of peers. But the motion was negatived by 68 to 32.

Mar. 13. Advice that admiral Vernon had captured Porto Bello, and blown up the fortifications.

19. A pension bill, which had passed the commons, was rejected by the lords, chiefly through a speech of the bishop of Salisbury.

Apr. 29. Parliament prorogued, after the royal assent had been given to an act for preventing horse racing, and deceitful gaming.

30. **STATE OF PARTIES.**—The duke of Argyle surrendered all his places. According to lord John Russell, "his grace was a man of a greedy disposition and irritable temper: his discontent arose, in all probability, from personal motives; but the convention with Spain served to colour his change of politics. The opposition in the house of lords had grown of late years very formidable. The duke of Argyle was a declamatory, but a ready, graceful and animated speaker. Lord Carteret was elegant, classical, and well-informed; lord Bathurst was a practised and sensible debater; the duke of Bedford spoke ably on questions of trade and business of detail." In the cabinet, lord Hardwicke and the duke of Newcastle were estranged from the minister; the duke in consequence of the promotion of lord Hervey to be privy-seal, in the room of the earl of Godolphin. Walpole had begun to prepare for the coming storm, by

fixing his first and second son in two valuable sinecures.

May 6. His majesty set out for Hanover; but the winds proving contrary, he lay a great while in the mouth of the Thames, and did not arrive at Helvoetsluys until the 25th instant.

8. Princess Mary married to the prince of Hesse.

31. Died, in his fifty-second year, the king of Prussia, leaving a character, as described by the margrave of Bareith, in her 'Memoirs,' degraded by caprice, avarice, ignorance, and brutality. He was succeeded by his eldest son Frederick, then in his twenty-eighth year, and afterwards so famous as a warrior, legislator, and man of letters.

July. Riots in various parts, owing to the high price of grain and its exportation. Several were killed by the military, and orders were issued to enforce the 5th and 6th of Edw. VI. against engrossers.

16. The dowager queen of Spain, widow of Charles II., died, aged 73.

Aug. A subsidy treaty concluded with Hesse for four years; whereby Hesse was obliged to keep 4800 foot and 1200 horse for the service of Britain; for which Britain was to pay 250,000 crowns a year.

Sept. The king of Prussia having a dispute with the bishop of Leige, about the barony of Herstal, that king ordered his troops to march into the bishopric, and live at free quarters till the bishop complied with his demands.

14. The king of Prussia withdrew his forces out of the territories of Leige, on being paid 200,000 German crowns.

18. Admiral Anson sailed from Spithead for the South-sea.

Oct. 20. **PRAGMATIC SANCTION.**—Emperor Charles VI., the last heir-male of the house of Austria Hapsburg, died. In a few days after, Anne, empress of Russia, who bequeathed her crown to Ivan, the infant grandson of her elder sister, the duchess of Mecklenburg. But this disposition was soon after set aside in favour of the princess Elizabeth, who in the government of the empire adopted the wise policy of her father Peter the great. Almost all the powers of Europe had, by the Pragmatic Sanction, guaranteed the possessions of Austria to the archduchess Maria Theresa, queen of Hungary; yet no power, except England, was influenced by its engagements.

Nov. Frederick of Prussia, availing himself of the great treasure accumulated by the late king, and of a powerful army, revived a dormant claim to Silesia, which he this month invaded.

12. Maria Theresa declared the duke of Tuscany her husband and co-regent in the government of her dominions.

18. The last session of parliament began.

Dec. 2. The Prussians enter Breslaw. Frederick offered to advance the queen of Hungary money sufficient to resist all her enemies, on condition of the formal cession of Silesia. But Maria Theresa rejected the proposition with disdain; saying, she would sooner lose her under-petticoat than cede that province.

31. It was computed that 407 English vessels had been taken by the Spaniards since the commencement of the war, valued at 3,850,300 pieces of eight.

In the course of this year the opposition lost, by death, one of their chief leaders, sir William Wyndham, who was deeply regretted as an orator and patriot; his early party attachments having been forgotten in admiration of his long and bitter hostility to a minister now generally unpopular.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 11, 1739, to December 16, 1740.

Christened.		Buried.	
Males	7,833	Males	14,985
Females	7,398	Females	15,826

In all 15,231 | In all 30,811

Increased in the burials this year, 5379. Ten thousand seven hundred and sixty-five died under two years of age. Thirteen lived to the age of one hundred or upwards. The number of deaths was remarkably augmented this year, owing to the severe winter and rise in the price of grain.

According to the last year's bill for the city of Paris, there were

Christened	.	.	18,632
Married	.	.	4,017
Buried	.	.	25,284
Foundlings	.	.	3,150

So that 6652 died more than were baptized.

1741. Jan. 24. Samuel Goodier, esq., captain of the Ruby man-of-war, lying in Kingroad, hired some sailors to surprise his brother sir Dinely Goodier, at Bristol, and hurry him on board the Ruby; where the captain caused him to be murdered, with a view of enjoying his estate, which was said to be 3000*l.* per annum. But the assassins were discovered, and confessed their villany.

Feb. A monument erected in Westminster-abbey to the memory of Shakspeare.

4. A fast for the success of the war.

11. ATTACK ON WALPOLE.—Mr. Sandys went up to sir Robert Walpole, in the house, and told him that on Friday next he should bring a charge against him in public. The minister seemed surprised, but, after a short pause, thanked him politely for this previous notice, and said he desired 'no favour, but fair play.' It was on this occasion sir Robert misquoted Ho-

race. 'As I am not conscious,' said he, 'of any crime; I do not doubt of being able to make a proper defence. *Nil conscire sibi nulli pallescere culpa.*' Mr. Pulteney corrected him; but he insisted on being right, and actually bet a wager on the accuracy of his quotation.

13. Pursuant to his previous intimation, Mr. Sandys made his motion for the dismissal of sir Robert Walpole from the king's councils for ever. The gallery was crowded long before the house met: many members secured their seats at six o'clock in the morning. The accusations of Mr. Sandys were vague and indefinite. The very length of Walpole's power, he said, was in itself dangerous; it was not necessary to accuse him of any specific crime; the dissatisfaction of the people was a sufficient cause for his removal. He was answered by Mr. Pelham, to whom sir John Bernard replied. The debate was closed at three in the morning by a powerful speech from Walpole. His address made a deep impression on the house; and the motion of Mr. Sandys was negatived by the large majority of 290 against 106. A like motion was made the same day by lord Carteret in the lords, which was supported only by 59 votes against 108. Several peers who held places and were secretly opposed to the minister, did not vote, and acquired the name of 'sneakers.'

Mar. 10. Foundation stone of the Exchange at Bristol laid by the mayor, Henry Combe.

26. The new lord-mayor sworn in on a platform, erected outside of the gate, by lord Cornwallis, constable of the Tower, according to an ancient custom, when the barons of the Exchequer are out of town.

Apr. 8. The king, in a speech, informs parliament that the queen of Hungary had demanded the 12,000 troops he had stipulated to furnish; and, in consequence, he had required from the king of Denmark and the king of Sweden, as landgrave of Hesse Cassel, that they hold in readiness their quotas of 6000 each, for the maintenance of which they had received subsidies from England. A subsidy of 300,000*l.* was voted to the queen. The preparations for this war had already cost 5,000,000*l.* The king was drawn into it from apprehensions for Hanover, endangered by the neighbourhood of Prussia, suddenly become a power of the first rank. After all, George II. kept out of the quarrel by agreeing with the French to give his vote to the elector of Bavaria, for emperor, and thereby securing the neutrality of his German territories.

10. Battle of Molwitz, in which the Austrians had 7000 killed and the Prussians 2500. Frederick of Prussia left the field early, and the victory was won by the skill of marshal Schwerin.

25. Parliament prorogued, and on the 28th instant dissolved.

An act passed this session to prohibit the exportation of corn, malt, bread, biscuit, starch, beef, pork, and bacon.

Henry Bromley, Stephen Fox, and John Howe, three members of the commons, who had signalled themselves in defence of the minister, were created barons of Montford, Ilchester, and Chedworth. Horatio Walpole, esq. was made one of the tellers of the Exchequer, in the room of lord Onslow, deceased.

May 6. The king having appointed the same lords justices as last year, set out for Hanover.

18. Great public rejoicings, on the receipt of news of some advantage gained over the Spaniards in the harbour of Carthagena. But the sequel of this expedition under admiral Vernon and general Wentworth proved most disastrous. Incapacity and dissension characterised their operations; and after sustaining immense loss from ill-concerted attacks and tropical diseases, they were compelled to a disgraceful retreat. Vernon was reinforced with 3000 men from England, but he accomplished nothing; and it was discovered that his abilities had been greatly overrated, in consequence of his lucky capture of Porto Bello in the preceding year.

June 2. A very hot press; they took all they could lay hands upon, whether they had protections or not, on board or ashore; and in thirty-six hours the number taken and enrolled in the navy books was 2370.

14. Maria Theresa crowned queen of Hungary at Presburg. After the ceremony she advanced to a certain rising ground near the Danube, and according to ancient custom, mounting a horse richly caparisoned, flourished a naked sword towards the four quarters of the world; thereby signifying that she would defend the kingdom against its enemies on every side.

16. As prince George, the princess Augusta, and the other young prince and princess were removing from Epsom to Cliefden, they were met on Hounslow-heath by two highwaymen, who rode up to the coach, but being informed whose children were in it, they only cried, God bless them, and went off: however, meeting soon after with the nurses and attendants in another coach, they robbed them of a considerable booty.

24. For the benefit of trade, the post-master-general orders that letters shall be despatched to Bristol, Norwich, and some other towns, six, in lieu of three times a week.

31. Woolwich Academy ordered to be built for instructing the gentlemen belonging to the artillery.

The profit and loss of Great Britain in the war with Spain, from July 1730, to July 1741, was as follows:—

127 ships taken from the Spaniards	£ 794,400
Seven galleons destroyed	100,000
Seven men of war	405,000
Loss at Porto Bello computed at	100,000
At fort Chagre	200,000
At Carthagena, by demolishing their forts	18,000

Total of the Spaniards' loss 1,617,400

Loss of the English by 154 ships taken by Spain 612,000

Difference £ 1,005,400

Had the greater loss of Spain been a proportionate gain to England, in lieu of an useless destruction of Spanish property, there would have been less to regret in this balance-sheet of the war.

July 24. Sweden declares war against Russia.

Aug. 8. Act prohibiting the exportation of grain suspended till Christmas day.

Sept. 21. In the north of Ireland wheat sold for sixpence a stone, beef at one penny a pound; and other provisions in proportion.

28. Kouli Khan invaded Turkey, and advanced with his army as far as Erzerum.

Oct. 20. The king arrives at St. James's from Hanover.

29. Peace concluded between Russia and Turkey.

30. The city of Prague taken by assault, and the elector of Bavaria proclaimed king of Bohemia.

Nov. 10. IRISH PROTESTANTS.—Pursuant to an order of the lord-lieutenant in 1740, a return was made of the number of protestant inhabitants of Ireland, the amount of which was above 96,067 families.

24. Revolution at Petersburg, by which Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of Peter the Great and of the empress Catherine, is made empress.

25. A third general fast, on account of the war, observed.

Dec. NEW PARLIAMENT.—On the meeting of parliament Mr. Onslow was re-chosen speaker. The elections had been carried on with unusual party bitterness. The prince of Wales spent 12,000*l.* in unsuccessful efforts to defeat the court candidates in Westminster. Pulteney, the duchess of Marlborough, and lord Falmouth spent large sums. Argyll exerted himself, so that the minister had only six supporters returned from Scotland. But the whole of the representative peers were chosen agree-

ably to the list transmitted from St. James's. Instructions were delivered by the constituents to a great number of members, requiring them to oppose a standing army in time of peace, to vote for the mitigation of excise laws, for the repeal of the septennial act, and for the limitation of placemen in the house of commons. Walpole's weakness was soon manifested in the heat of the controverted elections.

4. Parliament opened by the king, who in his speech insisted on the old topics of the necessity of maintaining the Pragmatic Sanction and the balance of power. Mr. Shippen steadily affirmed his former opinion that it was contrary to the Act of Settlement to involve the nation in war for Hanoverian interests. Mr. Viner inquired why England should be always fighting in the quarrels of others and be in perpetual war, that her neighbours may enjoy peace? The opposition, however, did not think proper to divide on the address. But shortly after they defeated the ministers by four voices on the Westminster election petition. Walpole, finding he had lost his parliamentary majority, tried to divide his opponents by essaying to pacify the prince with the offer of a double income and to pay his debts. This the prince declined, and insisted on his retirement.

18. A great meeting of merchants at the Crown tavern behind the Royal Exchange, who complain of their numerous losses by the captures of the Spanish privateers.

Christenings and Burials, within the bills of mortality, from December 16, 1740, to December 15, 1741.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	7,667	Males	15,465
Females	7,290	Females	16,704

In all 14,957 | In all 32,169
Increased in the burials this year, 1358.
Died under two years of age, 10,456. Lived to 100 or upwards, 14.

1742. *Jan.* Petitions to parliament from London, Liverpool, Lancaster and Southampton, against naval losses sustained by the war.

21. Mr. Pulteney moved that the papers presented relative to the conduct of the war be referred to a secret committee. Negatived only by a majority of three in a house of 503 members.

Feb. 2. The minister defeated on the Chippenham election, by 241 to 225. Upon this sir Robert Walpole expressed his intention not again to sit in the house.

3. Parliament adjourned to the 18th instant.

8. Sir Robert Walpole created earl of Orford, with a pension of 4000*l.* a year. The influence of the ex-premier did not

cease with his retirement, being often consulted by George II. When the king parted with this faithful servant he fell upon his neck and wept, kissed him, and begged to see him frequently.—(Coxe's *Memoirs of Walpole*, i. 696.) Allusions in the theatre to the fall of an ambitious minister, with a view to excite odium against him, were coldly received by the public.

10. At a meeting of the common council it is resolved to draw up instructions for the city representatives on the present critical juncture of affairs.

11. The earl of Orford resigned all his employments. He succeeded Mr. Aislabe as chancellor of the exchequer, April 4, 1721, and the earl of Sunderland as first lord of the treasury. The term "prime-minister" was first applied to Walpole, but reproachfully. "Having invested me," he remarked on Mr. Sandy's motion last year, "with a kind of mock dignity, and styled me a *Prime Minister*, they impute to me an unpardonable abuse of that chimerical authority which they only created and conferred."

The elector of Bavaria, who had been chosen emperor of Germany, was crowned by the name of Charles VII.

12. A great meeting of the noblemen and gentlemen, members of both houses of parliament, to the number of 300, at the Fountain Tavern in the Strand, to consider of what was expedient to be done in the present crisis.

17. **RETIREMENT OF WALPOLE.**—The policy of the earl of Orford after his resignation was to avert impeachment. For this purpose he sought to break the phalanx of his enemies by opening a private negotiation with one of their chiefs. Mr. Pulteney would not undertake to screen the ex-minister from prosecution; but without consulting any of the opposition, except lord Carteret, accepted the office of forming a new ministry. Only the more obnoxious of the Walpoleans were removed. Lord Hardwicke was continued chancellor, the earl of Newcastle one of the secretaries of state, Mr. Pelham paymaster-general, sir William Yonge secretary of war, and sir Dudley Ryder attorney-general. The new appointments were Mr. Sandys chancellor of the exchequer, the earl of Wilmington first lord of the treasury, the earl of Winchelsea first lord of the admiralty, lord Carteret the other secretary of state, lord Harrington president of the council, earl Gower lord privy seal. Mr. Pulteney contented himself with a seat in the cabinet and the promise of an earldom. Lord Gower was the only tory in the administration. This dissatisfied that party; and the section of whigs headed by Pitt, Lyttleton and Grenville, were also excluded.

The duke of Argyll resigned his offices of master-general of the ordnance and commander-in-chief of the forces. His resignation within a month of his appointment arose from the refusal to admit sir John Hynde Cotton, a Jacobite, to a place in the government. But the duke was dissatisfied with the exclusion of the Tories.

Mar. 18. A general court of the Bank of England, when a dividend of two three-fourths per cent. for interest and profits for the half-year ending at Lady-day next was proposed, and unanimously agreed to.

23. A motion in the commons for a secret committee to inquire into the conduct of government during the last ten years carried by 252 to 245. Lord Limerick was chosen chairman of this committee.

25. The Lords again reject the pension bill by 76 to 46.

April 14. Solicitor of the Treasury committed to Newgate for refusing to answer the questions put to him by the secret committee. He was accused of being profuse in the expenditure of the public money. It is well known that Walpole lavished the wealth, power and places in his gift in the purchase of parliamentary majorities. From the year 1707 to the year 1717, the expenditure of secret service money amounted to 279,444*l.*, but in only ten years of his ministry it swelled to 1,447,736*l.* Of this sum a great part was expended in controlling elections and on hiring writers. A sum of 30,119*l.* was paid to a noble earl for which no service is specified, though it was understood to signify a complication, including speeches of the earl, the return of several members for the lower house, &c. Another item of 7000*l.* to a noble duke, supposed to be for similar services. More than 170,000*l.* was paid to the writers and proprietors of the Gazetteers, London Journals, Daily Courants, and other papers. Of this sum no less than 10,977*l.* was paid within 4 years only to Francis Walsingham, esq. (*Hist. of Walpole's Administration*, 347).

15. A motion for the repeal of the septennial act rejected by the commons. It was opposed by Mr. Pulteney and by Mr. Sandys, the last a reputed republican.

The queen of Hungary's forces were computed to be 193,527 men.

May 6. The forces on the British establishment to go abroad were 16,334 men.

25. A bill sent up from the commons, to indemnify the witnesses examined by the secret committee, was rejected in the lords by a majority of 52. This put an end to the inquiry into Walpole's mal-administration. He withdrew to Richmond, and spent the remaining three years of his life unmolested in retirement.

27. A motion in the commons that the lords not concurring in the bill of indem-

nity is an obstruction to justice, passed in the negative,—245 to 193.

June 4. After a long trial in the court of King's-bench, the jury found a gentleman guilty of penalties of 2500*l.* for winning 500*l.* from another gentleman at hazard seven years before.

16. Royal assent given to an act for securing to John Byron, M.A., the sole right of publishing a treatise on short-hand invented by him.

23. Thomas Longman, stationer, with four others, paid their fines of 400*l.* and 20 marks each, for refusing to serve the office of sheriff of London. Mr. Carbonel swore himself not worth 15,000*l.*

July 15. Mr. Pulteney took his seat in the lords as earl of Bath, and sunk into insignificance and contempt for apertacy. Parliament prorogued, the king having first informed them of the peace concluded between the king of Prussia and the queen of Hungary, under his mediation.

Aug. 17. A pardon passed the great seal to Robert Knight, esq., late cashier of the South-sea company, of all felonies and offences inflicted on him by act of parliament in the reign of George I.

28. Earl of Stair returns from an unsuccessful mission to Holland, the object of which had been to draw the Dutch into the war.

Sept. Lord Carteret, the secretary of state, goes to Holland, with more tempting proposals than lord Stair; but the States-general expressed their reluctance, by entering into the war, to make it more bloody. They with noble pride asserted that "the troops of the republic were raised only for the defence of the republic, and they had never hired them out."

The pastures were much injured by swarms of grasshoppers.

Oct. 29. Dr. Hoadley promoted to the primacy of Armagh, in the room of Dr. Hugh Boulter, deceased. The late archbishop had been ten times one of the lords-justices, and was a generous benefactor to the poor of Ireland.

Nov. 12. A general fast-day.

16. Parliament met, when the king informed them that he had augmented the British forces in Flanders by 16,000 Hanoverians and Hessians. He spoke of his good offices for establishing peace between Sweden and Russia, and of the defensive alliances concluded with the Prussian king and the czarina. "England," says Smollett, "from being an umpire had now become a party in all continental quarrels, and instead of trimming the balance of Europe, lavished away her blood and treasure in supporting the interest and allies of a puny electorate in the north of Germany."

Letters from Jamaica relate that com

modore Anson, when he arrived at Fernandez, a Portuguese settlement, had but fifty men left; that the Spanish squadron in quest of him sailed thence but three days before his arrival in that weak condition; that he there procured 200 hands, and sailed for the East Indies with the *Centurion* and *Glowcester* only, having 2,000,000 pieces of eight on board. The other ships were left for want of men.

18. A treaty of mutual defence and guarantee with Prussia signed at Whitehall.

Dec. 18. The frost had continued near three weeks: most of the merchant ships in the river, unloaded, were hawled on shore, to prevent damage from the vast floes of ice, and crossing in wherries was become almost impracticable.

Since the commencement of the war, the Spaniards had taken 450 ships within the channel and soundings of the British coast.

The public revenue of France for the year 1742 amounted to 194,923,530 livres; or the exchange being at 12d. per livre, to upwards of 13,000,000*l.* sterling.

Christenings and Burials, from the 15th of December, 1741, to the 14th of December, 1742:—

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	7,048	Males	13,565
Females	6,703	Females	13,918
In all	13,751	In all	27,483

Decreased in the burials this year 4696. Died under two years, 9030. Lived to 100 and upwards, 9.

1743. Jan. 27. At a general court of the South-sea company a dividend of 1*½* per cent. was declared. Afterwards an application from Mr. Knight was laid before the court, to be discharged from any demand from the said company on the payment of 10,000*l.*, which being put to vote, was carried by a great majority.

The mild and equitable cardinal Fleury died this month, in his eighty-eighth year, after directing the councils of France for eighteen years. The basis of his public policy was economy at home and peace abroad; but he was often thwarted by a profligate court.

Feb. 1. A resolution in the lords, approving of the continental policy of ministers and the employment of German mercenaries, carried by 78 to 35. The duke of Bedford said the electorate had been enriched at the expense of England. Lords Carteret, Bathurst, and Bath, defended their foreign policy, regardless of their former sentiments and declarations. Pulteney inveighed against the "vulgar clamour which had been raised by the low arts of exaggeration, fallacious reasonings, and partial representations," which was

precisely the language Walpole had applied to him and his confederates in the commons.

Kouli Khan, who had so long kept Asia in terror, began to discover that no human happiness was certain, having been defeated in a late expedition against the Leughis, whom he attacked with 52,000 of his best troops, of which he carried back only 22,195, having lost great numbers both in skirmishes and in his retreat.

Mar. 22. REPEAL OF THE GIN ACT.—

The royal assent was given to an act for repealing certain duties on spirits and licenses, and for substituting others of an easier rate. When those severe duties, amounting almost to a prohibition, were imposed, the people were brutalized by the excessive use of gin. "Painted boards," Smollett says, "were put up, inviting people to be drunk for a penny and dead-drunk for twopence." Cellars were provided, strewed with straw, to which they conveyed the wretches overwhelmed with intoxication, and in which they lay until they had recovered some use of their faculties, when they had recourse to the same mischievous poison. It was to restrain these bestialities that the license and spirit duties were raised. But the populace broke through all restraint; gin was publicly sold in the streets without either license or duty: informers were intimidated, and the magistrates, through fear or corruption, did not enforce the law. In this way the revenue was defrauded, and it was for the prevention of this that the new act was hastily passed through both houses. It was argued that more moderate duties and rigid enforcement of the law would be better for the revenue and lessen the consumption of spirits among the lowest of the people. The results seemingly answered these predictions.

Apr. 21. Parliament prorogued.

27. The king, duke of Cumberland, and lord Carteret embark for Germany.

May 11. Several hundred weight of leaden pipes were dug up in Fleet-street, which were laid in 1471 to convey water.

June 1. Braunau taken sword in hand by the Austrians, and between four and five thousand French killed or taken.

9. George II. assumes the command of the Anglo-electoral armies at the camp of Aschaffenburg.

16. VICTORY OF DETTINGEN.—The king's march to Hanau being intercepted by the French, he was rescued from a perilous situation by this victory. The French amounted to about 30,000 men, and were commanded by the duke de Noailles and some of the princes of the blood. They began the battle with their accustomed impetuosity, but were received by the English

infantry with cool and determined intrepidity. Their loss was 6000 men; that of the allies 2000. Had they been pursued, as the earl of Stair suggested, the victory would have been more decisive. George II. evinced much passive courage, and the duke of Cumberland was wounded. Generals Clayton and Monroy were killed.

23. Universal rejoicings in all parts of the city for his majesty's success in Germany; the great guns were fired, the streets illuminated, and bonfires lighted.

By the treaty concluded between the empress of Russia and Great Britain for fifteen years, it was stipulated that the empress should furnish his Britannic majesty, as soon as required, with a body of 12,000 troops, to be employed according to the exigency of affairs; and that Great Britain should furnish Russia with twelve men of war, on the first notice, in case either of them were attacked by an enemy, and demanded such succour.

There was an engagement between the Russian and Swedish fleets, and both sides claimed the advantage.

July. The increase of the excise in the London brewery from Midsummer 1742, to Midsummer 1743, was upwards of 60,000*l.* more than the last year; the decrease in the distillery being in proportion.

26. Mr. Pelham appointed first lord of the treasury, in the room of the earl of Wilmington, deceased. He soon after became chancellor of the exchequer, in the room of Sandys, raised to the peerage, and made cofferer of the household. These appointments were made at the instance of lord Orford, who still retained the king's confidence.

Aug. 1. All ships coming from the Mediterranean required to perform quarantine in Standgate creek. It was in consequence of a dreadful plague which had broke out at Messina in the spring, and swept off 50,000 inhabitants. It was brought to Sicily from the Morea, and only ceased its ravages on the approach of winter.

It is a striking proof of the insecurity of property, that after the highland regiment left Scotland, the gentlemen of Argyleshire were obliged, at their own expense, to raise a company of thirty men to protect their cattle and effects from the inroads of the neighbouring clans.

Sept. 1. Johu Elliot and Francis Hole, esqrs., justices in Finsbury division, Middlesex, having sat during the time of the Welsh fair for cattle, near Islington, to put the laws in execution against vagrants, it was reduced to three days, during which time no disorder was suffered; for which piece of public service the thanks of the county were given the said justices at their general meeting.

8. By order of the justices of Southwark the bellman cried down the borough fair, setting forth, that all persons who should offer any interludes, &c. should be taken up as vagrants. It having been a custom for many years, for those who kept booths for interludes at Southwark fair, to make a collection for the debtors in the Marshalsea prison, but the fair this year being for three days only, they could not afford it; which the debtors resenting, got together a large quantity of stones and flung over the prison wall upon the bowling-green, whereby a child was killed in a woman's arms, and several people wounded and bruised.

21. Bristol exchange opened.

22. On board his majesty's ship Squirrel an experiment was tried in Deptford dock: a quantity of brimstone, straw, and other combustibles being laid upon the ballast (the ship having in it nothing else) and set on fire, the air-holes were immediately stopped, and being soon after opened, upwards of 500 rats were found suffocated in the hold.

Oct. 12. Being the birth-day of king Edward I., the Confessor, a great number of Roman Catholics were prevented from paying their devotions at his shrine, as usual, orders having been given that the tombs in Henry the seventh's chapel should not be shown that day.

14. Ended the sessions at the Old Bailey, when a German, for robbery, received sentence of death, eight to be transported, and twelve acquitted.

Nov. 15. The king and duke of Cumberland return from Germany, and in the evening passed through the city, which was illuminated.

22. A splendid appearance at St. James's, being the celebration of the king's birth-day: at night the ball was opened by the prince of Wales and the princess Amelia. The duke of Cumberland danced several minuets and country-dances.

Dec. 1. Parliament opened by the king. The sacrifices made for the interests of the electorate were much dwelt upon, but the address was carried by 278 to 149; all the adherents of Walpole giving their support to lord Carteret's ministry. In the lords the address passed unanimously; the earl of Chesterfield, who was out of place, only offering some objections.

10. Forty thousand seamen voted.

22. The earl of Cholmondeley made privy-seal in the room of lord Gower, resigned. Lord Edgecombe chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster; the earl of Waldegrave a lord of the bed-chamber in the room of the duke of Marlborough, resigned; Henry Fox a lord of the treasury.

At the end of this month prince Charles

Edward, the grandson of James II, left Rome to accompany the expedition preparing in the French ports to invade England, under count Saxe.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 14, 1742, to December 13, 1743.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	7,726	Males	12,181
Females	7,324	Females	13,019

In all 15,050 | In all 25,200

Died under two years 8,621. Lived to one hundred and upwards, fourteen.

1744. Jan. 11. Upwards of 500 members were in the house of Commons, when 34,000 men were voted for land service.

24. Mr. Wesley beginning to preach to a numerous auditory in the court of the Three-Cups inn, at Taunton, had scarce named his text, when the mayor came in formality, and ordered the proclamation to be read, which immediately silenced the preacher.

Feb. 3. At a general court of the East India company, it was resolved to lend the government one million, at 3 per cent., as an equivalent for prolonging their charter fourteen years.

Viscount Netterville tried by his peers at Dublin, for murder, and after a trial of fifteen hours acquitted.

7. A grant passed the great seal, incorporating the nineteen fellowships and fourteen scholarships of Worcester college, at Oxford, into one body, by that name, and enabling them to hold 500*l.* per annum, in mortmain for ever.

14. An indecisive action between the combined Spanish and French squadrons in the Mediterranean and the English fleet commanded by admirals Matthews and Lestock. A disagreement between the English admirals, whose conduct became the subject of a naval inquiry, was the cause of this unsatisfactory result.

15. A message to both houses, informing them that preparations were being made in France to laud the pretender.

17. The money raised by licensing retailers of spirituous liquors in England, since the commencement of the late act, amounted to 123,486*l.* And on distillers for the additional duty to 75,227*l.*

25. A proclamation to require the justices to put the laws in execution against papists, nonjurors, and for commanding all papists to depart from the cities of London and Westminster, and from within ten miles of the same, by the 2nd of March; for confining papists to their habitations; for seizing the arms and horses of such as refuse to take the oaths, and for putting the laws in execution against riots.

27. At six this morning the earl of

Barrymore was taken into custody by a messenger, at his house in Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square, and a file of musketeers was posted in it.

28. A mob of nailers, consisting of several thousands, having got together in Staffordshire, in order to raise their wages, and having proceeded to plunder houses, the mayor of Walsall assembled the populace of that town, led them out, and entirely defeated them; after which he took away their plunder, and made proclamation that people might have their goods again.

Mar. 3. A loyal address presented from the bishops; another from the dissenters; another from the quakers; all graciously received.

Royal assent given to an act for raising and establishing a fund for a provision for the widows and children of the ministers of the church of Scotland; and of the heads, principals, and masters of the universities of St. Andrews, Glasgow, and Edinburgh.

5. In the town of Huddersfield, Yorkshire, was discovered the foundations of a Roman temple, where were several beautiful Roman bricks, and an altar entire, with a kind of *palera* at the top, on one side a *cornucopia*, and on the other an augural staff: it was dedicated to the goddess *Fortune*, by one Antonius Modestus or Modestinus (for there were only the two first syllables), of the sixth conquering legion.

20. France declared war against England; accusing the king of Great Britain, in the declaration, of his having violated his neutrality, and dissuaded Austria from terms of accommodation.

22. The subscription for raising one million two hundred thousand pounds, by 3 per cent. annuities, and 600,000*l.* by a lottery for the public service, was full in one day.

23. The remainder of 6000 Dutch troops arrived at Gravesend.

27. The magistrates of Edinburgh offer a reward of 6000*l.* to any one who shall apprehend the pretender, or his eldest son.

31. War declared against France in London and Westminster. France was accused of violating the Pragmatic Sanction; of covertly assisting Spain in her war with England; and of assisting the son of the pretender, a claimant to the British throne.

Apr. 3. The king made a speech to parliament of the usual tenor.

7. The imports from France to England from January 1, 1742, to January 1743, amounted to upwards of 400,000*l.*

12. About 200 Swiss servants were enlisted, who had offered their service in case of a foreign invasion, under the command of col. Desjean.

May 1. The king of France arrived at Lisle, to open the campaign in Flanders.

with an army of 121,000 men, commanded by the famous marshal count de Saxe.

3. The allied army, consisting of 22,000 English, 16,000 Hanoverians, 18,000 Austrians, and 20,000 Dutch, took the field and encamped at Asche and Affligen, and from thence, after several movements, marched under the command of the duke d'Arenberg to Ninoue and Grammont, in order to attack the French.

8. Several gentlemen in Ireland, on occasion of the French scheme for an invasion, formed themselves into an independent regiment of horse, commanded by colonel Ponsonby: and Nicholas Loftus Hume, esq., began to raise another independent regiment of horse, called the Enniskilliners, to consist of 1000 gentlemen.

12. Parliament prorogued.

17. Ninety gentlemen of Bristol subscribe 100*l.* each to fit out privateers.

22. One Potter, a soldier, shot in Hyde Park for desertion.

30. **DEATH OF POPE.**—Died in the fifty-sixth year of his age, the celebrated Alexander Pope; the most distinguished poet of his age for wit, critical taste and invention. He was interred at Twickenham, where a monument was erected to his memory by bishop Warburton.

Prussia concluded a treaty at Frankfort with Sweden against Austria.

June 5. Memis surrenders to the French.

12. A machine, invented by the late Mr. King, for cutting off the piles of the centres to the arches of Westminster bridge close to the bottom of the river, being tried in presence of several persons of quality, cut off a pile in four minutes, and met with general approbation.

14. Ypres surrenders to the French.

Commodore Anson and Admiral Lestock arrived in town from Portsmouth. The cargo which Anson brought home with him was 2,600,000 pieces of eight, 150,000 ounces of plate, 10 bars of gold, and a large quantity of gold and silver dust; in the whole to the amount of 1,350,000*l.* sterling.

July 4. Passed through St. James's-street, the Strand and Chesapside, in their way to the Tower, thirty-two waggons from Portsmouth, with the treasure brought home by admiral Anson; they were guarded by the ship's crew (which consisted of many nations) and preceded by the officers, with swords drawn, music playing and colours flying, particularly those of the Acapulca prize.

The revenue of the excise from Midsummer 1743, to ditto 1744, amounted to above 3,754,072*l.*, which is 300,000*l.* more than the preceding year.

Admiral Balchen with the whole of his ship's company of 1100 men, lost on the rocks of Alderney.

Aug. 16. The French and Spanish pri-

soners, secured in one of the prisons near Plymouth, having quarreled, the Spaniards wanting weapons to do more execution than their fists, got the nails out of the floor, and sharpened them to lacerate the French at the next assault; but this being discovered, they were separated. The number of both nations in and near Plymouth was reckoned to be 2000; and of the French seamen only in the several ports above 8000.

22. At a court of admiralty, Doctors Commons, were condemned as a legal capture, the Acapulca ship and her treasure, amounting to 1,600,000*l.*

Sept. 20. A grant passed the great seal to lord Carteret and his heirs, of the eighth part of the province of Carolina, yielding and paying to his majesty the fourth part of all gold and silver ore found there, and the annual rent of 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* on the feast of All-Saints for ever.

28. The justices of Westminster met at the Town Court-house, when a letter from lord Carteret was read, relating to the frequent and insolent robberies committed in the city and liberty, desiring their worship to order the constables to be vigilant, in the preventing disorderly houses and night cellars. The gang who committed these robberies were so audacious, that they went to the houses of peace-officers, made them beg pardon for endeavouring to do their duty, and promise not to molest them. Some, whose lives they threatened, were obliged to lie in Bridewell for safety; they having wounded a headborough in St. John's-street in above forty places.

Oct. 12. The Gazette intimates that a loan of 200,000*l.* had been advanced to our good brother the king of Sardinia to assist him in carrying on the war against France.

18. The duchess dowager of Marlborough died in her eighty-fifth year. This was Sarah Jennings, famous for her beauty, avarice, ambition, irascibility, and political intrigues in the court of Queen Anne. By her death, upwards of 30,000*l.* per annum went to the duke her grandson, and near as much to his brother the hon. John Spencer. She left to the earl of Chesterfield 20,000*l.*, to William Pitt, afterwards earl of Chatham, 10,000*l.*, and about 40,000*l.* more in legacies, among which was 500*l.* to Mr. Mallet to write a life of the duke. Before her death she had presented Mr. Hooke with 5000*l.* to write "An Account of the Conduct of the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough."

23. The allied armies after performing various inconsistent and inexplicable movements retired, without risking either a siege or battle, into winter quarters. The campaign in Germany, in which the king of Prussia was opposed by the veteran marshal Daun

and the prince of Lorraine, was equally void of important results. The French garrison at Lisle displayed their wit at the expense of the vacillating manoeuvres of the Anglo-Electorals troops. Harlequin was introduced on the stage pompously exhibiting a bundle of papers under each arm. Being asked what he had under the right, he answered, *orders*; and what under the left, with equal solemnity—*Cosmet-orders*.

Nov. 9. Proclamation for a general fast, January 9th.

12. The French, after a siege of thirty days, carried on by an army of 70,000 men, in the sight of the king, at last, with the loss of 18,000 men, obliged the garrison of Friburg to capitulate.

23. Lord Carteret, now earl Granville, resigns the secretaryship. His humouring the king's German politics, and the ill-success of the war, had made him generally unpopular in the country, and his vain and overbearing demeanour in the cabinet. It was said of Carteret, that he made a trifle of every difficulty; and of his colleague, Newcastle, that he made a difficulty of every trifle.

27. Parliamentary session began.

BROAD-BOTTOM MINISTRY.—The resignation of Granville was the preliminary to a new administration, in which the Pelhams had the ascendancy. It was formed by a coalition of parties, including Tories, Whigs and patriots, and acquired the name of "The Broad Bottom." Lord Hardwicke remained chancellor; Mr. Pelham, chancellor of the exchequer and first lord of the treasury; the duke of Dorset, president of the council; lord Gower, privy seal; the duke of Newcastle and lord Harrington, secretaries of state; the duke of Bedford, first lord of the admiralty; the earl of Chesterfield, lord lieutenant of Ireland, in the room of the duke of Devonshire, lord steward of the household. George Bubb Dodington, the author of the 'Diary,' and afterwards lord Melcombe, was made treasurer of the navy. The policy of ministers did not essentially differ from their predecessors, but the offices of government being more equally shared among the political leaders, the debates of the session became less animated. Pitt gave them his support, having been promised a place when the king's aversion could be overcome.

Dec. 27. The commissioners for victualling his majesty's navy contracted with Mr. Jennings for 600 oxen at 2d. a pound. *Christenings and Burials, from the 13th of Dec. 1743, to the 11th of Dec. 1744.*

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	7,321	Males	10,146
Females	6,940	Females	10,460
In all	14,261	In all	20,606
Decreased in the burials this year 4594.			

Died under two years, 7394. Lived to 100 and upwards, three.

1745. Jan. 18. The emperor Charles VII. dying, put all the German princes in motion and changed the aspect of affairs in the empire. The grand duke of Tuscany, consort of Maria Theresa, became a candidate for the imperial crown, and the young elector of Bavaria, on condition of being restored to the electorate, engaged in his support.

24. The number of forces voted to be employed in Flanders was 28,107, being 7000 more than were employed last year.

A motion, to make parliaments annual, was negatived by 145 to 113.

Several merchants of London, induced from some late discoveries in the north-west of Hudson's bay, to believe that a passage free from ice, for some months in the year, may be found from thence to the western and southern coast of America, petitioned the commons for that purpose, and a committee of inquiry was appointed.

Feb. 2. About 900 negroes formed a plot to destroy all the white people in Jamaica, which was discovered by a negress to her mistress, because they refused to save a child she had nursed. The ring-leaders were apprehended.

14. A harbour at Sandwich was resolved on; also a new trial at the north-west passage.

19. Marshal Belleisle arrived at the apartments prepared for him in Windsor castle. He had been unexpectedly taken, travelling in the Hanover states without a passport.

28. It appeared from the Custom-house books that the French had imported into England, from January 1740, to January 1744, 269,664 pieces of cambric, 1767 tons of wine, 5870 tons of brandy, 2,000,000lbs. of indigo; the greatest part of which goods were paid for in specie.

Mar. 18. **DEATH OF ROBERT WALPOLE.**—At his house in Arlington-street, Piccadilly, died, aged 71, Robert earl of Orford, in circumstances not very affluent, although for twenty years he had the control of the revenues of Great Britain. His death was occasioned by the violent operation of a medicine which he took as a solvent for the stone; and he declared that he died a victim to the neglect of his own maxim—*quieta non movere*—not to disturb things at rest. His history will have been partly learnt from the public occurrences of this and the former reign. Individually he was neither virtuous in principle nor practice; but he was an intelligent, prudent, and able minister. His government was not the best, but, like the institutions of Solon, it was perhaps the best that was practicable. Corruption had long formed an established part of the public administration, and his

reproach is that he aggravated the abuse by rendering it more undisguised and systematic. Archdeacon Coxé, however, has extenuated the odium of the saying commonly imputed to him, "that all men have their price;" his words were, "all *those* men," speaking of a particular class of his opponents. His general policy was principally characterised by zeal in favour of the Protestant succession; by the desire of preserving peace abroad and avoiding subjects of contention at home. He was a dexterous debater, and had great knowledge of finance. Under his auspices, the naval superiority of England was maintained; commerce was by many judicious laws encouraged; justice impartially administered; the royal prerogatives kept within the limits of the law; and the rights of the people preserved inviolate. His collection of pictures at Houghton evinced a taste for the fine arts, but he had none for letters. Being a practical man himself, he naturally felt a contempt for those who, according to the popular notion (*poets* at this time were usually meant), were not so. His neglect of literature originated the following effusion, on M. Crebillon receiving a pension of 3000 livres from Louis XV:—

"At reading this, great Walpole shook his head;

How! wit and genius help a man to bread!
With better skill we pension and promote;
None eat with us who cannot give a vote."

It is observable that the deaths of Orford and his political enemy Bolingbroke, were both hastened by experimenting, as a last resort, with a quack medicine.

19. The grand seignior Achmet offers his friendly mediations to restore the blessings of peace on the Continent. This proposal coming from an infidel to Christian princes occasioned much reflection.

From March 1st, 1744, to April 1st, 1745, the number of prizes taken from the French and Spaniards was 695; of which number 286 were taken by privateers. They were valued at 4,924,000*l*.

April 9. The duke of Cumberland assumes the command of the allied army in Flanders.

24. Marshal Belleisle took Frogmore-house, near Windsor, for three years, for which he paid 600*l*.

29. Mr. Cooper Thornhill, innkeeper at Stilton, set out from thence at four o'clock to ride to London, and came to the King's-arms, over against Shoreditch-church, ten minutes before eight: he turned back immediately to Stilton, and from thence came again in good spirits to Shoreditch, by a quarter past four in the afternoon; the whole being 213 miles, which he was to perform with several horses in fifteen hours.

On the 4th also he rode between London and Stilton in three hours and fifty-six minutes, and won by thirty-four minutes.

30. BATTLE OF FONTENOY.—It was to relieve Tournay, besieged by marshal Saxe, that this battle was fought. The French were superior in numbers to the allies, and strongly posted. The duke of Cumberland began his march to the enemy at two in the morning, and about nine both armies were engaged. By the English and Hanoverian infantry the enemy were driven from their lines, and in danger of a complete defeat; but the Dutch failing in their attempt on the village of Fontenoy, and the allies coming within the destructive fire of the semi-circle of batteries erected by Saxe, were compelled to retreat. The allies left their sick and wounded to the humanity of the victors. Their loss exceeded 10,000, and the enemy lost more officers, if not more men, than the allies. Speaking of this battle, a French historian says, "The English rallied, but gave way; they left the field of battle without tumult, without confusion, and were defeated with honour." Tournay surrendered, after a gallant defence, on the 21st of June. Ghent and Bruges were taken by assault; Ostend, Dendermond, Newport, and Aeth were successively reduced, and the allies retired for safety behind the canal of Antwerp.

May 2. Parliament prorogued.

10. The king set sail from Harwich at six o'clock in the morning for Holland.

11. The earl of Chesterfield arrived at his house in Grosvenor-square from Holland, having concluded a new treaty with the States-general, by which they stipulated to maintain for the service of the common cause 50,000 men in the field and 10,000 in garrisons.

15. The French refuse to accede to an exchange of prisoners, unless justice be first done them as to the arrest of marshal Belleisle, contrary to the cartel.

A great mortality raged among the black cattle in Argyleshire, Scotland, of which above 6000 died.

31. Shah Nadir gave the Ottoman army a total defeat in the neighbourhood of Erzerum, taking that city by storm; and being joined by 100,000 Armenians, advanced towards Trebizond on the Black-sea.

June 24. The act of parliament took place for taking off the inland duty of 4*s*. per pound on all tea consumed in Great Britain, in lieu whereof 1*s*. per pound and 25*l*. per cent. on the gross price of all teas were charged thereon.

July 10. The Prince Frederick privateer, in company with the Duke, took two Spanish vessels with gold and silver on board to the value of 3,009,008 dollars.

14. Prince Charles Edward, the young pretender, sailed from Port St. Nazaire,

accompanied by the marquis of Tullibardine, sir Thomas Sheridan, sir John Macdonald, with a few other Scotch and Irish adventurers. They encountered an English cruiser on the way, but succeeded in landing in the Hebrides.

Aug. 6. A proclamation, offering a reward of 30,000*l.* to any person who shall seize the eldest son of the pretender, in case he shall land, or attempt to land, in any of his majesty's dominions.

13. Marshal Belleisle and his brother obtained their liberty on a promise of the discharge of the English prisoners of war.

31. Arrival of the king from Hanover.

Sept. 2. The grand duke of Tuscany elected emperor of Germany, by the name of Francis I. All the electoral college voted for him except Brandenburg and the Palatinate.

4. A detachment of the rebels took possession of Perth, and proclaimed the pretender.

11. At a meeting of the merchants at Merchant-tailors'-hall, it was agreed to raise two regiments entirely at their own expense.

16. The prince pretender proclaims his father king of Great Britain at Edinburgh high-cross, and himself regent of his dominions.

21. Early this morning the Highlanders attacked sir John Cope, sword-in-hand, at Preston-pans, and in less than ten minutes entirely routed the king's troops, unaccustomed to their fierce mode of fighting. Each party numbered about 3000. Colonel Gardiner, a distinguished officer of dragoons, and native of Scotland, fell covered with wounds, within sight of his own house. The rencontre was on a heath, seven miles east of Edinburgh, called Glaidsmuir, and by it the rebels became masters of Scotland except a few fortresses.

24. The greatest meeting of gentry at York ever known, to form an association; 40,000*l.* subscribed to raise troops for the present emergency.

PUBLIC CREDIT.—The alarm created by the advance of the Highlanders occasioned a run on the Bank of England, which reduced them to the necessity of paying their notes in *shillings* and *sixpences*. But a public meeting of the principal merchants and traders, who, to the number of 1140, signed an undertaking to receive and pay in bank paper, arrested the panic. The run was ascribed to the papists and jacobites, promoted to destroy public credit.

The directors of the East India Company declared they would take in their bonds at par, for payment for goods bought at their sale, being 10*s.* discount.

A subscription was opened at Garraway's coffee-house, by a great number of merchants, who subscribed 200*l.* each, in order to raise a fund of 250,000*l.* for raising a re-

giment of men for the further security of the city.

The Sutherlands, Frasers, Mackays, and other loyal clans in the north of Scotland having taken arms, marched into the low countries, to act against the rebels.

27. The ground was marked in Hyde-park for the encampment of the horse and foot-guards and horse-grenadiers. Also for the other regiments coming from Flanders; for 12,000 Danes, for which transports had been taken up.

Six waggons loaded with muskets were sent to Woburn in Bedfordshire, for the duke of Bedford, who raised a regiment of 1000 men. Twelve other peers did the like, and gave 1*s.* 6*d.* a day to each man.

Sir Gregory Page mustered a body of 500 men on Blackheath, raised and clothed at his own expense.

Oct. 2. At a meeting of gentry at Chester measures were entered upon to raise and maintain 2500 men. Sir Robert Grosvenor gave 2000*l.*; many gentlemen subscribed a year's income of their estates, and the bishop of Chester gave 200*l.*, and even the catholics of the best distinction showed their zeal for the government.

3. The nobility and gentry of Lancashire met at the town-hall of Preston, and entered into an association to raise 5000 men for the defence of the government.

4. An association was set on foot by lord Onslow and several other gentlemen for raising a body of men in the county of Surrey, at 4*l.* a man entrance.

9. In London the city-gates were ordered to be shut every night at ten, and not to be opened till six in the morning. The train-bands were kept on duty night and day.

18. Parliament met, when the king informed them of the "unnatural rebellion" that had burst forth, and of the danger of "popery and arbitrary power" with which they were menaced.

21. Habeas-corpus act suspended.

In this crisis voluntary exertions of the people were sufficient to add 60,000 to the king's forces; the Spitalfields' manufacturers alone furnishing 3000.

DEATH OF SWIFT.—At the close of this month, in his seventy-eighth year, died Dr. Jonathan Swift, dean of St. Patrick's, the celebrated humorist, satirist, and political writer. The dean survived the loss of his faculties some years, a catastrophe that may be as plausibly ascribed to old age as constitutional infirmity, from which he was wont to anticipate mental alienation. In an age not remarkable for genius, Swift was perhaps the most original, though the most faulty of the queen Anne writers. Many of his works are occupied with the politics and personalities of the day, and,

the dean being an intolerant partisan, are void of present interest. His "Tale of a Tub" and "Gulliver's Travels" retain some of their ancient popularity, the last especially exhibiting a singular union of quiet humour, satire, and misanthropy. His style has been praised for ease and simplicity; but it is bald and feeble; and Hume, the historian, contrary to the common opinion, questions its correctness. It was formerly the fashion of literary men to be the dependants of the great, whom they flattered, or, if neglected or cast off, libelled. Swift followed this course. He was greedy of preferment, and sought the favour of Mrs. Howard; but as Walpole remarked in his coarse way, on a similar occasion, he "pinched the wrong sow by the ear;" for it was the queen, not the mistress, who dispensed the royal bounty. The pride, selfishness, factiousness, and want of feeling in Swift, have been depicted with great force, and apparent justice, in a modern publication (*Edinburgh Review*, xxvii. 42). He abandoned an only sister for marrying a tradesman, and treated with obdurate insensibility two amiable women who loved and admired him. His acrid nature seemed to render the torment of his fellow-creatures a part of his necessary ailment. Still he had virtues. Ireland was benefited by his writings; he was free from hypocrisy, not meanly jealous, and bequeathed the greatest part of his fortune to a hospital for lunatics,—

"To show, by one satiric touch,
No nation needed it so much."

Nov. 11. A person, who saw the rebels about Rowcliff, affirmed that the whole number did not exceed 9000 men. As to arms, every man had a sword, target, musket, and dirk: their baggage not very considerable, but they relieved the guard that marched with it every night. For provision, they had live cattle, and kept a drove along with them; oatmeal they took where they could find it, and carried it in a bag at their sides, and ate it morning and evening with water. They marched at a great rate, and expressed a desire of getting into Lancashire. Their officers lodged in villages, but the men always encamped at night. About day-break they began to move, or sooner if the moon shone, and pushed on as hard as possible.

15. The rebels entered Carlisle.

24. They reached Lancaster at noon. On the same day marshal Wade set out from Newcastle, though the ground was covered with snow, in pursuit of them. The duke of Cumberland left St. James's to take the command of the king's troops, which sir John Ligonier had begun to assemble in Staffordshire.

25. The *Soliel*, a French privateer, with lord Derwentwater and other Jacobites on board, brought into Deal.

27. All the bridges on the Mersey were destroyed. The principal inhabitants of Manchester withdrew with their effects, and next day the insurgents entered the town. The bellman was sent round, requiring all who held any of the excise, land-tax, or other public money, to bring it in. About 200, under colonel Townley, joined the pretender.

28. The duke of Cumberland arrived at Lichfield.

Many subscriptions were promoted this month to buy necessaries for the army. The quakers sent down 10,000 woollen waistcoats to keep them warm, and the king from his privy purse gave them shoes.

Dec. 1. The prince-pretender, with his main body, enters Macclesfield.

4. He enters Derby with about 7000 followers. Next day they held a great council, in which it was determined to retrace their steps, finding that few had joined them in their march, and these only of the lower sort.

5. Marshal Wade reaches Wetherby.

6. The rebels began their retreat from Derby.

8. The lawyers met in the Middle Temple-hall, and agreed to form themselves into a regiment under chief-justice Willis, of the Common-pleas, in defence of the constitution in church and state.

9. Rebels reach Manchester.

12. Part of the king's troops reach Wigan in pursuit of them.

Peace was concluded between Prussia and Austria, by which the former acknowledges Francis I. to be emperor.

17. Great apprehension of an invasion from the French.

18. A general fast-day.

19. The whole produce of three nights' performance of the *Beggars' Opera* was given by Mr. Rich for the benefit of the soldiers. Mrs. Cibber played *Polly*, all the comedians performed gratis, and the tallow-chandlers gave the candles.

25. The rebels enter Glasgow; "a very indifferent Christmas-box," says Ray (*Hist. Rebellion*, 231), "to the inhabitants."

30. Carlisle surrenders at discretion to the duke. The garrison consisted of 274 Scots, 114 English, 8 French.

Christenings and Burials within the bills of mortality, from December 11, 1744, to December 10, 1745.

Christened.		Buried.	
Males	7278	Males	10468
Females	6800	Females	10828
In all	14078	In all	21296

Increased in the burials this year 690. Died under two years of age 7289. Lived to one hundred and upwards 9.

1746. *Jan.* 14. The king opens parliament.

17. General Hawley is suddenly attacked at Falkirk, by the Highlanders, and disgracefully defeated.

30. The duke of Cumberland arrived at Edinburgh, and next day reviewed the whole of the king's forces.

The duty on hops amounted to 39,007*l.*

Feb. 7. Several persons committed to Lancaster gaol for collecting money for the pretender.

10. The rebel prisoners taken at Carlisle brought to London. They were rudely treated by the populace, who pelted them with dirt.

INTRIGUE IN THE CABINET.—About this time some ministerial changes were attempted. The king was anxious to bring back lord Granville, and the duke of Newcastle to introduce Mr. Pitt into the government. On the 10th inst. the duke and lord Harrington resigned; lord Grauville was made secretary of state, and the earl of Bath first lord of the treasury. Next day Mr. Pelham, the duke of Bedford, and Mr. Grenville resigned, and the rest of the administration were expected to follow. The earl of Chesterfield and nine dukes gave up their places. Upon this, the king was given to understand, by lord Winnington, that the projected ministry would only have thirty-one supporters in the lords and eighty in the commons. In consequence, all the former ministers were recalled on the 14th instant, and on the 22nd Mr. Pitt was made vice-treasurer for Ireland, and soon after paymaster-general. From this time Mr. Pelham continued at the head of affairs till his death in 1754. Mr. Pitt (the first earl of Chatham) became the determined advocate of the measures which for ten years of his parliamentary life he had strenuously opposed. Nor did he scruple to avow his apostacy; justifying himself on the common pretext, that as he had grown older he had grown wiser.

Mar. 14. News that the rebels had taken Fort Augustus and blown up Fort George, in doing which they blew up their chief engineer, colonel Grant. Some clans joined them on the hills, headed by ladies Seafort and Mackintosh; but their husbands were with the king's troops.

19. Royal assent given to a bill for taking away the veto of the aldermen of London.

28. Ventilators, invented by the rev. Dr. Hales, ordered to be introduced into Newgate.

The number of the rebels said to have been much increased, in consequence of a scheme rumoured to be afloat for transporting the Highlanders to America. Lord Lo-

vat had it translated into Gaelic, and told them the duke was coming to carry it into execution.

Apr. 3. Blair Castle surrenders to the rebels after a brave defence by sir Andrew Agnew.

The seizing of the cattle and demolishing their houses had the effect of inducing many rebels of Lochabar to return to their homes.

12. The king's troops pass the deep and rapid Spey at a difficult ford, within sight of the rebels. Ray, who was with the king's troops as a volunteer, says they might have been here advantageously attacked.

16. **VICTORY OF CULLODEN.**—The entire defeat of the rebels may be partly ascribed to an unsuccessful effort to surprise the royal army at Nairn. The 15th inst. was the duke of Cumberland's birthday; and thinking the king's troops would have been making merry, the plan of the rebels was, by a night march to surprise them in their camp at day-break. With this design they started in two columns, one commanded by lord Murray, the other by lord Gordon; but the length of the columns embarrassed the march, so that the army was obliged to make many halts: the men had been under arms the whole of the preceding night, were faint with hunger and fatigue, and many of them overpowered with sleep. Some were unable to proceed; others dropped off unperceived in the dark; and the march was retarded in such a manner, that it would have been impossible to reach the duke's quarters before sun-rise. Failing in their enterprise, they retraced their steps to Culloden, where they no sooner arrived than numbers dispersed in quest of provisions; and many, overcome with fatigue, threw themselves down on the heath. Early on the 16th the duke decamped from Nairn, and after a march of eight miles, perceived the rebels drawn up in a line with their left to Culloden-house and their right extended to a park wall. About noon the Highlanders began the attack by throwing away their muskets, and rushing in their wild, furious way, with their broadswords and Lochabar axes, on the royal troops; but being now prepared for this mode of fighting, they received them with fixed bayonets, and kept up a steady firing by platoons, which did prodigious execution. In thirty minutes the battle was converted into a rout; and orders having been issued to give no quarter, vast numbers were slain in the pursuit. The loss of the rebels in the battle and pursuit was 3000 or 4000 men; of the king's troops only fifty were killed. (Culloden Papers, 473.) The duke completed the subjection of the country, advancing as far as Fort Augustus, whence he sent off detachments to hunt down the fugitives and lay waste

the Highlands. As to the unfortunate prince, Charles Edward, he escaped with difficulty from the battle, and after wandering alone in the mountains for several months, he found means, in September, to embark on board a French privateer for Morlaix. His future life was deplorable in the extreme. The courage and fortitude he displayed in England seem to have forsaken him with a reverse of fortune, and the remainder of his days were spent in excess and debauchery. Being forcibly expelled from France, he retired to Florence, where he was seen by sir Nathaniel Wraxall in 1779, overwhelmed with infirmities, the consequence of his irregular courses.

May 14. The commons vote an addition of 25,000*l.* to the income of 15,000*l.* of the duke of Cumberland, now become the idol of the nation, and extolled as equal to the greatest heroes.

22. The corpse of the late duke of Ormond brought from France, and interred in Westminster-abbey.

31. Mr. Pitt made a member of the privy-council.

The French opened the campaign with an army of 100,000 men; the allies not being half that number, retired before them, and the enemy laid siege to Antwerp, which surrendered after a feeble resistance.

June 3. Admiral Lestock acquitted by a court-martial.

5. The combined French and Spanish armies lose 14,000 men in a bloody engagement with the Austrians and Piedmontese, at Placentia in Italy.

The court of session resumes its sittings at Edinburgh, after ten months' interruption of business, owing to the rebellion.

17. A great many rebel prisoners brought to London, preparatory to their trial. Among them, Simon lord Lovat, with sixty of his clan: he was so infirm he could neither walk nor ride, and was brought in a horse litter. When taken, he had with him 6000*l.* in specie. Most of the jails from the capital northwards were filled with captives; and great numbers were crowded together in the holds of ships, where they perished in a deplorable manner for want of necessaries, air, and exercise.

27. Preparations being made for the trials of lord Kilmarnock, Cromartie, and Balmerino in Westminster-hall. As the proceedings were by indictment, and not by impeachment, no scaffolding was ordered for the commons.

July. Philip, king of Spain, dying in the sixty-third year of his age, he was succeeded by his eldest son Ferdinand. Philip was but two days survived by his daughter the dauphiness of France. In the same month died Christian VI., king of Den-

mark, succeeded by Frederick V., who had married Louisa, youngest daughter of the king of England.

24. The secretaries of state and lord-chancellor interrogated Mr. Murray, the pretender's secretary, in the Tower.

28. Trial of the rebel lords. Earls Kilmarnock and Cromartie pleaded guilty; lord Balmerino did not. All three were sentenced to death, but Cromartie's life was spared.

PUBLIC EXECUTIONS.—Seventeen of the rebels, who had been tried by a special commission in Southwark, were executed on Kennington-common, bearing with constancy the tortures then prescribed by the treason laws: nine were put to death in the same manner at Carlisle; six at Brampton, seven at Penrith, eleven at York: of these, a considerable number were gentlemen, and had acted as officers. About fifty were executed, as deserters, in Scotland; eighty-one suffered as traitors. A few obtained pardons, and considerable numbers were transported to the plantations. These trials and executions continued to the end of the year.

Aug. 12. Royal assent given to acts prohibiting the Highland dress to be worn in Scotland, except by persons in the king's service; and requiring schoolmasters to take the oaths of allegiance.

During the last six years, it was said, 700,000*l.* had been collected for the service of the pretender, of which 400,000*l.* since the beginning of the rebellion, and of this 170,000*l.* during the last winter, in and about London; 1500 names of subscribers, several of them persons of note, had been discovered.

18. Lords Kilmarnock and Balmerino beheaded on Tower-hill. The first was aged forty-two, and a nobleman of fine personal accomplishments, but desperate fortunes, who seems to have been drawn into the rebellion more from the influence of his countess and the loss of a government pension than jacobitism. Balmerino was fifty-eight, had been bred to arms, and acted from principle: he was gallant, resolute, and brave.

25. The distemper among horned cattle breaking out again in the neighbourhood of London, the Welsh fair was held at Barnet.

Sept. 14. Madras surrendered to the French, under Labourdonnais. But Duplex, the governor of Pondicherry, the seat of government of the French in India, violated the capitulation.

30. The French, under count Saxe, defeated the allies, under prince Waldec, at Roucoux. This battle terminated the campaign in the Netherlands. In Italy, the French and Spaniards were not so success-

ful, the Austrians having expelled them from Lombardy, and reduced Genoa.

Oct. 9. A thanksgiving for the suppression of the rebellion. At night an illumination.

22. Admiral Matthews declared incapable of serving his majesty. The justice of this sentence has been questioned. The admiral was refused a copy of the minutes of the court-martial, and referred to the lords of the Admiralty.

Lima destroyed by an earthquake. It had been visited by a similar convulsion in 1586 and 1687. Callao, the best port in Peru, was in the same month overwhelmed by an influx of the sea.

Nov. 4. One Fremont, an officer in the rebel army in Scotland, was apprehended at a rehearsal at the Opera-house, where he was a dancer, and committed to prison.

18. Parliament opened by the king.

21. Charles Ratcliffe, younger brother of the earl of Derwentwater, who was executed in 1715, was arraigned on his sentence of treason in 1716, when he made his escape from Newgate. He pleaded first that he was a subject of France, where he had resided for the last thirty years; and secondly, that he was not Charles Ratcliffe, but the earl of Derwentwater. His pleas were overruled, and an order made for his execution.

At the quarter-sessions of the peace, held at Taunton, Mary Hamilton, otherwise Charles Hamilton, was tried for pretending herself a man, and marrying fourteen wives; the last of which, Mary Price, deposed in court that she was married to the prisoner, and cohabited as man and wife a quarter of a year, during which time she thought the prisoner a man, owing to the prisoner's vile and deceitful practices. After a debate of the nature of the crime, it was agreed that she was an uncommon, notorious cheat, and sentenced to be publicly whipped, and to be imprisoned for six months.

Dec. 4. Mr. Orator Henley taken into custody by order of lord Chesterfield, one of the secretaries of state, to be examined on a charge of seducing the king's subjects from their allegiance, by his Sunday harangues in his Oratory-chapel.

8. Earl of Derwentwater beheaded on Tower-hill.

11. Lord Lovat impeached of treason.

Christenings and Burials, within the bills of mortality, from December 10, 1745, to December 11, 1746:—

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males	7,573	Males	13,771
Females	7,004	Females	14,386

In all 14,577 In all 28,157

Increased in the burials this year 6861.
Died under two years 9503. Lived to 100 and upwards 10.

In Vienna there died, in 1746, 5287; of whom 1853 were under two years of age.

1747. Jan. Frederick of Prussia gave leave to the papists of Berlin to build a church as large as they pleased.

7. A solemn fast-day.

13. Lord Lovat delivers in his answer to the impeachment, in which he denied every article.

Feb. 15. At the French chapels, in Threadneedle-street and Spitalfields 15000, was collected for the relief of their poor.

Mar. 9. Lord Lovat's trial, after several postponements, began in Westminster-hall.

19. His lordship had sentence passed upon him in the usual form: after which, lord-chancellor Hardwicke, who presided as lord-steward, stood up, broke his staff, and dissolved the commission.

Apr. 2. The sheriffs of London received a warrant from the duke of Newcastle for the execution of lord Lovat; intimating, that it was expected they would expose the head at the four corners of the scaffold, as usual. The sheriffs returned answer, that, as it had not been practised lately, they desired it might be inserted in the body of the warrant.

9. Lord Lovat beheaded on Tower-hill. He was in his 80th year, and died a papist; leaving a character notorious for treachery, rapacity, cruelty, and immorality. He behaved with propriety at his execution, repeating from Horace,

"Dulce et decorum pro patria mori."

'So much easier is it,' says sir Dudley Carleton, on a similar occasion, 'for a man to die well than to live well.' Several persons lost their lives by the falling of a scaffold on the occasion.

14. A great body of London merchants wait on the lords of the Admiralty, praying for a better naval protection of their trade.

20. Advice of the taking of Fort St. George, in the East Indies, by the French.

30. Edward Cave, the editor of the Gentleman's Magazine, and the publisher of another magazine, were brought to the bar of the commons, for publishing the debates of the house; when the former denied that he retained any person in pay to make the speeches; and after expressing his contrition, he was discharged, on payment of fees. It is now well known that the celebrated Dr. Johnson was employed to report the speeches for Cave's periodical.

May 16. M. Buffon, the celebrated naturalist, communicated to the Academy of Sciences the results of his experiments on the power of burning-glasses. He set objects on fire at the distance of one hundred and twenty yards, and wrote a dissertation to prove that the account is neither false nor absurd of Archimedes burning the Roman ships at the siege of Syracuse.

21. The custom discontinued of putting up at the Common-hall the gentlemen nominated by the lord mayor for sheriffs.

25. Prince Charles, the pretender's eldest son, accompanied by several companions in his late desperate enterprise, arrived at Rome.

June 16. Commodore Fox took forty French ships, richly laden from St. Domingo.

17. Parliament prorogued, and next day dissolved.

HERETABLE JURISDICTIONS.—An act received the royal assent, on the last day of the session, very conducive to the peace and improvement of Scotland. It was for the abolition of the heretable jurisdictions of the landowners, and making them a pecuniary compensation. By this act the most prominent distinction of the feudal system was abolished; the rivalries of clan-ship merged in the common weal, and the course of justice made more uniform and effective, by the substitution of the king's courts and judges in place of malcontent, rapacious, and capricious chieftains. The number of proprietors who claimed compensation was 148, and the amount of their claims for loss of regalities, justiciaries, sheriffships, coronerships, and other territorial immunities, was valued by the court of session at 164,232*l*.

25. The pretender's second son made cardinal duke of York, and benefices given him by the pope worth 20,000 crowns.

The ancient city of Herculaneum, related by Pliny to be buried by an eruption of Vesuvius, about 1700 years since, was discovered at Portici, near Naples, through a passage 150 feet deep.

July 13. The French invested Bergen-op-Zoom with 25,000 men. An old lady, whose family had made an immense fortune in the East Indies, sent the garrison 1000*l*. in provision and money, and promised to repeat the present every week they held out. But it fell into the hands of the French the 16th of September following.

29. Beheaded at Stockholm, Dr. Blackwell, the physician. He confessed some secrets to Dr. Folstadius, a protestant clergyman, which the torture could not extort. He was a Scotchman, and had been corrector of the press to Mr. Wilkins in London.

Sept. 1. It is discovered that the sixth pier of the new Westminster-bridge had settled sixteen inches.

The distemper among horned cattle continuing, regulations were promulgated by royal proclamation, for preventing its spreading. The holding of several fairs, and the weekly markets of cattle, were suspended.

Oct. 7. About sixty men, well armed and mounted, broke into the Custom-house at Poole, in the night, and carried off

4,200 lbs. of tea, lately seized by the Swift privateer. They said they were only come for their own.

14. Admiral Hawke, with fourteen sail of the line, defeats the French fleet of nine large ships and frigates, off Belleisle. The enemy had 800 men killed, the English 200.

Nov. 10. **NEW PARLIAMENT.**—Ministers derived popularity from the suppression of the rebellion, and their naval successes. Smollett says, Newcastle and his brother Pelham had conducted the elections 'so as to fully answer their purposes.' The orators and leaders of opposition were silenced by absorption into the government, and the session was uninteresting. Arthur Onslow was again chosen speaker. Preparations for a congress at Aix-la-Chapelle, preliminary to a general peace, were announced in the royal speech; but, as the result was uncertain, the lavish grants and subsidies of former years were readily voted without inquiry.

Dec. 29. The king's annual dole of 1000*l*. to poor housekeepers of Westminster was distributed.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened within the London bills of mortality 14,942; buried 25,494: increased in the burials this year 2663. Died under two years of age 8,741. Lived to one hundred and upwards seven.

1748. Jan. 11. A large body of sailors present a petition to the king, at St. James's, for a distribution of prize-money.

Feb. 17. A solemn fast, on account of the war.

May 12. The total expense of building the Mansion-house, for the lord mayor, including 3,900*l*. paid for houses, ascertained to be 42,638*l*.

13. The king prorogues parliament, and the same day set out for Hanover.

22. The general assembly of Scotland enjoin that every minister of the Scottish church shall preach the first sabbath of every quarter against popery, and in defence of the protestant settlement.

June. By the paying off several men-of-war wages fell in the merchant service from 50*s*. to 25*s*. per month.

July 14. About ten digits of the sun eclipsed. Venus appeared beautiful through the telescope in the form of a crescent.

Aug. 10. A proclamation for a cessation of hostilities with Spain and Genoa read at the Royal Exchange.

Oct. 7. **TREATY OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE.**—The chief parties to this treaty were Britain, Holland, and Austria on one side, and France and Spain on the other. By it all the great treaties from that of Westphalia in 1648, to that of Vienna in 1738, were renewed and confirmed. Prussia was guaranteed in the possession of Silesia,

and the empress-queen, of her hereditary dominions, according to the pragmatic sanction. France surrendered her conquests in Flanders, and the English in the East and West Indies. But the right of English subjects to navigate the American seas without being subject to search was never mentioned, though it had been the first cause of the war and the basis of the attacks made on Walpole's ministry. The nation was eager for the commencement of hostilities, but soon grew tired of the burdens they entailed. For all their sacrifices of blood and treasure, in a contest of eight years' duration, they only reaped the barren glory of supporting the German sovereignty of Maria Theresa.

Nov. 23. The king arrives from Germany.

The treaty of peace was celebrated by a grand display of fire-works in the Green Park.

29. Parliament opened. In the interval of the prorogation the opposition had arranged their measures, and appeared disposed to give ministers some trouble. They cavilled at the terms of the peace, and sharply canvassed the demands of the chancellor of the exchequer. It was under the auspices of the prince and guided by the councils of Bolingbroke, that the opposition acted. The latter resided at Battersea, "where he was visited," Smollett says, "like a sainted shrine, by all the distinguished votaries of wit, eloquence and political ambition."

Dec. 10. The Prince-Pretender arrested at the Opera-house, and forcibly carried out of France.

The total number of French, Spanish and neutral vessels captured, from the declaration of war against France in 1744, was 2804. Of this 1191 were taken by privateers.

The total quantity of corn of every sort, exported in the five years ending in 1748, was 3,768,444 quarters, valued at 15,073,776*l*. The bounty paid on this exportation of corn amounted to 678,907*l*.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened 14,153; buried 23,869; decreased in the burials this year 1625. Died under two years of age 7637. Lived to 100 and upwards five.

1749. Feb. 9. Peace proclaimed by the under-sheriffs of Middlesex.

16. A riot at the Haymarket theatre occasioned by the disappointment of the audience at a conjuror not jumping into a quart bottle.

Mar. 21. The lord mayor, aldermen, and common-council wait upon the king with an address to congratulate him on the safe delivery of the princess of Wales. They all had the honour to kiss his majesty's hand.

April 25. A general thanksgiving for the peace.

June 13. Royal assent given to an act for making a free market for the sale of fish in Westminster.

Aug. 7. An edict published at Paris, requiring from the clergy a return of their revenues, preparatory to the levy from them of the twentieth penny in common with the rest of the nation; and prohibiting the publication of the debates of the king's council. But the debates of their parliaments were allowed to be published. It was also proposed to levy a license duty on those who wore a sword, unless they could prove their nobility, or were in the royal service. To preserve the peace of the church it was prohibited to the bishops to issue their mandates on controverted points of religion without the king's permission.

England and other parts of Europe were much infested with locusts. Bavaria in particular shared in the desolation: a great swarm passed over in three columns, each of which was 300 paces in breadth, and occupied three hours in their transit.

Oct. 6. A factor near the Exchange apprehended by a king's messenger, for sending clandestinely out of the kingdom artificers and utensils employed in the woollen manufacture.

Nov. 14. A company of French comedians, lately arrived, occasioned a good deal of noise, and were strenuously attacked in the newspapers; notwithstanding which they began this night to act at the little Theatre in the Hay-market, where a fray ensued, swords were drawn, and some persons wounded: however, they persevered, and the French players and Westminster election almost entirely engrossed the attention of the town for the greatest part of this month.

16. On the opening of parliament the king congratulated them on the beneficial influence of the peace on commerce and public credit. Ministers still commanded a powerful majority, and carried all their measures triumphantly, by the mute eloquence of numbers.

Dec. 8. **WESTMINSTER ELECTION.**—The election was closed on this day; when the numbers appeared to be, for lord Trentham 4811; for sir George Vandeput 4654. But a scrutiny was demanded by the popular party. Trentham was the son of earl Gower, and the ministerial candidate. He had been strenuously opposed by those who styled themselves the "independent electors of Westminster," because his family had deserted the ranks of the opposition. Vandeput was the popular candidate, and his expenses were defrayed by the electors, to which they were encouraged by the countenance and assistance of the prince of Wales and

his adherents. Mobs were hired and processions made on both sides, and the contest was carried on with a great deal of tumult and animosity.

The distemper among horned cattle continuing in different parts of the kingdom, orders in council were issued prohibiting the removal of cattle, except for slaughter.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened 14,260; buried 25,516: increased in the burials this year 3,647. Died under two years of age 8504. Lived to 100 and upwards twelve.

In Paris in 1749, were married 4263 couples; christened 19,158; died 18,607; foundlings 3775.

1750. *Jan.* 4. The market at May Fair opened for all sorts of cattle as at Smithfield.

16. Disturbances between the woolcombers and weavers of Tiverton, on account of the merchants introducing Irish worsted; the woolcombers refusing to work, put a stop to all trade.

Mar. 8. A smart shock of an earthquake felt in the metropolis. A shock had been felt about a month previously.

April 4. The Scotch claims for heretable jurisdictions began paying at the Exchequer.

5. Incredible numbers of people, being under strong apprehensions that the metropolis would be visited with a third and more fatal earthquake, on this night, according to the prediction of a fanatic life-guardsmen, and because it would be just four weeks from the last shock, as that was from the first, left their houses and walked into the fields, or lay in boats all night; many people of fashion in the neighbouring villages sat in their coaches till day-break; others went to a greater distance, so that the roads were never more thronged, and lodgings were hardly to be procured at Windsor.

12. Parliament prorogued.

REDUCTION OF THE FOUR PER CENTS.—The peaceable and prosperous state of the country caused the public funds to rise above par, and enabled the minister this session to accomplish an important financial measure. This was the reduction of the four per cent. stock to three and a half per cent. for seven years, and afterwards to remain at three per cent.; leaving to the public creditor the option of accepting these terms or being paid the principal, that is, thirty per cent. below the actual transfer price. It had all the effect of a tax of 25 per cent. on the funds, and was severely felt by many classes in the middle ranks, whose property was invested in the public securities. Yet there was no violation of national faith; since, agreeably with the original terms of the contract, the perpetual annuities were

always redeemable at *par*. Some objection was at first made by the Bank, South Sea, and East India Companies, but finally the minister's plan was successfully carried through.

16. The king set out for Hanover.

May 21. The first buss launched, built on the model of the Dutch, for the British white herring fishery.

22. **STATE OF NEWGATE.**—A gentleman attended the court of aldermen with a message from lord-chief-justice Lee, to acquaint them of the necessity of some new regulation to be made concerning the gaol of Newgate; or that it would be dangerous for persons to attend the business of the sessions at the Old Bailey. To the message was annexed a list of upwards of twenty persons who were at the last sessions, and had since died, as it was thought, by some infection from the stench of the prisoners, among whom were sir Samuel Pennant, sir Daniel Lambert, baron Clarke, sir Thomas Abney, Mr. Cox, the under-sheriff, Mr. Sharpless, the clerk of the papers, counsellor Baird, counsellor Otway, deputy Hunt, and several others, who died of malignant fevers caught at the last sessions. All the jails of England at the time were filled with the refuse of the army and navy, disbanded at the peace, and either averse to labour or excluded from employment, naturally preyed upon the community. Great numbers were punished as examples, and the rest perished miserably amidst the stench and horrors of noisome dungeons.

June 17. A plot of ground hired at Chelsea for the reception of 300 Moravian families of the Lutheran church, to carry on a manufacture there.

30. Hannah Snell, who had long been in the army without her sex being discovered, and been present in several battles and sieges, received a pension of 30*l.* a year from the duke of Cumberland.

The congregation *de propaganda fide*, at Rome, had advice from China that the emperor, who had manifested a tolerating spirit, having suddenly lost his wife and son, fell into a deep melancholy, which soon degenerated into a kind of inquietude and languor, and at last turned to rage and cruelty. His ministers, fearing the effects on themselves, diverted the storm on the Christians, charging them with holding correspondence prejudicial to his interest. On this accusation the old bishop of Monicastro, who had thirty years governed the mission of the empire, was beheaded; four dominicans and two jesuits were strangled, and the most rigorous edicts ever made against the Christians were revived; but the missionaries in Pekin were spared, on the supplication of some jesuits acceptable to the emperor, for their useful skill in as-

tronomy, painting, architecture, fortification and gunnery.

July 2. Mr. Sewell agreed with the committee of the city lands to farm Newgate-market on paying a fine of 700*l.* and 700*l.* rent. Mr. Papworth farmed Leadenhall-market for 1000*l.* a year, and 1000*l.* fine.

13. The excessive heat of this and some preceding days so affected the fish in the Thames, that they gathered in shoals to the bank side, and buried themselves in the sedge and mud, and were easily taken in great quantities. Loads of fish perished in the fens of Cambridgeshire, and one person lost 300*l.* by the death of jacks and pike.

Aug. 29. Was decided at Newmarket a wager for 1000 guineas, laid by Theobald Taaff, esq. against the earl of March and lord Eglington, who were to provide a four-wheel carriage with a man in it, to be drawn by four horses nineteen miles in an hour; which was performed in fifty-three minutes and twenty-seven seconds.

Sept. This month the pretender was imprudent enough secretly to visit London, which he left again in five days, on finding himself deceived by some sanguine friends. He was shunned by the more respectable of the Jacobites for his libertinism; and Dr. King (*Anecdotes of his Own Time*, 201) describes him as a prince without "noble or benevolent sentiments," and wholly ignorant of our "history and constitution."

22. The ratifications of a treaty of subsidy concluded with the elector of Bavaria were exchanged at Hanover. The substance of this treaty, which was to last six years, was that the maritime powers pay the elector an annual subsidy of 40,000*l.*, for which the elector was to keep in readiness a body of 6000 foot for the service of the maritime powers whenever demanded, provided they are not employed against the empire.

Oct. 24. Spain agrees to pay the South-sea company 100,000*l.* for the non-execution of the Assiento treaty.

Nov. 10. Died Mr. Edward Bright at Malden in Essex, aged thirty. He was supposed to be the largest man living. He weighed forty-two stone and a half, jockey weight; and not being very tall, his body was of an astonishing bulk, and his legs were as big as a middling man's body. He was an active man till a year or two before his death, when his corpulence so overpowered his strength, that his life was a burthen, and his death a deliverance. He left a widow pregnant of their sixth child.

17. The new bridge at Westminster opened, with a grand procession, at midnight.

30. The nunneries of begging friars in

Ireland having been detected in many vile and dissolute practices, were suppressed by an order of the pope, on the petition of the principal catholics, both lay and clerical, of that kingdom.

A distemper among the horses prevailed through the whole of this month. That among the horned cattle was unabated.

The duke of Marlborough purchased the earl of Clarendon's estate in Oxfordshire for 70,000*l.*

Dec. 22. A proclamation for the better prevention of the numerous street robberies and assaults in London.

BILLS OF MORTALITY—In London christened 14,548; buried 23,727: increased in the burials, 1789. Died under two years of age 8024. Lived to 100 and upwards 6.

The christenings in Paris for 1750 amounted to 19,035; marriages, 4619; burials, 18,084; foundlings, 3785.

1751. *Jan. 4.* The deficiency of the bank of St. George at Genoa calculated at sixteen millions of crowns.

11. A globular bottle was blown at Leith in Scotland, capable of holding two hog-heads; the biggest ever produced at any glass-works. Its dimensions forty inches by forty-two.

17. Was exhibited before the Royal Society a method of making artificial magnets much stronger than the best load-stones, with the assistance only of a common poker and tongs, by John Canton, M. A.

Parliament was opened by the king, who recommended the encouragement of commerce, and measures for the suppression of such outrages and violences as are inconsistent with the security of the community. The government address was carried by 203 to 74.

Feb. Justice Fielding having received information of a rendezvous of gamesters in the Strand, procured a strong party of guards, who seized forty-five at the tables, which they broke to pieces, and carried the gamesters before the justice, who committed thirty-nine of them to the Gate-house, and admitted the other six to bail. Three tables were broken, which cost near 60*l.* a piece. Under each of them were observed two iron rollers, and two private springs, which those who were in the secret could touch, and stop the turning whenever they had any flats to deal with.

5. A proclamation issued, pursuant to addresses from both houses of parliament, concerning a seditious paper, intitled, *Constitutional Queries, &c.*, promising 1000*l.* for the discovery of the author, 200*l.* for the discovery of each of the printers, and 50*l.* for discovery of each publisher.

19. A committee of the common-council appointed to devise means for clearing the

streets of beggars, vagrants, and disagreeable spectacles.

Was closed the subscription to the Free British-fishery, the sum of which amounted to about 200,000*l.* Six busses for the ensuing season were ordered to be immediately built.

It was affirmed that upwards of 4000 persons who sold spirituous liquors without license, had been convicted of the penalty of 10*l.* each, from Jan., 1749, to Jan., 1750; and according to a list of private gin-shops, on the best calculation, they amounted to upwards of 17,000 in the bills of mortality. That the bill for preventing the consumption of cheap compound liquors proposed an additional duty of 8*l.* per ton on all malt spirits, to commence from Lady-day, 1751; that no compounder should make or sell any spirituous liquors, unless he has a still of 100 gallons in his dwelling-house, and served a legal apprenticeship; and that no distiller should have more than one apprentice at a time.

Mar. 4. Theodore, the abdicated king of Corsica, cast, in an action for a debt of 100*l.*, in the court of King's-bench, Guild-hall.

20. DEATH OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.— Frederick prince of Wales was in his forty-fifth year, and father of George III. He expired suddenly, in the arms of Desnoyers, the celebrated dancing-master, who was near his bed-side, engaged in playing on the violin for his amusement. Smollett says his death was in consequence of a cold caught in his garden at Kew; but this is incorrect. His end was caused by an abscess, that formed from the blow of a cricket-ball, which he received while playing at that game on the lawn at Cliefden, a collection of matter having been produced that burst in his throat and suffocated him. It will have been observed from the Occurrences of this reign that an estrangement had subsisted between him and his father. During the last illness of the prince he was never visited by his majesty. On the evening of his decease, George II. had repaired, according to his usual custom, to the apartments of lady Yarmouth, situated on the ground-floor at St. James's, where a party of distinction generally assembled. The king had just sat down to play, and was engaged at cards, when a page arrived from Leicester-house, bringing information that his son was no more. He received the intelligence without testifying either emotion or surprise; then rising, he crossed the room to lady Yarmouth's table, who was likewise occupied at play, and leaning over her chair, said to her in German, in a low tone of voice, "Fritz is dode," Freddy is dead (Wrxall's Memoirs, 418). Long before his death, the prince made a decla-

ration to the chiefs of the opposition of the leading principles which should guide his conduct on his accession to the throne. Among other things promised by him, were, first, to abolish all distinction of parties, and admit indiscriminately to place and emolument individuals recommended by their virtues and attachment to the constitution. Secondly, he proposed to support a bill to exclude from the house of commons all military officers under the rank of colonel, all naval officers under the degree of rear-admiral. Thirdly, he promised to introduce a rigorous inquiry into the abuses of public offices. Fourthly, a standing army was to be replaced by a numerous and effective militia. Lastly, the prince promised that no administration should have his confidence without obtaining these points in behalf of the people. Whether the prince was sincere or not, his promises rendered him very popular with the nation, and historians have been lavish in his praise. But contemporary writers are seldom well acquainted with the real character of princes. The truth is, Frederick was a man of weak intellect, who, having been thwarted in his inclinations by his father, devoted himself, in conjunction with others, whose motives were as little honourable as his own, to a factious opposition to his measures. Even his admirers allow that he was deficient in energy, steadiness, and penetration of character. Nor was economy a virtue he displayed, for at his death he had contracted enormous debts which were never discharged. The details given by Dodington in his "Diary" of the intrigues and amusements at Leicester-house are not creditable to his principles or understanding. The party there were occupied in forming schemes of future administrations, fixing the civil list, and dividing in imagination the loaves and fishes of the state on the king's death. It is related by this writer that the prince went three times in thirteen months to have his *fortune told*. He used to go disguised to Hockley-in-the-Hole to witness bull-baiting. In these rambles he was generally accompanied by lord Middlesex, whom his father had disowned for extravagance, or lord John Sackville. His favourite mistress was lady Archibald Hamilton. The prince was married in 1736 to the princess Augusta, only surviving daughter of Frederick II., duke of Saxe Gotha, by whom he left issue five sons and three daughters. His eldest son, now prince of Wales, being only in his eleventh year, a regency was appointed; but the king surviving till prince George attained his majority, it never acted.

POOR LAWS.—Orders were issued by the commons to oblige the overseers of all parishes to give an account to the clerks of

the peace, &c. of the monies paid annually to the poor, from 1747 to 1750, inclusive, in order to be by them transmitted to the house immediately. The poor-rates, which at the end of Charles II.'s reign amounted only to 665,362*l.*, had increased to upwards of three millions. Notwithstanding this, a bill was under the consideration of the commons, for granting certain privileges to encourage the poor to marry, for the increase of his majesty's subjects.

Mar. 23. Order for a general mourning.

31. Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, master of the buck-hounds, died, aged 51, of an abscess in the back.

The number of patients under the care of St. Bartholomew's and St. Thomas's hospitals amounted last year to 19,590.

Apr. 3. Captain Coram was interred with great solemnity in the vault under the chapel of the Foundling-hospital.

The late prince of Wales interred in Westminster-abbey.

22. POPULAR IGNORANCE.—At Tring in Hertfordshire a publican giving out that he was bewitched by one Osborne and his wife, harmless people above 70, had it cried at several market-towns that they were to be tried by ducking this day, which occasioned a vast concourse. The parish officers having removed the old couple from the workhouse into the church for security, the mob missing them, broke the workhouse windows, and seizing the governor, threatened to drown him and fire the town, having straw in their hands for that purpose. The poor creatures were at length delivered up, stripped naked, their thumbs tied to their toes, then dragged two miles and thrown into a muddy stream. After much ducking and ill usage, both expired. The coroner's inquest brought in their verdict wilful murder.

ROYAL CHANGES.—Frederick, king of Sweden and landgrave of Hesse Cassel, dying, he was succeeded, agreeably to previous arrangements, by Adolphus Frederick, duke of Holstein. Such was the rage for subsidizing the petty states of Germany, that it was found, on computation, that the late king of Sweden, in his capacity of landgrave only, had received from England 1,249,699*l.* Soon after the king of Sweden's death, prince Frederick of Hesse Cassel, who had espoused Mary, the third daughter of George II., thought fit to renounce his protestantism, and declare himself a Roman catholic.

May 5. Above 10,000 people came to Glastonbury from Bristol, Bath, and other parts, to drink the waters there for asthmatic complaints.

13. The coming of age of the marquis of Rockingham celebrated at Wentworth-house, Yorkshire. Above 10,000 guests,

3000 of whom were entertained in the house, and the beer was brewed in 1730.

THE WEATHER.—The season was cold and wet for most part of this month, the corn in the ground being much damaged in many places by the rain, and above 600,000 acres were computed to remain unsowed. Cattle also, especially the woolly kind, suffered greatly by the inclemency of the weather. One farmer in Sussex lost 400 lambs by cold dews. The rains made land-carriage so dear, that the poor people were greatly distressed by the high price of coals, which, in the wet season, at Derby rose from 4*d.* to 8*d.* per hundred; at Rugby, from 8*d.* to 14*d.*; at Northampton, from 10*d.* to 18*d.*, and in proportion at other inland places. The infection among cattle still continued, and now raged in the midland and northern counties. In Cheshire they lost 30,000 cows since last October.

June 17. MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—John earl of Granville made lord-president of the council in the room of the earl of Dorset. In the same month the earl of Holderness became secretary of state on the resignation of the duke of Bedford; and lord Anson succeeded the earl of Sandwich as first lord of the admiralty. The withdrawal of the Bedford section of the ministry gave still greater ascendancy to the Pelhams. Mr. Pitt was an active partizan of the Pelhams, and Mr. Henry Fox, the first lord Holland, of the Bedfords. These conspicuous politicians, like their descendants of the next generation, represented the rival factions of the aristocracy in the house of commons. Both Pitt and Fox continued to hold their places.

24. Parliament prorogued, after the royal assent had been given to an act for augmenting the duties on spirits, and prohibiting the sale thereof except by victuallers, innkeepers, and vintners who rent a house of 10*l.* a year.

REFORM OF THE CALENDAR.—One of the most remarkable acts passed in the course of this session was that for regulating the commencement of the year, and correcting the calendar according to the Gregorian computation, which had been adopted by most nations on the Continent. The New Style, as it was termed, was introduced by pope Gregory XIII. in the sixteenth century; but the authority of the pontiff extending over catholic countries only, the ancient computation continued in use in England and the northern states. But by the new act it was provided that the year should begin on the 1st day of January, instead of, as heretofore, on the 25th day of March, and that eleven intermediate nominal days between the 2nd and 14th of September, 1752, should be omitted: so that the day succeeding the 2nd should be denominated

the 14th of that month. By this change the dates of all private and public transactions, mercantile correspondence, treaties, battles, and other events and occurrences in England, were assimilated to those of France, Italy, and other continental nations. Secondly, the civil was made more nearly to correspond with the astronomical year. The Julian computation, either from ignorance or negligence, supposing a complete solar revolution to be effected in the precise period of 365 days and 6 hours, made no provision for the deficiency of eleven minutes, which, however, in the lapse of 18 centuries amounted to a difference of eleven days. By throwing out these supernumerary days, the equinoxes and solstices were made to fall on nearly the same nominal days that they fell in 325 at the council of Nice.

July 11. Mrs. Pitt made privy purse.

Sept. 18. By a list published of the ships employed in the whale fishery for 1751, it appeared that 167 went out; 32 from Britain, 13 from Hamburg, 3 from Altena, 2 from Bremen, 1 from Embden, and the rest from Holland.

At Weyhill-fair best Farnham hops sold from 8*l.* to 8*l.* 8*s.* per hundred, the second from 4*l.* 15*s.* to 6*l.*, the Kent and Sussex best from 5*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* 10*s.*, and ordinary from 3*l.* to 4*l.*

In a circular epistle from the yearly meeting at London to the quarterly meetings of the Quakers in Great Britain, Ireland, and elsewhere, the account of sufferings this year (chiefly for tithes and church-rates) amounted in England and Wales to upwards of 3025*l.*, and in Ireland to upwards of 1760*l.*

Nov. 14. Parliament opened, when the king informed them of the death of the prince of Orange, and of the new treaties concluded with the electors of Bavaria and Saxony. These subsidy-treaties in a time of peace were in addition to those already subsisting with the electors of Mentz and Cologne, and which were followed by one with the elector-palatine.

20. Mr. Murray again committed to Newgate, by an order of the house of commons. He was committed last session for refusing to ask pardon on his knees, for obstructing the high bailiff of Westminster, in the course of his scrutiny, but discharged at the end of the session. His recomittal seemed an unusual stretch of parliamentary privilege. A pamphlet, setting forth the case of the gentleman, was ordered to be publicly burnt by the hangman.

21. Died, John Chambers, a fisherman, aged 99.

Dec. 8. Died, Louisa queen of Denmark, and youngest daughter of George II.

DEATH OF BOLINGBROKE.—On the 15th

instant died, in his seventy-fourth year, Henry St. John, viscount Bolingbroke; a nobleman busily engaged in the politics, literature, and philosophy of the preceding half century. He began his career under Harley, earl of Oxford, whom he supplanted by an intrigue, and was himself driven into exile by the malignity of the first whig ministers of George I. Rashly entering the service of the pretender, he soon withdrew in disgust, either from jealousy of the superior influence of the duke of Ormond, in the jacobite court, or from his better sense and education making him ashamed of the mean qualities of his new master, and the folly of his adherents. He had the singular fortune of having been secretary to, and attainted by, both governments: he recovered, however, the family inheritance in England; but Walpole, not caring to be troubled with him in parliament, kept him from his seat in the house of lords; and in retaliation, Bolingbroke commenced a long and bitter persecution of the minister, in the *Craftsmen*. His life had been chiefly spent in retirement, and though not highly exemplary of practical wisdom, he was looked up to with oracular veneration by contemporary wits and politicians. He was a fine speaker, and highly accomplished man: of great energy and decision of character; but unscrupulous, and lacked the integrity of principle and singleness of pursuit that inspires confidence, and leads to unquestioned excellence. He was ambitious, envious of superiority, resentful; lax in morals, a partizan in politics, and an infidel in religion. As a candidate for popularity and public employment, he necessarily concealed his unbelief, but in old age more openly avowed himself. "In the agonies of death," says Mr. Cooke, "he was awfully consistent with himself. He rejected without hesitation the proffered assistance of a clergyman, and died as he had always lived, but only latterly avowed, a deist; affording in his last moments a melancholy proof of his sincerity." (Memoirs of lord Bolingbroke, ii. 244.) His death was caused by cancer in the face, an incurable malady, which he bore with heroic fortitude, calmly waiting its inevitable issue. In politics Bolingbroke was a liberal tory, repudiating the extravagances of legitimacy and high-church; and it is to be regretted his public life did not more assuredly win for him the merit he claimed in the epitaph he wrote for himself; namely, that he was "the enemy of no national party, the friend of no faction." He bequeathed voluminous MSS. to his secretary, Mallet, which were published; but such has been the progress of science, that it is the facts, not the moral and political philosophy of the last age, that are chiefly sought after.

16. Opened, a new road from Westminster-bridge to Kennington, cut through gardens, eighty feet wide.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened 14,691; buried 21,023. Decreased in the burials this year 2699. Died under two years of age 7483; lived to one hundred and upwards 13.

1752. *Jan. 1.* A great court at St. James's; but, on account of the mourning, the king did not go to the royal chapel to offer the byzant, or wedge of gold to the poor; neither was the ode for the new year performed according to annual custom.

2. The bank agrees to lend government 1,400,000*l.* at three per cent.

Feb. 2. The Spitalfield weavers petition the king, that the mourning may be shortened; which is granted.

Mar. 3. Miss Blandy tried at Oxford for poisoning her father, and convicted.

5. Was held the anniversary meeting of the governors of the small-pox hospital, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, where a sermon was preached by the bishop of Worcester, in which he answered the objections to inoculation, and said, he was informed by three eminent physicians who had long practised that operation, that only three out of 1500 of the inoculated patients had died.

11. Elizabeth Jeffreys tried at Chelmsford for the murder of her uncle, and convicted.

26. **IMPORTANT STATUTES.**—Royal assent given to an act for licensing pawnbrokers, and preventing their receiving stolen goods. An act for suppressing places of amusement in the metropolis, unless licensed by the magistrates. An act for vesting forfeited estates in Scotland inalienably in the crown, and applying their rents and profits to the improvement of the Highlands. An act for opening the ports of Yarmouth and Lancaster, for the importation of wool and woollen yarn from Ireland. An act for the execution of murderers one day after their sentence, and delivering their bodies for dissection. Murders had been shockingly frequent of late, and according to Smollett, this expedient was productive of salutary effects.

Parliament prorogued.

31. The king set out for Hanover.

Apr. 16. The collection for the sons of the clergy 1090*l.*

June 5. The estate of the late Mr. Pugh, North Wales, was purchased by the executors of the late sir Watkin Williams Wynn, a master of chancery, for 33,400*l.*

10. The first stone of the London hospital, Whitechapel, laid in presence of the duke of Bedford, and other governors.

20. The new fish-market, Broadway, Westminster, opened.

FRENCH PROTESTANTS.—Notwithstanding the rigorous order lately given by the French king, to hinder his protestant subjects from going out of his kingdom, great numbers retired to Switzerland; many have also fled to Ireland, Jersey, the British colonies in America, and no inconsiderable number to Prussia. It is true, they run infinite risks before they can reach the frontiers, and the guards, very lately, stopped near thirty of these conscientious people on the road, who were committed to prison. A young gentleman was condemned at Montpelier to be hanged, for frequenting religious assemblies, and executed the same day. When sentence was pronounced he shed some tears, but soon recovered himself, and said to the judge, "God forgive the weakness of human nature."

July 21. At a court of common council, it is agreed to furnish the Mansion-house, at an expense not exceeding 4000*l.*

31. Some spirited persons endeavour to recover their right of way through Richmond park.

Aug. 4. A lottery was set on foot at Dublin, which produced 13,700*l.* for rebuilding Essex-bridge, and other public and charitable uses. There were 100,000 tickets, at a guinea each.

7. Admiral Vernon, alderman Janssen, and the rest of the committee of anti-gallicans, met at the Crown-tavern, behind the Royal-exchange, to give their premiums to the makers of the best piece of English bone-lace; when the best prize of ten guineas was adjudged to Mr. Marriott, of Newport-Pagnel, Bucks.

Sept. 3. The Gregorian or NEW STYLE, according to the late act of parliament, (anté p. 439) took place in all his majesty's dominions in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America: this day, from hence, called the 14th day of September.

29. **IMPROVEMENTS IN SCOTLAND.**—The town-council of Edinburgh deliberated on a plan for introducing improvements in that city on a very extensive scale, and which they thought they were warranted in entering upon, from the rapid increase of late years of their commerce, manufactures, and shipping. The produce of their linen manufacture for the five years ending Nov. 1, 1751, was 1,607,680*l.* In the seven years ending in 1752, there were distilled in Edinburgh 723,150 English gallons of brandy; and the tonnage of ships belonging to Leith had increased from 2,285 tons in 1744, to 5,703 tons in 1752.

Nov. 6. Four hundred and seventy-nine thousand five hundred yards of liuen were entered at the Custom-house, from Dublin.

Dec. 20. Richmond park opened by the king's order.

The whole revenue of excise in England

and Wales, last year, amounted to 3,057,825*l*. The excise on beer and ale only, yielded 1,120,567*l*.; duty on malt and molasses spirits 572,154*l*.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London 15,308; buried 20,485; decreased in the burials this year 543. Died under two years of age 8,239; lived to one hundred and upwards, 7.

In Dublin city and suburbs were christened 1733; buried 1844; decreased in the burials 186.

1753. *Jan.* 11. Died sir Hans Sloane, first physician to the king, and many years president of the royal society. By his will his library of 50,000 volumes, antiquities and rarities culled from the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, in the collection of which he had expended an immense sum, were to be offered to parliament for 20,000*l*. The proposal was promptly acceded to, and together with the Harleian MSS. and Cottonian library, became the foundation of the British Museum in Montagu-house. The money for this purchase was raised by a lottery.

Parliament opened by the king.

Feb. 7. Was published a copy of the treaty concluded at Cape Coast Castle between England and the Fantee nation.

8. Virtue Hall, a servant to one Mrs. Wells, who kept a house of ill-fame near Enfield-wash, was taken into custody, by virtue of a warrant from justice Fielding: after a very strict examination, she acknowledged that Elizabeth Canning, a young woman who had been robbed by two fellows in Moorfields, about ten in the evening, last new year's day, was afterwards brought to Mrs. Wells's house and confined there near a month, and that several menaces were made use of to induce her to become a common prostitute; but that she would not comply. After so long confinement, Canning took an opportunity of pulling down some boards, which were nailed before a window, and made her escape, and came in a very miserable condition, and almost deprived of her senses, to her mother, a poor widow, who lived in Aldermanbury. Squires, an old gipsy-woman in Mrs. Wells's house, stripped her of her stays, and during her confinement she had no other sustenance than about a quarter loaf and a gallon of water. This occurrence caused a great sensation, and is cited by Smollett as an instance of the proneness of the English people, in the absence of important events, to adopt some trifle as a subject of interest and contention. The metropolis and a great part of the kingdom were divided into rancorous parties as to the credibility of the relation of Canning and her accomplice Hall. But the result proved it to be, in great part, an invention of two artful and worthless women.

Hall retracted her evidence, and Canning was convicted of perjury and transported.

Apr. 16. Dr. Cameron, who was seized in Scotland two or three days after his return from France, to settle some indispensable private business, was this evening brought to the Tower in a coach, under a strong guard of dragoons.

May 1. The Messiah was performed at the chapel of the Foundling-hospital, under the direction of Mr. Handel, the composer, for the benefit of that charity; there were above 800 coaches and chairs, and the tickets produced 925 guineas.

17. Dr. Cameron arraigned at the King's-bench court, under the act of attainder passed against him and others concerned in the late rebellion. The prisoner admitting his identity, he was sentenced to suffer death as a traitor.

JEW BILL.—A great ferment was excited this month, by the introduction of a bill for the naturalization of Jews born abroad, and admitting them to the privileges of Jews born in this country. Ministers were in favour of the measure, as offering an inducement to opulent Israelites to remove their effects to Great Britain. It was strenuously opposed by the corporation of London, the mercantile classes generally, and some heated enthusiasts. It was contended, that the incorporation of 'vagrant Jews' into the community would introduce a rivalry of interest and industry—would endanger the constitution in church and state—and be an impious attempt to invalidate the scriptural prophecies, which declare that the Jews shall be wanderers, without settled habitation, until their conversion to Christianity. Such reasoning did not prevent the Jew bill passing into a law, though it was in the next session repealed, in obedience to an unconquerable popular prejudice.

June 7. Dr. Cameron executed. A strong sympathy was excited in behalf of this unfortunate gentleman, whose death was a needless act of ministerial severity, unjustified by any considerations of public policy or danger.

MARRIAGE ACT.—Parliament prorogued after the royal assent had been given to a bill for the prevention of clandestine marriages. Prior to this act marriages might be solemnized in England with the same facility as at Gretna-green. No notice or publication of bans was requisite: any clergyman, in any place, might unite a couple in wedlock without license, consent of parents, or other preliminary condition. In consequence, the ceremony was often performed in cellars, garrets, or alehouses, by the refuse of the clergy, without any other consideration than that of pocketing a half-crown or two shillings fee. Clerical debtors

imprisoned in the Fleet were notorious for pursuing this disreputable traffic, and used to hover about the prison for custom like porters for employment. A remarkable case of conjugal abuse, originating in the existing state of the law, coming before the house of lords, the marriage act was introduced by lord-chancellor Hardwicke.

REGISTRATION ACT.—In this session Mr. Potter, son of the archbishop of Canterbury, brought in a bill for taking a census of the people, distinguishing the marriages, births, and deaths, and also the total number of persons receiving alms, in every parish. This bill was violently opposed by Mr. Thornton, as subversive of the last remains of English liberty, and merely intended to facilitate the inquiries of the *political arithmetician*, and the exactions of the tax-gatherer. It passed the commons, but was thrown out of the lords on the second reading, as being of 'dangerous tendency.'

June. TURNPIKE RIOTS.—A great number of persons assembled in the west riding of Yorkshire, and cut down and destroyed several turnpikes, and burnt the toll-houses. The mob grew to such a height that the magistracy was obliged to call in the aid of the military. On the 30th instant, in the evening, a body of 500 men assembled in Briggate, Leeds, to rescue three prisoners, apprehended for destroying turnpikes. The riot act was read, but the multitude not dispersing and beginning to tear up the pavement to demolish the windows of the King's Arms inn, and to throw at the soldiers, the justices gave orders to fire, which was first done with powder only. This producing no effect, the soldiers fired with ball. According to the return made by the constables on Sunday morning, eight were killed and about fifty wounded.

There were also riots this year at Manchester, Bristol, and other places, occasioned by the high price of provisions, especially bread, the rate of which was enhanced by the absurd policy that had long prevailed of granting a bounty on the exportation of corn.

Aug. The thirty-six British vessels sent this season to Greenland caught 144 whales.

Nov. 8. His majesty, with the whole court, came from Kensington palace to St. James's, for the winter season.

15. Parliament opened, when the king, among other matters said, that 'it is with the utmost regret I observe that the horrid crimes of robbery and murder are, of late, rather increased than diminished.' This is remarkable evidence of the state of the country, considering it was in a period of peace and great internal prosperity.

26. The state lottery began drawing at Guildhall.

Dec. 4. The trustees of the British Museum meet for the first time at the Cockpit.

The following is a list of the differences pending between the courts of Europe. 1. Hanover's dispute with Prussia about East Friesland. 2. Affair of the Silesian loan. 3. Limits between England and France in North America, and the affair of the neutral islands. 4. A free navigation in the West Indies, without search or visit, to be obtained from Spain. 5. Boundaries of Finland to be settled between Russia and Sweden. 6. Duchy of Courland to be provided with a new sovereign. 7. Quarrel between Spain and Denmark about treaties with the African states. 8. Affairs of the East Indies to be settled between the English and the French. 9. Restitution or satisfaction to be made to France for ships taken by the English during the war with Spain.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—In London, christened, 15,444; buried, 19,276; decreased in the burials this year, 1209. Died under two years of age, 7892. Lived to 100 and upwards, four.

The christenings in the town of Newcastle last year amounted to 599, the burials to 642, which is 41 christenings less, and 211 burials more than in the preceding year.

In Birmingham the christenings amounted to 735; the burials to 829.

M. Deslandes, at Stockholm, a learned Frenchman, being excited by the dispute between some English writers, concerning the number of people in the world in ancient and modern times, applied himself to consider the subject; and from the calculations of Hales, Vossius, Riccioli, Maitland, Boulanvilliers, and others, he concludes, that in all ages the number of people is much the same in the whole, though it may be sometimes more, sometimes less, in particular nations; and that in Europe there are actually 109 millions of inhabitants; in Asia 400 millions; in Africa 100 millions; and in America about 120 millions; which for the whole globe makes 729 millions. As for the inhabitants of Europe, Deslandes divided them as follows:

	Millions.
In Spain and Portugal	6
France	20
Germany and Hungary	20
The seven provinces of the Netherlands	5
Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Mus-	
covy	16
Italy, and the adjacent islands	11
England	8
European Turkey	16
Poland and Prussia	7
Total	109

1754. *Jan. 22.* About 2000 seamen impressed on the Thames, to man a squadron intended for the East Indies.

Feb. 11. For about a fortnight past was a harder frost than had been known for some years. The river Thames, westward, was so full of ice as to hinder the navigation of barges from those parts.

28. A council was held at St. James's, when the king directed the judges, who were going their circuits for the approaching assizes, to attend him in council; and the lord-chancellor signified to them his majesty's great concern at the present increase of robberies and murders, particularly murders by poisoning, perjuries, and forgeries: exhorted them to be vigilant and to admonish the country magistracy to do their duty.

Mar. 6. DEATH OF THE PREMIER.—Mr. Pelham the premier died unexpectedly in the meridian of his life and reputation. Rectitude of understanding and disposition were his leading characteristics. He is represented to have disliked the miserable policy of subsidising the petty states of Germany, but it demanded more enterprising energy than he possessed to extricate the kingdom, in the face of a hostile court, from its continental alliances. After a short interval Mr. Legge became the new chancellor of the exchequer; and the deceased minister's brother, the duke of Newcastle, first lord of the treasury and head of the government.

Apr. 6. Parliament prorogued, and on the 8th instant dissolved.

20. Sir Dudley Ryder, attorney-general, made lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench. William Murray, esq., afterwards chief-justice Mansfield, succeeded Ryder as attorney-general.

29. Elizabeth Canning tried at the Old Bailey for perjury, and found guilty. There were great mobs and riots about this affair (*ante p. 442*) which had agitated the nation upwards of a twelvemonth.

May 31. The newly-elected parliament met, but was shortly after prorogued to the usual period of commencing business in November. As there was now no opposition the elections had generally succeeded to the wish of the ministry, and Mr. Onslow was again chosen speaker.

July 3. The French commander, Villiers, on the Ohio, obliged major Washington, (the future American president) to capitulate in fort Necessity.

Nov. 14. Parliament opened by the king. The address was unanimously carried, but there soon appeared symptoms of a reviving opposition. Both Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox considered themselves ill used by the new minister; the first in not obtaining a secretaryship of state, and the last in losing

the leadership of the house of commons. They forgot their old rivalry in their common resentment, and early in the session were formally united in political friendship.

Dec. Accounts from France were full of the disputes between the king and his parliaments, the pope and the Jansenists, the persecution of protestants, and of skirmishes between smugglers and the troops sent in pursuit of them.

11. The dey of Algiers assassinated in his palace.

26. Peace signed at Pondicherry, between the French and English. Both nations to withdraw from interference in the affairs of the native princes. For the last five years these rival European powers had been contending for mastery in the east, and commissioners were sent over to terminate the war.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London, 14,947; buried 22,696: increased in the burials this year, 3420. Died under two years of age, 8115. Lived to 100 and upwards 4.

Christenings at Paris, 19,729; burials, 21,716; weddings, 4146; foundlings, 4329.

The burials in Glasgow last year amounted to 867.

At Liverpool, christenings 730, burials 744, marriages 289.

The inhabitants of the kingdom of Prussia were estimated at 600,000, and the births last year were 28,817, and the deaths 19,054.

1755. *Jan. 8.* Charles, duke of Marlborough, made lord privy seal.

Feb. 5. The Russian ambassador gave a splendid ball at Somerset-house.

12. Mr. Beckford's fine seat at Fonthill nearly destroyed by fire. Damage estimated at 30,000*l.*

Mar. 4. Stephen McDonald, John Berry, James Egan, and James Salmon, four thieftakers, were tried as accessories before the fact, in procuring James Salmon to be robbed by Peter Kelly and John Ellis, in the county of Kent, (for which they were both convicted last assizes at Maidstone) with intent to get the reward on their conviction. These wretches had received 1720*l.* from the treasury for persons taken by, and condemned on their evidence at the Old Bailey only, and they had ensnared, there and elsewhere, at different times, upwards of seventy men.

11. A bounty of 40*s.* and 3*l.* offered to able-bodied seamen to enter the royal navy.

April 15. The crowd was so great at the Bank to subscribe for lottery tickets, that the counters were broken by the eagerness of the people in pushing forwards.

24. Quito, in Peru, destroyed by an earthquake.

25. Parliament prorogued.

The press for seamen was carried on with great vigour in all parts of the kingdom, and in Ireland; but great numbers entered voluntarily. Almost all the considerable towns gave large rewards, in addition to his majesty's bounty, to such able-bodied seamen and landsmen as would enter the service. These warlike preparations were owing to the dispute subsisting with France respecting boundaries in America.

June 26. A sheep was killed, bred and fed by Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, of Smeaton, in the north riding of Yorkshire, the hind quarters whereof, though not fat, weighed 101 pounds.

July 4. Was finished and erected in Trinity-chapel, Cambridge, that long studied piece of sculpture of sir Isaac Newton, allowed by the best artists to be a complete masterpiece of the celebrated Mr. Roubilliac.

9. General Braddock having incautiously advanced through a difficult country, was surprised by the French and Indians near Fort Du Quesne, himself killed and his troops routed. The retreat was ably covered by major Washington at the head of the provincials.

Aug. 22. Twenty-four ships and twelve colliers were taken into the service of the government, and fitted out as vessels of war, to carry twenty guns, six-pounders, and 120 men, each ship. They were taken up at 6s. 6d. per ton a month.

The Dutch vessels brought home this season 200 whales.

One Courcy, a working man in Plymouth dock-yard, who had a wife and four sons, was informed by a letter from lord Kinsale that he was heir to that title and estate after his demise.

There was living at Ludlow in Shropshire, one John Davies, aged 107, who walked once a week fourteen miles, and could drink a gallon of strong beer without being disordered. Near the same town lived also Lucy Wadley, aged 105, who two years before had a new set of teeth.

At the amethyst mines, in the county of Kerry, in Ireland, were found large quantities of the finest amethysts, not inferior in hardness or colour to the best orientals. The crystals they dug were inferior to none in Europe, for their brilliancy and hardness, for the use of grottos and jewellers' work.

The people of Carolina shipped, during the last year, ending in April, 200,000 lb. weight of indigo.

Sept. 15. The king landed at Margate about noon, and arrived at Kensington at nine at night. He left Hanover on the 8th instant.

16. The government of New England offered 50*l.* for the taking and scalping of every Indian who had revolted to the French. By the late treaty with Russia, the Em-

press was to receive for ten years an annual subsidy of 60,000*l.*, during which term she was to keep ready for the service of Britain 73,450 men. If they should be actually employed, the subsidy to be augmented to 500,000*l.* per annum, but the troops to be paid by Russia.

The corn in the eastern parts of Devonshire was surprisingly destroyed by what they called oakweb worms, so that the whole crop was entirely lost.

The collection at the triennial music meeting at Worcester, on the 10th instant, amounted to 192*l.*

Oct. 7. IRISH PARLIAMENT.—This assembly was opened by a judicious and conciliatory speech from the lord-lieutenant, the marquis of Harrington. Ever since 1749 the Irish parliament had been contending with the English ministry for the right of appropriating the surplus in the exchequer to national purposes without the consent of the crown. The point at issue was pertinaciously revived every session. In the opening speech the viceroy carefully expressed his majesty's consent to the application of the surplus; and the commons in their address as carefully passed over the obnoxious word, acknowledging only his majesty's gracious recommendation.

During the last years of Mr. Pelham's cautious administration the contest was suspended; but the duke of Newcastle, who was inferior to his predecessor in political capacity, thought fit to revive the quarrel by giving positive instructions to the duke of Dorset, on opening the session, to repeat the expression of his majesty's consent in mentioning the surplus. This the commons promptly resented; the appropriation bill was transmitted to England divested of its complimentary preamble, which the English ministers supplied. On the return of the bill the whole nation was in a flame, and in spite of the utmost efforts of the Castle, the bill, thus amended, was thrown out by a majority of five voices. The victory of the Opposition was celebrated by universal rejoicings, and five-guinea medals were struck in honor of the glorious defenders of the public liberty on the 16th of December, 1753. By the rejection of the bill the government was placed in a very awkward dilemma, from which it only escaped by an humiliating concession to apply the surplus in virtue of a royal letter.

Nov. 1. EARTHQUAKE AT LISBON.—About nine in the morning this great city was visited by the most tremendous earthquake of modern times. The shock did not last more than seven minutes, but it was so violent that the king's palace, nearly all the public buildings, and 6000 dwelling-houses were overturned. The loss of lives was computed at more than 30,000: nor

did the destruction end there; a conflagration, kindled by the tapers in the churches, and the fire in private dwellings, coming in contact with curtains, timber, and other combustible materials, spread over the city, and destroyed a still greater number of houses than the earthquake. It happened on the festival of All Saints, and most of the English having retired, as usual on that day, to their country-houses to avoid the insults of the populace, only ten of them lost their lives in this great calamity.

11. Parliament opened by the king.

22. Packet-boats were established at Falmouth, by the postmaster-general, for carrying on a regular monthly correspondence to the West Indies and North America.

The sum of 100,000*l.* was unanimously voted by the house of commons for the use of the distressed inhabitants of Lisbon; and supplies to this amount in corn, rice, beef, and other necessaries were shipped without delay for Portugal.

Dec. 4. Eddystone-lighthouse burnt.

Accounts received of earthquakes and inundations in various parts of Europe and America.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened, 15,209; buried, 21,917: decreased in the burials this year, 779. Died under two years of age, 7803; lived to 100 or upwards, two.

AMERICAN COLONIES.—*Number of British subjects (men, women, and children) in the colonies of North America:—*

Nova Scotia	5,000
New Hampshire	30,000
Massachusetts' Bay	220,000
Rhode Island and Providence	35,000
Connecticut	100,000
New York	100,000
Jerseys	60,000
Pennsylvania	250,000
Maryland	85,000
Virginia	85,000
North Carolina	45,000
South Carolina	30,000
Georgia	6,000

Total number 1,051,000

exclusive of military forces, in the pay of the government, and the negroes.

French subjects in Canada, exclusive of negroes and regular troops, were estimated at 45,000, in Louisiana, 7000; total 52,000. So that the British outnumbered the French, in the proportion of 20 to 1, at the breaking out of the colonial war between the two kingdoms.

1756. Jan. 13. George Dodington, esq. appointed treasurer of the navy, in the room of George Grenville, esq.

Feb. 6. A public fast-day, which was

very devoutly observed; all the churches and meeting-houses being thronged, and an entire cessation of business.

14. Angria, the Mahratta pirate, who had rebelled against his country and established himself at Severndroog and Bancockote, on the Malabar coast, was taken prisoner by the combined forces of English and Mahrattas, under admiral Watson and colonel Clive.

17. The French king orders every British subject to leave Dunkirk by the 1st of the ensuing month. English vessels in the French ports were seized, and their crews sent to prison.

Mar. 3. Orders sent to lay an embargo on all shipping in the English ports. At night a very hot press for seamen in the Thames.

23. The king sends a message to parliament, informing them that the French designed to invade England or Ireland, and that in consequence he had directed a body of Hessians to be forthwith brought over.

Apr. 18. The French landed at Minorca.

22. The king removes to Kensington for the summer season.

The total number of militia on England and Wales, 62,680.

May 15. The Hessian troops, consisting of 5500 foot and 800 horse, arrived at Southampton.

18. War declared against France. In the royal declaration the grounds of hostilities are alleged to be the encroachments of the French on the Ohio and in Nova Scotia; the non-evacuation of the four neutral islands in the West Indies, agreeably with the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and the invasion of Minorca.

20. Indecisive engagement between admirals Byng and Galissonière; after which, considering his squadron inadequate and ill-provided, Byng withdrew to Gibraltar. The English admiral in this rencontre seems to have been influenced by an over-anxiety to avoid an error of admiral Matthews in a former engagement with the French and Toulon fleet. Immediately on the receipt of his dispatches he was superseded by admiral Hawke; but that officer arrived too late for the relief of fort St. Philip, and Minorca fell into the enemy's hands, to the great joy of the French and the chagrin of the English nation.

Justices Fielding and Welch set on foot a subscription, which was greatly encouraged, particularly by the gentlemen at White's, by which upwards of 260 vagrants and friendless lads were clothed, and sent on board the fleet. This was the beginning of the Marine Society.

June 2. The foundling-hospital was opened for the reception of all children under

two months old, when 117 children were taken in.

18. Calcutta attacked by Suraja Dowla, the subah of Bengal, who was displeas'd at the erection of fortifications by the English. The governor deserted his duty, and left a small garrison, under Mr. Howell, to the mercy of the subah. Calcutta was taken, and 146 persons of both sexes were crammed into the English dungeon called the Black-hole, where 123 perished from suffocation.

July 7. Parliament prorogued.

27. The Delaware Indians, who lately committed such ravages on the frontiers of Pennsylvania, laid down the hatchet, and entered into a new treaty with that province, chiefly through the management of the quakers.

Aug. 4. The Hanoverians encamp at Cox-heath, near Maidstone.

9. Admiral Byng imprisoned in Greenwich-hospital.

25. A great riot at Sheffield, occasioned by the dearth of corn, and some lives were lost.

Saxony invaded by the king of Prussia.

Oct. 4. John Henley, M.A., the noted orator of Clare-market, died, aged 64.

The journeymen clothiers in Wiltshire rose against their masters, on account of their wages being lowered, and committed some outrages.

The Powis estate at Hendon, in Middlesex, was sold for 73,050*l.*; viz., the manor for 13,400*l.*, the demesne lands for 40,570*l.*, and the great tithes for 19,080*l.*

20. The prince of Wales and the princess-dowager and her family came to Leicester-house, from Kew, for the winter.

Nov. 6. Robert Henley, esq., made attorney-general, and Charles York, esq., solicitor-general. Mr. Murray was raised to the chief-justiceship of the court of King's-bench, vacant by the death of sir Dudley Ryder.

The rotunda of the ancient Pantheon at Rome fell in, to the entire destruction of that celebrated building.

11. The duke of Newcastle resigned, which left the way open for Mr. Pitt and his friends.

The great price of corn having almost starved the common people in Shropshire, Warwickshire, and parts adjacent, who had lived several days on salt and grains, in conjunction with the colliers, rose, and committed great disorders at Much Wenlock, Shiffnal, Wellington, and several other places.

16. The empress-queen claimed in all the forms the succour of the Germanic body, by virtue of the guaranty of the Pragmatic Sanction and treaty of Dresden. Her ma-

jesty also claimed the assistance of the crowns of France and Sweden, as guarantees of the peace of Westphalia. The grand seignior permitted her to purchase 4000 horses for remounting the cavalry.

Our privateers were uncommonly successful; the spirit of privateering extending from England to America and the West India Islands. The New Yorkists, who had fitted out twenty privateers, had great success, their captures amounting to upwards of 60,000*l.*

Dec. 1. Frederick of Prussia defeats the Austrian general, Brown, at Lowositz.

2. The king opens the session, stating that the main object of his "solicitude was the succour and preservation of America."

4. Mr. Pitt appointed secretary of state, in the room of Mr. Fox, who had resigned.

11. The tanners in Cornwall, and the colliers of Cumberland and the forest of Dean, commit outrages in consequence of the scarcity.

Theodore, baron Newhoff, late king of Corsica, died, aged 60, in great indigence, at his lodgings in Chapel-street, Soho. He had lately taken the benefit of the insolvent act, registering his ci-devant kingdom of Corsica for the benefit of his creditors.

21. A proclamation against the forestalling, regrating, and engrossing of corn.

27. The trial of admiral Byng began at Portsmouth.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London, 14,839; buried, 20,872; decreased in the burials this year, 1045. Died under two years of age, 7466.

The number of christenings in Paris during the last year was 19,412; burials, 20,021; marriages, 4501; foundlings, 4273.

1757. Jan. 2. The English retook Calcutta. Next month a peace was concluded with the subah, who permitted them to fortify the place.

5. Damiens, a fanatic, whose imagination appears to have been excited by the quarrels between the clergy and the magistracy, the king and the parliaments, attempted to kill Louis XV. as he was stepping into his coach. He wounded the king slightly in the side by stabbing him with a knife. The assassin proved to be insane and without accomplices, yet, to the reproach of the government, he was put to death with the most diabolical tortures.

28. The court-martial at Portsmouth came to the following resolution:—"The court-martial were of opinion that admiral Byng did not do his utmost to engage the enemy, and therefore were of opinion that he had fallen under part of the 12th article of war, and adjudged and sentenced him to be shot to death; but as it did not appear

to the court that it was through cowardice or disaffection, they unanimously recommended him to mercy."

Feb. 11. A public fast-day.

Mar. 14. The English, under Clive, took possession of Chandernagore, a French settlement.

EXECUTION OF ADMIRAL BYNG.—This unfortunate and severely used officer was shot on board the *Monarque*. He met his hard fate with great courage and fortitude. He was dressed in a light grey coat, white waistcoat, white stockings, a large white wig, and had in each hand a white handkerchief. He threw his hat on the deck, kneeled on a cushion, tied one handkerchief over his eyes, and dropped the other as a signal to his executioners, who fired a volley so decisive, that instantly five balls passed through his body, and he dropped dead in an instant. The time in which this tragedy was acted, from his walking out of the cabin to his being deposited in his coffin, did not exceed three minutes. He left a paper with the marshal, expressing the satisfaction he felt at the consciousness of having discharged his duty to the best of his ability; and with reason styled himself "a victim destined to divert the indignation and resentment of an injured and deluded people."

Apr. 5. The Aulic council put the king of Prussia under the ban of the empire for violating its laws.

6. Mr. Pitt dismissed from his secretaryship, and *pro tempore* chief-justice Mansfield was appointed chancellor of the exchequer, in the room of Mr. Legge. The next six weeks were spent in efforts to form a new ministry. Pitt had become generally popular, and he and Mr. Legge received the freedom of London and Bath in gold boxes.

May 6. The king of Prussia defeated count Brown near Prague.

The French again tried to alarm the country this summer with the danger of an invasion, by assembling troops and flat-bottomed boats on the coast of Normandy.

June 18. The king of Prussia defeated by count Daun at Kolin.

23. Battle of Plassey, in which colonel Clive, with about 3000 men, defeated Suraja Dowla, subah of Bengal, at the head of nearly 70,000. This victory laid the foundation of the British dominion in India, and from this time it was determined to depose the subah, and put Meer Jaffier, an officer of high rank, in his place.

NEW MINISTRY.—At the beginning of the ensuing month the new ministry was completed, Mr. Pitt being the premier and leader of the house of commons.

Mr. Pitt, *Secretary of State*.

Duke of Newcastle, *First Lord of the Treasury*.

Mr. Legge, *Chancellor of the Exchequer*.

Karl Temple, *Lord Privy-seal*.

Lord Granville, *Lord President of the Council*.

Earl of Holderness, *Secretary of State*.

Earl of Halifax, *First Lord of Trade*.

Lord Anson, *First Lord of the Admiralty*.

Mr. Fox, *Paymaster of the Forces*.

Earl of Edgcombe, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*.

Mr. Grenville, *Treasurer of the Navy*.

Viscount Barrington, *Secretary at War*.

Sir Robert Henley (afterwards Lord Northington), *Lord-Keeper*.

Mr. Pratt (afterwards Lord Camden), *Attorney-General*.

Duke of Bedford, *Viceroy of Ireland*.

The dukes of Rutland, Devonshire, and Leeds, earls Gower, Rochfort, and Thonmond, obtained places in the royal household. The new administration gave general satisfaction, and was anticipated to be the harbinger of all manner of national triumphs.

July 4. Parliament prorogued by the king.

25. The duke of Cumberland defeated, with the loss of 2000 men, by d'Etrees at Hastenbeck.

The large quantities of grain imported from abroad reduce the price at Mark-lane 7s. per quarter.

Aug. 19. The French enter Hanover.

Some thousands of persons in the woolen manufacture were unemployed, especially in the branch relating to calimancoes and camblets, the demand for those being greatly decreased.

26. The king presents to the British Museum the fine collection of books and manuscripts known by the name of the King's-library, founded by Henry prince of Wales, son of James I.

It is computed that the French had taken 637 merchantmen and 91 privateers since the commencement of the war. The captures made by the English were estimated at two millions and upwards.

Sept. 8. The duke of Cumberland signed the convention of CLOSTER SEVEN, by which the electorate of Hanover was left in the hands of the French, and the whole confederate army, amounting to about 40,000 Hessians, Hanoverians, and Brunswickers, were disarmed and disbanded. The king of Prussia had previously withdrawn his troops, apprehensive of such a catastrophe. By unskilful generalship, the duke had allowed marshal d'Etrees to enclose him between the Elbe, the Weser, and German Ocean, leaving him no alternative but this inglorious capitulation.

10. The disputes between the French king and his parliament accommodated.

21. The Leeward-island fleet arrived at Portsmouth, being about 120 sail.

LONGSVIRY.—Died at Kinver, a small village near Bridgnorth, Salop, Robert Parr, aged 124. He was great-grandson of old Thomas Parr, who lies buried in Westminster-abbey, and died in the reign of king Charles the Second. What is remarkable, the father of Robert was above 109, the grandfather 113, and the great-grandfather, the said Thomas, is well known to have died at the extreme age of 152.

22. Arrived the Baltic fleet, consisting of 106 sail.

EXPEDITION TO ROCHEFORT.—At the beginning of this month an expedition was fitted out with great secrecy and dispatch, to make a descent on the French coast. It consisted of eighteen ships of the line, and a large body of land-forces, under the command of sir Edward Hawke and sir John Mordaunt. On the 23rd instant, the fleet anchored in the mouth of the Charente, with a view to the reduction of Rochefort. Many days were spent in sounding the river, in reconnoitring the coast, and in deliberating on the extent of their instructions. At length it was determined to make a descent on the isle of Aix: this done, a council of war was held, in which it was resolved without delay to return to England. Great expectations had been formed from this expedition, and its impotent conclusion filled the nation with indignation.

Oct. 11. The duke of Cumberland arrived in town. His highness not receiving those marks of gratitude which he thought due to his public services, resigned all his military employments in high disgust, and in future took no further share in any civil or military transaction.

25. Died, the learned Benedictine, Father Augustus Calmet, aged 86, at his abbey of Senones, in France. He published near 60 volumes in his lifetime.

29. Sir John Ligonier appointed commander-in-chief of the forces.

The grand seignor, sultan Osman, died, and was succeeded by sultan Mustapha, who made considerable changes in the officers of the Porte.

Nov. The troops which had been disbanded by the convention of Closter Seven were re-assembled, contrary to the capitulation.

5. Frederick of Prussia defeated the French at Rosbach.

Riot at Manchester, occasioned by the dearness of corn, in which several persons were killed.

Dec. 1. Parliament opened by the king.

5. The king of Prussia defeated count Daun at Lissa.

21. Frederick retook Breslau.

28. Princess Caroline Elizabeth, third daughter of George the First, died, aged 45.

The French army, exclusive of the militia and invalids, numbered 169,000 men.

EAST INDIES.—The war between the English and French was this year renewed with various success in the Carnatic. The French took Visagapatam, the English Madura. Bussy's influence became very great, and he obtained from the subah a grant of the circars north of Madras. France and England had become active and competitive brokers in the territories and sovereignties of the East.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London, 14,053; buried, 21,313; increased in the burials this year, 441. Died under two years of age, 7095; lived to one hundred and upwards, 8.

1758. Jan. 2. Was observed as a day of thanksgiving at the chapel in Tottenham-court-road, by Mr. Whitefield's people, for the signal victories gained by the king of Prussia over his enemies.

17. Mr. Secretary Pitt delivered a royal message, requesting a supply to enable the king to "act in concert with his good brother and ally, the king of Prussia," for the recovery of the electorate.

27. It being the birth-day of the "magnanimous" king of Prussia, it is celebrated with an illumination.

Great warlike preparations, both in England and Ireland, during this month.

Feb. 5. The estates and effects of the Jesuits in Portugal sequestered.

6. It is ordered by the house of lords, That the king-at-arms, attended by his proper officers, were to deface all ensigns of honour borne by such persons as had no legal title thereto, upon their carriages, plate, and furniture, and to make regular returns of their proceedings therein to the clerk of parliament.

Mar. 1. The duke of Richmond throws open to artists his collection of busts and statues at Whitehall.

13. Miss Wyndham, a maiden lady of Salisbury, sends a present of 1000*l.* to the king of Prussia.

14. The French surrender Minden to the hereditary prince of Brunswick.

27. Richard Vaughan, late a linen-draper at Stafford, was committed to Newgate for counterfeiting the notes of the bank of England. He had employed several artists to engrave the different parts of the note, by one of whom the discovery was made. He had filled up to the number of twenty, and deposited them in the hands of a young lady whom he courted, as a proof of his being a person of substance. This was the first attempt of the kind that ever was made.

By an authentic list it appears that there passed through Islington-turnpike for Smithfield-market, from Jan. 1, 1754, to Jan. 1, 1755, oxen, 28,602; sheep, 267,565; and from Jan. 1, 1757, to Jan. 1, 1758, oxen, 30,952; sheep, 200,180. So that there was a decrease of more than 67,000 sheep in this last year, and an increase only of 2000 oxen.

Apr. 11. About 10 at night, the temporary wooden bridge, built for the convenience of passengers while London-bridge was widening and repairing, was discovered to be on fire, and continued burning till the whole was consumed.

12. The common-council nominate a committee to superintend the building of Blackfriars-bridge.

21. Dr. Secker confirmed archbishop of Canterbury.

May 3. A young lady, who at Newmarket had laid a considerable wager that she could ride 1000 miles in 1000 hours, finished her match in a little more than two-thirds of the time. At her coming in, the country people strewed flowers in her way.

Benedict XIV. died, aged 84.

10. Annual meeting at the Foundling-hospital held. It appeared that since parliament had made an annual grant of 40,000*l.*, to enable the hospital to take in all children under a certain age, about 6000 had been yearly admitted; nearly one-third of whom died at nurse.

20. A waggon burnt on Salisbury-plain laden with the rich scenery and wardrobe of the Bath theatre. Some miles before the waggon reached Salisbury, the driver was cautioned that his wheels would take fire; but the fellow persisted in keeping on his way, and gave for reason that he had driven twelve miles with his wheels smoking. The loss was estimated at 2000*l.*

30. At a store-cellar in Pall-Mall, Mr. Hucks, cooper, and a chairman who went down after him, were both suffocated, as supposed by the steam of forty butts of un-stopped beer.

FORCES OF GREAT BRITAIN.—

The establishment for Great Britain, the train of artillery inclusive	55,000
For Ireland	12,000
For North America, of regulars	22,000
of provincials 30,000	
	<hr/> 52,000
For the West Indies	2,000
For Gibraltar and the East Indies	5,000
The allied army in the pay of Great Britain	60,000

Total of land-forces 186,000

Brought forward	186,000
Naval department; viz. seamen (12,000 more than voted for)	62,000
Marines	14,000
Artificers to the docks, supposed to be	20,000
	<hr/> 96,000

Total 282,000

Ships in commission, 110 of the line, 200 under the line, of all denominations.

310 ship of war.

June 12. A vote of credit for 80,000*l.* granted by the house of commons.

14. Florence Hansey, M.D., tried before chief-justice Mansfield for holding a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, and found guilty. He was subsequently pardoned.

Mr. Lee, a wealthy farmer at Wroxeter, being complained to by his neighbours for keeping a vicious bull, insisted upon it that he was not vicious, and went to him himself to convince them of it, when the bull immediately ran at him, and killed him on the spot.

16. The commons address the king for an increase in the salaries of the judges.

19. Parliament prorogued by commission.

July 5. Lord Howe was slain.

8. General Abercrombie was repulsed at Ticonderoga.

An old lodging-house in Plumb-tree-court, Broad-street, St. Giles's, fell down, by which accident seven persons were crushed to death, and many more desperately maimed. There being some other houses in the court in the like tottering condition, the mob assembled in a few days afterwards, and pulled them down.

26. Cape Breton taken by the English, under general Amherst.

In this month rain fell in London to the depth of five inches.

Aug. 1. A loan of 200,000*l.* advanced to the king as elector of Hanover; it was subscribed by eight gentlemen of the city.

8. Cherbourg taken and its pier destroyed by the English.

10. Magdalen hospital in Goodman's Fields, for the reception of penitent prostitutes, was opened, when fifty petitions were presented, and several of the penitents admitted.

17. KNARESBOROUGH MURDER.—Richard Houseman, a labourer, of Knaresborough, was committed to York castle on suspicion of murdering Daniel Clark, of the same place, shoemaker, about fourteen

years ago: the discovery was remarkable: some workmen, digging about St. Robert's Cave, near Knaresborough, found the remains of a body, which they supposed to be murdered; and as Daniel Clark had suddenly disappeared, and was generally thought to have been murdered, they imagined it might be his body; they therefore apprehended Houseman, and carried him before a justice, as it was recollected that he was one of the last persons seen in Clark's company. On his examination he said, that the body found was not Clark's body, for that Clark was buried in another place, which he mentioned, and accordingly the remains of another body were there found, on which he was committed as above. Eugene Aram, the usher of a grammar school at Lynn, Norfolk, was also committed on the accusation of being an accomplice, but was not tried till the summer assizes of the ensuing year.

20. A thanksgiving for the taking of Louisbourg read in the churches of the metropolis.

25. The king of Prussia defeated the Russians at Zorndorf; 15,000 Russians were left on the field of battle. The Prussians had 3000 killed and wounded.

Sept. 3. An attempt to assassinate the king of Portugal.

Oct. 4. The French, under general Lally, took Arcot, the capital of the Carnatic.

14. The king of Prussia's camp at Hochkirchen was surprised by count Daun, and Marshal Keith slain. The king, the margrave, and all the generals present in the action, received contusions, or had horses shot under them. Prince Francis of Brunswick received his death by a cannonball, which carried off his head, just as he was mounting his horse.

20. The duke of Marlborough died at Munster: by this event the command of the British forces on the Rhine devolved on lord George Sackville.

Nov. 7. The debtors that were confined in the King's-bench prison, Southwark, were removed from thence to the new King's-bench prison, in St. George's-fields.

10. The oldest lion in the Tower died, aged 68. It was presented to James II. by one of the states of Barbary.

28. Dr. Shebbeare received sentence for a libellous pamphlet, intitled "A Sixth Letter to the People of England:" he was fined five pounds; to stand in the pillory; to be confined three years; and then to give security for his good behaviour for seven years, himself bound in 500*l.* and two others in 250*l.* each.

Dec. 6. By an exact list procured from the gaols, it appeared that the number of debtors in confinement exceeded 25,000; many of them bred to the sea and land service.

The thanks of the commons were voted to general Amherst and admirals Boscawen and Osborne.

11. The old castle of Douglas, the residence of that ancient family, near Edinburgh, was burnt by an accidental fire.

14. Admiral Pococke compelled Lally to raise the siege of Madras.

29. The island of Goree taken by the English. It was to the information of a quaker merchant, named Cumming, the capture of this and other French settlements in Africa may be attributed.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London, 14,209; buried, 17,576: decreased in the burials this year, 3737. Died under two years of age, 5671; lived to 100 and upwards, five.

Liverpool: burials 863; christenings 751; marriages 336.

Paris: burials 21,120; christenings 19,369, exclusive of 4969 foundlings; marriages 4089.

Leipzig: burials 2828; christenings 680. Amsterdam: burials 7189; christenings 4270; weddings 2417.

1759. Jan. 2. Four regiments of French troops entered Frankfort, and made themselves masters of the garrison by stratagem.

12. Anne princess of Orange, the eldest daughter of the king, died in her fiftieth year, at the Hague.

16. Parliament met.

19. Mr. Secretary Pitt presented to the commons the copy of a convention concluded with the king of Prussia; and also the copy of a convention with the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel. By this convention, 19,000 of the troops of Hesse were to be taken into the pay of Britain, instead of 12,000, the number lately employed in the British service; and the landgrave to receive, besides the ordinary pay of these troops, the sum of 60,000*l.* in consideration of his immense losses in support of the common cause.

24. The birth-day of the king of Prussia celebrated as "the Protestant Hero," by great rejoicings in London.

Feb. 17. Notice given from the war office, that for the future, whoever intended to purchase a commission in the army, should first inform himself whether the commission for which he is in treaty may be sold with the king's leave: and in all instances where it should be found that any money, or other consideration, had been given for a commission, not openly sold with the leave of his majesty, the person obtaining such commission was to be superseded.

Mar. 27. Press-warrants were sent to the officers of several parishes, to impress men for sea and land service.

31. The bank of England gave notice,

that they would for the future issue out bank notes and bank post bills, for ten pounds and fifteen pounds each.

April 6. The English took Masulipatam and concluded a treaty with the subah of the Deccan, by which much territory was ceded to them. In the course of the year the French power rapidly declined in the East.

12. George Frederick Handel, the celebrated musician, died. He was born in Germany in 1685, and had been in England fifty years.

May 21. A vote of credit for 1,000,000*l.*

23. A bill to oblige debtors under a certain sum, after continuing a limited time in execution, to deliver upon oath their estates for the benefit of their creditors, passed the house of peers.

June 2. Frederick North (afterwards so celebrated as lord North) appointed a lord of the treasury.

Parliament prorogued. Before the prorogation a message was delivered to both houses informing them of the preparations in progress in the French ports for an invasion of England.

July 25. Fort Niagara in America taken by general Johnston.

Aug. 1. Battle of Minden, in which lord George Sackville, who commanded the British forces, neglected to advance with the cavalry in support of the infantry, as commanded by his superior officer, prince Ferdinand.

3. **EUGENE ARAM** tried at York assizes, and found guilty of the murder of Daniel Clark. He made an eloquent defence, but was clearly convicted on the evidence of his accomplice Houseman (ante p. 450) and of his own wife. Subsequently he admitted his guilt, and ascribed his crime to jealousy, but the chief object appears to have been his victim's property. Aram was a person of superior natural abilities, which he had cultivated. He attempted suicide after sentence, but survived to be executed, and was gibbeted in Knaresborough forest.

4. General Amherst took Crown Point. 5. Leipzig taken by the Austrians.

10. Ferdinand VI. of Spain died in his fifty-sixth year, leaving no issue. He was succeeded by Don Carlos, his brother, king of Naples, who abdicated the two Sicilies in favour of his third son, Don Ferdinand, his eldest son, Don Philip, being an incurable idiot.

12. The king of Prussia vanquished at Cunersdorf by the Russians.

23. The marquis of Granby appointed commander of the British forces in Germany.

Sept. 5. Dresden taken by the Austrians.

10. Lord George Sackville dismissed from his employments.

11. The grand canal communicating from Dublin to the Shannon opened.

The Jesuits were banished from Portugal, except such as chose to quit the habit of their order.

13. **DEATH OF GENERAL WOLFE.**—This gallant officer fell in the execution of a daring conception of military genius. General Amherst had formed the design of achieving the entire conquest of Canada in a single campaign, by directing one expedition on Montreal and another on Quebec. The last, which was the most difficult part of the enterprise, was entrusted to general Wolfe. On the last day of July Wolfe was repulsed near the falls of Montmorenci. Undismayed, he saw in this reverse only the necessity of greater efforts, and he conceived the bold design of drawing the French from their unassailable position by scaling the heights of Abraham. The plan succeeded, and M. de Montcalm was compelled to abandon his camp and risk a battle for the protection of Quebec. While bravely animating his troops in front Wolfe received a wound in the wrist, and another in the breast, which rendered it necessary to bear him off to a small distance in the rear. There, roused from fainting, in the agonies of death, by the cry of "They run! they run!" he eagerly asked, "Who run?" and being told, the French, and that they were defeated, he exclaimed "Then I thank God, and die contented;" and almost instantly expired. He was in the thirty-fourth year of his age. Generals Monckton and Townsend, after the loss of their commander, completed the victory. On the 18th instant Quebec surrendered; and like Gibraltar, conquered by another and somewhat similar bold exploit, has since remained in the hands of the English.

Oct. 9. Mr. Smeaton finished the erection of Eddystone lighthouse, without the loss of a single life, or any material accident.

26. Mons. d'Ache's squadron, consisting of 11 ships of the line, and 6400 men, attacked our fleet under admiral Pococke, consisting of 9 men of war, and 4035 men, and was totally defeated. Major Brereton also defeated a body of French troops, commanded by Mons. Bussy, near Vandewash.

Nov. 13. Parliament opened by commission.

20. The body of General Wolfe interred in a private manner in the family vault at Greenwich.

21. The house of commons resolved that a monument be erected to general Wolfe in Westminster-abbey.

30. A day of public thanksgiving.

Dec. 13. It was resolved by the commons in the parliament of Ireland that the exportation of live cattle from that kingdom

would be prejudicial to the trade and manufactures thereof.

17. At Leipzig, owing to the intensity of the cold, ten sentinels were frozen to death.

A loan of eight millions was agreed to by parliament, for which an interest of four per cent. was to be allowed for a certain number of years, and a lottery ticket, value 3*l.*, was to be given as a gratuity for every 100*l.* so borrowed. The subscription for this sum was full before the resolution agreed to in parliament was known.

18. William Warburton, dean of Bristol, recommended to the see of Gloucester.

21. The commissioners of the victualing office contract for beef at 2*s.* 5*d.* per *cwt.*, for pork 27*s.* 11*d.*

Truxillo, a rich mercantile city of Peru, was totally ruined by an earthquake.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christened in London 14,253; buried 19,604. Increased in the burials this year 2,028. Died under two years of age 6,905; lived to one hundred and upwards, two.

From the 25th of March, 1741, to the 31st of December, 1759, the number of children received into the Foundling-hospital was 14,994.

Of which have been claimed and returned to their parents . . .	75
Boys apprenticed to sea service and husbandry . . .	87
Girls apprenticed out . . .	74
Alive in the country . . .	5929
Hospital in London . . .	155
Hospital at Ackworth . . .	113
Hospital at Shrewsbury . . .	56
Hospital at Aylesbury . . .	40
	6293

Died to the 31st of Dec. 1759 . . . 8465

Of these children, 13,610 have been received since the 21st of June, 1756.

1760. *Jan.* 16. At a meeting of the nobility and gentry of Scotland at Edinburgh, it was unanimously agreed to abolish the custom of giving vails to servants; and at the same time, it was their opinion, that an addition to the yearly wages of servants would be more honourable for the master, and more beneficial to the servant. The like resolution was agreed to in a meeting of the nobility and gentry of Aberdeen.

Feb. 9. The French surrender Arcot to the English.

13. Lord Ferrers examined at the bar of the house of lords, and afterwards committed close prisoner to the Tower, for the murder of his steward, Mr. Johnson. This was the last of many outrages committed by his lordship, whose natural violence and malignity were inflamed by habits of intoxication.

19. The example of London was followed at Leeds, and a subscription raised for the

widows and orphans of the men who fell at Minden and Quebec.

21. Thurot lands a small force in the bay of Carrickfergus, but soon after re-embarked, without accomplishing any enterprise of importance.

The neighbourhood of Mount Vesuvius was overflowed by a deluge of burning lava, which continued several days; and the hopes of more than a thousand families, whose industry had cultivated the ground, and who were to subsist by its produce, were cut off in a moment.

Mar. 14. Upwards of 400*l.* was collected at Mr. Whitefield's tabernacle for the relief of the distressed protestants in the New March of Brandenburg.

A riot happened at Kingston in Surrey, occasioned by a methodist preacher, who came there, and brought a great number of people together in a barn to hear him. While he was preaching, a fellow threw some dirt at him, which made a great disturbance, and the mob at last dragged the preacher into the street, and had it not been for the humanity of a gentleman near the spot, who took him into his house, he, in all likelihood, would have been murdered.

17. The commons adjourned till Friday, by way of condolence, on account of the death of the speaker's brother, general Onslow.

Apr. 16. **TRIAL OF LAWRENCE EARL FERRERS** began in Westminster-hall, lord keeper Henley presiding as lord steward.

17. Lord Ferrers found unanimously guilty of felony and murder.

18. About two o'clock sentence was passed on earl Ferrers, by the lord high steward: "That his lordship should be carried back to the prison of the Tower, from whence he came, and from thence to the place of execution, on Monday next, and there to be hanged by the neck till he was dead; after which his body was to be delivered to Surgeons'-hall, to be dissected." At this part of the sentence his lordship cried out, "God forbid!" but soon recollecting himself, added, "God's will be done!" Afterwards, the lord high steward took notice, that by the act of parliament the lords, his judges, had a power of respiting; and therefore, that he might have more time to prepare himself, they repited his sentence to May 5. Earl Ferrers read a paper, in which he expressed his concern for the trouble he had given, but that he was advised to make the plea of lunacy, and begged their lordships to recommend him to the king for mercy.

22. Lord George Sackville having desired a court-martial on his conduct in the affair of Minden, it was granted, and the following was the sentence:—"This court, upon due consideration of the whole matter

before them, is of opinion, that lord George Sackville is guilty of having disobeyed the orders of prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, whom he was by his commission and instructions directed to obey, as commander in chief, according to the rules of war; and it is the further opinion of the court, that the said lord George Sackville is, and he is hereby adjudged, unfit to serve his majesty in any military capacity whatever." This sentence was confirmed by the king, and on the 25th instant his lordship's name was removed from the list of privy councillors.

May 5. Lord Ferrers was executed at Tyburn. He requested the favour of proceeding to the gallows in his own landau, drawn by six horses, in preference to the mourning coach which his friends had provided. He was dressed in his wedding suit. Just before being turned off, he, with audible voice, very devoutly repeated the Lord's prayer, and afterwards, with great energy, the following ejaculation:—"O God! forgive me all my errors, pardon all my sins." His lordship then called for the executioner, who asked him forgiveness; upon which his lordship said: "I freely forgive you, as I do all mankind, and hope myself to be forgiven." He then intended to give the executioner five guineas, but, by mistake, giving it into the hands of the executioner's assistant, an unseasonable dispute arose between them. This being settled by the interference of the sheriff, his lordship placed himself under the fatal beam, saying to the executioner, "Am I right?" Then the cap was drawn over his face, and, upon a signal given by the sheriff, that part upon which he stood instantly sunk and left him suspended.

22. Parliament prorogued by commission. An act passed for preventing "the excessive use of spirituous liquors, by laying additional duties thereon." The act was founded on resolutions of the commons, to the effect, that the high price of spirits had been favourable to the "health, morals, and industry of the common people." But, as Smollett observes, "it would have been less objectionable to divert the people from the abuse of spirits, by lowering the excise on ale and beer, and enabled them to buy a pot of good ale for a penny, as in the reign of James I."

June 16. At Glen, in Leicestershire, the mob threw two old women into the water to ascertain by their sinking or swimming whether they were witches.

23. At day-break general Laudohn attacked Mummelberg, Bruckberg, and Blasdrofferbergh, three fortified mountains near Landshut, which were vigorously defended by general Fouquet, who was, however, at length obliged to retire into Kirchberg, where he was soon after summoned to surrender; but he chose rather to force

his way through the Austrians than lay down his arms, which was effected, though with the loss of 7331 men; himself and many officers being made prisoners.

25. Insurrection of the negroes in Jamaica.

July 14. Colonel Clive was introduced to his majesty at Kensington, with Richard Clive, esq, his father, and was most graciously received. Mr. Vansittart had succeeded Clive in the government of Bengal.

30. Important improvements were now being made in the city, and on this day were sold the materials of the following city gates, namely, Aldgate for 177*l.* 10*s.*, Cripplegate for 91*l.*, and Ludgate for 148*l.*

Aug. 12. Algiers blockaded by the Spaniards.

Sept. 8. Montreal, with the whole of Canada, capitulated to general Amherst.

24. A general quarterly court at the India house, when the thanks of the court were unanimously given to admiral Pococke, general Clive, and major Lawrence, for their services in the East Indies.

The East India ships lately arrived brought, among other things, 1,984,603 pounds of saltpetre, 4,382,200 pounds of bohea tea, 74,000 pounds of congou, 147,000 pounds of hyson, 1,533,200 pounds of single, and 62,900 pounds of souchong; with 337 chests, 120 half chests, and 11 boxes of china.

Oct. 4. The Prussians abandon Leipsic.

9. Berlin capitulates to the Austro-Russian armies.

14. At a court of aldermen and common council, it was agreed to petition the parliament for leave to take down Gresham college.

25. DEATH OF THE KING.—George II. died, without any previous disorder, of a rupture of the heart, at Kensington palace. He had risen at his usual hour, drank his chocolate, and inquired about the weather, when he fell on the floor, and almost instantly expired. He was in the 77th year of his age, and the 34th of his reign. In person he was rather below the middle size, well-shaped, erect, with eyes remarkably prominent, a high nose, and fair complexion. In disposition he was irritable, but soon appeased; mild, moderate, and humane. He was temperate in diet, regular, and extremely methodical. He was fond of military parade, and personally brave; but not eminent in the art of war. His understanding, naturally indifferent, he took no pains to cultivate; nor was he a patron or promoter of genius and learning. Like his predecessor, George II. had several mistresses; but he always preferred queen Caroline to any other woman; and when discoursing on personal beauty, he referred to her majesty as the most perfect model. Among the king's chief favourites is reckoned Mrs. Howard,

afterwards countess of Suffolk. This lady, with her husband, being in narrow circumstances, had gone over to Germany, with a view of making their court to George I. while elector of Hanover. She succeeded in insinuating herself into the good graces of George II., and became his mistress. While under royal protection, lord Orford says, (*Reminiscences*, p. 302) Mr. Howard went to St. James's palace, publicly to demand his wife in the presence of the guards. Being thrust out, he sent a letter to her by the archbishop of Canterbury, who conveyed the summons to the queen, who delivered the epistle to her rival. During the summer a negotiation commenced, and this indulgent husband agreed to surrender his frail partner for a pension of 1200*l.* a year.

STATUTES IN THIS REIGN.

The legislation of this, as of the preceding reign, was of a humble but useful character. It was chiefly directed to the effecting of local improvements, not to constitutional or administrative reforms. Some of the chief statutes have been noticed at the time of their enactment, and the titles of the remainder, of a general character, are subjoined.

1 G. II. c. 23. Regulating attorneys and solicitors.

C. 24. Bribery in parliamentary elections.

4 G. II. c. 26. Proceedings of courts of justice in England, and court of exchequer in Scotland, to be in English.

C. 28. Preventing frauds of tenants; recovery of rents; renewal of leases.

5 G. II. c. 18. Fixing the qualification of justices of the peace.

C. 19. Appeals at quarter-sessions to be determined according to the merits, notwithstanding defects of form in the original proceedings; obliges persons suing out certioraris to remove orders made on such into the King's-bench, to give security to prosecute the same with effect.

C. 27. Preventing frivolous and vexatious arrests.

6 G. II. c. 3. Relieving parishes from the charge of bastards born therein.

7 G. II. c. 8. To prevent the infamous practice of stock-jobbing.

8 G. II. c. 30. On quartering soldiers during parliamentary elections.

9 G. II. c. 5. Repealing statutes against witchcraft.

12 G. II. c. 28. Prevention of gaming.

16 G. II. c. 26. Hawking unstamped newspapers.

17 G. II. c. 3. Overseers of poor to give public notice of making poor-rates, and to produce the same.

18 G. II. c. 15. Separating the barbers and surgeons in London into distinct corporations.

C. 15. Reward for discovering a north-west passage. *Repealed.*

19. G. II. c. 21. To prevent profane cursing and swearing.

C. 37. Insurance on ships regulated.

C. 39. Disarming the Highlanders; prohibiting Highland dress; oaths to, and prayers for, the king.

20 G. II. c. 30. Allowing persons impeached of treason, &c. by the house of commons, to defend by counsel.

20 G. II. c. 43. Abolishing heretable jurisdictions in Scotland. *Ante* p. 434.

22 G. II. c. 33. Consolidating statutes relative to the government of the royal navy; articles of war for seamen.

23 G. II. c. 13. Seducing artificers; abuses in woollen manufacture, &c.

C. 28. Uniformity of public prayers and sacraments.

24 G. II. c. 23. Regulating the calendar. *Ante* p. 439.

C. 55. Apprehending persons in any county on warrant granted in another county; backing warrants, &c.

25 G. II. c. 6. Attestation of wills of real estates.

C. 36. Requiring the licensing of places of amusement.

C. 33. For preventing clandestine marriages. *Ante* p. 442.

27 G. II. c. 20. Regulating proceedings on distress by warrants of justices.

32 G. II. c. 28. (Lords' Act) For benefit of debtors giving up their property to creditors.

C. 35. Augmentation of judges' salaries.

MEMOIR OF LETTERS.

The powers of the human mind were freely and fully exercised in this reign. Though the age was not remarkable for any extraordinary originality, there were many ingenious and clever writers. Berkeley, Hartley, and Hutcheson, excited astonishment by the novelty and ingenuity of their metaphysical researches. In natural philosophy, the phenomena of electricity and magnetism had begun to attract attention. Mathematics and astronomy were successfully cultivated by Halley, Bradley, Maclaurin, Sanderson, and the two Simpsons. The medical art was elucidated by the writings and discoveries of Hunter, Mead, Pringle, Monro, and Huxham. In theology were many distinguished names; the establishment being justly proud of its Potter, Herring, Hoadly, Sherlock, and Conybeare; and the dissenters of Lardner, Doddridge, Watts, Leland, Chandler, and James Foster—both fearlessly entering the lists, without seeking the aid of the civil power, in defence of their common faith, perseveringly assailed by the deistical writings of Collins, Toland, Woolston, Mor-

gan, and Tindal. History and biography were cultivated by the copious Guthrie, the circumstantial Ralph, the laborious Carte, and the classic Middleton. Hume was slowly rising into popularity, as the most elegant and philosophic, if not the most faithful of historians, and Robertson and Gibbon trod in his steps. The genius of Cervantes and Le Sage was transfused into the novels of Fielding and Smollett, who painted the characters and ridiculed the follies of life with equal force, humour, and aptitude. Richardson, in his Pamela and Grandison, had the merit of originating a new species of writing, in which works of imagination were sought to be made the vehicle of moral precepts and examples. In poetry there were the lugubrious Young and Blair; Thomson, the author of the *Seasons*; Akenside and Armstrong excelled in didactic verse; Mallet and Gray in the elegiac; Glover, in his Leonidas, aspired to the dignity of the epic. Zanga and Douglas were the chief standard dramas produced; the comedies of Congreve and Cibber, though rich in wit, and the former in elegance, being proscribed by the delicacy of a later period. Music became a fashionable study; the Italian opera was encouraged, and concerts formed in every corner of the metropolis. Handel, Boyce, Greene, and Arne were the chief professors. Painting, which had been hitherto little cultivated, now produced some artists of extraordinary merit. Hogarth was unrivalled in exhibiting the scenes of ordinary life in humour and character. Reynolds and Ramsay were pre-eminent in portrait painting; Roubilliac in sculpture; Strange in engraving; and Burlington in architecture.

In philology and criticism, Warburton, Bentley, and Boyle were the dazzling meteors. The fame of Johnson and his host of literary satellites belongs to a later age; while the celebrity of Pope, Swift, and Bolingbroke was, in great part, anterior to the present. Some of the names that have been mentioned had only just risen above the horizon, and their chief glory belongs to the reign of George III.

The sciences that bear on commerce and manufactures, finance, and the subsistence and government of nations, were little known or cultivated (except by Hume) in the reign of George II. Political economy, chemistry, mechanics, geography, geology, jurisprudence, and civil liberty, formed the grand fields of inquiry and triumph for a succeeding age.

Subjoined is the list of the illustrious deceased of the reign of George II.

Sir Richard Steele, 1671—1729. "Funeral, or Grief à-la-mode," 1702; "The Tatler," 1709; "The Guardian," 1713; "The Englishman;" "The Crisis."

Lawrence Echard, 1671—1730. "A History of England to the Revolution;" "The Gazetteer, or Newsman's Interpreter."

Daniel Defoe, 1663—1731. "An Essay on Projects," 1697; "The True-born Englishman," 1701; "Robinson Crusoe," 1719; "Religious Courtship," 1722; "A Journal of the Plague," 1722; "The Great Law of Subordination," 1724; "The Complete English Tradesman."

Thomas Hearne, *History and Antiquities*, 1678—1735.

William Congreve, 1670—1729. "Love for Love;" "The Mourning Bride."

John Gay, 1688—1732. "Beggar's Opera," 1727; "Fables," 1726; "All in the Downs," a ballad; "Free Thoughts on Religion," 1720.

Bernard Mandeville, 1670—1733. "The Fable of the Bees," 1723.

Edmund Halley, *Mathematics and Astronomy*, 1656—1742.

Samuel Clarke, D.D., 1675—1729. "Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion;" "The Scripture Doctrine of the Trinity."

Robert Blair, a Scottish clergyman, 1699—1746. "The Grave."

Anthony Collins, 1676—1729. "A Discourse on Free-thinking," 1713; "A Philosophical Inquiry concerning Human Liberty," 1715.

Thomas Tickell, a minor poet and essayist, to whom Addison bequeathed the publication of his works, a task which he performed with ability, printing them in four vols. 4to., and prefixing an elegiac poem addressed to their mutual friend the earl of Warwick, 1686—1740.

John Hutchinson, a fanciful writer, 1674—1737. "Moses's Principia," 1724; in which he rejected the vacuum and gravitation of Newton, and assumed that all knowledge, natural and theological, is contained in the Scriptures.

John Potter, archbishop of Canterbury, 1674—1747. "Archæologica Græca, or the Antiquities of Greece;" "A Discourse on Church Government."

Richard Bentley, *Divinity and Philology*, 1661—1740.

Andrew Baxter, *Metaphysics*, 1687—1750.

Daniel Waterland, *Divine and Controversial Theologist*, 1683—1740.

Henry St. John, viscount Bolingbroke, 1672—1751. "Letters on the Study of History;" "Letters on the Spirit of Patriotism and Idea of a Patriot King." His Works by Mallet, 5 vols., 4to., 1754.

George Berkeley, bishop of Cloyne, 1684—1753. "The Principles of Human Knowledge," 1710; "The Minute Philosopher," 1732; "Maxims concerning Patriotism;" 1750; "Tar Water," 1752.

Philip Doddridge, dissenting divine, 1701—1751. "Family Expositor."

Francis Hutcheson, professor of moral philosophy, Glasgow, 1694—1747. "Inquiry into the Ideas of Beauty and Virtue;" "Treatise on the Passions."

Colin Maclaurin, mathematical professor, Edinburgh, 1696—1746. "Treatise on Fluxions," 2 vols. 4to.

Ephraim Chambers. "Cyclopedia;" died, 1740.

Matthew Tindall, L.L.D., a controversial writer, 1657—1733. "Christianity as old as the Creation, or the Gospel a Republication of the Religion of Nature," 1730; "A Letter to the Clergymen of the Two Universities."

Joseph Butler, bishop of Durham, 1692—1752. "Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed, to the Course of Nature."

Thomas Carte, a voluminous writer, chiefly English history, 1686—1754.

Conyers Middleton, 1683—1750. "Letter from Rome on conformity between popery and paganism," 1729; "Life of Cicero," 2 vols. 4to., 1741; "Free Inquiry into Miracles," 1747.

David Hartley, M.D., 1704—1757. "Observations on Man," 1749.

Jonathan Swift, 1667—1745. "Tale of a Tub," 1704; "Public Spirit of the Whigs," 1714; "Gulliver's Travels," 1726: with many others.

Isaac Watts, non-conformist, 1674—1748. "Psalms and Hymns;" "Logic;" "Improvement of the Mind."

Thomas Woolston, a divine of eccentric opinions, 1669—1733. "The Old Apology for the Truth of the Christian Religion against the Jews and Gentiles, revived," 1705; "Six Discourses on the Miracles," and two "Defences of the Discourses;" 1727—30.

Alexander Pope, 1688—1744. "Essay on Criticism," 1710; "Rape of the Lock;" "Temple of Fame;" "Dunciad," 1723; "Essay on Man," 1733; "Epistle from Eloisa to Abeland;" translations of the Iliad and Odyssey.

William Somerville, 1622—1743. "The Chase."

Allan Ramsay, a Scottish poet, 1696—1758. "The Gentle Shepherd."

Richard Savage, drama, poetry, 1698—1743.

James Thomson, 1700—1748. "The Seasons;" "Castle of Indolence;" several dramas, and divides with Mallet the merit of having composed the national song of "Rule Britannia."

John Dyer, 1700—1758. "Grongar Hill."

James Hammond, an elegiac and amatory poet, 1710—1742.

Henry Fielding, 1707—1754. "Joseph

Andrews;" "Inquiry into the Cause of the Increase of Robbers;" "Tom Jones;" "History of Jonathan Wild;" "Voyage to Lisbon."

William Collins, 1720—1756. "Odes;" "Oriental Eclogues."

COMMERCE.—AGRICULTURE.—EXPORT OF CORN.

The commerce of Great Britain continued to increase during the greater part of this reign; but this increase was not the effect of extraordinary encouragement. On the contrary, the necessities of the government, the growing expenses of the nation, and the continual augmentation of the public debt, obliged the legislature to hamper trade with grievous imposts: its increase therefore must be ascribed to the natural progress of industry, skill, and adventure. War, which generally impedes the traffic of nations, had opened new sources to the merchants of Great Britain, and only slightly affected the amount of her shipping and exports. The superiority of her naval power had crushed the navigation of France, her great rival in commerce, so that she now supplied, on her own terms, all those foreign markets, at which, in a time of peace, she was undersold by her competitor.

With the exception of the year 1756, the value of the cargoes exported continued to increase during the seven years' war, but the tonnage that cleared outwards never attained the amount of the pacific and prosperous years 1749—51. This will appear from the subjoined statement from Chalmers (Estimate 131):—

	Tons.	Value of Cargoes.
1749-51	661,184	£ 12,599,112
1755-57	524,711	11,708,515
1760	573,978	14,693,270
1761	626,055	14,873,194
1762	600,570	13,546,171

It appears from this that only the value, not the quantity of our exports increased during hostilities.

Scotland largely participated in the general prosperity. The value of the commodities exported from that kingdom were (Chalmers' Estimate 138) in

1756	£ 663,401
1760	1,086,205
1764	1,243,927

The yards of linen made for sale in Scotland were, in

1758	10,624,435
1760	11,747,728

The linen manufacture of England was prosperous. According to an average of seven years of peace, from 1749 to 1755,

there were exported 576,373 yards. According to an average of seven years of subsequent war, the exports were 1,355,226 yards.

The value of *woollen goods* exported had increased from £3,575,297 in 1755, to £5,453,172, in 1760.

AGRICULTURE was much indebted this reign to the inventions and writings of Jethro Tull, an experimental farmer. He introduced the drill-husbandry, and recommended the substitution of labour and arrangement in the place of manure and fallowing in the culture of land. A rotation of crops, and the cultivation of turnips, clover and potatoes in the field became more general. That agriculture was rapidly improving is shown by the course of legislation. In the warlike reign of king William not a single act was passed for the dividing of commons, the inclosure of wastes, or the draining of marshes. In the equally warlike reign of Anne there were only two inclosure acts; but in that of George I. the number was 26; and in the thirty-three years of George II.'s reign, 226.

In no branch of commerce has there been so much absurd legislation as in the **CORN TRADE**. At an early period the exportation of corn was entirely prohibited, from the mistaken notion that this was the best means by which plenty could be maintained at home. This policy continued, with little relaxation, till the accession of the Stuarts, when exportation began to be allowed on the payment of a duty. But at the revolution of 1688, the legislature rushed to the opposite extreme; restrictions were imposed on importation, and a parliamentary bounty granted on the exportation of corn. According to Dr. Smith (*Wealth of Nations*, B. I., Ch. xi.) the country gentlemen, who then formed a larger proportion of the legislature than at present, adopted this expedient to keep up the price of corn, which was falling. This policy was persisted in till about the peace of Paris in 1763; and during the whole of this time, either from the temptation of the bounty or the produce of the country outgrowing the home consumption, large quantities of corn were annually exported.

In the five years from 1744 to 1748, the quantity of corn exported from England was 3,768,444 quarters, worth at the current price, £8,007,948. And this result, obtained by the double error in commercial economy of a bounty on exports and a restriction on imports, was considered an undeniable proof of national prosperity!

PRICES AND WAGES.

From 1729 to 1760 there was no material variation either in the prices of provi-

sions or the rate of wages. During the whole of that period wheat kept steadily at from 32s. to 35s. per quarter. Wages in husbandry rose a little towards the end of the reign of George II., but not those of artificers. It follows that the subjoined statements of wages and prices on the accession of George III. will show their relation during the long reign of his predecessor.

Contract prices of Provisions and Clothes at Greenwich Hospital, in the year 1760.— Parl. Papers, Sess. 1830.

	£.	s.	d.
Flesh per cwt.	1	11	6
Bread, for 13½ oz.	0	0	1
Butter per lb.	0	0	5½
Cheese per lb.	0	0	3½
Pease per bushel	0	3	6
Oatmeal per bushel	0	4	0
Salt per bushel	0	4	0
Malt per quarter	1	4	9
Hops per cwt.	4	13	4
Beer per barrel	0	5	7½
Candles per doz. lbs.	0	6	6
Shoes per pair	0	4	0
Coals per chaldron	1	12	8
Stockings per pair	0	1	8
Hats each	0	2	0
Suit of bedding	0	4	4½
Coats each	1	1	0

Contract rate of Wages for Artificers at Greenwich Hospital in the year 1760.

	s.	d.
Carpenter per day	2	6
Bricklayer ditto	2	6
Mason ditto	2	8
Plumber ditto	3	0

The contract rate of wages for artificers had undergone no variation from 1729, and continued without variation till about 1795, when they suddenly rose from 2s. 6d. to 5s. per day.

According to Mr. Barton's tables, wages in husbandry were in 1725, per week, 5s. 4d.; in 1751, 6s.; in 1770, 7s. 4d.

The following statement will help to show the mode of living, and expenses of an agricultural family, about the time of the accession of George III:—

Expenses of the Family of an Agricultural Labourer in 1762:

	Per Week.
	s. d.
Bread, flour, oatmeal	2 6
Roots, greens, beans, pease, fruit	0 5
Firing 6d., candle 3d., soap 2½d.	0 11½
Milk 1½, butter 1½d., cheese 5d.	0 8½
Flesh 6d., rent 6d., pins, worsted, thread, &c. 1d.	1 1
Clothes, repairs, bedding, shoes	1 0
Salt, beer, exotica, vinegar, spices 0 8½	0 8½
Midwives, churching, lying-in	0 0

Taxes on the above consumption:—On malt, 4s. 2d.; salt, 1s. 8d.; soap and candles, 3s.; leather, 2s.; sundries, 2d.—Total, 11s.—N.B. Tax about 1-36.—*London Magazine for 1762.*

REVENUE, DEBT, AND TAXES.

Governments seem to be naturally spend-thrifts. The temptations to expenditure, either from love of patronage or desire ostentatiously to signalize their administration, so far outweigh motives to economy, that the most patriotic ministers seldom aspire to more than to govern within the public income, rarely to lessen the encumbrances transmitted by their predecessors. Sir Robert Walpole had favourable opportunities for reducing the national debt, but he was too epicurean in his notions of the enjoyment of power to make sacrifices for the future. Though a skilful financier, he was reckless enough to apply the sinking-fund to the current expenses of the year, and, with a view of keeping on good terms with the landed interest, reduced the land-tax to one shilling in the pound.

In the long periods of peace that had occurred since the death of queen Anne, the surpluses of the national income were seldom applied to the liquidation of the capital of the debt. Unexampled commercial prosperity causing abundance of money, and the rise of the stocks above par, ministers availed themselves of these circumstances to offer the public creditor either his principal or a lower rate of interest. In this way a saving of near half a million of annual interest was effected in the reign of George I. The same expedient was employed by his successor in 1749, by which the annuities payable to the creditors of the state were reduced 303,000*l.* But these reductions were more than counterbalanced by the increase, in consequence of the expense of the Spanish war, and the seven years' war that began in 1755; so that George II. left both principal and interest considerably augmented.

The subjoined statement, extracted from sir John Sinclair, exhibits the total public expenditure of this reign, and the income and peace establishment of the country on the accession of George III:—

Total Expenditure during the Reign of George II.

	£.
Civil-list	27,280,000
Navy	71,424,171
Army	73,911,521
Ordnance	6,706,674
Other military expenses	28,869
Ecclesiastical expense	152,240
Westminster-bridge	216,500
London-bridge	45,000
Military roads	24,000
Making harbours	43,360
Public rewards	22,000
Monument to Captain Cornwall	3,000
Heretable jurisdictions in Scotland	152,037
Debts on Scotch forfeitures	72,410
Charges of the Mint	231,000
Extra charges ditto	31,364
Horned cattle	208,123
Foundling-hospital	182,277
Earthquake at Lisbon	100,000
African settlements	420,173
American expenses	1,697,424
Miscellaneous expenses	25,496
Money paid pursuant to addresses	25,000
	183,002,639
Interest of the public debt and repayment of principal	92,347,134
Total	£276,349,773

Public Revenue.

Peace Establishment.

	£.		£.
Customs	1,985,376	Civil-list	836,000
Excise	3,877,349	Navy	900,000
Stamps	263,207	Army	900,000
	6,125,932		2,636,000
Carried forward	6,125,932		

	£.		£.
Brought forward	6,125,932	Ordnance	2,636,000
Land-tax (deducting deficiencies)	1,737,608	Miscellaneous	80,000
Miscellaneous	650,000		50,000
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	£8,523,540	Total	£2,766,000

Debt at the conclusion of the peace of 1762 . £146,682,843—£4,840,821

LAND AND NAVAL FORCES. A.D. 1760.—*Annual Register*, liii., 255.

LAND-FORCES.	NAVY.
<i>In Great Britain, under lord-viscount Ligonier, Commander-in-chief.</i>	<i>At or near home, under sir Edward Hawke, admiral Boscawen, &c.</i>
2 Troops of Horse-guards.	3 Ships of Guns.
2 „ Horse-grenadiers.	6 „ „ 100
5 Regiments of Dragoons.	1 „ „ 90
3 „ Foot-guards.	1 „ „ 84
23 „ Foot.	3 „ „ 80
	13 „ „ 74
<i>In Ireland, under lieutenant-general earl of Rothes, commander-in-chief.</i>	5 „ „ 70
2 Regiments of Horse.	1 „ „ 66
8 „ Dragoons.	8 „ „ 64
17 „ Foot.	12 „ „ 60
	10 „ „ 50
<i>In Jersey, under colonel Boscawen.</i>	<i>East Indies, under vice-admiral Pocock.</i>
1 Regiment of Foot.	2 Ships of 74
	1 „ „ 68
<i>At Gibraltar, under lieutenant-general Earl of Home, governor.</i>	1 „ „ 66
6 Regiments of Foot.	2 „ „ 64
	7 „ „ 60
<i>In Germany, under lieutenant-general marquis of Granby, commander-in-chief.</i>	1 „ „ 58
1 Regiment of Horse-guards.	3 „ „ 50
2 „ Horse.	
3 „ Dragoons.	<i>West Indies, under rear-admiral Holmes.</i>
6 „ Dragoons.	1 Ship of 90
16 „ Foot.	2 „ „ 80
	1 „ „ 74
<i>In garrison at Emden.</i>	2 „ „ 70
2 Regiments of Highlanders.	1 „ „ 68
	1 „ „ 66
<i>In North America, under major-general Amherst, commander-in-chief.</i>	6 „ „ 64
21 Regiments of Foot.	4 „ „ 60
<i>In the West Indies.</i>	2 „ „ 50
5½ Regiments of Foot.	
<i>In Africa.</i>	<i>N. America, under commodore lord Colville</i>
2 Regiments of Foot.	1 Ship of 74
	3 „ „ 70
<i>In the East Indies.</i>	1 „ „ 66
4 Battalions of Foot.	2 „ „ 64
Total: 3 Regiments, or 64 squadrons, of Horse and Dragoons.	3 „ „ 60
97 Regiments, or 105 battalions, of Foot.	2 „ „ 50
Besides these, Great Britain maintained Hanoverian, Hessian, and other German auxiliaries, to the amount of 57,762.	
	<i>Mediterranean, under vice-admiral Saunders.</i>
	1 Ship of 90
	2 „ „ 74
	1 „ „ 64
	3 „ „ 60
	3 „ „ 50
	Total 121

The total number of men employed in the army and navy, including militia and foreign troops, in the year 1762, being the last of the war, was 337,106. The expense of maintaining this force was 18 millions, or about 50*l.* per man. The number of sailors and marines employed in the war was 184,893; of whom 1512 were killed; 133,708 died of disease, or missing; remaining or discharged at the peace, 49,673.—*Annual Register*, vi., 50.

The land and marine forces in 1745 (a year of war) were, in Britain, 30,502; in Flanders, 27,999; in Ireland, 9261; in Minorca, 4075; in Gibraltar, 4074; in the Plantations, 3661.—Total, 79,572.

According to an Admiralty-list (Chalmers's Estimate 116, Edit. 1804), the naval force in sea pay, July 19th, 1738, was 95 ships and 23,618 men.

For the service of 1760, parliament voted seventy thousand seamen; and their wages, 3,458,000*l.*

In 1755 the royal navy of France consisted of 74 ships, carrying 5028 guns and 43,620 men.

In the first five years of the war, from 1755 to 1760, there were,

Of the French Navy.

	<i>Ships.</i>	<i>Guns.</i>
Taken . . .	42	1706
Destroyed . . .	41	1730
Casually lost . . .	16	786

Of the English Navy.

	<i>Ships.</i>	<i>Guns.</i>
Taken . . .	5	144
Destroyed . . .	4	72
Casually lost . . .	13	644

GEORGE III. A.D. 1760 to 1775.

THE commencement of the new reign was signaled by an effort to rescue the executive from the thralldom of the aristocracy. William III. was a king of conditions, and the statesmen who negotiated his accession to the English throne assumed, through the instrumentality of parliament, a co-parcenary in the regal office. From the revolution the crown had ceased to exercise independent authority: not only was the king's income, but the choice of his responsible servants, prescribed by the majorities of the House of Commons. In consequence, the government became parliamentary, and the monarchy lost not only its preponderance but co-ordinate authority in the constitution.

Various reasons may be assigned for this devolution of political power. The first and most important was, doubtless, that already alluded to, namely, the elective tenure, under which the prince of Orange received the crown, and which he transmitted to his successors. The next was the foreign interests and character of the sovereigns, from the revolution to the accession of George III. The policy of king William was almost wholly continental; he was unquestionably interested, in common with his English ministers, in the maintenance of the Protestant settlement; but England was chiefly valuable to him from the resources, in men and money, it afforded for the defence of the United Provinces against the ambitious encroachments of France. With less motives, queen Anne followed the course of her predecessor, but the policy of her reign was determined by court intrigues. On the accession of the family of Brunswick, the scene of continental interest was transferred from Holland to Hanover. A want of acquaintance with the English language and constitution disqualified the two first princes of this family from taking an active share in the government: provided the interests of the hereditary states were not compromised, they seem to have been indifferent to the course of public policy; and it was by ministering to German connexions that the whigs, for half a century, enjoyed uninterruptedly all the chief offices of state.

But the abandonment of the government entirely to this party did not

obviate every difficulty in the way of the executive. The whigs had no sooner swept the field of their opponents, than, after the manner of conquerors, they quarrelled among themselves. It was not upon any great question of national policy they were divided: with the Jacobites they differed on the regal succession, and with the Tories on religious toleration; but, with each other, they had no constitutional or administrative disagreements. Upon all points they were united, except as to the division of public employments. The PRÆMIERSHIP being the capital prize, the chief point of contention was, whether Walpole, Pelham, Pitt, Rockingham, Bedford, Grenville, or Grafton should be head of the Treasury. Every ministerial change gave rise to new disputes, intrigues, and confederacies, and the country suffered, in the choice of its ministry, from the conflictive cabals of the aristocracy, the evils of an elective monarchy, with this aggravation, that they were of more frequent occurrence than when dependent on the life of the sovereign.

The accession of George III. presented many circumstances favourable to an attempt to rescue the government from these aristocratic feuds. The title of the Brunswick family had ceased to be disputed by a rival house, and was no longer compelled to lean on the support of a party. The king himself came before the public under promising auspices. He had the advantage of his predecessors in not being an alien monarch. His character was without reproach; all that was known of him was creditable; his manners were free and popular, and he was too young to have formed binding ties with any section of politicians. Moreover, the events of the last fifty years had lessened the confidence of the people in the men who had engrossed the government. Their principles were progressive, their practices stationary or retrograde: for many breaches had been made in the constitution, but no repairs. The public debt and expenditure had increased; exhausting continental wars had been waged under every imaginable pretext; and a standing army become a constant part of the peace establishments. In struggles for power they professed popular maxims, which were openly belied immediately they had served their temporary purpose. To gratify selfishness and ambition, not serve their prince or country, seemed the main object; and this was not the course of subalterns only, but chiefs of party—Walpole, Pulteney, Sandys, and Carteret, down to Pitt and Camden—all pursuing the same vacillating round, first of patriotism, and, when that had served its turn, graduating from the political arena as courtly placemen or pensioned peers.

A change, therefore, might be an improvement. The arbitrary will of the monarch might be a less evil than the venal distractions of faction. But the experiment entirely failed. The earl of Bute, who is supposed to have been the author, and who undertook the initiation, of the new system, was totally unqualified for the undertaking. He was without political influence or connexion; unacquainted with official life; had no parliamentary abilities or interest: his principles were arbitrary; his manners cold, haughty, reserved and pedantic; and he was only known to the public as the favourite, or confidential adviser, of the princess dowager of Wales, the king's mother. That the English nobility could be driven from their usurpation by such impotent agency, it augured great want of capacity in the projectors to expect. The bare effort seems to have excited as much contempt as indignation, and the heads of the political clans united as promptly against the intrusion of the Scottish *parvenu* as the barons against the Spensers in the reign of Edward II.

The time, too, chosen for this *coup d'état* was unsuitable. At the period of the accession there was a vigorous, united, and talented administration. The country had long been in a state of unexampled prosperity. Mr. Pitt was the minister of the people, and, after brilliant triumphs, had brought the war to the point of successful termination. Abruptly to supplant him and his colleagues intimated a design, either to reap the laurels which others had won, or an impatient desire to test the force of the royal will under the new system. The result will be seen in the Events and Occurrences, and also the rapid scenes of official mutations which followed, till the government settled, for a long term, in the hands of lord North.

Upon the short-lived ministry of the earl of Bute one remark may be offered. So far as his scheme of government was developed it seemed an attempt to revive the leading principles of sir Robert Walpole's administration. The precipitancy with which the Peace of Paris was concluded showed that his lordship inclined to a non-interfering and pacific foreign policy. At home, public opinion was to be moulded by a hired press, and the legislature by corruption. The king was to choose his ministers as the royal pleasure or court favouritism dictated, independent of popular or parliamentary control. No support seems to have been sought from party combinations; and, in this, the course of Bute differed from that of Walpole, who was always ready to buy off or attach to himself political leaders. In short, Bute contemplated the introduction of a narrow scheme of arbitrary power. It held out no invitation to popular support, afforded no wider guarantee against the abuse of the executive or legislative authority. For the despotism of the aristocracy he sought to introduce the despotism of the sovereign; for the intrigues and scrambles of faction, the intrigues and scrambles of courtiers.

The failure of lord Bute's plan of close government had the usual consequence of failures—it made matters worse than before. After his retirement the king was left entirely at the mercy of the factions. He sent for Mr. Pitt, who told him that public affairs could not be carried on without “the *great families* who had supported the revolution government, and other great persons, of whose integrity and abilities the nation had had experience.” This was said when Mr. Pitt was co-operating with the “*great families*,” but subsequently, when this aspiring statesman had become minister and fallen out with the “*great families*,” we find him exclaiming to lord Edgcombe, “I despise your parliamentary interest! I do not want your assistance!” Adding, that he “trusted to the uprightness of his measures for the support and confidence of the King, and the favour and attachment of the people; and that, acting upon these principles, he dared look in the face of the proudest connexions in the country*.” The difficulties of the king in forming a ministry resulted from the limited number of employments in his gift; having only one premiership and a definite number of secretaryships, &c., to dispose of, they were often insufficient to satisfy the several leaders and their adherents. In consequence, they quarrelled about the division of them; the discontented refused to co-operate with their more fortunate rivals— withheld their parliamentary support, cavilled at their measures, exaggerated to the people their defects, and never ceased to thwart and oppose till the

* Companion to the Newspaper, No. 33, Art. “Changes of Administration and History of Parties:” published under the Superintendence of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and containing a great deal of original and instructive political information.

obnoxious administration was overthrown. It was in this manner Mr. Pitt opened a way for his own elevation, by keeping aloof from the Rockingham ministry, and the followers of this nobleman destroyed the second ministry of Pitt by retaliating upon him his own political tactics.

Just before the formation of the Rockingham ministry the king appears to have been in extreme perplexity to find a body of men to carry on the government of the country. His majesty's private wish was to keep some of his "own friends" about him; the earl of Northumberland, in particular, he had fixed upon as the head of the Treasury. To this, neither Pitt, Bedford, nor Grenville would accede: lord Bute's son-in-law was to be fixed in a subordinate office, his brother Mackenzie to be removed from the privy-seal of Scotland, the marquis of Granby to be placed at the head of the army, and the favourite not be allowed to interfere openly or covertly in state affairs. Against these terms the king stood out some time, but his taskmasters were too closely confederated to allow him to escape, and he was ultimately obliged to submit. Horace Walpole, writing to lord Hertford on the close of this ministerial crisis, says, "You have more than once seen your old master (George II.) reduced to surrender up his closet to a cabal, but never with such circumstances of insult, indignity, and humiliation."

It is a remarkable feature of the factious squabbles which embarrassed the executive, that they were kept up by men of the same political creed. The Tories had only held power for short intervals since the revolution, and never once since the accession of the Hanoverian family. The Whigs had the government exclusively to themselves, and the several sections into which they were divided were agreed upon all great constitutional questions—upon all questions of foreign policy—upon the support of the established church, and the toleration of the dissenters—in short, upon all fundamental points,—they differed only as to the allocation of *office and profit*. Their quarrels from this cause produced constant official movements; in the six years from the dismissal of Mr. Legge there were 523 changes of places, outs and ins*, and in the first ten years of this reign there were seven distinct administrations. First, the ministry of Mr. Pitt, with which the reign began. Secondly, the ministry of lord Bute, which abruptly terminated after concluding the Peace of Paris. Next followed the ministry of Mr. George Grenville, who, with the earls of Egremont and Halifax, and Mr. Fox (afterwards lord Holland), were supposed to represent the Bute interest. Under this ministry originated the perplexing questions of the legality of general warrants—whether privilege of parliament extended to libel—the regency bill—and the right of the mother country to tax the American colonies. It was followed by the ministry of the marquis of Rockingham. Soon after the formation of the Rockingham ministry it sustained a great loss in the death of the duke of Cumberland, who had been principally instrumental in bringing them into power, and who formed one of their chief supports, both with the king and the nation. Their next embarrassment was the perpetual one of colonial affairs. They brought forward a bill to repeal the *STAMP-DUTY* imposed by their predecessors, but accompanied by the uncalled-for aggravation of another, declaratory of the entire legislative supremacy of the British parliament. After vainly endeavouring to strengthen themselves by the co-operation of Mr. Pitt, they were supplanted by that haughty and untractable statesman, who succeeded in forming what Mr. Burke termed his "Mosaic administration."

* Annual Register for 1766.

The lustre of the second ministry of Mr. Pitt (now earl of Chatham) was very inferior to the first. He lost his popularity with the people by the acceptance of a peerage, and his powerful friends were disgusted by his ambitious manœuvres to reach the premiership. Lord Chesterfield described the blunder of his elevation as "*a fall up stairs*," and prophesied that in a year he would "*enjoy perfect otium cum dignitate*." During a great part of this ministry lord Chatham was disabled, by illness, from taking an active part in public affairs, which devolved on his colleagues. The two main subjects agitated were, the embargo on the export of corn, imposed by an order of council, and the fatal resolutions introduced by Mr. Townshend (June 2nd, 1767), imposing duties upon glass, tea, and other articles, imported into America, which rekindled the flame of insurrection in the colonies, and eventually led to their severance from the parent state. The scheme of raising a revenue in America is said to have been resolved on by ministers without consulting lord Chatham, the nominal head of the cabinet. His continued indisposition having rendered some changes in the cabinet unavoidable, the king wrote to him in July, for his advice; to which his lordship returned a verbal answer,—“That such was his ill state of health that his majesty must not expect from him any advice or assistance in any arrangements whatsoever.” After the usual preliminary negotiations, bargainings, offers, and rejections, the sixth or GRAFTON MINISTRY was completed, which continued till the beginning of the year 1770. American affairs, the Middlesex election, and the arbitrary votes of the Commons, declaring the election of Mr. Wilkes void, and that gentleman ineligible to a seat in parliament, formed the perplexing subjects of the duke's government. The last, in particular, created very general dissatisfaction, as a most unconstitutional stretch of parliamentary privilege. In his two years' exile from office, the health of Chatham had been unexpectedly restored, and, though Grafton was his avowed disciple, he did not hesitate to place himself in the foremost rank of opposition, seizing every popular topic of excitement, and flaming away in the full freshness of juvenile patriotism. Public discontents were further augmented by the powerful pen of JUNIUS, who at this time made his appearance, and assailed, with unscrupulous bitterness, malignity, and force, the Grafton ministry. The duke's embarrassments were finally consummated by the conduct of lord-chancellor Camden, who voted against him on the ministerial address, and appears to have been the immediate cause of his grace's resignation. It was followed by the ministry of lord North, which subsisted twelve years, and terminated the struggles of the “great families” for the premiership.

The establishment of lord North's ministry, in 1770, forms an epoch in the history of party. By it the whigs lost the monopoly of power, which they did not recover till sixty years after. The aristocratic pressure, which the king had vainly tried to remove at the beginning of his reign, was quietly removed by the course of events. Popular excitement subsided, and an entire change at once came over the public mind. The reasons for this issue are not difficult to discover. By the appointment of a *new man* to the head of the Treasury the apple of discord was abstracted, and Grenville, Rockingham, Chatham, and Bedford appear to have been less mortified at the award of this prize to a stranger to their divisions than to one of themselves. The second reason was the new tone assumed at the royal court. Attempts were made to keep up national discontents by procuring addresses and remonstrances to the throne, especially from the city of London: these

were received either with dignified silence or met with a gentle rebuke, by which happy union of temper, firmness, and moderation, the public mind was tranquillized and even conciliated.

But the third and most influential cause of political quietude was the absolute paucity of questions of real national interest. Upon reflection, the turmoil of the preceding ten years must have appeared little better than an illusion, or at least without adequate occasion. The protracted affair of Mr. Wilkes had apparently originated in the struggles of a clever but profligate man for notoriety or better circumstances. Upon the great question of taxing the American colonies there was a general coincidence of opinion, both in the nation and legislature. The populace expressed no sympathy with the claim of the Bostonians to be exempt from the fiscal jurisdiction of parliament; neither does it appear there were many addresses in their favour from the county freeholders, nor the great commercial and municipal bodies of the kingdom. Among the chief political leaders there were shades of difference, which may be ascribed to their position, as they happened to be members or not of the government, but there hardly seems to have been a substantive disagreement. When Mr. Grenville first introduced his proposition for a stamp-duty, general Conway (the brother of lord Hertford) was the only member of the Commons who explicitly denied the right of parliament to tax the colonies: but subsequently, when general Conway was secretary of state, he himself introduced a resolution, declaring "the British parliament to have full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies *in all cases whatsoever*." Lord Chatham, in terms equally general and conclusive, concurred in the legislative supremacy of parliament, but in the debate on the address (Jan. 14th, 1766) drew the metaphysical distinction, that "Taxation is no part of the governing or legislative power,"—a doctrine which seems to have had no higher constitutional authority than the parliamentary privilege of an exclusive right in the Commons to originate money-bills. Lord Lyttleton was in favour of the right of taxation; and the duke of Grafton affirmed the Americans were as liable to be taxed as any man in Britain. The party to which lord Shelburne and colonel Barré belonged withheld any decided opinion; they were understood to admit the right, but deprecated unnecessarily agitating constitutional questions. The opinion of George III., it is generally known, was no exception to that of his successive ministries, the parliament, and the nation.

It may be concluded, then, that neither religion, the affair of Wilkes, nor differences on the course of American policy, had any share in the party dissensions which marked the commencement of the present reign. Their source must be sought in personal considerations only. Upon the great American question there could hardly be then, any more than now, any ground for divisions. The right of taxation was as indisputable as the right of resistance. Unrepresented Boston or Baltimore had no greater claim to exemption from parliamentary government than unrepresented Birmingham or Manchester. They participated in the advantages of the general government of the mother country, and were equally bound to contribute to its general expenditure. But it does not follow that they were always to remain in a state of minority and dependence. If they had the power and were competent to the task of self-government, they had an unquestionable right to its benefits, and to make the experiment.

The movements of party excepted, the other events and occurrences of the first period of the reign of George III. do not call for preliminary cluci-

dition. These are of importance, not only from the light they cast on the motives of public characters, but from the fact that the two state factions, at the time of North's ministry, assumed those relations which they almost uninterruptedly maintained till the great reform of the representation, under William IV. From the era of the Orange revolution the Tories and the Church had been thrown into what may be termed an unnatural position; owing to their attachment to the Stuarts they were driven from court, and the Whigs and dissenters were looked upon as the steadfast supporters and faithful advisers of the crown. All prospect, however, of restoring the exiled family having vanished, the Jacobites became gradually reconciled to the house of Brunswick, and assumed that place and preponderancy in the councils of the monarch for which, from their principles of passive loyalty, unchangeableness, and courtly subserviency, they seem more appropriately suited than their opponents.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1760. Oct. 26. GEORGE III. proclaimed king. Being born June 4th, 1738, he had completed his twenty-second year, and was grandson of the late king, and son of Frederick prince of Wales, and of Augusta princess of Saxe-Gotha. Having lived in privacy, little was known of the person and character of the new sovereign. On the death of his father in 1751, his education had been intrusted to the earl of Harcourt and the bishop of Norwich, but the formation of his character was materially influenced by the maternal ascendancy of the princess dowager, who in her turn was influenced by the councils of the earl of Bute. His first entrance into public life made a favourable impression, as appears from the testimony of contemporary observers. He had a great advantage over his predecessors, in greater affability of manner, and in being acquainted with the language, habits, and institutions of the English. Mr. Walpole gives the following description of the first appearance of George III.:—"For the king himself, he seems all good-nature, wishing to satisfy every body; all his speeches are obliging. I saw him again yesterday, and was surprised to find the levee-room had lost so entirely the air of the lion's den. This sovereign don't stand in one spot, with his eyes fixed royally on the ground, and dropping bits of German news: he walks about and speaks to every body. I saw him afterwards on the throne, where he is graceful and genteel, sits with dignity, and reads his answers to addresses well."—(*Lord Orford's Works*, vi. 222.) According to lord Waldegrave, as quoted by Mr. Cooke, the king possessed "abilities which, though not excellent, wanted only a proper cultivation to be tolerable: he was honest, but not generous; religious, but not charitable; willing to act justly, but not active to discover what was just; indifferent to pleasure, but averse to business; not violent

in his resentments, but moody, sullen, and unforgiving towards those who provoked or incurred his displeasure."—(*History of Party*, ii. 398.) On his majesty's accession the nominal head of the administration was the duke of Newcastle. He was considered the leader of the Whig party, and during a period of forty years had filled a high situation in the court and the cabinet. Neither in temper nor ability was he first-rate. The presiding genius of the cabinet was Mr. Pitt, principal secretary of state. His connexion with Frederick prince of Wales, his vehement opposition to Walpole and German measures, long made him an object of dislike to George II., but his superior talents at length opened a way into the royal councils. According to the current expression of the day, he took the cabinet by storm, and from that moment a new aspect was given to public affairs. Mr. Fox, paymaster of the forces, was an able man of business and much respected, but wanted the commanding eloquence of Pitt.—(*Adolphus's History of the Reign of George III.*, i. 9.) The chief remaining members of the administration were lord-keeper, afterwards lord chancellor, Northington; lord Carteret, president of the council; the duke of Devonshire, lord chamberlain; Mr. Legge, chancellor of the Exchequer; lord Anson, first lord of the Admiralty; and lord Holderness, secretary of state.

27. John earl of Bute, and the duke of York, the king's eldest brother, sworn members of the privy council.

29. Mr. Maskelyne sent to St. Helena, and Mr. Mason to Bencoolen, to observe the transit of Venus over the sun, June 6, 1761. Three astronomers were sent from France, by the French king, for the same purpose.

31. First stone of Blackfriars-bridge laid.

Royal proclamation against vice and profaneness.

Nov. 3. Bloody battle near Torgau, between the Prussians and Austrians.

7. Determined in the King's-bench court that St. Luke's hospital is not liable for poor-rate.

11. The body of the late king interred in king Henry VII.'s chapel.

14. Mr. Vansittart deposed the Mir Jafier, and appointed the Nabob's son-in-law in his room.

18. Parliament opened by the king with a popular speech. "Born and educated in this country," said his majesty, "I glory in the name of Briton." The flourishing state of the kingdom, the brilliant successes of the war, and the extinction of internal divisions, were acknowledged. The support of the "Protestant interest," the independence of our friends, and a "safe and honourable peace," were declared to be the ends of the war.

21. The king visits Drury-lane theatre to see Richard III. The house was filled before three o'clock.

Dec. 9. Royal assent given to an act for fixing the king's civil-list at the clear annual sum of 800,000*l*.

27. Proclamation for a general fast. The winter unusually mild.

Beer brewed in London, 975,217 barrels.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Philip, prince of Hohenloe Schillingsturst, 96; the oldest prince in Europe.

Mr. Warner of Rotherhithe, 86; a celebrated horticulturist, and first planter of the Burgundy grapes in England.

Thomas Wishart of Annandale, 124; he had chewed tobacco from seven years old to his death.

Thomas Devisme, 102; an eminent weaver.

In Silesia, Nicholas Lewis of Zinzendorf, 60; the founder of the sect of Moravians.

Lady Amelia Butler, 100; sister to the duke of Ormond, and last survivor of that family.

LONDON BILLS OF MORTALITY.—Christenings, 14,951. Burials, 19,830. Died under two years of age, 6838. Decreased in the burials this year, 226.

Diseases.—Abortive and still-born, 698; aged, 1558; apoplexy and sudden, 217; asthma, 385; cancer, 48; consumption, 3776; convulsions, 5230; dropsy, 788; fevers, 2136; measles, 175; miscarriage, 3; small-pox, 2187; teeth, 786; lunatic, 63; mortification, 172.

Carnalities.—Bit by mad dogs, 2; burnt, 7; bruised, 2; drowned, 99; executed, 4; frozen to death, 2; killed by falls and other accidents, 65; suicides, 20; overlaid, 14; scalded, 7; smothered, 1; suffocated, 7; found dead, 3; excessive drinking, 6.

1761. Jan. 14. The ground from Moor-

gata to Cripplegate, 1000 feet in length, sold for building, at 7*s*. a-foot.

24. The additional duty of 3*s*. per barrel on beer at above 6*s*. per barrel took effect.

Feb. 11. A usurer cast at Guildhall for 300*l*., having exacted six guineas to discount 100*l*. for six weeks.

Mar. 9. At Hexham, 100 persons were killed and wounded in a riot on account of the militia ballot.

18. Thanks of the commons voted to Mr. Onslow, on his retirement from the speakership, an office he had filled for thirty years, in five successive parliaments. A pension was granted him of 3000*l*. a-year for his own life and that of his son, afterwards Lord Onslow.

19. Royal assent given to an act for continuing the commissions of the judges, notwithstanding a demise of the crown. It was intended to promote their independence, as legally their commissions expired on the king's death.

21. Parliament dissolved.

22. Mr. Legge, chancellor of the Exchequer, dismissed, and viscount Barrington appointed his successor. Mr. Legge's dismissal is said to have arisen from his refusal, two years before, to support a nominee of Lord Bute and the prince of Wales, as candidate for the representation of Hampshire.

25. The earl of Holderness, one of the secretaries of state, resigned, and lord Bute appointed to succeed him.

May 31. For a wager, an ass made to go 100 miles in 21 hours at Newmarket.

June 29. City-road opened from Islington.

Sept. 8. Marriage of the king to the princess Charlotte of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, second daughter of the late duke.

22. Coronation of their majesties.

25. Their majesties visit Covent Garden theatre, to see the *Beggar's Opera*, with which the queen appeared much pleased.

30. A distemper at Toulon, which in two months carried off one-third of the inhabitants.

Oct. 5. Mr. Pitt resigned the foreign secretaryship, and was succeeded by lord Egremont. Four days after, earl Temple resigned the privy-seal, and was succeeded by the duke of Bedford. They had proposed to declare war against Spain, which was opposed by the earl of Bute and the rest of the ministers, and the king agreed with the majority. On resigning, Mr. Pitt received a pension of 3000*l*. a-year for his own life and that of his son and wife, created baroness of Chatham.

22. Thanks of the common-council voted to Mr. Pitt.

Sept. 20. Auto da fé at Lisbon. There were fifty-four criminals, including three

in effigy. Father Maligrida was the only person burnt for writing heretical books.

Nov. 3. New parliament met. Sir John Cust unanimously chosen speaker.

9. Their majesties dine at Guildhall.

Price of beer raised to 3^d. per quart.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. Sherlock, bishop of London, 82. Dr. Hoadly, bishop of Winchester, 85. Father Charlevoix, the celebrated Jesuit missionary. Richard Nash, master of the ceremonies, Bath, 87. Thomas Simpson, 51, master of Woolwich Military Academy; an able and self-taught mathematician.

1762. Jan. 4. War declared against Spain.

15. Two assassins, who endeavoured to force their way into the apartments of the king of France, killed the guards that opposed them, and escaped undiscovered.

18. Spain declared war against England.

The roof of the Opera-house at Rome fell in during the time of performance, and killed and wounded 66 persons, among them the prince d'Asti and the princess Borghése.

Feb. Marine Society since its establishment had collected and equipped 9963 men and boys.

15. An embargo laid on all shipping.

24. Great hurricane and fall of snow. Nearly fifty people, in the open fields and on heaths, perished in the tempest. It blew down many houses, chimneys, and trees; and several whales were driven on the Essex and Kentish coasts.

26. Old Bailey sessions a maiden one.

Mar. 6. Cock-lane ghost detected.

12. A general fast-day.

The Smallpox-hospital ascertained that the lives of 139,852 persons in a million were saved by inoculation.

Apr. 5. Granada surrenders to the British.

7. Peace concluded between Russia and Prussia, and between Prussia and Sweden.

8. Royal assent given to a bill for training the militia, which amounted to 30,840 men.

27. Lord Halifax suppresses the Irish levellers.

29. Published in the university of Moscow, *Cornelius Nepos*, in Latin, being the first classical book that ever came from the Russian press.

30. Royal warrant issued for establishing a professorship of the belles-lettres in the university of Edinburgh. Dr. Hugh Blair appointed the first professor, with a salary of 70*l*.

May 5. Jesuits expelled France.

29. The duke of Newcastle having resigned, lord Bute was appointed first lord of the treasury, and head of the administration. His grace declined a proffered pension, with the remark that, if he could

no longer serve, he would not burden his country.

June 15. Spain declared war against Portugal.

17. Lady-fair, in Southwark, discontinued.

July 5. Determined at Guildhall that dissenters are not liable to serve the office of sheriff.

9. Peter III., of Russia, dethroned, and his consort declared reigning empress, by the name of Catherine II.

Tumults at Manchester and in Staffordshire, occasioned by the high price of corn.

12. Dr. Johnson receives his pension for the first time.

Aug. 12. PRINCE OF WALES BORN.—The queen was delivered by Mrs. Draper, Dr. Hunter waiting in the next room, to lend assistance if necessary. The archbishop of Canterbury was present in the queen's apartment, and the duke of Devonshire and eight other lords in an adjoining room with the door open. (*Edinburgh Review*, xxiii. 449.) The public accouchement of her majesty is intended to preclude any doubt as to the legitimacy of the heir to the throne. The person that waited on the king with the news of the birth of a prince received a present of a 500*l*. bank note.

14. Havannah taken by lord Albemarle and admiral Pococke.

21. Died, aged 72, the celebrated Lady MARY WORTLEY MONTAGU, the daughter of Evelyn duke of Kingston, by his wife Mary Fielding, the daughter of the earl of Denbigh. Lady Mary had only arrived in England in 1761, on a visit to her daughter, the countess of Bute, after an absence on the Continent of 22 years. She was a woman of an uncommon order, independent in thought and action, and of excellent sense. Her "Letters" are generally known; but some of her portraits seem drawn with a freedom more german to her own character than that of her contemporaries.

Sept. 10. The duke de Nivernois, the French ambassador, arrived in London. The duke slept at Canterbury, and the innkeeper's bill in the morning, for twelve persons, was 53*l*. 10*s*. 8*d*.

29. William Beckford chosen lord-mayor.

30. At a public-house in Staffordshire, the landlady's daughter, but twelve years and a few months old, was lately brought to bed of a fine boy, which she had by her brother, aged 15. They had been bed-fellows from their infancy.

Nov. 3. PEACE OF FONTAINEBLEAU.—The preliminary articles of peace between France and England were signed by the duke of Bedford at Fontainebleau. By the articles we gave up nothing we possessed at the commencement of the war, and obtained Canada from France, and Florida from

Spain. Our conquests in the East Indies were restored to the French, but we retained Senegal in Africa, and several West India islands.

25. Parliament met. Upon the articles of peace being laid before it, Mr. Fox, the ministerial leader of the commons, defended them against the attacks of Mr. Pitt, who had not recovered the popularity he had lost by the acceptance of a pension. A vote of approval of the peace was carried by 319 to 65. Unexampled parliamentary corruption is alleged to have been employed on this occasion. Places in the royal household were needlessly multiplied, pensions lavishly granted, and 25,000*l.*, in bank-notes of 100*l.* each, distributed to the members in one day; the only stipulation of ministers being, "Give us your vote!" (Almon's Anecdotes of the Life of the Earl of Chatham, i. 347.—Wraxall's Memoirs of his Own Time.) According to the same authorities, the press also was bribed. Smollett, Mallet, Francis Home, and Murphy, were the chief instruments employed.

29. Peter Annett sentenced to stand twice in the pillory, and to be kept to hard labour in Bridewell for one year, for writing "The Free Enquirer." Mr. Annett, who had been educated a dissenting minister, had made himself obnoxious by his "History of the Man after God's own Heart," occasioned by a comparison made by Dr. Chandler between George II., then just deceased, and king David.

Dec. 1. Coals 55*s.* per chaldron.

The king's state-coach, which was finished this year, cost 7,562*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

1763. Jan. 1. The joint enterprise of England and Portugal against the Spanish settlement of Buenos Ayres fails, from the the commodore's ship having accidentally caught fire.

25. A riot at Drury-lane theatre, the managers having refused to admit for half-price at the end of the third act.

Feb. A gentleman at Wentworth, with a lens of ice, fired gunpowder and linen at a focal distance of seven feet.

23. At Guildhall the Society for the Reformation of Manners was cast in 300*l.* damages, for improper behaviour to the landlady of the Rummer-tavern, Chancery-lane. They appealed to the Common-pleas, but the court affirmed the verdict.

24. Riot at Covent-garden theatre, the managers having demanded full prices, during the whole performance of *Artaxerxes*.

8. At Algiers the Christian slaves, to the number of 4000, rose against their guards to massacre them.

Mar. 22. Peace proclaimed in London.

24. A labouring man at Ossington, in Nottinghamshire, upwards of 80, was com-

mitted to gaol for having a child by his own granddaughter of 17.

31. A parliamentary grant of 5000*l.* to Mr. Harrison, for his time-piece for ascertaining the longitude at sea.

Apr. 3. All the gibbets on the Edgeware-road, on which many malefactors were hung in chains, cut down by unknown persons.

4. A man who stood in the pillory at Bow, for sodomy, killed by the mob.

8. RETIREMENT OF LORD BUTE.—The earl of Bute suddenly resigned his office of first lord of the treasury, and withdrew into private life. Mr. George Grenville succeeded him, but no change of measures attended his resignation. Almost the only supporter of the earl was the king. In the cabinet, in parliament, and in the country, he stood almost alone. In a letter to a friend, explaining the reasons of his retirement, he says, "Single in a cabinet of my own forming—no aid in the house of lords to support me except two peers (lords Denbigh and Pomfret), both the secretaries of state silent, and the lord-chief-justice, whom I brought myself into office, voting for me, but speaking against me,—the ground I tread upon is so hollow, that I am afraid, not only of falling myself, but of involving my royal master in my ruin. It is time for me to retire."—(*Adolphus's Hist. of the Reign of George III.*) Before this, the several sections of the opposition had coalesced, and commenced giving weekly dinners at each other's houses. The notion that the influence of the earl continued long after his retirement—that he formed that "influence behind the throne greater than the throne itself"—seems to have been a popular delusion, encouraged for factious purposes. It was only suspected, never supported by any proof; and general Conway, while secretary of state, denied that he had ever "seen, felt, or discovered" any such influence. The facts seem correctly stated in a letter written October, 1778, by lord Mountstuart, the earl of Bute's son; and which has the following explicit declaration:—"He (lord Bute) does therefore authorize me to say, that he declares upon his solemn word of honour that he has not had the honour of waiting on his majesty but at his levee or drawing-room; nor has he presumed to offer an advice or opinion concerning the disposition of offices, or the conduct of measures, either directly or indirectly, by himself or any other, from the time when the late duke of Cumberland was consulted in the arrangement of a ministry in 1765, to the present hour." (*Companion to the Newspaper*, No. 36, article—"Changes of Administration and History of Parties.")

16. Mr. Fox made a peer, by the title of lord Holland.

20. An information granted in the court of King's-bench against the printers and publishers of the *North Briton*, a periodical paper, which had become notorious for its unmeasured attacks on lord Bute's administration. It had been allowed to pass unnoticed till in the 45th number the king was charged with uttering a falsehood in the royal speech.

30. Mr. John Wilkes, M.P. for Aylesbury, arrested under the authority of a general warrant issued by lord Halifax, principal secretary of state, against the authors, printers, and publishers of the *North Briton*. His house was entered at night by three messengers, his papers searched, and himself committed to the Tower.

May 4. Mr. Wilkes deprived of the colonelcy of the Buckinghamshire militia.

6. Mr. Wilkes, having applied to the Common-pleas for a habeas-corpus, was this day discharged, under the direction of chief-justice Pratt, on the ground that his committal for a libel was in violation of his parliamentary privilege.

Lady Moleworth's house in Upper Brook-street burnt. Her ladyship, her brother, her second and third daughters, and four or five servants, perished in the flames.

25. The metropolis divided into magisterial divisions, for the better administration of justice.

June 5. The king of France allows a free trade in grain through the inland parts of the kingdom.

The council of Geneva having condemned *Emilius*, Rousseau, the author, renounced his rights of citizenship.

July 6. At Guildhall a journeyman printer, arrested on account of the *North Briton*, obtained 300*l.* damages against the king's messenger. Chief-justice Pratt presided.

15. A soldier obtained 300*l.* damages against his officers, at Winchester-assizes, for 300 lashes he had received under colour of a sentence of a court-martial, but of which sentence no evidence was produced at the trial.

Aug. 19. A furious hail-storm and unusual darkness in the neighbourhood of London. It made such an impression on the mob, assembled to see a criminal execution for a rape on Kennington-common, that the sheriff was obliged to send for the military to prevent a rescue; so that it was near eight in the evening before the culprit suffered.

21. Died of apoplexy, the earl of Egremont, one of the secretaries of state. He was the son of sir William Wyndham, the celebrated tory leader of the former reign, and one of the ablest men in the administration.

CONFERENCES WITH MR. PITT.—With a

view of strengthening the ministry, lord Bute undertook to open a negotiation with Mr. Pitt. They met on the 25th instant, at Mr. Pitt's house in Jermyn-street; and the result was an appointment with the king on the 27th at the queen's palace. The conference lasted three hours; in the course of which Mr. Pitt very freely delivered his sentiments, representing that the great whig families had been driven from his majesty's councils and service, and that it would be equally the interest of the king and the nation to restore them. On the renewal of the conference on the 29th, Mr. Pitt enforced these topics, saying that "affairs could not be carried on without the great families who have supported the Revolution government, and others of whose abilities and integrity the public has had experience." The king suggested, first, lord Northumberland, and next, lord Temple, for the treasury; to which Pitt objected, and the conference abruptly terminated, the king saying, "Well, Mr. Pitt, I see this won't do; my honour is concerned, and I must support it." (*Lord Hardwicke's Letter to his Son Lord Royston.*) On the 9th of September the government was completed, by making lord Sandwich secretary of state, the earl of Egmont succeeding him as first lord of the Admiralty. Same day the duke of Bedford was made lord-president of the council; and the ministry came to be considered as the duke of Bedford's ministry.

Sept. 10. An offensive epitaph in St. James's churchyard erased by order of the bishop.

Oct. 3. Riot by the Spitalfields weavers.
5. Died Augustus III., king of Poland.

19. A horse-patrol, under sir John Fielding, established on the roads in the vicinity of London.

The Metz stage-coach to Paris was stopped by a gang of ruffians, who murdered the coachman and postilion, six passengers, and a child. Some of this gang had the audacity to write upon the gate of the Grand Chatelet, "We are 500, and are not afraid of 1000."

Nov. 2. The affair between the master-tailors and journeymen was settled at Hicks'-hall, when it was agreed the men should have 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 1*½d.* for porter, per day, from Lady-day to Midsummer; 2*s.* 2*d.*, and 1*½d.* for porter, the rest of the year.

15. Parliament opened by the king. A royal message delivered on the affair of Wilkes; when the house resolved, by 273 to 111, that the *North Briton* was a scandalous and seditious libel, and ordered it to be burnt by the common hangman. A great riot ensued on attempting to carry into effect this resolution. Mr. Wilkes complained of a breach of privilege.

16. Mr. Wilkes wounded in a duel with Mr. Martin, a late secretary to the treasury.

23. The commons resolved, by 258 to 133, "that privilege of parliament does not extend to the case of libel."

24. A motion negatived in the Irish house of commons for an address to the king to revoke a pension of 1000*l.* a-year, granted to the Sardinian minister for his services in negotiating the late peace with France and Spain.

Dec. 6. After a hearing of 15 hours, Mr. Wilkes obtained 1000*l.* damages for the seizure of his papers. On the trial, chief-justice Pratt declared against the legality of general warrants; that is, warrants not specifying the names of the accused.

The scarcity of meal occasioned riots at Birmingham.

24. Mr. Wilkes withdrew to France.

COMMERCIAL CRISIS.—In the course of the summer there was a surprising number of bankruptcies on the Continent. They began at Amsterdam on the 29th of July, by the failure of two brothers named Neufville, for 330,000 guineas, and a Jew, who a few days before, failed for between 30,000 and 40,000. These two bankruptcies occasioned, or at least hastened, a stoppage of payment by no less than eighteen houses in that city. They were followed by a still greater number of failures at Hamburg and other places, which gave such a blow to private credit, as almost wholly to interrupt commercial transactions. But the Lombard-houses at Hamburg and Amsterdam stood forward on the occasion, and, by advancing large sums of money to such as could give proper security, helped to restore mercantile confidence. (Macpherson's *Annals of Commerce*, iv., 8.) England being exempt from this calamity, rendered considerable assistance to the foreign merchants.

Commenced this year those voyages of discovery that signalized the reign of George III. Two exploratory expeditions were sent out, under captain Byrou, and captains Carteret and Wallis.

The vast increase of buildings in London is evident from the quantity of coals imported in the year 1762, amounting to 570,774 chaldrons and one vat, which is double the quantity imported fifty years ago.—*Annual Register*.

1764. Jan. 1. A great court at St. James's, but the usual annual ode was omitted. The ancient custom of playing at hazard on Twelfth-night was also laid aside.

5. A comet observed at Tewkesbury, near two small stars in the hand of Bootes.

20. Mr. Wilkes expelled the house of commons for writing the *North Briton*. On the same day a complaint was made in the lords of his having printed in his own house an infamous poem, called "An Essay

on Woman," with notes, to which the name of bishop Warburton was scurrilously affixed.

Feb. 15. Debate on the legality of general warrants adjourned at half-past seven in the morning, the commons having sat 17 hours, the longest sitting known.

17. Debate resumed, when ministers evaded a decision on the main point by moving an amendment, that the question be adjourned for four months, which they only carried by 232 to 218. Both parties exerted themselves. "Votes," says Horace Walpole, "were brought down in flannels and blankets till the floor of the house looked like the pool of Bethesda." Ladies attended in shoals, and some of them remained till midnight in one of the speaker's rooms, playing at loo.

Mar. 5. Freedom of the city presented to chief-justice Pratt.

In this month Mr. Grenville introduced his celebrated financial resolution, "That, towards defraying the expenses of protecting and securing the colonies, it may be proper to charge certain stamp-duties in the colonies." The hon. H. Seymour (afterwards general Conway) was the only member who protested against the right of the British parliament to tax the Americans.

Apr. 1. Annular eclipse of the sun.

At Monmouth assizes, a girl, about 18, was burnt for murdering her mistress.—*Annual Register*, vii. 68.

3. Archduke Joseph crowned emperor of Germany.

5. Royal assent given to a bill for imposing duties on goods in the British colonies, for the support of the government there.

12. On a second division of the Flannah prize-money, the share of lord Albemarle was 20,000*l.*; the share of a private, 13*s.* 5*d.*; of a corporal, 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

July 9. The chevalier M. d'Eon, late plenipotentiary of France, found guilty of a libel on the French ambassador.

15. An abortive attempt to place the unfortunate Ivan on the throne of Russia ends in the death of that prince.

Aug. The Genoese, unable to subdue the Corsican malcontents, obtained the aid of France.

28. Died, sir John Bernard, the late representative and popular magistrate of the city of London.

Sept. 15. The cork-jacket, air-jacket, marine-collar, and belt, were successfully tried at London-bridge, as preservatives from drowning.

29. A mob of White-boys attacked the king's troops near Kilkenny; several killed on both sides.

Oct. 23. Colonel Munro, at the head of 8000 men, defeated with great slaughter the united forces of the nabob of Oude and the Mogul king, amounting to 50,000.

Nov. Died at Newent in Gloucestershire, Joseph Budge, a tailor, aged 107. He retained all his faculties till a few hours before his death. He had had two wives, and by his last wife three children, born after he was 80.—*Annual Register*, vii., 112.

Dec. Mrs. Smith, aged 63, the wife of a journeyman carpenter, was delivered of a son.—*Annual Register*, vii., 116.

An edict registered in the parliament of Paris, by which the society of Jesuits is abolished.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Robert Dodsley, the first publisher of the “*Annual Register*,” and author of the “*Economy of Human Life*,” 61. William Hogarth, the celebrated caricaturist, 66. At Boulogne, on a visit to Mr. Wilkes, Charles Churchill, the satirist, 33. Dr. King, principal of St. Mary-hall, Oxford. Count Algarotti, an Italian philosopher, patronised by the king of Prussia.

1765. *Jan.* 10. Parliament opened by the king, who slightly adverted to a misunderstanding with the American colonists.

17. At a sale at Garraway's, 300 pieces of English cambric sold for 13s. 6d. per yard; and it was allowed that by encouragement, the manufacture of this article might be made adequate to the home consumption.

26. Duel at the Star and Garter tavern, Pall-mall, between lord Byron and Mr. Chaworth, in which the latter is mortally wounded.

29. The question of general warrants revived, but after a protracted debate, ministers again evaded a parliamentary declaration of their illegality.

Feb. 9. The peruke-makers being in great distress from the employment of foreigners, and many people wearing their own hair, petition the king for relief. Several of the peruke-makers who attended gave such offence by their inconsistency in wearing their own hair, that they had it cut off by the populace.

14. Mr. Williams stood in the pillory for republishing the *North Briton*, No. 45. The spectators made a collection for him, amounting to 200 guineas.

19. An attorney asks pardon at the bar of the house of lords for arresting a peeress in her own right.

A brush-maker at Edinburgh marries a girl so nearly his own size, that together they only measure five feet eight inches in height, and about the same in breadth.

Mar. 3. The parliaments of France having begun to act in concert against the court, the king unexpectedly came to the great chamber of that of Paris, and holding a bed of justice, in which he expressed himself in the most authoritative style, prohibited all associations among the different parliaments.

9. The great law-suit, which for three years had been before the parliament of Paris, touching the unfortunate victim to fanaticism, John Calas, was decided.

14. The Bank of England declared a dividend of 2½ per cent. for the half year.

19. The king of Prussia founded an academy for the exclusive education of fifteen young noblemen.

22. Royal assent given to the American STAMP-ACT.

Apr. The king had an attack of the unfortunate malady which frequently visited him in the course of his reign. Upon recovering, the Regency Bill was introduced, when a question arose, “Who were the royal family?” which the law-lords explained to extend only to the descendants of George II. Ministers concurring in this interpretation, the name of the princess-dowager of Wales was omitted in the bill, but subsequently inserted at the instance of lord Bute. The king was offended at the omission of his mother's name, and a resolution formed at Carlton-house for the dismissal of ministers.

17. Lord Byron tried before the house of peers for killing Mr. Chaworth, and found guilty of manslaughter. Being privileged from burning in the hand, he was discharged on the payment of fees.

19. A blacksmith at Redriff, sitting at dinner with his family, was killed by a cannon-ball from a cannon, which at a neighbouring foundry had been put into the furnace without examination whether it was charged or not.

25. An act passed, prohibiting the issue of optional votes in Scotland, and of notes for less than 20s.

A young woman, whose age and that of her husband did not exceed forty-five years, presented the king of Prussia with nine fine boys, born in wedlock; upon which he gave her a gold medal of fifty ducats' value.

In this month died, in his 84th year, Dr. Young, the author of the “*Night Thoughts*” and “*The Revenge*.” Also Mr. Mallet, the author of a *Life of Bacon*.

May 3. Lord Clive arrived at Calcutta with full power to act as commander-in-chief, president and governor of Bengal. Court of Directors ordered that no servant of the Company should receive any present exceeding 1000 rupees without the consent of the council; and that all presents exceeding 4000 rupees should be paid over to the Company.

June 4. The Crown inn at Ware, the oldest in Hertfordshire, began to be pulled down in order to erect a gentleman's seat on the site. In this inn was the famous large bed in which 26 butchers and their wives slept on the night William III. came to the crown.

July 10. ROCKINGHAM MINISTRY.—After

many conferences and negotiations a new ministry was formed, at the head of which was the marquis of Rockingham, as first lord of the treasury; the duke of Grafton and Mr. Conway, secretaries of state; the duke of Newcastle, lord privy-seal; Mr. Dowdeswell, chancellor of the exchequer; lord Northington was continued chancellor, and lord Egmont first lord of the admiralty. The duke of Portland succeeded lord Gower, as lord chamberlain; and the subordinate offices of the boards of treasury, admiralty, and trade, were mostly filled with new men. Mr. Edmund Burke made his first appearance in public life, being made private secretary to the premier, and brought into parliament for Wendover.

16. Determined at the sessions at Guildhall that lock-up houses are only places of safety, not prisons.

Chief-justice Pratt raised to the peerage by the title of baron Camden.

23. In Lapland, 120 head of rein-deer in one herd were struck dead by lightning.

25. An old walnut-tree, which flourished before the door of Shakspeare's father at Stratford, was cut down, and several gentlemen had images carved from it, resembling that in Westminster Abbey.

Quassia-wood recommended by Linnæus in place of Jesuit's bark.

Aug. The pope issues a brief depriving murderers of sanctuary in churches.

Sept. The price of milk raised in London from three-halfpence to two-pence a quart.

A peruke-maker of York rode his own horse from that city to London, in 32 successive hours and 40 minutes, being 192 miles.

Oct. 31. Died of apoplexy, in his 45th year, the duke of Cumberland, uncle to the king. In politics his Grace was a whig, but since the convention of Closter Seven had not taken a prominent part in public life.

Nov. 1. The American stamp act commenced this day; but previously the colonists had shown the greatest hostility to its introduction. The persons who arrived from England to distribute the stamps were obliged either to relinquish their duty, on oath, or to quit the country. The merchants made engagements to receive no more goods from Britain, and all business which could not legally proceed without stamps was suspended.

Dec. 17. On the meeting of parliament the king adverts to the occurrences in America.

20. Died, the dauphin of France, aged 36. He was a prince of a benevolent character and of exemplary piety, but little known in public life.

The society of arts at Hamburgh offered premiums for two discoveries; the first for refining sugar without lime or bullock's

blood; the second for dyeing cotton equal in beauty to the Turkey scarlet.

23. Mr. Randall's draining-plough was worked in the Ings near York, and made drains one foot in depth, one foot eight inches wide at the top, and ten inches at bottom, both sides of the drain equally sloping; whereas the draining-plough hitherto invented can only make the drain slope on one side.

29. Died, in his 16th year, prince Frederick William, younger brother of the king.

30. Died at Rome, where he had resided near fifty years, in the 78th year of his age, James Francis Edward, only son of James II., king of England. He left two sons, Charles Edward Louis, the prince-pretender of 1745, born in 1720, and Henry cardinal York, born in 1725. He was interred in the church of the Holy Apostles at Rome, with all the insignia of royalty.

The sovereignty of the Isle of Man was this year purchased from the duke of Athol and the island made subject to the revenue laws of Britain.

TRADE WITH AMERICA.—The exports of England to America had increased from 1,554,866*l.* in 1761, to 2,228,450*l.* in 1765. The average amount of exports in these five years was 2,072,164*l.* The imports of England from America had increased from 787,978*l.* in 1761, to 1,104,690*l.* in 1765. The average amount of imports in these five years was 1,021,130*l.*

1766. Jan. 14. On the meeting of parliament the king's speech was almost solely occupied with the disputes with the colonies. The tables of both houses were covered with petitions complaining of the decay of trade consequent of the new laws made for America. The address passed without a division. Mr. Pitt took occasion to deny the right of parliament to tax America, but maintained its legislative supremacy.

Frederick V., king of Denmark, died, and was succeeded by Christian VI.

Mr. Quin the celebrated comedian died.

Feb. The number of blacks and whites in the American colonies, capable of bearing arms, estimated at 800,000.

There have been 523 changes of places, outs and ins, since the dismissal of Mr. Legge, chancellor of the Exchequer, May, 1761.

10. Ministers introduced five resolutions into the lords, asserting the full sovereignty of the mother country over the American colonies, and reprobating the resistance offered to the stamp act.

21. Resolved in the commons by 275 to 167 that the stamp act be repealed. A bill for this purpose was forthwith introduced, accompanied with another declaratory of the legislative sovereignty of England.

March 8. The prince of Orange, having

arrived at age, assumed the government of Holland as stadtholder.

18. The bills for the repeal of the stamp duty and declaratory of American dependence received the royal assent. Another popular measure was the repeal of the cider-tax.

23. An insurrection at Madrid in consequence of a royal edict against the wearing of long cloaks and flapped hats, the favourite costume of the Spaniards.

The parliament of Rouen sent a deputation to remonstrate with the French king for his treatment of the parliament of Brittany. Having in their remonstrance reminded the king of his coronation oath, implying a compact between sovereign and people, his majesty disclaimed their interpretation, by saying, "The oath which I have taken is not to the nation, as you take upon you to assert, but to God alone."

April 11. Above 100 convicts left Newgate for the plantations. As they were passing, with fifes playing before them "Thro' the wood, laddie," a gentleman remarked that they were very joyous; to which a convict replied, "Ay, so we are; and if you, master, will but go along with us you will be quite transported."—*Ann. Reg. ix., 85.*

An old practice was revived in the city at this time, of fellows going about with bottles of aquafortis, which, says the Annual Register, they sprinkle on people's clothes "as a high piece of humour!"

May 8. Count Lally, the late French commander in the East Indies, was beheaded at Paris. He had suffered three years' imprisonment before trial for misconduct in India. At the place of execution he was gagged; and though proud and passionate, is thought to have been the victim of court intrigues to screen the faults of others. He was in his 66th year.

June 2. The hay-makers assembled at the Royal Exchange to the number of 440, when a collection was made for them on account of the heavy rains, which prevented their getting work.

6. Parliament prorogued. From Feb. 19th to this day, the royal assent was given to 95 public and 101 private bills.

July. Advice of great rejoicings in America for the repeal of the stamp act. Subscriptions were raising for statues to Mr. Pitt. At Philadelphia resolutions were passed to celebrate the king's birth-day by appearing in new suits of English manufacture, and giving what "home-spun they had to the poor."

12. Mr. Pitt, by invitation, has a short interview with the king at Richmond, and receives unlimited powers to form a new ministry. In February he had been applied to by lord Rockingham, but appears (Letters of General Conway to his brother,

Lord Hertford) to have stood aloof, having privately formed too ambitious projects to act either equally or subordinately with an administration in whose measures notwithstanding he professed a general concurrence.

A man, for a wager, crossed the Thames opposite Somerset-house in a butcher's tray.

14. The new paving commenced at Temple-bar, when two English paviours undertook to pave more in that day than four Scotchmen. The English by three o'clock had got so much ahead that they went into a public house to refresh themselves, and afterwards returning to their work, beat the North Britons hollow.

Aug. 1. A popish bishop sent to Canada, agreeably to a secret engagement with France, the latter engaging in return not to aid the Pretender.

2. CHATHAM MINISTRY.—Mr. Pitt, having met with many unexpected refusals, at length completed his administration, himself taking a peerage and the office of lord privy-seal. Lord Camden was made chancellor in the room of lord Northington, transferred to the presidency of the council; the earl of Shelburne, one of the secretaries of state, Mr. Conway continuing in office as the other; the duke of Grafton, first lord of the treasury; Charles Townshend, chancellor of the exchequer and ministerial leader of the house of commons; Sir Charles Saunders replaced lord Egmont at the admiralty, and the earl of Hillsborough, lord Dartmouth, as first lord of trade. The Rockingham ministry had lasted one year and twenty days, and had the unusual merit of retiring without bargaining for "place, pension, or reversion."

The consumption of malt by brewers and publicans (exclusive of private families) estimated at 3,125,000 quarters.—*Annual Register, ix., 127.*

Sept. 11. A proclamation against forestallers and regraters.

26. The dividend on East India stock advanced from six to ten per cent., chiefly in consequence of the success of lord Clive in India.

The king of Portugal prohibits bequests to the clergy in prejudice of the lawful heir.

Oct. 1. The princess Caroline Matilda married at St. James's by proxy to the king of Denmark.

18. A remarkable trial at Hicks's-hall, wherein the mistress of the White-horse at Poplar, who for many years kept that house, dressed in man's clothes, served parish offices, and lived with another woman as her husband, was plaintiff, and one Barwick defendant. It appeared the defendant had extorted divers sums of money from the plaintiff for concealing her sex; he was convicted, sentenced to stand in the pillory, and to suffer four years' imprisonment.

27. By the last assize of bread, the peck loaf to weigh 17 lb. 6 oz.; wheaten 2s. 8d., household 2s. Wheat had risen to 48s. per quarter in Winchester market.

In the autumn riots broke out in various parts of the kingdom, in consequence of the dearth of provisions, and in several places the military were called in for their suppression. Many lives were lost, and special commissions issued for the trial of the rioters. Government at the same time took measures for remedying the scarcity, by abating the restrictions on the corn trade; the ports were opened for the importation of wheat, and an embargo (Sept. 26), by royal authority, laid on its export, parliament at the time being in a state of prorogation.

Nov. 11. Parliament opened by the king. Four amendments moved on the address were negatived.

18. A bill of indemnity introduced for the embargo imposed by an order of council. It was warmly debated in both houses. Alderman Beckford made the strange blunder of arguing for a suspensive power in the crown. It was justified by Chatham on the plea of necessity only. Lord Camden excited astonishment by taking the high ground of prerogative; while lord Mansfield took the contrary ground of the law and constitution.

Dec. 16. Parliament adjourned, after the royal assent had been given to the bill of indemnity for the advisers of the embargo.

1767. Jan. 6. Peter, the wild man, who was taken in the Hartz Forest when a youth and sent as a present to George II., was brought from Cheshunt to be seen by the royal family. He could, like Shakespeare's Caliban, fetch wood and water, but not articulate any language.

The winter unusually severe throughout Europe; even in Italy the cold was so intense as to drive the poor from their habitations in the country to seek shelter in the cities, many perishing on the roads.

23. The common-council of London voted 1000*l.* for the relief of the poor, and opened a book for voluntary donations.

The ruins of the city of Camelon, the capital of the ancient Pictish kingdom, discovered, within four miles of Perth.

Mar. 2. In the commons Mr. Grenville moved that the land-tax be reduced from 4s. to 3s. in the pound. This motion was carried against ministers by a majority of 206 to 188. It was the first money-bill in which any minister had been defeated since the revolution.

31. The jesuits forcibly expelled from Spain; 970 of them were conveyed to Italy. In May the parliament of Paris published an arrêt, declaring them foes to sovereigns and the tranquillity of states. At Naples the storm fell upon them in

November, and from that city and every port of the kingdom they were conveyed to the pope's territories.

May 6. The general court of India proprietors voted a dividend of 12½ per cent., which was rescinded (June 24) by an act of parliament, directing that future dividends shall be fixed by bailot in a court called for the purpose.

June 2. The chancellor of the exchequer introduces his resolutions for imposing duties upon glass, paper, tea, and other articles imported into America. They had the effect of reviving the differences between the mother country and her colonies.

The practice of crimping for the East India service was now common. Several were tried for illegally confining persons in lock-up houses in the metropolis; especially a noted one in Chancery-lane.

July 2. Parliament prorogued.

During the summer divisions in the ministry became apparent. Lord Chatham, who, though nominally at the head of the administration had, together with his popularity, lost much of his consequence, was reduced by ill health to a state which rendered him entirely incapable of business. Proposals were made to the marquis of Rockingham and the duke of Bedford; but these noblemen could not agree, the former requiring that general Conway, and the latter Mr. Rigby, should be leader of the commons. These negotiations continued to the end of the year.

In the course of the last session 94 public and 114 private bills received the royal assent.

15. Lord Clive arrived from India.

The archbishops of Canterbury and York issued circular letters to the clergy for a return of the number of papists, their ages and occupations, in their parishes.

Aug. 11. Ann Sowerby burnt at York for poisoning her husband.

Sept. 2. Mr. Charles Townshend, chancellor of the exchequer, died suddenly of putrid fever, in the forty-second year of his age. His office was filled, *pro tempore*, by chief-justice Mansfield.

14. Elizabeth Brownrigg executed at Tyburn for the murder of her apprentice, Mary Clifford.

17. The duke of York, next brother to the king, died at Monaco in Italy, in the 29th year of his age.

Oct. 14. Riots by the Spitalfields weavers, owing to a reduction of wages.

Nov. 14. The colliers at Stourbridge forced the farmers to sell their wheat at 5s. a bushel.

24. Parliament opened by the king.

Dec. 1. Lord North appointed chancellor of the exchequer: Mr. Thomas Townshend, afterwards viscount Sydney, succeeded his lordship, as joint paymaster of

the forces, and Mr. Townshend's place, as one of the lords of the treasury, was given to Mr. Charles Jenkinson, afterwards lord Hawkesbury and earl of Liverpool. These arrangements were made without communication with lord Chatham, whose composite ministry had silently fallen to pieces.

19. Earl Gower made lord president of the council.

20. Prayers were publicly read in all the popish chapels in Ireland for George III. and family; being the first time the royal family have been publicly prayed for by the catholics since the revolution of 1688.

The high price of provisions continued during this year to occasion much distress, and excited tumults in various parts of the kingdom.

Average price of the quartern loaf 8½d.

IRISH ABSENTEES.—By a list of absentees from Ireland it appeared there were paid annually to—

Pensioners who never reside there	£.	70,275
Noblemen and gentlemen, generally non-resident	}	247,400
Occasional absentees	.	134,500
Public officers, non-resident	.	143,000
Merchants' and traders' expenses	.	8,000
Education of youth, and at inns of court	}	35,000
Law-suits and seeking employment	.	19,000
Military absentees	.	142,205
American absentees	.	40,000
Insurance of ships	.	30,000
By rents raised for coals to Britain	}	200,000
		£1,069,380

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It was calculated that the number of cattle, &c. killed in London in one year, was as follows:—

Sheep and Lambs	.	711,121
Bulls, Oxen, and Cows	.	78,254
Calves	.	104,760
Hogs for Pork	.	146,932
Ditto for Bacon	.	41,000
Sucking Pigs	.	52,000

MORTALITY IN WORKHOUSES.—The great mortality of children in the London workhouses had for some time fixed the attention of philanthropists. By an act of this year, amending a former statute, it is provided, that all parish poor within the bills of mortality, under six years of age, shall be registered; that all such children within a fortnight after birth, or received into the workhouse, shall be sent to a distance of at least three miles from London and Westminster to be nursed; that premiums shall be given to good nurses; and that 2s. 6d. a week shall be allowed for the maintenance of each child till it is six years of age; and not less than 2s. from that time to the

period the child is taken away. Dr. Price remarks, that prior to this statute almost all parish children in the metropolis died in the first six years.

1768. Jan. 5. The military called in to quell the tumults of the Spitalfields weavers.

14. The severe frost, which had continued from the 21st ult. broke up.

20. GRAFTON MINISTRY.—Lord Weymouth appointed secretary of state in the room of general Conway, who, on retiring from the cabinet, succeeded viscount Townshend in the office of lieutenant-general of the ordnance. On the same day the earl of Hillsborough was appointed secretary of state for the colonies, a new office, which the increased importance of colonial affairs was thought to render expedient. These appointments completed the Grafton ministry, and temporarily satisfied the different sections of politicians, though not fundamentally differing from the preceding administration.

29. The republic of Venice issued a decree forbidding the religious orders to receive any new noviciate for twenty years.

Feb. 2. Royal assent given to an act for limiting the duration of the parliaments of Ireland, which had hitherto been only terminated with a demise of the crown. They were limited to eight years, and as their sittings were only every second winter, four sessions only were allotted them for the transaction of business.

16. Died, Arthur Onslow, esq., who was 33 years speaker of the house of commons: he was the third of his family who had been nominated to that office.

Mar. 5. The Polish diet having settled matters amicably with Russia terminated its sitting, and the Russian troops evacuated Poland.

10. Parliament prorogued, and two days after dissolved. In the course of the session 112 public and private bills received the royal assent.

12. Six students of Edmund-hall, Oxford, were expelled the university, for methodism, taking upon them to pray, expound the Scriptures, and sing hymns, in a private house.

19. DEATH OF STERNE.—Died in his 55th year, of pulmonary consumption, the author of "Tristram Shandy" and the "Sentimental Journey." Mr. Sterne, like most distinguished writers, freely availed himself of the productions of others, but his general claims to originality are indisputable. His works must continue to be popular with humourists, and with that large class of readers, who test the morality of human actions, not by their consequences, but the fluctuating standard of impulsive feeling. There may be mischief in the exclusive dominion of either reason or sen-

timent—one tending to excessive selfishness, the other to folly and caprice.

AFFAIR OF WILKES.—Mr. Wilkes, who had been almost forgotten, was brought into notice by the general election. His outlawry had obliged him to reside on the continent, whence he had written to the duke of Grafton, entreating him to mediate his pardon with the king. His application being disregarded, he ventured, on the dissolution of parliament, to come over and offer himself a candidate for the city of London. A large show of hands declared in his favour, but he was the last on the poll (23rd inst.); upon which he offered himself for Middlesex, and was returned by a large majority on the 28th inst. Immediately after his election he made his appearance in the court of King's-bench, when the question of his committal on his sentence of outlawry was discussed. He was eventually ordered into custody, but it was not till he had been first rescued by the mob, and had made his escape from them and surrendered himself, that he was at length safely lodged in the King's-bench prison, where he was at the meeting of parliament. On that day (May 10th) the populace assembled in great force, with the determination of conveying him in triumph to the house of commons. Being disappointed, a dreadful tumult ensued; the riot act was read, or rather attempted to be read; and the soldiers having been ordered to fire, five or six persons were killed and about fifteen wounded. The conduct of the soldiers received public thanks from the highest authority, whilst the title of the *Massacre of St. George's Fields* was popularly given to the action.

30. A premium of fifty guineas awarded by the society of arts to Mr. Evers for his invention of a machine for threshing and grinding of corn, both at the same time, or each separately.

At the Surrey assizes lord Baltimore was tried for a rape, and acquitted.

The Germans introduced roasted rye as a substitute for coffee.

Apr. 15. A house at Peterborough being opened for inoculating with the small-pox, the mob rose to prevent the spreading, as they said, of a new distemper, and demolished it.

25. A riot among the coal-heavers in Wapping. They complained that their masters curtailed them of their wages; paying them in liquor and goods of inferior quality, in lieu of money. Several lives were lost.

May 9. Died at his house in Orchard-street, Westminster, in his 47th year, Bonnell Thornton, esq., an essayist of genuine humour, who, in conjunction with the elder Colman, established the "Connoisseur."

10. The new parliament assembled.

During the whole session the standing order for the exclusion of strangers was strictly enforced in both houses.

A body of sailors passed through the city to petition parliament for an augmentation of wages.

21. Parliament prorogued. No business of public importance was transacted in this short session.

June 1. At Boston, in Lincolnshire, the mob compelled the butchers to sell their meat at 3d. per lb.

8. The outlawry of Mr. Wilkes reversed by the judges of the King's-bench.

18. Mr. Wilkes sentenced to pay a fine of 500*l.* and be imprisoned ten calendar months, for the republication of the *North Briton*, No. 45, and for publishing the *Essay on Woman* to pay a fine of 500*l.* and be imprisoned twelve calendar months.

During the last month and up to the present, the metropolis had been disturbed by unceasing riots and tumultuous processions, originating in the proceedings of Wilkes, and in disputes respecting wages. Individuals were assaulted in the streets, and attempts made to demolish their houses. The sailors and coal-heavers used to meet, armed with deadly weapons, in Stepney-fields, where dreadful fights ensued, in which some were killed and many wounded.

July 11. Mr. Gillom, one of the magistrates who ordered the military to fire, on the 10th of May, tried for murder and acquitted.

13. The house (formerly the residence of the bishop of London) of Mr. Seddon, the eminent cabinet-maker, Aldersgate-street, burnt down; damages 20,000*l.* Mr. Seddon had omitted to renew his insurance, but the *Sun* fire-office presented him with 5000*l.*

26. Seven coal-heavers executed at Tyburn for a riotous murder.

Aug. 2. In France grain was allowed to be freely imported and exported.

5. Died at Lambeth, aged 75, Thomas Secker, archbishop of Canterbury. The united ages of the ten archbishops, from the restoration, average 68 years. Dr. Secker was succeeded in the primacy by Dr. Frederic Cornwallis, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.

6. Mr. Banks, Dr. Solander, and Mr. Green, the astronomer, set out for Deal, to embark on board the *Endeavour*, captain Cook, on a voyage of discovery.

9. A violent distemper raging among the horned cattle in Denmark, Sweden and Holstein, an order of council issued prohibiting the import of hides, hoofs or horns from these countries.

Sept. 6. The guards removed from the King's-bench prison, having been quartered there since April.

23. The king of Denmark dines with the

lord mayor, sir Robert Ladbrooke. The expense of his majesty's table at St. James's was defrayed by George III., and averaged 8*l.* per diem, exclusive of wine.

Oct. 10. The first stone of the Leeds infirmary laid by Edwin Lascelles, esq., one of the county members.

15. Lord Chatham resigned the privy seal; an office which he had long only nominally filled. His retirement passed without notice, being expected by the ministry, little regarded by the people, and almost unknown to the continent; forming a remarkable contrast with the sensation produced by his dismissal in 1757, and his resignation in 1761. He was succeeded by Harvey, earl of Bristol.

21. The earl of Shelburne resigned, and was succeeded by lord Weymouth, to whom the earl of Rochford was appointed successor.

Nov. 8. Parliament opened by the king. The debates on the address have not been preserved.

17. Died, Thomas Pelham Holles, duke of Newcastle, in the 76th year of his age. His grace had played a bustling if not a brilliant part in the political transactions of the last half century.

Dec. 18. The Academy of Arts founded by the king, for the encouragement of painting and sculpture. Joshua Reynolds the first president.

21. The king of Sweden, after a severe struggle with an oligarchical senate, which had equally usurped the prerogatives of the monarch and the franchises of the people, convoked the states of the kingdom, as a prelude to future changes.

The republic of Genoa, finding its efforts for the recovery of Corsica baffled by general Paoli and other patriots, concluded a treaty in this summer with the French court, by which that island was conditionally ceded to France.

The American colonies continued in a very perturbed state. Attempts were made to form a convention of the colonies; serious tumults broke out in Boston; and general Gage arrived in September with two regiments from Ireland, to preserve tranquillity.

1769. Jan. 2. Gold rose 1*s.* an ounce, silver in proportion. Gold sold at 4*l.* 2*s.*, silver 5*s.* 10*d.*

Feb. 2. Mr. Wilkes expelled the house of commons by a majority of 219 to 137.

11. A subscription opened at Cambridge, for a poor clergyman at Brandon in Suffolk, who, by two wives, has had 28 children, and whose income is 65*l.* a year for the service of two churches, nine miles apart, and the teaching of a free school besides.

13. Both houses addressed the king on the critical state of affairs in America; approving, however, the coercive course of ministers.

16. Mr. Wilkes re-elected for Middlesex.

17. Declared incapable of sitting in the house of commons by a majority of 235 to 89.

Mar. 2. Provision made for the payment of the arrears of the civil list, amounting to 500,000*l.* It was the first of those ex-cceedings in the royal expenditure which frequently occurred in the present reign.

16. Mr. Wilkes re-elected a third time for Middlesex.

17. The house of commons declare the election void, and order a new writ to be issued. This unremitting warfare of authority against an individual had the natural effect of inflaming the popular zeal in his favour; subscriptions were raised for his support, and a meeting of the freeholders of Middlesex was called, at which some members of parliament attended, when it was resolved to re-elect him free of expense.

April. Sieur Bougainville, the French circumnavigator, returned from his voyage of discovery in the South Sea. Though absent nearly three years he lost only seven of his men by sickness, which he ascribed to the use of distilled water, lemonade, and the ventilation of his ship.

4. Hyder Ali, the adventurous Indian chief, marched to Madras, and forced the English to conclude a treaty with him, stipulating for a restitution of conquests.

An act of parliament passed this month, allowing the East India company to hold the territorial revenues for five years, paying 400,000*l.* per ann. to government. Col. Ford and Messrs. Vansittart and Sraffton were appointed supervisors to proceed to India with full powers. They sailed from England, but were never more heard of; ship supposed to be lost.

13. A fresh election for Middlesex. On this occasion ministers had procured a military candidate, colonel Luttrell, who was not to be intimidated by popular tumult from appearing on the hustings. The election proceeded quietly, and terminated in 1143 votes for Mr. Wilkes, and 296 for colonel Luttrell.

14. The house of commons again declared the election of John Wilkes, esq., null and void.

16. After long debates, which lasted till three o'clock in the morning, colonel Luttrell was declared duly elected. This decision produced more general discontent than any measure since the commencement of this reign, the popular party regarding it as a flagrant violation of the freedom of election, to seat a candidate by an arbitrary vote of the house, who had only an inconsiderable minority in his favour. The ferment spread from the metropolis throughout the kingdom, and numerous petitions were carried at public meetings of counties and towns requesting the king to dissolve parliament. On the other hand, addresses were

procured by the ministerial party, expressing detestation of factious proceedings, and approving the measures of government.

17. The king visited farmer Kennet of Petersham, in Surrey, to see his new invented ploughs and other improvements in husbandry.

27. The Society of Arts adjudged a gold medal to Arthur Young, esq., for his mode of rearing and fattening hogs.

Hay-hill (now Hill-street, Berkeley-square) sold for 20,000*l.* Queen Anne granted it to the speaker of the house of commons, which causing a clamour, as being a bribe, the speaker sold it for 200*l.*, and gave the proceeds to the poor.

In the Swedish diet, which opened this month at Norrköping, a secret committee brought twenty-four articles of accusation against the senate, the consequence of which was the degradation of all its members except two.

May 8. The commons, after hearing counsel in support of the Middlesex petition against the return of colonel Luttrell, reiterated their former resolution, that he was duly elected. Next day parliament was prorogued.

19. Cardinal Ganganelli proclaimed pope under the title of Clement XIV.

24. The Middlesex petition presented to the king. It was signed by 1565 freeholders, who were supposed to be possessed of above two-thirds of the property in the county.

June 6. The Society of the Bill of Rights reported that the debts of Mr. Wilkes amount to 17,000*l.* A subscription opened for their liquidation.

July. The pope ordered the city of Rome to be purged of all vagabonds, and appointed two houses to receive them for the purpose of classification.

The number of negro slaves bartered for in one year (1768) on the coast of Africa, from Cape Blanco to Rio Congo, by the different European nations, were as follows:—Britain 53,000; British America 6300; France 23,520; Holland 11,300; Portugal 1700; Denmark 1200: in all 104,100, bought at an average of about 15*l.* each.

Aug. 29. The electors of Westminster assembled in Westminster-hall to petition the king for a dissolution of parliament. Meetings of freeholders, in most counties, were held for a similar purpose.

A woman was lately arrested at Vienna, charged with having killed above 100 children. Her employment was to nurse at her own house, the children of women who themselves were nurses in great families, and also the infants of such as did not choose to own them. It was her custom to get some months' board paid her in advance, and in a short time after she came to tell the mother of the death of her child,

Sept. 6. A jubilee at Stratford in honour of Shakspeare.

24. General Paoli presented to the king at St. James's.

A duel was fought in Ireland, between Henry Flood and James Agar, esqrs., in which Mr. Agar was shot dead.

Oct. 7. Another severe engagement between the cutters of Spitalfields and the military, in which five of the former were killed, and many wounded.

10. The livery of London passed resolutions, inculcating Henry lord Holland, late paymaster, of not having satisfactorily closed his accounts, and of having held balances of public money to profit by the interest.

23. M. Barretti, a foreigner and literary character, was tried for murder at the Old-bailey, and acquitted. It arose from an affray occasioned by a girl of the town, in which Barretti in his own defence mortally stabbed a man. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Dr. Johnson, Messrs. Beauclerc, Goldsmith, Burke, and Garrick, appeared in favour of the character of the accused.

It appears, that from 1748 to 1769, 10,471 prisoners have been tried at the Old-bailey.

24. Mungo Campbell, an excise officer, shot Lord Eglington, who had attempted to disarm him when shooting on his lordship's grounds.

Nov. A patient in the London-hospital had his arm amputated at the shoulder-joint; an operation which had not been performed in England these twenty years.

10. The long-agitated cause between lord Halifax and Mr. Wilkes, respecting the seizure of the person and papers of the latter, was decided in the Common-pleas, before chief-justice Wilmot. After a full hearing, the jury brought in a verdict for the plaintiff, with 4000*l.* damages; and it was thought the jury would have given a larger sum, had it not transpired that Halifax had, before his resignation in 1765, obtained a privy-seal warrant, guaranteeing to him all the expenses attending this prosecution.

The king of Portugal issued an edict by which widows above 50 years of age were forbidden to marry: "Because," says the edict, "experience has shown that women of that age commonly marry young men of no property, who dissipate the fortunes which such marriages put them in possession of, to the prejudice of the children and other near relations of their wives."

Dec. During the autumn, violent disturbances had taken place among the weavers of Spitalfields, on account of wages, in the course of which the manufacture was often cut from the loom, and other outrages committed. Some of the cutters being apprehended, two of them were convicted,

and ordered to be executed at Bethnal-green. But some doubt relative to the legality of altering the place of execution having arisen, the judges were consulted, who gave it as their opinion that the king had a right to fix the place of execution. Accordingly the sentence was executed, in the midst of a riotous assembly, by the civil power only, the sheriffs having declined the assistance of the military.

3. A list of pensions laid before the Irish parliament; from which it appears that those on the civil-list only amounted to 81,096*l*.

26. Lord Townshend, the viceroy of Ireland, suddenly prorogued the parliament to a distant day, leaving affairs in great confusion. This was done in resentment of the conduct of the Irish house of commons, in rejecting a money-bill sent over in October by the English privy-council, in assertion of a right claimed under Poynning's law, by which no bills are to pass in Ireland that have not been previously ratified by the English privy-council.

The contest of the Corsicans for their independence was in this year terminated by their total subjugation. The sovereign-council of the island was suppressed, and Corsica in all respects considered a part of the French dominions.

The French East India Company was declared bankrupt, and the trade thrown open.

1770. *Jan. 9. MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.*—The king opened parliament with a speech, calling their attention to the distemper that had broken out among the *horned cattle*, and the disorders in the colonies, but made no allusion to the Middlesex election. An amendment to the address was moved, to inquire "into the causes of the present unhappy discontents," which was negatived by 254 to 138. The original address was defended, in a maiden speech, by Charles James Fox, afterwards the celebrated leader of the opposition. In the lords the original address was carried by 203 to 36. Lord Chatham and lord-chancellor Camden voted in the minority. The health of the former had been in an unexpected degree restored, after an almost total secession from business for nearly two years.

16. Lord Camden requested to deliver up the seals to the king. Next day they were delivered to Charles Yorke, who had been attorney-general in the Bute and Rockingham ministries. Several resignations followed these changes.

17. Sir John Cust resigned the speakership of the commons, and died on the 22nd instant. He was succeeded by sir Fletcher Norton, who a short time before had been appointed to the sinecure place of one of the chief justices-in-Eyre.

20. Died by his own hands, in the 48th

year of his age, lord-chancellor Yorke. Mr. Yorke was to have been ennobled, by the title of baron Morden, but his death took place before his patent of peerage was completed. He was the second son of the late lord-chancellor Hardwicke; and his suicide is ascribed to remorse in not observing a promise he made to his elder brother, to refuse any offers of the court. The great seal, after being refused by the two chief-justices, was put in commission.

22. On a motion for an inquiry into the state of the nation, the earl of Chatham expressed himself in favour of a reform of the county representation. But national confidence was lost, and none of the patriotic ebullitions of his lordship ever recovered for him the splendid position he once held in public estimation.

28. The duke of Grafton unexpectedly resigned his post of first lord of the treasury. His grace was educated a whig, and commenced his career under the auspices of Chatham. His public character appears to have been unfairly depreciated by the malignant invectives of Junius.

LORD NORTH'S MINISTRY.—The resignation of the duke of Grafton made a reconstruction of the ministry necessary. Lord North was now placed at the head of the government, with the office of first lord of the treasury, in addition to that he had for two years held, of chancellor of the exchequer. His premiership lasted 12 years, and brought to a close the long series of rapid changes that had occurred in the present reign. With the exception of the Pelham ministry, it was the first stable government the country had had since the overthrow of sir Robert Walpole, twenty-eight years before. For the most part, however, the new ministry was a continuation of that of the duke of Grafton. The earl of Halifax, as lord privy-seal, was the only new name introduced into the cabinet, and in the subordinate places of government the changes were few. The subjoined exhibits the state of the ministry, as completed in the following month of May:—*Premier*, Lord North.

President of the Council, Earl Gower.

Lord Privy-Seal, Earl of Halifax.

First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Edward Hawke.

Secretaries of State, Lords Weymouth and Rochford.

Colonial Secretary, Earl of Hillsborough.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Lord Stanley.

Secretary-at-War, Viscount Barrington.

Paymaster-General of the Forces, Richard Rigby, Esq.

Treasurer of the Navy, Sir Gilbert Elliot.

Postmasters-General, Lords Le Despencer and Sandwich.

Attorney-General, William De Grey, Esq.
Solicitor-General, Edward Thurlow, Esq.
Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, General Conway.

Viceroy of Ireland, Viscount Townshend.

Charles James Fox, the second son of lord Holland, was a junior lord of the admiralty; and Charles Jenkinson, afterwards the earl of Liverpool, a junior lord of the treasury, in the North ministry.

Feb. 2. Forty-eight peers make a public declaration, that they will not cease their efforts until they have obtained full justice to the electors of Britain, injured by the disqualifying resolution of the house of commons on the Middlesex election. Among the names signing this declaration, were those of Richmond, Devonshire, Rockingham, Chatham, Thanet, Radnor, Temple, Fitzwilliam, Grosvenor, King, and Tankerville. Notwithstanding this, the political excitement which had prevailed in the two preceding years, began to subside under the new ministry, whose strength consisted in unity of sentiment. Ostensibly the several sections of the opposition, under Chatham, Rockingham, and George Grenville, had been reconciled, but little of the union, which held together the ministerial forces, reigned in their camp. From the first, the new ministry was supported by large majorities in both houses, while the opposition every session became less numerous and united.

3. A riot at Chirk to oppose the militia-act.

9. A splendid entertainment at the Mansion-house. The dukes of Devonshire and Bolton, sir George Saville, and Edmund Burke, esq. among the guests.

11. A motion made in the commons to disqualify certain revenue-officers from voting at elections, was negatived by the efforts of the minister. Also a motion for the production of accounts of the civil-list expenditure.

12. A very full house of commons—451 members present. By a list in the "Court Calendar," 192 held places under the government.

18. During divine service at St. Keven, in Cornwall, the lightning shivered the steeple and threw it upon the body of the church. Many of the congregation had their clothes singed, and some their watches melted.

26. Mungo Campbell convicted of the murder of lord Eglington. He afterwards committed suicide by hanging himself in the Tolbooth.

Mar. 5. Lord North moved that the obnoxious port-duties, imposed in 1767 on the Americans, be repealed, excepting the duty on tea. The tea-duty, which was only 3d. in the pound, and produced only 16,000*l.* per

annum, was avowedly maintained on the principle of asserting the legislative supremacy of Britain. An amendment to repeal the tea-duty was negatived by 204 to 142.

News soon after arrived of an attack on the king's troops by the people of Boston on the 5th instant, the day the minister brought forward his conciliatory proposition.

7. Mr. Grenville introduced his bill for regulating the proceedings of the house in CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS. It passed into a law; and provided that instead of deciding contested elections at the bar of the house, committees should be nominated by ballot to determine upon each case, and the members be sworn to strict impartiality.

Some gentlemen, encouraged by the Society of Arts, made experiments near Kew, to hatch eggs in heated dung, after the Egyptian fashion. Their first attempts did not succeed, owing, it was supposed, to damp: they succeeded in small quantities.

11. About three in the morning, the Chester mail was robbed between London and Islington by a single highwayman, who was soon after detected negotiating a bill, the payment of which had been stopped. He was a young man, had just taken a grocer's shop, and was about to be married.

14. The corporation of London present a remonstrance to the king. Remonstrances were also presented from Westminster and other places. They were received, and given to the lord in waiting, and no answer returned.

23. A joint address from the lords and commons, deprecatory of the city remonstrance.

Apr. 7. The synagogue of the Jews advertised a reward for the detection of all such of their brethren as receive stolen goods.

17. Mr. Wilkes discharged from prison after giving bond for his good behaviour for seven years. A very general illumination on the night of his liberation. His debts had been previously paid or compromised by the Society of the Bill of Rights, of which Mr. Tooke was chairman.

21. The king signified his disapprobation of the conduct of the military interfering to rescue general Gansell while under arrest for debt.

24. Mr. Wilkes declared eligible to the office of alderman of Farringdon Without, to which he had been previously elected.

26. At the masquerade given by Arthur's club, at the Opera-house, upwards of 1200 of the nobility and gentry were present.

30. Sir Robert Bernard returned for Westminster free of expense, in the room of Mr. Sandys, now lord Sandys.

May 1. A motion of lord Chatham, de-

claring the expulsion of Mr. Wilkes from the commons illegal, negatived by 89 to 43.

8. Mr. Burke moved a series of resolutions, condemning the policy of ministers towards America: negatived by a majority of 199 to 79.

14. An address, moved by Chatham to the king to dissolve parliament, negatived. 18. Parliament prorogued.

23. CITY ADDRESS TO THE KING.—Another address was presented to the king from the corporation of London, in which they lamented the royal displeasure they had incurred in consequence of their former remonstrance, to the sentiments of which they, nevertheless, expressed their adherence; and again prayed for a dissolution of parliament. His majesty, in answer, said that he "should have been wanting to the public, as well as to himself, had he made such an use of the prerogative as was inconsistent with the interest, and dangerous to the constitution of the kingdom." The lord-mayor Beckford, a man of fearless spirit, and much democratic pride, demanded leave to answer the KING. In the momentary confusion which this demand occasioned, permission was granted; and, with great presence of mind and fluency of language, he delivered an extempore address to his majesty, concluding in the following words:—"Permit me, Sir, further to observe, that whoever has already dared, or shall hereafter endeavour, by false insinuations and suggestions, to alienate your majesty's affections from your loyal subjects in general, and from the city of London in particular, and to withdraw your confidence from, and regard for, your people, is an enemy to your majesty's person and family, a violator of the public peace, and a *betrayeur of our happy constitution as it was established at the glorious and necessary revolution.*" The lord-mayor waited near a minute for a reply, but none was given. "The king," says Mr. Belsham, "who was accused of the indecorum of laughing at the former address, now reddened with anger and astonishment." But when the lord-mayor went up to St. James's a few days after (30th instant), with the customary congratulations on the birth of a princess, the lord-chamberlain came into the ante-chamber with a paper in his hand, and read to the following effect:—"As your lordship thought fit to speak to his majesty after his answer to the late remonstrance, I am to acquaint your lordship, as it was unusual, his majesty desires that nothing of the kind may happen for the future."

31. First stone laid of the new gaol at the Old Bailey.

31. DREADFUL ACCIDENT.—On a grand exhibition of fireworks at Paris, to commemorate the marriage of the dauphin with

the archduchess Maria Antoinetta, of Austria, 3000 persons were killed or wounded (*Annual Register*, xiii., 113). This dreadful catastrophe arose from some of the fire falling among the spectators, which occasioned an alarm and pressure in the assembled multitude. The number of dead amounted to 712.

June 13. TRIAL OF WOODFALL.—A political writer, under the signature of JUNIUS, had, since January, 1769, excited attention by letters in the newspapers, distinguished as well by the force and elegance of their style, as the virulence of their attacks on individuals. Of these compositions, the most celebrated is an address to the king, in a letter first printed in the "Public Advertiser" of December 19th, exhibiting a striking picture of his administration. Its appearance drew upon Woodfall, the publisher, an *ex-officio* prosecution; the author himself remaining, as he has ever since done, concealed. On the trial, lord Mansfield informed the jury that they had nothing to do with the *intention* of the writer, their province was limited to the *fact* of publishing, and whether a proper construction was put on the blanks in the paper of the information; the *truth or falsehood* of the alleged libel was wholly immaterial. The jury, however, after being out nine hours, found a verdict of guilty of *printing and publishing only*, which was, in effect, an acquittal. Some of the printers and vendors of the letter were brought in guilty, and punished with fine and imprisonment, but others were acquitted.

23. Died, in his 49th year, Mark Akenside, author of the "Pleasures of the Imagination."

Lord Grosvenor recovered 10,000*l.* damages, in an action of crim-con. against the duke of Cumberland. Damages were laid at 100,000*l.*

July 5. The Russian fleet encountering that of the Turks in the channel of Scio, and the ships of the hostile admirals engaging yard-arm and yard-arm grappled together, both caught fire and blew up. Afterwards the Turks retired into the little bay of Cisme, on the coast of Natolia, into which, in the following night, the Russians sent fire-ships, that utterly destroyed their whole fleet.

To complete the disasters of the Ottoman empire, this year the plague broke out in Constantinople, and the celebrated Ali Bey, the governor of Egypt, threw off the Turkish yoke.

27. Great fire in Portsmouth dock-yard; damages, 149,880*l.* As the fire broke out in several places at once, it was suspected to be the work of an incendiary, and a reward of 1000*l.* was offered by the Admiralty.

Aug. 2. The Russians, under Romanow, gain a great victory over the Turks on the Pruth.

17. The 36th part of the king's moiety of the New River water-works was sold by public auction at Garraway's coffee-house for 6700*l*.

25. Died in London, of poison administered by himself, in the 18th year of his age, the unfortunate Thomas Chatterton, a native of Bristol. Extreme destitution is the cause commonly assigned for the untimely death of this wayward but singularly-gifted poet.

27. Died, in his 72nd year, Dr. John Jortin, an eminent divine of the church of England, and author of the "Remarks on Ecclesiastical History."

Sept. The city of Dantzic, hitherto deemed under the protection of Poland, was surprised by a body of Prussians and the garrison made prisoners. The pretence of this was, that the Dantzickers had refused to pass, without examination, some casks of silver sent to the Prussian resident. The city was compelled to pay 75,000 ducats, and make some humiliating concessions to purchase forgiveness of the rapacious monarch of Prussia.

30. Died, at Newbury-port in America, in the 56th year of his age, George Whitefield, the founder of the Calvinistic methodists. He possessed extraordinary natural eloquence, but was inferior to Mr. Wesley in grasp of intellect and even scholarship.

Oct. 27. Warrants issued for the imprisonment of seamen.

Nov. 13. Parliament opened by the king. On the same day died, Mr. George Grenville. By his death one of the divisions of the opposition was left without a leader and some of the principal of them went over to the court.

27. A motion made to restrain the power of the attorney-general in filing informations *ex officio*, was negatived by a majority of 164 to 72.

28. A sharp altercation in the lords on the late charge of Mansfield to the jury on the trial of Woodfall. The chief-justice and lord Camden were at direct issue; but Mansfield evaded a regular contest with the ex-chancellor, contenting himself with placing a paper in the hands of the clerk, containing the unanimous judgment of the court on the occasion.

Dec. 3. Lord-mayor Crosby refuses to back the press-warrants, alleging that the city bounty was intended to prevent such violence.

The net expense of building Blackfriars bridge ascertained to be 152,840*l*.

DISPUTE ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.—The seizure of the Falkland Islands by the Spaniards caused an augmentation of the

army and navy. After some negotiation the affair was settled by the restoration of the islands to the English, but with a secret arrangement, as is understood, that they should be eventually given up to Spain. In point of fact they were evacuated by England three years after. The affair was the subject of much parliamentary debate, and some ministerial changes, but not such as to alter the political cast of the administration.

FRANCE.—The differences between the court and the parliaments increased. The duke d'Aiguillon having made himself obnoxious by his government of Britany, he was complained of to the crown. The duke was brought to trial before the peers and the parliament of Paris. The trial seemed to go against d'Aiguillon, when the king suddenly interfered and put a stop to the proceedings. The princes of the blood expressed their disapprobation, and the parliament forbade the duke from appearing among them. The king annulled this arrêt. The parliaments of other provinces remonstrated, but the king was inexorable, and took violent measures against them. Officers of the army were sent to compel the registering of the royal edicts, or to tear in pieces the arrêts of the parliament, and to banish or imprison some of the members.

A terrible famine this year desolated Bengal, in which one-third of the population perished.

1771. Jan. MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—The earl of Halifax succeeded lord Weymouth in his secretaryship, and the earl of Suffolk became lord privy-seal. Lord Sandwich was placed at the head of the Admiralty, vice sir Edward Hawke. Judge Bathurst was promoted to the chancellorship, with the title of baron Apsley. Mr. de Grey being made chief-justice of the common-pleas was succeeded in the attorney-generalship by Mr. Thurlow, the solicitor-general, who was succeeded by Mr. Alexander Wedderburne, afterwards baron Loughborough and earl of Rosslyn.

2. The death of the duke of Argyle having caused a vacancy in the representative peerage of Scotland, the earl of Stair, the court candidate, was chosen. The earl of Selkirk and thirteen other noblemen signed a protest against the return, on the ground of the interference of ministers in the election, by circular letters, which, though couched in terms of simple good wishes for the candidate approved, were meant to be compulsory on all who expected favours from the administration.

Feb. NEWSPAPER REPORTING.—About the commencement of this year the newspapers began to report the parliamentary debates. Before this time they had only

been given in monthly magazines and other periodicals published at considerable intervals. The idea of daily reporting them was an innovation on the former practice and in direct violation of the standing orders of the house. A complaint on this ground having been made on the 8th inst. by a member against two of the printers, an order was issued for their attendance, with which they refused to comply; and on one of them being arrested in the city, under the authority of the speaker's warrant, he was carried before alderman Wilkes, who, regarding the caption as illegal, discharged him. Two more printers being apprehended and carried before lord-mayor Crosby and aldermen Oliver and Wilkes, they also were discharged, and the messenger of the commons held to bail for false imprisonment. The house of commons, enraged at this during contempt of their authority, committed their two members, Crosby and Oliver, to the Tower. A committee was appointed by ballot, to consider the most advisable mode of further proceeding; after sitting till April 30th, it made a report, that one of the printers should be taken into the custody of the serjeant-at-arms. Nothing further being suggested, the house burst into a roar of laughter at such an impotent conclusion. Eventually the matter was suffered to drop; aldermen Crosby and Oliver walked out of the Tower at the end of the session, and ever since the printers have reported parliamentary proceedings.

12. Died suddenly, Adolphus Frederick, king of Sweden. He was succeeded by Gustavus III., who was then at Paris. A general election taking place soon after, for members of the diet, the majority returned were of the country party or *cups*, who were in opposition to the court party or *hats*, who were favourable to an arbitrary monarchy.

April 9. The Society of the Bill of Rights held a large meeting, at which was a violent altercation, chiefly on money matters, between alderman John Wilkes and the rev. John Horne, which ended in a motion to dissolve the society.

May 1. With reference to the committal of the messengers of the house of commons by the city magistrates, a committee of the house reported, first, that there is no instance of any court or magistrate having presumed to commit, during the sitting of parliament, an officer of the house for executing the orders of the house. Secondly, that there is no instance of the house having suffered any person committed by the order of the house, to be discharged during the same session by any authority whatsoever, without again committing such person. The city magistrates had, on the 22nd and 30th ult., applied to

the superior courts to be discharged, but were remanded.

3. Licence granted for opening a theatre at Liverpool.

6. Parliament prorogued. The liberation of the lord-mayor and alderman Crosby from the Tower, was celebrated by a grand illumination in the city.

June. Three fourths of the property in Sadler's Wells sold for 7000*l*.

8. Died, George Montagu Dunk, earl of Halifax, secretary of state. He was succeeded by the earl of Suffolk, whose place of privy-seal was filled by the duke of Grafton, the late prime minister.

July 1. Alderman Wilkes elected one of the sheriffs of London by a large majority. At night his opponent, Mr. Horne (afterwards Tooke), was burnt in effigy before the Mansion-house.

13. Lieut. Cook returns from his first voyage of discovery, after an absence of two years and eleven months.

Sept. 3. An unsuccessful attempt made by a party of the Confederates to carry off the king of Poland, who was viewed as an intruder imposed by foreign force.

18. A young fellow was tried at the Old Bailey for felony, and acquitted at twelve o'clock; at two he was detected picking a gentleman's pocket, carried before sir John Fielding, and before three found himself safely lodged in Newgate.

Twenty-five causes pending in Doctors' Commons for adultery and crim.-con.; a greater number than had been in the Ecclesiastical Court fifty years before.

Oct. 4. The duke of Cumberland married to Mrs. Horton, a widow lady and sister to colonel Luttrell, at her house in Hertford-street, Mayfair. For this marriage the duke was forbid the court.

The property of suitors in the court of Chancery declared to amount to 5,300,000*l*.

21. Died in his 51st year, in the neighbourhood of Leghorn, TOBIAS SMOLLETT, M.D., a writer of great industry and varied powers, as novelist, historian, and poet. Smollett's *Complete History of England*, published in 1758, in four volumes, 4to, affords an extraordinary instance of literary facility, being completed in fourteen months. It was afterwards printed in weekly numbers, and continued by Guthrie to 1765, under the auspices of the author. (*Gorton's Biographical Dictionary*.) Smollett was a man of independent mind and generous dispositions, but of acrimonious temperament. He is said to have had no patron but the booksellers, which means, he depended for subsistence on the sale of his writings, a circumstance that may account for the number as well as want of polish of some of his productions.

21. Mr. Edmund Burke appointed

agent for the province of New York, a place worth 1000*l.* a year.

A tea tree in the garden of the duke of Northumberland, in full flower; being the first which had flowered in England.

Nov. 1. John Eyre, esq., a man worth 30,000*l.* sentenced, on his own confession, at the Old Bailey, to transportation, for stealing a few quires of paper.

Mr. Alderman Townshend suffered his goods to be distrained for taxes, alleging that he would pay no assessments, because Middlesex was not properly represented.

19. The great cause between sir James Lowther and the duke of Portland, respecting the royal grant of Inglewood forest to sir James, when sir James was non-suited on the ground that the consideration was inadequate, according to the provisions of the statute of queen Anne.

22. Mr. Stephen, who had published a book on the impolicy of imprisonment for debt, was expelled by the benchers from the Temple.

In this month the incessant rains occasioned unusual floods in various parts of England, especially in the northern counties, where great damage was sustained. One of the most remarkable was the bursting of Solway Moss in Cumberland, ten miles north of Carlisle; the contents of which rushed like a torrent over the adjacent low tracts, sweeping away houses, trees, and cattle, and converting many acres of arable land into a black bog. In Germany too, there were extraordinary inundations, which, added to an inclement season, and consequent scarcity of the necessaries of life, caused great distress to the inhabitants.

FRANCE.—This year the disputes between the king and the parliaments were brought to a crisis. The parliament of Paris refusing to comply with the arbitrary mandates of the court, the members were all banished to villages near to or distant from Paris. The parliaments of Besançon, Bordeaux, Toulouse, and Brittany, were totally suppressed, most of the members sent into banishment, and new courts erected in their stead.

RUSSIA.—The plague committed great ravages at Moscow. It appears to have existed there for some months, concealed under the disguise of a malignant fever; but in the autumn it showed itself under its true colours, and made a most dreadful havoc. Fanaticism augmented the mischief by inspiring a faith in the power of the effigy of a certain saint to dispel the disease; and the vast crowds brought together through that persuasion served to propagate the infection beyond the possibility of restraint. The archbishop Ambrosius having ordered the removal of the

picture, an infuriated mob pursued him to a monastery, in which he had taken refuge, dragged him from the altar, and murdered him in a most barbarous manner. To quell the savage tumult, a body of troops fired into the midst of the crowd and killed a great number.—*Aikin's Annals of George III.* p. 109.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Thomas Gray, 55, author of the "Elegy written in a Country Churchyard." Gray might have accomplished much more than the poem by which he is commonly known. He was a scholar of varied attainments and fruitful in literary projects, but wanted energy and perseverance.

Claude Adrian Helvetius, 56, known by his metaphysical treatise, "De l'Esprit," in which he endeavoured to show that the diversities in character in men well-organized, are the result of external circumstances.

Philip Miller, F.R.S., 80, an eminent horticulturist, and author of the "Gardener's Dictionary."

1772. *Jan. 16.* A revolution in Denmark, which terminated in the imprisonment and finally the banishment of the queen, sister of George III. Counts Brandt and Struensee, physicians to the king, and who were suspected of a criminal connexion with the queen, were executed.

21. Parliament opened by the king.

22. Silver cups voted by the common-council of London, to the late lord-mayor and aldermen Wilkes and Oliver, for their conduct in the affair of the newspaper printers.

The Pantheon, a place of amusement in Oxford-street, opened to a splendid audience of nearly 2000 persons.

Feb. 6. A petition presented to the house of Commons from 250 clergymen of the church of England and members of the profession of civil law and medicine, against subscribing to the 39 articles. Rejected, after a warm debate, by 217 to 71.

8. Died, aged 53, the princess-dowager of Wales, mother of the king. She had five sons and four daughters by her late husband, Frederick prince of Wales. The influence of the princess, in concert with her favourite, lord Bute, is supposed to have determined the commencing policy of the present reign, the object of which was to render the crown more independent of the nobility. With this view, according to the testimony of sir Nathaniel Wraxall, the constant exhortation of the princess to her son was, "George, be KING."

11. A motion made in the commons to bring in a bill to quiet the dormant claims of the church, the revival of which, in several instances, had proved a heavy

grievance. Strenuously opposed by ministers and rejected by 141 to 117.

18. A vote of thanks to Dr. Nowell for his sermon on the 30th of January, it containing despotic sentiments, expunged from the journals.

20. ROYAL MARRIAGE ACT.—A message from the king to both houses of parliament, claiming the right of approving all marriages of the royal family, and which, it alleged, always vested in the crown. In consequence, a bill was introduced into the lords, for rendering all the descendants of the late king incapable of contracting marriage without the previous consent of his majesty or his successors; but such descendants being above 25 years of age, on giving the privy council 12 months' previous notice, may, after the expiration of that term, marry without the royal assent, unless both houses of parliament should, within that time, declare their disapprobation of it: this bill, which was opposed with great vigour in both houses, was ultimately passed. It originated in the recent marriages of the king's brothers, the duke of Cumberland with Mrs. Horton, and the duke of Gloucester with lady Waldegrave, neither of which had been recognised at court.

Several waggons coming with provisions to the metropolis stopped by the populace and the provisions sold at reduced prices. This was a common occurrence during the present period of distress among the poor. The lord-mayor was insulted by the mob for not lowering the price of bread in London.

Mar. 2. Mr. Montagu moved for the repeal of the act for the observance of January 30th; it met with a cool reception, some treating it as a matter of little importance, others urging that any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer would be a breach of the act of union.

29. It appears that 16,694 children have been received into the Foundling-hospital from 1741 to 1771.

Apr. 13. Warren Hastings succeeded Mr. Cartier as governor of Bengal.

May 8. A bill introduced into the commons for the relief of protestant dissenters. Under the toleration act dissenters were secured in the liberty of public worship, but their ministers and schoolmasters were required to subscribe the doctrinal articles of the church of England, subject to heavy penalties for omission. The bill for their relief passed the commons, but was rejected by the lords.

A reward of 5000*l.* voted to Mr. Irvine for his discovery for making salt water fresh.

15. The theatre at Amsterdam took fire, by which 31 persons were burnt to death.

Last season 3,789,192 mackerel were brought to Billingsgate market.

June 9. Parliament prorogued.

16. The large banking-house of Neal and Fordyce stopped payment; other failures of less importance were the consequence of this; the news was conveyed to Edinburgh, 425 miles distant, within 43 hours. On the 22nd instant a meeting of the principal merchants was held in London, with the view of supporting private credit and arresting the panic. The following year the evil extended to the continent, and the number of failures was unprecedented.

22. Lord Mansfield gave judgment, that the master of Somersæt, a negro-slave, had no power to send him back to the plantations. Mr. Granville Sharpe had the merit of establishing this important legal decision.

23. The subscription of bachelors of arts at Cambridge, to the 39 articles, was removed, instead of which was substituted the following declaration:—"I, A. B. declare that I am *bona fide* a member of the church of England, as by law established."

July 1. Determined in the King's-bench that stock standing in the books of the Bank in the joint names of husband and wife, the husband alone may transfer.

14. A remarkable instance occurred of disproportionate criminal punishment. Two persons were whipped round Covent-garden market pursuant to sentence; the one for stealing a bunch of radishes, which nature might have impelled him to do; the other for debauching his own niece, a crime that nature revolts at.—*Ann. Regist.*

Aug. 1. REVOLUTION IN SWEDEN.—Sweden was this month the scene of an extraordinary revolution, effected by means of the army, and with great address and dissimulation on the part of the king. By the new form of government, dictated by Gustavus, the whole executive power, the nomination of the senate, the appointment and removal of judges, the imposition of taxes, and the disposal of the public money, is vested in the crown. These changes were announced by the king at an assembly of the states in a long speech, at the end of which he took a psalter out of his pocket and began to sing a *Te Deum*, in which the whole audience joined. On their dismissal he told them he hoped to meet them again at the end of six years!

8. Four persons were tried at York, and acquitted for want of evidence, for smothering between blankets a boy labouring under hydrophobia.

10. The affairs of the East India Company having become deranged, a statement was laid before government, representing the necessity of a loan of 1,000,000*l.* at least.

Sept. 7. An extraordinary rain at Inverary, in Scotland; the rivers rose and swept away trees that had braved floods for upwards of 100 years. All the dukes of Argyle's cascades and bridges were destroyed at his seat there.

7. The communication of the Birmingham, Staffordshire, and Worcestershire canals opened.

The sentence of captain Jones, for sodomy, commuted into transportation for life.

14. A bow and quiver found in the New Forest, supposed to have lain there since the reign of William Rufus.

15. Ten inches of rain fell in twelve hours at Marseilles.

Nov. 5. By the accidental explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder at Chester, a place called Eaton's dancing-room was blown up. Forty persons were killed, upwards of sixty wounded, besides much damage to the adjacent premises.

17. Mr. serjeant Glynn was elected recorder of London, vacant by the appointment of sir James Eyre to be a baron of the exchequer.

Advice of a dreadful hurricane in the West Indies.

Dec. 9. Sir Thomas Parker, late chief-baron of the exchequer, receives a pension of 2400*l.* for his public services.

23. The proofs and claims under the bankruptcy of Fordyce and Co., amounted to 181,330*l.*

From an account laid before the house of commons, it appeared that the number of horses exported from England, from 5th of January, 1750, to 5th January, 1772, was 29,131.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—The earl of Hillsborough resigned the secretaryship for the colonies, in which he was succeeded by the earl of Dartmouth, a nobleman supposed more favourably affected to the American colonists. Earl Harcourt was appointed to the viceroyalty of Ireland, in the room of lord Townshend, who was placed at the head of the ordnance. Sir Jeffrey Amherst was substituted, as lieutenant-general of the ordnance, for general Conway, who was promoted to the government of Jersey. Charles James Fox was promoted to a seat at the treasury-board. These alterations did not impair the strength of the ministry, and were all completed by the end of the year.

PEACE AND WAR.—It is remarkable that during the two years of the late war (1759-60), the number of criminals condemned at the Old Bailey amounted to 29 only, and the days of the judges' attendance to 46; but that during the two years of peace (1770-1), the number of criminals condemned have amounted to 151, and the

days of the judges' attendance to 91.—*Annual Register*, xv., 144.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—Enormous abuses were this year discovered in the affairs of the East India Company. From the inquiries of a parliamentary committee, it appeared that they had suffered by the rapacity of their servants to the amount of three millions. The company determined to send out a commission of supervision, but the house of commons interfered to restrain them, having themselves entered upon an inquiry into their administration.

DISMEMBERMENT OF POLAND.—The first treaty for the partition of Poland, by her three despotic neighbours, was this year concluded. By this unprincipled compact, one-third of the Polish territory was ceded to Austria, Russia, and Prussia. The partitioning powers also dictated an aristocratic constitution to the Poles, which, under the influence of artillery and bayonets, they compelled a majority of the diet to accept.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—James Brindley, the engineer and projector of the duke of Bridgewater's canal.

Robert Henley, earl of Northington, late lord-chancellor.

Van Swieten, aged 72, a famous German physician.

Elizabeth Page, aged 108, who had long carried on the trade of a medical adviser as a man.

Dr. William Borlase, aged 76, an antiquarian.

1773. Jan. The importation of coals into London last year amounted to 720,000 chaldrons.

1. The locks, ten in number, on the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Runcorn, opened, forming a rise of 90 feet from the river Mersey.

6. Riots at Dundee; some corn carried off by the mob.

15. At Duff-house, the residence of the countess-dowager of Fife, was exhibited the first masquerade ever seen in Scotland.

19. Parliament met after the recess.

26. A motion to shorten the duration of parliaments negatived by 153 to 45.

30. The lord-mayor declined going to St. Paul's as usual, being king Charles's martyrdom.

Feb. 1. Duel in Marylebone-fields between lord Townshend and lord Bellamont, in which the latter was wounded.

4. The university of Oxford refused to follow the example of Cambridge, by a modification of the Thirty-nine Articles.

Moelframmo, a volcanic mountain, near Holywell in Flintshire, threw out combustible matter.

17. In Latham coal-works a large toad was found alive in a solid coal 180 feet

underground. On its being exposed to the air, it soon died.

23. A motion in the commons to dispense with subscription to the Thirty-nine Articles, was negatived, after a long and warm debate, by 159 to 64.

Mar. 11. The livery of London, assembled in Common-hall, passed a resolution in favour of annual parliaments.

Apr. 6. Polish diet opened.

7. The canal from Skipton to Bingley, in Yorkshire, opened.

20. Mr. Wilkes, in a letter to the speaker of the house of commons, renews his claim to a seat in that house. Several motions made, in consequence, by sergeant Glynn and sir George Saville, but negatived by large ministerial majorities.

By the opening of a grave in the body of a church at Soulieu, in France, 180 persons were present, all of whom, except six, were taken ill of a putrid fever.

24. DEATH OF CHESTERFIELD.—In his 79th year, died Philip Dormer, earl of Chesterfield, a nobleman who played a distinguished part in the last reign, as courtier, diplomatist, and statesman. He was also celebrated for his polished manners, wit, and love of literature. His "Letters to his Son" are generally known, and, though reprehensible for selfishness and moral laxity, as a popular code of ethics, contain useful precepts for the improvement of the mind, temper, and behaviour.

May 7. The commons resolved that Robert lord Clive had, by an abuse of the power with which he was intrusted in India, wrongfully possessed himself of 234,000*l.*; but had rendered great service to this country.

A plague in Mexico that carried off 30,000 persons.

June. Mr. Bruce returned into Egypt, from his journey to discover the source of the Nile.

2. Captain Phipps sailed from the *Nore* to discover the North-west passage.

22. The king visits Portsmouth.

It appears from reports made to parliament, that the linen manufactures of Scotland and Ireland have decreased one-half, owing to the migration of the poor from these kingdoms.

July 1. Parliament prorogued by the king.

8. Lord Sandwich obtained 2000*l.* damages for a libel printed in the *London Evening Post*, charging him with the sale of places under government.

21. The pope issued a bull for the total suppression of the order of the Jesuits.

Aug. 22. Died, in the 64th year of his age, George lord Lyttelton, author of the "Dialogues of the Dead," and an elegant poet and scholar. His lordship was chan-

cellor of the exchequer in 1755; was a fluent and graceful speaker, but wanted energy for a political leader.

Sept. 4. A serjeant of the guards sentenced to be shot for enlisting men for foreign service. His sentence was commuted for 900 lashes.

20. Captain Phipps returned from his voyage to the Polar seas. His progress was arrested by the ice, and he was unable to get nearer the north-pole than 81° 39'.

Oct. 6. At the close of the poll for lord-mayor, aldermen Wilkes and Bull were returned to the court of aldermen, by whom Bull was chosen.

16. Irish working-school incorporated.

Nov. Powell, a celebrated pedestrian, walked from London to York, and returned in six days, a distance of 402 miles.

16. Died, aged 58, Dr. JOHN HAWKESWORTH, an ingenious miscellaneous writer, and author of "The Adventurer." He succeeded Dr. Johnson in compiling the parliamentary speeches for the "Gentleman's Magazine." He was also the editor of the discovery voyages of Wallis, Byron, Carteret, and Cook; and allowed by government to appropriate to his own use the whole proceeds of the sale, amounting to 6000*l.*

30. The Royal Society presented Dr. Priestley with the Copley medal for his excellent paper on different kinds of air.

Dec. 1. It was decided in the Commons that a landlord cannot stop goods for rent not due.

18. OUTRAGE AT BOSTON.—Several armed persons in the disguise of Mohawk Indians boarded three ships, laden with tea, in the port of Boston, and threw the entire of the cargoes overboard without doing further injury. These ships belonged to the East India Company. Similar outrages on smaller cargoes of tea were committed in the same place, and in South Carolina; and a cargo landed at New York, under the protection of a man-of-war, was obliged to be locked up. The hostility to the importation of tea resulted from the retention of a trifling duty on that article, to assert the right of the British parliament to tax the colonies.

The manufacture of plate-glass first began in Lancashire.

Some specimens of native lead found at Percefield in Monmouthshire, the first ever found in England.

Commercial credit continued depressed by the late bankruptcies, and by the depreciation of the value of the gold coin, from wear and fraudulent practices.

During this year, the emperor Joseph evinced extraordinary activity in the government of his dominions. He claimed from the pope the right of nominating to

the bishoprics in his hereditary states, and actually filled up some vacant sees in Hungary and Bohemia. In the summer he travelled 3000 miles on horseback, introducing many salutary reforms.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—The magnitude of the Indian empire, and the incompetence of the company for its government, had for some time fixed the attention of the legislature. In the month of June two acts of parliament were passed, entirely altering the constitution of the company, and vesting in the crown that superintendence which it has ever since exercised. By these acts the dividend is restricted to 6 per cent., and a loan of 1,400,000*l.* advanced to the company at 4 per cent. Heretofore every proprietor of stock had the right of voting in general courts; all below 500*l.* are disqualified; an additional vote given to proprietors from 1000*l.* to 3000*l.*; two additional, from 3000*l.* to 6000*l.*; and three, from 6000*l.* to 10,000*l.* Instead of re-electing the whole number of directors every year, six only went out, by rotation, in lieu of whom, others were chosen. A governor-general was appointed to reside in Bengal, and the other presidencies were made subordinate to Bengal. The governor-general to be nominated by the directors, but subject to the approval of the crown. All territorial correspondence to be laid before ministers. A supreme court of judicature established at Calcutta, with judges appointed by the crown.

The number of proprietors of East India stock, on the 4th of March last, was as follows:—

English proprietors, possessing stock of 1000*l.* and upwards, 487; foreign ditto, 325; total proprietors of 1000*l.* stock, 812; total value of stock, 1,909,339*l.*

English proprietors, possessing 500*l.* stock and upwards, but not amounting to 1000*l.*, 1246; foreign ditto, 95; total proprietors of 500*l.* stock, 1341; total value of stock, 684,720*l.*

So that by raising the elective qualification, nearly two-thirds of the proprietors were excluded from voting.

1774. *Jan.* 13. Parliament opened by the king.

21. Died, the Turkish emperor Mustapha III., and was succeeded by his brother Abdul Hamet.

29. In the privy-council was discussed the merits of a petition presented by Dr. Franklin, agent for Massachusetts, setting forth that the people of that province had no confidence in their governor, and praying his removal. The result was the dismissal of the petition, and the removal of Dr. Franklin from the office of deputy post-master-general for the colonies. The governor and deputy-governor (Oliver and

Hutchinson) had recommended, in confidential letters, the adoption of coercive measures towards the colonists. Copies of these letters were privately obtained by Franklin, through the agency of a Dr. Williamson, who stole them from a government office, and transmitted them to America, where they excited great indignation.

11. A letter to the speaker of the commons in the "Public Advertiser" voted a libel. The printer ordered to attend, when he gave up the rev Mr. Horne as the author. Mr. Horne was ordered to attend, which he did; but there not being any evidence against him except the printer, who was in custody, he was discharged.

Feb. 8. Died at Paris, M. de Condamine, celebrated for his voyage to discover the figure of the earth.

13. A motion in the King's-bench, on the part of Macklin the actor, against certain persons who had hissed him from the stage, and compelled the managers to discharge him from the theatre. The court decided that as the theatre was opened for the amusement of those who paid for admission, they had a right to express their opinion of the performers; but they had no right previously to *combine* for that purpose. Motion refused.

22. **LAW OF COPYRIGHT.**—The house of lords decided the important question that the author of a book or literary composition has no exclusive right to the publication of the same by the common law; such exclusive right being abrogated by the statute the 8th of queen Anne. Under the common law, an author claimed a perpetual copyright, which is limited by the statute to 14, or if he survived that term, to 28 years. The case excited great interest, and lord Camden spoke two hours in favour of the statutory limitation.

28. The hon. Charles James Fox dismissed from his seat at the treasury-board.

Mar. 4. Mr. Howard, the sheriff of Bedford, received the thanks of the commons for his humane inquiry into the state of prisons. Dr. Fothergill and surgeon Potts were examined, and gave it as their opinion that the gaol-distemper originated in a number of persons being confined in a close place and not kept clean. Ventilation, cleanliness, and hot and cold baths in prisons were recommended.

9. The heavy rains which fell on this and the three preceding days, raised the waters to a great height in the neighbourhood of London, by which considerable damage was done to the garden ground, and young plantations; two west country barges were carried out of the Thames and left in Battersea fields.

31. Penny-post first established in Dublin.

AMERICAN COERCION BILLS.—In this and the following month were introduced into the Commons three important measures relative to America. On the 14th inst. the Boston Port Bill was brought forward, by which the Custom-house was removed and the port closed. By the second bill the charter of Massachusetts Bay is annulled and the government of that province vested in the nominees of the crown. The third empowers the governor of the province to send all persons charged with capital offences there to be tried in this country. These bills were carried almost without opposition in both houses. As a means of enforcing them, four regiments were sent to Boston under general Gage, as governor of the province and commander-in-chief.

April 4. DEATH OF GOLDSMITH.—At his chambers in the Temple, in his 43rd year, the popular author of the *Vicar of Wakefield* and the *Deserted Village*. As a writer Dr. Goldsmith possesses those qualities which interest most, and offend none; and though not eminent for force or originality, there is, in his various productions, an ingenious facility which it has been pertinently observed (*Edinburgh Review*), if not genius, is its near kindred. The doctor never having realised a perfect independence, his character had hardly scope for full development; but the vanity, egotism, and simplicity ascribed to him render his biography more interesting than is usual with men of letters. He seems to have had the foibles ascribed to Irishmen—a relish for present enjoyment, with little regard to the future; and an impulsive benevolence, with little discrimination. His premature death was occasioned by dysury (*Prior's Life of Goldsmith*, ii. 513), the result of close application to those laborious compilations, amusing and instructive to the public, but often fatal to the literary artist.

17. Unitarian chapel in Essex-street opened with a reformed Book of Common Prayer.

19. Mr. Rose Fuller, in the commons, moved that the house resolve itself into a committee on the American tea duty. Negatived by a majority of 182 to 49. It was on this occasion Mr. Burke delivered his celebrated speech on American taxation. During the discussion on the Coercion Bills the standing order of the house against the admission of strangers was enforced. But the public for some time had taken little interest in political questions.

May 2. The Society of Antiquaries being desirous to ascertain the state of the body of Edward I., after the efforts made to preserve it in wax, obtained leave to open the stone sarcophagus in Westminster Abbey in which it is deposited. They found the body in a state of perfect preservation,

and most richly dressed. The length of the corps was six feet two inches.

10. **DEATH OF LOUIS XV.**—Died of the small-pox, the king of France, in the 64th year of his age and the 59th of his reign. His abandoned private life and despotic public one had long stripped him of his early appellation of the "*Well-beloved*." During his reign arts, science, and philosophy made great progress, and the equatorial and polar voyages, to measure a degree of the meridian, were creditable to the French government. The deceased sovereign was less illiterate than his predecessor, and might have been respectable for intelligence, had not his understanding and moral sensibilities been early blunted by habits of indolence and sensuality. He was succeeded by Louis XVI.

17. General Gage dissolved the assembly of Massachusetts Bay.

June 2. COPYRIGHT BILL.—The London Booksellers' bill for the protection of copyright having passed the commons, it came on to be discussed in the lords. Lord Denbigh spoke strongly against the bill, and said it was only meant to encourage monopoly. Lord Lyttelton replied to his objections, and said that the bill was not to repeal the recent decision of the lords (ante p. 490) but to relieve men who had laid out about 600,000*l.* in copyright since 1769. The lord chancellor opposed the bill. So did lord Camden, who said if the bill had stated what particular set of men had been injured, and what loss they had sustained, they might have had some favour shown them. Bill thrown out.

11. At a general meeting of the parishioners of Eccles, near Manchester, it was unanimously agreed to strike off from the poor's rate all paupers who shall, after the 20th instant, keep dogs.

22. Parliament prorogued, after the royal assent had been given to a bill for the better government of Quebec.

July 8. A terrible affray between the English and Irish haymakers at Mill Hill, Hendon. Some lives were lost, and a great many wounded. The quarrel arose from a resolution of the English to prevent the employment of the Irish in haymaking.

9. At Guildhall the hon. Charles James Fox obtained a verdict against Mr. Williams, for a letter inserted in the *Morning Post* reflecting on his character.

14. Captain Furneaux, who sailed in the *Adventure* in company with captain Cook, arrived at Spithead, having circumnavigated the globe, and reached 67 deg 10 min. of southern latitude.

18. Corsica ceded to the king of Sardinia by the French.

21. Peace signed between the Russians and Turks. By this treaty the independence of the Crimea was acknowledged,

and Russia obtained Kimburn and the entire district between the Bog and the Dnieper, with the free passage of the Dardanelles.

30. A great number of heavy cannon shipped at Woolwich for the American colonies.

Aug. 16. New charter of incorporation granted to the borough of Helston in Cornwall.

Sept. 1. The English evacuated, pursuant to a secret convention with Spain, the Falkland Islands, leaving an inscription to attest their claim to them.

5. The deputies of the twelve old American colonies, 51 in number, assembled at Philadelphia. Resolutions passed approving the resistance of the Bostonians, and promising them support should any attempt be made to carry into force the coercive laws. A general declaration of the right of the colonies to tax themselves, followed; then a petition to the throne:—addresses to the people of Britain, to the colonies, and to the province of Quebec terminated the labours of Congress, October 26th, when they adjourned to the ensuing May.

21. Pope Ganganelli died, in his 70th year, not without suspicion of being poisoned by the jesuits.

30. Parliament unexpectedly dissolved. It had sat rather short of its legal term, namely, six years, four months, and 21 days, which was precisely the duration of George II.'s first parliament, dissolved in April, 1734.

Oct. 8. John Wilkes, esq. chosen lord mayor by 1957 votes.

16. Died, the premature victim of irregular habits, Robert Fergusson, the Scotch poet.

19. The Leeds canal from Liverpool to Wigan opened.

27. A notorious felon, called Sixteen String Jack, convicted of highway robbery at the Old Bailey.

Nov. 22. DEATH OF CLIVE.—Died, by his own hands, at his house in Berkeley-square, in the 50th year of his age, Robert lord Clive, baron of Plassey in the Irish peerage. Mental despondency, resulting from acute bodily suffering, aggravated by a feeling of mortified pride, and probably, some degree of self-reproach, are the causes assigned for this painful catastrophe. (*Sir John Malcolm's Life of Lord Clive*, iii. 372.) The resolution in the house of commons in the preceding year (ante p. 489) had fixed an ignominious inuendo on the conduct of Clive, in the East Indies, which his dark and haughty soul could ill brook. In achieving his splendid military triumphs he seems to have been guided by the maxim, that the end sanctified the means. Lord Chatham termed him "a heaven-born general, who, without experience, surpassed

all the officers of his time." His tactics were those afterwards successfully exemplified by the republican generals of France—energy, celerity of movement, and the precipitation of masses on weak points. He represented Shrewsbury at his death, but seldom spoke, though when roused, he rose into eloquence. He was kind and liberal in private life, and perhaps it was questionable equity to test his Indian delinquency by European jurisprudence.

25. By a decision of the court of King's bench the crown is defeated in its claim of the $\frac{4}{5}$ per cent. duty from the ceded island of Granada.

29. NEW PARLIAMENT opened. The apathy with regard to public transactions, which had began four years since, continued, and in few places were the elections warmly contested. Alderman Wilkes was returned for Middlesex, and ministers wisely not opposing his taking his seat, the political influence of this formidable agitator subsided into its natural dimensions. The resistance of the American colonies having now assumed almost the form of a general insurrection, it was pointedly adverted to in the king's speech. In both houses the ministerial address was keenly debated, but carried by large majorities. In the lords by 46 to 9, in the commons by 264 to 73. Sir Fletcher Norton was chosen speaker.

30. Resolutions of the first American congress arrived.

Dec. 8. A true bill found against the duchess of Kingston for bigamy, in having married the late duke, being then the wife of the honourable Augustus Hervey.

30. Died, Paul Whitehead, a poet of considerable temporary celebrity.

It appears by the Stamp-offices books that the number of newspapers published this year was 12,300,000.

A remarkable foreign incident was the rebellion of Pugatcheff, in Russia. This man, a Cossack by birth, assumed the name of the emperor Peter III., pretending that he had providentially escaped from those who designed to murder him. His marvellous tale and sanctified look gained him many followers, but he was finally routed and put to death, by severing his head, hands, and feet from his body.

PUBLIC STATUTES. I. TO XV. GEORGE III.

1 Geo., c. 23. Commissions of judges to continue in force notwithstanding a demise of the crown; but king may remove any judge on address of both houses of parliament.

2 Geo., c. 22. Requiring a register of parish-poor infants under four years old to be kept in every parish within the London bills of mortality. Extended by 7 Geo. III.

c. 39, to children under six years old. (Ante p. 477.)

5 Geo., c. 48. Import of foreign silk stockings and gloves prohibited.

6 Geo., c. 12. Declaring the dependency of the American colonies, and that the British parliament has power to make laws of sufficient validity to bind the colonists.

Cap. 25. Regulates apprentices, and persons working under contract.

7 Geo. c. 38. Securing for fourteen years the copyright in prints and engravings.

Cap. 48. Regulating joint-stock companies. Shareholders not to vote in any general court unless in possession of stock six months previously. Dividend not to be declared other than at the half-year or quarterly general court, at the distance of five months at least from the last preceding declaration of a dividend.

10 Geo. c. 16. Regulating trial of controverted parliamentary elections. (Grenville act, ante p. 482.)

Cap. 39. Fixes prices at which corn shall be imported and exported.

Cap. 50. Preventing delays of justice by parliamentary privilege.

12 Geo., c. 11. Royal Marriage act (ante p. 487).

Cap. 20. Persons standing mute on arraignment for felony, or piracy, to be proceeded against as if they pleaded to the indictment.

Cap. 61. Regulates the removal of gunpowder.

Cap. 71. Provides for more free internal trade in corn, by repealing 5 Edw. VI., c. 14, against forestallers, regrators, and engrossers.

13 Geo., c. 43. Regulates the import and export of corn.

Cap. 52. Appointing wardens for assaying wrought plate in Sheffield and Birmingham.

Cap. 58. Providing clergymen to officiate in gaols.

Cap. 82. Declaring settlement of bastards born in lying-in hospitals to be the same as mothers.

14 Geo., c. 59. Prevention of gaol distemper; provides for the washing and ventilation of rooms, both for debtors and criminals; orders rooms to be set apart for the reception of the sick of both sexes; bathing-tubs to be provided; apothecaries to be appointed, who are to report to quarter-sessions the state of health of prisoners.

Cap. 78. Building-act for the metropolis; regulating party-walls; prevention of fires.

REVENUE, DEBT, AND TAXES.

The situation of the country at the conclusion of the war in 1762 was highly

flourishing. It was encumbered, it is true, with a considerable debt, but not beyond its resources to bear. During the twelve years' peace that followed this debt might have been greatly reduced, had not ministerial changes and dissensions prevented the introduction of any great and uniform system of fiscal economy. Hence little more than ten millions of debt were paid off, from the peace to the breaking out of the colonial war in 1775, when the principal of the debt amounted to 135,943,051*l*., and the interest to 4,476,821*l*.

At the king's accession, the public income was (ante p. 459) 8,523,540*l*. In 1775, the first year of the colonial war, it had increased to 10,138,061*l*.

The peace establishment, on an average of four years, ending in 1770, was as follows:—

	£.
Navy	1,573,422
Army	1,513,412
Ordnance	227,907
Miscellanies	108,231
	£3,422,972

Sinc. Hist. Rev., Pt. iii., 94.

The king's civil list, in 1760, was fixed at 800,000*l*. per annum, subject to the several annuities of 50,000*l*. a year to the princess-dowager of Wales; 15,000*l*. to the duke of Cumberland; and 12,000*l*. to the princess Amelia. This provision appears to have been insufficient to meet the royal expenditure, as large arrears speedily accumulated. In 1769, 513,511*l*. was granted to discharge arrears of the civil-list. In 1777, 620,000*l*. was again voted for a similar purpose, together with an additional 100,000*l*. per annum to the income of the crown: 120,000*l*. was also given as the marriage portions of the princesses Augusta and Matilda.

COMMERCE, MANUFACTURES, CONSUMPTION.

It will be seen from the subjoined statement of the amount of tonnage which yearly cleared outwards from British ports, and the value of the cargoes exported, that the commercial impulse of the preceding reign continued unabated up to the period of the American war. The statement is continued down from that inserted page 457, which included the first two years of the reign of George III.

Years.	Tons.	Value of Cargoes.
1763	649,017	£15,578,943
1764	658,734	17,756,331
1765	719,257	15,731,374
1766	746,034	15,188,668
1767	709,041	15,090,001
1768	741,520	16,620,133

Years.	Tons.	Value of Cargoes.
1769	772,875	£15,001,289
1770	760,971	15,996,569
1771	836,922	19,018,481
1772	890,711	17,720,169
1773	826,303	16,375,428
1774	863,513	17,288,487

There appears to have been in the years 1764-7 a decline in the value of the cargoes, though little in the quantities exported. It probably resulted from the fall in prices, after the commercial panic of 1763. Nine years after this, another mercantile revulsion occurred, of greater intensity, and which was followed by a fall both in the amount and value of exports. In 1772 the number of bankruptcies in England amounted to 523; in 1773 to 562, nearly double the usual number of antecedent years. This increase of commercial failures was occasioned by the speculative activity of preceding years, and the subsequent re-action (*Macpherson's Annals of Commerce*, iii., 533); as is evinced by the fact, that the export trade of Britain reached a height in 1771 which it did not again attain till the year 1783.

The first period of the reign of George III. is distinguished by those remarkable mechanical inventions that gave such a powerful impulse to manufacturing industry, and enabled us to distance all foreigners in the race of competition. In 1764, James Watt, a native of Greenock, began his wonderful improvements in the application of steam power, the full extent and importance of which we seem hardly yet to have appreciated. Three years after, James Hargraves, an ingenious carpenter of Blackburn, invented the *spinning-jenny*, the first of a series of mechanical improvements in the cotton manufacture. At first, this admirable machine enabled eight threads to be spun with the same facility as one: and it was subsequently brought to such perfection, that a child was able to work no fewer than from 80 to 120 spindles (*McCulloch's Statistical Account of the British Empire*, ii., 64). The jenny was applicable only to the spinning of cotton for west, being unable to give to the yarn that degree of fineness and strength requisite in the longitudinal threads or warp: but this deficiency was soon after supplied by the introduction of the *spinning-frame*, which spins a vast number of threads of any degree of tenacity and firmness. The invention of this extraordinary machine has been usually ascribed to Richard Arkwright, a native of Preston. But Mr. Baines has shown (*History of the Cotton Manufacture*, p. 134) that the merit of being the original discoverer is due to a John Wyatt, who, thirty years before, had attempted to spin

by rollers. Either from the imperfectness of his machinery, the want of capital, skill, or some other cause, Wyatt was compelled to abandon his undertaking; so that the merit of rendering this important discovery practically available unquestionably belongs to sir Richard Arkwright, who, after overcoming great difficulties, took out his patent in 1769. In 1771 he took out a second patent for a new system of carding and roving by rollers.

These inventions were followed by the contrivance of the *mule jenny*; so called from its being a compound of the spinning jenny and the spinning frame. It was invented by Mr. Crompton of Bolton, but did not come into general use till after the dissolution of Arkwright's patent in 1785. At a later period the power-loom was discovered by Mr. Cartwright, a clergyman of Kent, and effected that economy of labour in weaving which the jennies had effected in spinning.

By these discoveries a sudden impulse was given to the increase of population, to agricultural improvements, and a vast augmentation of individual and national wealth.

The increase of manufacturing population produced an important change in the corn trade. Either from the inducement of a bounty, or from the home produce outgrowing the consumption, England for seventy years had been a considerable exporter of corn. It appears, however, from the several periods of scarcity mentioned in the Occurrences, and the tumults occasioned by the dearthness of grain, that the home produce was becoming barely equal to domestic consumption. This is also attested by the very considerable rise in the price of wheat: in the first fourteen years of the present reign the average price per quarter at Windsor market was about 50s. whereas during the entire reign of George II. it was only 30s. Owing to this rise of price there were several suspensions of the restrictions on importation; and in 1773 an act passed by which foreign wheat was allowed to be imported on paying a nominal duty of 6d., whenever the home price was at or above 48s. a quarter, and the bounty and exportation were to cease when the price was at or above 44s. In this year wheat rose to the unusual price of 59s. a quarter.

The rise in price may have been partly produced by a change of national diet. Rye, oats, and barley anciently formed the staple bread-corn of the common people. It was only during the prosperous reign of George II. that we began to be a *wheat-fed* population; and at the accession of his successor it is thought by a well-informed author that not more than half the people of England fed on wheat. For two centuries and upwards the wheaten loaf has

been slowly travelling across the island, from the southern to the northern counties; so recently as the year 1800 it had only partially reached Yorkshire, the oaten cake, as the writer of this well remembers, being commonly eaten by the labouring classes of the West Riding: and the same infallible test of improved popular condition can hardly yet be said to have fully penetrated into Scotland, or even the northern districts of Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland.

The subjoined statements will help to illustrate the subjects of this section, and some of the occurrences embraced in the first period of the reign of George III.

Value of Exports and Imports.

British manufactures exported in the year 1773 .	£13,233,740
Imports from foreign countries in the same year .	11,832,469
Leaving a balance in favour of Britain of	1,394,271
Commodities exported from Britain to America, on an average of three years .	3,370,900
Imported into Britain from the colonies, within the same period	3,924,606

Number of Sheep and Black Cattle sold at Smithfield Market, from 1760 to 1770 inclusive.

	Sheep.	Cattle.
1760	653,740	98,813
1761	842,080	90,232
1762	842,030	121,175
1763	864,190	90,991
1764	81,410	80,299
1765	547,300	84,702
1766	587,520	78,387
1767	588,730	81,035
1768	655,920	84,855
1769	665,240	85,862
1770	666,650	90,979

Prices of Stocks in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT at Windsor Market.

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wl.
1760	80	113	134	211	32
1761	74	106	136	169	26
1762	64	94	114	205	34
1763	89	120	158	249	36
1764	82	113	158	273	36
1765	85	126	151	219	48
1766	89	shut	shut	323	43
1767	89	136	218	—	57
1768	91	161	260	327	53
1769	87	162	273	314	40
1770	84	152	212	392	43
1771	84	141	213	338	50

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wl.
1772	87	152	218	443	58
1773	87	142	160	554	59
1774	86	140	138	333	55

CONVICTIONS at the Old Bailey, distinguishing capital and lesser offences; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS in each year, within the London Bills of Mortality.

Yr.	Cap.	Less.	Christenings.	Burials.
1760	—	—	14,951	19,830
1761	17	110	16,000	21,063
1762	16	105	15,351	26,326
1763	44	201	15,133	26,143
1764	37	235	16,801	23,202
1765	39	325	16,371	23,230
1766	26	175	16,257	23,911
1767	45	346	15,980	22,612
1768	57	301	16,042	23,639
1769	62	144	16,714	21,847
1770	60	189	17,109	22,434
1771	62	292	17,072	21,780
1772	87	194	17,916	26,053
1773	84	336	16,805	21,656
1774	68	270	16,998	20,854

In the first ten years of the reign of George III., the number of prisoners annually tried at the Old Bailey increased twofold. This appears from the following abstract of Mr. Gurney's minutes of the prisoners tried from the first session in the mayoralty of sir Edwin Glynn, 1760, to October, 1769:—Glynn, 318; Blackstone, 322; Hudge, 312; Fludyer, 508; Bridges, 509; Stevenson, 551; Nelson, 536; Kite, 582; Haly, 643; Turner, 816. The total number of persons tried, from the mayoralty of Sir William Calvert, 1749, to 1769, was 10,473. Branding in the hand, which is now discontinued, was a common punishment at this period. In the convictions of 1774, the last year of the above table, the punishments inflicted were—capital, 68; transported, 190; whipped, 32; branded, 48.

MEN OF LETTERS.

Thomas Sherlock, bishop of London, 1678—1761. "The Trial of the Witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus;" "Sermons."

Samuel Richardson, a popular novelist, 1689—1761. "Pamela," 1741; "Clarissa," 1748; "The History of Sir Charles Grandison," 1753.

James Bradley; astronomy, mathematics. 1692—1762.

Benjamin Hoadly, eminent English prolate and polemic, 1676—1761. His Works, 3 vols. folio, 1773.

William Shenstone. poems and essays, 3 vols. 8vo. 1714—1763.

Edward Young, "Night Thoughts;" "The Revenge." 1681—1761.

Robert Dodsley, "The Economy of Hu-

man Life;" "The King and the Miller of Mansfield." 1703—1764.

Charles Churchill, poems and satires of great temporary celebrity, 1731—1764.

John Swinton, history, antiquities, 1708—1767.

Lawrence Sterne, humourist, 1713—1768. "Tristram Shandy," 1759; "Sentimental Journey," 1768; "Yorick's Sermons," 1760.

Thomas Chatterton, poems, imitations, 1752—1770.

Lord Lyttleton, history, poems, divinity, 1709—1773. "Dialogues of the Dead," 1760; "History of Henry II."

John Jortin, divinity, 1698—1770; "Remarks on Ecclesiastical History," 1751; "Life of Erasmus," 1758.

Mark Akenside, "Pleasures of the Imagination," 1721—1770.

Thomas Gray, "Elegy written in a Country Church-yard, 1716—1771.

Tobias Smollett, miscellaneous writer, 1720—1771. Roderick Random;" "Adventures of Peregrine Pickle," 1751; "Adventures of Ferdinand Count Fathom;" "Complete History of England," 1758; "Travels," 1765; "Adventures of an Atom," 1764; "Expedition of Humphry Clinker," 1770; "Ode to Independence."

Oliver Goldsmith, 1731—1774. "The Traveller," 1765; "Vicar of Wakefield," 1766; "History of England in a Series of Letters;" "Good Natured Man," 1768; "History of Rome;" "History of England;" "Deserted Village," 1770; "She Stoops to Conquer," 1772; "History of the Earth and Animated Nature;" "Retaliation;" "Hermit."

GEORGE III. A.D. 1775 to 1785.

In the important and diversified events which distinguished the first twenty-five years of the king's reign, his character, personal and political, was matured and developed. A narrow education and restricted intercourse with the world were ill calculated to supply his original want of mental activity, or of a strong and expansive mind. In his conduct a tenacity of purpose verging on obstinacy was observable; his religion was tinged with bigotry and intolerance, and, though of unquestioned rectitude of intention, his preferences and dislikes of individuals sometimes savoured of caprice or injustice; and his intercourse with them of subtlety and dissimulation.* He was possessed more of the accomplishments than the knowledge appropriate to his high station. He spoke most modern languages with fluency; wrote with brevity, perspicuity and facility; had some taste for the fine arts and even for mechanics and agriculture; but he was little acquainted with mankind, had not deeply studied the principles of laws, morals, and political philosophy—sciences which, from their bearing on public happiness, seem peculiarly to claim the attention of rulers.

The chief transactions embraced in the second portion of the reign of George III. are, first, the commencement of the war with the North American colonies, and the recognition, after an unsuccessful struggle of eight years, of their independence of the mother country. Secondly, the relaxation of the penal laws against Roman Catholics and the disgraceful riots with which it was accompanied. Thirdly, the beginning of those attempts, which have never since been intermitted, of raising Ireland to an equality of civil rights and commercial advantages to England. Fourthly, the apprehensions occasioned by the increasing influence of the crown, in consequence of the vast increase the war had occasioned in the public ex-

* The earl of Shelburne said that "the king possessed one art beyond any man he had ever known; for that by the familiarity of his intercourse he obtained your confidence, procured from you your opinion of different public characters, and then availed himself of this knowledge to sow dissension."—*Nicholls's Recollections and Reflections during the Reign of George III.*, 389.

penditure; and the necessity of a more full and responsible representation of the people in parliament. Fifthly, and last, ministerial changes, the overthrow, in 1782, of lord North's administration, and the rapid succession of the Rockingham, Shelburne, and coalition ministries, till the government was firmly grasped and long settled in the hands of Mr. Pitt. Besides these general topics there are minor events and occurrences of great interest, bearing on the affairs of the East India Company—the armed Neutrality of the northern powers, ostensibly formed to limit the power of the belligerents to interfere with neutral commerce—the abrogation of the proceedings of a former parliament, declaring Mr. Wilkes ineligible to a seat in the house of commons—the restoration of the estates forfeited by the rebels in 1745—extravagant loans—increase of taxation—and the repeated arrears and disorderly expenditure of the civil list.

The independence of the trans-Atlantic states formed one of those novel questions in the progress of nations that baffled the wisdom of contemporaries. With the exception of the city of London, and some other towns whose representations were influenced by narrow views of commercial interest, it may be safely affirmed that there was a general concurrence of sentiment in favour of the parliamentary claim to tax our American dependencies and render their resources auxiliary to our own. The unexpected resistance of the colonists having rendered the enforcement of this claim hopeless, the next ground taken up was the maintenance of the legislative apart from the fiscal supremacy of the British parliament. This was the favourite position of the earl of Chatham, and of which it may be observed, that the power to make laws, but not to impose taxes, could at best be only an incomplete, if not an unprofitable sovereignty. The declaration of independence, the disasters of the war, and the accession, first covertly and then openly, of France, Spain, and Holland, to the cause of the revolted provinces, at length induced the Rockingham whigs to acquiesce in the policy of withdrawing all pretensions of supremacy by the mother country. This they did from necessity, not choice. They were as much opposed to colonial independence as the Chatham, or (as they were termed after his death) the Shelburne whigs, who were ultimately compelled to conclude peace on this basis only: they resorted to it as an unavoidable expedient to extricate the country from a calamitous and exhausting war. Neither section of politicians foresaw the actual consequences of separation,—that they would be mutually advantageous to England and America. They viewed it as a disastrous alternative, hardly less so than a dismemberment of the empire, pregnant with national decay, if not ruin. They could not conceive how by the severance of one distant and unmanageable limb of the body politic, the rest would be made more strong and vigorous. They were influenced by the prevalent ideas that national greatness (happiness not being especially thought of) mainly consisted in extent of territory and increase of population. Experience had not forced upon them, as it has more recently begun to force upon statesmen, the conviction that colonies are costly dependencies; that, like children, they may be planted from necessity and reared from duty and affection; but that the age of adolescence will arrive when separation is mutually beneficial. The start which England made immediately after the termination of the war shows that she was benefited by the loss of her trans-Atlantic provinces. No commercial injury was sustained. The industrial pursuits of both countries were sharpened and multiplied. The distractions of a distant government were avoided, and the attention of our own legislature concentrated on financial

and other domestic improvements. America had long been a source of expense and involvement to the parent state. Two wars had been waged on her account, which cost upwards of 240 millions of money, and the expense of her civil government, from the accession of the Brunswick family to 1788, is estimated by sir John Sinclair at 40 millions more.* For all these pecuniary sacrifices, the only return was the imaginary profit of some miserable navigation and mercantile monopolies that cramped the energies and impoverished both countries.

In the management of the American war, Lord North was severely reproached by the Opposition for want of foresight, and obstinacy. But it was as little in the power of the minister as of his accusers to calculate the force of popular enthusiasm. Physicians usually commence with mild prescriptions till they ascertain the extent of the malady, and upon a similar tentative principle Lord North essayed with a few Irish regiments and ships of the line to subdue the "rebels," the "*deluded* and unhappy multitude," as the armed citizens of Boston and New York were termed in the king's speech of 1777. At first no addition was made to the peace establishment, and the impression was that the force on foot would be amply sufficient to reduce the colonies to obedience. Disappointed by their formidable resistance, the minister increased his expenditure and his armaments till they attained a scale of unprecedented magnitude; but his efforts were not ably seconded. The surrender of general Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777, and of the marquis Cornwallis at York Town, in 1781, were overwhelming disasters, which seem to have been partly brought about by the superior generalship of Gates and Washington. The naval administration of the country under lord Sandwich was inefficient; ships were sent out not properly equipped; the subaltern officers were meanly jealous of each other, and disobedient to their superiors, and to such an extent had this refractoriness and insubordination—the results of bad discipline—extended in the fleets, that the admiralty was obliged to suppress those portions of the dispatches of the commanders in which they complained of the misconduct of their captains, not being in a state to adopt decisive measures, either from weakness or the pressure of the war, to bring the delinquents to justice.†

Another disadvantage attended England in this contest. All the spectators of the struggle between the mother-country and her colonies were on *one side*. The prayers and wishes of every European state were in favour of their emancipation. They encouraged and aided them in their resistance; under the guise of an armed association, formed on the pretext of upholding maritime rights, they supplied them with warlike stores; clandestinely received their agents; assisted them with able and enterprising officers; opened their ports for the reception of their privateers; and then, when their under-hand practices became too notorious to be longer concealed, they threw off the mask, declared in favour of one of the combatants, and by their confederated powers having overwhelmed the other, left this noble country mangled, bleeding, and, as they thought, crippled for ever.

But it was the syncope of a giant. The irrepressible energies of internal industry, which, if not in full action, were just ready to begin, soon set the nation to rights. Externally, however, the powers of the country were never more enfeebled, dispirited and disjointed than at the peace of 1783,

* History of the Public Revenue of the British Empire, Pt. iii., 87.

† *Vide* Rodney's affair with De Guichen, April 17, 1780.

concluded by the Shelburne ministry. The terms of the peace were condemned by the expectants of the coalition ministry, but without reason. Under the circumstances the conditions were as favourable as could be obtained, or the community had a right to expect. The country was impoverished, and, it is alleged, (*Dods., Ann. Reg. xxvi., 152.*) depopulated by the war. The state of the finances was deplorable. Our debt, funded and unfunded, had increased to upwards of 250 millions, and the annual interest fell little short of nine millions and a half. But the most alarming symptom was our *naval inferiority*. The confederated navies of the Bourbons greatly outnumbered that of England. Exclusive of the Dutch fleet of twenty-five sail of the line, the force of France and Spain amounted to 140 sail of the line; whereas the whole force of Britain, fit for service, did not exceed 100 sail of the line; and of these many were under-manned, unclean, in a mouldering state, or had been long employed on distant foreign stations (*Ibid. 151*). To have persisted in carrying on a distant colonial war without the command of the seas would have been wholly indefensible. Moreover, the land-forces were as incompetent as the naval. Our best troops had been captured at Saratoga and York Town, and new levies of mercenaries could only be obtained in Germany, that "great market of men," as Chatham termed it. Ireland was menaced with invasion, and her defence had been necessarily entrusted to corps of volunteers, who seemed more disposed to turn their bayonets against domestic oppressors than foreign foes. In short, the nation was overpowered by enemies and difficulties, and peace, on almost any terms, seemed the only refuge.*

During the pressure of the American war, a question of great importance assumed, for the first time since the era of the commonwealth, an imposing and tangible shape. This was **PARLIAMENTARY REFORM**. Its origin and object may be briefly described. Hostilities with the colonies, like hostilities with every other people, commenced under the favouring auspices of the yeomanry and populace. These, however, soon became dissatisfied with the privations and burdens war entailed upon them. Trade decayed; the farmers were impoverished by low prices; land rents fell; † and all the productive classes of the community became discontented with the government. But hostilities had made the minister all-powerful in parliament. A vast

* The issue of the American contest appears to have been foreseen at an early period by the celebrated DAVID HUME, the historian. In a letter to a friend, dated October 26, 1775, he thus expresses his sentiments on American politics: "I must, before we part, have a little stroke of politics with you, notwithstanding my resolution to the contrary. We hear that some of the ministers have proposed in council, that both fleet and army be withdrawn from America, and these colonies be left entirely to themselves. I wish I had been a member of his majesty's cabinet council that I might have seconded this opinion; I should have said that this measure only anticipated the necessary course of events a few years."—"Let us therefore lay aside all anger, shake hands, and part friends; or if we retain any anger, let it be only against ourselves for our past folly." It is now well known that the war was persevered in much longer than it otherwise would have been in obedience to the wishes of the king. It was considered, says Mr. Nicholls, "the war of the king personally. Those who supported it were called the *king's friends*; while those who wished the country to pause and reconsider the propriety of persevering in the contest were branded as *disloyal*."—*Recollections of the Reign of George III.*, p. 35. The king was so eager to continue the struggle that he offered to Lord North to dissolve parliament; but the minister replied—"That measure will do your majesty no service."—(*Ibid.*) George III., from pique, wished to withhold from North, on his resignation, the usual pension; and when he refused to continue minister, the king told him he "must answer to the country for having gone on so long."—(*Ibid.* 43.)

† Petition of the Yorkshire freeholders, presented to the House of Commons, Feb. 8, 1780.

increase in the public expenditure; improvident loans and lavish contracts had gathered round him such a host of placemen and expectants that he could always command overwhelming majorities and defy the representatives of the people. It was to disperse, or at least circumscribe, the influence of this phalanx of corruption, that parliamentary reform was projected; by shortening the duration of parliaments, and throwing into the commons men who represented the interests of industry, the power of a reckless and extravagant war-faction it was thought might be counteracted.

For the promotion of these objects, at the end of the year 1779 a great meeting of the freeholders was held in the shire-hall of York. It was the largest and most respectable meeting that had ever been held in that county, and an energetic petition for reform and retrenchment was agreed to, to be presented by that inflexible patriot sir George Savile. Meetings of similar import were held in the county of Middlesex, the cities of London and Westminster, and in most of the chief counties and towns of the kingdom. Reform associations were generally established; and immediately parliament had assembled after the Christmas recess a vast number of petitions, signed by persons of the first consequence, both clergy and laity, were presented. Such was the effect of the general excitement that several popular measures were forthwith carried in defiance of the minister; among them Mr. Burke's bill of economical reform, and the resolution of Mr. Dunning, that "the influence of the crown has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished."

About eight weeks after passing this famous resolution, the metropolis was brought to the brink of destruction by the anti-catholic riots of the Protestant Association. A re-action almost instantly followed. People became alarmed at the evidence of ignorance and violence which these dreadful disorders afforded. The executive rather than the democratic branches of the constitution seemed to require strengthening for the general security. Government gained immensely by the tumults; for they so strongly impressed the minds of the public with the danger arising from popular assemblies for political purposes, that the county associations for promoting reform fell into discredit, and were deserted by many persons who had at first encouraged them. Advantage was taken of the prevailing apprehension to dissolve parliament, and at the general election, which ensued in September, most of the members who had advocated parliamentary reform were thrown out.

The close of 1779 and the following year were altogether a period of great national humiliation, disaster, and embarrassment. The combined fleets of France and Spain rode triumphantly in the channel, threatening to make a hostile descent on our coasts. Ireland was in a very perturbed state, and by the convention of military delegates at Dungannon, had assumed an attitude more alarming than that of America at the commencement of her insurrection. Incendiary attempts, supposed to be at the instigation of the enemy, were made to set fire to the royal dock-yards and arsenals. Immense losses were sustained at sea, by the capture of the outward-bound East and West India fleets. The French had succeeded in sending a powerful armament to aid the revolted colonies, and the Armed Neutrality against the maritime claims of England was formed. These losses and mortifications seemed to deprive the nation of all energy, and the subject of reform was not again introduced till the session of 1782. In that year Mr. Pitt, who had in the session of the preceding year made his first appearance in public life as a Shelburne whig and reformer, again brought forward the subject with great eloquence and ability. He repeated his

motion on precisely the same day (May 7th) of the following year, and again in 1785, when he had become premier; but it does not appear on these occasions that he was seconded by any strong expression of popular feeling.

In two important descriptions of measures the government of Lord North appears to have been considerably in advance of the people in wisdom and justice. These were in the policy adopted in 1778 of relaxing the penal laws against the catholics, and in removing (June, 1778, Dec., 1779) some of the restrictions that impeded the commercial prosperity of Ireland. In both the course of ministers was opposed by popular ignorance and selfishness. The concessions to the catholics had the effect of originating the fanatical riots already alluded to of lord George Gordon; and ministers would have gone much further in opening the trade of Ireland had they not been restrained by the petitions and remonstrances of the mercantile classes of England.

The overthrow of the twelve years' administration of Lord North, in 1782, opened the way for a quick succession of ministries. That of the marquis of Rockingham subsisted only a few months, but during that time several measures of economy, and for lessening the influence of the crown in parliament, were passed. On the death of Rockingham, the king immediately appointed the earl of Shelburne his successor, and this appointment the earl at once accepted, without consulting the rest of the cabinet. Upon this, the Rockingham whigs resigned their places, either, as appears, from its being a violation of the established usage on such occasions by the new minister, or from its having thwarted the aspirations of Mr. Fox (ostensibly of lord Portland) to the premiership. After the death of lord Rockingham, Mr. Nicholls says the "whigs had ceased to be a party, and became a faction;" their efforts being no longer employed to attain any great public object except the possession of power. The terms of the peace were the alleged reason of their hostility to the Shelburne ministry, but the substitution of themselves in their places, combined with personal dislike of that nobleman, seem to have been the real ones. They enjoyed, however, for a very short term the fruits of their ill-assorted coalition with Lord North;—it proved quite as unprofitable as unprincipled. Mr. Fox's India Bill was the rock on which they proximately foundered. This celebrated measure was so unfortunate in its reception that it alarmed the king for his prerogatives, and the corporations for their chartered immunities. Dexterously availing himself of the opening thereby afforded, Mr. Pitt seized the helm, which he long continued to hold, to the great mortification and discomfiture of his opponents.*

* In justification of his anomalous coalition with Lord North, Mr. Fox used this expression: "Our party is formed on the principle of CONFEDERACY; ought we not, then, to confederate with him who can give us the greatest strength?"—*Nicholls's Recollections and Reflections during the Reign of George III.*, p. 172. It will be seen from the Events and Occurrences of 1784, and the defeats in the general election of that year, that the coalition and the India Bill were fatal to the influence of the whig party. Dr. Watson, the late bishop of Llandaff, who was a contemporary witness of this period, speaks strongly on this point. "From the moment," says he, "this coalition was formed betwixt Lord North and the men who for many years had reprobated in the strongest terms his political principles, I lost all confidence in public men. I clearly saw that they sacrificed their public principles to private pique, and their honour to their ambition. The badness of the peace, and the supposed danger of trusting power in the hands of lord Shelburne, were the reasons publicly given for the necessity of forming this coalition: personal dislike of him and a desire to be in power themselves, were in my opinion the real ones."—*Anecdotes of the Life of Bishop Watson by his Son*, p. 105.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1775. *Jan. 17.* The Rivals, a play by Mr. Sheridan, performed for the first time at Diury-lane theatre, and not favourably received.

Buckingham-house purchased for the Queen.

20. Lord Chatham moved in the lords an address to the king to withdraw his troops from Boston. Negativated by a majority of 68 to 18.

23. A petition from the London merchants being presented to the commons, it was suggested that as the American business was political, not commercial, there could be little connexion between the views of the house and the petitioners; therefore the petition ought to be referred to a committee separate from that to which the papers ministers had laid on the table relative to the colonies had been referred. This suggestion was adopted, and all the other petitions from the commercial towns being treated in like manner, they were made of no weight in the discussion.

25. Thirty men of war and frigates put in commission to cover the American coast and prevent the colonies being supplied with European goods.

Feb. 1. Lord Chatham unsuccessfully renews his motion for the settlement of the American differences.

3. The king of Denmark throws open to his subjects the trade to the East Indies.

9, 10. Warm debates in both houses on American affairs; ministerial address in favour of coercion carried in the commons by 304 to 105, and in the lords by 104 to 29.

14. Cardinal John Angelo Braschi elected Pope, when he assumed the name of Pius VI.

Mar. 17. A clergyman about to measure the depth of Pen Park Hole, near Bristol, slipped into the cavern and was drowned.

22. Mr. Burke, in an eloquent speech, introduced thirteen resolutions relative to America. First resolution negativated by 270 to 78.

30. Royal assent given to a bill for restraining the trade of New England and the fisheries of that colony on the banks of Newfoundland.

31. The peasantry of Bohemia, oppressed by feudal services, revolted; the emperor Joseph sought to relieve them, but was opposed by the nobility.

Apr. 10. The city of London presented an address to the king, justifying the resistance of the colonies, and praying for

the dismissal of the ministers who had advised coercive measures. Mr. Wilkes attended officially, as lord mayor, to present the address, and was cautioned not to speak to the king, as Beckford had done on a similar occasion.

12. Notice sent to the lord mayor that the king will not receive on the throne any address from the lord mayor and aldermen except in their corporate capacity.

The earl of Effingham retired from the army, alleging that he would not enforce measures in a military capacity which he had opposed as a legislator.

19. First skirmish between the king's troops and Americans at Lexington.

May 1. First stone of Freemasons' hall laid.

4. The charity children, to the number of 5000, attended St. Paul's as usual.

8. Tunnel at Norwood hill, on the Chertford and Trent canal, 2850 yards long, opened.

10. Matilda, the exiled queen of Denmark, sister to George III., died at Zell.

American congress resolve to raise an army, and issue a paper currency on the security of the "United Colonies."

17. Americans surprise forts Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

22. Royal assent given to a bill empowering the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge to hold in perpetuity the copyright of books given or bequeathed to them.

26. Parliament prorogued by the king, with strong expressions of satisfaction at their proceedings.

29. An injunction obtained by the Stationers' Company against Mr. Carnan for printing almanacks, dissolved.

June 7. King of France crowned at Rheims.

17. Battle of Bunker's Hill, in which the king's troops sustained a loss of 1054 men, of whom 226 were killed. That of the provincials, as returned by themselves, was 450. In the conflict Charleston, which had been occupied by the Americans, was set on fire and burnt to the ground.

22. A regatta on the Thames, borrowed from the Venetians, and being the first of the kind in this country, attracted a great concourse.

July 7. The Americans sent a long address to their fellow subjects in England, containing their reasons for taking up arms; signed John Hancock.

25. French clergy vote the king a free gift of 20,000,000 of livres.

31. The Endeavour, captain Cook, from the South Seas, arrived at Portsmouth.

Aug. The White Boys in Ireland commit great excesses, chiefly in revenge for serving tithes processes.

26. Died, James Burgh, formerly master of an academy at Newington Green, and author of "Political Disquisitions," and other works.

Sept. 13. An address to the king from the people of Manchester deprecating the American rebellion, and promising to support the king with their lives and fortunes. Similar addresses from Lancaster, Liverpool, and Leicester.

15. An imperial order published at Vienna, limiting the privilege of sanctuary in churches.

24. The justices of peace, at their quarter sessions, Hicks' Hall, addressed the king to the same effect.

Oct. 4. The king of Denmark prohibited any intercourse with the revolted colonies.

11. Address to the king from 1171 merchants and traders of London, praying a termination of the American contest. Similar address from Bristol, presented by Mr. Burke.

14. Counter address, disapproving the proceedings of the Americans, from 941 merchants and traders of London. An address from 1029 liverymen was also presented, offering their support to maintain the rights of the crown.

23. Extraordinary reports of a conspiracy to seize the king. Mr. Sayre an American, and banker in London, arrested and committed to the Tower. He was soon after discharged, and brought an action against lord Rochford for false imprisonment, obtaining 1000*l.* damages.

26. MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The opening speech of the king was almost exclusively occupied with the affairs of America. It was unusually long, setting forth that the rebellion had become general, and indicated a purpose of establishing an independent empire, and that it was too important to give up colonies planted by our industry and protected by the blood and treasure of the parent stock. The debate on the address in the lords was chiefly remarkable from the declaration of the duke of Grafton, the lord privy seal, who expressed his entire dissent from the coercive policy of his colleagues, but could not support the amendment moved by lord Rockingham, which was negatived by 66 to 33. In the commons the ministerial address was carried by 278 to 108. The point chiefly dwelt upon by the opposition was the employment of the electoral troops to garrison Gibraltar and Minorca, in place of the British, who were sent to America.

Nov. 9. The duke of Grafton resigned the privy seal. He was succeeded by the earl of Dartmouth, whose office of secre-

tary to the colonies was given to lord George Sackville Germaine, the nobleman implicated in the affair of Minden in 1759. Another cabinet change was occasioned by the appointment of lord Weymouth to the southern secretaryship, lord Rochford retiring from public life.

12. Montreal surrendered to the Americans under general Montgomery.

13. Lord North moved that the land-tax be advanced to 4*s.* in the pound.

General Gage arrived in London from Boston.

16. Mr. Burke's conciliatory bill defeated by a majority of 210 to 105.

20. Lord North obtained leave by a majority of 192 to 64, to bring in a bill to prohibit all trade whatever with the American colonies. One clause of the bill, which compelled all who were taken on board American vessels to serve as common sailors in British ships of war, was especially noticed in the lords as a "refinement in tyranny."

Dec. 5. The Norwich stage coach was attacked by seven highwaymen on Epping forest, three of whom were shot dead by the guard, but his ammunition failing, he was shot dead himself, and the remainder of the gang robbed the passengers.

A charter of incorporation granted to Greenwich hospital.

31. General Montgomery and colonel Arnold attempting to surprise Quebec, the former was killed and the latter had his leg shattered. The failure of this *coup de main* was ascribed to the unexpected defection of the Canadians. Montgomery was an officer of great merit and accomplishment, and highly respected.

STATISTICAL FACTS.—It may be gathered (says the Annual Register for 1775) from authentic papers, that the stage coaches generally drive with eight inside, and often ten outside passengers. That there are now of these vehicles, frys, machines and diligences upwards of 400; and of other four-wheeled carriages 17,000. That the number of packs of cards stamped last year, amounted to 423,000; and of dice to 3000. That there has been coined at the Tower, since 1772, about 13,000,000*l.* in gold. That the public pays the Bank 50,000*l.* a-year for management; and that the proprietors do not divide more than 240,000*l.* a-year. That the balance paid for corn imported (the value of corn exported in each year being first deducted) was in

1771 . . .	£105,200
1772 . . .	84,400
1773 . . .	569,820
1774 . . .	1,022,230

FRANCE.—Turgot and other ministers were this year seriously engaged in promoting reform. They reduced the useless part of the army, applied to the digging of canals, making rivers navigable, and pro-

moting manufactories. They were opposed by those who throve by public abuses. A scarcity of corn prevailed, which was sought to be relieved by a bounty on importation.

In Spain an unsuccessful effort was made with a powerful armament to chastise the Barbary powers.

In the Duchy of Tuscany a law passed for regulating the age and term of admission into the monastic orders, the object of which was to reduce the number of votaries. The tribunal of the Inquisition was perpetually abolished in the Duchy of Milan, and the policy of abridging the prerogatives of the papal see persisted in by other Italian states.

1776. Jan. 1. Norfolk in Virginia burnt by the king's troops.

7. A great fall of snow, followed by an intense frost.

17. Robert and Daniel Perreau, twin brothers, executed for forgery.

19. An eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

Feb. 16. Copies of treaties laid before the lords, with the hereditary prince of Hesse Cassel, the duke of Brunswick, and with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, for the hire of 17,000 troops for the American service.

20. Viscount Pitt, son of the earl of Chatham, resigned his ensigncy in the 47th, then at Boston, rather than serve in the war between the colonies and the mother country.

Alderman Hopkins elected chamberlain of London, in the room of sir Theodore Janssen, who had resigned. Mr. Wilkes opposed the alderman, and was beaten by only 177 votes, Mr. Hopkins having 2887.

24. On the motion of Mr. Dunning in the king's-bench, rule made absolute for a mandamus to restore the clerk of Hampstead, who had been discharged by the rector for indecorously giving a kiss to the bride to whom he had stood father as soon as the ceremony was over, the court declaring the clerk not to be dischargeable at the pleasure of the rector or curate, his office being temporal, not ecclesiastical.

Mar. 6. The arrival of general Carleton compelled the Americans to abandon their enterprise against Quebec.

14. The thanks of the court of common council voted to Dr. Price, for his "Observations on Civil Liberty," and the freedom of the city in a gold box.

17. The English troops under general Howe compelled by Washington to evacuate Boston.

20. Mr. Wilkes moved in the commons for a reform of parliament. Negatived without a division.

On the second reading, in the commons, a bill for the establishment of a militia in Scotland was thrown out by 112 votes to 95, the minister voting in the minority.

21. Duke of Bridgewater's canal from Manchester to Liverpool completed.

23. The American congress authorise their cruisers to make prize of English ships.

24. Died, Mr. Harrison, inventor of the time-keeper for finding the longitude.

25. Nearly 100 dead bodies discovered in a shed near Tottenham Court Road, intended for anatomical purposes.

Apr. 4. A malignant fever broke out in Dublin, supposed to have been generated in the gaol.

5. Died, suddenly, whilst administering the sacrament, by the bursting of a blood vessel, the rev. Mr. Grainger, vicar of Ship-lake, in Oxfordshire, and author of the Biographical History of England.

15. Dublin Gazette prohibited to print any articles of news not authorised by government.

Duchess of Kingston tried for bigamy, before her peers in Westminster Hall, and found guilty; but pleading her privilege, as peeress, from any punishment, she was discharged.

30. Died, Edward Wortley Montagu, the eccentric son of Lady Mary, the author of the celebrated Letters.

May 1. A proclamation prohibiting the currency of guineas below a certain weight. The debtors in the different gaols of England amount to 8000.

8. An ox weighing 1568 lbs. without the tallow, killed at Wigan.

11. The court of King's-bench determined that the want of a parsonage house is no excuse for non-residence, the clergyman being required to hire a habitation if necessary.

17. General Smith and Mr. Hollis committed to prison by sentence of the King's-bench for bribery at the last election for Hendon.

June 6. Verdict for 50% given in the King's-bench against a schoolmaster for neglecting the health and education of his pupil.

10. The celebrated David Garrick took his leave of the stage, of which he had been the ornament for many years, in *Don Felix*, giving the profits of the performance to the theatrical fund. He had some months before sold his share in the theatre for 35,000*l.*, to Messrs. Sheridan, Linley, Ewart, and Dr. Ford.

July 4. AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.—The congress of North America issued their famous declaration of independence, abjuring their allegiance to the crown of Britain. Their declaration began with an assertion of the general rights of man, of the purposes for which governments were instituted, and of the right of changing them when they no longer answered those purposes. It enumerated the wrongs alleged to have been received from the mother

country, and concluded with asserting in the name of the people, that the thirteen colonies "are, and of right ought to be, Free and Independent States." After reading the declaration at New York, the king's statue was taken down.

10. A riotous mob of weavers at Shepton Mallet, having assembled to destroy a machine used in the woollen manufacture, one man was killed and six wounded by the firing of the military.

22. First stone laid of the observatory on Calton hill, Edinburgh.

Aug. 1. The Lord Mayor's income, the better to support the dignity of his office, raised from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.*

Bougainville returned from his voyage round the world.

DEATH OF DAVID HUME.—This celebrated historian and philosopher expired at Edinburgh, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. From the nature of his malady, death had long been in prospect, and Mr. Hume prepared for it with cheerfulness and resignation. Adam Smith describes his character as eminently urbane, generous, charitable, gay and good-humoured. He had many of the qualities suited to his task of historian in his knowledge of the world, acute and vigorous intellect, industry in research, great equanimity and command of temper. Yet the fidelity of his English history has lately been sharply questioned, and an artful distortion of facts, to suit his monarchical predilections, imputed to him. In his burlesque representations of the scenes and actors of the Cromwellian era, he certainly seems to have taken the license ascribed to Livy the Roman historian, though for a different purpose. Mr. Hume's scepticism, in which he was an enthusiast, seems to have been satisfactorily disposed of in the *Edinburgh Review*, vol. xx., 236. Some of his political essays, especially those on Money, Public Credit, and Commerce, are remarkable for neatness, depth, and ingenuity.

27. General Howe defeated the Americans at Flatbush in Long Island.

Sept. 15. The king's troops enter New York.

22. Died, Louis Chambaud, the author of the French and English Dictionary.

23. Lord North thrown from his horse in Bushy Park, and broke one of his arms, which interrupted parliamentary business.

Oct. 11. Americans defeated on Lake Champlain.

29. Sir William Howe defeated the Americans on White Plains.

Nov. 16. Died, in his 66th year, JAMES FRANKLSON, an eminent experimental philosopher, mechanic, and astronomer. He was self-taught. George III., when prince of Wales, having heard his lectures on natural philosophy, settled on him a pension of 50*l.* a-year.

Dec. 6. Decided in the court of common pleas that Lambeth palace is extra-parochial, and not liable to poor-rates.

9. Samuel Foote, esq., the popular dramatic author and mimic, tried before lord Mansfield for an unnatural offence, but after a long hearing honourably acquitted; the charge originating in the malice of his coachman.

17. Mr. Baldwin, and other printers of newspapers, found guilty of publishing an advertisement from the Constitutional Society, signed by the rev. John Horne, respecting the payment of 100*l.* by that society to Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

21. Dr. Markham translated from Chester to the primacy of York, vacant by the death of Dr. Drummond. Dr. Beilby Porteus succeeded Dr. Markham in the see of Chester.

EAST INDIES.—The transactions in India this year subsequently gave rise to proceedings in England of great interest and importance. Warren Hastings, the governor of Bengal, was accused of receiving large bribes, one from Munny Begum, a concubine of the late Mir Jaffier. Rajah Nundcomar was prosecuted by Hastings and Vansittart for a conspiracy; failing in that, Nundcomar, a few days after was accused of forgery, condemned and hanged amidst the regrets of his countrymen; forgery not being a capital offence by the laws of India. At Madras, violent disputes had arisen between the governor, lord Pigot, and the members of council. Lord Pigot suspended the members of council; on which the suspended members, with some others, declared themselves the government, arrested lord Pigot and committed him to prison, where he died, April 17th, 1777.

POOR-RATES.—Returns made to parliament of poor-rates for England and Wales, from Easter 1775, to Easter 1776:—

Money raised . . .	£1,720,316
Expended on the poor . . .	1,556,804
In county rates . . .	137,656
Rents, &c.	80,296
Litigation	35,072

In the Northern counties the county rates are raised separately, and therefore are not included in these returns.—*Annual Register*, xx., 259.

1777. Jan. 2. Washington attempted in the dead of night to surprise the English at Princetown.

13. A rencontre at the Adelphi tavern, between Mr. Bate, editor of the *Morning Post*, and captain Stony, in consequence of a paragraph in the paper, reflecting upon a lady, to whom the captain paid his addresses; after firing a case of pistols without effect, they fought with swords, and each received a wound, but they were interrupted in the further prosecution of the

affair; and the captain, the following Saturday, married the lady in question.

Feb. 4. A man named James Aitken, otherwise John the Painter, was brought to Bow-street, from Odiham in Hampshire, suspected of having set on fire the rope-yard at Portsmouth; he refused to answer any questions, and was committed.

22. The Rev. Dr. Dodd tried and found guilty of forging a bond in the name of the earl of Chesterfield.

24. Died, the king of Portugal.

Mar. 6. James Aitken *alias* John the Painter, tried at Winchester for setting fire to the rope-yard at Portsmouth; he was found guilty, and afterwards hung on a gallows 60 feet high, and then in chains: by his confession it appeared, that he was the incendiary who set fire to the vessels in Bristol quay: he asserted that he was encouraged to these acts by Silas Deane, one of the American congress. He was a native of Edinburgh, had enlisted and deserted three times from the army, committed several robberies, and never expressed any remorse for his crimes.

John Peter le Maitre, a Frenchman, was tried for robbing the British Museum of several valuable medals and coins: he was found guilty and sentenced to five years' hard labour on the Thames.

Apr. 3. Lord Mansfield granted a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring a freeman of London from the Nore, who had been impressed into the sea service.

4. Marquis de la Fayette sails for America.

9. CIVIL LIST ARREARS.—Lord North delivered a royal message to the commons, informing them that the debts of the civil list had increased to upwards of 600,000*l.* It occasioned warm debates, being the second application in the present reign; and the accounts presented to the house were sharply scrutinised, especially the items of pensions and secret service money, which had enormously increased. Such, however, was the feeling in favour of the court, that the arrears were not only provided for, but an addition of 100,000*l.* a year voted to the king's income. Upon presenting to the king the bill for the purpose (May 7th) for the royal assent, sir Fletcher Norton, the speaker, took occasion to deliver the following unusual address:—"In a time, Sire, of public distress, full of difficulty and danger, their constituents labouring under burdens almost too heavy to be borne, your faithful commons, postponing all other business, have not only granted to your majesty a large present supply, but also a very great additional revenue, great beyond example, great beyond your majesty's highest expense; but all this, sire, they have done in the well-

grounded confidence that you will apply wisely what they have granted liberally." This gave much offence to some members, as not expressing the sentiments of the house, but ultimately thanks were voted to the chair.

Apr. 21. The emperor of Germany arrived in Paris as count Falkenstein.

29. Mr. Wilkes made his usual annual motion in the commons, for expunging the resolution by which he had been declared incapable of sitting in the last parliament.

May 7. The court of King's-bench decided that musical compositions are protected by the copyright act, same as literary property.

30. Lord Chatham, after a long absence, came down to the lords wrapped in flannel, and in a speech distinguished by his usual fervid eloquence, moved an address to the King to put an end to hostilities in America, by the removal of grievances. Referring to the expectations that were entertained of success in the present campaign, he remarked, that as for the conquest of America, the gaining of ten pitched battles would do nothing towards it. "You talk," he exclaimed, "of your numerous friends to annihilate the Congress, and of your powerful forces to disperse their army; I might as well talk of driving them before me with this crutch." The motion was supported by the dukes of Grafton and Manchester, the bishop of Peterborough (Dr. Hinchcliffe), and lord Camden; but rejected on a division by a majority of 99 to 28. At this time strangers were admitted to hear the debates in the lords, though excluded from the commons, where a motion for opening the gallery had shortly before been thrown out by a majority of 83 to 16.

June 4. The Leeds and Liverpool canal opened into the river Aire at the former place.

6. Parliament prorogued.

13. A petition presented to the king in favour of Dr. Dodd, signed by 20,000 inhabitants of Westminster.

19. The Neapolitan ambassador robbed in his carriage in Grosvenor-square, by four foot-pads.

27. Dr. Dodd executed at Tyburn.

July 1. A cause of an extraordinary nature was tried before lord Mansfield, which involved a question as to the sex of the Chevalier D'Éon, who had formerly acted as French minister in England; two foreign witnesses (one a surgeon) swore positively that the Chevalier was a female, in consequence of which a verdict for 700*l.* was given for the plaintiff, being the amount of a wager laid upon the subject. After this decision the Chevalier put on female attire, which he continued to wear till his

death in 1810, when it was indubitably established that he was of the *male sex*; proving the gross perjury of the witnesses at the trial.

4. Rev. John Horne convicted of a libel in charging the king's troops with murdering the loyal subjects of America at Lexington. When brought up for judgment he was sentenced to be imprisoned one year, and to find sureties for good behaviour for three years.

Aug. 19. A dangerous riot among the prisoners at Newgate suppressed by the spirited conduct of Mr. Akerman the keeper.

Sept. 11. Sir William Howe defeated Washington at Brandywine, with the loss of 800 men.

16. Lord Harcourt found dead in a well in his park at Newnham, into which he is supposed to have been precipitated in trying to save a favourite dog that had fallen in and was found standing near him.

17. Mr. Harrison, accountant to the London Assurance Company, found guilty of forgery, by altering figures in their books of account.

26. Lord Cornwallis entered Philadelphia, and the American Congress removed to Lancaster.

Oct. 3. Americans defeated at German Town by General Burgoyne.

6. East India ships ordered to increase their crews, the better to defend themselves against the American privateers.

17. General Burgoyne and the whole of his army, amounting to 5752 men, surrendered to the Americans, commanded by general Gates, at Saratoga.

21. At Dover, in his 56th year, died, Samuel Foote, the farce-writer and imitative actor. He had enjoyed a large share of temporary notoriety, having long amused the town by his light dramatic pieces, and talents for satire and personal ridicule. Of delicacy or feeling he was wholly destitute.

23. A petition from the creditors of Mr. Wilkes to the common council, praying that such of his debts as were contracted during his mayoralty might be discharged, was rejected.

Nov. 18. Died, William Bowyer, an eminent printer, distinguished for classical taste.

20. Parliament opened by the king, when the royal speech, for the first time, intimated some suspicion of the designs of France, in the ports of which hostile preparations were going on.

21. A question at law, which had been held doubtful by the lawyers for two hundred years, was determined by the court of King's-bench, who agreed that the words in a lease of and from the date and from the day of the date, had the same meaning.

The legal point was, whether one phrase did not imply a lease in possession, the other in reversion.

Dec. Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow and Edinburgh, raised regiments at their own expense for the American war.

11. Royal assent given to a bill for suspending the Habeas Corpus Act.

12. Died, aged 70, Dr. Haller, the celebrated Swiss physician.

16. A marble statue of Mrs. Catherine Macauley, erected by the rector a few months before, in the church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, ordered to be taken down by the vestry of the parish.

24. A subscription was opened to assist the American prisoners confined in the different gaols of the kingdom.

PORTUGAL.—Joseph I. of Portugal dying, he was succeeded by his daughter Maria, who was married to her uncle Don Pedro. The prime minister, Pombal, lost both his place and his influence. His proceedings had been arbitrary, but beneficial to the public. He found the country infested with robbers; trade decayed, landed property in the hands of the nobles, and the people deprived. He tried to remedy these evils, but his measures being severe, and opposed to popular prejudices, he became generally disliked.

FRANCE.—The European powers viewed the contest between England and her colonies with great interest. France in particular beheld it with pleasure, and although she did not enter openly into the contest, privately encouraged the Americans. Dr. Franklin and two others arrived at Paris, as ambassadors from the American Congress. Many French officers embarked to join the American standard. The queen was a decided partisan of the revolted colonies, and she influenced the king.

1778.—PROSPECTS OF THE WAR.—The situation of the Ministry at the beginning of the year was one of extreme humiliation. Their scheme of drawing a revenue from America had produced, instead of a revenue, a successful rebellion. After nearly three years' fighting their military position in the country they aimed at conquering was worse than at the close of the first campaign. Their armies were for the most part either destroyed, or cooped up like general Howe at Philadelphia, in spots where they could not act and from which they durst scarcely stir. On the other hand, every day was adding to the strength and resources of the insurgents. They had established for themselves an efficient government; they had agents at the principal European courts; they raised and maintained armies; issued letters of marque and reprisal, licensed privateers, and had their own flag, which was every where respected. Not only were the high seas thus

made dangerous to British commerce, but even the coasts of Ireland and Britain could not be navigated with safety by unarmed vessels. In these circumstances the public, especially the commercial part, began to be not discouraged but dissatisfied with the further prosecution of the contest. Attempts were made to raise additional troops by the voluntary subscriptions of individuals, but of 15,000 men that were eventually obtained not 5000 were raised in England; above two-thirds of the whole number being procured from Scotland, and mostly from among the Highland clans. London had from the first been opposed to the war; and both here and at Bristol the public meetings that were called scouted the scheme. Even the country gentlemen began to turn upon lord North; and the parliamentary majorities diminished when, instead of an American revenue, they found, from the course of his policy, an addition to their burdens.

Jan. 2. The king on alighting from his sedan at St. James's assaulted by a lunatic who called herself queen Beck.

10. American prisoners in England amounted to 924, and the subscriptions raised for their relief to 3815*l*. In the spring of last year the Americans tried to negotiate an exchange of prisoners. They applied for this purpose through the medium of Dr. Franklin, the resident of the United States at Paris, to lord Stormont, the British ambassador at the French court, and to which application his lordship thought fit to return the following answer:

“The king's ambassador receives no application from *rebels*, unless they come to implore his majesty's mercy.”

10. Died, at Upsal, the celebrated naturalist Linnæus, aged 71.

15. Nootka Sound and the Sandwich Islands discovered by captain Cook.

Subscriptions were opened for raising troops for the war, by the justices of the peace, grand jury, and freeholders of Middlesex. In London the motion for a subscription was carried in the court of aldermen by a majority of 11 to 9; but it was rejected by 3 to 1 in the common council. The monied interest, however, evinced their loyalty by subscribing 14,000*l*.

15. The court of session at Edinburgh unanimously gave their opinion in favour of the unlimited freedom of the negroes in this country, which went much further than the courts of England had done.

17. The prices of provisions in Newgate market were as under:—

	per stone.	per stone.
Beef	2 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .	2 <i>s</i> . 10 <i>d</i> .
Mutton	2 <i>s</i> . 2 <i>d</i> .	2 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .
Veal	2 <i>s</i> . 10 <i>d</i> .	3 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
Pork	2 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .	3 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .
Butter	1 <i>s</i> . 7 <i>d</i> .	1 <i>s</i> . 10 <i>d</i> .

per lump.

Eggs 7*s*. 6*d*. to 9*s*. per hundred.

Fowls 1*s*. 2*d*. to 1*s*. 6*d*. each.

Feb. 4. Lord Abingdon moved in the lords, that it is the opinion of the house, “That granting any aid by subscription towards the raising of troops without the authority of parliament, is contrary to the spirit of the constitution, and the letter of the law.” Negatived by a large majority.

6. The court of France concluded a treaty of defensive alliance with the American colonies, avowing its end to be the “effectual maintaining of the liberty, sovereignty, and independence of the thirteen United States of America, as well in matters of government as of commerce.”

17. Lord North introduced his conciliatory bills, by which he proposed to concede every thing for which the Americans contended, except only their nominal independence of the crown. Commissioners were to be appointed to treat with the colonists, with full powers to suspend all acts passed since 1763, to agree to a cessation of arms, grant pardons, and appoint governors. The sudden abandonment of all points in dispute seems to have produced general astonishment, and his lordship's speech (says the *Annual Register*) was received with a “dull melancholy silence.”

Mar. 5. Died, Dr. Arne, the celebrated musical composer.

9. Conciliatory bills read a third time in the lords and passed. Dr. Porteus, the new bishop of Chester, concluded a maiden speech on the occasion with these words:—“Some think the bills offer too much, others say they offer too little; therefore I think they contain just enough.” On which the duke of Richmond retorted, that “the right rev. prelate had found out a new mode of reasoning; namely, that that must be right which pleased nobody.”

10. French ambassador left London.

21. Dr. Franklin, Silas Deane, and Lee, publicly received at the French court as ambassadors from the United States of America.

21. Duel at Paris between the count d'Artois and the duke de Bourbon; the count had grossly insulted the duchess.

27. Embargo laid on French ships. Orders issued to embody the militia.

Apr. 7. DIVISIONS ON AMERICA.—The duke of Richmond moved an address to the king, which went to the extent of recommending a recognition of the independence of the American colonies. It was supported by the Rockingham party, who now saw no other likely issue to the struggle. Other leaders, however, of the whig party were opposed to the separation of the colonies from the mother country. This ground was taken by lords Chatham, Shelburne, Tem-

ple, and Camden in the upper house; and by Mr. Dunning, colonel Barré, and those who acted with them in the lower. The duke was first replied to by viscount Weymouth in a short speech. Lord Chatham next claimed attention: he had entered the house in a rich suit of black velvet, a full wig, and wrapped in flannel to the knees: he was supported to his seat by his son and son-in-law, Mr. William Pitt and viscount Mahon. He looked emaciated: resting his hands on his crutches, he at first spoke with difficulty, but as he grew warm, his voice rose, and was as harmonious as ever,—oratorical and affecting. “My lords,” said he, “I rejoice that the grave has not closed upon me, that I am still alive to lift up my voice against the dismemberment of this ancient and most noble monarchy.” He was replied to with great respect by Richmond, when on attempting to rise again he fell back before uttering a word, in a convulsive fit, and was carried out of the house. An adjournment immediately ensued.

8. On a resumption of the debate lord Shelburne passed severe strictures on the composition of the ministry. “I repeat again,” said his lordship, “the lawyers and *commis*, the present conductors of public business, must be sent back to their proper vocations, or their original obscurity.” On a division Richmond’s motion was rejected by 50 to 33.

13. The earl of Carlisle, viscount Howe, sir William Howe, William Eden, esq., and governor Johnstone, appointed commissioners to treat with the Americans.

A bill introduced by sir Philip Jennings Clerke to restrain any member of the commons from being concerned in any government contract; it was read a first and second time, but thrown out on committal by a majority of 115 to 113.

14. General sir William Howe, who was opposed to the policy pursued towards America, was permitted to resign the chief command of the British forces, and was succeeded by sir Henry Clinton.

16. Royal assent given to a bill for laying a tax on inhabited houses. Also to a bill for enabling the king to settle annuities on his children, namely 60,000*l.* a-year on the six princes, 30,000*l.* a-year on the five princesses; also 12,000*l.* a-year on the son and daughter of the duke of Gloucester.

23. Paul Jones, the commander of an American privateer, burns in the night a sloop in the harbour of Whitehaven, and designed setting fire to the town. He afterwards landed on the western coast of Scotland near Kirkcudbright, and pillaged the house of lord Selkirk of money and plate.

25. The king visited the dock-yard at Chatham, reviewed the first regiment of

Royals, and held a levee at the commissioner’s house.

May 2. Mr. Deane arrived in America, with the treaty concluded with France.

8. Lord Mansfield decided that an action is not maintainable against the postmaster general for bank notes taken or lost out of a letter sent by post.

DEATH OF CHATHAM.—This distinguished orator and statesman survived his last appearance in parliament 34 days, expiring at his favourite seat of Hayes, in Kent, on the 11th inst., in the 70th year of his age. Chatham began life with the not very promising outfit of 100*l.* a-year, a cornetcy in the Blues, and a hereditary gout; and so far succeeded as to achieve for himself a name not inferior in lustre to any in the British peerage. A man must have had transcendent merits who could be famous throughout Europe, and have statues erected to his honour in America. He used to say he “loved honourable war;” and his first destination was not inaptly chosen, for in activity, promptitude, energy and resoluteness, he had eminently those gifts which usually lead to military celebrity. It was in wielding the offensive power of England he acquired his chief reputation; the wisdom of his civil government was never tried, nor if it had is it likely to have been conspicuous. In his ideas of international relations and of public happiness, he does not appear to have penetrated beyond his contemporaries. Essentially haughty, dominant and unyielding, he was as little tolerant of national as of individual rivalry. He cherished the old yeoman prejudice, that France was “the ancient and inveterate enemy of England;” that the greatness of his own country consisted in the humiliation of her neighbour, in the maintenance of powerful armies and navies, and in vast colonial acquisitions. Ambition was his ruling passion, but whether that is laudable or not must depend on its direction. It certainly betrayed him into apparent inconsistencies. His first opposing and then strenuously supporting the Hanoverian policy of George II., is one instance. His conduct in relation to America is not exempt from obscurity. Chatham’s *game* always was the *PREMIERSHIP*, and it was his incessant scheming to reach this prize that chiefly kept up the feud between his own and the Rockingham section of the whig party; but whether the successive positions he took up in parliament on the American question were intended to lead to its attainment can only be presumptively decided. Under his ministry the obnoxious tea-tax was imposed; yet he afterwards denounced taxation without representation as tyranny. With all the might of his eloquence he opposed the coercive policy of lord North—

implored him to put an end to the war—yet towards the close, when the contest had become utterly hopeless, he declaimed almost with his last breath, against recognising the independence of the colonies,—an indispensable concession without which peace was wholly unattainable. It was at this period he was again brought into communication with the earl of Bute, through the officiousness of the physician of that nobleman, and of his own physician, Dr. Addington, father of the present viscount Sidmouth. The correspondence which took place on this occasion was published in the *Annual Register*, and its bearing has been a subject of political speculation. The three chief points deducible from it appear to be, first, that Bute and Chatham mutually entertained a higher opinion of the other, than either before thought possible; secondly, that they both thought public affairs could only be retrieved by “new counsels and new counsellors;” but, third, it does not appear lord Chatham was prepared to coalesce either with lord Bute or lord North for this purpose. One thing, however, is evident, that Chatham had not, in the last year of his life, either lost the hope or desire again to direct the councils of the country. Apart from the aberrations originating in an ardent love of power, the course of Chatham was splendid and magnanimous. He always cherished noble sentiments. Lord Chesterfield said of him “his private life was stained by no vices, nor sullied by any meanness.” The inscription penned by his countess testifies to his domestic worth, but a more impartial testimony to his general excellence is his unchangeable popularity. The city of London was always proud of him, and after his decease erected a flattering tribute to his memory. In addition to contemporary praise and posthumous honours, he received other, and as some may think, more substantial tributes to his deserts. Almost his entire fortune was made up of the disinterested benefactions of private individuals. Besides the legacy of 10,000*l.* left him by Sarah duchess of Marlborough, and some other legacies, sir William Pynsent, an old gentleman of 90, bequeathed him in 1765 an estate of 3000*l.* a-year, and 30,000*l.* in money. It seems to have been the prevailing fashion so to remunerate public characters, for Horne Tooke and Mr. Wilkes were similarly favoured. The vigour of Chatham in council and his eloquence in the senate have been often described. His speeches have two qualities not commonly united—they were effective in the delivery and are still readable; they are not words only, but burning thoughts, sententious arguments, and bold truths, delivered in good Saxon English, and, aided as they

were by suitable action, a fine person, eagle eye, and pealing voice, that at once animated the speaker and impressed the listener, one cannot be surprised at the representations made of the irresistible force of his parliamentary oratory. Sir Robert Walpole was alarmed at the novel thunder that burst upon him, and after being exposed to his first anathemas called out for some one to “muzzle that terrible cornet of horse.” The natural gifts of Chatham, it is well known, were strengthened by careful cultivation, and he did not neglect even trifles. His last appearance in parliament was obviously the result of some preparation. Mr. Thackeray states (*History of the Life of Chatham*, ii. 406) that he was never seen in business without a full-dress coat and tie-wig. The under secretaries were never permitted to sit before him. He was not eminent for literary taste; his compositions are involved, careless, incorrect, and unpolished:—*therefore* he was not JUNIUS.

May 22. The commons resolved to make a permanent settlement of 4000*l.* a-year on the descendants of the late earl of Chatham, to whom the earldom shall descend.

28. MITIGATION OF PENAL LAWS.—Royal assent given to a bill, introduced by sir George Savile, for relaxing the severe penalties inflicted in the reign of William III. on Roman Catholics. These penalties included the punishment of popish priests as felons or traitors; the forfeitures by popish heirs educated abroad; the power given to a son or nearest relation, being a protestant, of taking possession of a father's or other relation's estate; and the depriving papists of the power of acquiring landed property. The lenity of the times had in practice mitigated the rigour of these intolerant provisions, yet the liability to incur such penalties at the pleasure of an informer or a kinsman was a severe hardship.

30. Died, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, at the house of the marquis de Vilette, the celebrated M. de Voltaire. He had only in the February preceding, after an absence of 28 years, arrived at Paris; where he had come, as he said, “to seek glory and a tomb.”

June. A general embargo laid on all shipping, and a general press for seamen on the Thames.

3. Parliament prorogued. A motion was made the day before to prevent the prorogation in the present critical posture of affairs, but negatived by a large majority. Immediately after the close of the session earl Bathurst resigned the great seal, and the attorney-general, Edward Thurlow, was appointed lord chancellor. The solicitor-general, Mr. Wedderburne, succeeded to the office of attorney-general, and Mr. Wallace became solicitor-general.

9. Lord Chatham's remains interred with great solemnity, in Westminster Abbey; the hon. William Pitt was chief mourner.

RELIEF TO IRISH TRADE.—The revolt of the colonies seems to have drawn attention to the treatment of Ireland; and two acts passed this session—one admitting the Irish to a direct participation in the colonial trade, and the other permitting the free importation of cotton yarn manufactured in Ireland into any British port. These concessions excited prodigious alarm in the commercial and manufacturing districts, as likely to prove detrimental to British industry. London, however, was uninfluenced by such selfish considerations; but from other towns petitions and instructions to representatives were sent up; counsel and evidence were heard; and the acts were only finally passed by the present abandonment of some of the provisions most favourable to Irish commerce. Mr. Burke was the great advocate of Ireland on this occasion.

17. The American congress decline to treat with the British commissioners, unless the independence of the colonies is acknowledged by the withdrawal of the king's armies.

18. Philadelphia evacuated by the king's troops, who crossed the Delaware without loss: they were overtaken by the American army at a place called Freehold: a partial action took place: they reached Sandy Hook on the last day of the month, and were conveyed by Lord Howe's fleet to New York. Eleven days after the French admiral D'Estaing arrived at the mouth of the Delaware, with twelve ships of the line and three frigates.

28. Messrs. Harrison and Sheridan purchase the Opera-house for 22,000*l*.

July 2. Died, Jean Jaques Rousseau, the author of *Emilius*, *Social Contract*, and other eloquent productions.

27. An action between the English fleet consisting of 30 sail, and the French of 32 sail, the former commanded by admiral Keppel, the latter by count D'Orvilliers: the result was wholly indecisive, neither party having lost a single ship. This action gave rise to courts-martial on the conduct of admirals Keppel and Palliser.

30. Two brothers died at a village near Reading, one 93, and the other 83 years of age, where, for many years, they had lived together in one room in the meanest manner, and are thought to have died worth 100,000*l*.

In this month a strong party of the American loyalists, called tories, with some Indians, laid waste the beautiful and prosperous settlement of Wyoming on the Susquehanna. The devastation was retaliated by the Virginians against the Canadian

settlements on the Mississippi, which they reduced, and exacted an oath from the inhabitants of allegiance to the United States.

Aug. 1. The act which obliged lottery-office keepers to take out licenses and pay 50*l*. for the same, reduced the number of these offices from 400 to 51.

18. A cucumber was gathered near Derby, weighing twenty pounds.

Sept. 22. The grand dock at Hull opened.

25. Five hundred men of Lord Seaforth's Highland regiment deserted and took possession of Arthur's Hill, near Edinburgh, with a design to defend themselves to the last extremity. On inquiry it was found they had imbibed an idea that they were sold to the East India Company. General Houghton promising them a free pardon, they returned to their duty.

Oct. In this month the British commissioners left America, leaving behind them an angry and indiscreet manifesto, threatening revengeful consequences to the colonies from their connexions with France. Further discredit was brought on this mission by an unsuccessful attempt of Mr. Johnstone, through the medium of a lady, to corrupt some of the members of congress, and in consequence of which the congress declined all communication with that gentleman. The conduct of the earl of Carlisle in the affair with the marquis de la Fayette is the only part of the proceedings of the commissioners in which they seem to have evinced wisdom: the marquis had sent a chivalrous note to the earl, resenting the "terms of insult" (*Ann. Reg.* xxii. 317) in which he had spoken of France, and requiring personal satisfaction; but the earl properly declined to make a private and individual atonement for an act he had done in concert with others in discharge of a public duty.

Nov. 26. Parliament opened by the king with a speech in which he denounced the treacherous conduct of France in clandestinely supplying the American insurgents with the materials of warfare. Long debates ensued, and the opposition in the lords resorted to the unusual course of moving a direct negative to the ministerial address. It was carried, however, by 67 to 35. In the commons the house divided at two in the morning, when the address was carried by 226 to 107.

Dec. 17. The theatre at Saragossa burnt; 400 persons lost their lives.

GENERAL BURGOYNE.—On the arrival of this officer on his parole from America, a court of inquiry into his conduct was appointed, but the general officers of which it was composed reported that in his then situation of prisoner of war to the congress, no cognizance could be taken of it. He then demanded a court-martial, which on

the same ground was refused. Bringing his case before parliament, motions were made by his friends in both houses for an inquiry into the causes of his surrender, but they were frustrated by the influence of the ministry. The general afterwards refusing to return to his captive army, was by the king deprived of his military commands.

PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.—Hostilities commenced between these powers on a scale of magnitude that threatened to revive the sanguinary devastations of the seven years' war. They originated in the revival of some obsolete claim of Austria to the succession of the Bavarian states now that the Guillelmine line was extinct by the death of the elector Joseph Maximilian. Prussia resisted the pretension; and each, the emperor and king, drew out an army of 200,000 men. In July one of the Prussian corps under Frederick marched to the frontiers of Bohemia, while another invaded Austrian Silesia. The plan of the imperialists was defensive; and a campaign of marches and countermarches ensued, in which all the resources of military tactics were displayed. In September both combatants withdrew from the field without having sustained any material loss other than from sickness and desertion.

1779. *Jan.* A frost this winter lasted eighty-four days.

2. The beautiful chapel of Greenwich hospital burnt.

8. Glasgow, Perth, Dundee, Dunfermline, Kilmarnock and Stirling, entered into strong resolutions, to oppose to the utmost any relaxation of the laws against the Roman Catholics.

20. At his house in the Adelphi-terrace, in his 62nd year, died, **DAVID GARRICK**, the first of actors, and a most amiable man. He had been forty years on the stage. His remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey with great funeral pomp.

Feb. 2. The mob at Edinburgh, excited by an anonymous letter dropped in the streets, burn down a house intended for a papist chapel, and break the windows of Roman Catholics. Similar riots disgraced Glasgow; but the exertions of the magistrates and the principal inhabitants restored order.

9. Two clergymen who had preached in a chapel in Clerkenwell, without leave of the incumbent or license from the bishop, were condemned in Doctors' Commons with costs of suit, and the chapel shut by a writ of monition.

10. A day of public fast.

11. Admiral Keppel, after a trial of thirty days, is honourably acquitted of the charges of misconduct and incapacity, exhibited against him by sir Hugh Palliser.

The metropolis was twice illuminated on the occasion, and the freedom of the city voted to the admiral. Outrages were committed by the mob on the house of lord North and others supposed to be inimical to the accused.

14. Captain Cook, the celebrated circumnavigator, killed at Owhyhee in an affray with the natives. Before this catastrophe was known in Europe the French government issued an order to their cruisers not to molest this able seaman should they fall in with him in his homeward voyage.

16. The thanks of both houses voted to admiral Keppel for having gloriously upheld the honour of the British flag on the 27th and 28th of July last. The dispute between the naval officers had now become a party question in the nation and parliament, where it was used as a means of attack on the ministry, especially lord Sandwich, the head of the admiralty, whose indecorous private life helped to sharpen the popular hatred which his politics excited.

17. Popular feeling running strongly against sir Hugh Palliser, he resigned his seat in the commons, and all his public employments to the amount of 4000*l.* a year.

25. The bridge at Puerto Santo in Spain fell down, while the priests were consecrating it, and many persons were killed.

Mar. 1. At the instance of the African Committee, a prosecution had been instituted against the master of a slave ship, and he was this day, before lord Mansfield, cast in 500*l.* damages for carrying away a free black from the coast of Africa and selling him as a slave in Jamaica.

19. The citizens of Edinburgh determined to make restitution to the catholics for the damages they had sustained from the mob.

30. The university of Oxford petitioned the commons against the bill for the relief of protestant dissenting ministers and schoolmasters.

Apr. 7. As Miss Reay was coming out of Covent-Garden theatre, she was shot dead by the Rev. Mr. Hackman, who instantly tried to shoot himself with another pistol. A refusal of Hackman's addresses occasioned this catastrophe. Miss Reay had lived with lord Sandwich 17 years, by whom she had nine children. Hackman was tried at the Old Bailey before judge Blackstone, and executed.

May 7. The barons of the Exchequer decided that the tithe of potatoes is a small tithe and payable to the vicar, not the impropriator.

13. Peace of Teschen concluded between Austria and Prussia, under the mediation of France and Russia.

30. The British take possession of Ver-

planks and Stoney Point, which commanded the communication between the eastern and western colonies. Upon learning this disaster Washington decamped from the Jerseys, but without abandoning his Fabian tactics. Subsequently, on the 15th of July, Stoney Point was surprised and gallantly carried by the American general Wayne.

June 13. Rev. John Horne applied to the society of the Inner Temple, to be admitted a barrister, but was refused on the ground of his being a clergyman in full orders.

16. The Spanish ambassador presented a manifesto to the British court, equivalent to a declaration of war.

23. The East India Company determine to raise 6000 men for the public service, and to fit out three ships of 74 guns each as a present to the government.

July 3. The king, in closing the parliamentary session, said that he esteemed it a happy omen of the success of his arms, that as difficulties increased so increased the courage and constancy of the people.

6. Partial naval action in the West Indies, between count D'Estaing and admiral Byron.

9. Royal proclamation commanding all horses and cattle to be driven from the coasts in the event of an invasion.

22. A fire in the victualling-office, Plymouth.

30. Orders issued to permit no foreigners of any description to visit the royal dock-yards.

Aug. 3. At the Surrey assizes it is determined that a house which receives no benefit from the sewers cannot be assessed to the sewers' rate.

10. Eruption of Mount Vesuvius, which continued several days, destroyed some villages and a hunting-seat of the King of Naples. The country for four miles was covered with lava, which in several places lay two or three feet deep.

20. The duke of Northumberland laid the first stone of Clerkenwell sessions-house.

ALARM OF INVASION.—Very considerable anxiety was created this month by the appearance of the united fleets of France and Spain in the Channel in overwhelming force. The English admiral was obliged to retire before them, and the flags of the coalesced Bourbons continued to menace and insult the British coasts with impunity until the approach of the equinox, when count d'Orvilliers directed his course back to Brest, without accomplishing anything further than the capture of the Ardent man-of-war, which, by accident, had fallen in with the combined fleets.

During the summer the siege of Gibraltar was undertaken by the Spaniards; its reduction being one of the principal objects of Spain in becoming a party to the war.

Sept. 23. The Houghton (Sir R. Walpole's) collection of pictures was sold to the empress of Russia, and shipped for Petersburg.

The number of prisoners of war in Britain amounted to 12,000; namely, 2200 American, 600 Spanish, the remainder French.

Oct. 5. Salary of the recorder of London fixed at 600*l.* per annum.

9. Serious riots at Manchester, occasioned by the buildings and machinery of Mr. Arkwright: two persons killed and several wounded by the intervention of the military.

11. Several persons who had remained voluntarily in the King's-bench prison for the sake of letting their rooms, were turned out of the prison.

12. The Irish parliament met, and to the usual addresses moved by the courtiers an amendment was proposed and adopted by large majorities in the following words:—"We beg leave humbly to represent to your majesty, that it is not by temporary expedients, but by a FREE TRADE, that the nation is now to be saved from impending ruin." The address was carried up to the viceroy under the escort of the duke of Leinster at the head of the Dublin volunteers, amidst loud acclamations of the people. The thanks of both houses were unanimously voted to the volunteer corps throughout the kingdom; and in order to prevent a sudden prorogation a six months' money bill passed the commons.

16. Marquis de Pombal tried at Lisbon and condemned to perpetual imprisonment.

The fortress of Omoa captured by a sudden and combined assault of British seamen and soldiers. A considerable booty was obtained; but owing to the unhealthiness of the climate it was shortly after abandoned to the Spaniards.

29. Sir Joseph Yorke, ambassador to the States General, presented a memorial, requesting that the Serapis and Scarborough, two vessels taken by Paul Jones and carried into a Dutch port, might be stopped and delivered up. The States General declined interfering in the matter.

Nov. 11. RESOLUTIONS ON MACHINERY.—The quarter-sessions held at Preston for the county of Lancaster resolved unanimously that the sole cause of the late riots was the new machines employed in the cotton manufacture; that the county, notwithstanding, had greatly benefited by their erection; that the destroying them in one county would only be the means of transferring them to another county; and that if a total stop was put by the legislature to their erection in Britain it would only tend to their establishment in foreign countries, to the detriment of the trade of Britain. These resolutions were transmitted

ted to the secretary of state with a request that a special commission might be issued to try the rioters in Lancaster gaol.

15. At Dublin, a counsellor was brought in guilty of murder in having shot a gentleman in a duel. The circumstance of going out deliberately to fight being, in the opinion of the jury, sufficient evidence of malice aforethought, the judges desired the jury to recommend the culprit to the bench for mercy, which they reluctantly did.

On the same day there was an assemblage of 6000 persons before the parliament house, insulting the members, crying out for a *free trade* in Ireland: they stopped the speaker, and swore the members to support a short money bill: they were proceeding to greater excesses when the lawyers' corps appeared among them, unarmed, and allayed the ferment.

22. Alderman John Wilkes elected chamberlain of London by a large majority.

25. MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The state of Ireland was adverted to in the king's speech, but there was no mention of the war in America. It seemed now granted that all hope of recovering the revolted provinces must be given up, and the energies of the country concentrated on the more pressing contest with France and Spain. An amendment to the ministerial address was moved by the marquis of Rockingham, the drift of which was, that public ruin could only be averted "by new measures and new counsellors." He was supported by the dukes of Grafton and Richmond, lords Shelburne, Effingham, Camden, and other peers in opposition. Amongst the opponents of ministers was their former zealous champion lord Lyttleton, who spoke strongly against the pertinacious continuance of the American war. The defence of ministers was feeble, but a majority of two to one supported them. A similar amendment was moved in the commons and rejected by 234 to 134. In the debate lord George Gordon exhibited the first symptoms of that eccentricity for which he was soon after conspicuously mischievous. Some unimportant changes had meanwhile taken place in the administration. Earl Bathurst was nominated president of the council in the room of earl Gower, and viscount Stormont (a nephew of chief-justice Mansfield) was appointed to the northern secretaryship, vacant by the death of lord Suffolk.

27. Died suddenly, in his 36th year, Thomas, Lord Lyttleton. His lordship's abilities were considerable, and he had distinguished himself two days before in the debates on the address and the state of Ireland. It is of him the story of the ghost is related, which is said to have announced his death to him three days before it happened.

30. Duel between the hon. Charles James Fox and W. Adam, Esq., in which the former is slightly wounded. It arose from some remarks made by Mr. Fox in parliament which were supposed to be personal.

Dec. 13. STATE OF IRELAND.—Lord North brought forward his propositions for the relief of Ireland. They consisted chiefly in a repeal of the laws prohibiting the export of Irish woollen manufactures to any part of Europe, and in the admission of Ireland to a direct export and import trade with the British colonies. "Give us a free trade," had long been the popular cry of Ireland, and some concessions had been made in 1778, but in too niggardly a spirit from the selfish jealousies of the commercial interests of England. But a crisis had arrived which rendered a longer refusal of justice dangerous to the connexion between the two countries. Under pretext of making ready to resist the threatened invasion by France and Spain, associations comprising all ranks and parties were formed, and in a few weeks a volunteer army, 60,000 strong, had sprung up in all the pride of military array and all the strength of military discipline. With such a power, the advocates of unrestricted commerce did not attempt to conceal that their object was as much to wrest a redress of domestic grievances from their own government as to repel foreign aggression. They had, as was said, "their face towards America and their back towards England." In fact, the first aspect of the American contest was not so menacing as this armed combination. Ministers were alarmed and embarrassed at finding a second colonial rebellion upon their hands while they were every day losing hope of being able to make head against the first. Hence the resolutions of lord North for opening the Irish trade, and which in the existing temper of parliament were agreed to without opposition.

ARMY AND NAVY.—Before the recess, the commons voted 85,000 men for the sea-service; 111,000 for the land-service, exclusive of militia, amounting, with the additional volunteer companies, to 42,000. The foreign troops in British pay were estimated at 24,000, and the artillery at 6000. The entire force at this period, exclusive of the troops serving on the Irish and Indian establishments, was nearly 270,000. Loans were necessary to support this vast increase of the public establishments; that of the year amounted to 12,000,000/.

30. YORK COUNTY MEETING.—A great meeting of freeholders, for forming an association and to consider of a petition to parliament for national economy. In their petition to the house of commons they earnestly requested "that before any

new burthens were laid upon the country effectual measures might be taken by that house to inquire into and correct the gross abuses in the expenditure of the public money; to reduce all exorbitant emoluments; to rescind and abolish all sinecure places and unmerited pensions; and to appropriate the produce to the necessities of the state." Meetings were held and petitions of similar import agreed to in all the chief counties and towns in the ensuing year, and the presentation of the York petition (Feb. 8th) produced a great sensation.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Rev. John Langhorne, an ingenious poet and miscellaneous writer. Rev. J. Ashe, author of an English grammar and other works. William Kendrick, L.L.D., a well known literary character. John, duke of Rutland, marquis of Granby, aged 83. Sergeant Glyn, recorder of London and M.P. for Middlesex, a popular lawyer. Dr. John Armstrong, physician and poet. Richard Grenville, earl Temple, the great friend and supporter of alderman Wilkes.

1780. Jan. 4. A deputation from the Protestant Association, formed under the auspices of lord George Gordon, waited on lord North, to request him to present a petition from that society to parliament, against the late concessions to the catholics. Lord North refused. These associations first commenced in 1778, in Scotland, where they were suffered to attain a mischievous organization, though the act which so alarmed popular prejudice did not extend to that country.

7. Great meeting of the Middlesex freeholders at the Mermaid, Hackney, upon the model of the York county-meeting.

16. Sir George Rodney defeated the Spanish admiral De Langara, and was thereby enabled to relieve Gibraltar, besieged by the combined forces of France and Spain.

21. One Gough, a man who kept wild beasts, was fined five guineas for letting one of them loose on a sheriff's officer who came to arrest him.

A proclamation for the capture of all foreign ships carrying warlike stores to the British colonies.

Feb. 2. A great meeting in Westminster to petition for retrenchment; Mr. Fox in the chair. A committee of ninety noblemen and gentlemen appointed; among whom were lords Portland, Egremont, Temple, alderman Wilkes, &c.

4. A public fast-day.

8. Sir George Savile presented to the commons the York petition. He stated that it had been first moved (Dec. 30th) at a meeting of 600 gentlemen and upwards; that in the hall where it was voted, there was more property than there was within the walls of the commons' house; and it

was signed by above 8000 freeholders. The committee appointed at the meeting consisted of 61 gentlemen, of whom 14 were clergymen, including two church dignitaries.

11. Messrs. Stratton, Brooke, Floyer and Mackay were brought to the bar of the King's-bench to receive sentence, on being found guilty of removing lord Pigot from the presidency of Madras, and imprisoning him nine months, which was alleged to be the cause of his death. They were sentenced to pay 1000*l.* fine each to the king, which they did immediately, and were discharged.

Mr. Burke introduced his famous plan of economical reform, of which the two leading objects were to lessen the public expenditure and diminish regal influence. He proposed a better regulation of the king's household, the sale of the crown lands, and the abolition of the separate jurisdiction of Wales and the counties palatine. Violent conflicts ensued, in which the ministry more than once were left in a minority; and Mr. Burke's bill was only finally carried curtailed of its chief features.

A motion by colonel Barré in the lower, and lord Shelburne in the upper house, for the appointment of a committee to inspect the public accounts, met with more favour. For this reason the plan was artfully taken up by the minister, who hastily introduced a bill, which passed into a law, for instituting a commission of accounts, consisting of persons *not members* of the commons. It proved a salutary institution, as their numerous reports testify.

14. DEATH OF BLACKSTONE.—In his 57th year, sir William Blackstone, one of the judges of the court of common-pleas, and popular writer on the laws and constitution of England. This eminent lawyer was the posthumous son of a Loudon mercer, and educated on the foundation of the Charter-house. Not possessing in a high degree the talents of an advocate, Blackstone, at the commencement of his career, retired from the practice of his profession at the bar to his fellowship at Oxford, and did not return to it till after attaining celebrity by his writings and Vinerian lectures. His celebrated Commentaries have been objected to, on account of his prerogative leanings, and inculcating sentiments unfavourable to the toleration of dissenters. They have, however, the rare merit of rendering accessible, and almost intelligible to the unlearned, a very abstruse and forbidding science,—if that can be termed science which is mainly founded on precedent. By digesting and arranging the literary chaos of his predecessors, by ingenious and lucid illustrations, and by putting forth his work in clear and elegant language, he performed a task for the

legal student little inferior in utility to that performed by Adam Smith for the student of political economy by the publication of his "Wealth of Nations." Sir William zealously advocated the penitentiary system of prison discipline (*Law Magazine*, xv., 312), and, in conjunction with the celebrated John Howard, procured an act (19 Geo. III., c. 74) for erecting penitentiary houses for the confinement of prisoners, as a substitute for transportation.

26. A manifesto of the Russian court announced the coalition of the northern powers, under the title of the ARMED NEUTRALITY, formed upon the basis that "free bottoms make free goods," which principle went to authorising neutral states to carry on their usual commercial intercourse with belligerents except in contraband goods. Although the principle was laid down generally, its operation more immediately applied to England, who remonstrated against it.

29. Thanks of the commons voted to sir George Rodney for his signal naval services.

Mar. 22. Duel between colonel Fullerton and lord Shelburne, in which his lordship is wounded. It originated in a parliamentary altercation.

Apr. 6. Mr. Dunning moved in a committee of the whole house his celebrated resolution "that the influence of the crown has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished." It was carried by a majority of 233 votes against 215; but a second motion, on the 26th instant, to give effect to the first, was lost by a majority of 177 to 134. In the interval the speaker had fallen sick, parliamentary business was interrupted, and the minister made such good use of his time, that alderman Sawbridge declared that ever since the vote of the 6th instant denounced the growing influence of the crown, that influence had been in a progressive state of increase.

17. Sir George Rodney defeated, near Martinique, the French fleet commanded by the count de Guichen, though the results were not so brilliant as they might have been had the seal of the English admiral been properly supported by his captains. The naval administration of the country had long been wretched, and a very bad spirit pervaded the king's ships. Rodney complained of the misconduct of his officers; but it is now well known that the Admiralty deemed it necessary to suppress the criminatory passages of his despatches, and only one was brought to trial; the others, who were equally accused by the commander, being allowed to escape, from the difficulty of finding a sufficient number of non-delinquent officers to try them.

May 3. The court of King's-bench determined that the owners of adjoining lands have no property in the soil of public navigable rivers down to low-water mark.

6. A petition presented to the king, from the whites and blacks of Calcutta, against the introduction of the English laws there.

9. Two men, one a tradesman and the other a sheriff's officer, were convicted of arresting the servant of an ambassador. They were sentenced by Mr. justice Willes to be conducted to the house of the ambassador, with a label on their breasts, to ask his pardon, and then one of them to be imprisoned three months and the other fined.

29. Great meeting of the Protestant Association in Coachmakers'-hall, lord Geo. Gordon in the chair, who said he would not present their petition to parliament if fewer than 20,000 persons accompanied him. His lordship during the session had frequently interrupted public business by the introduction of religious topics, which excited the risible, rather than the irritable, feelings of the members.

June. RIOTS IN THE METROPOLIS.—On Friday, the 2nd instant, many thousands of people, agreeable to prior notice, met in St. George's-fields to accompany lord George Gordon, with a petition to repeal the law of May 28, 1778, in favour of the catholics. Here they divided into three bodies, and proceeded in processional order over the bridges, to the avenues of the house of commons. Many of the mob behaved ill, insulting the members of both houses, and compelling some to put blue cockades in their hats, with the inscription, NO POPERY. Lord George Gordon presented the petition to the house, and moved that it be taken into immediate consideration; but his motion was rejected by 192 votes to 6. The petition is affirmed to have had 120,000 signatures or "marks of men as outrageously zealous as grossly ignorant." During the discussion, his lordship frequently addressed the mob outside, and told them the people of Scotland had no redress till they pulled down the pope's chapels. When the house adjourned, the populace, acting on his suggestion, proceeded to demolish the catholic chapels of the foreign ambassadors. The mob proceeded to Newgate, released the prisoners, destroyed the keeper's furniture, and set fire to the whole. They did the same at the New Prison, Clerkenwell. On Wednesday they destroyed the King's-bench prison and several private houses. The Fleet prison, New Bridewell, and the toll-gates at Blackfriars-bridge shared the same fate. Thirty-six fires were seen blazing this night at one time (*Annual Register*, xxiii., 262). They attempted the Bank,

but the soldiers inflicted a severe chastisement upon them. The military came in from the country, and, in obedience to an order of the king in council, directions were given to the officers to fire upon the rioters without waiting the sanction of the civil power. On Friday tranquillity was restored, but not before 458 persons had been killed and wounded, exclusive of those who perished from intoxication; especially in the house of Mr. Langdale, a catholic and distiller. Under a warrant of the secretaries of state, lord George Gordon was committed to the Tower on a charge of high treason.

The magistracy of the metropolis have been reproached for supineness during the prevalence of these dreadful riots, but Mr. Belsham says (*Memoirs of George III.*, iii. 12) that it was assuredly not forgotten that Mr. Gillam, an excellent magistrate of the county of Surrey, was tried at the Old Bailey for his life in consequence of the order given by him at the riots in St. George's-fields, in 1768, for the military to fire, after long and patiently enduring the greatest provocations from the rioters, and twice reading the riot-act. Such a precedent could not but tend in similar emergencies to enfeeble the civil power.

Attempts were made to create anti-catholic disturbances at Hull, Bristol, and Bath, but they were frustrated by the timely vigilance of the magistrates. It happened unfavourably for a popular motion of the duke of Richmond, that the riots in London commenced on the day he gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill for annual parliaments. The tumults threw a general damp upon all endeavours at political reformation.

9. The earl of Surrey and sir Thomas Gascoigne recanted, before the archbishop of Canterbury, the errors of the church of Rome. The former was candidate for Carlisle, the latter for Beverley.

10. A French force of 6000 men, under count de Rochambeau, landed at Rhode Island, and was cordially received by the Americans.

July 8. Parliament prorogued by the king.

15. Under the special commission appointed to try the rioters, it appears 135 have been tried, and 59 of them capitally convicted. Chief justice Wedderburn, recently created a peer, by the title of lord Loughborough, presided.

18. The court of aldermen resolved to dispense with the service of the military, there being no fear of disturbance, and their maintenance cost the city one hundred pounds per day.

NAVAL LOSSES.—Rich and numerous outward-bound East and West India fleets

having sailed from Portsmouth at the end of the month, unfortunately fell in with the combined fleet under don de Cordova, and five East, and above fifty West India-men became prizes to the enemy. Shortly before, a great part of the outward-bound Quebec fleet had fallen a prey to the American privateers. The only set-off against these naval disasters was the capture, by admiral Geary, of twelve ships of the home-ward-bound French West India fleet.

Aug. 15. Lord Cornwallis signally defeated general Gates, the Americans losing 900 killed and 1000 made prisoners. Soon after, the American partisan Sumpter was routed by colonel Tarleton, while the English partisan Ferguson was killed, and his corps destroyed.

21. The French king abolished the application of torture to criminals to extort confession.

Sept. 1. Parliament, which had completed its sixth session, and might have continued in existence for another year, was unexpectedly dissolved.

4. Died at Brompton, sir JOHN FIELDING, one of the police justices of the metropolis. He was half-brother to the author of "Tom Jones," and himself a writer of various tracts on the criminal law, and a miscellaneous publication called "The Universal Mentor." It is a remarkable fact that Fielding was blind from his youth, yet was an active and sagacious magistrate (*Gent. Mag.*), and the promoter, if not the founder, of the Magdalen hospital, the Marine Society, and other charities.

22. At the close of the poll for Westminster, the numbers were—for admiral Rodney, 5298; Mr. Fox, 4878; lord Lincoln, the court candidate, 4157.

Oct. 2. Major Andre hanged, as a spy, by the Americans. He had been detected in the American lines, with a false passport, disguised in plain clothes; and the papers found upon him showed that he had been employed in negotiating the infamous treachery of general Arnold to betray his position at West Point, and troops, to the British general.

6. Mr. Laurens, late president of the American Congress, after an examination by the privy-council, committed to the Tower, on a charge of high-treason. He had been taken on his passage to Holland, and papers were found showing that an alliance was about being concluded between the Americans and that country.

31. NEW PARLIAMENT.—Sir Fletcher Norton having lost the favour of ministers, Mr. Cornwall was chosen speaker of the new house of commons by a majority of 203 to 134. One hundred and thirteen new men obtained seats in parliament. The alarm of the late riots caused several popu-

lar members to be thrown out; but generally the elections had been carried on with much apathy. Several members of the late parliament, tired out by constant attendance and fruitless opposition, would neither be at the trouble nor the expense of a contest. The general poverty and depression, occasioned by the war, had worn down both the spirit and principle of the people. Sir George Savile, in his address to the freeholders of York, told them that there was no hope of arresting the progress of public calamity "till the purity of the constituent, and thereby that of the representative," was restored.

Nov. 1. The returns of losses by the riots amounted to 180,000*l*.

29. Died in her 63rd year, lamented by her subjects, whom she had governed forty years, MARIA THERESA, empress of Germany and queen of Hungary. She was warmly attached to the catholic religion, and this restrained her son Joseph from acting as he wished in ecclesiastical matters till her death. Soon after that event he issued two ordinances respecting religious orders; by one they were forbidden holding correspondence with their chiefs when in foreign parts; by the other, he forbade any bull or ordinance of the pope being received in his dominions, until it had been sanctioned by him. He granted throughout the whole of his hereditary states a free toleration for all religions. He granted also a greater liberty to the press, and abolished slavery in Bohemia, Moldavia, and Silesia. At the same time, Leopold, the emperor's brother, archduke of Tuscany, ordered that all church property in his dominions should be subject to the same contributions as other property.

Dec. 2. Mr. justice Wilmot obtained a verdict against the inhabitants of Bethnal-green, and 1355*l*., for the destruction of his property by the rioters. Many other actions were brought by sufferers for compensation. One against the Sun fire-office, on the 15th instant, failed, a clause in the policy protecting them against loss by *civil or military commotion*.

18. Society of Antiquarians instituted in Edinburgh by the endeavours of the earl of Buchan. Earl of Bute first president.

20. War declared against Holland.

The king of France made a considerable economical reduction in his household this year, 406 offices being abolished by one edict. The duke of Modena abolished the inquisition in his territories.

ANNUAL OBITUARY. — Hon. Topham Beauclerk, a gentleman well known in the Johnsonian literary circle, and celebrated for his conversational powers. Francis Vives, an eminent engraver. James Harris, the author of "Hermes" and other philo-

gical works. Dr. John Fothergill, a quaker and eminent physician. Thomas Dilworth, author of a popular spelling-book. Francis Walkern, a carpenter, aged 104. At Leeds, aged 106, Mr. Wheatley, a clothier. At Boxford, aged 102, Thomas Field, a labouring man: his father was 104; his uncle, 93; his brother, 95 (*Annual Register*, xxiii. 236).

1781. Jan. 1. The prince of Wales declared of age, and appears at court. A few days before the bishop of Osnaburg was sent to Germany to finish his education.

6. The French landed 800 men in the island of Jersey. They marched unperceived across the roads, and arrived in the market-place of St. Hillier by six in the morning, making prisoners the lieutenant-governor and magistrates; but the militia and other forces in the neighbourhood being collected by major Pierson, a young and gallant officer, they attacked and defeated the French, destroying and taking prisoners the whole of the invading force; but, unfortunately, Pierson was killed in the moment of victory. The French commander had previously fallen.

25. The commons voted 120,000*l*. for the relief of the sufferers by a hurricane in Barbadoes and Jamaica.

Feb. 1. A motion of censure on the recent appointment of sir Hugh Palliser to the governorship of Greenwich hospital negatived.

2. Admiral Rodney takes the Dutch island of St. Eustatia, with 250 ships and other booty, estimated at three millions sterling. Thirty Dutch West Indiamen under convoy, and a 60-gun ship were also made prize of. The Dutch colonies of Essequibo and Demerara capitulated.

5. Trial of Lord George Gordon. It lasted two days; but the charge for high-treason not being sustainable, he was acquitted: thus this very mischievous and fanatical person escaped all punishment.

15. Mr. Burke again introduced his bill for the reform of the Civil List Establishments. It was ordered to be read a second time on the 26th instant, when the chief debate ensued, and was memorable for the first appearance of some distinguished characters. Mr. Pitt delivered his maiden speech: it was in favour of the bill, and the report says of the speaker, "his voice is rich and striking, full of melody and force; his manner easy and elegant; his language beautiful and luxuriant." The present earl of Lauderdale, then viscount Maitland, came out on the same occasion, in the ranks of opposition. This session witnessed, too, the commencement of Sheridan's brilliant course: he spoke pointedly, the same night, in defence of Burke's bill. All this display of eloquence, however, did not avail; the house divided

at midnight, and the bill was lost on the second reading by 233 to 190.

Mar. A distemper broke out among horned cattle; and to prevent the spreading of the infection, an order in council directs them to be killed and buried.

7. *THE BUDGET.*—In opening the budget, lord North estimated the entire expenditure of the year at 21 millions, of which it would be necessary to raise 12 millions by a public loan. The debate on this day, and on the 26th instant, shows the prevalent mode of parliamentary management. The loan had been contracted for on the most lavish terms, and distributed to the supporters of the minister. That the terms were wasteful appears from the fact that the shares the next day were sold in the money-market at an advance of from 10 to 11 per cent. Mr. Byng affirmed that half the loan had been subscribed by members of the house, which was in fact, he said, a distribution among the parliamentary supporters of government of full 680,000*l.* Lord Rockingham characterized the loan as one by which at least a million of the public money had been corruptly lavished in bribing the representatives of the people to support the war (*Companion to the Newspaper*, No. 47, p. 275). Much of the loan was subscribed for in the names of clerks in different banking houses; some of them being set down for 25,000*l.* each, the better to screen the parties really interested. About this time two measures were introduced to curtail the ministerial means of corruption; one to exclude government contractors, the other, revenue officers from seats in parliament. They were defeated in the usual way. Towards the end of the debate a body of members poured in from the coffee-rooms, called for a division, and gave to the minister his customary triumph, that of a large majority.

10. Alderman Kennett, the late lord-mayor, found guilty of a dereliction of duty during the "No Popery" riots.

15. Lord Cornwallis defeated the American general, Green, at Guildford; but the victory was so dearly bought, that the English general was shortly after obliged to retreat, leaving behind his sick and wounded.

Apr. 3. Captain Donellan executed at Warwick for poisoning his brother-in-law, sir T. E. Boughton. He declared himself innocent to the last.

May 8. The exclusive right of the king's printer, to print the forms of prayer for a public fast-day, established in the Exchequer.

12. Dr. Brownlow North translated from Worcester to Winchester, *vice* Dr. John Thomas, deceased. Dr. Hurd succeeded North in Worcester.

June 1. Government consented to renew the charter of the Bank of England for 25 years, on condition of their lending to the public 4,000,000*l.* sterling, at 3 per cent.

11. Ostend declared a free port, and in the following October the emperor acceded in form to the Armed Neutrality, as the kings of Prussia and Portugal had also previously done.

12. Mr. Fox made a motion for terminating the American contest. He was supported by Mr. Pitt, who characterised the war as a "series of inefficient victories or disgraceful defeats,—victories obtained over men struggling in the holy cause of liberty." Negated by 173 to 99.

15. The number of prisoners exchanged with France since the beginning of the war, 44,000.

25. Rev. Hen. Bats, proprietor of the Morning Post, sentenced to one year's imprisonment for a libel on the duke of Richmond.

July 14. De la Motte, a spy in the pay of the French, tried for high-treason, in transmitting intelligence to the enemy respecting our naval operations. He was convicted on the evidence of a German, his accomplice, and hanged on the 27th instant.

18. On closing the session, the king said, "Peace is the earnest wish of my heart."

Aug. 5. Obstinate battle with the Dutch off Dogger Bank, under sir Hyde Parker. Both parties claimed the victory.

15. The king reviews the fleet at the Nore, accompanied by the prince of Wales.

Sept. 8. Battle of Eutaw Springs. General Arnold burns New London in Connecticut.

19. Treaty of Chunar signed between governor Hastings and the subahdar of Oude; by which the nabob was relieved of all his debts to the Company, on condition of seizing the property of the Begums, his mother and grandmother, and delivering it up to the English. On this occasion the nabob made a present to Mr. Hastings of 100,000*l.*

Oct. 19. Lord Cornwallis, after a gallant defence, surrendered York Town, with the whole of his army, to Washington, and the British vessels in the harbour to the French admiral de Grasse. Mr. Laurens, the American commissioner who drew up the articles of surrender was the son of Mr. Laurens, at that time close prisoner in the Tower.

Nov. 13. Townsend, a lieutenant of a privateer, executed for murder on the high seas, by ordering a gun to be fired into a neutral ship, which killed the captain.

20. French re-captured Eustatia.

27. Parliament met. The amendments to the address, moved by Mr. Fox in the lower, and by lord Shelburne in the upper,

house, pointed to a change of counsels, but did not go the length of advising a recognition of American independence.

Dec. 4. Mr. Burke moved for an inquiry into the conduct of admiral Rodney in illegally confiscating the property of the inhabitants of St. Eustatia. The admiral defended himself, supported by his brother-in-arms, general Vaughan, on the ground of Dutch perfidy; and the motion was negatived.

12. Sir James Lowther moved that all further attempts to reduce the revolted colonies were contrary to the true interests of the kingdom. Negatived only by a majority of 41, in a house of 339 members. It was on this occasion Mr. Dunning, very mistakenly, declared, "he thought the *raison* of this country was accomplished when America was acknowledged to be independent."

14. It appears from the army estimates that the whole military force required for the year 1782, including the provincial corps serving in America, amounted to 195,000 men. The house had already voted 100,000 seamen and marines. Lord George Germain intimated that ministers had abandoned the idea of subduing the Americans, and that no fresh army would be sent to replace that captured at York Town.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—The charter of the Company was this year renewed, to continue till March 1794. The Company to pay 400,000*l.*, and to be allowed a dividend of 8 per cent.; three-fourths of any surplus to be paid to the government. All political dispatches to be first communicated to Ministers, who are to decide in all questions relative to peace and war.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—Robert Raikes, a printer, in conjunction with the rev. Mr. Stock, established at Gloucester the first Sunday-school in England. His aim was greatly facilitated by the institution, four years after, of the Sunday School Society; the objects of which were to promote, by correspondence and pecuniary assistance, the formation of Sunday Schools; to induce the opulent to visit and superintend them, and suggest such improvements as might offer to their consideration. Next to charity-schools (*ante* 385) Sunday-schools may be considered the second step in the progress of popular instruction. Before their establishment education was at a very low ebb, even among the middle orders; as may be seen by the writing and spelling of respectable tradesmen of that period.

At the close of the year public meetings were held in the cities of London and Westminster, and in Southwark, by the freeholders of Middlesex and Surrey, to consider the calamitous state of public affairs.

NAVY AND ARMY.—It appeared, by returns from the Navy-Office, that from 1774 to 1781, 175,900 men had been raised for the king's service, of whom, in the five years ending in 1780, 18,548 had died, 1243 were killed, and 42,069 had deserted. In the same period, by returns from the War Office it appeared there had been raised for the army 76,885 men, out of which 10,012 had died, made prisoners 8,629, deserted 3801, unfit for service 3835. The corps and recruits sent to America and the West Indies were in 1778, 3774; in 1779, 6871; in 1780, 10,237.—*Annual Register*, xxiv. 174.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Edward Capel, examiner of plays and editor of Shakspeare's plays. William de Grey, baron Walsingham, in his 62nd year, many years chief-justice of the common pleas. Lord Hawke, a distinguished naval commander. Henry Thrale, esq., LL.D., an eminent brewer, and late M.P. for Southwark. Dr. Watson, author of a History of Philip II. At Burford, Oxfordshire, aged 75, Mr. Lenthall, great-grandson to Lenthall, speaker of the Long Parliament in Cromwell's time.

1782. Jan. 31. The king having refused to receive on the throne, as customary, the address and remonstrance of the Livery of London, resolutions were passed expressive of the necessity of parliamentary reform and a more frequent election of representatives.

Feb. 7. Mr. Fox moved "that there had been gross mismanagement in the administration of naval affairs in the year 1781." Had this passed, Mr. Fox intended to follow it up with another motion for the removal of lord Sandwich from the head of the admiralty. It was negatived only by a majority of 22 in a house of 289 members. Meanwhile lord Germain had retired from the secretaryship of the colonies and was succeeded by Welbore Ellis, a staunch supporter of the American war.

VISCOUNT SACKVILLE.—The elevation of lord George Germain to the peerage, immediately after his resignation, by the title of viscount Sackville, was sharply discussed in the upper house. His lordship, it will be remembered, had, twenty-two years before, been adjudged by the sentence of a court-martial incapable of serving his majesty in any military capacity, in consequence of disobeying his superior officer at the battle of Minden. In the interval, however, he had filled important public offices, and had been restored to the privy-council under the Rockingham ministry; therefore the opposition to his new honour seemed fastidious. The discussion was raised on the 7th and 18th inst.; on the last day lord chancellor Thurlow delivered one of his most powerful speeches in defence of this exercise of the royal prerogative.

22. General Conway moved an address

to the king, imploring that the war in America might no longer be pursued for the impracticable purpose of reducing the inhabitants of that country to obedience by force. After an interesting debate, which lasted till two o'clock in the morning, the house divided and the minister found himself in an ominous majority of one—192 being for, and 193 against the question. Ministers, however, still clung to office, and a series of resolutions of more impulsive force were requisite before lord North expressed his intention to resign.

Mar. 8. Lord John Cavendish moved a string of resolutions, declaratory of the calamities of the war, concluding with an affirmation that the chief cause of these misfortunes had been a want of foresight and ability in the ministers. They were seconded by Mr. Powys, a principal leader of the independent interest, or country gentlemen, in the house, but negatived by 226 to 216. On this occasion Mr. Fox took occasion to say that the two chief points on which he differed with ministers were the necessity of peace and a diminution of regal influence. The war was supported by placemen and contractors; leaving out these, the majority against ministers was upwards of 100.

15. The opposition, determined to carry their point, pressed into their service sir John Rous, member for Suffolk, and once zealously attached to the ministry. On this day sir John moved, that taking into consideration the debt and losses of the war, no further confidence could be placed in the ministry who had the conduct of public affairs. A vehement debate ensued, and the motion was only negatived by 236 to 227.

19. The wished-for crisis had now arrived. The earl of Surrey had given notice for to-day of a motion of similar import to that of sir John Rous. But when his lordship was about to rise, lord North informed the house that *his majesty had come to a determination to make an entire change of administration*. Upon which the house adjourned.

ROCKINGHAM MINISTRY.—About the end of the month the new ministry was completed.

Marquis of Rockingham, *First Lord of the Treasury*.

Earl of Shelburne and Mr. Fox, *Secretaries of State*.

Lord John Cavendish, *Chancellor of the Exchequer*.

Admiral (Viscount) Keppel, *First Lord of the Admiralty*.

Duke of Grafton, *Lord Privy-Seal*.

Lord Camden, *President of the Council*.

Duke of Richmond, *Master-General of the Ordnance*.

General Conway, *Commander-in-chief of the Forces*.

Lord Ashburton (Dunning), *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*.

Lord Thurlow (continued), *Lord Chancellor*.

These eleven constituted the Cabinet, consisting of five Rockingham and five Shelburne whigs, and the tory chancellor Thurlow, who was more especially considered "the king's friend." Nearly all the subordinate offices were filled by new men. Mr. Burke was made paymaster-general of the forces; Colonel Barré, treasurer of the navy; Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Orde, under-secretaries of state; Mr. Townshend, secretary-at-war; Mr. Kenyon, attorney-general; Mr. Lee, solicitor-general; earl of Tankerville and O. H. F. Carteret, joint-postmasters general; the duke of Rutland, viceroy of Ireland; and general Burgoyne, commander-in-chief there.

MEASURES OF REFORM.—Various measures of reform which the opposition of the late ministry had defeated were now successfully introduced. Among these were two bills, one prohibiting contractors from sitting in the house of commons, and the other disabling revenue officers from voting at elections, both of which became law. The loss of the colonies having rendered the office of a third secretary of state unnecessary, that office was abolished. Mr. Burke introduced, for the third time, though much narrowed in its provisions, his bill for the reform of the civil list establishments. By this bill a mass of useless places and offices in the royal household were abolished, and the crown restrained from granting any pension exceeding 300*l*. Provision was also made for the discharge of the debts of the civil list, which had again accumulated to the amount of 300,000*l*., notwithstanding the recent augmentation of the king's income. In the commons these retrenchments were adopted without hesitation, but in the upper house lords Thurlow and Loughborough vainly tried by every species of legal subtlety first to defeat and then delay their progress.

Apr. 3. Prince de Gallitzin and M. de Markoff, the Russian ministers, offered their services to Holland, to mediate a peace between that country and England; and accompanied this offer with a letter from Mr. Fox expressive of the readiness of the English court to agree to an immediate armistice with the Dutch. To this communication no satisfactory answer was given.

12. GREAT NAVAL VICTORY.—Admiral Rodney completely defeated count De Grasse in the West Indies: the battle lasted from seven in the morning till sun-set; and the results were the capture of seven ships of the line and two frigates. Among

them was the *Ville de Paris*, of 112 guns, which struck to sir Samuel Hood, and is said to have been the only first-rate man-of-war that up to that date had ever been taken and carried into port. In this action the nautical manœuvre of breaking the line and attacking the enemy on both sides at once, was first tried and successfully executed. This victory saved Jamaica, ruined the naval power of France and Spain, and gave a finishing blow to the war. The news arrived in England just after an order had been despatched for the recall of Rodney, whose politics differed from those of the new ministry.

19. Holland acknowledged the independence of the United States of America and admitted Mr. Adams in the quality of minister.

27. Died, Edward Chamberlayne, F.A.S., one of the joint secretaries of the treasury. In a moment of nervous diffidence about his fitness to discharge the duties of his new appointment, he threw himself head foremost out of a window and was killed. He was one of the best scholars of the age.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxv. 206.

May. The early part of this month was unusually severe, and the winter, throughout Europe, had continued longer than had been known for several years.

6. Mr. Wilkes after many abortive efforts, succeeded in his object, and carried a motion to erase from the journals the resolution of Feb. 17th, 1769, by which he was "judged incapable of sitting in that house." Lord North and Mr. Fox opposed the motion, but it was carried by 115 to 47. Mr. Wilkes addressed a congratulatory letter to his constituents; but thirteen years had elapsed, and little was now thought of the Middlesex election.

7. REFORM OF PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Pitt brought forward his celebrated motion for a committee to inquire into the state of the representation. The treasury boroughs and those in the possession of private individuals he described as the great sources and supports of bad government. The leader of the opposition was Mr. Thomas Pitt, afterwards lord Camelford, and a cousin of the mover. Mr. Fox, in a short speech, supported the motion. Upon a division there were 141 for and 161 against the motion.

18. Illumination for Rodney's victory.

CONVENTION OF DUNGANNON.—The recent concessions (*ante* p. 511, 514) of the English parliament neither met the wants nor the wishes of Ireland. They denied the supremacy of the British legislature and the right of the Irish privy council (under Poyning's act) to originate laws; they called for a *habeas corpus* act and the abolition of superfluous places and pensions. These claims were made by armed men, whom it was

perilous to refuse. At Dungannon, last year, the representatives of 143 corps of volunteers assembled, and passed resolutions declaratory of a fixed determination to seek "a speedy and effectual" redress of Irish grievances. "They knew," they said, "their duty to their sovereign, and were disposed to be *loyal*; but they knew also what they owed to themselves, and were resolved to be *free*." On the 16th of April, 1782, Mr. Grattan, in a speech of extraordinary eloquence, moved in the commons of Ireland for a "Declaration of Rights," under the form of an address to the throne. Such was the power of his eloquence that it passed both houses unanimously, and was transmitted to England. On the 18th of May following the subject was introduced to the English parliament, by Mr. Fox, and the obnoxious act (6 Geo. 1.) for securing the dependency of Ireland, repealed.

June 14. Advice from Brest of the prevalence of an epidemic by which half the persons in the king's employ were confined to their beds.

26. Slavery entirely abolished in Austrian Poland.

July 1. Died, in his 53rd year, the marquis of ROCKINGHAM, first lord of the treasury and head of the ministry. His lordship leaving no issue the title became extinct, and his estates descended to his nephew, earl Fitzwilliam. Rockingham was a nobleman much respected, not remarkable for strength of mind, but patriotic, and had the merit of bringing forward Burke and other distinguished characters into the political arena.

SHELburne MINISTRY.—The death of the Marquis broke up the ministry after a short but not inglorious continuance of thirteen weeks. It had been composed of the Rockingham and the Chatham, or Shelburne whigs, two sections of the whig party which could only agree together in opposition, not in place, and who had temporarily coalesced to oppose first, Mr. Grenville, and afterwards lord North. During their short-lived ministry they were not cordially united. Now that the contest with the American colonies had become hopeless, the Rockinghams were at once prepared to recognise their independence and put an end to hostilities; but the Shelburnes only at the last hour and very reluctantly made up their minds to this unavoidable concession. In the allocation of offices too there were heart-burnings. The Shelburnes seem to have expected the chancellorship for Dunning, but this honour the Rockinghams either could not or would not grant him, and the place was left in the possession of Thurlow, lord North's chancellor, who all along, in public at least, had supported the policy of

that minister. The inequality, however, in the distribution of the honours seems to have been partly made up by the distribution of emolument. Ashburton had a valuable sinecure and pension given him, and colonel Barré received a large pension: so that the injustice perpetrated among themselves could not have been great. The causes of the king's preference are generally known. On the American question George III. more nearly agreed in opinion with the Shelburne than the Rockingham section of his cabinet; and it is not likely the king viewed with satisfaction Mr. Burke's attack on the economy of the royal household, nor the opinion Mr. Fox had openly avowed of the necessity of circumscribing regal influence. If Mr. Fox aspired to the premiership, which it is said he did (*Companion to the Newspaper*, No. 48. 306), no time was allowed him to put in his claim. Immediately the death of Rockingham was known lord Shelburne was appointed his successor, and without consulting Mr. Fox, lord Grantham was appointed to the vacant secretaryship. Upon learning these changes, made without their knowledge or concurrence, the Rockingham whigs resigned in a body. Mr. Fox was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Townshend (afterwards viscount Sydney); lord John Cavendish, as chancellor of the exchequer, by Mr. William Pitt; Mr. Burke by col. Barré, whose office of treasurer of the navy was given to Mr. Dundas (afterwards viscount Melville); Mr. Henry Erskine (brother of the earl of Buchan) succeeded Dundas, lord-advocate, and Mr. Pepper Arden (afterwards Lord Alvanley) Mr. Lee, as solicitor-general. Earl Temple became the new viceroy of Ireland, and Mr. William Wyndham Grenville (afterwards lord Grenville) the chief secretary. At the treasury and admiralty boards lord Althorp, lord Duncannon, Mr. Montagu, &c., resigned; also Mr. Sheridan his under-secretaryship of state.

July 9. Mr. Coke, the member for Norfolk, moved for an address to the king against the pension of 3000*l.* a year granted to colonel Barré, to commence at the time he should cease to hold the office of treasurer of the navy, and which grant had been made at the moment Mr. Burke's bill for reforming the civil-list, which restrained the minister from granting any greater pension than 300*l.* a year, was lying ready for the royal assent. Ultimately the motion was withdrawn. Mr. Fox expressed his approval of the grant, and entered into some explanation of his resignation of office. He ascribed it to political differences; and indulged in the odd prediction (as events proved) that "the NEW MINISTERS would in a very short time

be joined by those men whom the house had precipitated from their seats." Without this explanation, Mr. Pitt said he should have anticipated the resignation of Fox "to be a baulk in struggling for power." Next day lord Shelburne confirmed the surmise of Pitt, and ascribed the flight of the Rockinghams to disappointed ambition. Shelburne affirmed that he had, on the resignation of lord North, the premiership within his grasp, but gave way to Rockingham; that he had always stood out for the exercise of the constitutional prerogative of the crown, and "opposed the doctrine that the king should be a mere puppet in the hands of the aristocracy, or rather, of a certain select number of great families."

11. Parliament prorogued by the king without any allusion to domestic politics, but expressing a strong desire to terminate the war.

13. Advice of the surrender of the Bahama Islands to the Spaniards.

Severe storms of hail in France and Spain. Some of the stones weighed eight ounces. London and neighbourhood was visited by a storm of thunder and lightning on the 15th inst.

Aug. 5. Count de Grasse landed at Portsmouth. He was the first commander-in-chief of a French fleet or army that had been prisoner in England since the capture of marshal Tallard in queen Anne's wars.

24. The *Gazette* contains dreadful details of the ravages of the plague and of a most destructive fire at Constantinople. Ten thousand houses, besides 50 mosques and other public buildings, destroyed.

30. An express reached the Admiralty of the loss of the *Royal George* of 100 guns. She was careening at Spithead, some of her upper ports open, when a sudden gust of wind overset her. Four hundred men, and as many women and children, perished; admiral Kempenfelt among them.

Sept. 13. A grand attack was made by the united French and Spanish forces upon the fortress of Gibraltar; the cannonade and bombardment from floating batteries were tremendous; but the brave governor, sir Gilbert Elliot, by a well-directed and impetuous discharge of red-hot shot from the fortress, set fire to the besieging flotilla, the vessels of which successively blew up, and the scene of destruction was indescribable. Sir Roger Curtis, with great gallantry and considerable personal risk, saved 400 of the enemy. Not a vestige was left on the following day of all the formidable preparations which were collected for the carrying on this celebrated siege; it had now lasted five years, and during that time the enemy had vainly tried all the expedients of warfare.

16. A terrible gale of wind in the West Indies; several ships of war were lost.

Oct. 8. Many emigrants from Geneva having removed to Ireland, 50,000*l.* was given by the king to defray the charges of their removal and settlement.

11. The cenotaph, erected in Guildhall to the memory of the late earl of Chatham, opened to the public.

19. Dr. Richard Watson consecrated bishop of Llandaff in the room of Dr. Barrington, translated to Salisbury.

22. New Sessions-house, Clerkenwell-green, opened for the use of the Middlesex magistrates.

Nov. 8. First general meeting of the patrons of charity-schools in Britain held at St. Paul's Coffee-house.

22. Mr. Townshend, one of the secretaries of state, writes to the lord-mayor in order to prevent speculations in the funds, pending the negotiations in Paris for peace, that the question of peace or war would be decided prior to the meeting of parliament.

30. Provisional articles of peace signed at Paris between Britain and the thirteen United States, on the basis of a full acknowledgment of the independence of the colonies. Dr. Franklin had the honour of concluding this important arrangement. A clause was inserted, by which, in return for a full participation in the Newfoundland fisheries, the congress engaged to recommend to the several States to provide for the restitution of the confiscated estates of the loyalists. But this recommendation proved nugatory, and that portion of the king's subjects were obliged to take refuge in England or the barren regions of Nova Scotia and the Bahamas.

Dec. 5. Parliament met, when the king, in a speech of unusual length and ability, for the first time announced the determination to concede the independence of the American colonies.

Subscription for a national bank opened at Dublin; in a few hours, 39,000*l.* more than needed was offered.

18. The dividend of the East India Company, for the half year ending at Christmas, declared to be 8 per cent.

27. At Edinburgh, in his 86th year, died HENRY HOME, lord Kames, the Scottish judge, and author of many learned and ingenious publications.

In this month died Hyder Ali, who by talents and enterprise had risen from the rank of a private soldier to be one of the most powerful princes in India. He was succeeded by his son Tippoo Saib, who inherited all his father's hostility to the English.

This year the Irish parliament voted 50,000*l.* for the purchase of an estate to be settled on Mr. Grattan, "as a testimony of

their gratitude for the unequalled benefits conferred by him on that kingdom."

Mr. Wedgwood invented a thermometer for measuring the higher degrees of heat.

WORKHOUSE SYSTEM.—The plan of congregating the poor in workhouses, which was first introduced about 1724 (*ante* 386), received great extension from an act passed this year, called Gilbert's Act, from the name of the member of parliament by whom it was framed. This act, aiming to combine the advantages of an assemblage of a number of poor on one spot, of a minute division of labour, and a joint management of expenditure, empowered magistrates to consider any large workhouse as a common receptacle for the poor within a diameter of 20 miles. Judicious as this plan apparently was, it did not prove successful. Proper care was seldom taken to separate the inmates of the workhouses according to their ages or their habits; neither was the division of employment carried to the necessary length. Their earnings consequently were insignificant, and the charge to the parish amounted in general to 9*l.*, 10*l.*, or even 16*l.* each, while half the sum would have sufficed if paid to the poor at their own habitations.

The inquiry was this year abolished in Tuscany.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Daniel Bernouilli, physician and professor of natural philosophy at Basil. John Parry, the famous blind harper. Sir James Burrow, master of the crown office and compiler of a volume of Reports. At the house of Dr. Johnson, Bolt-court, his friend Robert Levett, aged 80, a practitioner of physic. Sir John Pringle, late president of the Royal Society, and physician extraordinary to the king. Dr. Solander, who went round the world with captain Cook and sir Joseph Banks.

1783. Jan. TERMS OF PEACE.—The preliminary articles of peace between England, France, and Spain, were signed at Versailles on the 20th instant. By these, Britain restored the island of St. Lucia to France; also the settlements on the Senegal and the city of Pondicherry, in the East Indies. Britain relinquished all claims on Dunkirk. France gave up all her West India conquests with the exception of Tobago. Spain was allowed to retain Minorca and West Florida, East Florida being also ceded in exchange for the Bahamas. Peace with Holland was longer postponed, the Dutch claiming an indemnification for the expenses of the war, and the restoration of Trincomalee. A suspension of hostilities, however, was agreed to.

21. Parliament re-assembled.
Feb. 1. Orders to disband the militia.

5. Order of St. Patrick created.

A series of violent earthquakes occurred in Calabria and Sicily. The first and most destructive occurred on the 5th instant, when cities, towns, and villages were totally demolished. The city of Casal Nuova was entirely swallowed up, and the princess Grimaldi, with more than 4000 people, perished in an instant. The inhabitants of Scylla, who with their prince had descended from the rock, and taken refuge on the sea-shore, were all swept away by an enormous wave on its return from the land which it had inundated. Messina and the northern parts of Sicily were also great sufferers.

17. Grand debate in both houses on the terms of the peace, which were ably defended by lord Shelburne as the best the country had a right to expect. But on a division the address was carried only by a majority of 72 to 59 voices. A similar address in the commons was seconded by Mr. Wilberforce, but opposed with great vehemence by Fox and North. Mr. Powys said it was "an age of strange confederacies,—a monstrous coalition had taken place between a noble lord and an illustrious commoner,—the lofty asserter of the prerogative had joined in an alliance with the worshippers of the majesty of the people." On a division, the effect of this monstrous coalition was visible, ministers being left in a minority of four in a house of 432 members.

21. A resolution more pointedly disapproving of the peace being moved and carried by lord J. Cavendish, the earl of Shelburne resigned the premiership.

25. Petition presented to the commons for parliamentary reform from the freeholders of Yorkshire with 10,124 signatures. Petitions for the same object were shortly after presented from the metropolis and various parts of the country.

Mar. Disturbances among the seamen at Portsmouth appeased by lord Howe.

25. In the year ending at this date were manufactured in the West Riding of Yorkshire 131,092 pieces of broad woollens, measuring 4,563,376 yards; and 108,641 pieces of narrow cloth, measuring 3,292,002 yards. Increased this year, 18,622 pieces of broad, and 11,892 pieces of narrow.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxvi. 204.

30. Died, in his 65th year, Dr. William Hunter, the celebrated anatomist and medical practitioner. He bequeathed his valuable museum to his nephew for thirty years, afterwards to be removed to the university of Glasgow, near which he was born. He tried in 1765 to establish a museum on the site of the King's-mews, but his application was negatived by the then minister, Mr. Grenville.

Apr. 1. Ryland, an engraver, discovered to have forged on the East India Company to the amount of 7114*l*.

COALITION MINISTRY.—The Rockingham and Shelburne whigs were so nearly balanced, that the North party had the power of turning the scale in favour of either section. They preferred a union with the former, and to which, according to the declaration of lord North (Feb. 21), he was invited. Shelburne made overtures to Fox, but none to their common enemy. The Rockinghams separated from men with whom they mainly agreed, to unite with those to whom they had long been vehemently opposed. With lord North, Mr. Fox differed upon most great public questions—upon the American question—upon parliamentary reform—and the necessity of circumscribing the growing influence of the crown. The terms of the peace seem to have been a mere pretext; the object of the coalition was the expulsion of Shelburne from power, who had accepted office in obedience to the king's wish, independently of factious dictation. Their triumph proved short-lived and unprofitable. Events proved their abandonment of principle for power to be a weak and ruinous expedient, which lost them the confidence and support of the nation. Six weeks elapsed before the hybrid ministry was completed: it was occasioned by the king's reluctance to part with the chancellor, and Thurlow's claim of a pension and the tellership of the exchequer. On the 2nd inst., the duke of Portland was announced as first lord of the treasury; lord North and Mr. Fox, joint secretaries of state; lord John Cavendish, chancellor of the exchequer; viscount Keppel, first lord of the admiralty; viscount Stormont, president of the council; and the earl of Carlisle, lord privy-seal. These seven constituted the new cabinet, the whigs having a majority of one over the three Tories, North, Carlisle, and Stormont. The great seal was put in commission, Loughborough being appointed first commissioner.

May 1. The population of the American colonies, at the time of their declaration of independence, was estimated at 2,614,300.

7. Mr. Pitt renewed his motion for a reform in the representation, by proposing to add 100 members to the counties, and abolish a proportionate number of the burghage-tenure, and other smaller boroughs. Being a specific plan, it was negatived by a larger number than on the preceding occasion, the numbers on the division being 293 to 149.

June 1. Mr. Spalding and his assistant, descending in the diving-bell to examine the wreck of the *Imperial* East Indiaman, were drowned by the accident of the signal-ropes getting entangled.

6. A verdict given in favour of some French seamen, prisoners of war, for wages, for working a ship home from the West Indies.

25. A grant of 60,000*l.* for a separate establishment for the prince of Wales.

July 6. Parliament prorogued.

Aug. 18. DEATH OF DUNNING.—In his 52nd year, died the celebrated JOHN DUNNING, recently created lord Ashburton, and famous for his resolution of 1780, on the increasing influence of the crown. According to the *Law Magazine* (vol. vii. 318), he was the son of a poor attorney at Ashburton, who after a brief but brilliant career as lawyer and member of parliament, left behind him a peerage, a vast landed property, and 160,000*l.* in money, the reward of his industry, perseverance, and ability. He belonged to the Shelburne section of whigs, and sat, with colonel Barré, for his lordship's borough of Calne. Lord Rockingham's second ministry was not so pure as his first, and during its short existence there was a sharp scramble between his adherents and those of the rival section of lord Shelburne for titles, sinecures, and pensions. Dunning snatched for himself a coronet, the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster, and a pension of 4000*l.* a year. He was thought to have been greedy and inconsistent; for he had strenuously supported Mr. Burke's economical bill, which abolished the sinecure of the duchy, and his life having been chiefly spent in his profession, he had rendered no public services to entitle him to a pension. His patent of peerage is dated April 8th, 1782; so that he did not long survive his elevation, and the *title* became extinct, in *his* family, his successor having died without heirs.

27. Montgolfier ascends with an air-balloon at Paris. The first experiments in aërostation were made by inflating the balloon with heated air in lieu of hydrogen gas.

Sept. 4. Colonel Thomas, of the guards, killed in a duel with colonel Gardiner.

5. An order of council issued, limiting the commerce between the United States and the British West India islands to ships British built. It gave umbrage to the Americans, though they could hardly complain in not enjoying the advantages of independence and dependence at the same time.

Died at St. Petersburg, aged 76, EULER, the distinguished mathematician. Some time before, he had lost his sight, but that did not prevent him completing, by the help of an amanuensis, his celebrated "Elements of Algebra" and the "Theory of the Moon."

Nov. RESIGNATION OF WASHINGTON.—This illustrious chief having by his wisdom, firmness, and bravery achieved the independence of his country, resigned the com-

mand of the American army. Some difficulty at first arose in the disbandment of the military, who claimed rewards for their services; but it was surmounted by the prudence of Washington, who prevailed upon them to trust to the generosity of congress. Unlike Oliver Cromwell, he did not artfully foster their discontents for his own ambitious purposes. On his way to Mount Vernon, he delivered in an account of all the public money he had received while in arms, amounting in eight years to less than 16,000*l.*, nothing being charged for personal services, or claimed for relatives and friends.

10. Pursuant to an arrangement in the preceding September, a convention of delegates from all the volunteer corps of Ireland was held at Dublin, when a plan of parliamentary reform was produced and considered. It was attended by the earl of Charlemont, the commander-in-chief of the volunteer army; by the right hon. Thomas Conolly, the first commoner, in point of wealth, in the kingdom; and by the brother of the bishop of Derry. Next day, Mr. Flood brought the topic before the commons, by moving for leave to bring in a bill "for the more equal representation of the people in parliament." Being looked upon as a motion tendered at the point of the bayonet, it was rejected with indignation, by 157 votes to 77.

11. Parliamentary session commenced, when the prince of Wales was introduced with much ceremony, and took his place as one of the supporters of the ministry.

18. EAST INDIA BILLS.—Mr. Fox introduced his two bills for the better government of India, by which the entire administration of the civil and commercial affairs of the company were to be vested in a board of 7 commissioners, nominated by the bill, and irremovable by the crown except by an address of either house of parliament. There was also to be a subordinate board of 9 directors, to be named in the first instance by parliament, and afterwards chosen by the proprietors. This bold and comprehensive scheme is ascribed to Mr. Burke, but it soon raised a storm, both within and without the walls of parliament, that overpowered the administration.

20. Mr. John Scott and Mr. Thomas Erskine (both hereafter lord-chancellors) entered the lists, on opposite sides, in the debate on the India bill.

Dec. 4. Christopher Atkinson having been tried and found guilty of perjury, was expelled the house of commons.

9. Notwithstanding the alarm created by Mr. Pitt on the threatened violation of "CHARTERED RIGHTS" by the India bill, it passed the commons by a large majority and was this day carried up to the lords by

Mr. Fox. It was read a first time as a matter of course, but a determined opposition soon manifested itself; Temple, Thurlow, Richmond, and Camden were its chief opponents. Temple characterized the bill as *infamous*. Thurlow said, if the bill passed, the crown would be no longer worthy of a man of honour to wear; "the king would in fact take the diadem from his own head, and place it on that of Mr. Fox." Meanwhile, rumours got abroad that the king was hostile. On the 11th instant, between the first and second reading, Temple had an interview with the king, and convinced him that he was deceived if not *duped*. A card was immediately written, stating "That his majesty allowed earl Temple to say, that whoever voted for the India bill was not only not his friend, but would be considered his enemy. And if these words were not strong enough, earl Temple might use whatever words he might deem stronger or more to the purpose."

17. India bill rejected in the lords by 95 to 76. Several proxies, intrusted to ministers, had been withdrawn, in consequence of the royal interference.

18. At midnight Mr. Fox and lord North received a message from the king, commanding them to deliver up the seals of their offices, and send them by the under-secretaries, as a "personal interview with him would be disagreeable." Next day the other ministers received their dismissal, signed "Temple."

22. The commons addressed the king not to dissolve parliament; to which he replied that he should not exercise his prerogative either by prorogation or dissolution.

PITT'S MINISTRY.—The new administration was speedily formed; Mr. Pitt at its head, as first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. Lords Sydney and Carmarthen were made secretaries of state; duke of Rutland, lord privy-seal; earl Gower (afterwards marquis of Stafford), president of the council; earl Howe first lord of the admiralty; the duke of Richmond, master of the ordnance, without a seat in the cabinet. Thurlow was reinstated in the chancellorship. Among subordinates were Mr. Dundas, treasurer of the navy; Mr. (afterwards sir) George Rose and Mr. Thomas Steele, secretaries of the treasury; Mr. Kenyon, attorney-general; Mr. Arden, solicitor-general. A week after, Rutland was transferred to the government of Ireland; on which Gower took the privy-seal, and was succeeded as lord-president of the council by lord Camden.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. Nares, organist and musical composer. Christopher Pinchbeck, an ingenious mechanic. Dr. Frederick Cornwallis, archbishop of Canterbury; Dr. Moore was promoted to the primacy. M. Carvetto, aged 102, violin-player at

Drury-lane theatre, and long familiar to the galleries by the enormous size of the nasal feature.

It appeared, from the first volume of the Society of Arts, published this year, that they had, since their first establishment, paid in premiums, and in medals, and pallets of gold and silver, to the amount of 28,212*l*.

1784. Jan. 12. The re-assembling of parliament exhibited the singular spectacle of the ministry and a majority of the commons at open variance, yet the former maintaining its ground. To carry on the public business was impossible, and a new ministry or a new parliament seemed unavoidable. Ultimately, the latter expedient was adopted, the opposition having first vainly exhausted all the resources of parliamentary tactics to dislodge the young premier, who, steadily supported by the court, maintained his position with extraordinary firmness and ability. The majority against him had been continually decreasing since the Christmas recess, under the joint influence of the crown and popular opinion. Addresses of thanks to the king, for the dismissal of his late official advisers, were presented from most municipal and corporate bodies, who conceived their immunities endangered by the whig scheme of Indian government. Notwithstanding these evidences of unpopularity, Mr. Fox succeeded in carrying resolutions for postponing the passing of the Mutiny Act, and the appropriation of the supplies; and the contest did not terminate till the month of March.

14. Mr. Pitt introduced his India Bill, by which the commercial affairs of the Company were left in their own management, while a board of control was to be nominated by the king, possessing a veto over their political measures. It was read a first time, and only rejected on the committal, by a majority of eight.

21. Died at Florence, aged 60, Charles Edward Stuart, grandson of James II., and prince-pretender to the British throne in 1745. He left no issue.

Feb. 2. A meeting at St. Alban's tavern, of about 70 independent members of parliament, for the purpose of reconciling political parties. It ended in nothing, the duke of Portland demanding, as a preliminary, that Mr. Pitt should resign, which he refused to do.

4. The earl of Effingham, in the lords, moved two resolutions, directed against the extraordinary proceedings in the commons; the *first*, declaring that an attempt in any one branch of the legislature to suspend the course of the law was unconstitutional; the *second*, asserting the undoubted prerogative of the crown to appoint to the great offices of the executive government. They were

carried by 100 to 53; and were the first notice the lords had taken of the struggle in the lower house.

10. Thanks of the common-council of London voted to Mr. Pitt for his able, upright, and disinterested conduct. They also voted him the freedom of the city in a gold box of 100 guineas value.

20. An address to the crown passed the house of commons by 177 to 156, pointing to a removal of ministers. It was not carried up to St. James's till the 25th inst., when the king replied that no charge had been brought against them, and that many of his subjects had expressed their satisfaction at the change made in his councils.

A cause for breach of contract came on before lord Mansfield, which had been pending eleven years, between Macklin the actor, and George Colman as manager of Covent-garden theatre. Lord Mansfield advised a reference, and kindly undertook to be the referee. The demand being 1000*l.*, and the dispute arising from Mr. Macklin's having been driven from the stage by the audience, which, the judge said, was equally unfortunate for actor and manager, he awarded 500*l.*

22. From 10th Dec. last, there have been 63 days' frost; of these it snowed 19 days.

28. Mr. Pitt dines at Grocers'-hall. A general illumination closed the evening.

Mar. 8. Grand field-day in the commons; the subject of debate, a REPRESENTATION to the throne, addresses having failed, setting forth the pernicious consequence of the retention of men in office not having the confidence of parliament. Mr. Burke spoke for two hours, being his first speech pending the struggle of parties. But no tolerable report of the debate has been preserved, sir James Lowther having moved the exclusion of strangers to make room for a *friend* in the gallery. On a division, the minister was beaten only by a majority of ONE; the numbers being, for Mr. Fox's motion, 191 against 190. This ended the parliamentary struggle; Mr. Pitt had triumphed over his opponents on their own ground, and immediately after took the sense of the nation.

9. Mutiny bill passed.

24. Parliament prorogued, and next day dissolved.

GENERAL ELECTION.—At the elections ministers carried every thing before them. Even the dissenters, long one of the main supports of the whigs, gave all their interest to the court. The consequence was a complete rout, in both counties and towns, of the whig and tory adherents of the coalition. Upwards of 160, known by the name of "*Fox's Martyrs*," were thrown out; among them Mr. Coke of Norfolk, Mr. Foljambe (heir of sir George Savile)

for Yorkshire, Mr. Erskine, Mr. Halsey, Mr. Townshend, and even Mr. Fox only secured his return for Westminster by a narrow majority. Both royalists and liberals were disgusted by the recent abandonment of principle, and candidates who reckoned on their return as a matter of course were unexpectedly rejected by the junction of local parties which never joined before. Moreover, the East India Company and other corporate bodies exerted their influence in favour of the new premier as the great champion of CHARTERED RIGHTS.

Apr. 6. The poll for the city of London closed, when the numbers were, for Watson, 4789; Lewes, 4554; Newnham, 4471; Sawbridge, 2832.

10. Mr. Burke elected lord rector of the university of Glasgow. He was attended by many persons of rank, and, after taking the oaths, addressed the audience in an elegant and appropriate speech.

23. At the close of the poll for Middlesex, the numbers were, for Mainwaring, 2117; Wilkes, 1858; Byng, 1787. Mr. Wilkes was the ministerial candidate; in his address to the electors (*Annual Register*, xxvii., 275) he offers himself on the basis of parliamentary reform, and "supplicates" the honour of their suffrages that "I may be enabled to strengthen the hands of our present virtuous young minister in his patriotic plaus."

May 16. After polling 40 days, one of the hardest contests for Westminster ever known, closed; the numbers were, for lord Hood, 6694; Hon. C. Fox, 6233; Sir C. Wray, 5998. A scrutiny was demanded by Sir C. Wray, and granted.

18. On the meeting of the NEW PARLIAMENT this day, Mr. Cornwall, the former speaker, was re-chosen. The accession of strength received by the minister soon became manifest; the opposition only proposed an amendment to the address, to leave out a paragraph expressing approbation of the late dissolution, when they were outvoted by a majority of 282 to 114.

26. Grand festival in commemoration of Handel, in Westminster Abbey; the king and royal family and 4000 persons of rank and fashion attended. Next day the festival was renewed at the Pantheon: the performances were of a more lively nature, and went off with great *ecclat*.

June 7. Disappointed by the peremptory rejection of Mr. Flood's motion, and encouraged by the accession of a reform minister to the helm of affairs, the citizens of Dublin held an aggregate meeting, wherein it was resolved to address the throne, and assemble a national congress in Dublin, composed of five representatives from every county, city and considerable town. The very name of congress was alarming to government, and Mr. Fitzgibbon, the attorney-general, adopt-

ed vigorous measures to avert the gathering storm. Political discontents were further aggravated in Ireland by the prevalence of commercial and manufacturing distress.

10. Serious riots in Edinburgh on account of the high price of provisions; they attacked the distilleries, on the ground of the corn used by them. These disorders continued three days; the military were called, in and several persons lost their lives.

21. COMMUTATION ACT.—Mr. Pitt introduced resolutions for lowering the duty on tea from fifty to twelve and a half per cent., and to make up the loss the revenue would sustain by an adequate increase of the tax upon windows. His great object was to lessen the temptation to smuggling. It appeared, he said, that only 5,500,000 pounds of tea were sold by the East India company, whereas the annual consumption of the kingdom was at least twelve millions: so that the illicit trade in this article was at least double the legal. The resolutions passed.

30. Mr. Pitt presented his budget to the house, which was found to comprise a loan of six millions, with some new taxes which were allowed to be judiciously selected. The loan too had been contracted on favourable terms, and acquired much financial reputation for the minister.

On the motion of Mr. Dundas a bill was introduced and became law, for restoring the *ESTATES FORFEITED* by the rebellion in 1745; omitting, however, from its provisions those forfeited under similar circumstances in the rebellion of 1715.

July 9. Mr. Pitt brought forward his *INDIA BILL* upon the same principle as that which he unsuccessfully introduced into the last parliament: namely, for the institution of a board authorised to check and superintend the civil and military government and revenue of India; and thence denominated the *Board of Control*. It was to be composed of six commissioners of the rank of privy councillors, nominated by the king and removable at his pleasure. The governor-general, presidents, and the members of council to be named by the court of directors, subject to the approval of the king. The commander-in-chief to be chosen by the king only. A special tribunal established for punishing delinquencies incurred in India; the fortunes acquired to be ascertained on the return of each servant of the company from India. (This clause was repealed two years after by 26 Geo. III.) Mr. Pitt's bill encountered much opposition, but was passed by large majorities.

14. Mr. Edmund Burke brought an action against the printer of the *Public Advertiser* for a libel: he laid his damages at 5000*l.*, and obtained 100*l.*

A woollen draper at Dublin having vio-

lated the non-importation agreement, by the importation of English goods, was seized by the mob, stripped and tarred. He was with great difficulty rescued by the sheriff.

17. Mr. Pitt having dined with Mr. Jenkinson, and returning home, the post-boy missed his way, and Mr. Pitt alighting at a farm-house to inquire, the man of the house came out with a loaded gun and fired: the ball went through the loose part of the premier's coat, but, without doing further injury.

18. Parliament prorogued by the king. Count de Grasse, who was taken prisoner by admiral Rodney, was tried on his return to France, and exiled to a provincial town.

Sept. 15. Mr. Lunardi made an ascent in a balloon, from Moorfields, and after traversing the air for upwards of three hours, safely alighted 25 miles distant from the place of a-cent.

The populace took the horses from the coach of the hon. C. J. Fox in Old-street, and substituted themselves in their places.

Nov. 27. Christopher Atkinson, late M.P., who had been convicted of perjury, was sentenced by the court of King's-bench to pay a fine of 2000*l.* and to stand in the pillory.

30. Mr. Blanchard and Dr. Jefferies ascended in a balloon.

Dec. 1. Charles Pratt, earl Camden, appointed lord-president of the privy-council.

13. DEATH OF SAMUEL JOHNSON, LL.D.—This celebrated philologist and moralist expired at his house in Bolt-court, in the 76th year of his age, after a life of sharpish trial, in which he experienced the "Oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely."

It was the fate of this distinguished writer to be too much neglected in the beginning of his career, and too much worshipped towards the close: between the two he never seems to have fallen into his right place, neither acquiring the exact wisdom of a philosopher, nor the independence to which a man of letters ought always to aspire. Fortunate, however, in an unrivalled gossip for a biographer, his literary history and celebrity fill a wide space—wider perhaps than the next generation will award him. He certainly produced one work of singular industry; several of force and ability: he lived much in the world, and was an attentive and shrewd observer of human life; but none of his productions, except his beautiful story of *Rasselas*, are of striking originality. He was more eminent for words than thoughts; for the leaves and flowers than the fruits of science. Eccentricity of opinion, manner, or appearance, often excites more interest, if not more respect or admiration, than worth or genius: this may have been partly

the case with the lexicographer, who was unquestionably an *extracaganza* in person, politics, religion and personal predilections; and for these his memory will be cherished by congenial minds. His fame rests a good deal on his classical erudition and conversational powers: the former did not elevate him above an ignoble fear of death and the superstitions of the nursery; the latter owed much to his bushy wig, brown suit, grotesque action, oracular solemnity and magisterial air. Even Boswell admits there was some truth in lord Pembroke's remark to him on the apophthegms of his idol, when he said that "Dr. Johnson's sayings would not appear so extraordinary, were it not for his *bow-wow-way*." It shows a want of enduring excellence that his manner has not increased in popularity, any more than his style of "big words on little things"—sentences padded out with useless epithets—and antithesis in the expression where there is none in the ideas. His Latinity was so pedantic that he refused, though it would have been more german to his subject, to indite poor Goldsmith's epitaph in English. Had he written on fishes, the Edinburgh Review says, (No. 107) he would have made them "all whales." After all, his style was part of his nature; it was like his form—colossal. His goodness of heart and benevolence are redeeming and indisputable virtues.

20. The remains of the late Dr. Johnson interred in Westminster Abbey in the Poets' Corner, close to those of his friend David Garrick. In the procession, consisting of a hearse and six, with ten mourning coaches and four, were sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Edmund Burke, General Paoli, Messrs. Malone, Nichols, Hoole, Strahan, and the deceased's favourite black servant.

ICELAND.—This remarkable island was this year the scene of a volcanic eruption more dreadful in its consequences than had ever been remembered. It began in June and continued its devastations to the ensuing month of May.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Jeremiah Milles, D.D., president of the Antiquarian Society. Thomas Morell, editor of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary. Sir Thomas Sewell, master of the rolls. Allan Ramsay, portrait painter to the king, and son of the poet of that name. George Alexander Stevens, author of the "Lecture on Heads." Sir George Savile, in his 58th year, the late patriotic representative of the county of York. In his 89th year, Sir Thomas Parker, formerly lord chief-baron of the court of exchequer.

PUBLIC STATUTES, XV. TO XXV. GEORGE III.

15 Geo. 3, c. 23. For giving personal freedom to the colliers, coal-bearers and

salters in Scotland: the preamble states that they were "in a state of *slavery or bondage*, bound to the collieries and saltworks, where they work for life, transferable with the collieries and saltworks when their original masters have no further use for them." These bondsmen were far from grateful for the boon of emancipation, conceiving it to be the result of a desire on the part of the proprietors to get rid of what they called head and *larigald* money, payable to them when a female of their number made an addition to the live-stock of their master.

Cap. 32. Repeals statute (31 Eliz. c. 7.) against erecting cottages without laying four acres of ground to them.

Cap. 53. Copyrights of the universities; regulates the delivery of books to university libraries.

16 Geo. 3, c. 52. Extending to Scotland the 11 and 12 W. 3, c. 6, by which aliens, provided they are natural-born subjects, may inherit from their ancestors.

17 Geo. 3, c. 29. Penalties on manufacturing sloe and other leaves in the imitation of tea, to the detriment of the excise.

Cap. 57. Securing copyright of engravings.

18 Geo. 3, c. 47. Binding male parish apprentices to the age of 21 years.

Cap. 60. Relief of papists from penalties (*ante*, p. 510).

19 Geo. 3, c. 44. Relieves protestant dissenting ministers and schoolmasters from penalties of 1 W. and M. st. 1, c. 18.

Cap. 65. Augmenting salaries of puisne judges and barons.

Cap. 74. Clauses relative to transportation expired; enables justices to commute punishing of burning in the brawn of the left thumb by pecuniary fine or whipping; provides for erection of a penitentiary house.

20 Geo. 3, c. 17. Removes difficulties relative to votes at county elections.

Cap. 36. Determines settlement of bastards born in houses of industry.

21 Geo. 3, c. 37. For preventing the export of utensils in woollen, cotton, linen or silk manufacture.

Cap. 49. For the better observance of the Lord's day.

22 Geo. 3, c. 41. Disabling certain revenue officers from voting at parliamentary elections.

Cap. 45. Disabling contractors for the public service from being elected members of parliament.

Cap. 60. Punishing the seduction of artificers to emigrate.

Cap. 63. Repeals so much of the act (19 Geo. 2, c. 39) as restrains the use of the Highland dress.

Cap. 64. Amending laws relating to houses of correction.

24 Geo. 3, c. 26. Authorising speaker to issue his warrant for election, in place of members who die pending the recess of parliament.

Cap. 55. Inspecting, building, &c. of houses of correction.

REVENUE, DEBT, AND NAVY.

Public taxes were considerably increased during the pressure of the colonial war; these, however, were insufficient to meet the enormous increase in the national expenditure without the aid of loans, which were yearly borrowed after the first year of the contest. The following statement exhibits the sums raised by taxes and loans in each year.

Years.	Revenue.	Loan.
1775	£10,138,061	
1776	10,265,405	£2,000,000
1777	10,604,013	5,500,000
1778	10,732,405	6,000,000
1779	11,192,141	7,000,000
1780	12,255,214	12,000,000
1781	12,454,936	12,000,000
1782	12,593,297	13,500,000
1783	11,962,718	12,000,000
1784	12,905,519	12,879,341
1785	14,871,520	10,990,651

The American war terminated in 1783; but as the loans of the two following years were raised to wind up the expenses of that struggle, it is proper they should be included. The total expense of the American war will stand thus:—

Taxes	£142,975,229
Loans	93,869,992
Advances by the Bank of England	110,000
Advances by the East India Company	3,200,000
Increase in the unfunded debt	5,170,273
	<hr/>
	£242,265,494

Deduct expense of a peace establishment for eleven years, as it stood in 1792 £113,142,403

Net cost of the American war £129,123,091

The interest of the public debt increased from 4,476,821*l.* in 1776, to 10,774,398*l.* in 1786; the last being the year in which Mr. Pitt established the sinking-fund. This happy delusion was a complete opiate, the nation having become seriously alarmed at the amount of its incumbrances, chiefly from the desponding representations of Mr. Hume and Dr. Price, who had some years previously predicted that public bankruptcy was unavoidable. In 1783 John earl of Stair concluded a pamphlet with the following lugubrious announcement:—"If

the premises are just, or nearly just, and nothing effectual is done to prevent their consequences, the inevitable conclusion is, that the nation is a **BANKRUPT**, and those who have entrusted their all to the public faith are in imminent danger of becoming (*I die pronouncing it!*) **BEGGARS**." A prophecy happily not yet fulfilled.

The circulation of **NEWSPAPERS** increased during the American war, as appears from the number printed in Britain and Ireland:

1775	12,600,000
1776	12,830,000
1777	13,150,000
1778	13,240,000
1779	14,106,000
1780	14,217,000
1781	14,397,000
1782	15,272,000

The following is the state of the **NAVIES** of Britain, France, Spain, and Holland, at the close of 1782:—

	Brit.	Fra.	Spa.	Hol.
Line-of-battle	105	89	53	32
Fifties	13	7	3	0
Frigates	122	103	48	28
Sloops	217	86	31	13
Cutters	43	22	0	0
Armed ships	24	0	0	0
Bombs	7	5	14	0
Fire-ships	9	7	11	6
Yachts	5	0	0	0
French, Spanish, and Dutch ships taken during the late war				2514
Destroyed				704
				<hr/>
English ships taken				3218
Destroyed				740
				366

(*Annual Register*, xvi., 300.) 1106

COMMERCE, MANUFACTURE, CONSUMPTION.

The American war caused a sensible decline in the export-trade of the country; but immediately peace was completely restored with the separated colonies and the continental states that had taken part in the contest, commerce revived with augmented force. These facts will be established by the subjoined statement of the tonnage of the ships employed in the export trade, and the value of the cargoes exported. It may be compared with the preceding statement of exports during peace, p. 493.

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1775	848,026	£16,326,364
1776	851,066	14,755,699
1777	819,702	13,491,006
1778	755,351	12,253,890
1779	730,035	13,530,703
1780	753,977	12,624,372
1781	711,363	11,332,296
1782	761,362	13,009,459

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1783	953,638	14,681,495
1784	959,419	15,101,275

Had England, like Spain, received any public revenue from her trans-Atlantic territories, she had doubtless lost this income by the independence of her colonies. But the contrary was the fact, as before shown (p. 498). The American states were the source of enormous expense to the mother-country, and all she lost by their severance was a sovereignty without jurisdiction. Even commerce benefited by the disruption, our exports to America being greater after the establishment of her independence than before. In the three years from 1771—3 the exports to the American colonies averaged 3,064,843*l*. This was greater than the average of preceding years. (*Chalmer's Estimate, edit. 1804, p. 167.*) In 1784 they rose to 3,397,500*l*.

In 1782 the MANUFACTURES of Britain were calculated to produce as follows:—

Woolens	£16,800,000
Leather	10,500,000
Flax	1,750,000
Hemp	390,000
Glass	630,000
Paper	780,000
Porcelain	1,000,000
Silk	3,350,000
Cotton	960,000
Lead	1,650,000
Tin	1,000,000
Iron	8,700,000
Steel plating, &c.	3,400,000

Total 50,210,000

Of MALT there was consumed in,—

1773—4—5	72,588,010 bush.
1780—1—2	87,343,083

Of LOW WINES from corn,—

1773—4—5	9,974,237 gals.
1780—1—2	11,757,499 do.

Of SOAP,—

1773—4—5	93,190,140 lb.
1780—1—2	98,076,806 do.

PRICES, CRIMES, MORTALITY.

Prices of Stocks in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT (Winchester measure) at Windsor Market.

Yr.	3 per Cr.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1775	87½	145	155	396	51
1776	88	142	164	554	42
1777	80	136	169	525	48
1778	70½	119	157	683	44
1779	60	108	136	544	36
1780	60	111	141	449	43
1781	58	106	147	438	52
1782	56	111	137	537	53
1783	65	128	135	530	54
1784	55	112	119	522	53

CONVICTIONS at the Old Bailey, distinguishing capital and lesser offences; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS in each year, within the London Bills of Mortality.

Yr.	Cap.	Less.	Christenings.	Burials.
1775	81	233	17,629	20,514
1776	86	130	17,280	19,048
1777	41	181	18,300	23,334
1778	40	—	17,300	20,399
1779	35	—	16,769	20,420
1780	66	—	16,634	20,517
1781	59	—	17,026	20,709
1782	23	—	17,101	17,918
1783	176	367	17,091	19,029
1784	—	—	17,179	17,828

It is necessary to bear in mind the exact period when peace was concluded to judge of the causes of the fluctuations in prices, crimes, and mortality. General peace with all the belligerents was not concluded till the summer of 1784. The preliminary articles were settled with the separated colonies in November, 1782. The preliminaries with France and Spain were adjusted in January, 1783. The definitive treaties with both, and the United States of America, were signed September 3rd, 1783. Though an armistice was agreed to with Holland, in February, 1783, preliminaries were not settled till September, and the definitive treaty was not signed till May 24th, 1784. Peace with Tippoo Saib, which influenced the price of India stock, was not concluded till March, 1784. And in July of that year there was a general thanksgiving for all these blessings.

The returns of criminal convictions at the Old Bailey have been collected from the *Annual Register*; they are incomplete, and, except perhaps the capital punishments, are not to be depended on for accuracy. The increase of convictions in 1780 was owing to the riots of that year, and the still further increase in 1783 was probably owing to the peace and consequent reduction of the military and naval forces.

POPULATION OF LONDON.

At this period the population of the metropolis, including the cities of London and Westminster, the borough of Southwark, and the out-parishes within the bills of mortality, amounted probably to about 700,000. In the year 1700 it amounted to 674,350; it had not greatly increased in the interval. In 1801, when a census for the first time was accurately taken, the population of all the parishes within the bills of mortality amounted to 747,043; little more than half the present number.

From the reports of the Westminster General Dispensary (*Philosophical Transactions, lxxi.*) it was found that in 1782, of 3236 married persons in London, 824, or

one-fourth, were born in London; 1870 in the counties of England and Wales; 209 in Scotland; 280 in Ireland; 53 were foreigners.

MEN OF LETTERS.

William Warburton, celebrated prelate, 1709—1779. "Philosophical Inquiry into Miracles," 1727; "Alliance between Church and State," 1736; "The Divine Legation of Moses," 1738; "Doctrine of Grace," 1760.

James Granger; died suddenly, 1776; "Biographical History of England," 1769.

David Hume, 1711—1776. "Treatise on Human Nature," 1737; "Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary," 1742; "Political Discourses," 1752; "Inquiry concerning the Principles of Morals," 1752; "History of England," first volume, 1754; "Natural History of Religion." An "Essay on Suicide" is also attributed to Mr. Hume.

Sir William Blackstone, 1723—1780. "Essay on Consanguinity," 1749; "Considerations on Copyholds," 1754; "Commentaries on the laws of England," 1765.

Henry Home, lord Kaimes, 1696—1782. "Principles of Morals," 1752; "Elements of Criticism," 1762; "Sketches of the History of Man," 1773; with many law tracts. John Blair; died 1782. "Chronology and History of the World," 1753.

Henry Brooke, 1706—1783. "Fool of Quality," 1766; "Gustavus Vasa."

James Ferguson: Lectures and Astronomical Tables, 1710—1776.

Samuel Johnson, LL.D., 1709—1784. "London, a Poem," 1737; "Life of Savage," 1744; "Vanity of Human Wishes," 1749; "Irene," first represented 1749; "Rambler," first paper, March 1750; "English Dictionary," 1755; "Rasselas," 1759; "Journey to the Hebrides," 1773; "Lives of the Poets," 1781: also an edition of Shakspeare, and several political pamphlets.

David Garrick, celebrated actor, 1716—1779. Several farces, and, in conjunction with Colman, in 1766, "The Clandestine Marriage."

Samuel Foote, actor and popular mimic, 1721—1777. "The Mayor of Garratt," 1763.

GEORGE III. A.D. 1785 to 1793.

THE leading topics of the third period of the present reign are the administration of the country during eight years of peace and the breaking out of the French Revolution.

After the termination of the American war, the wisdom of the government and the energies of the people were directed to the repair of the evils occasioned by that unfortunate contest. An appeal to the country at a moment of popular excitement produced by the North coalition and their scheme of Indian administration, having given to Mr. Pitt a decided parliamentary majority, he was enabled to introduce and carry, with no more opposition perhaps than was necessary to due investigation, a series of national improvements.

The *first* measure that signalled the ministry of the young premier was his India Bill, resembling in its main features that introduced by Mr. Fox, but divested of those objectionable parts which had at once excited the jealous fears of the sovereign, and of corporations. Some judicious fiscal and financial regulations followed for improving the management of the crown-lands, the suppression of smuggling, the commutation and consolidation of taxes, the improvement of the revenue, and the reduction of the public debt. The establishment, in 1786, of the ingenious, but as to its ostensible purpose, delusive sinking-fund, evinced a patriotic spirit in the minister, though it is now clearly understood that he was almost ludicrously led astray as to the miraculous powers of compound interest in the liquidation of a national debt; an error he shared with some of the strongest minds of the country; forming a striking instance of the manner in which the best intellects may be caught in the chasm that separates the abstract

from the practical. He went, however, beyond his contemporaries in the conclusion, in the same year, of a Commercial Treaty with France; it being arranged on those sound principles of FREE TRADE and reciprocity which were then only beginning to be known, and are not yet universally understood, or at least practised. Two years after, he had the good fortune to take up popular and constitutional ground in resisting the doctrine of the Opposition, that the regency, during the king's indisposition, devolved in full sovereignty, and by right, on the prince of Wales. He, on the contrary, maintained, and certainly more in accordance with the revolution principles of 1688, that it lay in the two remaining branches of the legislature to fill up the office as they should think proper; admitting, at the same time, of the prior claim of the heir-apparent.

In bringing forward while minister the question of an amendment in the national representation, Mr. Pitt redeemed his engagements to the reformers. He also evinced an attachment to constitutional principles by the introduction, in 1791, of a liberal and comprehensive measure for the government of Canada. It was not free from the objections, which did not escape the vigilance of Mr. Fox, of copying some of the defects along with the excellencies of the English constitution; but it avoided the cardinal error that originated the colonial war, by leaving the Canadians to tax themselves. In the celebrated impeachment of Warren Hastings, Mr. Pitt seems to have been influenced by a desire that impartial justice should be awarded to the accused; though that, after a painfully protracted suit, appears at last to have been only imperfectly attained, owing, in a great measure, to the mis-directed zeal and wasted abilities of the managers of this famous trial. Improvements in the police of the metropolis, efforts to lessen the horrors of the African slave-trade, and the passing of the Libel Bill of Mr. Fox, may also be enumerated among the prominent features of Mr. Pitt's domestic government.

The FOREIGN POLICY of the minister seems to have been most obnoxious to censure. It was meddling and officious; the old error of constantly interfering in the affairs of neighbouring nations, of volunteering the arbitrament of their differences, which had entailed such irredeemable incumbrances on the community, was tenaciously and obtrusively persisted in. Intoxicated by the success of his interference in the business of the Stadtholdership of Holland, Mr. Pitt was constantly on the watch for objects of foreign intervention. Proud of the vast resources he wielded, and which had so greatly augmented during the peace, he was not only ready but impatient for the combat. The affair with Spain relative to the fur-settlement at Nootka Sound might have been arranged without the parade of a costly armament. Jealousy of Russian aggrandisement was the next pretext for vast warlike preparations; and in grandiloquent terms the insignificant town of Oczakov was magnified into the "Key of Constantinople," the pivot on which turned the exact poise of the European balance of power. Happily, on this occasion, there was no disposition in the people for hostilities, and the Quixotic aspirations of the premier ended without interrupting the steady progress of the nation in the arts of peace.

From the sections devoted to the state of the finances, and the progress of commerce, manufactures, and shipping, during the period under notice, it will be seen that the country had not only recovered from all the difficulties of the American contest, but had reached a height of prosperity wholly unprecedented. On the commencement of the parliamentary session of 1792, both the king and his minister indulged in the most gratify-

ing pictures of national happiness and prosperity. They foresaw nothing likely to interrupt them; on the contrary, they predicted in glowing terms their long continuance and probable increase; and no one rose with gloomy forebodings to shadow the brightness of the prospect; so little prescience was there in any party of the awful futurity!

While England was increasing in riches and population, the other European nations were not stationary. There had been no general continental war since the peace of 1763, and the interval had been occupied in salutary ameliorations. Frederick II. of Prussia, Catherine II. of Russia, and Joseph II. of Germany, were contemporaries, and all sovereigns of liberal and extraordinary minds. They were all reformers; they were proud of the vocation; they gloried in adopting whatever social or political amendment the intelligence of the age suggested, and their example was followed by the lesser princes. Under their auspices and those of the vast body of men of science and letters whom they patronised, the character of European society had been changed, partly in its outward forms—its institutions, laws, and usages—but more in its inward spirit and substance. The influence of a rich and superstitious priesthood was circumscribed; the Jesuits extirpated; the monastic orders vastly reduced in number; and the flames of that religious zeal which for two centuries had so often kindled civil discord and the faggot of persecution, were sunk into the ashes. Judicial torture was abolished, and the dark tribunals of the Inquisition rendered innoxious. In Hungary, Bohemia, and Russia, the serfs were being gradually enfranchised; and Rousseau even thought they ought not to receive liberty too suddenly. Agriculture was sedulously promoted, and the pursuits of commerce no longer esteemed degrading. Artificial distinctions and titles of honour had still a ceremonious precedence allowed them in private life; but the nobility indulged as little in the supercilious pride and exclusiveness as the barbaric pomp of their feudal predecessors. All the diversified classes of society began everywhere to harmonise with each other in a way hitherto unknown; and whatever prescriptive rights might remain to the privileged orders, “a sweeter blood” had been infused into every member of the political body*.

This was the state of things in 1789, in the despotic countries of the Continent. A revolution was being silently effected in society by the quiet diffusion of reason and philosophy. It had become the policy, as much as the ambition of princes, to listen to the claims of humanity and justice. How long this progression would have continued had not the FRENCH RE-

* *Annual Register* for 1791, vol. xxxiii. 211. Also vol. xix. 136; vol. xxiv. 12; vol. xxvii. 3, 4; vol. xxviii. 169.

Having mentioned above the abolition of the Inquisition and of judicial torture in Europe, a few facts may be properly subjoined. The last person burnt alive by the Inquisition in Spain was an unfortunate woman at Seville, in 1781, for licentious intercourse with a dæmon (*Llorente, Hist. d'Inquisit.*, iv. 270). In the catholic countries of Tuscany and Modena the Inquisition was abolished in 1780–2. Joseph II. abolished torture in Germany, in 1776, and his example was soon after followed by his brother Leopold, in Italy. In France torture was abolished in 1780. There is no instance of the use of torture in England later than 1619. In that year a warrant was issued by the privy-council, signed, among others, by lord-chancellor Bacon, to put Samuel Peacock, who was suspected of treason, to the rack (*Archæologia*, vol. x.; *paper by Mr. Chalmers*). The practice of torture continued in Scotland till the revolution of 1688, and was only made *illegal* by the Act of Union in 1708. The infliction of barbarous criminal punishments continued till a recent period. So late as 1789 there is an instance of a woman burnt in the heart of the city of London for petty treason (*post, March 10, 1789*). *Branding* in the brawn of the thumb continued till 1779, and the *disembowelling* of traitors was in practice till within these few years.

OLUTION intervened, can only be conjectured. It had not obtained the essential guarantee of positive law and institutions; it depended on the personal character, the capricious fiat of absolute rulers.

One immediate result, however, of that crisis is undeniable, namely, that for a time at least the progress of political reform was arrested in England, Germany, Prussia, the Netherlands, Spain, and Italy. Their governments viewed the new aspect of their Gallic neighbour with trembling apprehension, as an incomprehensible and pestilent eruption; and any semblance of imitation, in the way of *change* or amendment, was resolutely opposed, as pregnant with undefinable ruin. France only derived immediate benefits from her terrible convulsion, which she still retains; while adjoining states were too alarmed to discern them amidst the mingled uproar of blood and anarchy by which they were temporarily obscured. At one "fell swoop" she rid herself of a wasteful and profligate court; of the feudal oppression of the game-laws, *corvées*, and the detestable *gabelle*; of arbitrary imprisonments by *lettres de cachet*; of the exemption of the noblesse and clergy from taxation, and the exclusive eligibility of the former to military and civil offices; of an oppressive ecclesiastical establishment; of restrictions on the freedom of the press; of the delays, corruption, and conflicting jurisdiction of her judicial administration; of the embarrassments of her finances, and the unequal apportionment of public burthens.

These were unquestionably great national benefits, but accompanied with enormous contemporary suffering and crime. Now, however, that the tempest has abated, one may more clearly discern and enumerate the errors of inexperience committed in the first stages of the Revolution—errors that long intercepted to France the enjoyment of the fruits of her extraordinary exertions, and precipitated upon her, almost in self-defence, and hostile array, surrounding nations.

The *first* error of the French Revolutionists of 1789 refers to the STATES-GENERAL. Disordered as the kingdom was in every part, the assembling of a body of men who represented all classes and all interests seemed a necessary and just expedient. But in the very commencement of its proceedings an act of irreparable mischief was committed. By the resolution to vote by *poll*, not by *orders*, the three estates of the realm became absorbed in one, and the salutary check of intermediate stages of legislation, especially in periods of popular excitement, was removed. Hence followed injustice and spoliation. The clergy and nobles, outnumbered by the *tiers état*, were speedily sacrificed. Tithes were swallowed up without equivalent to the plundered ecclesiastic. Titles of honour, and other social distinctions, were abolished. All this was the work of a single sitting*. None of the usual safeguards against iniquitous and precipitate enactments were observed; and the members of the National Assembly returned from their dinners, their clubs, and their wine, and laws which struck at the foundation of government, morals, and society, were decreed by acclamation. In one night sixteen laws were so made, or rather proclaimed†. Abbé Sieyès told them, "if they wished to be *free*, they should begin by being *just*." His admonition was disregarded, and from that time his voice was rarely heard among them.

The *next* error in the progress of political regeneration was in the over-

* August 4th, 1789.

† Annual Register, xxxii. Hist. art. p. 21 and 149.

‡ Ibid. 21.

whelming influence of the metropolis. The national assembly legislated for France, but Paris legislated for the national assembly. Had the virtue and intelligence of the capital dictated, they might have been less pernicious; but they did not: it was ignorant presumption, want, violence, and ferocity that ruled. In three weeks of 1789, Paris underwent three revolutions in her municipal government*, at the end of which the city became divided into sixty sections or parishes, forming so many little republics, each swayed by one or more demagogues, who by the aid of the illiterate had succeeded in silencing or driving from their meetings the more moderate and better informed inhabitants. Connected with these were established republican societies in every town of the kingdom. By this affiliated machinery was Paris, the national assembly, and France moved, and confusion, riot, and massacre organised. In place of the delegated will of the nation, acting for the common good, was substituted the projects of unprincipled agitators, scheming for their own selfish and ambitious purposes.

The *third* misfortune in the initiation of this great national movement was in the absence of an adequate executive power. Without providing a succedaneum, the monarchy, with all its supports in the aristocracy, the church, corporations, and magistracy, the army and navy, was subverted. There was no central authority left anywhere, adequate to check the disorders of the capital or in the provinces. Tumults, slaughter, and desolation stalked through the land uncontrolled. Bands of peasants, armed with such weapons as they could seize, rose against the seigneurs, hunted them down like wild beasts, laid waste their domains, and fired their châteaux. The privileged orders became alarmed by the possession of their immunities; and it was amidst the terror, occasioned by the rising of their vassals, that the extraordinary scenes of August were enacted. The viscount de Noailles and the duke d'Aiguillon, in the name of their order, made a voluntary surrender of their privileges of exemption from taxes; of their claims of feudal services; of their exclusive rights of chase; of fishing; of warren; and of dove-cotes. The parish curés gave up their church fees, and the beneficiaries bound themselves never again to hold a plurality. Deputies of privileged towns and districts surrendered their charters and municipal documents. Provinces which possessed a right of taxing themselves renounced that right and their states together; and the parliaments were annihilated, as well as the provincial states. The national assembly decreed a medal to be struck to commemorate these patriotic sacrifices, and the title of "Restorer of the liberties of France" was conferred on the king. So far much was done that was laudable and to be rejoiced at. But a spirit of destruction had been evoked which could not be laid when its work was completed. It long continued to rage, to the great dismay of the peaceable and virtuous of the nation; and in this, France felt the want of that strong executive power, paramount to that of insurrectionists, factions, and parties.

The promulgation of the famous declaration of the Rights of Man, by the national assembly, was as hurtful to the cause of liberty as the bombastic manifesto of the duke of Brunswick to the cause of the allied despots. It was wholly unprofitable, originated discussions of no practical utility, and alarmed the established governments of Europe, while it conferred no actual immunity on the oppressed. Moreover, it was prematurely issued. It ought at least to have followed, not preceded, the fram-

* Annual Register, xxxii. 3.

ing of a constitution*. The rights of men in society are conventional; they are not derived from a state of nature, but from laws and institutions, and can only be known when the constitution is known which creates and guarantees them.

The *fifth* error of the Constituent National Assembly was in the resolution by which for two years after their dissolution the members disqualified themselves from taking any share in the administration of the government, or being re-elected representatives. This was a generous but mistaken act of self-denial and patriotism. After giving a constitution to France†, founded for the most part in wisdom and justice, it certainly seemed an equitable proceeding to leave the trial of its merits to an entirely new and disinterested authority. It was emulating the conduct of Lycurgus, who, after giving laws to Sparta, took no part in their execution, but withdrew into obscurity. But in practice it proved injurious. The legislative, or second national assembly of France, which met in 1791, was confessedly inferior to the first—without its experience—possessed of less virtue and wisdom: instead of consolidating and improving, they perverted the institutions of their predecessors.

The *sixth* and last error of the Constituent Assembly was in prematurely dissolving themselves. They had pulled to pieces the entire fabric of French government and society; they had hastily substituted new institutions in their place which required time to settle and harmonize; and they certainly ought to have kept longer together to have watched over them. Their apprehension seemed to be lest they should, by perpetuating their power, imitate the usurpation of the Long Parliament of England; a body of men whom, in their collective capacity, they as much transcended in the magnitude of their proceedings, as in patriotic devotedness. All the errors indeed of the famous Constituent National Assembly of France leaned to "virtue's side." They were errors of inexperience, enthusiasm, and disinterestedness; of too much confidence in human nature and popular intelligence.

The career of the French Revolution proceeded with augmented force through the whole of 1792. Enraged at the threatening manifesto of the duke of Brunswick, and mistrusting Louis XVI. after his unsuccessful attempt to escape to Coblenz, and refusal to sign the decrees against the emigrants and non-juring priests, the Parisians stormed the Tuileries, massacred its defenders, and all others whom they suspected of being favourable to, or acting in concert with, the allied invaders. Petion, the mayor of Paris, and Danton, the minister of justice, were suspected of having connived at, if not indirectly promoted, these and subsequent excesses of the metropolis. Royalty was deposed, and a provisional executive appointed, who were influenced in their proceedings by the municipality of Paris, chosen by the republican sections of the capital, the virtual rulers of the kingdom. The year closed with the hasty dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, having first published an able appeal to their contemporaries and posterity in defence of their proceedings, and the election, with unlimited powers, on the principle of universal suffrage, of the NATIONAL CONVENTION. Under this new tribunal the trial of the king began.

* Recollections of Count Mirabeau, p. 113.—By M. Dumont.

† That of September 3rd, 1791; a correct copy of which is inserted in the Annual Register, vol. xxxiii.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

1785. *Jan. 1.* The English newspapers prohibited in France, owing to the absurd stories they indulged in, for want of political matter, relative to the princes of Europe.

10. The boats of the smugglers at Deal having been all laid up by the severity of the winter, Mr. Pitt seized the opportunity to send a regiment of soldiers to burn them, which they did in spite of the opposition of the townspeople.

22. A loyal address presented from Dublin, signed by 21 peers and 1113 commoners.

25. Parliament re-opened, after the recess, by the king, who particularly recommended to consideration the commercial intercourse with Ireland.

Feb. 7. Seven ruffians, about eight o'clock at night, knocked at the door of Mrs. Abercrombie, in Charlotte-street, Rathbone-place, calling out *post*, and on its being opened, rushed in, and took from Mrs. A. all her jewels, and fifty or sixty guineas in money, with all the clothes and linen they could get. The neighbourhood was alarmed, and a great crowd assembled, but the robbers sallied forth, and with swords drawn and pistols presented, threatened destruction to any who opposed them. The mob tamely suffered them to escape with their booty, without offering any resistance.

11. The court of King's-bench decided that the insurance offices had no right to recover from the city of London 22,000*l.* which they had paid to Mr. Langdale, the distiller, and other sufferers by the "No Popery" riots.

Mar. 2. This day chief-justice Mansfield completed his eightieth year, and presided on the bench at Guildhall in perfect health and spirits. Mr. Gorman, an eminent merchant, distinguished for his legal and constitutional knowledge as a juror, presented his lordship with his annual offering of a bouquet, which the chief received with his usual politeness.

Apr. 2. The winter was severe and protracted, having commenced on the first fall of snow (Oct. 7), and lasted 177 days.

12. George Barrington, a notorious pick-pocket, tried for stealing a gold watch. He made an eloquent appeal to the jury, and was acquitted from a defect of evidence.

18. REFORM OF PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Pitt, who stood pledged to the reformers to use his endeavours, "as a man and a minister," for promoting their cause, moved to bring in a bill to amend the representation of

the people. His plan was to transfer the right of election from thirty-six decayed boroughs to the counties and principal unrepresented towns; allowing a pecuniary compensation to the owners of the disfranchised boroughs, and to extend the right of voting in populous towns to the inhabitants in general, and for knights of the shire to copyholders. Mr. Fox strongly objected to purchasing the franchises of boroughs: "government," he said, "was not a property but a trust; whatever was given for constitutional purposes should be resumed when those purposes were no longer answered" (*Belsham's Hist. George III.*, vol. iv. 58). After a long debate, attended with much personality, the motion was negatived by a majority of 243 to 174.

28. The twelve judges unanimously decided that a military officer on half-pay is not subject to a court-martial.

May 14. The new canal, connecting the North Sea and Baltic, completed, and declared to be open to all European states.

The prince of Wales elected a member of a classical and convivial society, called the *Beef-steak Club*.

Some persons set on fire the heath growing in Windsor forest. It extended for miles, destroying several forest trees. The like occurrence happened at Boughton in Kent. The heat and dryness of the season occasioned the fires to spread with rapidity.

June 1. John Adams, the first ambassador from the United States of America, was presented to the king.

16. Warren Hastings, the late governor-general of Bengal, arrived in London.

17. A petition presented to the house of lords from Manchester, with 120,000 signatures, chiefly against the importation of Irish linens duty free. As the Irish did not participate in the burthens of England, the petitioners objected to their participating in her trade.

July 1. Died, aged 102, general Oglethorpe, one of the founders of the colony of Georgia in America.

Letters from all parts of the Continent speak of the extreme heat and dryness of the summer.

Aug 6. At Shrewsbury, before justice Buller, came on the trial of Dr. Shipley, dean of St. Asaph, for a libel, in publishing sir W. Jones's 'Dialogue on Government;' when the jury returned the following verdict:—*GUILTY of publishing only, but whether a libel or not, the jury do not find.* On this trial, Mr., afterwards lord, Erskine, exerted himself in a distinguished manner.

27. The victualling business entirely removed from Tower-hill to Deptford.

Sept. 1. French manufactures destroyed at Dublin by the populace.

30. Parliament prorogued.

Oct. 21. Salary of the recorder of London advanced from 600*l.* to 1000*l.* a year.

27. Medical theatre of the London hospital opened, with four introductory orations by Mr. Blizard, and Drs. Harwood, Healde, and Maddock.

Nov. The shop-tax grievously complained of in London.

18. Died, Mrs. Kelly, the noted *Irish fairy*, who was only 34 inches long. She had been delivered of a child 22 inches long, which lived about two hours after birth.—*Annual Register*.

Dec. The number of executions at the Old Bailey, since February last, amount to ninety-six.—*Annual Register*.

An important cause was tried before the Court of Session in Scotland, respecting literary property. The proprietors of the "Encyclopedia Britannica" had printed a great part of Mr. Gilbert Stuart's History in their work. The court determined they were subject to the penalty of the acts.

18. Mr. Howard, the philanthropist, left England to visit the plague-hospitals of Marseilles, to communicate some discoveries, and try some experiments to save the lives of the patients.

AEROSTATION.—Aerial excursions by balloons had become very frequent in England. Lunardi, an Italian, made several ascents. Mr. Sheldon, professor of anatomy to the Royal Academy, also ascended. A Mr. Sadler and colonel Fitzpatrick went up from Birmingham; but the former, in his descent near Trentham, was in considerable danger. A Frenchman, named Blanchard, had been up in balloons two or three times, when he and Dr. Jefferies ascended from Dover castle, with a view to cross the Channel: they succeeded, and landed with some difficulty between Calais and Boulogne. Pilatre de Rosier and another ascending in a balloon, called a Mongolfier, it took fire: they fell from a considerable height, and both perished. Mr. Arnold and his son went up from St. George's-fields: the former was thrown out by the car striking a cart, and his son fell into the Thames. Major Money ascended from Norwich, and being unable to open the valve, he was carried to sea, into which he descended, and was only saved from drowning by a revenue-cutter.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—M. Diderot, a celebrated French metaphysician. Peter, the Wild Boy; he was found in the woods of Hanover in George I.'s reign. William Whitehead, the poet-laureate. Samuel House, a publican, noted for his strong at-

tachment to the person and politics of Mr. Fox. Abbé de Mably, a French author of celebrity. John Henderson, a popular comedian. Mrs. Clive, a noted actress. John Cipriani, an artist of eminence.

IRELAND.—The city of Dublin continued through the whole of the summer in a state of perturbation, and after the rising of parliament, non-importation agreements with England became frequent in the capital, and spread into every part of the kingdom. They were even sanctioned by the grand juries, and the merchants in the ports found it necessary to comply with them. To restrain the violence of the populace, the military were posted in the most disorderly parts of the town, where their presence naturally inflamed the passions of those whom their arms kept in awe.

1786. Jan. 1. The number of vessels which passed the Sound last year amounted to 10,268; of which 2535 were English, 2136 Swedes, 1789 Danes, 1571 Dutch, 114 Russians, 176 Bremens, 161 Dantzickers, 1358 Prussians, 110 Rostock, 79 Lubeckers, 66 Imperialists, 61 Hamburgers, 28 Portuguese, 25 Courlanders, 20 French, 20 Americans, 15 Spanish, and 4 Venetians.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxviii. 196.

6. The *Halsewell* East Indiaman wrecked at Seacombe; nearly 100 persons lost.

24. Parliament opened by the king, who expressed an earnest desire to enforce economy in every department; and recommended the establishment of a sinking-fund for the reduction of the national debt.

31. The right of vicars to clover-seed, turnip-seed, and all small tithes, established in the exchequer.

LONGEVITY.—Died lately, at the age of 110 years, cardinal de Salis, archbishop of Seville. He used to tell his friends when asked what regimen he observed,—“By being old when I was young, I find myself young now I am old. I led a sober, studious, but not a lazy or sedentary life. My diet was sparing, though delicate; my liquors the best wines of Xerez and La Mancha, of which I never exceeded a pint at any meal, except in cold weather, when I allowed myself a third more. I rode or walked every day except in rainy weather, when I exercised for a couple of hours.”—*Ann. Reg.* for 1786.

Feb. 10. Thirteen debtors tried and convicted of a conspiracy to escape from the King's-bench prison, by blowing up the walls. They were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

24. Earl Cornwallis appointed governor-general of Bengal.

27. Mr. Pitt moved a resolution approving the plan of the duke of Richmond for fortifying the dock-yards of Portsmouth

and Plymouth. On a division, the numbers (169) were exactly equal, and the speaker giving his casting vote on the negative side, the design was defeated. An excellent speech of Sheridan seems to have influenced the decision.

Mar. 2. Died, in his 50th year, JOHN JEBB, M.D., a zealous advocate of popular rights and freedom of opinion. He tried to improve the course of academical education at Cambridge, and relinquished his church-preference from conscientious scruples, becoming subsequently a licentiate of the college of physicians.

24. At Portsmouth the convicts in the prison-ships rose upon their keepers, and were not overcome till eight were shot dead, and thirty-six wounded.

29. **SINKING FUND.**—Mr. Pitt introduced his celebrated plan of a sinking fund for the gradual reduction of the national debt. The surplus of annual taxes amounting to 900,000*l.*, he proposed to impose new taxes to make up the sum of one million, which, with compound interest, was to be applied to the purchase of stock at the market price, to be vested in commissioners. At the expiration of 29 years, it was estimated that the annual income of the fund would amount to four millions, beyond which it was proposed the fund should not be allowed to accumulate; future surpluses being applied to the reduction of taxation. The bill for carrying this scheme into effect passed with general approbation.

31. An action on the case was tried before Mr. justice Buller at Guildhall, brought by lord Loughborough against John Walter, printer of the *Universal Register*, for a libel, in propagating an infamous and injurious report against the plaintiff. The jury gave a verdict, and 150*l.* damages to the plaintiff.

Apr. 4. Mr. Burke exhibited nine articles of impeachment against Warren Hastings, late governor-general of Bengal, which were ordered to be printed. The rest of the charges, amounting in the whole to twenty-two, he presented the week following.

17. The west tower of Worcester cathedral, erected in the reign of William Rufus, and esteemed one of the most beautiful remains of gothic architecture, fell down, and carried with it a part of the body of the church.

May 1. Mr. Hastings, at his own desire, was heard at the bar of the commons, and the minutes of the defence ordered to lie on the table.

4. Lord George Gordon excommunicated from the parish-church of St. Mary-le-bone. He had become a convert to Judaism, and, according to sir William Wraxall, submitted to the rite of circumcision.

22. Mr. Pitt introduced a bill for transferring certain duties on wine from the customs to the excise. He stated that the produce of the duties on wine was considerably less at this time than at the middle of the last century, which he ascribed to smuggling, and the sale of a spurious home-made liquor under its name. The bill became law.

June 1. The first article of impeachment, moved by Mr. Burke against Warren Hastings respecting the "Rohilla war," was discussed, and decided in favour of the accused by 119 to 67; Mr. Pitt voting in silence with the majority.

13. Upon the second charge, moved by Mr. Fox, regarding the rajah of Benares, the house resolved, by 119 to 79, "that this charge contained matter of impeachment against the late governor-general of Bengal." Upon this occasion Mr. Pitt spoke and voted in favour of the motion.

19. Mr. Fox recovered 2000*l.* damages against the bailiff of Westminster for not returning him M.P. for that city, and which Mr. Fox declared should be distributed among the charities of Westminster.

23. Mr. Pitt introduced a bill for inquiring into the condition and management of the land-revenues of the crown. It was opposed in the upper house by lord Loughborough as inquisitorial, but passed into a law.

July 11. The King's-bench determined that starting a fox on a man's own ground, and running him on his neighbour's, was no trespass.

The prince of Wales finding his affairs embarrassed, discharged his state-servants, having resolved to reduce his expenses to 5000*l.* a year, and appropriate the rest of his income to discharge his debts, which amounted to 250,000*l.*

14. A convention signed in London between Spain and Britain, regulating the cutting of logwood in South America.

31. A booth, converted into a playhouse, at Montpellier in France, fell down, and 500 persons were killed and wounded.

Aug. 2. This morning, as the king was alighting from a post chariot at the garden-gate of St. James's, an attempt was made upon his life by a woman, who, presenting a paper to him, aimed a stroke at his breast with a concealed knife. The blow was avoided by a backward movement, and as she was about to make another thrust, her hand was caught by a yeoman of the guard, and the knife taken from her; the king exclaiming, "I am not hurt—take care of the poor woman—do not hurt her." On examination, she was found to be one Margaret Nicholson, a person in obscure life, from the north of England, whose reason was bewildered by

some insane ideas of right to the crown. Her insanity being fully apparent to the privy-council, she was committed to custody as a lunatic.

13. Died, at his father's house, Edinburgh, aged 44, GILBERT STUART, LL.D.; a remarkable example of very considerable historical and literary abilities rendered valueless to the possessor by a sour and malevolent nature.

16. The king visits Oxford.

Sept. 5. Died, aged 74, JONAS HANWAY, a traveller and merchant of much active benevolence. He was also the author of several literary works, and was the first who carried an umbrella, which innovation, after persisting in for 30 years, he had the satisfaction to see generally adopted.

DEATH OF THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—Frederick II. of Prussia, not undeservedly styled the "Great," expired, apparently resigned and tranquil, on the 17th instant, in the 75th year of his age. Viewed in his various capacities of monarch, legislator, and man of letters, he was the most distinguished man of his time. Chargeable as all the early part of his career may have been with unprincipled ambition, rapacity, and despotism, his latter years exhibited him in the character of a tolerant and beneficent ruler, whose cares were devoted to the happiness and prosperity of his subjects.

26. Treaty of commerce agreed to at Versailles between Britain and France, on a more liberal principle than heretofore, by promoting an interchange of the commodities of the two countries.

Oct. 20. A man contrived, by an ingenious scaffolding made of twigs, to bring down the weather-cock from the old abbey-church of St. Alban's. He was a basket-maker.

Nov. 21. Aylett, an attorney, pilloried in Palace-yard for perjury.

The countess of Strathmore, who had, since her first husband's death, married a Mr. Bowes, was forcibly carried off by him and other armed men. She was brought up to the King's-bench on the 23rd inst., by *habeas corpus*, and released; and her husband committed to prison till the judges determined what security he should give to keep the peace.

Dec. 4. Three clergymen of the church of England were presented to the archbishop of Canterbury by Mr. Adams, the American minister, to be consecrated bishops, to act in that capacity in the government of the episcopal church of the United States.

9. A ship sailed from London with negroes on board, to form a new settlement at Sierra Leone.

FRANCE.—At this period the French government, directed by M. de Calonne, was

uncommonly attentive to every point connected with naval and commercial improvement. Stupendous works were undertaken to improve the harbour of Cherbourg. A colony of American whalers, chiefly Quakers, arrived at Dunkirk, to be settled there, with every security for their civil and religious rites. Some indulgences were granted to French protestants, and the peasantry were partly relieved in regard to feudal services.

GERMANY.—The emperor proceeded in his civil and ecclesiastical reforms: among them was the abrogation of the old laws, and the establishment of an entire new code. In this system capital punishment was nearly abolished, but the substitutions were in many cases so severe, that humanity rather lost than gained. The suppression of religious orders was persisted in, and a list published of 413 monasteries and 211 nunneries suppressed since 1782.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—In poverty, Mrs. Baddeley, aged 42, an actress of great beauty. Sir George Nares, one of the judges of the court of Common-pleas. In his 56th year, Thomas Tyrwhitt, an eminent critic and scholar. Viscount Keppel, a British admiral. Aged 76, princess Amelia Sophia Eleonora, second daughter of George II. Sir Horace Mann, forty-six years minister at Florence.

1787. Jan. The inhospitable *Droit d'Aubaine*, or right claimed by the crown of France to the property of foreigners dying in that country, was abolished so far as affects British subjects.

5. The three denominations of dissenters held a meeting at Dr. Williams's library, Red Cross-street, when it was resolved to petition parliament for a repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts; and a numerous committee was appointed to carry the resolution into effect.

23. Parliament re-assembled, after a protracted recess. The speech from the throne referred chiefly to the late commercial treaty with France, and the state of the finances.

27. Thomas Thurlow, bishop of Lincoln, translated to Durham. He was succeeded by Prettyman in the see of Lincoln.

Feb. SCOTCH PEERAGES.—Two of the Scotch peers (lords Queensberry and Abercorn) among the sixteen, being created British peers, the question arose, for the first time, whether they did not cease to sit in the lords as Scottish representative peers. The subject was introduced on the 13th instant, by lord Stormont, and was decided in the affirmative.

5. A new coinage of silver, in shillings and sixpences, issued, to the amount of 75,000*l*.

7. Nearly 8000 shopkeepers of the metropolis petition for the repeal of the shop-tax.

7. Mr. Sheridan delivered one of his most brilliant orations on the charge against Warren Hastings for his treatment of the Begums of Oude. It lasted five hours and a half, and elicited the unqualified praise of Pitt, Fox, and Burke. A tumult of applause followed; and members, peers, and strangers adopted a mode of expressing their approbation, new in the house (*Ann. Register*, xxix., 150), by loudly and repeatedly "clapping with their hands."

12. TREATY OF COMMERCE.—Mr. Pitt, in an eloquent speech, introduced the commercial treaty with France. She gained, he said, a market of eight millions of people for her wines and luxuries, and we a market of 24 millions for our manufactures. Mr. Fox opposed the treaty on the same general grounds that he had done on the first day of the session, in the debate on the address. The scope of his reasoning went to show that England was the natural rival of France, and the counterpoise to her power, and "in some degree an enmity between them was inevitable" (*Ann. Reg.*, xxix., 67). Mr. Francis followed on the same side, and "dreaded the effects of an intimate political connexion with France upon the character of the British nation. The first and most prominent feature in the political character of lord Chatham was *antigallican*. The present minister had taken the opposite road to fame; and France, the object of every hostile principle in the policy of lord Chatham, was the *gens amicissima* of the son" (*Ibid.* 81). Mr. Wilberforce pointedly replied to the arguments of the opposition, and deprecated the folly of sacrificing the mercantile interests of the community to the vain glory of holding the balance of power in Europe. Upon a division, a vote of approval of the treaty was only carried by a majority of 76 voices; the minority amounting to 162 members.

20. The Court of Session, Edinburgh, determined that town-councils of the royal boroughs are not accountable for the expenditure of their revenues.

22. The assembly of NOTABLES was held at Versailles. It consisted of 144 persons, among whom were seven princes of the blood, nine dukes and peers of France, eight councillors of state, and eleven archbishops and bishops.

26. Motion of Mr. Pitt to consolidate the duties of customs. It met general approbation, and became a law.

Mar. 28. CORPORATION AND TEST ACTS.—Mr. Beaufoy brought forward his motion for taking into consideration the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts. He endeavoured to prove that the latter was never designed to include protestant dissenters; that the reasons for the former had ceased; that no man ought to be punished for

opinions; that disqualifications are punishments; that the disqualifications were not defensible by any state necessity; vindicated the dissenters from the charge of republicanism, and of aiming at the revenues of the church. Lord North (who lately had the misfortune of losing his eye-sight) came down purposely to oppose the motion. He admitted the full right and policy of religious toleration; but it was necessary to make a distinction between a participation in the offices of state and liberty of conscience. Mr. Pitt followed on the same side. He observed that there must be a restriction of rights in all societies; that, for instance, in this nation all the modes of representation necessarily included modes of qualification. But was a man to be considered as punished, or disgraced, because he does not vote for a city, a county, or a borough? The true question was, whether there was any substantial interest which made it necessary that one part of the community should be deprived of a participation in its civil offices. He said the security of the church was an interest of this nature, and that he thought it would be endangered by the repeal proposed (*Ann. Reg.*, xxix., 118). Mr. Fox, in a long and able speech, supported the repeal; as did also Mr. Smith and sir James Johnstone. Motion negatived—Ays, 100; noes, 178.

Apr. DEBTS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

—The expenses of the prince having greatly exceeded his income of 50,000*l.* a year, he applied, in the summer of last year, to the king for pecuniary assistance. Meeting with a peremptory refusal, he immediately adopted a line of conduct creditable to his integrity. Reducing his household, as already mentioned, he formally invested four fifths of his income in the hands of trustees for the liquidation of his debts, and retired into the station of a private gentleman. Twelvemonths elapsing without any notice being taken of his voluntary seclusion, on the 20th inst. alderman Newman expressed his intention to bring forward a proposition for rescuing the prince from his embarrassments. This gave rise to an interesting conversation, in which pointed allusion was made to the recent marriage of the prince with Mrs. Fitzherbert, a Roman catholic. Mr. Fox incautiously denied that such marriage either legally could, or in fact had, taken place at all. Subsequently, Mr. Pitt had a personal interview with the prince, at the desire of the king, in which it was settled, that on condition Mr. Newman withdrew his intended motion, a provision should be made for the payment of his debts, and an addition of 10,000*l.* a year be made to his income, payable out of the civil-list.

25. The corps of engineers, hitherto

deemed civil, were made military, and directed to rank with the artillery.

May 10. Mr. Burke appeared at the bar of the lords to impeach Warren Hastings of high crimes and misdemeanors.

21. The commons, without looking into the accounts laid before them, agreed to make a provision for the debts of the prince of Wales to the amount of 181,000*l*.

30. Parliament prorogued.

23. Commodore Phillips sails from Spithead to establish a settlement of convicts in New South Wales.

June 6. Lord George Gordon was tried in the court of King's-bench, before judge Buller, for a libel published in a pamphlet, entitled, "A Petition to Lord George Gordon from the Prisoners in Newgate, praying that he would secure their liberties by preventing them from being sent to Botany-bay." His lordship defended himself, without the aid of counsel, and was found guilty. He was also tried for a libel on the French ambassador, and found guilty.

12. A royal edict, imposing a stamp-duty, was sent to the parliament of Paris, for registering, who refused compliance, and addressed the king to assemble the states-general. The king held a bed of justice, in which the obnoxious edict was forcibly registered; but, at a subsequent meeting, the parliament expunged it from their journals.

24. A forged "Gazette Extraordinary," regularly stamped, circulated at the Royal Exchange, for stock-jobbing purposes. The author was never discovered.

July 5. The theatre at Bury fell; many were killed and wounded.

14. It was determined in the court of King's-bench, that at sea, when two ships are liable to run foul of each other, the ship that has the wind shall go to leeward.

Aug. 11. Nova Scotia erected into a bishop's see; and the Rev. C. Inglis appointed first bishop.

18. War declared by the Ottoman Porte against Russia.

Sept. 4. A riot among the weavers at Glasgow, owing to a reduction in wages. The military were called in, and eight persons killed.

21. An order issued for the impressment of seamen.

Oct. AFFAIR OF THE STADTHOLDERATE.

—The French court intimated to those of London and Berlin that it had determined not to interfere in the disputes of Holland, except as a mediator, provided other powers observed the same moderation; but if any other power took up arms against the republic, France would act according to circumstances. England and Prussia having already determined to inter-

fere, this annunciation caused immediate preparations for hostilities. Measures were taken by Mr. Pitt to equip a fleet, the land-forces were recruited, and a subsidiary treaty entered into with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel for the hire of troops. The contest, however, being speedily settled in the United Provinces by the Prussian army, and France being too much embroiled in her own affairs to interfere with those of others, she agreed to an arrangement with England. This convention was announced at Lloyd's on the 30th inst.

Nov. 27. The autumnal parliamentary session opened by the king, who adverted to the reasons that had induced him to interfere in the disputes in Holland.

Dec. 1. A riotous assembly at Worcester, owing to an apprehension that machines were about being erected for spinning wool. It was quelled by the interference of the civil power.

DEATH OF SOAME JENYNS.—This sprightly and ingenious author expired on the 18th inst., in the 83rd year of his age. He was at one time a member of the board of trade, along with the historian Gibbon and the dramatist Cumberland, and entered parliament as a supporter of the ministry of sir Robert Walpole. His most celebrated work is the "View of the Internal Evidences of the Christian Religion," the divine origin of which he founded on its superior moral code. The fundamental principle of his "Free Inquiry into the Origin of Evil" is, that the production of good without evil is impossible; that evils spring from necessity, and could not be done away without the sacrifice of some superior good, or the admission of greater disorder. His last production was "Thoughts on Parliamentary Reform," which he wholly opposed. He was a shrewd, witty, but fanciful writer, distinguished by the beauties of his style.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir William Draper, a general in the army, and known for his epistolary contest with Junius. Mr. justice Willes, one of the judges of the court of King's-bench. Rev. Paul Henry Maty, F.R.S., a gentleman of some literary celebrity. Father Boscovich, an eminent professor of astronomy. Mrs. Yates, a celebrated tragedian. Israel Mauduit, a public writer of celebrity. Sir Richard Jebb, physician-extraordinary to the king. Edmund Law, bishop of Carlisle, aged 84. Count de Vergennes, a celebrated French statesman, aged 68.

UNITED PROVINCES.—The chief foreign event of this year was the termination of the disputes which had subsisted between the Stadtholder and the United Provinces. The princess of Orange travelling near Schoonhoven, was stopped by a guard of armed burghers, and

placed under arrest. Upon this, the king of Prussia demanded satisfaction for the insult offered to his sister, which being refused, he despatched the duke of Brunswick, with 18,000 men, to overrun the country. Amsterdam alone made a show of resistance, and that city speedily opened its gates. The stadtholderian party had now a complete triumph over that of the republicans, and the prince of Orange was reinstated in all his former power.

AMERICAN STATES.—Some alteration in the constitution of the Union had become unavoidable. The State of Virginia first moved, that a convention of delegates from each state should meet, discuss the various necessary alterations, and then lay them before the respective states for their approbation. The delegates met, and warm debates ensued; but the calm wisdom of Washington and Franklin prevailed, and they settled a constitution which seemingly guaranteed as much individual liberty as was compatible with an efficient administration. They enlarged the powers of the general government, not by taking from the people, but from the state legislatures. This constitution was ratified before the end of the year by three states; by eight more the next year; and the other two acceded in 1789.

1788. Jan. 10. Mr. Macklin appeared in his favourite character of Shylock, at Covent-garden theatre, at the advanced age of 89, but his memory failed in the second act. Leveridge, the singer, sang on the stage at the age of 95.

28. Lord George Gordon received sentence for two libels, one on the queen of France, and another on the criminal justice of this country; he was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment, to a fine of 500*l.*, and to find security for his good behaviour for 14 years.

30. Died, sir Ashton Lever, a Lancashire virtuoso and collector of a celebrated museum.

31. Died at Rome, in his 68th year, prince Charles Edward Lewis Casimir Stuart, grandson of James II. of England.

Feb. 1. Court of common council resolved to petition for the abolition of the slave trade.

10. Austria declared war against the Turks.

PRIZE-FIGHTING.—A prize-fight took place between Richard Humphreys and Daniel Mendoza, a Jew. It was fought at Odiham in Hampshire, for 400 guineas, upon a raised twenty-four feet stage, and terminated in 29 minutes in favour of Humphreys. From this time pugilism may be said to have become fashionable. The newspapers were filled with anecdotes respecting the combatants; and scarcely a print-shop in London but what exhibited the portraits of the fistic heroes. Schools

were established to teach the art of self-defence, and sparring matches took place at the theatres and Royal Circus. Among the most noted patrons of pugilism, were the prince of Wales, the dukes of York and Clarence, the duke of Hamilton, lord Barrymore, Alderman Coombe, Mr. Wyndham, and general Fitzpatrick.

13. Trial of Mr. Hastings, in Westminster Hall, began. Mr. Burke in his preliminary oration occupied four successive days; so great a trespass on attention was deemed injudicious, and the speech itself extraneous and exaggerated. At the commencement of the proceedings the lords determined, contrary to the intentions of the impeachers, who wished to have each charge decided on singly, that the whole of the charges collectively should be gone through before the accused was called on for his defence.

Apr. 15. The Begum charge against Hastings was ably introduced by Mr. Adam; and the evidence summed up by Sheridan in a speech which lasted five days, and wanted only compression to have been a prodigy of eloquence.

21. Court of King's-bench determined that a woman is liable to serve the offices of overseer of the poor or commissioner of sewers.

22. Mr. Fox opened the Benares charge against Warren Hastings; it was concluded on the 25th by Mr. Grey, a gentleman whose parliamentary talents had begun to attract attention.

May 3. A meeting of the nobility, clergy, and others, was held at the duke of Montagu's house, Whitehall, to take into consideration the promoting a reform among the lower order of the people, and the due observance of Sunday.

7. The court of King's-bench determined that interest may be charged on a debt after the usual term of credit is expired.

8. The king of France held a bed of justice, when he apprized the parliament of his intention to establish a supreme court, named the *Cour Plénière*, vesting in them the power of registering the royal edicts: the parliament received the communication with profound silence, and on the following day protested in the most solemn manner against this arbitrary innovation.

9. Mr. Pitt moved a resolution pledging the house to take into consideration in the ensuing session the African slave trade. It was the first step taken towards the abolition of this iniquitous traffic.

19. Lady Strathmore recovered an estate of 12,000*l.* a-year from her husband, which she had assigned under the influence of terror.

26. The regiments of life-guards esta-

blished, in consequence of the disbandment of two troops each of the horse and grenadier guards.

June 3. Lord Mansfield resigned the chief-justiceship of the King's-bench, a station he had occupied with distinguished reputation for thirty-two years. He was succeeded by sir Lloyd Kenyon.

8. AMERICAN LOYALISTS.—Mr. Pitt introduced to the commons the subject of compensation to the Americans for their losses during the war. He stated a proposition for adjusting their claims by arranging the claimants into different classes, according to their different demands upon the justice of the country, which obtained the general approbation; and concluded by moving that 1,340,000*l.* be voted to the American loyalists, which was agreed to.

12. Their majesties visit Cheltenham.

14. Powell, the pedestrian, completed his task of walking from London to York and back in six days.

18. John Scott, esq., knighted and appointed solicitor-general.

21. War between Russia and Sweden.

July. A man named Charles Craddock threw himself from the Monument and was instantly killed; a coroner's jury brought in a verdict of lunacy.

12. Parliamentary session ended.

13. HAIL STORM IN FRANCE.—On Sunday, about nine in the morning, the most fertile parts of this country were suddenly visited by a tempest of unexampled violence. Wind, hail, rain, and lightning, seemed to contend for mastery, and in about one hour the rich prospects of autumn were converted into a scene of arctic desolation. The soil was saturated into a morass, the standing corn beaten into a quagmire, the vines broken into pieces, fruit trees of every kind were demolished, robust forest trees yielded to the blast, and the hail lay unmelted in heaps like rocks of ice.—(*Ann. Reg.*, xxxi. 29.) The country people, on their way to church, thrown down in the fields by the fury of the hurricane, and nearly suffocated, as they lay, by the water and mud; concluded it to be the end of the world, and scarcely attempted to extricate themselves. The hail was composed of large angular pieces of solid ice, some of them weighing from eight to ten ounces, and as hard as diamonds.

17. A desperate sea-fight in the Gulf of Finland, between the Russian fleet, commanded by admiral Greig, an Englishman, and the Swedish fleet, commanded by the king's brother, the duke of Sudermania; both parties claimed the victory, and only one ship was taken by either side.

The lord chancellor refused the certificate of a bankrupt who had lost five pounds at one game of cards.

Aug. 4. The poll for the city of West-

minster finally closed: the numbers were, for lord Hood, 5569; for lord J. Townshend, 6392.

6. A man being killed in a prize-fight at Brighton, in the presence of the prince of Wales, the prince declared that he would not in future patronize or be present at any pugilistic contest.

8. At Dublin, a quantity of fish was found floating in the harbour, many dead and others dying; the only reason assigned is, that a large quantity of lime had been thrown into the water.

Upwards of 5000 head of horned cattle perished from want of sustenance, owing to the dryness of the season.

16. FRENCH FINANCES.—The French court, by an arrêt of council, avowed its inability to meet the demands on the royal treasury, and directed that payments in future should be made partly in cash, and partly in notes bearing an interest of five per cent. The clamour caused by this announcement of bankruptcy drove the archbishop of Toulouse from the management of the finances. He was succeeded by M. Necker, the banker of Geneva, who was again called to the arduous post he had filled previously to M. de Calonne. His reputation for financial talent temporarily restored public confidence.

Sept. 3. William Brodie and George Smith were tried and convicted at Edinburgh for breaking open the excise office in Scotland, and condemned to die; Brodie inherited a considerable estate and 10,000*l.* in money at the death of his father, all of which he dissipated at the gaming-table.

William Scott knighted and appointed advocate-general.

20. A white partridge shot near Oxford.

Oct. Symptoms of mental derangement appeared in the king.

5. ASSEMBLY OF NOTABLES.—A second meeting of the Notables was convened on the subject of assembling the States-General of the kingdom; when it appeared to be the unanimous opinion that the states-general should be modelled according to the precedent of 1614. The court published its decision (Dec. 27th) a fortnight after the Notables were dissolved, by which it was decreed that the deputies to the ensuing states-general should be at least 1000; that the representation should bear as near a proportion as possible to the population and taxable contributions of the different baillages; and that the *Tiers Etat* should equal in representatives the other two orders of nobles and clergy collectively.

11. Lambeth palace robbed of plate to the amount of 2000*l.*

Nov. 5. It being the birth-day of William III. and the centenary of the Revolution of 1688, these events were celebrated with

great triumph in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin. At the dinner of the Revolution Society at the London Tavern, upwards of 800 gentlemen were present, earl Stanhope in the chair. At the whig club held at the Crown and Anchor, the duke of Portland in the chair, Mr. Sheridan, after paying an eloquent tribute to the memory of the deliverer, proposed resolutions for erecting a monument at Runnymede in honour of the event. 1000*l.* was subscribed.

19. King's illness first made public.

30. A hard frost which lasted nearly two months, the Thames frozen over. On the Continent the winter was unusually severe.

A new comet discovered at Paris.

Dec. 4. A report of the privy council, containing the examination of the king's physicians of the preceding day, laid before parliament.

9. Died, aged 74, JONATHAN SHIPLEY, bishop of St. Asaph; an eminent prelate, who singly distinguished himself among his episcopal brethren as the firm opponent of the American war.

QUESTION OF THE REGENCY.—The exercise of the royal power being interrupted by the king's illness, the leaders of the two great parties in the commons were divided on the mode of supplying the deficiency. On the 10th inst. Mr. Pitt moved for a committee to search for precedents: to this Mr. Fox decidedly objected, declaring that the heir-apparent, being of full age, had the same right to the exercise of the executive power as in the event of the king's death. But the minister pronounced this doctrine little short of *treason* to the constitution, and contended that the prince of Wales had no more claim to the regal functions than any *other person*; it devolving entirely on the two remaining branches of the legislature to supply the temporary chasm in the third estate. The question was agitated in the upper house, and lord Camden with great ability controverted the unconstitutional dogmas of Mr. Fox. Even the prince of Wales seemed to dissent from the part taken by his personal friends, and the duke of York in his name desired that "the question might be waived." Public opinion was with Mr. Pitt, and his popularity reached nearly the same height as at the commencement of his political career. Seconded, too, by a large majority, he was enabled, on the 16th inst., to carry the following declaratory resolutions:—1. "That the royal authority was interrupted;" 2. "That it was the duty of parliament to provide the means of supplying the defect." A violent debate ensued, but terminated in the minister's favour by 268 against 204. On the 23rd a third resolution was carried authorizing "the lord chancellor to affix the great seal to such a bill of limitations as might be necessary to restrict the power

of the regent." An amendment was moved, to the effect of vesting the government unrestrictedly in the prince of Wales: it was negatived, as was a similar amendment moved by lord Rawdon in the upper house. Addresses were voted by the city of London and most corporations and counties, highly approving the conduct of ministers in this constitutional emergency.

17. The fortress of Oczakov, having been besieged and bravely defended by the Turks since July, was carried by assault by the Russians under prince Potemkin; the garrison, which originally amounted to 20,000 men, being put to the sword.

30. Mr. Pitt wrote a letter to the prince of Wales, informing him of the intention of ministers relative to the regency.

Charles III., king of Spain, died, and was succeeded by his son, Charles IV.

A great scarcity of water prevailed this year in Scotland.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—James Stuart, author of the *Antiquities of Athens*. Mrs. George Anne Bellamy, a once celebrated actress. Solomon Gessner, author of the *Death of Abel*. Count de Buffon, the celebrated French naturalist. Thomas Gainsborough, an eminent portrait and landscape painter. Perceval Pott, F.R.S., an eminent surgeon. At Petersburg, admiral Greig, an English naval officer in the service of Russia, and who commanded their fleet in the late engagement with the Swedes.

GERMANY.—The emperor, at the instigation of Catherine of Russia, plunged into a disastrous war with the Turks. He opened the campaign on the Danube at the head of a grand army, but the advantages chiefly lay on the side of the enemy. In November an armistice was concluded, and he returned to his capital impaired in constitution and broken in spirits. The discontents of his Hungarian and Flemish subjects augmented his chagrin and disappointments. To the latter he had assured the enjoyment of their civil and religious rights, yet he forcibly attempted to alter their ecclesiastical government and control the universities. Influenced by a rich clergy, the people resisted; tumults arose, and much blood was shed. At Louvaine and at Antwerp the rectors and students were expelled at the point of the bayonet. Many respectable inhabitants quitted the country, and commerce and manufactures declined.

FRANCE.—The contest between political reform and despotism seemed hastening to a crisis. The course of the king was vacillating; it was marked by alternate attempts at coercion and concession; ministers were suddenly dismissed and recalled; parliaments were threatened, banished and imprisoned. That of Paris having remonstrated against the imprisonment of two of their members, the monarch told them

"not to demand from his justice what solely depended on his will;" which elicited strong resolutions against *lettres de cachet* as inconsistent with personal security. New acts of authority were followed by fresh remonstrances, till at length the court determined to institute a supreme tribunal, called *la cour pléniere*, which assumed the legislative functions of the parliaments, and reduced them to simple judicatories. It was protested against, several peers joining therein, and some of the parliamentarians were arrested, their place of meeting having been first surrounded by a regiment of guards. Meanwhile great disturbances prevailed in the provinces, and the military were called in to quell them. The finances were in extreme disorder and the government could only meet its engagements by a compulsory issue of paper. Public discontents were further aggravated by an enormous rise in the price of provisions, occasioned by the severity of the winter and the terrible hurricane of July that had destroyed the harvest and vintage. Alarmed by these gathering clouds, the court rescinded or suspended the execution of its arbitrary ordinances; a second convention of the Notables was summoned, and the great event of the assembling of the STATES GENERAL for the ensuing year resolved upon.

1789. Jan. 1. Died, Fletcher Norton, lord Grantley, formerly speaker of the house of commons. Next day the speaker, Mr. Cornwall, died, and was succeeded by Mr. William Grenville.

14. A thaw, after an intense frost of upwards of seven weeks.

26. The diet of Stockholm opened by the king in a long and eloquent speech. Finding the nobles opposed to him, but the other three orders in his favour, he imprisoned the chief of them and made himself absolute.

The quackery of animal magnetism introduced into England from France.

Feb. 3. REGENCY BILL.—This measure was introduced by Mr. Pitt, agreeably to the resolutions already mentioned (Dec. 10); but while its clauses were under discussion the king was announced (19th inst.) to be convalescent. Its limitations seem to have been well contrived for keeping the regent subordinate to the ministry. The queen was to have the custody of the royal person and the appointment to places in the household. As regent, the prince of Wales had no power to grant any office, reversion or pension except during the king's pleasure; and the grant of the peerage was interdicted. The Irish parliament was disposed to invest the prince with the unrestricted sovereignty, and addresses were voted on the 11th inst. by both houses to this effect; but his majesty's recovery

averted any difficulties that might have arisen from a collision between the legislatures of the two kingdoms. The king's approbation of the proceedings of Mr. Pitt soon became manifest, by the dismissal of those holding removable offices who had opposed him: among them the duke of Queensberry, the marquis of Lothian, and lords Carteret and Malmshury.

Mar. 10. A splendid illumination of the metropolis celebrates the king's recovery.

The remains of Edward IV. discovered in St. George's chapel; they were found in a leaden and wooden coffin reduced to a skeleton.

A woman, for coining, was first strangled by the stool being taken from under her, and then fixed to a stake and burnt before the debtors' door at Newgate. (*Ann. Reg.*, xxxi. 203.) An act passed the following year (30 Geo. III., c. 48) for changing the barbarous punishment of women in high and petty treason.

Apr. 7. Died, Achmet IV., one of the most enlightened of the Turkish rulers. He was succeeded by his nephew Selim, whose first act of power was the execution of the grand vizier, on the pretext that his misconduct had lost Oczakov.

13. Mr. Bacon's famous bronze cast, personifying the Thames, erected in the quadrangle of Somerset-house.

23. A public thanksgiving for the king's recovery: his majesty went in grand procession to St. Paul's, where the interest of the scene was heightened by the presence of 6000 charity children. Next night there was a joyous illumination.

28. MUTINY OF THE BOUNTY.—A mutiny broke out on board the *Bounty*, capt. Bligh, which sailed in the autumn of 1787 to the Society Islands, for bread-fruit trees to plant in the West Indies: she had attained the object of her voyage, and was returning when the officer of the watch, assisted by part of the crew, dragged the captain on deck, and committed him and eighteen others to the boat, with only 140lbs. of bread, 30lbs. of meat, one gallon and a half of rum and a like portion of wine; after having been 46 days, and traversing nearly 4000 miles in an open boat, they reached Timor, and from thence procured a vessel for Batavia. The mutineers, it was subsequently ascertained, directed their course to one of the beautiful islands in the Pacific, destroyed the ship to remove all trace of their existence, and settled among the natives. An interesting account has been since given to the public (*Quarterly Review*, xiii. 374.) of their habits, mode of life, and the deaths of the whole party except one. Badness of the ship's provisions was the alleged cause of the mutiny, and some slight received from the captain by Christian, the ringleader.

May 2. Alderman Boydell's Shakspeare Gallery opened.

5. MEETING OF THE STATES GENERAL.—The king opened this memorable assembly at Versailles with a patriotic speech, and was followed by M. Necker with details of the state of the national finances. The first business was the verification of the representative powers of the members. This the Tiers Etat insisted could only take place in a common assembly of the three estates, voting not by orders but by poll. Upon this important point turned the ascendancy of the democracy or aristocracy, since the numbers of the third estate equalled that of the other two conjoined, and they might expect adherents from both. The nobles were resolute, and formed their separate house; the clergy wavered: after six weeks of inaction the Tiers Etat, at the suggestion of the Abbé Sieyes, took the bold step (June 17th) of declaring themselves the legislature, by the title of the NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. Two days after they were joined by a majority of the clergy, headed by the archbishop of Vienne. Alarmed by this defection, the king held a royal session, annulled the declaration of the 17th, propounded a new constitution, and commanded the deputies of the people immediately to separate. This was the decisive moment. When the king retired he was followed by all the nobles and part of the clergy; the commons remained. On this the grand-master of the ceremonies, addressing himself to the president, M. Bailly, said, "Sir, you know the orders of the king." To which the president replied, "The people of France in their collective capacity have no orders to receive:" and the energetic Mirabeau starting up, added, "Go, tell your master we are here by the power of the people, and that nothing shall expel us but the bayonet."—At the next sitting they were joined by the clergy and 49 nobles, headed by the duke of Orleans; and on the 27th, at the express desire of the king, by the remainder of the privileged orders. The absorption of the three estates in one was an error the court vainly tried to retrieve.

8. Mr. Beaufoy renewed his motion of 1787 for the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. It was supported and opposed by the same parties. Mr. Fox expressed his attachment to the church, but laid it down as a primary axiom of policy, "that no human government had jurisdiction over opinions as such, and more particularly over religious opinions." Mr. Pitt and lord North repeated "the pompous nothings" of the former session, and the motion was rejected by 122 to 102.

22. Two of the Tower magistrates were fined 100*l.* each for discharging Charles

Bannister and Palmer, who had been committed as *vagrants* for acting plays, without a license, at the Royalty.

26. Duel between the duke of York and colonel Lenox, at Wimbledon.

June 1. A monument 107 feet high erected at Kelbearn to the memory of Buchanan, the Scottish historian.

9. Mr. Addington elected speaker in the room of Mr. Grenville, appointed one of the secretaries of state.

10. A vessel launched at Deptford made of copper.

19. King's theatre in the Haymarket burnt. Next day the theatre royal at Manchester was burnt down.

July 2. The corn-factors waited on Mr. Pitt to state how far the application of France for 20,000 sacks of flour might be safely complied with. They were clearly of opinion it could not, though the demand did not exceed one week's consumption of the metropolis. A similar application from Holland was also refused.

6. A man for a wager walked 100 miles on Blackheath, in a circle of one mile, in twenty-two hours and a half.

11. The publisher of the "Times" newspaper tried and convicted of two libels, reflecting on the characters of the dukes of York, Gloucester, and Cumberland, stating them to be "insincere" in their professions of joy at the king's recovery.

M. Necker suddenly dismissed, and ordered to leave the kingdom in 24 hours. The national assembly, conceiving his dismissal to be the prelude to designs inimical to the new order of things, passed a resolution that the exiled minister carried with him the confidence of the nation.

13. Died, aged 64, the marquis de Mirabeau, a warm advocate of Quesnay's sect of political economists, and author of the "Ami des Hommes." He was father of the celebrated count Mirabeau, the fiery orator of the national assembly.

14. CAPTURE OF THE BASTILLE.—A popular insurrection in Paris. The Bastille, a state prison of almost impregnable strength, enthusiastically stormed by the citizens, aided by some of the military. The lives lost by the assailants were revenged by the massacre of the governor, and some others, whose heads were carried about the streets upon poles, and the sanguinary spirit thence imbibed which characterized the revolutionary period. That dangerous symptom of fallen authority, the attachment of the soldiery to the popular cause, alarming the court, orders were immediately issued for the removal of the troops assembled in the vicinity of the capital, and the recall of Necker.

16. La Fayette appointed commander of the national guards of Paris.

22. The count d'Artois, marshal Broglio, the prince of Condé, and other leaders of the court faction, alarmed at popular excesses, retired to Coblenz.

Aug. 4. Feudal privileges and tithes abolished by the national assembly.

16. A famine at Paris.

20. DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.—The national assembly issued the following declaration of rights as the basis of their new constitution. Some of its positions are of questionable soundness; but, on the whole, this first essay at the promulgation of a national primer evinced, amidst the storms in which it was concocted, extraordinary ability, and is valuable as a summary of the ideas on morals, laws, and government, held by the chief actors in the first stage of the Revolution:—1. Men were born, and always continue free and equal with respect to their rights. Civil distinctions, therefore, can be founded only on public utility. 2. The end of all political associations is the preservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man; and these rights are liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression. 3. The nation is essentially the source of all sovereignty. 4. Political liberty consists in doing whatever does not injure another. 5. The law ought only to prohibit actions hurtful to society. 6. The law is an expression of the will of the community. All ought to concur personally, or by representation, in its formation. All being equal in its sight, are equally eligible to offices and honours, according to their virtues and talents. 7. No man should be accused, arrested, or imprisoned, except as determined by the law. 8. No one ought to be punished except in virtue of a law previously promulgated. 9. Every man to be presumed innocent till conviction of guilt. 10. No man ought to be molested on account of his opinions—not even his religious ones—provided his avowal of them does not disturb the public peace. 11. Every man may freely speak, write, and publish his opinions, being responsible for the abuse of this liberty in cases determined by the law. 12. A public force can only be maintained for the public benefit. 13. Public contributions ought to be proportioned to the means of individuals. 14. Every citizen, by himself or representative, has a right to determine the amount and appropriation of public contributions. 15. Public servants are responsible for their conduct. 16. Every community, in which a separation of powers and a security of rights are not provided for, wants a constitution. 17. *The right to property being inviolable and sacred, no one ought to be deprived of it, except in cases of evident public necessity, legally ascertained, and on condition of a previous just indemnity.*

Sept. 5. The Carron foundry, in Scotland, consumes 11,000 tons of coals per week, at 4s. per ton; and the consumption of each day is equal to that of the city of Edinburgh during a whole week. As many coals therefore are consumed in these works as would suffice a city of 700,000 inhabitants. One thousand workmen are employed, whose wages amount to 700*l.* a week.

28. Died, the ingenious but eccentric THOMAS DAY, the author of "Sandford and Merton." He adopted two foundling girls, with a view of training them agreeably to some of the educational reveries of Rousseau; but they disappointed his expectations, though they turned out deserving women. Mr. Day was the untimely victim of his benevolent notions, being killed by a fall from a young horse, which he would not allow to be broken in the usual manner.

Oct. 6. A scarcity of bread at Paris inflamed the fury of the populace, who proceeded to Versailles, where they made an attack by night on the palace. Amidst the confusion, the royal family were brought, in great danger of their lives, to Paris, and were followed by the national assembly.

21. The duke of Orleans arrived in London, having been got out of the way at the instance of La Fayette, to stop the mischiefous part he was acting in the Revolution.

Nov. Early this month the national assembly effected a complete revolution in their polity, laws, and government. Lettres de cachet and the distinction of orders were abolished. The local divisions of provinces were abrogated by dividing France into 83 departments, which were subdivided into districts and cantons. A scheme of representation was introduced, founded upon combined ratios of population, territory, and taxation. Monastic institutions were suppressed, and the ancient provincial parliaments superseded by new courts of justice with trial by jury.

5. At a meeting of the Revolution Society, earl Stanhope in the chair, it was resolved that a congratulatory address should be presented to the national assembly of France on the regeneration of their country. This was a whig association, instituted to celebrate the birth-day of William III. Prior to the assembling of the members at the usual place of festivity, Dr. Price delivered an eloquent discourse at the Dissenters' chapel in the Old Jewry, on the "Love of our Country," in which he expatiated in an animated strain on passing events, and indulged in sanguine aspirations on the future happiness and liberties of mankind.

19. The Severn and Thames united by the Stroud canal, through the vale of Chalford, to the height of 343 feet, by 28 locks.

23. The publisher of the "Times" (*cont.*)

July 11) sentenced to pay a fine of 50*l.*, be imprisoned twelve months in Newgate, to stand in the pillory at Charing-cross, and find security for good behaviour for seven years.

27. The national assembly ejected from their benefices the refractory priests.

30. The Flemings finding they had no alternative between implicit submission to the arbitrary innovations of the emperor, and resistance, holdly took the latter part, declaring themselves independent of Austria.

Dec. 1. Dr. Herschel discovered a seventh satellite moving round Saturn, nearer to his body than any of the rest.

7. The north wing of Houghton-hall, with many valuable paintings, burnt.

8. The printer of the "Morning Herald" convicted of a libel on the house of commons.

MONSTROSITY.—Mr. Everard Home records a singular case (*Philosophical Transactions*, lxxxii., pt. 2) of a child born with two heads. The body was naturally formed, but the head appeared double; there being, besides the proper head of the child, another of the same size, and, to appearance, almost equally perfect, attached to its upper part. This upper head was inverted, so that they seemed to be two separate heads united together by a firm adhesion between their crowns, but without any indentation at their union, there being a smooth continued surface from one to the other. It lived nearly three years.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Joseph Baretti, a scholar, and friend of Dr. Johnson. At Paris, by suicide, M. Lamoignon, late keeper of the seals, and zealous reformer of the criminal law. John Elwes, M.P., the noted miser. Mrs. Brooke, author of "Emily Montagu." Earl Cowper, prince of the German empire. Duchess of Albany, natural daughter to the late pretender: she was the last direct descendant (if a natural child can be so called), except cardinal York, of the Stuart family.

1790. *Jan.* **FRENCH REVOLUTION.**—This extraordinary movement had now assumed an aspect that astonished adjoining states. In six months all that previously existed in France had been subverted. Monarchy, nobility, the church, corporations, laws, judicial establishments, and local boundaries had fallen in rapid succession beneath the sweeping scythe of the national assembly; and what new forms of order might arise, it was premature to discern. In general, the commencement of the Revolution had been viewed with approbation by the people of England, as a laudable effort of popular energy to abate the enormous evils of an old and oppressive despotism; but its destroying and sanguinary course

speedily converted many of its warmest partisans into determined foes. This, however, was subsequent to the meeting of parliament, prior to which it does not appear there was any public expression of dissatisfaction or alarm. Several of the reform societies sent letters of congratulation to the French leaders, and opened a correspondence with them. The example of France was even so far imitated, that clubs were formed in many of the most considerable towns, with the avowed purpose of obtaining political reformation by other means than those which the constitution pointed out as legitimate.

1. The annual ode of the laureate, usually performed at court on New Year's Day, discontinued.

The states of the Austrian Netherlands entered into an offensive and defensive union, distinguished by the title of the United Belgic States.

20. **DEATH OF JOHN HOWARD.**—This celebrated philanthropist breathed his last, in the 63rd year of his age, at Cherson, a remote settlement of Russia, on the Black Sea. His death was occasioned by discharging an act of humanity, in visiting a patient afflicted with a contagious fever. He was the genius of active benevolence, and honoured throughout Europe. Edmund Burke's well-known eulogium on his prison labour, addressed to the electors of Bristol, cannot be surpassed. Mr. Howard's decease was announced in the "London Gazette," an unprecedented honour.

21. Parliament opened by the king, without special allusion to French affairs. The sentiments of the court, however, were apparent from the speech of lord Valletort, who moved the address, and stigmatised them in no measured terms. As his majesty went to the house, a half-pay lieutenant, found to be insane, threw a stone into his carriage.

28. The Jews admitted to the rights of French citizenship.

Feb. 3. Mr. Walter brought from Newgate, and sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* for a libel in the "Times" newspaper on the prince of Wales; and the like sum for a libel on the duke of Clarence.

9. Mr. Burke supported a reduction in the peace establishment. "France," said the orator, "has hitherto been our first object in all considerations concerning the balance of power. But France is in a political light to be considered as *expunged* out of the system of Europe. Whether she could ever appear in it again, as a leading power, was not easy to determine; but at present he considered France as not politically existing, and most assuredly it would take much time to restore her to her former *active existence*." He then contrasted

the different characters of the French and the English Revolutions, and denounced the "mad declaration of rights." Mr. Fox respectfully dissented, and said, "in 1688 we had only a constitution to preserve; whereas the French had one to create." Mr. Sheridan followed in less measured terms, and tried to extenuate popular excesses on the ground of long-standing abuse and oppression. Mr. Pitt observed a politic silence, only complimenting Mr. Burke on his zeal in defence of the constitution. These differences, however, soon spread beyond parliament, and the nation became divided into acrimonious parties.

10. The celebrated Phillidor played three games of chess, *blindsfolded*, with three different persons at once. He gained the two he played with Dr. Roget and Mr. Smith, and the third, with count Bruhl, was a drawn game. The moves were made for him as he directed.

13. Monastic establishments suppressed in France to the number of 4500, and their revenues confiscated; allowing, however, the friars and nuns to continue in the observance of their monastic vows, granting them pensions for their support, and allowing the nuns to reside during pleasure in the convents.

16. TRIAL OF HASTINGS.—The charge respecting presents was recapitulated; but the court sat only thirteen days during the session. Public enthusiasm had abated, and many began to sympathise with the accused, who seemed destined to live a life of impeachment. Only three articles of the general charge, out of twenty-two, were yet closed; so that all parties were likely to be dead before the trial reached its legal termination. The real merits of the case were lost in the immensity of detail. "Westminster-hall," Mr. Belsham observes, "was converted into a lyceum; a school of eloquence; and all was seen confused and magnified through the mists of rhetorical declamation." If Mr. Hastings were clearly guilty, so much circumlocution and amplification were needless to prove it. This became the general feeling; and towards the close of the session a resolution moved by Mr. Burke passed, "That the house do authorise the managers to insist only upon such and so many charges as may appear to them conducive to the obtaining speedy and effectual justice." Complaint having been made of a publication in a newspaper, by major Scott, grossly reflecting on the conduct of the managers, after considerable debate, the major was ordered to be reprimanded by the speaker.

18. Died, in his 49th year, JOSEPH II., emperor of Germany, an unsuccessful, because intemperate, reformer, who proceeded without due regard to the habits and pre-

judices of his subjects. He was succeeded by his brother Leopold, grand-duke of Tuscany, who immediately tried to recover back the government of the Netherlands, in which enterprise he succeeded by promising to govern them according to their ancient charters and institutions.

25. The common-council of London resolved, by a large majority, to oppose the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts.

Mar. 2. Mr. Fox moved for the repeal of the Test Acts, but the house was more opposed to repeal than on the two former occasions, when brought forward by Mr. Beaufoy, a partisan of the minister. The majority against repeal had now swelled to 159, in place of 20. Societies had been formed, and an alarm got up that the CHURCH WAS IN DANGER.

4. FLOOD'S MOTION.—At the same inauspicious period, Mr. Flood moved for a bill to amend the representation in parliament. The plan proposed for this purpose was the addition of 100 members, to be elected by the resident householders in every county. It was opposed by Mr. Windham, the eccentric member for Norwich. The question, he said, had subsided since the American war, and "who would be mad enough to advise them to repair their house in the *hurricane season*?" Mr. Pitt assented to this reasoning, but assured the house that he would again introduce the subject at "a more seasonable opportunity." Motion withdrawn.

20. In digging for a wet dock at Blackwall, after passing several strata of sand, clay, &c., hazel-trees, with nuts upon them, were found.

Game laws abolished in France.

31. Mr. Dundas brought forward in the commons the India budget, exhibiting a great improvement in the affairs and revenues of the Company under the present administration of the marquis Cornwallis.

A grant passed the great seal to earl Stanhope for his new-invented method of conducting vessels without sails, against wind, waves, current, and tide.

Apr. 14. William Pulteney, esq., instituted a professorship of agriculture in the university of Edinburgh; Dr. Coventry the first professor.

15. In bringing forward the budget, Mr. Pitt expatiated on the prosperous state of the kingdom and the national finances, which he mainly ascribed to the excellency of the constitution. The produce of the consolidated fund had increased half a million over the average of the three preceding years.

17. DEATH OF DR. FRANKLIN.—This celebrated philosopher and statesman closed his eventful and useful life in the 85th year of his age, having some time previously

retired from public business in consequence of increasing infirmities. The estimation in which Dr. Franklin was held is shewn by his decease being honoured by a public mourning in France and America. Next to Washington, he contributed most essentially to establish, first, the independence, and next, the internal peace and quiet government of his country. In the practical wisdom that adapts means to ends, he was perhaps never surpassed. He was attentive to his own interests, but was always ready to render to others offices of kindness and humanity. The prudential virtues of industry, frugality, perseverance, foresight, order, and uprightness, had conducted him to eminence: what had profited himself, he inculcated. He was the appropriate teacher of a rising community; a saving of time and a saving of money; patience, economy, and abstinence from vain and uncertain pursuits, forming the stamina of his ethical monitions.

18. Assignats first issued by the French.

May 5. A hot press on the Thames.

6. **AFFAIR OF NOOTKA SOUND**.—A message from the king informed the commons of a misunderstanding with Spain. It originated in the establishment by an English trader of a small settlement for the purpose of carrying on the fur trade at Nootka Sound, on the north-west coast of America, the liberty for which he had purchased from the Indian chief of the district. In 1789, two English vessels were seized by the commander of a Spanish frigate, who made the crews prisoners, took possession of the lands on which the buildings for a settlement were erected, pulling down the British flag and hoisting the Spanish, declaring that all the lands comprised between Cape Horn and the 60th degree of north latitude, belonged to his catholic majesty. Negotiations respecting this act had been carried on between the two courts, which had not produced an accommodation, and the royal message expressed a determination to support English interests. An address in accordance with this resolution was unanimously voted, which was followed by a vote of credit for a million. Vigorous preparations were made for war on both sides; but Spain finding she could expect no co-operation from France, and unwilling to engage singly in a contest with Britain, the dispute was adjusted by a convention, in which Spain agreed to restore the settlement at Nootka, with reparation for the injury inflicted; and also to a free navigation and fishery in the Pacific Ocean by British subjects, stipulating only, to guard against smuggling, that they should not approach within ten leagues of any part of the coast already occupied by Spain. During the summer, hostilities were

generally anticipated from this affair, and the country incurred an expenditure of three millions in warlike preparations.

June 12. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

16. Mr. Horne Tooke nominates himself as a third candidate for Westminster. At the close of the poll (July 2) the numbers were, C. J. Fox, 3516; lord Hood, 3217; J. H. Tooke, 1697. Mr. Tooke made a patriotic speech, in which he complimented the independent electors who had supported him.

19. Hereditary nobility abolished in France; likewise all titles, blazonry, coats of arms, and liveries: in short, all memorials of heraldry and ancestry.

22. The heat of the weather intense; the thermometer rose to 60°. Several storms of thunder and lightning, which did considerable damage.

24. Aldermen Curtis, Watson, Lewes, and Sawbridge returned for the city of Loudon.

29. John Wilkes, esq., having met with an unfavourable reception from the freeholders, declined again offering himself for Middlesex; and Messrs. Mainwaring and Byng were elected.

July 8. Renwick Williams, called the *monster*, convicted of cutting the garments of Miss Porter. Being a new crime, judge Buller reserved his case for the opinion of the judges, whether it was a felony or misdemeanor only. The fellow was a dancing-master, and had been a dangerous nuisance in the metropolis. His practice was to follow well-dressed ladies in the streets, who were unprotected, cut their clothes, and often wound their persons.

In a peat-bog at Donnadea, 17 feet below the surface, was found the skeleton of an Irish chief, 8 feet 2½ inches in length, with a spear 7 feet long by the side of it; but the handle mouldered away on exposure to the air. There were besides in the coffin two small urns of brass, on which were engraved figures of the sun and moon, of exquisite workmanship, though very antique. —*Ann. Reg.*, xxxiii., 210.

14. **ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION**.—The taking of the Bastille was celebrated throughout France, especially in Paris, with great solemnity, in the Champ de Mars. The king, for whom a throne had been erected, took a solemn oath to maintain the constitution. The national assembly and the armed citizens repeated it, which was taken on the same day throughout the entire kingdom. In England also, the occasion was commemorated. Upwards of 600 persons dined at the Crown and Anchor tavern to celebrate the 14th of July; lord Stanhope in the chair.

17. **DEATH OF ADAM SMITH**.—This well-known author had been rector of the uni-

versity of Glasgow, and held the office of commissioner of customs in Scotland at the time of his death, in the 67th year of his age. The fame of Dr. Smith's "Theory of Moral Sentiments" has been eclipsed by that of his more celebrated production, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations," the importance of which has been constantly increasing with the increasing opulence and commerce of the country. Its great merit at the time of publication consisted in a masterly exposition of principles hitherto imperfectly defined; in showing their practical operation and dependence; and in their elucidation by striking facts and observations; all in a style of great clearness and aptitude. The ground had been partially explored before by Vanderliat (*Dugald Stewart's Biog. Memoirs*, 134), sir James Stewart, and the French economists, but not so scientifically. Smith exhausted his subject so far as relates to the accumulation of national wealth: its distribution and influence on public happiness; the co-equality of population with subsistence, the nature of rent, and the representative medium of exchange, were the points he left imperfectly investigated.

28. The Forth and Clyde navigation, from sea to sea, opened. The junction between the Coventry and Birmingham canals effected, by which boats pass twice a week between London and Birmingham.

Aug. 28. Powell, the pedestrian, arrived at the Monument, having performed the journey from London to York and back in five days, 16 hours, and ten minutes. It was the third time he had executed this walking tour.

Sept. 9. M. Necker resigned. His popularity had declined in consequence of entertaining opinions too moderate for the period, and Mirabeau's intrigues against him.

17. Barrington, the pickpocket, convicted of stealing a watch at Enfield races. He made a clever defence; and on receiving sentence, apologised for his evil practices by alleging that he had not met the encouragement in life due to his abilities. He was in his 32nd year, and had a narrow escape from justice before.

18. Died, in his 45th year, Henry Frederick, duke of Cumberland, brother to the king. He married Mrs. Horton, by whom he had no issue; and the match, which was considered degrading, gave rise to the Royal Marriage Act (*ante* 487).

Oct. 31. Riot among the frame-work knitters at Nottingham. Military called in, and 40 of the rioters seized.

Nov. 20. New dock, Blackwall, opened.

24. Died, in his 73rd year, ROBERT HENRY, LL.D., a Scottish clergyman, and author of a valuable "History of Great

Britain to the Accession of Edward VI.," distinguished by a lucid style, accuracy of research, and a classified arrangement of subjects. Though at first opposed, it soon became popular and profitable to the author, obtaining for him a pension of 100*l.* a year, and net gain of 3,300*l.*—*Life prefixed to Hist. Gt. Britain*, i., 17.

26. MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Addington was unanimously re-chosen speaker. In the opening speech no allusion was made to France. Before the recess an important question was mooted; namely, Whether an impeachment by the commons did not remain in *stans quo*, notwithstanding the intervention of a dissolution of parliament? And Mr. Burke moving (*Dec.* 17) that the impeachment was still pending, it was carried without a division, being ably supported by the speaker, though opposed by the entire legal phalanx, including Erskine, Mitford, Hardinge, and sir John Scott.

Lord Kenyon decided this term that the keeper of a livery-stable cannot detain a horse for his keep, though an innkeeper can.

Dec. 10. A convention signed between the English, Austrian, Prussian, and Dutch ministers, relative to the affairs of the Low Countries.

22. Ismael stormed by general Suvarof, with horrible slaughter of its Turkish defenders and inhabitants.

Galvani, of Italy, discovered the crural nerve of a frog to be convulsed when touched with a wet knife: hence galvanism.

STATE OF PARTIS.—The novel doctrines promulgated by the French Revolution gave great animation to political controversy. During the summer, Mr. Burke published his celebrated "Reflections on the French Revolution;" of which the object was to discredit that great change, and the principles which led to it, not without severe strictures on English societies and meetings by which it was patronised. His work caused a great sensation, drawing from one party, of which he was now deemed the champion, unbounded praise, while from the other it produced heated and angry replies. In this literary warfare his most conspicuous opponent was Thomas Paine, a writer who had distinguished himself in the American war by a pamphlet styled "Common Sense," which was very efficacious in persuading the Americans to make their declaration of independence. His present production, the "Rights of Man," though inferior to Burke's, as a literary composition, was so well adapted to common feeling and comprehension, that it greatly contributed to the diffusion of republican principles and the spirit of reform throughout the kingdom.

ANNUAL' OBITUARY.—William Cullen, M.D., a celebrated physician, and author of medical works. Anthony Addington, M.D., father of the speaker of the house of commons. Rev. Martin Madan, aged 64, author of "Thelyphthora." In the isle of Skye, Flora Macdonald, the famed adherent of the pretender. George Elliot, lord Heathfield, the able defender of Gibraltar. At Oxford, Thomas Warton, poet laureate, annotator and biographer. Major-general Roy, an eminent engineer and military surveyor. Marshal Laudohn, a distinguished Austrian general in the seven years' war. Philip Yorke, earl of Hardwicke, known for his "Athenian Letters," and the publication of the correspondence of sir Dudley Carleton, ambassador to Holland in the reign of James I.

1791. Jan. 1. A solemn *Te Deum* sung at Brussels to celebrate the triumph of marshal Bender, in again reducing the Flemings to the Austrian yoke.

17. Lord Dungarvon tried at the Old Bailey for stealing three guineas and a half from a woman of the town. His lordship was honourably acquitted.

22. The king of France communicated to the national assembly a letter from the emperor of Germany, requiring that the decree of August 4th, of last year, for the abolition of feudal rights, be annulled as respects Alsace and Lorraine.

25. Died, in his 72nd year, of dysury, *Gzonus Szlwwr*, a celebrated wit and vivand, and formerly M.P. for Gloucester. Mr. Selwyn took care not to be ruined by his lively sallies (as others have been), enjoying the *otium cum dignitate* in some valuable sinecures. He left off gaming except for small sums, being, as he said, "one of the greatest consumers of time, fortune, constitution, and thinking."

Feb. 21. A measure was introduced by ministers for the further relief of Roman catholics. It was objected to by Mr. Fox solely on the ground that it did not go far enough. "Let the statute-book," said he, "be revised, and every iniquitous law expunged which attaches penalties to mere opinion." With these sentiments Mr. Burke and Mr. Pitt coincided, though the latter deemed it inexpedient to act upon them.

Capt. Perry, printer of "The Argus," found guilty of a libel in charging government with withholding intelligence relative to the late dispute with Spain, for stockjobbing purposes.

Mar. 1. At the annual masquerade at the Rutland-square rooms, Dublin, the police attended with muskets and bayonets; a riot ensued, they were overpowered by the multitude, several of them killed, and the greater part severely wounded.

Dudley Ryder and Thomas Steele, esqrs., appointed paymasters-general of the forces.

2. **DEATH OF JOHN WESLEY.**—This remarkable man was in his eighty-eighth year and sixty-fifth of his ministry. His labours in writing, preaching, and travelling had been immense. When he commenced his Itinerary, there were no turnpikes nor stage-coaches further than York: he rode 100,000 miles on horseback, generally preaching two sermons every day, frequently four or five, all which he accomplished by early rising and punctuality. His great mental characteristics were energy, subtlety and ambition. His aims were benevolent, and methodism benefited the ignorant, but not, Mr. Southey thinks (*Life of Wesley*, ii. 539), the educated classes. It narrowed their views and feelings; burthened them with forms; restricted them from recreations which keep the mind in health; discouraged accomplishments that adorn life; separated them from general society; and substituted the desponding and precarious impulses of enthusiasm for the cheering and steady light of Church of Englandism.

3. In France the silver plate of the churches is sent to the mint.

4. **CANADA BILL.**—Mr. Pitt brought forward a comprehensive measure for the future government of Canada. By the proposed regulations the province was divided into two distinct governments, designated Upper and Lower Canada. Councils, nominated by the king, and houses of assembly chosen by the people, were established in each. The Habeas Corpus Act became a fundamental law of the new constitution, and the British parliament abandoned all right of imposing any taxes except such as might be needful for the regulation of trade. To guard, however, against the perversion of this power, the produce of even those taxes was to be entirely at the disposal of the provincial legislatures. It became a law, and was only objected to by Mr. Fox on the ground that it unnecessarily introduced into a new country some of the anomalies of the old, in respect of hereditary honours and representation.

9. The remains of Mr. Wesley, after lying in his Tabernacle in state, dressed in the gown, cassock and band, which he usually wore, and on his head the old clerical cap, the Bible in one hand and a white handkerchief in the other, were, agreeably to his own directions, in the manner of the interment of the late Mr. Whitefield, deposited near his chapel at the Foundry, Moorfields.

Mr. Walter, the proprietor of the Times, after an imprisonment of sixteen months, was liberated, having received the king's pardon at the instance of the prince of Wales.

AFFAIR OF OCAKOV.—A message was delivered from the king on the 9th inst., importing that his efforts to effect a pacification between Russia and Turkey having proved ineffectual, he had thought it requisite, in order to add weight to his representations, to augment his naval forces. Mr. Pitt, in moving a corresponding address, argued that it was necessary to check the growth of Russia, which was becoming dangerous to the political system of Europe. Fox, Burke, and Grey joined in opposing the minister, contending that the point in dispute between the belligerents was only the possession of Oczakov, an object too insignificant to justify our armed interference. The address, however, was carried by a majority of 93. In the lords, earl Fitzwilliam and others deprecated a war with Russia, and it becoming manifestly unpopular in the nation the minister thought fit to desist, after a very useless expense in hostile armaments.

Apr. 2. DEATH OF MIRABEAU.—This celebrated orator of the Constituent Assembly was in his 43rd year, and the eldest son of the author of the "Ami des Hommes." He had been alternately the object of the idolatry and execration of the Parisians, accordingly as he had oscillated between the royalist and popular parties. It was thought (vainly perhaps) had he lived he might have been able to guide the course of the revolution, and his death was deemed a public loss; but in the following year, when it was discovered that he had been in treaty with the court, his remains were ignominiously removed from the Pantheon. Dying prematurely it is likely his powers have been over-estimated. M. Dumont, who well knew him, says, "what he possessed beyond other men was an eloquent and impassioned soul." (*Recollections of Count Mirabeau*, 222). His literary acquirements were superficial: he was licentious; more a man of action than conception, and possessed a ready tact in availing himself of the ideas of others, which he embodied with theatrical and sometimes electric effect. According to the authority just quoted, he was an "aristocrat in principle, but a democrat by calculation."

18. Mr. Wilberforce renews his motion for the abolition of the slave trade.

The king of France stopped by the populace, and compelled to return to the Tuileries, under an apprehension that he intended to emigrate for the purpose of effecting a counter revolution.

19. Died, in his 68th year, **RICHARD PRICE**, LL.D., a dissenting minister, and eminent writer on statistics, politics and theology. Dr. Price suggested to Mr. Pitt his scheme of a sinking fund, and received the thanks of the corporation of London for his opposition to the American war.

He was an amiable and able man, of an enthusiastic temperament; a fact as deducible from his delusive calculations of the national effects of compound interest, as from other matters more excitable.

21. La Fayette resigns the command of the national guards.

May 3. A revolution in Poland, effected by king Stanislaus and the diet, on the basis of a constitutional monarchy with three estates, equality of rights and toleration of all religions.

4. The pope burnt in effigy at Paris, by the populace.

6. In the discussion on the Canada Bill, a warm altercation ensued between Mr. Fox and Mr. Burke, relative to the principles of the French revolution, which produced on the part of the latter a renunciation of the friendship that had long united them; a determination which moved Mr. Fox to tears, but in which the other persisted to his death. From this time Mr. Burke left the opposition side of the house.

12. A bill brought into the commons, and afterwards passed, for the establishment of a colony at Sierra Leone, for the culture of sugar and other tropical products by free negroes.

14. Advice from the East Indies, dated Jan. 9th, that general Abercrombie had forced a detachment of the troops of Tippoo Saib to surrender prisoners; and that he had taken the forts of Canuamore, Biliapatam, and Nuracarrow, with 34 stand of colours, 68 pieces of cannon, and 5000 stand of arms.

15. Lord Cornwallis defeated Tippoo, and drove him and his whole army under the walls of Seringapatam.

19. The National Assembly decrees that none of their members shall be re-elected. Altered next day to two years after their dissolution.

20. Mr. Fox introduced his Libel Bill, for giving to juries the same powers in the trial of libels as in other criminal trials. It was generally approved, but postponed till next session.

26. After a litigation of eight years, the claimants on the goods seized by lord Rodney and general Vaughan, at St. Eustatius, in 1782, were paid the full amount of their several claims, by a decision of the privy council.

27. Lord Kenyon decided that the half-pay of an officer is not assignable.

30. The long impeachment against Mr. Hastings closed by the managers.

31. Punishment by the wheel abolished in France.

June 2. The peers being seated in Westminster Hall, Mr. Hastings, from a written paper, gave brief and clear answers to the charges. The gist of his defence was, that

his conduct had been highly conducive to the prosperity of the Indian empire; for which, he said, they had rewarded him with "confiscation, disgrace, and a life of impeachment." Trial adjourned to next session.

8. Mr. Dundas appointed secretary of state, in the room of the duke of Leeds, resigned.

10. Parliamentary session closed.

17. Died, at her house in Spa-fields, in her 84th year, Selina countess dowager of Huntingdon, celebrated for her evangelical principles; and a large proportion of her fortune was applied to the support and maintenance of 64 chapels, which she had established throughout Britain. She was sister of earl Ferrers, the unhappy nobleman recorded p. 453.

20. ESCAPE OF THE FRENCH KING.—In the night, the king of France and the royal family privately withdrew from the Tuileries, through a subterraneous passage leading to the Seine. His majesty left behind a paper, in which he formally revoked all his past oaths and declarations as the effect of compulsion. On the discovery of his flight the royal arms and effigies were taken down and broken by the populace. A proclamation, however, of the national assembly restored order; and a provisional executive council was appointed. Scarcely had the first emotions of surprise and indignation subsided, when it was announced that the king and queen had been arrested on the 22nd inst., at Varennes; whence they were quickly brought back to Paris. This adventure had the unhappy consequence of destroying all confidence between the king and the constituted authorities.

Died on the 20th inst., the celebrated Mrs. MACAULEY OF GRAHAM (the name of her second husband) author of a republican history of England. She was a lady of a masculine mind, and ardently attached to the principles of civil liberty.

11. Capt. Perry, the proprietor of the "Argus," was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for a libel on Mr. Walter, the proprietor of the Times. Next day he was sentenced to pay a fine of 200*l.* and six months' further imprisonment for a libel on lady Fitzgibbon, charging her with *crim. con.*

14. BIRMINGHAM RIOTS.—The second anniversary of the French revolution was celebrated by public dinners and other rejoicings; not, however, without much opposition from the adherents of ministers, who circulated alarming reports. At Birmingham these reports had the effect of assembling a misguided mob, who assailed the hotel where about 90 gentlemen had met to dine with furious shouts of "Church and King." The company dispersed at five o'clock, when the windows were demo-

lished by the populace, who immediately after proceeded to destroy the property and houses of obnoxious individuals; few or none of whom had been at the festival. Among them Dr. Priestley's and his valuable library; the houses of Messrs. Taylor, Ryland, Hutton, Russell, Horwood and Hobson, together with several chapels of dissenters. Owing to the supineness or connivance of the magistrates the riots continued four days. Tranquillity was at length restored by the arrival of the military, and several of the ringleaders were taken into custody; but three, however, expiated their crimes with death: so much more lenient had the government become since 1780.

27. A reward of 100*l.* offered for the discovery of the author of a seditious paper circulated with a mischievous intent in Birmingham on the 11th inst.

The court of Chancery on hearing the case of the nabob of Arcot against the East India Company, decided against the plea of the company, that in quality of sovereigns they were not amenable to its jurisdiction.

Aug. The Turks and Russians being mutually exhausted by hostilities, peace was this month concluded. The treaty was signed at Galatz, by which Russia obtained Oczakov and the territory between the Bog and the Dnieper.

17. As the king was passing, in his carriage, through the park, a gentleman dressed in black, standing close to the rails of the Green Park, pulled a paper from his pocket, which he stuck upon the rail, addressed to the king, and then threw off his hat, discharged a pistol into his own bosom and instantly fell and expired. The unfortunate suicide was James Sutherland, esq., who had been suspended as judge advocate of Minorca, in 1780, and, from the failure of some applications to government, was reduced to great distress. A liberal provision was subsequently made for the family of this unfortunate person by the crown.

24. The famous convention of Pillnitz between the emperor of Germany, the king of Prussia, and elector of Saxony, relating either to the state of Poland or France, or perhaps both.

Sept. 3. NEW CONSTITUTION.—The National Assembly adopted a new constitution, which was accepted by the king; on the 14th, in celebration of the event, a grand *fête* took place in the Champs Elysée. The constitution now promulgated afforded indubitable evidence of the patriotism, abilities and industry of the constituent assembly. It was founded on the previous declaration of rights, and defines with precision the executive, legislative and judicial powers, the immunities of the people, and their international relations with foreigners.

10. A great insurrection of negroes and people of colour against the French in St. Domingo. The new notions of universal equality, and the efforts of a society in Paris, called *L'Ami de Noir*, had produced great disorders in the West Indies.

14. Avignon, a territory of the pope, annexed to France.

30. The constituent national assembly dissolve, after a session the most extraordinary on record of two years and four months.

Oct. 1. The new French legislature met, and on the 4th took an oath to act uprightly. The late National Assembly having disqualified themselves to be re-elected, the present legislature consisted of entirely new men.

9. A jury at Sudbury unable to agree, oppressed by hunger, broke open the door, and went home.

Nov. 18. The non-juring priests of France being accused of *incivic* practices, a severe decree was passed against them.

24. The duke of York re-married at St. James's, to the princess Frederica, daughter of the king of Prussia.

Dec. 2. Died, HENRY FLOOD, a distinguished orator of the Irish house of commons, but chiefly known in England by his motion for parliamentary reform. Mr. Flood was rich, and made a liberal disposition of his property at his death; leaving the bulk of it to the university of Dublin.

21. The buckle-makers of Birmingham sent a deputation to the prince of Wales to represent their distressed situation in consequence of the prevailing fashion of wearing shoe-strings in place of buckles. They were graciously received by the prince, who promised to exert his influence in their behalf.

The number of convicts sent to New South Wales is 2029; the expense of transporting them 161,075*l*.

The Society of Arts gave their gold medal to Mr. Johnson of Petworth, in Sussex, for sowing the greatest quantity of strong land with acorns.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—In his 61st year, of apoplexy, Francis Grose, F.A.S., author of the *Antiquities of England*, and other esteemed works. Thomas Thurlow, bishop of Durham; he was succeeded by Shute Barrington. Mozart, the celebrated musical composer. George, third earl of Orford, grandson of sir Robert Walpole, the premier of George II. John Beard, a celebrated singer. Prince Potemkin, one of the favourites of the empress of Russia.

1792. Jan. 4. The king and royal family visiting the Haymarket theatre, to see the representation of *Cymon*, the crowd was so great that a gentleman of the India House was trampled to death.

19. A gang of thieves having clandestinely introduced themselves into the draw-

ing-room at St. James's in dress clothes, tried to hustle and rob the prince of Wales.

21. The French legislature passed a resolution not to enter into any war except in self-defence.

31. Parliament opened by the king in a speech congratulating them on the prospects of peace, and of a further reduction in the naval and military establishments of the kingdom.

Feb. 17. THE BUDGET.—Mr. Pitt drew a picture of national prosperity beyond what the most sanguine could anticipate. In such a state of things he felt justified in proposing the repeal of the most burdensome imposts, and at the same time to apply 400,000*l*. to the reduction of the national debt in aid of the annual million appropriated by parliament. He said there "never was a period when, from the *situation of Europe*, we might more reasonably anticipate a *durable peace*, than at the present moment."—On the motion of Mr. M. A. Taylor, a committee was appointed to inquire into the evils resulting from raising money by lotteries.

21. On Saturday, the earl of Barrymore was convicted of an assault on a gentleman at Brighton. Lord Kenyon said he "thought the conduct of some people of rank in this country disgraceful, and suspected there was some defect in their education, when they were brought into a court of justice to finish it."

23. Died, in his 60th year, sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS, the celebrated painter, and the first president of the Royal Academy. Sir Joshua was a bachelor, and having early become rich by his profession he kept a splendid table, which was frequented by the best company in respect of talents and distinction. His "Discourses" on his art are generally admired and a standard work. Thomas Lawrence succeeded sir Joshua as portrait painter to the king, and Benjamin West as president of the Academy.

24. Preliminaries of peace signed with Tippoo Saib; the sultan agreed to cede one-half of Mysore to the English, to pay 33,000,000 rupees (about 3,300,000*l*.) to the English, and to give up two of his eldest sons as hostages for the fulfilment of the treaty.

28. House of commons, Dublin, took fire whilst the members were sitting; it soon became a heap of ruins; the accident was occasioned by the plumbers having a fire in the roof to heat their irons. It cost 41,000*l*., and was built by sir E. Pierce, in 1731.

Mar. 1. Died suddenly, and not without suspicion of poison, (*Aikin's Annals*, 450) the emperor Leopold II. He was succeeded by his son Francis II.; this event made no change in Austrian politics, the new

monarch speedily announcing his intention of fulfilling the terms of the treaty of Pilnitz.

8. Dr. Willis set out to attend the queen of Portugal, who was afflicted with lunacy; he was to have 10,000*l.*, and 1000*l.* a month during his stay.

16. ASSASSINATION OF GUSTAVUS III.—The king of Sweden was mortally wounded with a pistol at a masquerade, by Ankerström, a disbanded officer, who had been condemned under a charge of high treason but received the royal clemency. His majesty had become unpopular among the people by eagerly engaging in the projected crusade against France, and among the nobles by depriving them of their privileges: it was by the latter the assassin was instigated. The king was in his 45th year, and lingered till the 29th inst., when he was succeeded by his son Gustavus IV., then in his fourteenth year; the regency was vested in the duke of Sudermania, who immediately declared for a system of neutrality in the approaching continental war.

23. Louis XVI., after various unpopular dismissals, appointed Roland to the interior department, Claviere to that of finance, and Servan to be minister of war; all men having the confidence of the nation.

Apr. 5. Dr. Priestley recovered from the county 2502*l.* for the damage he had sustained by the Birmingham riots. Mr. W. Hutton recovered 5390*l.*

20. WAR WITH AUSTRIA.—France declared war, having first received from the court of Vienna a categorical answer insisting, "1st, on the restitution of the feudal rights of the German princes in Lorraine and Alsace; 2nd, the restoration of Avignon to the pope; 3rd, adequate satisfaction that the neighbouring powers shall have no reason for the apprehension which rose from the present weakness of the internal government of France." The first two propositions being inadmissible, and the last unintelligible (*Belsham's Hist. Geo. III.*, iv. 387) the National Assembly declared war against the emperor.

25. Ankerström the regicide beheaded, having previously had his right hand chopped off.

30. The French having invaded the Netherlands, were repulsed near Mons by the Austrians. At the same time general Dillon fell back from Lisle; being suspected of treachery he was murdered by his troops.

FOX'S LIBEL BILL.—This measure, which last session was lost in the upper house, was triumphantly carried in opposition to the law lords, Thurlow, Kenyon, and Bathurst. It removed an anomaly in judicial trials, by empowering juries, in cases of libel, the same as in felony or any other crimi-

nal indictment, to judge of the *law* as well as the *fact*, in lieu of their jurisdiction being restricted to the latter, as the judges had heretofore determined. Previously to the passing of the new act the judges unanimously gave their opinion (*Ann. Reg. for 1792*) on various points of the law of libel.

May. The "Society of the Friends of the People" began to meet, having for their avowed object reform in the representation; among them were Messrs. Grey, Whitbread, Sheridan, Erskine, and other members of parliament.

2. M. Chauvelin, the French minister, delivered his credentials; he made a formal application to the British government, to interfere to avert the progress of the confederacy against France.

12. Riot at Nottingham, on account of the high price of shoes and butcher's meat.

16. The house of commons narrowly escaped being burnt; the discovery of a pair of corduroy breeches thrust into the ceiling above the water-closet in a state of combustion (*Ann. Reg.*, xxiv., 18) excited suspicion, but no incendiary was ever discovered.

18. Russia not liking the free constitution recently established in Poland, declared war against her.

20. A grand entertainment given by the municipality of Warsaw to the king, who drank *Vive la Nation*, and announced that the time had arrived when "artificial distinctions should cease."

A soldier being killed in an affray in a brothel at Birmingham, the mob set about destroying all houses of that description. The magistrates called out the military and evinced more vigour than on a recent occasion in quelling a riotous assemblage.

21. A royal proclamation issued for the suppression of seditious correspondence abroad and publications at home, tending to bring into "contempt the wise and wholesome provisions made at the time of the glorious revolution." The London Corresponding Society, the Revolution (1688) Society, the Society for Constitutional Information, and various other societies had recently sent congratulatory addresses to the National Assembly.

A motion made by Mr. Whitbread to inquire into the conduct of the Birmingham magistrates during the late riots, was negatived.

June 9. A riotous mob at Edinburgh attempted to destroy the house of Mr. Dundas in St. George's-square; one person was killed and several wounded by the military.

12. Louis XVI. dismissed his popular ministers, Roland, Servan, and Le Brun; Dumourier soon after resigned. Next day the king refused to sanction the decree

against non-juring priests, and also one for the establishment of a camp of 20,000 men near Paris.

14. A plot discovered to blow up the walls of the King's-bench prison.

15. Parliament prorogued.

Lord Thurlow resigned the great seal, which he had held since June 3, 1778.

POLICE OF THE METROPOLIS.—During the session an act passed for establishing five different police offices, at each of which three justices, receiving an annual salary, were to sit. A number of constables were attached to each office, who were empowered to apprehend persons that could not give a satisfactory account of themselves. It was objected to on the ground of the additional patronage it gave to the crown; though its necessity for the protection of the inhabitants and for a more pure and efficient administration of justice in the capital was admitted. The office of justice had become disreputable in the metropolis; it was sought only by needy and venal men, whose base practices had drawn general odium upon themselves and functions. In order to suppress entirely the business of a *trading justice* no fees were in future to be taken by any magistrate within the London district.

16. General Lafayette addressed a letter from his camp at Maubeuge, abusing the Jacobin club.

18. A meeting of the freeholders of Surrey, to address the king on the late proclamation; it was opposed by Horne Tooke and lord William Russell.

20. The mob at Paris compel the king to wear the red cap of liberty.

25. The records of nobility ordered to be burnt by the national assembly.

28. Lafayette unexpectedly presented himself at the bar of the national assembly, calling upon them to "save their country by dissolving factious clubs." The general, however, was reprimanded and ordered to rejoin his army.

LANARK.—David Dale, esq., of this place, in the course of six years has reared a village on the Clyde containing 2000 persons; and erected five cotton mills, each of which contains 6000 spindles. (*Ann. Reg.* 1792, p. 27.) He is also celebrated for the provision he has made for the health and education of the children he employs. They have every day some hours allotted them for recreation in the fields, and ten schoolmasters are daily employed in their tuition.

Sir John Sinclair estimated that the population of Scotland had increased 400,000 since 1755, and that in 1792 it amounted to 1,700,000 souls.

July 1. National assembly declared the country in danger. "Your constitution, citizens," they said, "restores the principles

of eternal justice,—a league of Kings is formed to destroy it."

At Paris, in his 50th year, died PAUL JONES, who distinguished himself as a naval commander in the service of America. He offered his services to the French, which were refused, and before his death being reduced to great poverty, he was buried by the subscriptions of some British residents, Jones being a native of Scotland.

2. Duel between lord Lauderdale and general Arnold. The earl a few days before had a similar rencontre with the duke of Richmond.

Tattersall, the proprietor of the *Morning Post*, was tried for several libels; one against Mr. George Rose, and another against lady Lambert, daughter of the countess dowager of Cavan. For the last the jury gave 4000*l.* damages.

John Bell, the publisher of *The Oracle* newspaper, was found guilty of a libel on the Guards.

14. The third anniversary of the Revolution was celebrated in the Champ de Mars by federates or delegates from all parts of France; among them was a deputation of Marseillois, under general Westerman, a Prussian; they soon became conspicuous in the disorders of the capital. The popular cries when the king appeared were, "Long live Petion! No Austrian committee! No traitorous correspondence with Brunswick!"

25. Duke of Brunswick issued his famous manifesto, dated Coblenz, against the French nation, threatening with military execution all who resisted the Austro-Prussian armies, and the most "avenging punishment" against the Parisians if they insulted the "palace of the Tuileries, the king, the queen, or any of the royal family, and if they did not instantly set them at liberty." This indiscreet denunciation addressed to a high-spirited, and then excited population, precipitated on the house of Bourbon the calamities it was meant to avert. Indignant at this foreign dictation in their internal affairs, and suspecting the king of secretly coalescing with the enemies of France, popular fury was directed against the royalists, and Paris in the months of August and September became a scene of dreadful crimes.

Aug. 2. Meeting at the London tavern in behalf of the king and people of Poland struggling for their liberties: W. Smith, M.P., in the chair.

DEATH OF RICHARD ARKWRIGHT.—This celebrated improver of cotton machinery expired on the 3rd inst., at Cromford, in his 59th year. He was originally a barber at Bolton-le-Moors, but lived to be knighted and fill the office of sheriff of Derbyshire. He was a man of singular ingenuity, perseverance, and comprehension of mind. The

spinning-frame, to the invention or successful introduction of which (*ante* 494) he owed his fortune, was first worked by horse-power at Nottingham, about 1770. The water-wheel was next applied, which has been superseded by the more constant and efficient force of steam. Sir Richard had been involved in protracted litigation to protect the patents of his inventions, the entire originality of which was pertinaciously disputed. He left about 400,000*l.* in money to a son and daughter; and his manufactories were supposed (*Ann. Reg.*, xxxiv., 36) to be worth as much more. It was the first, as it was doubtless the largest, fortune that had been realised by the recent discoveries in the manufacturing arts.

5. Died, in his 60th year, the earl of GUILDFORD, better known as lord North, and premier during the American war. His lordship was a high-church tory, remarkable for wit and urbanity. Like his political antagonist colonel Barré, he had for several years been afflicted with blindness. Replying to some observations of the colonel in the commons, he told him that notwithstanding his "constant hostility, no two persons in the world would be more happy to see each other."

8. Grand review by the king on Bagshot-heath. The sutlers had a plentiful harvest; for a "single mutton-chop, a cucumber, and a pint of bad wine, they charged 18*s.*; and 5*s.* for tea or coffee with two thin slices of bread and butter!"

Dr. Willis returned from Portugal loaded with bars of gold and adorned with diamonds. But the queen's malady was incurable. Living under the influence of monks, she fell into the delusion that she and her father were doomed to eternal punishment, and the doctor had no prescription for reversing the decrees of fate.

10. STORMING OF THE TUILERIES.—This was an organized insurrection, planned by Danton, Pétion, Manuel, and Marat, preliminary to the deposition of the king, who was believed to be *constitutionally* inuocere. It was a trial of strength between the determined revolutionists and the royalists, and terminated in the entire triumph of the former. Just before the onset, the king and queen, the princess royal, and princess Elizabeth took refuge in the hall of the national assembly. Of the regiment of Swiss, near 1000 strong, not more than 180 survived; exclusive of these, five gentlemen, 100 domestics of the palace, and 20 national guards fell on the royalists' side. On the other, 3000 Parisians, and 300 or 400 federates. It was a bootless slaughter, and the king's conduct has been severely censured. He ought either to have perished along with his faithful defenders, rather than survived to await an ignominious

trial; or else explicit orders ought to have been given (which were not) for the prompt surrender of the household troops, seeing there was little chance of resisting almost the entire population of the capital, provided with artillery, armed, and partly disciplined. The functions of the king were from this time suspended by a decree of the assembly, and his person and family incarcerated in the Temple.

11. The empress of Russia recalled her minister from Paris.

13. Allies defeated near Longwy.

DISSOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.—The legislative, or second national assembly of France, prepared for its dissolution by publishing a defence of its proceedings, and by adopting a plan proposed by M. Gaudet, on the 13th instant, for summoning a national convention. It was to be elected on a more popular principle than its predecessor. All that was now necessary to entitle a man to vote for a representative, were that he should be 21 years old, a Frenchman, who had lived for one year in the country on his own revenue, or the produce of his labour, and not in a state of servitude. Before its dissolution, the assembly passed several important decrees for the banishment of non-juring priests; for the division of the waste lands of the kingdom; for the division and sale of the lands of the emigrants; for bringing into the *mint* the vessels, images, and other moveables of gold and silver in the churches; for the conversion into canon of the bronze statues of their kings, from Louis XIII. to Louis XVI.

14. Le Brun appointed minister for foreign affairs; Danton, for justice; Monge, a teacher of navigation, for the marine; Roland, for home affairs; Servan, for war; and Claviere, for contributions. The three last were the patriotic ministers the king had lately dismissed after being a few months in office.

17. Earl Gower, the British minister at Paris, applies for his passport in consequence of the suspension of the executive power of the king.

19. Lafayette having been denounced by the assembly, escaped to the frontier, where, with six others, he was made prisoner by the Austrians, and for several years confined in the dungeon of Olmutz.

21. Longwy surrendered to the allies.

30. All ministerial communication with the French ambassadors in London and at the Hague was discontinued by order of their respective courts.

CANAL SHARES.—In this month England was in a ferment, created by speculations in canal shares; to promote which, many new canals were projected, and incredible sums subscribed, chiefly in the midland

counties. On the 18th instant, there appeared in the *Gazette* 19 different notices of intended applications to parliament respecting internal navigation. The following were current premiums on single shares in those canals for which acts of parliament had been obtained:—Birmingham and Fazeley, 1170*l.*; Stourbridge, 350*l.*; Melton, 55*l.*; Grand Trunk, 350*l.*; Coventry, 350*l.*; Leicester, 155*l.*; Worcester, 20*l.*

The increase of business in the Bank of England is shown by the increase in its number of servants, who now amount to 400.—*Ann. Reg.*, 1792.

Sept. 1. The addresses presented to the king, to return thanks for the late proclamation against seditious writings, amounted to 341.

The streets of London now swarmed with French emigrants, most of them priests, and in great distress.

2. Paris the scene of horrible outrages. The prisons were forced open in the night, and the royalists massacred by the populace, on the pretence of exterminating internal enemies before they set out to meet the allied armies. About one thousand two hundred were sacrificed in Paris alone, exclusive of those at Rheims and other places; among them the princess de Lamballe. Danton, minister of justice, being applied to, to interpose his authority to put an end to these enormities, replied, "When the people have done their part, I will perform mine." They had the effect of alienating the minds of many English reformers from the Revolution, and all projects of change were generally discountenanced.

13. It is said the Roman-catholics of Ireland have subscribed nearly three millions to purchase lands in America, should they fail in obtaining justice from the British parliament.

14. General Dumourier retreated, and the allies entered Grand Pré.

20. Austro-Prussian armies repulsed by Kellerman near Dampierre.

NATIONAL CONVENTION met. Its first act was to sanction by law the abolition of royalty. Next day it decreed, 1st, That all public acts should be dated "the first year of the French Republic;" 2nd, That the state-seal should be changed, and have for its legend, "French Republic;" 3rd, That the national seal should represent a woman sitting upon a bundle of arms, having in her hand a pike with the cap of liberty upon it, and on the exergue, "Archives of the French Republic." On the motion of Barrere, the friends of liberty in all nations were invited to offer suggestions for the best mode of constituting the republic. Those writers or orators abroad, who had distinguished themselves in defence of the Revolution, or whose opinions they ap-

proved, they complimented with citizenship. Among those selected, were Dr. Priestley, Thomas Paine, Mr. Wilberforce (*Ann. Reg.*, xxiv., 62), Dr. Towers, Horne Tooke, and Mr. James Macintosh.

22. Dr. Priestley chosen a member of the national convention for the department of Arne; also Mr. Paine, by the district of Versailles, and by that of Calais. He had published a second part of his "Rights of Man," combining principle and practice. They were much read by the middle and working classes, especially in the manufacturing towns both of England and Scotland. The only reply Burke made to these popular publications was, "that they deserved no other refutation than that of criminal justice" (*Appeal*, &c. 95); a hint which was shortly after taken by the attorney-general.

26. Lord Macartney sailed from Portsmouth on a splendid mission to the emperor of China.

27. National convention abolished the titles of "monsieur" and "madame," and that of "citizen" substituted.

30. Spire surrendered to the French.

RETREAT OF BRUNSWICK.—About the end of this month the combined army began its retreat, leaving Clermont and its strong camp on the heights of Lalune. It had suffered immensely from sickness, occasioned by eating the unripe grapes and wheat of Champagne. Moreover, the French peasantry everywhere opposed them, by attacking detachments, forming abbas, and breaking up the roads. The emigrant princes had misled the allies as to the disposition of the country people, whom they represented (*Declaration*, Aug. 8) would rally round the "immortal purity of the *Fleur-de-Lys* in defence of the altar and the throne."

Oct. The number of French refugees landed in England, between August 30th and the 1st inst., is 3772. Subscriptions raised for their relief amount to fifteen thousand pounds.

11. A commission appointed to prepare a constitution for France, consisting of Sieyes, Brissot, Paine, Condorcet, Barrere, and others.

18. France entirely evacuated by the combined armies of Austria and Prussia.

28. DEATH OF SMEATON.—In his 69th year, at Austerly, near Leeds, where he was born, John Smeaton, F.R.S., the celebrated civil engineer, distinguished as the architect of Eddystone lighthouse, and conductor of various other important undertakings. Mr. Smeaton was the son of an attorney, but early showed a decided turn for mechanical discoveries. He was the author of several valuable papers relevant to his professional pursuits, and those

schemes of internal improvement in which the country was intently occupied.

29. Three of the mutineers of the *Bounty* (ante p. 548) executed at Portsmouth.

Nov. 1. Dumourier invades Belgium.

6. Battle of GEMAPPE, in which Dumourier, in gallant style, defeated the Austrians with the loss of 4000 men, commanded by the duke of Saxe Teschen. In this battle the eldest son of the duke of Orleans, called young Egalité, distinguished himself.

14. Dumourier enters Brussels in triumph, having previously captured all the strong towns in the Austrian Netherlands.

16. National convention decreed that the navigation of the Scheldt and the Meuse should be free to all nations.

19. So elated were the convention with their military triumphs, that, in open contradiction of the previous declaration of the national assembly, of never making war except in self-defence, and of non-interference in the affairs of other nations, they passed by acclamation a decree, "That they would grant *fraternity and assistance* to all those people who wish to procure liberty; and they charge the executive power to send orders to their generals to give assistance to such people as have suffered, or are now suffering, in the cause of liberty."

20. At a meeting of gentlemen at the Crown and Anchor, an association was formed for preserving liberty and property against republicans and levellers; John Reeves, esq., in the chair. In their address, they recommended the formation of similar societies, for the purpose of disabusing the public mind on the new doctrines conveyed in the terms of *The Rights of Man, Liberty and Equality, No King, No Parliament*.

27. National convention erect the duchy of Savoy into an 84th department of the French republic.

28. Citizens John Frost and Joel Barlow, deputies from the Society for Constitutional Information, present a congratulatory address to the convention on the glorious triumph of liberty on the 10th of August.

Dec. 1. Notice given to lord Edward Fitzgerald and lord Sempill, both in the army, that his majesty had no further need of their services.

Great activity in the royal dock-yards; and orders given for the ships to complete their stores and repair to Spithead.

Royal proclamation issued, alleging that "the utmost industry was still employed by evil-disposed persons acting in concert with persons in foreign parts, with a view to subvert the laws and constitution;" that a spirit of tumult had manifested itself in

"acts of riot and insurrection;" that his majesty had therefore "resolved to embody part of the militia of the kingdom."

MEETING AT MERCHANT-TAILORS' HALL. A numerous meeting of bankers, merchants, and traders of the metropolis; Samuel Bosanquet, esq., in the chair. Upwards of 3000 persons were in the hall, exclusive of the crowd in the yard and street. Amidst great enthusiasm, a declaration was agreed to, expressive of attachment to the British constitution as settled at the Revolution of 1688, and of confidence in its inherent excellence to reform all abuses. This confidence, it was alleged, was further strengthened by experience of the improvements in agriculture, commerce, manufactures, navigation, and the increase of population. It was signed by more than 8000 persons, and the original declaration (*Ann. Reg.*, 1792, p. 49.) deposited in the records of the Tower.

6. Public alarm was kept up by troops being marched into London, the guard at the Bank doubled, and the fortifications of the Tower repaired.

13. MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The law requiring that if the militia be drawn out during the recess, and this it can only be in the case of invasion or actual *insurrection*, parliament shall be assembled in fourteen days; it consequently anticipated the period (Jan. 3rd) to which it had been prorogued. Considerable apprehension existed of a plot against the state. In the opening speech the king said, "I have carefully observed a strict neutrality in the present war on the Continent, and have uniformly abstained from any interference with respect to the internal affairs in France; but it is impossible for me to see, without the most serious uneasiness, the strong and increasing indications which have appeared there, of an intention to excite disturbances in other countries, to disregard the rights of neutral nations, and to pursue views of conquest and aggrandizement, as well as to adopt towards my allies the States-general, who have observed the same neutrality as myself, measures which are neither conformable to the law of nations, nor to the positive stipulations of existing treaties." Under these circumstances, his majesty had thought fit to augment his naval and military force. On moving the address, an animated debate ensued, in which the abilities of Mr. Fox were resplendent. He was ably supported by Sheridan, Erskine, Whitbread, Grey, Courtenay, Francis, and Adam. On a division, the amendment, "that an inquiry should be made into the facts alleged in the king's speech," was negatived by 290 to 50. In the lords, the address was carried without a division, but not without opposition

from the duke of Norfolk and lords Lansdowne, Rawdon, and Stanhope. In consequence of the late alarms, several seceded from the whig party, and acquired the name of ALARMISTS. Among them, in the lower house, were Burke, Windham, Anstruther, and sir Gilbert Elliot. In the upper, the prince of Wales, the duke of Portland, and lords Fitzwilliam, Spencer, and Loughborough, who had succeeded Thurlow in the chancellorship. Mr. Pitt was not present during the debate on the address, he having accepted the wardenship of the Cinque Ports, and had not yet been re-elected.

18. At Guildhall, before lord Kenyon, Thomas Paine was found guilty of a libel contained in his "Rights of Man."

19. ALIEN ACT.—Lord Grenville introduced a bill for placing aliens under strict supervision, as well as to confine those who received temporary assistance to certain districts, suffering them to remove only with passports. The debate upon this subject was only remarkable from presenting Mr. Burke in a new character, that of parliamentary tragedian. The orator, to heighten the effect of one of his rhapsodies, threw a Sheffield dagger on the floor of the house, which he had brought with him to the house, and carefully kept concealed till the critical moment of exhibition. The bill of course passed, as did two others, to interdict the circulation of French assignats, and restrain the exportation of naval stores and ammunition.

26. Trial of Louis XVI. began at the bar of the national convention; M. Barere, president.

27. M. Chauvelin, the French minister in London, addressed a note to lord Grenville, demanding an explanation of the intentions of the British government towards France; and at the same time endeavouring to set aside the false interpretation which was given to the decrees of the national convention of November 19, for encouraging insurrections in other countries. Lord Grenville acknowledged, on the 31st instant, the receipt of the note of M. Chauvelin, "styling himself minister plenipotentiary from France." His lordship said, if France was desirous of maintaining peace with Britain, she must renounce her views of aggrandizement. This correspondence continued into the ensuing year. Previously to this, on the 2nd inst. M. Maret had a private interview with Mr. Pitt, from which it appeared the English minister was less disposed to war than the English aristocracy and a majority of the council, headed by lord Hawkesbury.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir John Eardley, late chief-justice of the Common-pleas, in his 83rd year. Jonathan Tyers, the founder

of Vauxhall-gardens. David Henry, printer, aged 82, who for upwards of half a century had the chief management of the "Gentleman's Magazine." Sir Robert Strange, an eminent engraver. General Burgoyne, known for his share in the American war, and for the production of several genteel comedies; "The Heiress," "Bon Ton," &c. At Bristol, the mother of the unfortunate Chatterton. In his 74th year, admiral lord Rodney.

CONSTITUENT, OR FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.—The states-general of France, which met in 1789, was composed of the three orders of the clergy, nobles, and tiers-état, amounting together to 1128 persons. Lacretelle has given an analysis of these orders, and of the parts they took in the first national assembly, into which the states-general resolved itself.

Clergy.

Archbishops and bishops	. 48
Abbots and canons	. 35
Curates	. 210
	— 293

Nobles.

Prince of the blood, duke of Orleans	. 1
Magistrates of sovereign courts	. 28
Gentilshommes	. 241
	— 270

Tiers Etat, or Third Estate.

Ecclesiastics	. . . . . 2
Gentilshommes	. . . . . 12
Mayors and counsels	. . . . . 18
Magistrates of inferior tribunals	. . . . . 62
Men of law	. . . . . 279
Physicians	. . . . . 16
Merchants, farmers, &c.	. . . . . 176
	— 565

Côté Droite; or those who opposed the progress of the Revolution.

Archbishops and bishops	. 39
Abbots and canons	. 25
Curates	. 10
Nobles	. 180
Magistrates	. 10
Men of law	. 18
Farmers	. 40
	— 322

Centre; or Moderates, most of whom were ready to declare for either Party.

Clergy	. . . . . 140
Nobles	. . . . . 20
Magistrates	. . . . . 9
Men of law	. . . . . 101
Third estate	. . . . . 210
	— 480

Côté Gauche; composed of all the Revolutionary Party acting hitherto in concert, but afterwards divided.

Prince of the blood	1
Men of law	160
Curates	80
Gentilshommes	55
Merchants, farmers, &c.	30
	326

PUBLIC STATUTES, XXV. TO XXXIII. GEO. III.

25 Geo. 3, c. 57. Exempts mail-carriages from the payment of turnpike tolls.

Cap. 67. Prohibits the export of tools in iron and steel manufactures; also the reduction of artificers therein.

26 Geo. 3, c. 31. Sinking-fund act (*ante* 541).

Cap. 53. Regulates imprisonment by courts of conscience, ascertains the qualifications of commissioners, and abolishes fees of gaolers.

Cap. 60. For ascertaining the tonnage of ships afloat, and the increase of shipping and navigation.

Cap. 71. For licensing houses for the slaughtering of horses, and other animals.

Cap. 84. Consecration of alien bishops by English archbishop.

27 Geo. 3, c. 11. Empowering magistrates to commit vagrants charged with petty offences to hard labour till the sessions.

Cap. 38. Securing copyright of designs and prints of linen, cottons, and muslins.

28 Geo. 3, c. 30. Empowering justices to license, for certain periods, theatrical entertainments.

Cap. 48. Regulating chimney-sweepers.

Cap. 52. Regulating trial of controverted elections of members of parliament.

29 Geo. 3, c. 6. Rating pension-list to land-tax.

30 Geo. 3, c. 47. Power of governors to remit sentences of transported felons.

Cap. 48. Abolishes the punishment of burning women convicted of high or petty-treason.

31 Geo. 3, c. 31. Government of Canada (*ante* 555).

Cap. 39. Regulates seamen employed in the coasting-trade.

Cap. 51. Protecting oyster-fisheries.

32 Geo. 3, c. 42. Investing money of Chancery suitors.

Cap. 53. Police of the metropolis (*ante* 560).

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

Sums levied, for Public Purposes, in Great Britain and Ireland, in 1788. — *Sinc. Hist. Revenue, Pt. iii., 164.*

Public revenue of England £15,500,000

	£.
Brought forward	15,500,000
Charges of collection	1,379,872
Bounties and allowances	536,180
Poor-rates and county expenses	2,100,587
Charitable donations to the poor	258,710
Public hospitals, including that of Greenwich	250,000
Turnpikes in Britain	500,000
Parochial assessments and statute labour	100,000
Income of town corporations in England	500,000
Ditto in Scotland	100,000
Navigable rivers and canals	150,000
Lighting, watching, and paving	200,000
Civil establishment of Scotland	100,000
Income and taxes of Ireland	2,000,000
Total	£23,725,349

Supplies for the year 1792.

	£.	s.	d.
Navy	1,985,482	0	0
Army	1,819,460	0	4
Ordnance	422,001	11	3
Miscellaneous services	6,474,950	15	5½
Deficiencies	436,990	18	0½
Total supplies £11,138,885		5	1

Produce of the Taxes for one Year, to the 5th of January, 1792.

	£.	s.	d.
Customs	3,723,361	17	7½
Excise	7,182,107	10	4½
Stamps	1,277,976	15	11
Incidents	1,940,031	3	9½
New duties	692,948	18	1½
Total	£14,816,420	5	9½

Public Debt in 1792.

<i>Principal.</i>	<i>Interest.</i>
£254,306,435	£10,868,975

Revenue of Public Charities.

	<i>In money.</i>		<i>In land.</i>			
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
England	46,173	9	9	206,301	8	8
Wales	2,073	0	8	4,166	0	2
Total	£48,246	10	5	£210,467	8	10

East India Company in 1791.

	£.
Annual revenue	7,043,783
Annual expenditure	5,410,370

The average circulation of the BANK OF ENGLAND was, in 1784, 5,897,635*l.*; in 1788, 9,782,000*l.*; in 1792, 11,156,840*l.* Bullion in the Bank, in 1784, 1,097,835*l.*; in 1788, 6,321,300*l.*; in 1792, 5,912,720*l.*

The expense of collecting the public revenue of England, in 1788, was 7½ per cent. The expense of collecting the several branches was, of the

	Per cent.
Customs	10½
Excise	5½
Stamps	3½
Land-tax	3

The total number of persons employed in the collection of the revenue in England was 10,002; of which number, 4618 were in the customs, and 4477 in the excise. The total number in Scotland was 1466.

COMMERCE, SHIPPING, FISHERIES.

Besides the general peace, the settlement of the ministry, and the application of many recent inventions to manufacturing industry, other causes helped to give an impulse to commercial activity. One of these was a succession of favourable harvests, and consequent low price of provisions. During the first eight years of Mr. Pitt's administration the average price of wheat at Windsor market was 49*s.* per quarter. The average price during the long and prosperous reign of George II. was 3*l.*s. The vast territorial acquisitions of the East India Company, and a better system of colonial government, not only afforded a wide field for adventurous individuals, whose gains enriched the country, but threw open many new and extensive markets for English products. In consequence, the shipping employed in the India trade more than doubled; and the quantity of British manufactures annually exported to the East, which in 1774 amounted only to 907,240*l.*, had increased, in 1792, to 1,921,955*l.* The fisheries were sedulously promoted; besides those of Greenland and Newfoundland, the South whale fishery was opened. The attention of the legislature to the progress of commerce is shown by its fiscal regulations, and the various statutes passed for advancing the true interests of the people. During the ten sessions which ended with that of 1793, parliament passed 1934 statutes; of these there were 625 private, and 1309 public acts: 29 were for improving manufactures, and 114 for commercial purposes.

The commercial progress of the country during the eight years of peace subsequent to the American war will appear from the subjoined statement of the ton-

nage of the ships employed in the export-trade, and the value of the cargoes exported, continued from p. 531:—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1785	1,055,253	£16,770,228
1786	1,098,903	16,300,725
1787	1,236,954	18,296,166
1788	1,365,138	18,124,082
1789	1,443,658	20,013,297
1790	1,404,960	20,120,120
1791	1,511,157	22,731,994
1792	1,565,154	24,905,200

PRICES, WAGES, MORTALITY, CHIMES.

Prices of STOCKS in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT (Windsor measure), at Windsor market:—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1785	55	118	134	502	48
1786	71	143	157	510	42
1787	72	147	161	509	45
1788	74	165	170	709	49
1789	74	175	162	562	56
1790	75	171	165	555	56
1791	80	186	166	583	49
1792	90	201	196	636	53

The bankrupts, it seems, in 1788 were 709; in 1752 there were 116. These were the most and least numerous since 1740.

SUPPLIES voted by parliament in each year; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the LONDON Bills of Mortality:—

Yr.	Supplies.	Christenings.	Burials.
1785	9,296,300	17,919	18,919
1786	13,420,962	18,119	20,424
1787	12,414,579	17,508	19,349
1788	11,860,263	19,559	19,697
1789	11,239,235	18,163	20,749
1790	11,931,201	18,950	18,038
1791	14,073,656	18,496	18,760
1792	11,134,565	19,348	20,213

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:—

Year.	Coals, pr chd.	Coffe, pr cwt.	Flour, pr sack.	Sugar, pr cwt.	Tea, per lb.
1784	—	70	40	23	35
1785	26	76	36	24	19
1786	25	76	33	25	20
1787	22	95	31	37	19
1788	21	100	37	30	19
1789	21	100	42	28	19
1790	23	96	42	36	20
1791	22	73	38	43	20
1792	21	96	36	58	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, the raw brown Jamaica; tea, the Bohea. The prices are

stated in shillings, except of tea, which is in pence.

Wages do not appear to have materially varied since 1760 (p. 458). The following is the contract rate of wages for artificers at Greenwich hospital, in 1790:—

	s.	d.
Carpenter, per day	2	6
Bricklayer, ditto	3	0
Mason, ditto	2	10
Plumber, ditto	3	3

Mr. Barton states the wages in husbandry, in the same year, at 8s. 1d.; equivalent in wheat to 82 pints.

The number of criminal convictions at the Old Bailey, in 1787, was as follows:—

Capital convictions	123
Lesser offences	506
Acquitted	396
Executed	100

ROADS AND TRAVELLING.

The essentials of commerce are money, to represent the value of commodities; weights and measures, their quantities; and roads to facilitate their conveyance. The last are more important than the preceding; they are almost the first step in social improvement, without which there can be neither security nor traffic. It is only the sea-coast and the banks of rivers that can be peopled till roads have been opened into the interior, by whose aid the forest is cleared, and a way made for the transit of the produce of industry. Agriculture has this relation to commerce that its basis is *interchange*. It consists in the reciprocation of superabundances with deficiencies, the excessive moisture of one district being made to correct the aridity of another; the soils and manures that are unsuitable or redundant in one description of lands may fertilize others, and both be improved. The Romans always began the task of civilization by opening new communications: their object, however, was neither commerce nor agriculture, but the lust of dominion.

The labours of this extraordinary people are remarkable for two oversights that have very much excited the astonishment of posterity. Ignorant of the true principles of hydrostatics, they constructed vast and expensive aqueducts for the conveyance of water; whereas by a knowledge that water will rise to its level, and the use of water-pipes, they might have made that necessary element convey itself. In the structure of carriages, they were unacquainted with the *movable joint*, by which the two first wheels of a four-wheeled vehicle may alter their parallel position to follow the curvature of the road. Hence the great Roman ways

could not conveniently, owing to the immovable parallelism of the axes of their large carriages, deviate from straight lines, so as to pass through the adjacent towns and villages.

The infancy of road-making, like that of navigation, must be sought in the infancy of nations. A canoe, hollowed out of the trunk of a tree, was the beginning of ship-building; and an Indian's trail, by which an untutored tribe wend their way, in single file, through forest or grassy glade of boundless extent, is the first germ of a road. Conveyance by a quadruped, which rendered necessary the widening of the trail into a sort of bridle-path, formed most likely the second step in the improvement of itinerancy. Next came the use of carriages; a sledge, perhaps, first; after that, the cart, or sledge, raised on two wheels, connected by an axle. Then came the double cart, or waggon of four wheels, by which two parallel and transverse axes were connected by a fixed longitudinal one. In principle, no improvement beyond this has been made in the construction of carriages, save that just alluded to, of the movable joint, which at once, by the facilities it afforded for turning curved lines, dispensed with the necessity of rectilinear roads for large vehicles.

The first effort of English legislation to improve what may be termed the natural roads of the kingdom was in the reign of Edward I. In 1285 an act passed for widening the highways from one market-town to another; but this was intended rather to prevent robbery than to facilitate travelling. The roads of particular districts were amended by several laws of Henry VIII. In the reign of Philip and Mary a general act passed for the mending of highways, "being," says the law, "both very noisome and tedious to travel on, and dangerous to passengers and carriages." Under this statute surveyors were to be appointed, and every parish, by four days' labour of its people, was compelled to repair its own roads. This was a very efficient measure, till the vast extent of population and trade in the reigns of James I. and Charles I. and II. rendered necessary a more general system, especially in the vicinity of the metropolis and large towns. This gave rise to *turnpikes* in the reign of Charles II., by which those who enjoyed the benefits of safe and easy travelling contributed the necessary expense, in the payment of tolls, levied at toll-gates called turnpikes. It was a salutary and just innovation, but long unpopular, and was not generally introduced through the kingdom till the peace of Paris, in 1763.

For nearly 100 years after the first introduction of turnpikes, they do not appear

to have been generally available for travelling, or the conveyance of merchandize. Down to the middle of last century, a great part of the internal trade of the island was carried on by pack-horses, the roads not being passable for a cart, or other wheeled carriage. This the writer knows from tradition to have been the case in the counties of York and Lancaster. A line of horses, the first having a bell, conveyed through long winding lanes a large part of the woollen manufactures of the West-Riding of Yorkshire. A gentleman of Manchester, who realised a sufficient fortune to enable him to keep a carriage, when not half a dozen were kept in the town, carried on his business in this way. He sent the manufactures of the place into Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and the intervening counties; and principally took in exchange feathers from Lincolnshire, and malt from Cambridgeshire and Nottinghamshire. All his commodities were conveyed on pack-horses, and he was from home the greater part of every year, performing his journeys entirely on horseback. His balances were received in guineas, and were carried with him in his saddle-bags. In Lincolnshire he travelled chiefly along bridle-ways through fields, where frequent gibbets warned him of his perils, and where flocks of wild-fowl, darkened the air (*Walker's Original*, 161). It is almost within the memory of the existing generation when there was no carriage-road between Horsham and London; the only means of reaching London, thirty-six miles distant, was either by going on foot or on horseback, the latter not being practicable at all seasons of the year, nor in every state of the weather. In Scotland, about the same period, intercourse and business were similarly conducted. Oatmeal, coals, turf, and even straw and hay, were carried, not by carts or waggons, but on horseback (*M'Calloch's Com. Dict.*, 915). But in carrying goods between distant places a cart was used, as all that a horse could carry on his back was not sufficient to defray the cost of a long journey. The time requisite to perform the journey seems now incredible. The common carrier, says the authority just quoted, from Selkirk to Edinburgh, thirty-eighty miles distant, required a *fortnight* for his journey between the two places in going and returning.

The intelligent Arthur Young, who travelled through the southern and northern counties of England in 1770-2, often adverts to the state of the common roads. He speaks well of some in Wiltshire, and of the great north one to Barnet; and of the Kentish turnpike. In Norfolk, he says, where the roads are the boast of the inhabitants, they have not "one mile of

excellent road in the whole county" (*Six weeks' Tour in the Southern Counties*, 320). In the muddy road from Bury to Sudbury in Suffolk, he was forced to move "as slow, as in any unmened lane in Wales." The grips he found cut across for carrying off the water must, by the intolerable jolting they occasioned, have augmented the discomforts of travelling. In the north, he found matters, as might be expected, still worse. At Castle Howard he was near being "swallowed up in a slough." From Richmond to Darlington the roads were execrably bad, broken into holes, like an old pavement, sufficient to "dislocate the bones." "Yet," he says, "the people all drink tea" (*Six Months' Tour through the North of England*, ii. 254). At one spot he arrived at a cross-road "fronted nine ways at once, without a single directing-post" (*Ibid.* iv. 423). As to the Lancashire ways, he cautions people to shun them as they would the devil. The description he gives of the turnpike-road from Wigan to Preston (proud Preston, as it was formerly called, as being the exclusive abode of gentry) is frightful enough! "I know not," says he, "in the whole range of language terms sufficiently expressive to describe this infernal road. To look over a map, and perceive that it is a principal one, not only to some towns, but even whole counties, one would naturally conclude it to be at least decent; but let me most seriously caution all travellers who may accidentally purpose to travel this terrible country to avoid it as they would the devil, for a thousand to one but they break their necks or their limbs by overthrows or breakings down. They will here meet with ruts, which I actually measured, *four feet deep*, and floating with mud only from a wet summer;—what, therefore, must it be after a winter? The only mending it in places receives, is the tumbling in some loose stones, which serve no other purpose but jolting a carriage in the most intolerable manner. These are not merely opinions, but facts, for I actually passed three carts broken down in these eighteen miles of execrable memory" (*Northern Tour*, iv. 431).

Accustomed to the smooth and level roads of the present day, we can form no idea of the delays and dangers of former tourists. The anecdote related of the poet Cowley in 1665 seems almost incredible. He had retired into the country, to Chertsey, and thence invited Sprat to enjoy the pleasures of St. Anne's Hill, telling him, "that he might sleep the first night at Hampton Town:" thus spending two days in the performance of a journey of twenty-two miles, in the neighbourhood of London.

Our surprise at such relations is lessened, upon reflecting on the length of time consumed in stage-coach travelling. Forty years later, namely, in 1706, the stage-coach from York to London was four days on the road. The journey is now performed in about twenty hours. In 1763 there was only a coach once a month from Edinburgh to London; and it took from twelve to fourteen days to perform the journey. Now, six or seven coaches start daily from one capital to the other, and perform the journey in from forty-five to forty-eight hours. Even this is in rapid progress of being eclipsed, by the miracles of railway travelling, but of which a notice belongs to a subsequent period.

The strenuous efforts of the legislature to improve not only the inter-communications of the kingdom, but also to effect other local amendments, will appear from the following classification of the number of acts of parliament passed for these purposes, in the interval from 1784 to 1792, which is the period more immediately claiming attention:—

Roads, bridges, &c.	302
Canals, harbours, &c.	64
Inclosures, draining, &c.	245
Paving, and other parochial improvements	139
Total	750

IRELAND IN 1748 AND 1792.

	1748.	1792.
Land about Cork (English acre)	16	80
About Dublin (Irish acre)	60	170
Wool per stone	7	16
Sheep	9	26
Oxen, fat	100	240
Milch cows	40	145

These are the average prices in *shillings*. Corn was occasionally very low and very high; but so unequal was the country to feed itself, that Dublin alone paid to foreign parts for wheat and flour above 100,000*l.* annually. There is not only now an annual supply, but Ireland has, upon an average, exported latterly 300,000 barrels of wheat, and 500,000 barrels of oats. (*Annual Register for 1792, p. 106.*)

MEN OF LETTERS.

Robert Lowth, bishop of London, 1710—1787. “*De sacra Poësi Hebræorum*,” 4to. 1753; “*Life of William of Wykeham*,” 8vo. 1758; “*Introduction of English Grammar*,” 1762; “*Isaiah*,” a new translation, 1778.

Gilbert Stuart, LL.D., 1742—1786.

“*Historical Dissertation on the Antiquity of the British Constitution*,” 1767; “*View of Society in Europe*,” 4to.; “*Observations on the Law and Constitutional History of Scotland*,” 1776; “*History of the Reformation in Scotland*,” 4to., 1780.

Jonas Hanway, traveller and philanthropist, 1712—1786. “*Historical Account of the British Trade in the Caspian Sea*,” 4 vols. 4to., 1753.

Soame Jenyns, 1704—1787. “*Art of Dancing*,” a poem, 1728; “*Free Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Evil*,” 1757; “*View of the Internal Evidences of the Christian Religion*,” 1776; “*Disquisitions on Various Subjects*,” 1782; “*Thoughts on Parliamentary Reform*.”

John Wesley, founder of the Methodists, 1703—1791. “*A Calm Address to the American Colonies*,” a pamphlet on the side of the British Government, on the breaking out of the war. Mr. Wesley’s works on divinity, ecclesiastical history, sermons, &c., amounted in 1774 to thirty-two vols. 8vo.

Adam Smith, 1723—1790. “*The Theory of Moral Sentiments*,” 1755; “*Essay on the Origin of Languages*,” “*Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*,” 2 vols. 4to., 1776.

Thomas Warton, poet-laureate, 1728—1790. “*Observations on Spenser’s Fairy Queen*,” 1754; “*History of English Poetry*,” first vol. 4to. 1774, second vol. 1778, third vol. 1781: the author’s death left it unfinished.

Benjamin Franklin, LL.D., 1706—1790. “*Liberty and Necessity*,” “*Poor Richard’s Almanac*,” 1732; “*Experiments in Electricity*, 1747—1757.

Sir Joshua Reynolds, an eminent artist, 1723—1792. “*Notes on a Tour in the Netherlands*,” 1781-1783. “*Discourses*” at the Royal Academy, 1769—1790. His works, edited by Malone, two vols. 4to., were published in 1797.

Francis Grose, antiquary, 1731—1791. “*Antiquities of England*,” 8 vols. 4to., 1773; “*Treatise on Ancient Armour*,” 1786; “*Provincial Glossary and Proverbs*,” 1787; “*Antiquities of Ireland*,” 2 vols. 4to., posthumous.

John Smeaton, civil engineer, 1724—1792. “*Experimental Inquiry on the Natural Powers of Wind and Water to turn Mills, &c.*” 4to., 1760; “*Historical Report on Ramsgate Harbour*,” 8vo., 1791; “*Narrative of the building of Eddystone Lighthouse*,” folio, 1791.

Catherine Macaulay, or Graham, the republican historian: died 1791. “*History of England, from the Accession of James I. to the Brunswick Line*,” first vol. 4to., 1763, the eighth and last in 1783. “*Remarks on Hobbes*,” 1769. “*Letters on*

Education," 1790. "Letter to Lord Stanhope on the French Revolution," 1791.

Robert Henry, LL.D., a Scottish clergyman, 1718—1790. "History of Great Britain, to the Accession of Edward VI.;"

first vol. in 1771; the last, which was posthumous, in 1793. Dr. Henry translated Goguet's "Origin of Laws," three vols. 8vo.

GEORGE III. A.D. 1793 to 1803.

THE preceding portion of the current reign exhibited the progress of the country during eight years of peace; the present embraces nine years of war, to the conclusion of the Treaty of Amiens, in 1802. Although not a lengthened term, it is the most interesting and important in history, demonstrating by the mass of extraordinary events crowded into its brief space, that whatever may have been the influence of civilization in diffusing luxury and enjoyment, it has had no tendency to lessen the activity, diversity, and might, when called into exertion, of the human intellect and passions. The French Revolution brought forth giants—giants in speculation and practice—in politics and war—in morals, patriotism, and crimes.

The first and prominent event of this remarkable period is the commencement of the war of 1793, and the novel principles in which it originated. Unlike former wars, it did not originate in the personal quarrels of princes, like those of the Edwards and Henries; nor in religious animosities, like those of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth; nor in territorial cupidity, like those of William III. and queen Anne; nor in the interests of a petty electorate, like those of George I. and II.; nor in colonial disputes, like the first war of the present sovereign. Different from these, the revolutionary contest had neither the passions of monarchs, nor the restless ambition of the Bourbons, for its object; but took its rise from the hitherto unimagined ground of OPINION—an opinion of contingent danger from the acts, chiefly internal, of a neighbouring state.

As the primary cause was moral, it might have been supposed that moral precautions, without actual hostilities, were alone needed. A powerful kingdom had fallen into anarchy, in an effort to free herself from great social and political disorders; what could be more politic than that other nations, without the risk of experiment, should quietly profit by her example? If France had lost more than she had gained by the destruction of her monarchy, her church, and aristocracy, it was doubtless a consequence susceptible of proof, and public opinion needed only to be enlightened on the tendency of her errors. Unfortunately, governments were not inclined to derive this gratuitous lesson. A conflagration had burst forth, and they threw brands into the burning. Already apprehensive and excited by the emigration of a degenerate nobility, by famine, and the counter-revolutionary plots of the court, the rage of the French kindled into fury at the threatened intervention of foreigners in their affairs. By the invasion of the first coalition, in 1792, and its vain denunciations of vengeance, every evil was precipitated, an unconquerable power elicited, and the death of the king and massacre of the royalists provoked.

Except the merit of being later in the field, England evinced neither more wisdom nor folly than the continental despots. Like them, she was

not content to observe a moral quarantine pending the delirium of her neighbour, be a spectator of her convulsions, and profit by the lessons they afforded. Urged by various considerations, she mingled in the fray, first as an accessory, next as principal, and lastly, single-handed. The classes and interests which mainly produced this determination in public policy may perhaps be described under the following category:—

The *first* and most influential were doubtless the aristocratic orders of the community. Foremost among these may be classed the king himself. Although George III. was not remarkable for shining abilities, he always manifested a shrewd sense of his own interests, and seemed conscious of the influence likely to be wrought on the *status* of his order by the progress of the French Revolution. "If a stop," said he, "be not put to French principles, there will not be a king left in Europe in a few years*." A like apprehension of real or imaginary danger influenced the peerage, the church, corporations, and the legal and proprietary classes. The only noblemen who openly defended the Revolution were the eccentric earls Stanhope and Lauderdale; the rest were alarmists in different degrees, though they did not openly pass over to the ministerial standard, like Burke and Windham, and the lords Portland, Spencer, Fitzwilliam, Loughborough, and other peers and commoners, who acquired that distinctive appellation. In neither house of parliament was there a valid opposition to the war. The resolutions brought forward by Mr. Fox (see *Feb.* 18, 1793) embraced the sentiments of his party in both houses; but, like the motions generally emanating from the same quarter, they rather impugned the minister than his measures: for though they disclaimed the right of one country to interfere with another on account of its internal government—a sentiment from which the chiefs of their opponents did not openly dissent—they did not specifically deny the absence of adequate ground for hostilities.

The *second* class, who viewed the rupture of amicable relations with France favourably, were the religious sectaries. In the view of these, the French were an infidel nation, with whose course were associated atheism and licentiousness; and the war was a holy enterprise for the re-establishment of religion, morality, and social order. The influence of this party was not derived from wealth or intellectual pre-eminence, but from numbers, and an assumption of exemplary purity of motive and conduct. They were mostly under the guidance of Mr. Wilberforce, who, though opposed to the commencement of the war, was prevented, by the management of Mr. Pitt, from making a public declaration of his sentiments in parliament, and after hostilities had continued a year or two, he openly expressed himself convinced of their necessity.

The *third*, and by far the most numerous class, were those whose feelings were wrought on by the excesses of the Revolution. Without the aid of these, war would have been impossible: they were the bulk of the nation—the old and young of both sexes—who could feel better than reason. Inflamed by the writings of Mr. Burke, and the French emigrants, who now inundated the country, they read with horror the details of the Parisian insurrections, of the insults offered to the royal family, and of the trial and treatment of Louis XVI. They beheld the national frenzy, the blood and desolation, but not their causes or extenuation. They did not reflect that the crimes of a populace, ignorant, excited, often maddened by hunger, and long oppressed, were not the crimes, nor wishes of the nation: that a terrible danger menaced France; that brute force could only be resisted by the aid of brute force; that a league of kings—themselves tyrants—had

* Nicholls's Recollections of the Reign of George III., p. 400.

combined to dictate to France her social institutions, and that their intervention was solicited, encouraged, and promoted by domestic treason. History has revealed these truths, and placed them beyond dispute. It is now perfectly understood that nothing would satisfy the discomfited royalists of France, save the restoration of the ancient despotism; and that Louis himself, in violation of his professions, his engagements, and his oaths, was acting in concert with a rabid coalition who projected the invasion, perhaps the desolation and dismemberment of his kingdom*.

France could not have any wish to become a second Poland, nor Paris an Ismael. Had her emergencies been known,—the plots internal and external against her liberties and nationality,—it is probable the British people would have been more tolerant of her offences, and less disposed to resent them by hostilities. As it was, they were ignorant, if not duped. Neither does the government appear to have been obnoxious to serious reproaches, unless it were because it was not wiser and more just than the community. It went with the torrent, which at the moment, perhaps, it was vain to resist. That the war was popular at the beginning is shown by the "Events and Occurrences" of the period—by the absence of petitions and remonstrances against it—by the acquiescence of all classes and interests, except a few revolutionary zealots, who were only as dust in the balance in the determination of this great public question.

On the part of the government, the war was neither foreseen nor premeditated. This appears from the tenor of the king's speeches to parliament, and those of his minister. In the summer of 1792, towards the close of the session, Mr. Pitt said in the House of Commons, "England had never a fairer prospect of a long continuance of peace. I think we may confidently reckon on peace for TEN YEARS†." He looked upon the existing dispute with France about the opening of the Scheldt, and other matters, as nothing more than an affair of the violation of treaties, upon which he reasoned in the pompous commonplace of an old Aix-la-Chapelle plenipotentiary. Mr. Burke was not more prescient of the results of the Revolution: he considered France self-extinguished (Feb. 9, 1790), and advocated a reduction in our peace-establishment.

That peace would have been better than war, the profitless results of the contest demonstrated. It averted no evil, and attained no good that might not have been attained without it. Nevertheless, hostilities seemed the unavoidable result of circumstances. Had Mr. Pitt refused to go to war, he would have been driven from power by the united voice of king and people, and his successor, whether whig or tory, would have been compelled to pursue the course of policy which was only reluctantly followed by that celebrated statesman. On the other hand, had England been more pacifically inclined than she was, she might a little later have been forced into the contest by the altered tone, the foreign intermeddling, and extravagance of the French government.

France was no longer the same after the retreat of the duke of Brunswick, and the successful resistance of 1792. The national energies had been evoked, foreigners had been everywhere driven from her frontiers; she was intoxicated by her triumphs, and sudden escape from the thrall of the coalition. Republicanism had become the faith—almost the fanatic faith—of the nation; and the zeal of the French in its propagation was

* *Memoirs and Correspondence of Lafayette*, iii., 220; also *Bertrand de Moleville*, viii., 39, quoted by M. Thiers. "All or nothing" (*Lafayette's Memoirs*, iii., 252) was the constant cry of the emigrants, headed by the king's brothers Monsieur and the Count d'Artois, the former afterwards Louis XVIII., and the latter Charles X.

† *Nicholls's Recollections of George III.*, p. 137.

hardly less than that of the followers of Mahomet. Equality was esteemed a universal right ; and it was felt as an obligation of the prevailing cosmopolitanism, that the whole family of man ought to share in its blessings*.

While the spirit of propagandism prevailed, peace was hardly compatible with security. England must become either republican or hostile ; monarchy could not co-exist with the proselyting zeal of her neighbour, seconded as it was by some active, though not very numerous, converts in this country.

The Revolution solved important political problems, and many moral ones. France went rapidly through every phase of the social cycle. From despotism she fell into the depths of democracy. After exhibiting in this abyss the strangest feats of wildness, energy, and wonderment, she again merged, divested of part of the dross and pollution that had accompanied her fall, into the quieter regions of aristocracy. Theories which philosophers had only propounded in their closets were boldly tried, and their applicability to human affairs tested. It was a plunge in the dark, in which no one could boast superior light ; for all the extremes of the Revolution seem to have been inevitable issues. The old fabric of the monarchy once assailed, no intermediate resting-place could be found. The royalists would surrender nothing ; they appealed to physical force, and the aid of the masses was necessary to resist them. The multitude conquered ; but armed, without knowledge or experience, they could neither govern nor be governed. Partly by stratagem, partly by force, their weapons were got from them, order was re-established, and France reaped some of the rewards of her unparalleled trial†.

It is only the leading points of this extraordinary movement, and of the war it produced, that can be included in this introductory summary ; the detail and filling-up must be sought in the " Occurrences."

The meeting of the CONVENTION, towards the close of 1792, has been already described (p. 538). It was chosen on the basis of universal suffrage ; and had not its acts been influenced by the municipality and clubs of Paris, they would have been perhaps more truly the expression of the national will than those of any legislature that ever assembled. It began its mission with the formal deposition of the monarchy ; it was the first year of the Republic, 1789 being the first year of liberty. Next followed the trial and execution of the king. Vigorous measures were adopted to defend the country against the combined powers ; the revolutionary tribunal and committee of public safety were established. Fierce contests next arose between the Gironde deputies and the Jacobins ; the former were deemed too tame for the crisis, and, the latter triumphing over them, they were sent to the scaffold. The safety of the republic became the supreme law. The nation was summoned to rise en masse to meet the invaders, and one million of republicans were assembled on the frontiers. This was the commencement of the REIGN OF TERROR. It began about the middle of 1793, and continued through great part of the following year. Its chief

* General Lafayette, after assisting the Americans in the establishment of their independence, purposed assisting the Irish volunteers in achieving a similar boon (*Memoirs*, iii., 212). Lafayette was only a lukewarm type of the zeal of many of the French republicans of 1792-3.

† That the good outweighed the evil of the Revolution is shown by the fact, that lands in France yield one-third more produce than they did previously to the taking of the Bastille (*Nicholls's Recollections of the Reign of George III.*, p. 89). A tolerably satisfactory proof this ; but all the fruits of the struggle have not yet been gathered by France or Europe.

agents were Robespierre, Danton, Marat, St. Just, and Couthon, most of whom were young lawyers whose ages averaged about thirty years. They governed by the guillotine, upon the maxims of the deys of Algiers, by beheading all whom they disliked. Draco had only one punishment for offences, and they seem to have adopted the institutions of that sanguinary lawgiver. Generals, deputies, and private persons, without regard to age, sex, or condition, science, virtue, or services, were all made to pass under the axe, if suspected of crimes against the state. "The glory of France," says Madame de Stael, "was decimated in the deaths of Roland, Malesherbes, Bailly*, Lavoisier, Vergniaud, Guadet, and Condorcet." Eighty victims each day were not unusually offered up to the Moloch of anarchy. The Revolution became blind as well as furious. Like Saturn, it began to devour its own children. Hardly were the Brissotins in their graves, than the Jacobins fell upon each other. Robespierre and Danton combined against Hebert and the Cordeliers: these immolated by their joint efforts, Robespierre rose against Danton, and lastly the tyrant himself fell a victim to his confederates in crime,—Tallien, Barrere, Billaud-Varennes, and Bourdon de L'Oise.

The elect of the clubs having perished by the hands of each other, France began to breathe from internal slaughter. After the fall of Robespierre the executive power was vested in a DIRECTORY of five persons. Four of these were Jacobins; but though of that party, they found no government compatible with its principles of constant insurrection and popular excitement. Jacobinism had addressed itself to the passions, abstract rights, and apparent interests of the people, by which they called forth their energies, and enlisted them in the public cause. Their union was cemented with the blood of a thousand victims; their desperate deeds shutting out the hope of mercy from their enemies, left no alternative but Death or Victory. It is possible their reckless course saved France from the coalition, and was a result which the more wavering and scrupulous policy of the Constitutionals and Girondins would not have accomplished. But their mission fulfilled, their services were no longer desirable. They had swept away the use with the abuse, in church and state, morals and religion. They had proved themselves efficient exterminators of foreign and domestic foes; but the time had arrived when the course of the Revolution ought to be stayed, and the guillotine cease to be the head magistrate of a community, aspiring to be civilized.

The Directory proceeded with caution, but vigour and perseverance. The first point to attain was to annihilate the disturbing influence of the clubs, which, with the aid of the populace, had dictated the proceedings of the Convention†. The meetings of the Jacobins were suppressed, and the attempt at their revival in the Pantheon defeated. The more violent of them were gradually weeded from the municipality of Paris, and from offices of power and trust in the government. Barrere, Billaud-Varennes,

* Considerations on the French Revolution, ii., 121.

† Dumont, in speaking of the influence of the Jacobins and other affiliated societies, says, "the whole of the people were excited by these societies, which soon became rivals of the Assembly. A member, who had no influence with the Assembly, had only to affect exaggerated democracy, and he became a hero among the Jacobins. These societies became hot-houses, in which every venomous plant, that could not be made to grow in the open air, was forced to maturity" (*Recollections of Mirabeau*, 284). It was from this source Robespierre, Danton, Marat, and other sanguinary spirits, derived their ascendancy

Collot D'Herbois, Vadier, and others of the party in the Convention were expatriated. Inflammatory journals were suppressed; and to lessen the influence of popular clamour, the galleries in the Convention, for spectators, were reduced. The Jacobins felt their power being undermined: tenacious of life, they tried by repeated insurrections to recover their ascendancy: their last effort was the unsuccessful conspiracy of Babeuf, in 1796. The directorial government persevered in its policy of conciliating the moderate and repressing the anarchists, till its dissolution in 1799, when it was superseded by the consulate.

The Convention dissolved itself in October, 1795, having first established a new constitution, the nature of which, as well as its fierce contest with the Parisian sections, are set forth in the "Occurrences." It had sat three years, during which it had exercised legislative and executive power in a wonderful manner. Its glorious acts and criminal excesses are the theme of history. With a bold hand it had smote into the dust a monarchy which the superstition of fourteen centuries had consecrated. With remorseless energy it destroyed the dominant factions that successively rose in its own bosom. It acknowledged no distinctions, prescription, or privilege, save that of talent and patriotism, to which it opened a boundless career. Standing alone, it defeated the confederated despotisms of Europe, transformed the refuse of cities into conquering heroes, and created exhaustless resources out of the spoils of foes and traitors. Its course was dazzling; often marked with fire, blood, and mourning, but it reached the goal; saved France, and raised her to a height of power she had never attained since the days of Charlemagne.

The commencement of 1795 was a favourable moment for England withdrawing from a hopeless contest. The object of the war was unattained and unattainable. The Bourbon cause was hopeless, and the "march to Paris" had proved a dear-bought illusion. France, in the language of Mr. Pitt, had become "an armed nation." It was vain to expect that mercenary legions would triumph over a powerful and enthusiastic people. Defeated ourselves in Holland, the Netherlands severed from Austria, Savoy from Sardinia; and peace concluded by the republic with Prussia, Spain, and Tuscany, what could be hoped for perseverance under so many disasters? The destruction of the Toulon fleet, the acquisition of Corsica and Guadeloupe, and the naval victory of lord Howe, would not counterbalance the loss of so many allies and rich provinces: moreover, the spirit of the people in the two countries had changed. Anarchy had subsided in France after the dispersion of the Terrorists, and a government of apparent stability had been established. With the restoration of order and humanity the hostile feelings of the English had abated: they had ceased to be apprehensive that a spirit of insubordination would be diffused by her infectious example, or rank and property be endangered.

The war itself had brought many domestic evils, besides increased taxation, and a vast addition to the public expenditure. The liberties of the people had been abridged by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act—by inundating the country with spies and informers—and by arbitrary and vindictive prosecutions. The irregular trials and severe punishments inflicted on the Scotch reformers, in 1793, and the attempt to crush at one blow those of England in the following year, excited general disgust and indignation. Such was the increase of popular discontents that the king was assailed in his carriage, and his life endangered, on the opening of

parliament, in 1795. This violence, and the activity of the reform societies, gave rise to new laws for the better preservation of his majesty's person, and the prevention of public meetings for political purposes. The minister, however, was tenacious of his purpose: with the loss of allies, and the loss of popularity, he still clung to the delusive hope that the fiscal resources of the enemy would be exhausted; just as if a revolutionary government, with a devoted population of 25 millions, a fertile soil and fine climate, reinforced by conquests that had added one-fourth to its means, could ever want the sinews of war!

It was a war against principles, but only principles on one side. Democratic excesses were sought to be punished, but not the crimes of cabinets. Commiseration was felt for the death of a monarch, but none for the extinction of a nation. In 1791 the Poles reformed their government, and established a free constitution. In the following year Russia, with the concurrence of Austria and Prussia, overran their country, and forcibly put down their constitution. Neither a democratic republic in France, nor a constitutional monarchy in Poland, would satisfy the caprice of regal despots. In 1793 Poland was partly dismembered: in 1794 her name, in lieu of that of France, as Mr. Burke had announced, was expunged from the map of Europe. The British government was an unmoved spectator of the annihilation of a member of the "great European family," neither expressing indignation at its injustice, nor alarm for the loss of that balance of power which, for a century preceding, it had been almost the exclusive object of her foreign policy to maintain.

In 1795 the professed object of the war against France changed; it was no longer against her form of government, her irreligion, nor her levelling doctrines; but against her ambition and territorial aggrandizement,—evils which the war itself had created. The year 1797 seems to have been its most disastrous epoch.

By the victories of General Buonaparte the emperor was compelled, for the safety of Vienna, to conclude the treaty of Campo Formio, which severed Belgium and Italy from the empire, and left England singly to contend with the gigantic power of the republic. Intoxicated by success, the Directory threatened to invade England, assembled an army on the opposite coast, called the *Army of England*, and actually sought to raise a loan on the credit of British spoils. Public credit became affected; the funds fell; there was a run on the northern banks, which extended to the Bank of England, already drained of specie by heavy remittances to the Continent, and it was compelled, in obedience to an Order in Council, to stop payment in coin. This was in February. Scarcely had the public apprehensions on this subject began to subside, than a series of mutinies broke out in the fleets at the Nore and Portsmouth, which continued two months, and at one time assumed so alarming an aspect, as to threaten the safety of the navy, either by the sinking of the ships, or their surrender to the enemy by their rebellious crews. These disorders being quelled by a union of firmness and concession, public attention was next called to the critical state of Ireland. Societies had there been generally established of an opposite but alike dangerous description—the United Irishmen, seeking the redress of wrongs by foreign intervention, and the Orangemen, to uphold a system of injustice by irritating outrages, and persecution. The violence of both had its natural vent in a bloody civil war, which burst forth in the following year. Out of this calamity arose the common good to both king-

doms, of the LEGISLATIVE UNION ; which, after much delay and negotiation in the reconciliation or purchase of existing interests, was finally consummated in the last year of the century.

Though the fortunes of the country were alarmingly depressed in 1797, it rapidly emerged from the nadir of adversity. One favourable circumstance of that year was the low price of bread, wheat being one-third or one-fourth less in price than the average of the two preceding years. Public difficulties tended to unite the people by lessening the asperity of factions. Moreover, the national spirit had been roused by the arrogant conduct of the French Directory, who had dismissed Lord Malmesbury, sent on a pacific mission to the republic, with a haughtiness akin to that evinced by Lord Grenville in the dismissal of M. Chauvelin in 1793. After the victory of Camperdown all uneasiness ceased, as to the spirit of British seamen. The sailing of the grand Toulon armament, under Napoleon Buonaparte, to Egypt in May 1798, removed any apprehension as to a descent on this kingdom. A few months after, this powerful fleet was destroyed in gallant style by Admiral Nelson, in the bay of Aboukir. This victory had an electric effect on the spirits of the people, momentarily depressed by the issue of the Ostend expedition. It also roused the spirits of the continental states opposed to the power of France, which had begun to be unpopular from the invasion of Switzerland, and the rapacity exercised in Italy and the Netherlands.

The year 1799 was pregnant with important events. At home it commenced with the imposition of a tax of ten per cent. on all incomes above 200*l.*, with a diminishing ratio on incomes below that sum, and not less than 60*l.* On the Continent, aided by English subsidies, a THIRD COALITION (that of Pilnitz being the first), not less formidable than the second, was formed against the French Republic. Russia had taken the place of Prussia in the new confederacy, and Naples and Turkey of Sardinia and Tuscany. Except in Holland, where a combined English and Russian force failed in an effort to restore the Stadtholder, the allies were signally successful ; and even in Holland the Dutch fleet in the Texel fell into the hands of the English. The expedition, however, was very disastrous to the British, who were compelled to sign a humiliating convention ; besides suffering severely from the attacks of the enemy, the severity of the weather, and the hostility of the inhabitants, whom they had professedly come to aid in throwing off the republican yoke. From Italy the French were driven by the victories of Marshal Suvarof, aided by the counter-revolution effected in the kingdom of Naples and the dominions of the Pope. Amidst these reverses General Buonaparte landed in France, from the conquest of Egypt, and was received as the saviour of the country. From his great and varied talents he was looked upon as peculiarly fitted to retrieve the affairs of the republic, which had suffered in his absence through the incapacity of the Directory, unable at once to cope with the coalition on the frontier, and resist in the interior the machinations of royalists and jacobins. A revolution followed in November, of an extraordinary character, (it is described in the "Events") and by which Buonaparte was created First Consul of the republic.

Immediately after his elevation to the consular chair, he made a direct communication to the King of England for a pacific negotiation. This overture not meeting a favourable reception, he began energetic preparations for opening the campaign of 1800. The victories of Marengo and Hohenlinden compelled the emperor, a second time, to conclude peace for

the safety of his capital. England was again left single on the battle-field undismayed, but weary of hostilities. This time her enemies had multiplied; the emperor Paul of Russia had not only capriciously withdrawn from the coalition, but revived the armed neutrality of the northern powers in defence of maritime rights. It was speedily dissolved by his sudden death and the cannon of Admiral Nelson.

The spirits of the nation rose with its difficulties. Without an enemy on the Continent, the First Consul in 1801 revived the threat of an invasion of England. It proved, like all similar threats, an idle vaunt, but served to call forth the energies of the people in a proud array of defenders. The splendid victories of Alexandria and Copenhagen, the one a land and the other a naval triumph, gave signal lustre to the British arms in the last year of hostilities. The war had now become without an adequate object. Invasion was too hazardous an experiment even for the adventurous mind of Buonaparte. England was undisputed master at sea, France on land; neither belligerent could act offensively towards the other: like the man cased in armour, they could neither injure nor be injured. Under these circumstances peace became the natural wish of both nations.

Preparatory to this a change of great importance had occurred in the councils of Britain. Mr. Pitt, unable to redeem his pledge to the Irish, to carry, as a condition of the Union, catholic emancipation, had resigned, on that popular ground, the premiership, in which he was succeeded by Mr. Addington. One great obstacle to a pacific negotiation was thereby removed. Preliminaries of peace were signed between England and France, October 1, 1801, but a definitive treaty was not concluded till the spring of the following year. France seized the opportunity afforded by the intervening armistice of pursuing, with restless activity, various ambitious objects. An expedition was fitted out for the recovery of St. Domingo and Guadeloupe; the last object was promptly attained, and slavery re-established. Louisiana was ceded to France by Spain, and soon after sold to the American States. Parma was annexed to France, and the First Consul procured himself to be made president of the Cisalpine Republic. These secret treaties and annexations produced jealousies, but did not suspend the negotiations at Amiens.

During the two last years of the war England had been visited by an intense scarcity, occasioned by the deficient harvests of 1799 and 1800. In March, 1801, the quartern loaf of 4lb. 5½ oz. rose to 1s. 10½d., but the harvest of that year, being unusually abundant, it fell in November to 10½d. (*Annual Register*, xliii. 168.) While the dearth lasted, parliament tried to economize the national consumption by legislation; prohibiting the use of other than brown bread, and of bread that had not been baked twenty-four hours. The economical wisdom of the judges was not less preposterous than that of the legislature; for they fostered popular prejudices against a useful class of middle-men, by severely punishing (as will be remarked in the "Occurrences" of the year) the seasonable speculative enterprise of capitalists. The sufferings of the people had the effect of originating some useful statistical inquiries into the national resources; an Act being for the first time passed, in 1800, for ascertaining the population, and a parliamentary committee made a useful report on the nature and extent of the waste lands of the kingdom.

After much anxious suspense the definitive Treaty of Amiens was signed, March 27, 1802. England gave up all her colonial acquisitions, except Ceylon and Trinidad, but existing treaties were not disturbed, neither those

concluded by the English in the East Indies, nor by the French on the Continent.

Thus terminated the first revolutionary war. During nine years a dreadful experiment had been made,—by which rulers learnt the danger of tyranny—the people that of anarchy, and statesmen the risk of one nation interfering in the internal affairs of another. Like most wars in which England had been engaged, it was unnecessarily protracted. Its commencement was perhaps unavoidable, in the existing spirit of the people; but its long continuance was voluntary. After the close of 1794, as before observed, the chief obstacles to peace had disappeared, and had it been then concluded Europe would have escaped dire calamities. It was only after the establishment of the Directory that the French became intoxicated with the love of conquest; that the illusions of republican liberty were exchanged for the illusions of military glory; that the aim of making one nation free was perverted to that of making other people slaves. It was this change of direction in the national feeling of France that raised from obscurity to the chief magistracy a soldier of vast genius, whose ambition was insatiable, and element desolation. By the elevation to the supreme power of Napoleon Buonaparte, the Revolution seemed to be closed. It was begun and finished by the military; by their aid the Bastile was taken, in 1789; by their subsequent desertion of the populace, siding first with the Convention, next the Directory, and, lastly, the Consulate, the democracy was overpowered, and order and internal quiet re-established.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1793. *Jan.* Ireland much disturbed by the outrages of the *Defenders*, who in large bodies attack the houses of Protestants, and plunder them of their arms.

The empress of Russia assigned portions of land in the Crimea to French emigrants.

10. The common council of London offered a bounty of 40*s.* for every able seaman, and 20*s.* for every ordinary seaman, above the bounty granted by Government.

Mr. Silva and his maid-servant murdered at Chelsea; his nephew, who committed suicide a few days after, by swallowing arsenic, was strongly suspected.

16. TRIAL OF LOUIS XVI.—This extraordinary proceeding was nearly concluded at the end of last year. The charges upon which the king had been arraigned were, that he “had been guilty of a conspiracy against liberty, and of attempts against the general safety of the state.” On the 16th inst. the Convention met to determine the punishment Louis was to suffer. After a long deliberation, the president announced to the assembly that of 721 votes, 366 were for death, 319 for imprisonment during the war, two for perpetual imprisonment, eight for a suspension of his execution after sentence, till after the expulsion of the Bourbons; 23 were for not putting him to death, unless the French territory was invaded by any foreign power; and one was for death, but with commutation of

punishment. Barrere the president then took off his hat, and said, “In consequence of this I declare, that the punishment pronounced by the National Convention against Louis Caput is—DEATH.” The duke of Orleans, cousin of the king, voted for death, as did Sieyes, “*sans phrase*,” an expression of the abbé that became proverbial. Thomas Paine made an ingenious speech in favour of banishment, during which he was interrupted by Marat, who said he was “a quaker.” An effort was made to delay the execution of the sentence, but this appeal was negatived on the 19th inst. by 380 to 310 voices after a protracted sitting of thirty-six hours.

18. Lord George Gordon having suffered five years' imprisonment for libels, appeared to offer bail for his good behaviour. He wore a long beard, after the Jewish fashion, and informed the court he had entered into the “holy covenant of the circumcision.” Bail objected to by the attorney-general, and his Lordship remanded.

21. Louis XVI., in the 39th year of his age, beheaded. He began his reign May 10, 1774; was driven from the Tuileries August 10, 1792; imprisoned on the 14th, and dethroned Sept. 22 following. He had reigned 18 years and three months. The failure of his attempt to join the emigrants was a misfortune, for his death caused a revengeful excitement in Europe disproportionate

tionate to the occasion, and only atoned for crimes of which he was guiltless,—the ambition of Louis XIV. and the profligacy of the regency and succeeding reign. He was weak, but better instructed than some of his predecessors, and in good times would have been reckoned a good prince. Lafayette says (*Memoirs* III.) he neither knew how to get rid of a bad minister nor keep a good one.

24. M. Chauvelin ordered to leave the kingdom within eight days. Persons connected with public establishments, and of rank and opulence, rejoiced at the abrupt dismissal of the French minister.

25. Lord Auckland, the British ambassador at the Hague, presented a memorial to the states-general severely reprehending the French convention.

27. The court goes into mourning for Louis XVI., which was generally done in London.

28. WAR WITH FRANCE.—A royal message delivered to parliament, informing them that the king had determined to augment his forces "for supporting his allies, and for opposing views of aggrandisement and ambition on the part of France, at all times dangerous to the interests of Europe, but peculiarly so when connected with the propagation of principles subversive of the peace and order of all civil society." Upon this message an animated debate ensued; on one side were arrayed the delinquencies of France in the execution of Louis XVI. and the restless ambition of her rulers; on the other, those of the allies in the Brannswick manifesto, and dismemberment of Poland.

30. Citizen Maret arrived in London with fresh proposals to avert hostilities, but was forthwith ordered to quit the kingdom.

Feb. 1. The French convention having issued a declaration setting forth the grounds of hostilities, declared war against England and Holland.

2. An order of council directing all aliens to reside within 50 miles of Cornhill, and ten miles distant from the sea coasts and dock-yards.

5. An embargo on French vessels.

8. The empress of Russia interdicted all intercourse between her subjects and France.

11. A message from the king announced the declaration of war by France. Next day the message was debated. The ostensible grounds of war were alleged to be the opening of the Scheldt, the exclusive navigation of which had been guaranteed to the Dutch by treaty; second, the fraternizing decree of November 19th; and third, the danger to Europe from the progress of the French arms. The restoration of monarchy in France was the declared aim of the

allies, and was alleged to be, though not avowed, that of the English ministers.

12. The common council of London unanimously agreed to address the king, assuring him of their loyalty and support.

13. Sir John Scott appointed attorney-general, and John Mitford, esq., solicitor-general.

15. Plan of a new constitution presented to the French convention, drawn up by Condorcet, and founded on pure republican principles; it was deemed impracticable by all parties, and laid aside, in consequence of which the executive authority continued vested in the convention.

17. Dumourier invaded Holland.

18. RESOLUTIONS OF THE OPPOSITION.

—Mr. Fox brought forward five resolutions stating the specific grounds on which the opposition differed from ministers as to the necessity of war. 1. That England was not justified in going to war with France on account of her internal affairs. 2. That the complaints against France might have been obviated by further negotiation. 3. That ministers had never distinctly stated the terms on which they would be disposed to persevere in a system of neutrality. 4. That the rights of independent nations, and the tranquillity of Europe, had been supinely neglected by ministers in regard to Poland. 5. That it is the duty of ministers not to form any engagements which may be an obstacle to a separate peace with France, or which may imply that England is acting in concert with other powers, for the unjustifiable object of dictating a form of government to France. A vehement debate ensued on these propositions. On the side of Fox were Grey, Sheridan, Whitbread, Jekyll, Adams, Lambton, Smith, and Maitland; on the side of Pitt were Burke, Jenkinson, Dundas, Powys, Hill, Basset, Cornwall, Houghton, and Windham. The House divided on the previous question—ayes 270; noes 44. Resolutions lost by a majority of 226.

In the lords, the war policy of ministers was chiefly supported by lords Grenville, Darnley, Carlisle, Porchester, Kinnoul, Stormont, and Loughborough; and opposed by Stanhope, Lansdowne, Derby, and Lauderdale.

23. Mr. Holland sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* and be imprisoned one year, for publishing Paine's "Address to the Americans."

24. Daniel Isaac Eaton tried, but acquitted, for a libel called "Hog's-wash; or Politics for the People."

26. Three battalions of guards having been first reviewed by the king, embarked at Greenwich for Holland.

Mar. 1. A proclamation for a general fast to be observed in England on the 18th,

and in Scotland on the 19th inst. Also a proclamation offering a pardon to all deserters.

The French under general Miranda compelled to raise the siege of Maestricht.

3. Prince of Saxe Cobourg defeated the French with the loss of 5000 men, under General Valence.

4. The French republic declared war against Spain.

15. Sir John Scott introduced his "Traitorous Correspondence Bill," which prohibited not only the usual intercourse with an enemy (denominated high treason), but also the purchasing lands in France, or investing capital in French funds, and other novelties. It was modified before passed into a law.

17. Dumourier defeated with great loss by the prince of Cobourg; the Austrians in consequence recovered the whole of the Netherlands.

19. DEATH OF MANSFIELD.—This eminent judge was in his 89th year, and had only retired in 1788 from the court of King's-bench, where he had uprightly presided 32 years. He was born at Perth, but was educated and had lived in England since three years of age. His taste was classical; he was fond of letters, an elegant and adroit speaker, and subtle in argument. Dunning used to say of him; that when wrong, the faults of his reasoning were not easily detected, and when right he was wholly irresistible. Too timid for a shining statesman, or even liberal one, his chief field of distinction was in judicial administration. By improvements in practice, and unusual promptitude of decision, he kept his court free of arrears; and though during the American war the number of causes annually disposed of averaged 800, hardly one of his decisions was reversed (*Law Mag.* v. 73). He looked more to justice than strict law in his adjudications, and except in libel cases, he inclined to a liberal interpretation of legal dicta, and their adaptation to existing usage. The growth of commerce brought before him many novel and intricate questions of mercantile rights: these he tried to settle upon general principles; and to him the country is mainly indebted for its commercial law, especially the part of it bearing on contracts and bills of exchange. This celebrated judge left no issue. The bulk of his fortune, which was very considerable, comprising upwards of 26,000*l.* a year on mortgages, besides property otherwise invested, descended with his title, to his nephew, lord Stormont. Mansfield was favourable to religious liberty, and was among the sufferers by the No Popery riots: he refused to receive, though offered, any public compensation

for the destruction of his house and furniture.

20. A Liverpool privateer under sail overset and sunk in the Mersey by a gust of wind, owing to her guns being on the lee-side.

25. A treaty of commerce concluded with Russia for six years by lord Grenville.

27. Dumourier in a conference with the Austrian colonel Mack, at Ath, forms a design to march on Paris, to re-establish the constitutional monarchy of 1791.

30. Ostend taken possession of by the English, under general Macbride.

A bill passed the Irish house of commons for admitting Roman Catholics to the elective franchise.

FRENCH DECREES.—In the course of this month, a revolutionary tribunal was established at Paris, for the trial of political offences; it consisted of six judges chosen from the convention, and became an instrument of blood. The convention finding the ties of property loosened by the confiscation of regal, ecclesiastical, and hereditary property, passed a decree denouncing the punishment of death against any one who should propose an Agrarian law, or attempt to injure territorial, commercial, or personal property. Another decree of the 29th inst. punished with death all who wrote in favour of monarchy.

Apr. 1. Dumourier arrests the deputies sent to arrest him, and delivers them up to the Austrians as hostages for the safety of the Bourbons.

2. Le Brun, the French minister, applied to lord Grenville for a passport for a person invested with full powers to treat for peace: to this application no answer was returned.

4. The French army indignant at the treachery of Dumourier, he had a narrow escape to the Austrians, accompanied by general Valence and young Egalité (Philip present king of France), son of the duke of Orleans. Next day Dumourier issued a proclamation to the French army, recapitulating his services; it was accompanied by a manifesto from prince Cobourg, renouncing all views of conquest and limiting his intervention to the establishment of the constitution of 1791.

7. Committee of Public Safety established at Paris to prevent conspiracy and insurrection.

8. A grand council held at Antwerp, at which were present the duke of York, count Mettemich, prince Cobourg, lord Auckland, and the Prussian and Spanish ministers. Here the plan of operations was changed, and the promises in Cobourg's manifesto of the 5th inst. rescinded.

12. Richard Phillips, afterwards sheriff of London, the printer of the Leicester Herald, convicted at the Leicester sessions

of selling Paine's Rights of Man, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

The Bank of England began to issue 5*l.* notes.

15. Died at his apartments, New Inn, aged 59, Forster Powell, the celebrated pedestrian. He was a native of Horsforth near Leeds, and had been articled to an attorney. His favourite walking journey was from London to York and back, which he performed four times, each in less than six days, though the severe exertion of the last, in 1792, is supposed to have hastened his death.

25. **COMMERCIAL CREDIT BILL.**—The spirit of commercial speculation, and the vast extension of paper currency, having produced great mercantile embarrassments, Mr. Pitt moved for a select committee to take the subject into consideration. From its report the minister moved for an issue of five millions of exchequer bills, to be advanced, under certain regulations, to those who should apply for such assistance, and give security for the repayment of them, at a fixed time.

29. A French privateer, with her prize, the Spanish register ship *San Jago*, was captured, having on board 694 cases of silver, each containing 3000 dollars; 33 cases of gold, besides plate and jewels value 500,000*l.*; 16 cases of silver in bars; 2,262 quintals of bark, exclusive of other valuables. The cargo had been two years in collecting in South America, and was supposed to be worth upwards of 1,200,000*l.*

May 6. **PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.**—Mr. Charles Grey brought forward his celebrated motion for a reform in the national representation. Numerous petitions had been previously presented to the house in favour of this measure. That from Sheffield was signed by 8,000 names; from Norwich by 3,700; from Birmingham by 2,700; from Huddersfield by 1000; from London and Westminster by 6000; but the most remarkable one was from the Society of the Friends of the People, presented by Mr. Grey himself. It occupied fully half an hour in the reading, and excited a strong sensation by the ability it evinced, and the elaborate analysis it gave of the incongruities in the parliamentary system. The prayer of this petition was to remove these incongruities, restore triennial parliaments, and lessen the expenses of elections. Among the facts stated and offered to be proved, were, that 71 peers, by direct nomination or influence, returned 163 members, and 91 commoners 139 members: thus in England and Wales only (exclusive of the 45 for Scotland) 302 members, being a decided majority of the commons, were returned by 162 individuals (*Ann. Reg.* xxxv. 96). These disclosures

made a deep impression, and continued to work on the public mind. Till at length the honourable mover, thirty-seven years after, was enabled, seconded by the general voice, and in the high station of premier, to remove the more revolting discrepancies. But the alarm occasioned by the disturbing aspect of the French revolution prevented any immediate effect, and the motion for a committee of inquiry, opposed by Pitt, Jenkinson, Windham, and Burke, was negatived by 282 to 41 voices.

8. James Ridgway and H. D. Symonds, booksellers, were brought into the court of King's-bench to receive judgment for selling Paine's works, and the "Jockey Club." They were fined and severally sentenced to four years' imprisonment in Newgate.

The French defeated near St. Amand, and general Dampierre mortally wounded; in this battle the British under the duke of York severely suffered.

13. Robert Mackreth, M.P., sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* and to six weeks' imprisonment, for challenging the solicitor-general (Scott) to fight a duel.

23. The French defeated, and the allies enabled to lay siege to Valenciennes.

27. John Frost tried before lord Kenyon, and found guilty of uttering seditious expressions at the Percy coffee-house, Rathbone place. The seditious words were, "I am for equality; I see no reason why one man should be greater than another; I would have no king, and the constitution of the country is a bad one." Mr. Frost was sentenced to be struck off the roll of attorneys, to be imprisoned six months, to stand in the pillory, and give security for his good behaviour.

31. On the motion of sir John Sinclair, an address to the king was agreed to, for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture.

The Neapolitan ambassador, who had just arrived at his hotel in Jernyn street, put an end to his existence by a pistol.

GIRONDINS AND JACOBINS.—The contest between the two republican parties which divided the convention, the Brissotins or Girondins, and the Mountain or Jacobins, had now reached a crisis. The former as the most moderate, fell into suspicion among the people, excited by the inflammatory publications of their opponents. Up to the 31st inst. the successive sittings of the convention had exhibited a sad spectacle of violence and tumult. Early on the morning of that day the tocsin was sounded, the *générale* beaten, and the alarm gun fired. Deputations appeared at the bar of the convention demanding, among other things, the arrest of the ministers Claviere and Le Brun, and of the principal Girondins. Barrère, who had

with great address oscillated between the factions, now took a decided part with the Jacobins, and in the name of the Committee of Public Safety proposed that the accused deputies should be suspended from their functions. Next day the tumults were renewed; the hall of the assembly was surrounded with an armed multitude, and cannon planted in the avenues. The convention being no longer free in its deliberations, the president and some of the members attempted to make their escape and separate; but Henriot, at the head of the Parisian guards, threatened them with a discharge of musketry if they did not return. So coerced, a decree passed for the arrest of Brissot, and other deputies of the Gironde party. By this triumph all power became vested in the Jacobins, directed by Robespierre, Danton, and Marat. Within about a month after, a constitution was promulgated, consisting of 124 articles, recognizing, in full extravagance, the doctrine of equality. Population was made the sole basis of representation, the election of members annual, and the suffrage universal. But the constitution of 1793 was never acted upon, it was suspended during the revolutionary crisis, the better to enable the convention to adopt the energetic measures essential to the safety of the republic.

June 5. Daniel Eaton found guilty of publishing, but without criminal intention, Paine's Rights of Man.

12. Saumier taken by the royalists of La Vendée; soon after Angers.

Colonel Dundas and R. Dundas, son of the secretary, stopped near Dartford by eight footpads; Mr. Dundas shot one of the robbers, who then opened the chaise-door and discharged a pistol into the body of colonel Dundas; they next plundered the two gentlemen and went off, carrying along with them their wounded companion.

14. Dumourier apprised lord Greuille of his arrival in London: he was ordered to quit the kingdom in 48 hours. Dumourier had thought of acting the part of general Monk, by restoring the monarchy; but the army being faithful to the revolution, he failed in his enterprise. He had been a soldier of fortune all his life; possessed brilliant talents, but was dissolute, volatile, and unprincipled; resembling in many points our own clever sir Walter Raleigh.

20. The royalists make an unsuccessful attack upon Nantz; they crossed the Loire, and under Stoffet and Larochejacquelin retreated through Brittany to the sea-coast, expecting succours from England.

The society of arts granted their gold medal to Mr. Barber of Barnstaple, for growing the greatest quantity of potatoes for sheep.

July 2. Duke of Portland installed chancellor of the University of Oxford with great pomp.

10. A bill passed the Irish parliament against unlawful assemblies and conventions.

13. Jean Paul Marat, a ferocious leader of the Jacobins, assassinated in a bathing machine, by Charlotte Corday, who came to Paris purposely to execute this deed. She denied having any accomplice; declared herself a true republican, and expressed great satisfaction in having rid her country of "its most dangerous enemy." Marat was of doubtful courage, vain, and cynical; like several of the phrenzied demagogues of the period, he had been in the service of the noblesse, and held the post of veterinary-surgeon to the count d'Artois. His natural enthusiasm, inflamed by the course of the revolution, rose to delirium, and he set up a journal entitled the "People's Friend," in which with wolfish fury he inculcated murder, revolt, and pillage. "Give me," said he, "200 Neapolitans, the knife in their right hand, in their left a *muff*, to serve for a buckler, and with these I will traverse France and complete the revolution." He wrote and spoke with facility, in a diffuse, bold, and incoherent manner. He was in his 49th year, and very diminutive in stature. Charlotte Corday, proud of what she deemed a patriotic mission, met her death with unshrinking fortitude.

22. Mentz surrendered to the Prussians. Lyons, Marseilles, and Toulon, entered into a league to dissolve the convention; several of the accused Brissotins making their escape to different parts of the country, tried to raise commotions.

26. Valenciennes surrendered to the allies, commanded by the duke of York.

Aug. 1. A decree passed the convention for the arrest of all foreigners, subjects of powers at war with the republic.

4. A meeting of political delegates at Edinburgh, for obtaining universal suffrage and annual parliaments; they dated their resolutions in the first year of the "British convention," established committees of organization, secrecy and finance; and instituted primary and provincial assemblies, after the model of the French.

15. LEVEE EN MASSE.—The Committee of Public Safety had made such energetic exertions, that the French had now fourteen armies in the field, and 1,022,902 men actually embodied. On the 15th Barrère introduced a project for a *levée en masse*; it allowed of no substitutes, and was the origin of that formidable instrument of military power, the conscription.

18. French defeated at Lincelles by the British under general Lake.

21. Lyons besieged by the republicans.
28. Toulon surrendered to lord Hood.

30. SCOTTISH REFORMERS.—The trials of Muir and Palmer excited a strong interest in Scotland, from their talents and respectability, Mr. Muir being a promising young advocate at the Scottish bar, and Mr. Palmer a unitarian minister of Dundee. The weightiest charge against Muir was that of lending a copy of Paine's Rights of Man to a person who "begged a reading of that popular book." He was tried on the 30th, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. Mr. Palmer was tried at Perth, on the 17th of the ensuing month; he was charged with publishing a seditious address, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. At the close of December, Dr. Skirving and Messrs. Margaret and Gerrald were apprehended at a meeting of the reform delegates at Edinburgh, and tried on similar charges of seditious practices, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. These severe sentences, inflicted under an old Scottish statute, on the vague charge of sowing discord between the king and people, caused general astonishment. In the conduct of the trials there were great irregularities, not to say injustice; the Scottish judges being more of political partisans than impartial umpires; the chief witnesses against the accused were government spies; and the juries were selected from a political association of *Life-Fortune-Men*—of goldsmiths' hall.

Sept. 1. A marble bust of John Milton the poet, by Bacon, erected in Cripplegate church.

2. Board of agriculture instituted surveys into the state of agriculture in Britain.

8. The French having collected a powerful force, compelled the English to raise the siege of Dunkirk with precipitation, leaving behind them their battering train. Houchard being denounced before the Committee of Public Safety, for not cutting off the retreat of the British, lost his head; generals Custine and Luckner met the same fate.

20. NEW FRENCH CALENDAR.—By this the year was divided into twelve months of 30 days each, all denominated from some occurrence of the season, and to complete the year five supplemental days were added, absurdly termed *sans culotides*. The subdivisions of the months were into three decades, the first days of which were festivals or days of rest, intended apparently to obliterate the memory of the Christian sabbath. A few days after, the municipal authorities of Paris appeared in the convention, attended by the bishop and clergy, decorated with caps of liberty, who publicly renounced their offices of Christian pastors.

The bishop of Moulins threw down his mitre and preached the doctrine, that "Death is an eternal sleep." Various allegorical creations, such as Liberty and Equality, were deified, and a young woman was enshrined as the Goddess of Reason on the altar of Notre Dame, to receive, in place of Jesus Christ, the crossings and genuflexions of the multitude.

30. A furious riot at Bristol, owing to the erection of a new toll-gate on the bridge; the military being called in, twelve persons were killed and fifty wounded; the riot still continuing, the Bristolians agreed to raise the money necessary to complete the bridge, by other means than a toll.

Oct. 8. Lyons, after a two months' siege, surrendered to the republicans, and there are few examples, even in civil war, of more vindictive cruelty. The guillotine being deemed too slow an engine of destruction, crowds were driven into the Rhone, or butchered in the squares, by discharges of grape-shot. Barrère sent a flaming account to the convention, which decreed that the walls and public buildings of the city should be razed, and Lyons henceforth called *La Ville Affranchie*.

12. St. Domingo placed itself under the protection of the English, who took possession of Nicola Mole.

13. The Austrians under Wurmser defeated the French under Isembert at Landau; Isembert was charged with treachery, and shot.

26. The late queen of France, after a mock trial before the revolutionary tribunal, was beheaded, and her body interred in the same manner with that of her husband, in a grave filled with quick lime. Maria Antoinette possessed both talents and virtues; but proud, indiscreet, vindictive, rash, and petulant, she had exercised a political influence that hastened the fall of the monarchy. It is related of her, that when laid on the fatal block, she turned her head aside to take a last look at the Tuileries. This accomplished woman, a model of grace and beauty, was in her 38th year, and sister of Leopold II. late emperor of Germany.

29. Brissot and 21 other deputies of the Gironde brought before the revolutionary tribunal. They were found guilty of exciting the rebellion of the Federalists against the convention in the south. They were next day beheaded, with the exception of Valaise, who stabbed himself when sentence was pronounced. On the scaffold they evinced neither weakness nor apostacy, but died heroically in the republican faith. They were the true representatives of liberty, men of enlightened minds, of patriotic sentiments and moderate principles, but who necessarily gave way to those men

of violence, who, rising out of the molten lead of the revolution, were perhaps better fitted by their furious fanaticism and disregard of ordinary feelings, to carry the republic through the dangers that threatened her existence.

Nov. 6. Philip Egalité, the duke of Orleans, beheaded, unpitied by any one. He was in his forty-sixth year, and met death with great seeming indifference. By a remarkable series of events, his son Louis Philip has quietly taken possession of that throne which was the object of his weak and profligate ambition.

8. The celebrated Madame Roland was involved in the fate of the Gironde, and fell beneath the axe of the guillotine. This able and accomplished woman died with Roman fortitude, exclaiming on the scaffold, "O liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name." Her husband, the late popular minister, who was among the proscribed Brissotins, on learning the fate of his wife, put an end to his existence near Rouen. Petion, another Girondin, whose republicanism was proof against the fascinations of the queen of France, in the return from Varennes, (*Campan's Memoirs*, ii. 150,) also perished violently; he was found in the fields half devoured by wolves, and is supposed to have expired of hunger.

12. Bailly, late mayor of Paris, beheaded. He was a man of science, virtue, and patriotism, and president of the Constituent Assembly, and the first to take the famous oath which Mounier dictated in the tennis court,—“never to separate till they had obtained a free constitution.”

15. Lotteries suppressed in France.

21. The French army of the Moselle, commanded by Hoche, defeated the Austrians under Wurmser.

26. Robinson the bookseller, of Paternoster row, received judgment for selling Paine's writings.

27. Rev. Mr. Winterbotham, a dissenting minister, tried at the Devon assizes for preaching two seditious sermons, and sentenced to four years' imprisonment, exclusive of fines and securities.

Dec. 1. By order of the commune of Paris, all the churches were shut; this extravagance excited such public marks of abhorrence, that it was speedily reversed, and the freedom of religious worship restored.

Barnave, a young and eloquent advocate, with four other members of the convention, was guillotined. Barnave, like the Lameths, Dupont, and others, gave an impulse to the revolution and then deserted it; both him and the Lameths, M. Thiers says, did “what they reproached Mirabeau for doing—they secretly lent their aid to the throne, and reconciled themselves with the court.”

Manuel, who defended the late king with zeal and talent, fell a victim to Jacobin rage and apprehension.

5. The duke of Sussex married at the parish church of St. George Hanover square, to lady Augusta Murray, daughter of the countess of Dunmore. This marriage was annulled at the suit of the king.

19. EVACUATION OF TOULON. — This town being no longer defensible against the superior force of the enemy, it was evacuated, and upwards of 14,000 of the inhabitants took shelter on board the British ships. Sir Sidney Smith set fire to the arsenals, which, together with an immense quantity of naval stores, and fifteen ships of the line, were consumed. It inflicted a severe blow on the French navy, and inculcated in no small degree the federalists, who, to oppose the rival party of the Jacobins, had called to their aid a foreign and hostile power. Dugommier entered Toulon on the 19th, after a bombardment of twelve hours; the artillery was commanded by Napoleon Buonaparte, who had evinced great zeal and ability.

Muir and Palmer, the Scottish reformers, arrived in a revenue cutter from Leith. An order was immediately sent down to place them on board separate hulks at Woolwich. They were put in irons, and assisted in the common labour on the banks of the river.

20. The first ambassador from the Porte made his public entry into London.

Nearly 2000 persons died this year in Philadelphia of the yellow fever.

FRANCE.—The year closed, leaving the power of France more formidable than at the commencement. Except the destruction of her navy at Toulon, she had sustained no important reverses; while the Imperialists were driven beyond the Rhine, the Prussians compelled to retire to Mentz, and the English to raise the siege of Dunkirk. Internally her power had become more consolidated by the fall of the Girondins, the defeat of their adherents in the south, and of the royalists in La Vendée. All authority was concentrated in the Jacobins, who with much popular address inspired the people with intense enthusiasm; they crowded en masse to the armies, forming an impassable cordon of armed republicans round the frontier. The winter was spent in energetic preparations for the ensuing campaign, and in organizing the vast physical force that had been roused into action.

POLAND.—The courts of Russia and Prussia determined on a further partition, on the pretext of the growing jacobinical party in Poland. It was in vain the diet protested against this second dismemberment of their country, and implored the

assistance of the other European powers. It was obliged to negotiate with its spoilers, and surrender to Prussia territories occupied by 1,136,000 inhabitants, and to Russia, as much as contained 3,500,000.

ANNUAL OBITUARY. — Mrs. Griffiths, author of the "Letters between Henry and Frances." Aged 36, W. Austin, M.D., whose professional practice is said to have been 4000*l.* a year. The earl of Barrymore, by the accidental discharge of his musket, while stepping into his gig. William Hudson, author of the "Flora Anglica." In Newgate, where he had many years been confined for libel, lord George Gordon, known for his share in the anti-Catholic riots of 1780. Richard Tickell, commissioner of the stamp-office, and author of the "Carnival of Venice," &c. William Robertson, D.D. 73, the celebrated modern historian. John Hunter, surgeon-general to the army, 65, an eminent anatomist and writer on medical subjects.

A.D. 1794. PUBLIC OPINION. — A portion of the British community still continued warm admirers of the French revolution, as a means of diffusing general liberty, and attributed the enormities by which it was disgraced to the aggression of the coallesced powers. But a much more considerable portion (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvi. 179) viewed with alarm and detestation the establishment of a republic in France; considering its existence incompatible with internal peace and the safety of the constitution. In this view doubtless the government coincided, though the re-establishment of the French monarchy was not one of the avowed objects of hostilities. Meanwhile, to counteract the schemes of the disaffected, a system of extreme watchfulness and coercion was introduced. Spies were actively at work throughout the kingdom, and a series of relentless and crushing persecutions instituted against persons who made themselves conspicuous as political partisans, or the disseminators of seditious writings and speeches. Among the victims which signalized the commencement of the first month of the new year, were the conviction of Skirving and Margarot at Edinburgh, and of Hamilton Rowan at Dublin.

Jan. 1. The French convention abolished flogging in the army and navy, and substituted other punishments less derogatory to freemen. The armies having in several instances been betrayed by their officers, another decree declared that every general convicted of treason should be executed at the head of the troops he had attempted to betray.

16. Died in his 68th year, EDWARD GIBBON, the celebrated Roman historian. This eminent person had left his favourites

retirement at Lausanne, partly on account of the French revolution, whose progress he viewed with uneasiness and aversion. It was as a man of letters Mr. Gibbon derived his chief distinction; as a politician and public man, he was servile and aristocratical. A member of parliament during lord North's disastrous administration, he wore the ministerial yoke on the lowest terms of promotion or emolument, and never seemed to ascend to the dignity of patriotism, or even of principle.

17. A motion made but negated in the assembly of New York, to abolish the use of the titles of excellency, honourable, and esquire, as inconsistent with the "plainness of republican manners."

21. PARLIAMENT met. In the royal speech hopes were held out that the resources of France would be speedily exhausted. An augmentation of the navy to 85,000, was unanimously agreed to. In recommending the augmentation of the regular army to 60,000 men, Mr. Pitt said "France had been converted into an armed nation;" an expression much commented upon.

Feb. 2. On bringing forward the supplies, Mr. Pitt stated the interior strength of the kingdom at 140,000 men, and the foreign troops in British pay at 40,000. The total supply for the year was estimated at 20 millions; the ways and means included some new taxes, and a loan of 11 millions. The double taxation to which Roman Catholics had long been subjected was abolished.

3. Their majesties going to the Haymarket theatre, the rush was so great that fifteen persons were trampled to death.

4. The severe sentences passed on Muir and Palmer brought under the notice of the house of commons, and a motion made to assimilate the law of sedition in Scotland to that of England. Negated by 126 to 31.

13. Canal of Merthyr Tydvil opened.

17. Lord Lansdowne made a pacific motion in the lords, in which he strongly deprecated the folly of "making war against principles." Negated by 103 to 13.

Slavery abolished in the French West India islands. To attest the sincerity of their aspirations for universal liberty, without distinction of colour or clime, there were admitted to seats in the convention three deputies from St. Domingo as representatives of that colony, two of whom were mulattoes and one a negro.

A scarcity prevailing in France, a maximum was fixed to the prices of the necessaries of life. It was applauded by the Jacobins, either from a mistaken opinion, or love of popularity, as setting bounds to avarice and monopoly (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvi. 110.)

Mar. Measures introduced for augmenting the militia, and for raising volunteers and voluntary subscriptions for the war.

13. Mr. Gerrald convicted of sedition, and sentenced to be transported for 14 years.

Prussia, weary of the expenses entailed by the war, seceded from the coalition against France.

23. Martinique surrendered to the British forces commanded by sir Charles Grey.

25. Hebert, Anacharsis Cloets, and 18 others, fell victims to Robespierre. They were the chiefs of the CORDELIER CLUB, the most wild of the revolutionary fanatics, advocating not only extreme equality, but an Agrarian law, and the abolition of Christianity.

28. J. B. V. Guillotine, M.D., beheaded at Lyons. He was the inventor or reviver of the guillotine by which he suffered, and which he said he had produced to the world from motives of humanity alone.

An action being brought against a reviewer, it was decided that fair criticism is allowable, provided it does not travel into matter irrelevant and personally injurious to an author.

DEATH OF CONDORCET.—This eminent person was among the proscribed Brissotins, and for nine months had been trying to escape from the creatures of Robespierre; but falling into their hands, he terminated his existence by poison. He was the author of many scientific and literary works of distinguished ability. Like several of his colleagues in the first scenes of the revolution, he relied too exclusively on the power of reason undisturbed by human passions. He was in his 51st year. Condorcet was as intolerant in his philosophy as some bigots in their religion; and being naturally timid, madame Roland said, "he ought only to have been employed to write, not to act."

Apr. 2. Mr. Walker, of Manchester, tried for high treason, and acquitted.

EXECUTION OF DANTON.—This reckless demagogue, who had joined in the destruction of the Cordeliers, soon himself fell a victim to the jealousy of Robespierre. In his fate was involved that of Camille Desmoulins, a man of spirit and ability; S chelles, the president of the convention on the overthrow of the Girondins; general Westerman, who commanded the popular insurrection, August 10, 1792; Gobat, the Parisian bishop who had renounced his religion; La Croix, Fabre d'Eglantine, Chabot, an ex-capuchin, and some others. The charge against them was an attempt to restore the monarchy. Their real aim was probably to subvert a rival faction, or mitigate the excessive severity of the reign of terror. Danton was in his thirty-fourth year;

of athletic form, of undoubted courage, a powerful orator, and of a generous but capricious nature. He was by profession an advocate; profligate and unprincipled, like Mirabeau; and, like him, had taken the money of the court (*Lafayette's Memoirs*) while ostensibly devoted to the people. The only weakness Danton betrayed was an abortive attempt to conciliate his gloomy and relentless destroyer. This error he redeemed by his subsequent demeanour. Being questioned on his trial, according to the usual forms, respecting his name and abode,—“My name,” said he, “will live in history, but my abode will soon be nowhere.” He foretold the destruction of his enemies in six months. Only three hours elapsed between the conviction of Danton and his associates and their decapitation.

4. Kosciusko, having placed himself at the head of the Polish insurrectionists, defeated 6000 Russians.

14. Tumults at the Edinburgh theatre; some of the audience refusing to stand while “God Save the King” was being sung.

17. The common-council of London open a subscription for raising a defensive force for the city, to be called the “Loyal London Volunteers.”

18. Died, in his 81st year, Charles Pratt, earl CAMDEN, lord-president of the council. Bating some political inconsistencies, he was a constitutional and respectable lawyer and statesman. He had acquired a popularity, which he had almost survived, by his opposition to general warrants in the affair of Wilkes, and to American taxation.

27. Died, at Calcutta, aged 48, sir WILLIAM JONES, one of the judges of the supreme court of judicature; a gentleman highly esteemed for his liberal sentiments, amiable qualities, and varied literary attainments.

28 The subsidy-treaties with Prussia and other powers debated in the house of commons.

May 2. A reward of 1000*l.* offered for the apprehension of Hamilton Rowan, who had escaped from the imprisonment to which he had been condemned for seditious practices,

7. At the instigation of Robespierre, the convention passed a decree, *recognising* the existence of a Supreme Being, and the immortality of the soul.

12. Elizabeth, sister of Louis XVI., beheaded on a charge of attempting to effect a counter-revolution. She was thirty years old, and met death with resignation, along with 24 other victims, not one of whom she knew.

A message from the king to parliament

announced the existence of seditious societies. Several members of the Society for Constitutional Information and of the London Corresponding Society were apprehended on a charge of high treason, and committed to the Tower. Among the arrests were Thomas Hardy and Daniel Adams, secretaries to political societies; John Horne Tooke; Mr. Stone, a coal-merchant; rev. Jeremiah Joyce, private secretary to earl Stanhope; John Augustus Bonney, an attorney; and Messrs. Thelwall, Richter, and Lovatt.

23 Habeas-corpus Act suspended.

26. The convention, on the suggestion of Barrère, decreed that no quarter should be given to British and Hanoverian troops; but the French armies refused to execute it.

30. Resolutions moved in parliament, by the duke of Bedford and Mr. Fox, expressive of a wish for peace.

June 1. Lord Howe obtained a great victory, in the Bay of Biscay, over the French fleet of 26 sail of the line, which the British engaged with 25 sail. Several ships were captured; one of which sunk almost immediately on being taken possession of. *Le Jacobin* went down, and not a man of her crew, who cheered in sinking, was saved. In the captured ships alone, the killed and wounded amounted to 1270. The total loss of the British was 904.

8. Corsica united to England.

13. London illuminated three nights, in celebration of Howe's victory. The mob broke the windows of several persons, particularly lord Stanhope, for refusing to illuminate.

18. Mr. Pelham erected a mausoleum near Brocklesby, in Lincolnshire, to the memory of his wife, which cost 30,000*l*.

26. Battle of Fleurus, in which Jourdan completely defeated the allies, under Cobourg, forcing them to retreat to Halle, 30 miles distant. Brussels and Charleroi were the immediate fruits of this victory. At this battle the French made the new art of aërostation auxiliary to their military triumphs: general Morlot ascending in a balloon, whence he could perceive the slightest movements of the imperialists, which he instantly telegraphed.

A war of extermination began against the Maroons, in the island of Jamaica. Blood-hounds and Spanish chasseurs were employed against them by the governor, lord Balcarras.

July 8. Earl Moira, after forcing his way through the enemy, joined the duke of York in Flanders, with a reinforcement of 10,000 men.

13. Terrible fire in Ratcliffe-highway: the bakehouse of alderman Curtis, and upwards of 600 houses, consumed.

15. Moreau compelled the imperialists to recross the Rhine, and the Prussians to retreat to Mentz.

25. The adventurous Frederick Baron Trenck, so well known for the cruel imprisonment he suffered at the instance of Frederick II. of Prussia, beheld at Paris. The baron was in his 68th year, and one of the 1200 victims of the reign of terror, sacrificed on the vague charge of conspiracy.

27. FALL OF ROBESPIERRE.—The destruction of so many of the revolutionists, eminent for abilities and their services to the republic, paved the way for the destruction of Robespierre himself. Every victim he sacrificed only served to multiply his objects of suspicion and vengeance. By a decree he had procured to be passed, of the 9th of June, the members of the convention were made liable to be brought before the revolutionary tribunal on the accusation of the Committee of Public Safety. Tallien, Bourdon de l'Oise, Barrère, Freron, Fouché, and other deputies, who had heretofore been the accomplices of Robespierre, but who were suspected of peculation in their provincial missions, became apprehensive of exposure by the dictator, who was himself totally free from pecuniary corruption. They communicated their fears to the convention, who passed a counter-decree, re-establishing the inviolability of the deputies. Finding his power on the decline, Robespierre tried to sustain his popularity by bringing forward useful measures: one for the speedy payment of prize-money; a second to prevent the importation of forged assignats; a third to reward military merit; and a fourth for the relief of the poor and the prevention of mendicity. These artifices did not arrest the progress of the party which had begun to be formed against him in the convention, and consisting of some of its most able and resolute members. On the 27th inst. his arbitrary and murderous proceedings were openly denounced by Tallien, supported by Billaud-Vareunes and Barrère. Robespierre and his partisans, after vainly trying to obtain a hearing, withdrew to the Hotel-de-Ville. Their dependence was on the clubs, the sections of Paris, and the national-guard. Meanwhile, the convention evinced the utmost firmness and energy. Decrees were passed, declaring their sitting permanent till justice had been executed on the guilty. Robespierre and his accomplices were declared outlawed and traitors; Barras and Legendre were appointed to command the military in their interest, and deputies were sent to different parts of the capital, to exhort the people to arm and assemble in defence of their representatives. The

other party were not idle. Henriot, the right-hand man of Robespierre, and commander of the national-guard, surrounded the convention with his troops. But immediately the decree of outlawry against himself and colleagues became known, his soldiers began to desert, and he himself took refuge in the Hotel-de-Ville. Here, during the night, they were vigorously assailed by the conventionalists, headed by Bourdon de l'Oise. The Jacobins, finding all lost, attempted to turn their arms against themselves. Robespierre discharged a pistol into his mouth, but with no other effect than to disfigure his face; his brother threw himself out of a window; Coutbon stabbed himself, but not mortally; only Lebas shot himself dead on the spot. Robespierre; St. Just; Fleuriot, mayor of Paris; Vivres, president of the Jacobin club, and the rest of the criminals, to the number of twenty-one, outlawed by the convention, being identified before the revolutionary tribunal, were in the course of the next evening executed, amidst general acclamations. Robespierre suffered last—a frightful spectacle, covered with clotted blood and dirt, and wounded in two places. He was only in his 34th year, and one of the many prodigies of this extraordinary revolution. Like other men, he must be judged by his acts, not his professed intentions, and these show that he was ferocious, proud, subtle, vindictive, envious, and deceitful. He was, however, disinterested: he was poor, and died so, his whole effects at his death selling only for two hundred and forty livres. Moreover, he was consistent; never flinching from the extreme democracy with which he first allied himself, unless the destruction of the Cordeliers and Dantonists were deviations; and these he immolated with as little scruple as Cromwell did the Presbyterians and Levellers when they stood in the way of his ambition. The glory of preserving to France her nationality he shared with others, but hardly in an equal degree. It was the energetic decrees of Barrère that called into action the masses; equality filled them with enthusiasm, and the military genius of Carnot organised victory. By these the country was saved, the Vendéans discomfited, the ill-timed insurrection of the Girondins suppressed, and the destroyers of Poland driven from the frontiers. According to M. Thiers, Robespierre was “an honest fanatic,” but beneath the mission which he supposed himself called to fill. After his fall a milder administration was attempted, conciliation was substituted in place of terror, the meetings of the Jacobin club were suspended, and the revolutionary tribunal remodelled. The Jacobins had

obtained an ascendancy by courting the multitude, and precautions were sought to be taken against the recurrence of a like domination, by the circumscription of popular immunities.

Aug. 1. The government loan, for the relief of commercial credit, appears to have answered its purpose; 2,202,000*l.* were advanced, and the public realized a profit of 4,348*l.*, after defraying the expenses of the commission.

The Spaniards defeated both on the eastern and western Pyrenees by the French.

15. A young man being killed in trying to escape from a recruiting-house in the vicinity of Charing-cross, the mob rose to demolish it.

17. Telegraph invented by the French.

30. French retake Condé and Valenciennes.

Sept. 3. Robert Watt tried at Edinburgh for treason, found guilty, and in the ensuing month was executed. Watt had been a government spy, in confidential communication with secretary Dundas and the lord-advocate, who thought fit to abandon him to his fate. David Downie, another spy, was convicted, but pardoned.

15. Duke of York compelled to retreat across the Maese and Waal, before the superior force of general Pichegru, amounting to 80,000. Breda, Bois-le-Duc, Maestricht, and Nimeguen, successively yielded to the republicans.

20. At Shrewsbury assizes two young gentlemen recovered an estate worth 150,000*l.*, which had been possessed by a Mrs. Lloyd for 20 years.

27. DARR PLOT.—Le Maitre, apprentice to a watchmaker, and two others, apprehended on charge of a design to kill the king. It was deposed, by the informer Upton, that an instrument was to have been constructed in the form of a walking-stick, through which a poisoned arrow was to have been *blown* at his majesty by Le Maitre. The evidence, however, was found not more consistent and probable than that of Titus Oates; and, after a long imprisonment, the accused were discharged.

29. Pichegru crossed the Roer, and, after severe fighting, forced the Austrians, under Clairfait, to retreat with the loss of 13,000 men.

General Massena completely defeated the Austrians and Sardinians in Piedmont.

Oct. 10. Kosciusko defeated in a bloody engagement with the Russians, under Suvarof.

15. A surgeon and a physician convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Newgate, for having seditious libels in their possession, with intent to publish them.

17. Engagement between the Spaniards

and French. Dugommier was killed by the bursting of a shell in the moment of victory.

23. Coblenz taken by Moreau.

29. STATE TRIALS.—The judges, under a special commission at the Old Bailey, proceeded to arraign the twelve prisoners under a charge of high treason. Mr. Hardy's trial was first entered upon, and the attorney-general, Sir John Scott, occupied nine hours in stating the case for the crown, which he tried to substantiate by the evidence of two government-spies named Taylor and Gosling. The prisoner was ably defended by Erskine and Gibbs; and after an investigation of seven days, pronounced not guilty. Eleven days after, John Horne Tooke was brought to the bar. This gentleman was a political character of long standing, and of high intellectual endowments. He had summoned Mr. Pitt to give evidence, who underwent the ordeal of a searching interrogatory, the object of which was to show that the practices of the reformers in 1794 were precisely of the same import as those of 1780, in which the minister himself had taken part. Mr. Pitt tried to evade a frank confession, on the plea of forgetfulness. Mr. Sheridan was next examined. He gave a straightforward account of the proceedings of the reformers in 1780; upon which Mr. Pitt begged leave to correct his evidence, admitting that he was present at the meetings of delegates from several counties, convened for the attainment of parliamentary reform. The jury deliberated for a few minutes, and returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*. This verdict, like the former, was received with acclamations. John Thelwall was next put upon his trial, and with the same result,—an acquittal. Here the experiment ended; the crown having no better evidence to bring forward, the remaining were dismissed. The termination of these proceedings was received with satisfaction by many supporters of the government, being viewed as an arbitrary attempt to establish cumulative and constructive treason, and to extend the reign of terror, that had begun at Edinburgh, under a detestable system of espionage, to London. It helped still further to exalt the favourable opinion entertained of the protection afforded by the jury-system in state-prosecutions; though it seems, from the testimony of the last survivor of the accused, confirmed by that of under-sheriff Burchell (*Thelwall's Memoirs, by his Widow*, p. 434), that some improper practices were resorted to by the council for the crown to obtain juries more subservient to their purposes.

Nov. 4. EXTINCTION OF POLAND.—General Suvarof, after a desperate resistance,

made himself master of Warsaw. Ten hours after resistance had ceased, the massacre was renewed in the suburb of Praga, and upwards of 20,000 Poles were indiscriminately butchered. Poland, in lieu of France, was "blotted out of the map of Europe," by the three partitioning powers completing the dismemberment of the kingdom. The Polish chiefs, Kosciusko and Potocki, were sent prisoners to Petersburg, where they were thrown into dungeons; while king Stanislaus himself soon after died in obscurity, in the same capital.

19. Treaty of commerce concluded between Britain and the United States of America, by which the latter conceded the right of search to the belligerents.

Dec. 6. Lord Abingdon convicted of a libel on Mr. Sermon, an attorney of Gray's-inn, in a parliamentary speech of the noble lord, published by his lordship in a newspaper.

10. Earl Fitzwilliam appointed viceroy of Ireland, his lordship being succeeded by the earl of Mansfield as lord-president of the council. Earl Spencer became first-lord of the admiralty; and the earl of Chatham lord-privy-seal.

30. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who continued to hold out hopes that the enemies' resources would be soon exhausted. Mr. Wilberforce, an intimate friend of the minister, who had supported him in all his measures, moved an amendment to the address, of a pacific tendency, and was supported by Mr. Bankes and sir Richard Hill. Mr. Pitt vindicated the language of the king's speech, which, he said, "did not pledge the house never to make peace with the republican government of France, though he had no idea of a *secure peace* till the return of the monarchy, which he thought the best form of government for all the nations of Europe." Amendment negatived by 246 to 75.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. John Russell, author of the "History of Ancient and Modern Europe." At Kinnaird, aged 65, in consequence of a fall down stairs, Mr. Bruce, the celebrated traveller in Abyssinia. Lavoisier, the eminent French chemist, guillotined. Charles Pigott, author of the "Jockey-club." Mr. Baddeley, the comedian; he left a handsome bequest for his brother-performers at Moulsey. George Colman, patentee of the Haymarket-theatre. Daniel Dancer, one of a family of misers. James Adam, the architect of the Adelphi-terrace and Portland-place.

A.D. 1795. FRANCE AND THE COALITION. The conclusion of the last and the commencement of the present year were signalized by the triumphs of the French arms in every part of Europe, and the dejection

with which their successes had impressed most of the members of the coalition. Exclusively of their continual defeats in the field, they had the mortification of knowing that the war was generally unpopular with their subjects, who considered it undertaken to compel France to revert to a monarchical government. Full of this idea the industrious classes throughout Europe repro- bated the confederacy against the French republic, and styled it the "war of kings against the people" (*Annual Register*, xxxvii. 146). In pursuit of their scheme of intervention the allies had been completely baffled by France. The Convention was proud of the pinnacle of glory to which she had been elevated; and, at the close of 1794, they caused to be printed and published a list of their triumphs. Among their conquests were enumerated the Austrian Netherlands and the Seven United Provinces, exclusive of their acquisitions on the Rhine, in Spain, Savoy and Italy. The territories subdued by the republic were the richest and most fertile of the Continent, and computed to contain a population of thirteen millions. In seven- teen months they had won twenty-seven pitched battles, besides an innumerable number of inferior actions, in which they had slain 80,000 of their enemies, taken more than 90,000 prisoners; also immense quantities of ammunition and stores, with 3800 pieces of cannon (*Belsh. Hist. Geo. III. v. 241*). These losses induced many powers to withdraw from the confederacy. The duke of Tuscany was the first who seceded. In the course of 1795, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, and the Swiss Cantons acknowledged the French Republic. Prussia first took the English subsidy, and then made peace with the French. England, Russia, Sardinia, Naples, and the Pope, were the remaining confederates. In Britain the war was becoming rapidly unpopular. Hostilities had from the first been opposed by a large party, who judged our intervention meddling, and libercide in principle; and this party was now augmented by the secession from government of many who began to despair of a successful issue to the contest, after the defection of our allies, and the victories of the French. Petitions for peace were presented to parliament from the cities of London, Norwich, York and other places, but these were not sufficiently general to produce much effect, and counter-petitions were got up by the partisans of the ministers. Popular discontents were aggravated in the summer by the dearness of provisions, the cruel and illegal practices of crimps for the recruiting service, and the activity of the Corresponding and other political societies.

Jan. 3. Died at Etruria in Staffordshire, in his 64th year, JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, the eminent improver of our earthenware and porcelain manufactures. By his ingenious discoveries and excellent taste, Mr. Wedgwood in a few years turned the current of importation of the finer earthen- ware into one of exportation. He was the proposer of the Grand Trunk Canal uniting the Mersey and Trent, and subse- quently communicating with the Severn. He was liberal to the poor, and of consi- derable scientific attainments.

10. Pichegru at the head of 70,000 men crossed the Waal, forcing the allies to re- treat. Utrecht, Rotterdam, and Dort fell into the hands of the French.

14. Directors of the East India Com- pany prohibited from trading with India in their private capacity.

19. An embargo on Dutch ships.

26. The Stadtholder and his family hav- ing made their escape from Holland in an open boat, arrived in London.

Several watchmen and others frozen to death by the severity of the weather.

The lord mayor, aldermen, and livery of London petitioned the house of commons to disclaim any right of interference with the internal government of France.

27. Stadtholderate abolished, and the Batavian republic established under the protection of France. Shortly after the Dutch issued a declaration of the rights of man; but, as an alloy to these advantages, they had to furnish clothing and provisions to their invaders to the amount of 1,400,000*l*.

Feb. 4. A royal message communicated to the house of commons the necessity of a loan for the emperor of Germany. In the discussion that followed, notice was first taken of the misapplication by the king of Prussia of the subsidy granted to him, and which he had employed in effecting his unjust designs on Poland. Mr. Pitt ad- mitted the misapplication of the subsidy by Prussia, but argued that Austria had a deeper interest in the issue of the war. Motion for the loan carried by a great ma- jority.

9. Mr. Gilbert Elliott, the English vice- roy, opened the parliament of Corsica.

10. A rapid thaw: the floods, in conse- quence, did much damage.

A theatre at Madras first opened with the tragedy of "Macbeth."

12. Tuscany made peace with France.

18. Britain concluded a defensive alli- ance with Russia.

21. Earl Fitzwilliam recalled from the government of Ireland.

23. THE BUDGET. Mr. Pitt brought forward his annual financial statement: 100,000 seamen, and 150,000 landmen, in-

cluding militia, were voted for the ensuing year. The loan proposed was 18,000,000*l.*, for which an equal capital in the three per cents. and 6,000,000*l.* in the four per cents. were created. The expenses incurred by the war, which had lasted no more than two years, were calculated at 50,000,000*l.*

25. A public fast day.

Mar. 1. The regent of Sweden acknowledged the French republic.

The republic concluded a peace with the Vendéans and Chouans.

4. RICHARD BROTHERS, lately a naval lieutenant, apprehended by two king's messengers, and brought before the privy council. Upon examination he was found to be insane; the weak part of the public had been terrified by his pretended prophecies, deduced from the apocalypse, concerning the French revolution and the destruction of London. Brothers styled himself "a nephew of God," and gained a disciple in Mr. Halhead, M.P., who wrote a pamphlet in defence of the veracity of his divine mission.

11. COERCION IN IRELAND. Earl Camden appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland in the room of earl Fitzwilliam. Upon the departure of Fitzwilliam from Dublin on the 25th inst., the citizens appeared in deep mourning. His appointment to the viceroyship last year was anticipated as the prelude to the removal of the few remaining disabilities of the catholics, and with this view his lordship had proposed to dismiss from office those individuals who had been most conspicuous in opposing emancipation. Amongst them lord chancellor Fitzgibbon, Mr. Beresford, a commissioner of the Irish treasury, and Messrs. Wolfe and Toller, the attorney and solicitor-general. Mr. Beresford was actually dismissed, when a letter arrived from Mr. Pitt, remonstrating against these changes. By the same conveyance earl Fitzwilliam received a dispatch from the duke of Portland, suggesting, for the first time, the doubts of the British cabinet on the expediency of pressing catholic emancipation, and recommending the viceroy to postpone it. This was impossible, Mr. Grattan having already obtained leave to introduce a bill for the removal of catholic disabilities. His excellency replied to his colleagues; he pointed out the danger of retracting; and, with patriotic indignation, refused "to be the person to raise a flame, which nothing but military force could extinguish!" (*Annual Register*, xxxvii. 224.)

Upon this his lordship was recalled. So soon as this was officially known, the Irish house of commons, on the motion of Mr. Connolly, voted the strongest approval of lord Fitzwilliam's conduct, with the single dissenting voice of Mr. Beresford. Ad-

resses followed from all parts of the kingdom, and the people could hardly restrain their indignation at the prospect of coercive measures. A change, however, suddenly came over the legislative part of the nation. Lord Camden reached Dublin on the 31st inst. Less than a fortnight after, a motion of Mr. Grattan's to inquire into the reasons of lord Fitzwilliam's recall was negatived by a considerable majority; and the bill for the relief of catholics subsequently rejected by the same members who had sanctioned its introduction. On this occasion Arthur O'Connor, a young member of the house for the county of Kerry, made an eloquent speech.

24. It appeared at the anniversary of the Royal Humane Society, for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, that the number of persons restored to life amounted to 1169; lives preserved by drags 858; unsuccessful cases 899; total 2926.

April 2. RISING OF THE JACOBINS.—The Girondins after the fall of Robespierre recovered their ascendancy in the convention, and soon after began to avenge themselves on their former opponents. Even some of those deputies who had been instrumental in the overthrow of the dictator, became objects of vengeance, on the charge of participating in his crimes: among them were Barrère, Collot d'Herbois, and Billaud-Varennes. While the trials of these were pending, the mob, incited by the Jacobins, broke into the hall of the convention, calling for bread and the constitution of 1793. The riot, however, was quelled by the armed citizens, and the accused individuals were expatriated to Guiana. Several other members of the Mountain were arrested and imprisoned. A violent insurrection in consequence broke out in the suburb of St. Antoine, which lasted three days, but was ultimately put down by the soldiers of the convention. Disturbances were at the same period created in various parts of France, by the Jacobins on one side, and their rivals on the other, which were not suppressed without bloodshed.

5. Prussia signed a treaty of peace with the French republic, which had thus the satisfaction of being acknowledged by a power that had stood foremost in the confederacy against her. A cessation of hostilities was agreed upon for the north of Germany, which was to be considered neutral ground; and peace was soon afterwards concluded with the landgrave of Hesse and the *Electeur of Hanover*.

8. MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES. The marriage of the prince with the princess Caroline, daughter of the duke of Brunswick, was solemnized with extraor-

dinary magnificence. Considerations of prudence rather than of affection are supposed to have forwarded this union. It appeared, from the inquiries of a parliamentary committee, that the debts of his royal highness amounted to 619,570*l.* Upon which Mr. Pitt proposed that the revenue of the prince should be increased to 125,000*l.*, exclusive of the income of the duchy of Cornwall, estimated at 13,000*l.* a year; and that a proportion of this income should be vested in commissioners, for the liquidation of the debts of the prince. The jointure on the princess to be 50,000*l.* per annum.

14. The remains of the British troops embarked at Bremen for England. They had suffered dreadful privations in their retreat through Flanders, from the severity of the weather and hostility of the Dutch, and were reduced to one-fifth of their original number.

20. The Oxford militia, with loaded muskets, proceeded to Seaford, and seized all the mutton they could find, and sold it at 4*d.* a lb.; they then seized 2000 sacks of flour at Newhaven, and sold it at their own prices: a detachment of the horse artillery arriving, assisted by the Lancashire fencibles, surrounded the rioters. Some disturbances of less note broke out at Nottingham, Coventry, Nuneaton, Hinkley, and Bedworth.

23. **ACQUITTAL OF WARREN HASTINGS.**—On this day the trial of Mr. Hastings was terminated, by the sentence of the house of lords. It began Feb. 12, 1788, having lasted seven years, two months, and eleven days, the last being the 149th day on which the court had sat. Mr. Fox and the other managers came into their box at twelve o'clock. The peers entered the hall half an hour afterwards. The mode of proceeding was to put each of the sixteen articles of charge separately, to a question of guilty or not guilty, beginning with the junior baron. Out of 400 peers, only 29 voted. Of these eight, namely, lord chancellor Loughborough, the duke of Norfolk, the earls of Caernarvon, Radnor, Fitzwilliam, Suffolk, Mansfield, and lord Walsingham, voted guilty on some of the charges; but a majority voting not guilty on each charge, the lord chancellor pronounced as follows:—"Warren Hastings, you are acquitted of all the charges of impeachment brought against you by the commons, and of all the matters contained therein" (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvii. 116). The East India Company paid Mr. Hastings the costs of his trial, amounting to 71,080*l.*, and besides conferred upon him a pecuniary donation, and a pension of 5000*l.* a year. Public interest had evaporated in the length of the proceedings, in which

party spirit had mingled with the pursuit of justice.

30. Rev. J. Jackson, who had been convicted of high treason, was brought into the court of King's-bench, Dublin, to receive judgment; upon which he was seized with strong convulsions, and dropping down in the dock, expired. It appeared by an inquest subsequently held on the body that he had taken poison.

May 4. Mr. Brothers, the prophet, confined in Fisher's lunatic asylum, Islington.

REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL.—The members of this terrible instrument of Robespierre's tyranny were called to a severe account. Among the charges brought against them, was that of ordering pregnant women for execution. Such was the mockery of justice, that in one instance they had taken no longer space of time than three hours to try and condemn sixty individuals (*Ann. Reg.* xxvii. 88). The delinquents most execrated were Lataille, the public accuser of the tribunal, and Lebon. The last pleaded his cause for nine successive days before the convention, with as much coolness and resolution as if his conscience had been wholly void of offence. He was executed with fifteen others, on the 9th inst.

22. Mungo Park sailed from Portsmouth, for the purpose of exploring the interior of Africa.

26. The Ottoman Porte acknowledged the French republic.

June. **IRISH SOCIETIES.**—The new policy of ministers towards Ireland gave rise to societies, both for and against the government, of a mischievous character. From this month, the "Society of United Irishmen" began rapidly to disseminate its principles, and enrol amongst its members a great majority of the catholic, and a large proportion of the protestant population. Oaths of secrecy were administered, and a central and graduated system of organization introduced, coupled with the opening of negotiations with the agents of the French government. On the other hand, Orange clubs were instituted; those clubs drove the people to desperation, by a relentless course of vindictiveness, and became the dictators of the government.

7. Luxemburg surrendered to the French, with a garrison of 10,000 men under general Bender; the acquisition of Mentz alone remained to complete the extension of the boundary of France to the Rhine.

EXPEDITION TO QUIBERON.—The pacification concluded with the Vendean and Chouan insurgents in February, which produced tranquillity in the disturbed districts, was but of short duration. These people were under the influence of leaders, who

maintained a correspondence with the emigrant princes, and were liberally supplied with English gold and paper. In May the Chouans again rose in arms, and early in June 3000 emigrants from England effected a landing in Quiberon Bay, to co-operate with them. After some skirmishes, in which most of the French who had been taken out of English prisons deserted, general Hoche made a nocturnal attack upon the adverse camp, and killed or captured a great part of the emigrant troops. The victors obtained the clothing and equipments of 40,000 men, which had been landed for the use of the numerous bands who were expected to join the Bourbon standard.

9. Died in the Temple in his twelfth year, the only son of Louis XVI. The convention soon after agreed to exchange the sister of this unfortunate prince for the commissioners betrayed by Dumourier to the Austrians, and two French ambassadors to the Ottoman court, who had been seized on neutral ground.

22. The dearthness of provisions caused a riot at Birmingham, in which one man was killed by the soldiers.

In consequence of the severity of the cold, so unusual at this season of the year, many thousand sheep newly shorn were killed in different parts of the country; it was computed that in Wiltshire full one-fourth of the flocks was destroyed.

Admiral lord Bridport, with 14 sail of the line and eight frigates, gained a victory off Port L'Orient over the French fleet of 12 ships of the line and 11 frigates, when three ships of the line were captured.

26. Earl Fitzwilliam and Mr. Beresford met near Tyburn, to settle a dispute about places and pensions: just as they had taken their ground at twelve paces' distance, a magistrate interfered, which prevented further proceedings.

A numerous meeting in St. George's Fields, to petition for annual parliaments and universal suffrage: the volunteers of the metropolis were kept in readiness on Kennington common to repress any disposition to riot.

July 7. Flour having risen to 70s. a sack, and the quartern loaf to 1s., the lords of the privy council entered into an engagement, to use in their families only bread of an ordinary quality, to diminish the consumption of flour in their respective establishments, and strongly recommended others to follow their example. The court of common council subscribed 1000*l.* for relieving the poor of the metropolis, and entered into resolutions to carry into effect the recommendation of the privy council.

12. The mob of Westminster attacked the crimping houses; and under an im-

pression that Mr. Pitt countenanced the existing abuses in recruiting, they broke the windows of his house in Downing-street. This had long been a subject of complaint, and a source of tumults in the metropolis. It was remedied by the duke of York, who in the course of the year succeeded lord Amherst as commander-in-chief.

22. Spain made peace with France.

24. Henry Redhead Yorke tried and convicted at the York assizes on a charge of sedition. He was subsequently sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* and be imprisoned two years in Dorset goal.

Aug. 22. The French convention decreed that the electors should, in appointing the deputies to the legislative body, choose two-thirds from amongst the members of the present convention; and by another decree it was enacted, that, in default of such election, the convention should fill up the vacancies themselves. These decrees formed a curious contrast to the self-denying ordinance of the Constituent Assembly, which prohibited the re-election of any of its members. The convention was doubtless impressed with the ill effects of the disinterestedness of their predecessors, and deviated into the opposite and less pardonable extreme.

23. NEW FRENCH CONSTITUTION.—The convention adopted the new constitution prepared by their committee, and referred it to the primary assemblies for their acceptance. Its essential parts were, the establishment of a legislative body, consisting of two elective chambers, one of seniors, 250 in number, the other of juniors, 500 in number; one-third of each chamber to be renewed annually. The executive power to be vested in five persons called "The Directors," nominated by the legislative body. One of the directors was to go out yearly and be replaced by the election of another. Public education was provided for; equality of privileges among all citizens declared; religious freedom established, and liberty of speaking and writing fully confirmed.

31. The dearth approaching to famine, that had prevailed during the summer, was remedied by an abundant harvest; in the northern counties the markets were plentifully supplied with the best wheaten flour at 2s. 6*d.* per stone of 14 lb.

Sept. 1. Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Griffin found guilty of high treason at Naas in Ireland, and sentenced to be hanged. After sentence, O'Connor made a long speech censuring the abuses of the government.

8. A monument by Flaxman, set up by public subscription at Chichester, to the memory of Collins the poet.

13. Captain Vancouver returned from

his voyage of discovery on the north-west coast of America, after an absence of four years.

17. At the Old Bailey the judges declared that gleaming corn is not a custom of strict right, but to be permitted or not at the will of the owner of the ground.

23. The Dutch colony of the Cape of Good Hope taken possession of by the English under general Craig and admiral Elphinstone.

30. French convention decreed the incorporation of the Austrian Netherlands with the republic.

Oct. 4. **INSURRECTION OF THE PARISIANS.**—The forty-eight sections of Paris, who had usually given the tone to the nation at large, while they unanimously accepted the new constitution, as firmly rejected the law for the re-election of two-thirds of the subsisting convention. The motives of their resistance, as well as the parties who organised it, were different from those which predominated in former risings of the capital. Under Marat, Danton, and Robespierre, the chief actors were the working classes, and their object equality; in the present, the actors were the middle classes, and their object equality too, but an equality compatible with security. Horrified by the atrocities of the reign of terror, the Parisians were apprehensive of its recurrence, by the retention in the new legislature of two-thirds of the convention, most of whom were looked upon as men of blood, implicated in the late sanguinary proceedings of the Jacobins in the metropolis, at Lyons, and in La Vendée. Hence the terrorists sided with the convention against the Parisians, not only as a means of securing an indemnity for past misdeeds, but preserving their supremacy in the government. On the other hand, the royalists aided the sectionists, thinking that the triumph of the moderates might pave the way for the restoration of the monarchy. Neither however the Jacobins nor royalists reaped the full fruits of their calculations. Meanwhile energetic preparations were made for the onset, the convention having secured the aid of detachments of the army. On the night of the 4th, the different sections beat to arms, and at noon on the next day, they were ranged in fighting order, having taken possession of several posts. A bloody conflict now took place between the citizens and regular troops near the hall of the convention, which after the loss of 1000 lives ended in the rout of the Parisians; their opponents had the advantage of artillery, which they used with destructive effect. Barras had the chief command of the conventionalists, subordinate to whom was Napoleon Buonaparte, who on this occa-

sion confirmed the previous impression of his extraordinary military talents. Tranquillity followed, and the constitution and decrees were acquiesced in.

26. A general meeting of the London Corresponding Society was held in Copenhagen fields; the number of persons assembled as members and spectators was very great. Three rostra were erected from which Binns, Thelwall, Hodgson, and John Gale Jones made speeches; and an address, remonstrance, and resolutions were agreed to.

27. **NATIONAL CONVENTION** dissolved on the day fixed by law; it had sat upwards of three years, namely from October 20th, 1792. It terminated its sittings nobly; for the last decrees which it passed were for the abolition of the punishment of death at the return of peace, and for granting a general amnesty. Previously to the dissolution, attempts were made by Tallien, Legendre, Freron, and other Jacobin chiefs, to restore the ascendancy of their faction, but they were defeated by the energetic efforts of Thibaudeau, Lanjuinais, Boissy d'Anglas, Lepaux, Lesage, and Larivière.

28. New French legislature met, and made choice of five directors, namely, Reveillière Lepaux, Reubel, Latourneur Delamanche, Barras, and Sieyes. Sieyes soon after resigned, and Carnot was chosen in his stead. Of these directors, all except Reveillière Lepaux, were or had been of the predominant party of the Mountain or Jacobin.

29. The king, on going to open parliament, was surrounded by an immense throng of persons of all ranks, who clamorously cried out, "Bread! Peace! No Pitt!" His majesty was much agitated, and the first words he uttered when he entered the house of peers were these, to the lord chancellor: "My lord, I have been shot at." In his progress, one of the glasses of his coach was perforated by a bullet; and on his return he was treated with much rudeness.

30. A proclamation offering a reward of 1000*l.* for the discovery of the authors of the outrage on the king.

Hostilities suspended for three months between the French and Austrian armies.

Nov. 4. A proclamation to prevent seditious meetings, and to apprehend persons delivering inflammatory speeches.

6. Lord Grenville introduced a bill into the lords for the "safety of his majesty's person," and on the same day, Mr. Pitt, a bill into the commons, for the "prevention of seditious meetings." These two bills had for their object the restriction of the right hitherto possessed by the people of assembling for the purposes of petitioning the king and legislature, and of discussing

political subjects. They were warmly opposed at every stage in both houses, but carried by more than the usual majorities, in consequence of the daring proceedings of the popular societies. Their duration was limited to three years.

FRENCH DIRECTORY.—The feeling of insecurity heretofore prevalent in France, began to subside under the Directory. The Pantheon, a revival of the Jacobin club, was shut by general Buonaparte, and a gradual epuration of the most violent of the faction was in progress in the public offices and municipality of Paris. As a means of lessening the influence of popular clamour over the legislature, the galleries in the convention-hall were reduced to a space not containing more than 300 spectators. A National Institute was established for the promotion of the sciences. It consisted of 144 members, among whom were some of the most illustrious names in France and Europe. In addition a central school or college was established in each department; and a primary school in each commune, to teach writing, reading, arithmetic, and the elements of morality.

21. A common hall in the city of London to petition against the sedition bills; the common council had agreed to a petition in their favour. In Westminster a petition against the bills was agreed to.

Dec. 8. Mr. Pitt brought a message from the king to parliament, to the effect that the state of affairs in France was such that his majesty was ready to treat with the existing government for peace.

9. The London Corresponding Society and an immense concourse, met in Marylebone fields. Messrs. Browne, Jones, and Thelwall were the speakers. "The petition and the resolutions," says the *Annual Register*, "are in strong, firm, and respectful language."

At the close of the year, Britain concluded a treaty with the dey of Algiers, by which the Algerines were permitted to carry their prizes to Corsica, and to sell them publicly there.—*Ann. Reg.* xxxvii. 246.

POOR LAWS.—The serious abuses of mixing up *wages* with the parish allowance, and of a profuse grant of relief out of the workhouse, became prevalent. They originated in high prices. The price of corn which for three years preceding 1795 had averaged 54s., rose to 74s. a quarter. As wages continued stationary, the distress of the poor was very great, and many able-bodied labourers, who had rarely before applied for parish assistance, became claimants for relief. Instead of meeting this emergency by temporary expedients, and by grants of relief proportioned to the urgency of each individual case, one uni-

form system was adopted. The magistrates of Berks and some of the southern counties issued tables, showing the wages which they thought every labouring man *ought* to receive, according to variations in the price of bread, and the number of his family; and they accompanied these tables with an order, directing the parish officers to make up the difference to the labourer, in the event of the wages paid to him by his employer falling short of the tabular allowance. An act also passed to allow the justices to administer relief out of the workhouses, and to grant it to such poor persons as had property of their own.

WEST INDIES.—In the course of the year, the French made strenuous efforts to recover their possessions in the West Indies. Under the direction of Victor Hugues, a general revolt was planned against the British, in all the French islands. In St. Lucia, the insurrection broke out so suddenly, that the English were compelled to quit the island. The attempts made at Guadaloupe, Grenada, and St. Vincent, though attended with temporary success, were finally defeated.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Alderman John Sawbridge, the late patriotic M.P. for the city of London. At Paris, aged 80, M. Barthelemy, author of the "Travels of Anacharsis in Greece." Aged 55, James Boswell, the intimate friend and biographer of Dr. Johnson. In great indigence, Florio, the once celebrated flute player. Aged 80, William Romaine, rector of St. Ann's, Blackfriars, and an eloquent Calvinistic preacher. Robert Bakewell, an eminent experimental farmer and grazier. In his 72nd year, Andrew Kippis, D.D. and F.R.S., a man of learning and classical taste; editor of the "Biographia Britannica."

A.D. 1796. *Jan.* Early in the month the count d'Artois and the duke d'Angouleme, arrived at Edinburgh.

3. Fifty soldiers, in a passage from Guernsey to Cowes, suffocated during a storm, by the hatches being closed down upon them.

13. The linen mills of Marshall and Co. near Leeds burnt, and by the falling of one of the walls seven persons killed.

28. A telegraph erected over the Admiralty to communicate with the line to Dover.

Mr. Stone tried before lord Kenyon for a conspiracy to kill the king, and acquitted. On the verdict being pronounced, a man was fined 20l. for raising an exulting shout.

Feb. 1. The king, in returning from Drury-lane theatre, was insulted, and a stone thrown into his carriage.

11. A forged French newspaper, *L'Elcair*, circulated for stock-jobbing; it announced a peace between Austria and France.

12. **STATE OF THE POOR.**—Mr. Whitbread on moving in the commons, that a bill to regulate the wages of labourers in husbandry be read a second time, made this statement. He said that "in most parts of the country the labourers had long been struggling with increasing misery till the pressure had become almost too *grievous to be endured*; while the patience of the sufferers, under their accumulated distresses, had been exemplary." He then recommended the immediate establishment of a *minimum of wages*; as a measure as unjust against the employer, as a maximum would be against the employed. Mr. Pitt, in reply, admitted that the condition of the poor was *cruel*, and such as could not be wished on any principle of humanity or policy. But he argued against the proposition of Mr. Whitbread as contrary to sound principles, and concluded in these words: "What measures then could be found to supply the defect? Let us," said he, "make relief (by the parish), in cases where there are a number of children, a matter of right and an honour, instead of a ground for opprobrium and contempt. This will make a *large family* a blessing and not a curse; and this will draw a proper line of distinction between those who are able to provide for themselves by their labour, and those who, after having *enriched* their country with a number of children have a claim upon its assistance for their support."—*Parl. Hist.* xxxii. 710. Mr. Fox did not enter fully into the question, but appeared to acquiesce in the singular principles laid down; and Mr. Whitbread, in conclusion, complimented Mr. Pitt, and recommended government "to institute a *liberal premium for large families!*"

15. Ceylon captured by the British.

18. Kidd Wake found guilty of a misdemeanor, in hissing the king on his going to parliament, and sentenced to the pillory, and five years' imprisonment.

INFLUENCE OF COLD.—The extreme mildness of last January, compared with the unusual severity of the preceding January of 1795, afforded an opportunity of observing the effects of the seasons on health. The average heat of January 1796 exceeded, by above 20 degrees of Fahrenheit, the average of 1795. By turning to the bills of mortality, we find the effects of these different degrees of temperature on human life. In five weeks, between December 1st, 1794, and February 3rd, 1795, the whole number of burials in London amounted to 2823; and in an equal period of five weeks, between December 30th, 1795, and February 2nd, 1796, to 1471.—*Philosophical Transactions.* So that the excess of mortality in January 1795,

above that of January 1796, was 1352 persons.

Mar. 1. War declared against England by the Dutch national convention.

10. Insurrection act passed in Ireland authorizing the lord-lieutenant to declare any district in a state of insurrection, whereby the magistracy obtained an arbitrary power of imprisonment.

24. Colonel Cawthorne of the Westminster militia, cashiered for peculation, and afterwards expelled the house of commons.

31. The oriental MSS. of Mr. Halhead, the disciple of the prophet Brothers, purchased by the British Museum.

Apr. 2. **SHAKESPEARE FORGERY.**—A tragedy, *Vortigern*, was performed at Drury-lane theatre as one of Shakespeare's, but subsequently acknowledged by its author, Mr. Ireland, to be a forgery. The audience, which condemned the play, showed more discrimination than several eminent literary connoisseurs, who after examining the alleged Shakespeare papers, attested with their signatures their conviction of their genuineness. Among the subscribers to this notable forgery (*Ann. Reg.* xxxviii. 12) were the earls of Lauderdale, Somerset, and Kinnaid; Dr. Parr, sir Thomas Burgess, James Boswell, John Tweedale, H. J. Pye, E. Valpy, Thomas Blunt, Matthew Wyatt, and J. Pinkerton.

7. Admiral Cornwallis tried by a court-martial for disobeying the orders of the admiralty, but acquitted.

GENERAL BUONAPARTE.—This celebrated person, whose name will hereafter so frequently occur, had, like Hoche, Pichegru, Jourdan, Moreau, and other distinguished French generals, attained rapid promotion in the republican armies. In 1791 he was a captain of artillery; and it was only at the siege of Toulon, in 1793, that his soldierly abilities began to develop themselves. At Paris he commanded, as before noticed, the conventional troops on the insurrection of the sections, October 4th, 1795. Supported by the patronage of the director Barras, and the impression produced by his military talents, he was, at the desire of the officers and soldiers, appointed to the command of the army intended for the invasion of Italy. At this time Buonaparte was in his twenty-sixth year, and had never seen a regular engagement in his life; but such was the opinion of his character, science, and activity, that he inspired general confidence. The Italian army amounted to about 50,000 veterans; opposed to it were 80,000 Austrians and Piedmontese, commanded by general Beaulieu. Hostilities began on the 9th inst., at Voltri, nine miles from Genoa. Before the end of the month, seconded by the skill

and zeal of Massena, Angereau, and Rampon, Buonaparte won the decisive battles of Montenotte, Mellelaimo, and Mondovi, which obliged the king of Sardinia to sign a treaty of peace in his own capital.

19. Sir Sidney Smith taken prisoner on the French coast, and sent, under a strong escort, to Paris.

28. Charette, the Vendean chief, executed at Nantz. Stoffet, another chief, suffered two months before; and general Hoche, after great exertions, succeeded in quelling the royalists.

30. PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.—The nuptials of these personages did not, from the first, promise domestic felicity; and the princess, after giving birth to a daughter, became the inhabitant of a separate establishment on Blackheath. The final separation took place in this month; just a year after the marriage, and three months after the birth of the princess Charlotte of Wales. The separation was at the instance of the prince, on the ground of incongeniality. In a letter to her royal highness, through the medium of lord Cholmondeley, dated April 30th, he says, "Our inclinations are not in our own power; nor should either be answerable to the other, because nature has not made us *suivable to each other*. Tranquil and comfortable society is, however, in our power; let our intercourse therefore be restricted to that."

May 7. Buonaparte passed the Po at Placentia, defeating two divisions of the Austrians, and striking such terror into the duke of Parma, that he requested an armistice. This was granted, on the condition of a large contribution; the delivering up twenty paintings, to be selected by the French; and sending commissioners to Paris, to treat of peace.

10. Buonaparte, at the head of his victorious republicans, carries, in face of a tremendous fire of artillery, the bridge of Lodi, on the Adda. Five days after, the conqueror entered Milan, the capital of Austrian Lombardy.

CONSPIRACY OF BABEUF.—About this time the power of the Jacobins in France received its death-blow. Although a majority of the directory were originally of this party, they inclined to moderate measures, as more agreeable to the altered feeling of the nation. With this view, the more violent of the Mountainists were gradually removed from public offices, the police, municipality, and military force of Paris. This opened the eyes of the terrorists, who determined to arrest the downward march of their faction, or at least revenge its extinction. Rumours of insurrection were for some weeks afloat; when, on the 9th inst., considerable bodies of

cavalry were stationed in the vicinity of the Luxembourg and the Tuileries, and the streets patrolled. Next day the council of 500 was apprised by the directory of a horrible conspiracy on the eve of bursting forth, and that the conspirators had been arrested. Amongst these persons were Drouet, who had intercepted the flight of Louis XVI. at Varennes; Rossignol, ex-general of La Vendée; Babeuf, the chief contriver of the plot, and a man of fanciful or doubtful principles; Laignelot, an unconventionalist; Darthé; and Buonarroti, an Italian. The last has recently published an account of "Babeuf's Conspiracy for Equality," the importance of which he has greatly exaggerated. Its proceedings were early known to the directory, who suffered it to mature, and even encouraged it, that its authors might be crushed more effectually. Their designs were exactly of the Robespierre school—both atrocious and foolish. Under the pretext of establishing perfect political and civil equality, they purposed the massacre of all existing authorities,—executive, legislative, and municipal; and the establishing a *community of goods*. Believing them to be honest fanatics, government proceeded towards them with lenity: only Babeuf and Darthé suffered; and these, when sentence was pronounced, made an abortive attempt at self-execution, by stabbing themselves.

11. Lemaitre and others tried and acquitted of a conspiracy to kill the king.

15. Peace between Sardinia and France.

17. Louis XVIII. compelled to quit the Venetian territory.

19. Parliament prorogued; and on the 21st dissolved by proclamation.

20. TRIAL OF JOHN REEVES, Esq., chairman of the London Association, came on before lord Kenyon, at Guildhall. The prosecution was instituted at the instance of the house of commons, on account of a pamphlet of Mr. Reeves, from which was read the following nonsense:—"That the government of England was a monarchy; that the monarchy was the ancient stock from which sprung those goodly branches of the legislature, the lords and commons; that these, however, were still only branches, and that they might be lopped off, and the tree be a tree still—shorn indeed of its honours, but not like them, cast into the fire." Reeves was acquitted.

27. Lord Charles Townsend found dead in a post-chaise, in which he had returned from Great Yarmouth, with his brother lord Frederick, who had been chosen representative of that borough. Both had exhibited symptoms of insanity; and, according to the statement of the survivor, a dispute occurred between them on reli-

gion, when lord Charles shot himself with a pistol.

29. At a methodist-meeting in Leeds a beam gave way in a workshop, by which 16 women, a man, and a boy, were instantly killed, and 30 others wounded.

The nobles and clergy of Lombardy, treated with contempt by the French, and incensed at their exactions, stirred up an insurrection, which was promptly suppressed by Buonaparte.

31. Jourdan and Moreau prepared to invade Germany.

June 3. Buonaparte entered Verona; next day he blockaded Mantua. A detachment was sent into the papal territories, and the pope being without the means of defence, was compelled to sue for an armistice, which was granted on condition of surrendering Verona, Ferrara, and Ancona, together with valuable paintings and manuscripts from the Vatican:

11. Sir Ralph Abercromby recaptured the islands of St. Vincent, Grenada, and St. Lucia.

24. Moreau, having passed the Rhine at Strasburg, forced the passes of the Black Forest.

27. Two old houses in Houghton-street, Clare-market, fell, and sixteen persons killed or wounded. Such accidents were of constant occurrence in the metropolis. Most of them have been passed over; but, we should say, that for the fifty years preceding, the falling of houses was as frequent and as destructive, in London, to human life as *fires*.

July 9. A verdict for 100*l.* given against Daniel Stuart, proprietor of the *Morning-Post*, for sending a forged French newspaper, *L'Eclair*, containing false intelligence, to the *Telegraph* office, and which the proprietors of the *Telegraph* inserted as true, by which their paper was discredited.

29. Wurmser, who had advanced through the Tyrol, at the head of an army of veterans, from Germany, and superseded Beau-lieu in the command of the wreck of his army, compelled the French to raise the siege of Mantua.

Aug. 5. Battle of Castiglione, between the lake of Garda and Mantua. After a series of combats on this and the two succeeding days, Buonaparte compelled Wurmser to fall back into the Tyrol.

9. Eiba surrendered to the British, under commodore Nelson.

17. Admiral Elphinstone captured, in Saldanha Bay, a Dutch squadron, intended to recover back the Cape of Good Hope.

22. Jourdan, who had entered Bavaria on its northern border, and greatly alarmed the diet assembled at Ratisbon, was compelled to fall back in consequence of the

junction of the Austrian forces, under Wartenaleben and the archduke Charles.

Sept. 4. A large box brought to the secretary of state's office from Botany Bay, containing a quantity of rope two inches thick, spun by the convicts, and the first specimen of their manufacture.

12. Wurmser, after a series of defeats by Buonaparte, Massena, and Augereau, threw himself into Mantua with the remains of his army. In five days the French had taken 16,000 prisoners.

17. Jourdan crossed the Rhine at Bonn. On the 19th was a severe engagement between part of his army and the Austrians at Altenkirchen, in which affair Marceau, an esteemed French general, was killed. Moreau, who had penetrated into the heart of Germany, finding it impossible to maintain his advanced position after the repulse of Jourdan on his left, began his celebrated retreat from Ingoldstadt on the 10th inst., repassing the Leck, and encamping between Ulm and the lake of Constance.

General WASHINGTON retired from public life, terminating a career which has few equals for genuine patriotism, true wisdom, and solid worth, in an admirable farewell address, in which he forcibly exhorted his countrymen to maintain the unity of their government, to cultivate the arts of peace, abstain from factious combinations, and entangling political alliances with foreign states.

22. *Amphion* frigate blew up at Plymouth. The accident happened at four o'clock, while captain Pellew was at dinner; and he and 15 others were the only survivors out of a crew of 220 men.

Oct. 6. NEW PARLIAMENT opened by the king with a speech, in which he announced his determination of opening a negotiation with France for peace, at the same time adverting to the necessity of increased energy in providing means for resisting the enemy, as an intention was manifested of making a descent on these kingdoms. Addresses being moved of a moderate tone, they passed with little debate and without a division. On taking into consideration the subject of invasion, Mr. Pitt proposed a levy of 15,000 men from the parishes, to be divided between the sea and land service, and a supplementary militia of 60,000 and 20,000 cavalry; not to be immediately called out, but enrolled and trained. These suggestions were not opposed.

8. Spain declared war against Britain.

9. Genoa excludes the English.

10. Naples made peace with France.

13. Moreau, after a retreat of 300 miles in an enemy's country, conducted with great skill and bravery, reached Wald Kirchin, in the Brisgau.

The French formed two new republics in Italy,—the Cisalpine and the Transalpine.

16. Died, in his 71st year, and the 23rd of his reign, Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia.

20. The university of Oxford distributed 2000 copies of the Bible among the French clergy; the marquis of Buckingham also presented 2000 copies, at his own expense, for the same purpose.

22. Lord Malmesbury, the English ambassador, arrived in Paris to treat of peace.

The successes of the French in Italy, under the command of a native of Corsica, caused an insurrection against the British in that island, which ended in compelling them to retire to Elba. It terminated the short-lived English kingdom of Corsica, with its constitution.

26. Habeas Corpus Act suspended in Ireland, and the government begins to arm the yeomanry.

Nov. 2. The French prohibited the import of English manufactures.

5. An invasion from the French being apprehended, a circular was issued by the duke of Portland, secretary of state, to the lieutenants of counties, recommending an account to be taken of the live and dead stock in parishes within twelve miles of the sea.

15, 16. **BATTLE OF ARCOLA**, in which Buonaparte defeated a fresh army of Austrians, under marshal Alvinzi, sent to raise the siege of Mantua. Arcola is a village fifteen miles from Verona, seated in a marsh, and accessible only by a causeway. On this spot the battle lasted two days, and was more obstinately bloody than any that had been fought. It decided the fate of Mantua, Alvinzi leaving it to surrender or not, and retreating across the Brenta.

17. **DEATH OF CATHERINE II.**—The empress died suddenly, of apoplexy, in her 68th year, and 34th of her reign, having in 1762 deposed her husband, Peter III., who was murdered by Alexis Orloff; but whether by the direction or connivance of the empress, is uncertain. The prominent traits in the character of Catherine were a love of sway and of glory, especially the glory of aggrandizing the country she governed, and that with a total recklessness as to the means she employed for effecting her purpose. The empress had early patronised the philosophical principles, but was averse to the practice of the French revolution; and was artful enough to excite other powers to begin the war against France, but never actively joined the coalition. Her private conduct was as unscrupulous as her public, being openly immoral and licentious. Paul Petrovitch, the only son of the empress succeeded to the vacant throne.

Dec. 1. The **LOYALTY LOAN**, of 18 millions, was subscribed in 15 hours, between the 1st and 5th inst. One million was subscribed by the bank of England in their corporate capacity, and 400,000*l.* by the directors individually.

7. In the debate on the **BUDGET** it was discovered that the minister had already made advances to the emperor to the amount of 1,200,000*l.*, and also to the army under the prince of Condé, without the consent, and during the sitting of parliament. A motion by Mr. Fox, on this violation of parliamentary usage, gave rise to a strenuous debate, which called into action the strength of parties. On a division an amendment, in favour of Mr. Pitt, was carried by 185 against 104.

18. A French fleet, with 25,000 men, under general Hoche, sailed, destined for Ireland, but a storm dispersed their ships, so that on the 24th inst. no more than seven sail of the line and ten others, anchored in Bantry Bay. The admiral, Bouvet, refused to land the troops, and sailed back to Brest. The dispersion of this armament quieted the alarm of an invasion of England, which had been strongly apprehended in the latter part of the year.

19. The directory of France refused the basis proposed by lord Malmesbury, of a mutual restitution of conquests; by France in Europe, of the Netherlands and Italy; and by England, of her colonial acquisitions in the East and West Indies.

21. The notorious major Semple, to avoid transportation for his crimes, stabbed himself in Newgate.

25. The emperor Paul set at liberty general Kosciusko and other Polish prisoners.

29. Lord Malmesbury arrived in London, having been ordered to quit Paris in 48 hours.

31. Several persons frozen to death in different parts of the country; the frost was so severe that the thermometer was 34 and 35 degrees below the freezing point.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Anderson, F.R.S., 70, professor of natural philosophy in the university of Glasgow. James Macpherson, 59, author of the poems attributed to Ossian. Peter Paulus, the chief promoter of the revolution in Holland. At Paris, 84, abbé Raynal, the French historian of the West Indies. Samuel Whitbread, 76, the eminent brewer, and supposed to be worth a million at least. Thomas Reid, D.D., 87, professor of moral philosophy in the university of Glasgow, and author of an "Inquiry into the Human Mind." James Fordyce, D.D., 76, author of "Sermons to Young Women." Sir Hugh Palliser, admiral of the white. Emanuel Elam, a quaker merchant of Leeds, who had retired with a fortune of

200,000. At Woolwich, general Broome of the artillery: he had risen from the rank of a private by personal merit. Gerard Hamilton, 69, late Irish secretary, and usually denominated "Single-speech Hamilton." At Botany Bay (March 16), of a deep decline, Mr. Joseph Gerrald, one of the Scottish reformers; and three days after, one of his companions in exile, William Skirving.

APR. 1797. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—In the course of autumn, England was left to contend singly against the power of France. It was the most disastrous period of the war. Credit became affected, and the bank of England stopped payment. Soon after a mutiny broke out at Spithead; this was settled by giving the seamen additional pay. But another mutiny in the fleet at the Nore was not quelled without bloodshed, and the execution of some of the ringleaders. To add to the embarrassments of the country, Ireland was on the verge of rebellion. The dissensions in that kingdom, inflamed by a variety of aggravations, had proceeded so far, that the malcontents, who assumed the name of UNITED IRISHMEN, regularly organized themselves throughout the country, and sent deputies to treat with the French, for assistance in throwing off the English yoke. On the other side, the party attached to government put in practice strong measures. The military were dispersed into all parts, searches were made for arms with circumstances of great severity, and many persons were apprehended on suspicion. The moderate party in the Irish parliament, who proposed conciliation by a reform in the representation, finding themselves in a small minority, made a secession. The example was followed by the whigs in England.

Jan. 3. Three of the stones of the antique pile of Stonehenge fell, owing, as supposed, to the thaw. The smallest of the three weighed 20 tons.

Paul of Russia enjoined foreigners to wear cocked-hats and their hair in bags, and not to drive through Petersburg with more than two horses.

7. Riot at Carlisle, occasioned by the enrolment of the supplementary militia.

12. General Alvinzi, with a fresh army of 50,000 men, made another effort to raise the siege of Mantua. Passing the Brenta, he fell upon Joubert, who retreated to Rivoli. Buonaparte unexpectedly arriving at Rivoli, in the night of the 14th, a terrible conflict ensued, in which the Austrians were completely defeated, and the entire of their left wing either killed or made prisoners. General Provera, separating from the main body of the Austrians, tried to throw himself into Mantua, but

was repulsed in the suburb of La Favorite, and, with his column of 7000 men, laid down their arms to general Victor.

25. At the quarter-sessions held at Bourn in Lincolnshire, a blacksmith was sentenced to twelve months' solitary imprisonment, without seeing or speaking to any one, except the person who took his victuals, for saying "the king is a rascal, and all who belong to him," &c.

Feb. 1. Colonel Frederick, son of Theodore, ex-king of Corsica, shot himself in the west porch of Westminster-abbey.

2. Mantua capitulated to the French, Buonaparte granting very honourable terms to its brave defender, the venerable Wurmsler. The imperialists were now expelled from Italy; and the pope having imprudently resumed hostilities, his territories were speedily overrun by the republicans, who levied upon him a contribution of 30 millions of livres in specie, beside works of art.

8. Mr. Adams elected president of the United States; and Mr. Jefferson, vice-president.

10. The French, under Marmont, entered Loretto, taking possession of the rich offerings of gold and silver; also the *Santa Casa*, or "Holy House," alleged to be the same in which the Virgin Mary was brought from Nazareth by angels, in 1291. The "Madonna," or "Lady of Loretto," was forwarded to Paris. It is a wooden figure, clumsily carved, and was restored to the pope at the time of the *Concordat*, who replaced it in the *Casa Santa*.

The six original pictures of Hogarth's "Marriage à la Mode" sold to Mr. Angerstein for 1000 guineas.

14. **NAVAL VICTORY.**—Sir John Jervis, with fifteen sail of the line, defeated the Spaniards, off Cape St. Vincent, with twenty-seven sail of the line. Amongst them were six of 112 guns, and one of 136. Four first-rate Spanish men-of-war were captured, and the remainder blockaded in Cadiz. The Spaniards had 600 killed and wounded; the British, 300. For this brilliant exploit sir John was raised to the peerage, and commodore Nelson, who greatly distinguished himself in the action, was knighted.

18. Trinidad surrendered to sir R. Abercromby.

19. Died, in his 74th year, JAMES DODDLEY, bookseller; brother, partner, and successor of the ingenious Robert Dodsley. Their father kept the free-school at Mansfield, and married a young woman of 17 at the age of 75, by whom he had a child at the age of 78.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxxix., 12. Mr. J. Dodsley sold 18,000 copies of Burke's "Reflections on the French Revolution," to whom he made a handsome compliment for

the profits. Mr. Dodsley died worth 70,000*l.*, which chiefly went to his nephews and nieces, and his executors, one of whom was Mr. John Walter, who had been his brother's apprentice.

20. There being a great run on the banks in the north of England for specie, most of them stopped payment.

22. DESCENT IN WALES.—About 1400 Frenchmen landed in Pembrokeshire: they had no artillery; and from their ragged and mean appearance, seemed to have long been the inmates of jails. Lord Cawdor having assembled the country people, armed with scythes and pitchforks, the invaders surrendered to them without offering any resistance. This notable attempt at invasion, and its defeat, were communicated, in due form, by the duke of Portland to the lord-mayor.

26. RESTRICTION ON BANK PAYMENTS.—The suspension of specie payments by this great monetary corporation originated in political causes, not in an over-issue of paper, or other mismanagement of the direction. In the beginning of the year the public funds experienced a depression below anything of the kind felt at the worst period of the American war. This was occasioned by the failure of lord Malinesbury's pacific mission to Paris, and the adverse aspect of the war, in consequence of the victories of the French in Italy. To support the emperor, enormous loans were sent to the continent, the transmission of which had caused the exchanges to become unfavourable in 1795; and in that year and the following, large sums in specie were drawn from the bank. The directors were sensible of their approaching difficulties, owing to the government remittances; and as early as the 11th of February, 1796, resolved—"That it is the opinion of this court, founded upon the experience of the late imperial loan, that if any further loan or advance of money to the emperor, or to any of the foreign states, should in the present state of affairs take place, it will, in all probability, prove fatal to the bank of England. The court of directors do, therefore, most earnestly deprecate the adoption of any such measure, and they solemnly protest against any responsibility for the calamitous consequences that may follow thereupon." But notwithstanding this, and many other similar remonstrances, fresh advances of money were made to our allies, and fresh demands upon the bank; the directors reluctantly abandoning their own better judgment to what they truly termed the "pressing solicitations" of the chancellor of the exchequer, and their desire to avert "the probable distress which a refusal might occasion, in the then situation of public affairs." But

though the foreign policy of ministers aggravated the difficulties of the bank, the more direct cause of them was the alarm of invasion. The formidable attempt of the French on Ireland last year, and their actual descent in Wales this, combined with rumours of their landing on various parts of the coast, caused general apprehension, and a run was made on the provincial banks. Some of them failed; and the panic becoming general, extended itself to London. Demands for cash poured into the bank from all quarters; and on Saturday, the 25th instant, she had only 1,272,000*l.* of cash and bullion in her coffers (*McCulloch's Historical Sketch of the Bank*, p. 22), with every prospect of a violent run taking place on the following Monday. In this emergency an order in council was issued on Sunday the 26th, prohibiting the directors from paying their notes in cash until the sense of parliament had been taken on the subject. Next day the occurrence was communicated to parliament in a royal message, and on the 28th, after violent debates, a secret committee was nominated by ballot to investigate the affairs of the company. On the report of the committee appearing (March 2nd), whatever doubts might have been entertained with respect to the solvency of the bank, were removed by showing that at the moment the order in council was issued, the bank was possessed of property to the amount of 15,513,690*l.* after all claims upon her had been deducted. Previously to this inquiry there does not appear to have been any misgivings among the commercial classes; for on the very first day of the restriction, a meeting of the principal bankers, merchants, and traders was held at the Mansion-house, when a resolution was agreed to, and very numerous signed, pledging, as had been done in 1745, those present to accept, and to use every means in their power to cause bank-notes to be accepted as cash in all transactions. Ultimately a bill was brought into parliament, continuing the restriction on cash payments till six months after the signature of a definitive treaty of peace. The embarrassments of the bank having been chiefly caused by the policy of government, it had some claims on its protection, and its intervention in the existing emergency appears to have been an unavoidable expedient. So long as the alarm of invasion continued, it was clear that no bank paper, immediately convertible into gold, would remain in circulation. But after her coffers had been drained by imperial loans, she was wholly unable to meet such a run. On the day of the restriction, it has been seen, her supply of cash and bullion was reduced to 1,272,000*l.*, while

her notes in circulation, of 5*l.* and upwards (the only denominations then issued), amounted to 10,266,561*l.* So that without ministerial protection a stoppage of payment was inevitable; and this, in the then critical state of the country, would have been productive of indescribable calamities.

Mar. 4. Twenty-shilling notes issued for the first time by the bank of England.

On Thursday, sir Godfrey Webster obtained a sentence of divorce and separation against his wife, formerly Miss Vassal, for adultery with lord Holland, in Italy and elsewhere. Sir Godfrey obtained 6000*l.* damages against his lordship, who immediately after the divorce married lady Webster, her ladyship having first had a child, which she acknowledged to be lord Holland's.

8. A public fast-day.

10. Spanish dollars issued by the bank, at 4*s. 9d.* each.

11. Ladies Buckinghamshire, Luttrell, and Stuart convicted, in penalties of 50*l.* each, for playing at faro. Two discharged servants informed of them.

16. Buonaparte passed the Tagliamento in pursuit of the retreating Austrians, now commanded by the archduke Charles. Arriving at the Lisonzo, he encountered opposition; but having effected a passage, took Gradisca; next made himself master of Gorizia; and finally, of Trieste, the emperor's only port on the Adriatic. Massena, Joubert, and Bernadotte were simultaneously advancing on other points, through Carinthia, the Tyrol, and Carniola. The greatest alarm prevailed at Vienna, which was the avowed focus of the French armies. All the French columns having joined at Clagenfurth, on the 31st, Buonaparte wrote a letter to the archduke Charles, making overtures of peace. The archduke, in reply, stated that the emperor had not furnished him with powers to treat for peace.

23. A common-hall in the city of London, to address the king to dismiss his ministers. A meeting had previously been held in Palace-yard, Westminster, for a similar purpose.

24. The king refused to receive the address of the city of London on the throne, except in its corporate capacity, but he would receive it at the levee, in the usual way of receiving addresses.

A riot at Derby, occasioned by Mr. Thelwall delivering a political lecture in the Baptist-chapel. A mob collected, with drums and horns, to drown his voice. The lecturer, with pistol in hand, threatened to shoot whoever molested him; and in consequence was suffered to depart without injury.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxxix. 15.

Apr. 3. According to a return to the house of commons, the number of aliens in the metropolis is 7041.

7. The Austrian general Bellegarde requested an armistice for ten days, which Buonaparte granted. He was within 120 miles of Vienna, and had written to the directory that "he hoped in a few days, at the head of 20,000 grenadiers, to plant the republican standard in the capital of his imperial majesty."

9. John Gale Jones, the itinerant delegate of the London Corresponding Society, found guilty at Warwick, under the late act against seditious assemblies. It was the first conviction under the statute.

10. Miss Farren, in the "School for Scandal," took leave of the stage previous to her marriage with the earl of Derby.

18. PEACE WITH AUSTRIA.—Preliminaries of peace between France and Austria were signed at Leoben, in Styria. By this treaty Austria ceded the Netherlands to France, allowed a free navigation of the Rhine, and recognised the independence of the newly erected Italian republics. On the same day, general Hoche, commanding the army of the Sambre and Meuse, passed the Rhine at Nieuwied, and defeated the Austrians under general Kray. Next day Moreau recaptured Kehl, and defeated the Austrians, in a bloody engagement, near Strasburg. Intelligence of the peace of Leoben did not arrive till the 21st, when hostilities on the Rhine ceased.

MUTINIES IN THE NAVY.—In this and the two following months some alarming discontents manifested themselves in the navy, occasioned by the severity of the discipline, insufficiency of the provisions, unequal distribution of prize-money, smallness of pay, and the allowance of Greenwich pensioners.—(*Annual Register*, xxxix., 207.) These discontents first broke out into open mutiny in the fleet at Spithead, on the 15th, when, on the signal being given to prepare for sea, the men ran up the shrouds, and gave three cheers. Two delegates from each ship were appointed, and an oath administered, binding each seaman to fidelity to the cause. At length lord Bridport went on board, and told them that he was the bearer of redress for all their grievances, and the king's pardon. This produced subordination, which continued for some time, when a fresh mutiny occurred, under an apprehension amongst the sailors that the promises made to them would not be observed. This suspicion being, however, removed by an explanation from lord Hood, they were again reduced to submission. On the 8th of May a bill passed through both houses of parliament in one day, for augmenting the pay of the seamen and marines. This

guarantee and concession, it was hoped, would have satisfied all reasonable demands of the discontented; but unfortunately they were obtained by force, and the same means, it was supposed, remained open for other acquisitions. A fresh mutiny, in consequence, broke out at the Nora on the 22nd, when delegates were elected to draw up and present a list of their grievances to the board of admiralty. In this instance government determined to employ force to reduce the mutineers to obedience, in which determination they were strengthened by the discountenance shown by the Portsmouth and Plymouth fleets to these proceedings. Preparations for hostilities were commenced on both sides, when the disaffected began to disagree amongst themselves, and after some bloodshed, all the ships submitted, giving up Richard Parker, the ringleader, and his fellow-delegates.

May 3. INVASION OF VENICE.—Buonaparte issued a manifesto against the Venetians, complaining of the enmity shown to the French during the war with the imperialists. Immediately after their territory was overrun by French troops, who on the 16th entered Venice, subverted the government, and established another on a more democratic basis. About the same time Genoa was revolutionized on a similar principle, Buonaparte informing the aristocracy that it was in vain to oppose the spirit of the age.

MORTALITY OF FOUNDLINGS.—At a meeting of a committee of the Foundling-hospital, London, on the 3rd instant, Mr. Bernard stated, in answer to sir John Blaquiere, that there had been admitted into the institution, since the year 1770, 1684 children, of whom 482 had died under the age of twelve months; being rather more than one in four. But the management had recently been improved: in the last ten years the average mortality had been reduced to one in six; and in the last four years, to one in seven.

14. The Irish house of lords made an alarming report of the preparations for a general insurrection.

15. Mr. W. Ponsoby moved, in the Irish house of commons, for a reform in that house, which was negatived by 117 to 30. Upon which Mr. Grattan and the leaders of opposition seceded from parliament.

30. Kosciusko, the Polish hero, arrived in London, on his way to America.

June 1. England being left alone in the contest with France, intimated to the directory a desire to renew the negotiation for peace.

IRISH ABSENTEES.—The following are the yearly rentals of the Irish estates (*Ann. Reg.* for 1797, p. 31) belonging to

noblemen who generally reside in England:—Marquis Donegal, 48,000*l.*; marquis Downshire, 24,000*l.*; marquis Hertford, 15,000*l.*; marquis Lansdowne, 13,500*l.*; duke of Devonshire, 11,000*l.*; earl Fitzwilliam, 9000*l.*; earl of Barrymore, 7500*l.*; viscount Montmorres, 5000*l.*; viscount Downe, 7000*l.*

21. Died PETER THALLUSON, a rich city merchant, remarkable for the eccentric will he made, and which gave rise to an act of parliament limiting executory devises (*Cabinet Lawyer*, 10th ed., p. 535). After bequeathing some inconsiderable legacies to his three sons, the rest of his property, consisting of lands of the annual value of 4500*l.*, and 600,000*l.* personal property, was vested in trustees, to accumulate, subject to contingent appropriations, for the payment of the national debt.

24. At a meeting of the Livery of London for the election of sheriffs, the earl of Lauderdale, citizen and needle-maker, was brought forward by the popular party as one of the candidates. The show of hands was against his lordship. It was an unusually numerous and respectable meeting, and considered a trial of political strength.

A royal warrant granted to Bolton, of Soho, Birmingham, to coin penny and twopenny-pieces.

30. Richard Parker, the mutineer, executed on board the *Sandwich*, at Sheerness. He behaved with firmness and propriety, expressing a wish that his death might be deemed a sufficient atonement, and the lives of others be saved. Parker was a native of Scotland, where he had been a shopkeeper, but getting into debt, had, two years before, volunteered into the navy.

July. Lord Malmesbury arrived at Lisle as minister-plenipotentiary, to treat with the French Republic for peace; the hon. Henry Wellesley his secretary.

8. DEATH OF EDMUND BURKE.—This eminent orator, writer, and politician was the younger son of an attorney, and educated at Dublin-college, in which city he was born, January 1, 1730. Not succeeding in an application for the professorship of logic at Glasgow, he settled in London, where he sought subsistence and distinction in the occupations of literature. His first acknowledged production was an ironical "Vindication of Natural Society," published in 1758. In the same year appeared the first volume of the "Annual Register," of which he was the projector and compiler, receiving for his services 100*l.*,—the receipts being still extant (*Prior's Life of Burke*, p. 61). His connexion with this work was long continued, but in the latter volumes Mr. Burke confined himself to the historical part, and afterwards only to a supervision of that. In

1761 he accompanied Gerald Hamilton, the secretary to the lord-lieutenant, to Ireland, and by his influence obtained a pension of 300*l.* a year on the Irish establishment. This appears to have been Mr. Burke's first introduction into public life. On his return, in 1765, he became private secretary to the marquis of Rockingham, then first lord of the treasury, and through the same interest, M.P. for Wendover. He was now a regular party-man, devoting his pen and his tongue to the support of his patron, from whom he received a nominal loan, but real gift, of 10,000*l.* This enabled him to purchase his Beaconsfield villa, and for which he showed his gratitude, by composing the well-known tribute, inscribed on the mausoleum of his noble benefactor in Wentworth-park. In 1770 appeared his "Thoughts on the Present Discontents;" a pamphlet abounding in constitutional sentiments, but more valuable as a specimen of the petty objects to which public writers were then devoted, being chiefly directed against the influence of an "inner cabinet"—that never existed—hostile not to the people, but to aristocratical domination; and for which the suggested remedy was the placing political power in the hands of himself and friends. In the disputes with the American colonies, Mr. Burke recommended a medium course, that concession should be blended with coercion. He also expressed himself favourably towards the liberty of the press, the rights of juries, and religious toleration. His bill for the economical reform of the royal household raised him high in popular estimation, and drew from his intellectual stores a rich display of antiquarianism, wit, humour, and financial detail. But his parliamentary consequence declined after the ruin of his party by the coalition with lord North, which he projected, and his oligarchical scheme of Indian administration; errors which were not redeemed by the want of judgment, temper, and equity he evinced in the impeachment of Warren Hastings. After the establishment of Mr. Pitt's ministry, in 1783, the "luxuriant expatiations" of the orator were listened to with impatience in the house of commons. They were considered interruptions to public business, and were met, says *The Annual Register*, vol. xi., p. 336, with "coughing, beating the ground, and hooting." Naturally irritable, these annoyances often drove him into the most outrageous fits of passion. He did not recover his ascendancy till the French Revolution, when he again burst forth with greater force and effulgence than ever, both as writer and speaker. There does not appear to have been a direct apostacy in the part Mr. Burke took in this great crisis.

He had advocated constitutional liberty and the removal of proved abuses, but he was never the partisan of organic changes in church or state. Parliamentary reform he had uniformly opposed, and the scruples of Dissent he reluctantly indulged. George III. was a great admirer of his celebrated "Reflections," and recommended to all the courtiers who came near him to read them. In 1795 he received a pension of 1200*l.* on the civil-list, and 2500*l.* on the 4*th* per cent. fund; and to which it is said a peerage would have been annexed, had not the boon become valueless by the death of his son. These visitations of good and evil he seems not to have long survived. Mr. Burke's mind was of Irish texture; more apt to become enamoured of outward seemings than realities; more imaginative than logical; more impulsive than considerate; more descriptive than discriminating. He had seen Marie Antoinette a vision of grace and beauty, therefore France was well governed, and the people happy. He rose to affluence in England in the alternate championship of the rival factions; found her the emporium of wealth, of letters, and public charities, therefore her political administration had been wise and beneficent. It was a remarkable instance of the juncture of extremes that two nations should be contemporaneously led away by two minds not unlike in extravagance, force, originality, and eloquence, but wholly opposite in their conclusions. Rousseau was the apostle of abstraction; Burke, of prescription. One sought the type of social excellence in the simplicity of villages, in fields, and woods; the other, in the refinement of cities, in halls, cathedrals, and palaces. Their convictions, as men of strong passions are apt to be, were moulded by taste more than reason. Amidst much abasement, they both retained what from Nature they had received,—

"Intense and glowing minds."

July 15. The exiled French clergy permitted to return to France on taking the oaths to the constitution.

20. Parliamentary session closed.

24. Admiral Nelson, acting on fallacious intelligence, made an unsuccessful attack on Santa Cruz, in the island of Teneriffe. The loss of lives in this rash attempt was equal to that sustained in the battle off Cape St. Vincent. Nelson himself had his arm shot off, and several valuable officers were killed or wounded.

28. The London Corresponding Society held a meeting in Pancras, to petition the king; but their proceedings were interrupted by the magistrates, who read the Riot Act, and arrested Alexander Galloway, Binns, Hodgson, and other speakers.

Aug. 30. At Leeds, the Methodist conference resolved that any member of their connexion should be ejected who propagated opinions inimical to the established religion and government.

Sept. 1. Buonaparte procures the liberation of Lafayette and fellow-sufferers, imprisoned in the castle of Olmutz.

4. ARRESTS IN PARIS.—The executive government of France found itself hardly able to make head against the plots of anarchists and royalists, and recommended that on the annual renewal of one-third of the legislature, the electors should take a new oath of fidelity to the constitution. Among the new members who took their seats were some of the ancient noblesse, the Jacobin Barrère, and general Pichegru, who was suspected of a design to restore the Bourbons. In the directory Latourneur went out by lot, and was replaced by Barthelemi, a diplomatist and a man of letters. More favour now began to be shown to the emigrants and nonjuring priests, and the severe decrees against them were relaxed. Buonaparte, however, adhered firmly to the directory; and on the anniversary of July 14th, he addressed his army, informing them that counter-revolutionary projects were in agitation, and urged them to be true to that republican cause in which they had shed so much blood. To this appeal the soldiers responded with alacrity. Animated by the support of the military, a majority of the directory determined at once to crush their political opponents. Early in the morning of the 4th inst. the alarm-guns were fired by order of the directory. Barthelemi, refusing to concur, was put under arrest; Carnot effected his escape. Commissioned by Barras, Reubel, and Lareveilliere, general Augereau surrounded the hall of the legislative councils with a military force, and, entering, found the opposition members in consultation upon the course to be pursued. With his own hand he seized general Pichegru, and ordered eighteen others of the members to be arrested on a charge of treason. These were committed to the Temple, and the hall shut up. A committee of public safety was then nominated, whose resolutions were adopted by the council of 500. New decrees repealed the laws in favour of the royalists and emigrants, placed the public journals under the inspection of the police, and sentenced to deportation fifty-five members of the two councils. It is a signal proof of a change of national feeling in these acts of violence, that *not one drop of blood was shed*. The two vacancies in the directory were filled by Merlin and François de Neufchateau.

6. Between this day and July 19th sir J. B. Warren captured seven French

ships of war and sixteen merchant vessels.

9. Three men suffocated by the carbonic acid gas in one of Meux's vats, having descended without the previous precaution of letting down a lighted candle.

10. Died in childbed, Mrs. Godwin, a woman of uncommon talents, and considerable knowledge; well known by her literary works, under her original name of Wollstonecraft, particularly by her "Vindication of the Rights of Women."

18. Negotiations at Lisle abruptly terminated, and lord Malmesbury ordered to leave the place in 24 hours. The French had refused to treat on the basis of reciprocal restitution; and doubtless assumed their present arrogance in consequence of their late conquests, and a secret knowledge of the rebellion organizing in Ireland.

27. The bank withdrew their dollars owing to the number of counterfeits in circulation.

Oct. 4. Earl of Mornington appointed governor-general of Bengal.

A mutiny broke out in the fleet at the Cape of Good Hope, which subsided in consequence of a communication made to them that the demands of the seamen at Spithead had been complied with.

11. Admiral Duncan attacked the Dutch fleet off Camperdown, commanded by admiral De Winter, and, after a severe engagement, captured eight Dutch ships, including those of the admiral and vice-admiral, and four frigates; only three Dutch ships of the line escaped. For this brilliant victory Duncan was raised to the peerage, with an hereditary pension.

13. Sir B. Hammet fined 1000*l.* for refusing to serve the office of lord-mayor.

17. Definitive treaty of peace signed at Campo Formio, between Austria and France, agreeably to the preliminaries settled at Leoben, the emperor being compensated for the loss of Belgium by the cession of Venice. By a secret article, Austria consented that the Rhine should be the boundary between France and Germany.

THEOPHILANTHROPISTS.—A new sect appeared at Paris under this name, of which Lareveilliere, one of the directors, declared himself the patron. These religionists, rejecting revelation, confined their worship to one Supreme Being; and gradually increasing in number, they at length took possession, by permission of the municipality, of many of the churches, occupied also at other hours of the day by the catholics. In lieu of the mystic and sumptuous rites of the Roman church, their offerings to the Deity were the simple products of the earth,—a wheaten ear, or a bouquet of flowers!

Nov. 2. BRITISH PARLIAMENT met. The principal topics of the royal speech were the failure of the negotiations for peace, the prosperous state of the revenue, naval successes, and the necessity of increased exertions in the prosecution of the war. The address was carried with more than the usual preponderancy of votes. Grey, Whitbread, Sheridan, and Fox, wearied by fruitless opposition, had seceded from parliament. Mr. Wilberforce said he did not participate in the "poignant grief expressed for the absence of Mr. Fox;" uninfluenced by "motives of personal ambition, he felt it more imperative upon him, in the critical state of the country, to stand more firmly at his post."—*Beth. Geo III.*, vi. 201.

10. Died, of dropsy, in the 54th year of his age, after a reign of eleven years, **FREDERICK WILLIAM II.**, king of Prussia. He was succeeded by his son Frederick William III. Like his predecessor, the late king was influenced by ambition, and was little scrupulous about the means of its indulgence; traits of character manifested by the partition of Poland, the treaty of Pilnitz, and desertion of the coalition after receiving the English subsidy as the price of his continued co-operation.

Dec. 1. Mr. Fox presented to the king, at the levee, a petition from 5000 freeholders of the county of Down, complaining of Irish grievances.

2. Gold seven shilling-pieces ordered to be received as the current coin of the realm.

12. Colonel Fitzgerald, who was allied to the earl of Kingston, and shared his hospitality, having seduced, under aggravated circumstances, the daughter of that nobleman, fell, in a scuffle, a victim to his lordship's natural and just resentment.

19. General thanksgiving for our naval victories. The king and parliament went in grand procession to St. Paul's, to deposit the colours taken.

26. **DEATH OF JOHN WILKES, F.R.S.**—This once popular agitator expired in his 73rd year, at the house of his accomplished daughter "Polly," in Grosvenor-square, alderman of Farringdon Without, and chamberlain of London. Mr. Wilkes had long considered himself a "fire burnt out." Whatever may have been his motives, his exertions and intrepidity added legal security to the liberties of Englishmen. According to one of his contemporaries (*Butler's Reminiscences*, 73-4), Wilkes was an "elegant epicurean; in his politics an aristocrat, and would have much rather been a favoured courtier at Versailles than the most commanding orator in St. Stephen's chapel." He possessed, however, something more than the vapour of patriotism: he could resist corruption, attack and

overcome tyranny, and banishment. His ready wit was proverbial, and he never missed the opportunity of being jocular at the expense of his colleagues. Sometimes he would disconcert the gravity of a city feast by his satire; and when he told alderman Burnell (formerly a bricklayer), who seemed to be unable to manage a knife in the simple operation of cutting a pudding, "that he had better take his trowel to it," he set the whole corporation in a roar.

28. Insurrection at Rome; the French ambassador, general Duphot, killed, in endeavouring to prevent the pope's soldiers from firing on the people.

USEFUL PREMIUM.—Count Rumford gave 1000*l.* 3 per cent. annuities, the interest of which is to be disposed of every other year, to the person who shall communicate any discovery on heat and light. The preference to be given to such discovery that tends most to promote the good of mankind; and to be determined by the council of the Royal Society.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.—The total number of persons paying assessed taxes was 791,802; of which number, 190,122 paid under 6*s.*—*Ann. Reg.* for 1797, p. 159.

The gold and silver coined in the reign of George II. was 11,966,576*l.*; in the present reign, up to 1797, the amount was 44,111,817*l.* About 40 millions of specie were supposed to be at present in circulation.—*Ibid.* 57.

The number of emigrant French clergy supported by government was 5000; of lay-persons, 2950.

The British naval force in commission in January was, of ships of the line, 124; fifty guns, 18; frigates, 180; sloops, 184: total, 506. There were building, 22 ships of the line, 3 fifties, and 9 frigates.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Miss Addison, 79, the daughter of the author of the "Spectator." Horace Walpole, earl of Orford, 80, author of the "Castle of Otranto," &c. William Mason, author of "Elfrida," "The English Garden," &c. Charles Macklin, comedian, 98, the father of the stage. James Petit Andrews, F.A.S., author of "Continuation of Henry's History of Great Britain." General Hoche, 30, a successful French general, and one of the many officers of the republican armies who owed his promotion to merit and the discernment of Carnot. William Enfield, LL.D., 57, author of several useful elementary works. Jeffrey, lord Amherst, 81, field-marshal in the army. In Virginia, Thomas Palmer, esq., who, among other bequests, left the reversion of 150*l.* to the author of the best essay on the "Cruel and Absurd Practice of War." Robert Burns, 37, "The Ayrshire poet" and emi-

nently popular for the originality, humour, and pathos of his writings.

A. D. 1798. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—The breaking out and suppression of the Irish rebellion, took the lead in domestic events. Strenuous exertions were made by the minister to raise the supplies, now swelled to an enormous amount, within the year, by tripling the assessed taxes, and a tax on income. In France the government continued unsettled, being assailed on opposite sides by the machinations of the Royalists and Jacobins, both inveterately hostile; but the Revolution had ceased to be sanguinary. National enthusiasm had now taken the direction of martial glory, which was sought to be indulged in the aggressive subjugation of Switzerland, and a romantic expedition to the East. It was on the military and the great body of the people the directory mainly relied for support: the former was conciliated by meritorious rewards, by brigandage and conquests; the latter, by constantly exposing to sale the estates of the church and nobility, which enabled the industrious to become proprietors of land, and identified in interest with their rulers. Having no enemy on their hands after the peace of Campo Formio, but Britain, the old threat of invasion was revived. A number of troops was assembled on the opposite coast, and transports collected in the harbours of the Channel. All this by many was thought as it turned out to be, mere gasconade, yet the most active measures were pursued to repel the threatened attack. Besides a large addition made to the militia, every county was directed to raise bodies of irregular cavalry from the yeomanry; and almost every town and considerable village had its corps of volunteers trained and armed. The island never before was in such a formidable state of internal defence. Party differences were suspended as to the essential point of resisting the enemy; a warlike spirit was generally diffused through the nation, which was further excited by splendid naval victories. Commerce was highly prosperous, which with a harvest unusually abundant, entirely dispelled the gloom that hung over the country in the past year.

Jan. 1. Silver tokens, 5s. each, issued by the bank of England.

4. The debate on trebling the assessed taxes, which had continued several days in the house of commons, terminated, and the question carried by 202 against 129. Mr. Fox said, though he wished for a reform of parliament, he had no idea of obtaining it, but by the organ and through the means of parliament.—(*Ann. Reg.*, xl. 202.) A new phrase seems to have been first used in this debate; Mr. Pitt accusing the opposition

of an intention to obstruct the supplies, till "they had obtained a *radical reform* of parliament to an indefinite extent."

7. General Menard entered Switzerland; the French directory, intoxicated by success, determined to revolutionise the cantons on the plan of the French republic.

13. Lord Camelford deliberately shot dead lieut. Peterson; in the naval yard at Antigua, about a disputed point of rank; and a court-martial deeming the conduct of the officer mutinous, his lordship was *honourably* acquitted.

24. At the Crown and Anchor 2000 persons met to celebrate the birth-day of Mr. Fox. The duke of Norfolk in the chair, supported by the duke of Bedford, earls Lauderdale and Oxford, Sheridan, Tierney, Erskine, capt. Morris, and Horne Tooke; the latter became reconciled to Mr. Fox by the explanation Mr. Fox gave of his sentiments on parliamentary reform. The chairman gave as a toast, "Our sovereign's health, the majesty of the people." For this and other sentiments promulgated at the meeting, his grace was dismissed from the lord-lieutenancy of the west riding of Yorkshire, and removed from his regiment of militia.

Feb. 6. The proprietors of the bank of England subscribed 200,000*l.* towards the defence of the country threatened with invasion. It was the commencement of a voluntary subscription for the support of the war, by which a million and a half was raised. On the 9th, a meeting of bankers and merchants was held in the square of the Royal Exchange, when 46,534*l.* was subscribed on the hustings, by 218 subscribers only; Mr. Bosanquet and alderman Curtis were the chief speakers. The king subscribed 20,000*l.* and the queen 5000*l.* Mr. Boyd subscribed 3000*l.*, and the firm of Peel and Yates cotton-manufacturers of Lancashire, 10,000*l.*; the court of common council of London subscribed 10,000*l.*

12. Died at Petersburg of apoplexy, in his 66th year, Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski, late king of Poland. Having died a deposed monarch, no court mourning took place for his death; though there was one for Louis XVI. of France, who was deposed before he was beheaded.

19. REBELLION IN IRELAND.—Earl Moira moved unsuccessfully in the Irish house of lords an address to the lord lieutenant, beseeching him to adopt conciliatory measures for allaying the discontents in Ireland. His lordship dwelt upon the flogging, picketting, half-hanging, and other acts of torture that had been resorted to, in order to extort confession from persons against whom no legal evidence existed. These cruelties, and the knowledge that

their plans had been discovered by government, determined the malcontents no longer to delay an appeal to arms. A general insurrection was determined upon, in which the castles of Dublin, the camp near it, and the artillery barracks, were to be surprised in one night, and other places were to be seized at the same moment. The disclosure of the plot by one of the conspirators occasioned the seizure of fourteen of the delegates at Dublin; and the information of Armstrong, a militia officer, who had entered among them as a spy, produced other discoveries which entirely defeated this design. Nothing therefore was left but open force, to which they shortly after resorted.

23. The French under Berthier having deprived the pope of his temporal authority, his holiness withdrew to Sienna.

Mar. 1. At Margate were apprehended on suspicion of holding a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, Arthur O'Connor, proprietor of a Dublin newspaper; Binns, an active member of the London Corresponding Society; O'Coigley, a priest; Leary and Allen: they were brought to London and committed to the Tower.

12. The Irish directory arrested at the house of Oliver Bond, on the information of Reynolds a spy.

13. A hair-dresser at Newport, Monmouthshire, ate and drank to such excess, as to occasion his death; on a coroner's inquest being held on the body, the jury brought in a verdict of *felo de se*, and the remains of the glutton were buried in the public road.

25. Lord Somerville chosen president of the Board of Agriculture, in opposition to sir John Sinclair.

The total amount of the St. Jago, Spanish prize, was 555,000*l.*; out of which admiral Gell and the other flag officers shared 52,000*l.* each; the several captains 26,000*l.*; and the subaltern officers in proportion: the law expenses amounted to 28,000*l.*, leaving 148,000*l.* in the agents' hands, to defray any other contingent demands.

30. The celebrated Didot the French printer, with a German named Herman, have announced a new invention in printing, which they term *stereotype*.—*Ann. Reg. 22.*

Apr. 2. LAND TAX REDEMPTION.—Mr. Pitt introduced his plan for supporting public credit, and augmenting the national resources. It consisted of a scheme for making the land-tax, which had hitherto been annual, perpetual, and allowing the owner of the land to redeem his land-tax, at a price regulated by the current price of the three per cents. The ministerial project became law, but it never realised the expectation of its author. At this period

the produce of the tax at 4*s.* was 2,037,627*l.*, and it was calculated, that by the sale of this amount, 66 millions of the public debt might be cancelled. But not one half of the land-tax has yet been redeemed.

4. Messrs. Mellish, Bosauquet, and Pole, merchants of the city, were stopped by three highwaymen, on Hounslow-heath: after robbing them, without resistance, of their money and watches, one of the robbers wantonly fired into the chaise, and mortally wounded Mr. Mellish.

The duke of York appointed commander-in-chief of all the forces.

10. Bernadotte, the French ambassador at Vienna, in obedience to the orders of the directory, caused the tri-coloured flag to be displayed in triumph at his hotel, which so incensed the populace that they tore it down: upon this Bernadotte wrote a haughty note to the emperor demanding satisfaction, which being refused, he abruptly left the city.

20. The executive committee of the London Corresponding Society arrested with their books and papers, in an old building, in Newcastle-street, Strand.

Died, aged 31, of a decline, Mr. Jenkins the tall bank clerk: his outer coffin measured eight feet in length, and he was buried by permission of the directors in the ground inside the Bank, which was formerly the burial ground of St. Christopher's church. Some surgeons had offered upwards of 200 guineas for his corpse.

The bishop of Derry (earl of Bristol) arrested in Italy, on suspicion of being a spy.

May 12. Sir Sidney Smith escaped from France, after an imprisonment of two years.

19. EXPEDITION TO OSTEND.—Intelligence having been received that a number of transports fitting out at Flushing were intended to be sent round by the canals to Ostend and Dunkirk, for the purpose of invading England, an expedition was despatched to destroy the sluices and basin of the Bruges canal at Ostend. The direction of the enterprize was entrusted to general Coote and captain Home Popham. On the 19th the troops were disembarked, and in a few hours the sluices were blown up, and several vessels in the canal destroyed. But on returning to the beach, the wind and surf were so high, that it was impossible to re-embark. Meanwhile the country being alarmed, the enemy advanced upon them with a superior force, and the British, after a spirited resistance, were compelled to capitulate. The number landed was about 1000, of whom more than 100 were killed or wounded; among them general Coote.

20. EXPEDITION TO EGYPT.—A formidable expedition had long been preparing

at Tonlop, which had been the subject of various conjectures. It consisted of 13 ships of the line, and 200 transports, carrying 28,000 regular troops; artists, linguists, and men of science of all kinds, to the number of 121, also accompanied the expedition. The command of the whole was given to Buonaparte, who besides acquiring the reputation of being the greatest general of the age, bore that of a man of varied talents and resources. It sailed on the 20th, and on June 9th reached Malta, of which possession was taken; thence it proceeded to its ultimate destination, and reached the coast of Egypt July 1st. The object of the expedition now disclosed itself, which was the conquest of that celebrated country, coveted not only as a valuable acquisition, but as affording a station whence the English power in the East Indies, long mistakenly regarded by the French as the great source of their rival's wealth, might be advantageously assailed. Buonaparte landed his troops, took Alexandria by storm, defeated the rebel beys, and made himself master of Cairo.

At a meeting of the whig club, Mr. Fox gave as a toast "the sovereignty of the people:" on the 25th, the king struck out his name from the list of privy councillors.

21. A. O'Connor, Binns, Allen, Leary, and O'Coigley, tried at Maidstone for high treason; the last only was found guilty; but O'Connor and Binns were detained on another treasonable charge. Mr. O'Coigley was executed on Pennenden heath, meeting death with great fortitude, and denying to the last the charge of treasonable correspondence abroad.

ARRESTS IN DUBLIN.—On the 21st, the two Sheares, both barristers of fortune, and some others, were arrested, and the city and county of Dublin declared to be in a state of insurrection. On Saturday evening, major Sirr, capt. Ryan, and Mr. justice Swan, proceeded to a house in Thomas-street, to arrest lord Edward Fitzgerald. On being introduced to his lordship in bed, he fired a pistol at Mr. Swan, which did not take effect; he then seized a dagger and ran Mr. Swan through the body. Capt. Ryan then entered the room, when his lordship ran at him and cut open his body, from whence his bowels protruded. Major Sirr, who had been waiting outside with a sergeant's guard, then ran up stairs, and finding his lordship struggling with Mr. Swan, who was nearly exhausted with loss of blood, the major fired, and wounded Fitzgerald in the shoulder. His lordship was then conveyed to the castle, and from thence to Newgate, where he died on the 5th of June, from anxiety of mind and the wound he had received. Captain Ryan died on the 23rd of May.

23. Lady Edward Fitzgerald, the celebrated Pamela, daughter of the duke of Orleans, ordered to quit the kingdom.

24. The Irish rebels attacked the towns of Carlow and Naas, from which they were repulsed with loss. Next day they marched 15,000 strong against Wexford, and upon defeating the garrison, which sallied forth to meet them, obtained possession of the town. Subsequently they became masters of Enniscorthy; but being driven back with great slaughter, from New Ross, they wreaked their vengeance upon their captives at Wexford in the most barbarous manner; inflicting death upon more than a hundred persons in every shape that cruelty could devise.

27. Owing to some observations on the 25th, in parliament, Mr. Pitt and Mr. Tierney met on Sunday on Putney-heath to fight a duel. After discharging two cases of pistols, Pitt fired into the air, and the affair ended.

June 4. Sir Edward Crosbie and others hanged for treason in Dublin.

12. General Nugent attacked the rebels, 5000 strong, commanded by Munro, near Ballynahinch, and routed them with great slaughter. This victory quelled the insurrection in the north.

19. Several militia regiments having volunteered to serve in Ireland, a bill was introduced to empower the king to accept the offers of such regiments. It was opposed by Nicholls, Banks, Tierney, and Lawrence Palk, as a violation of the constitutional principle on which the militia was established; but it became a law.

20. Charles marquis Cornwallis, whose political and military character was eminent, arrived in Dublin to supersede lord Camden in the viceroyship.

21. General Lake attacked the main body of the rebels in their encampment on Vinegar-hill; and after a vigorous resistance, so completely routed them, that nothing but pillagers subsequently remained in arms. Wexford and other places, which the insurgents were in possession of, were delivered up, and the insurrection in the south completely put down.

29. Parliament prorogued, the king congratulating the houses on the national seal against the common enemy.

July 17. Johnson, the bookseller, found guilty, before lord Kenyon, of a libel, in selling Gilbert Wakefield's answer to a courtly pamphlet of the bishop of Llandaff, in which the prelate, in his horror of French principles, had evinced an unexpected, and as many thought inconsistent, seal, in favour of the war and the minister. Jordan, Cuthell, Williams, and Flower, were also persecuted, on account of Wakefield's pamphlet, as was the author himself.

19. A. O'Connor, M'Nevin, Emmett, and other state prisoners, were pardoned, on condition of giving all the information they possessed relative to the conspiracy. An amnesty was soon after published by the new lord lieutenant, who discouraged the violent proceedings of the Orangemen, and adopted a system of moderation. Some examples however were deemed necessary. Both the Sheares were executed, the revolutionary address (*Ann. Reg.* xl. 43) found on the person and in the hand-writing of one of the brothers, precluding mercy; also O'Byrne and M'Can. Mr. Oliver Bond, a commercial man of great wealth and high character, was pardoned.

Aug. 1. BATTLE OF THE NILE.—A strong British squadron, under admiral Nelson, had long been in anxious pursuit of the Toulon fleet. At length it was descried at anchor across the bay of Aboukir, near the mouth of the Nile, commanded by admiral Bruëys, in the *L'Orient* of 120 guns. Each fleet consisted of 13 sail of the line. Nelson decided on an immediate attack, and regardless of the position of the French, protected by shoals and batteries, he ran into close engagement, in which operation an English 74 grounded. The first day's conflict terminated in the blowing up of the *L'Orient*, the admiral and his crew, to the number of 1000, perishing in the explosion; and the second day's engagement in a victory, the most splendid in our naval annals. Nine sail of the line were captured, while two more and two frigates were destroyed. Bruëys in the action committed the great error of not getting his fleet under weigh, by which the British were enabled with superior force to beat each ship in succession, while riding at anchor. The loss of the English was 900 sailors killed; that of the French far greater.

2. Died in his 53rd year, on the Liverpool stage, while performing the part of the Stranger in the play of that name, John Palmer, a popular comedian. Mr. Palmer had recently suffered domestic bereavements, which are supposed to have given a painful application to some passages in the performance, that produced a fatal excitement.

18. The *Leander*, 74, captured by the *Le Généreux*, 74, after a contest of six hours and a half.

22. The French to the number of 700, under General Humbert, landed at Killala in Ireland.

Sept. 2. The *Daily Advertiser*, one of the oldest London diurnal prints sold to the proprietors of the *Oracle*, with which it was incorporated.

8. General Lake attacked the united French and rebel forces at Ballinamuck, and

compelled the French to surrender at discretion. When the return of prisoners was made, it excited surprise that such a handful of invaders should have had the temerity to penetrate into the heart of the kingdom; the whole number, Sarazin and Humbert included, amounting only to 844.

The French completed the subjugation of Switzerland, by defeating, after an obstinate resistance, the inhabitants of Unterwalden, near the lake of Lucerne: all the cantons accepted the constitutions imposed upon them by their Gallic invaders. Geneva was united to the French republic, and became the capital of a new department.

11. The Porte, incensed by the invasion of Egypt, declared war against France, and formed an alliance with its old foe the court of St. Petersburg. The new sovereignty of Russia, in whose character passion predominated over principle, was violent in his declaration against the French revolution, and had signified his intention of marching an army into France for the restoration of the Bourbons.

Oct. 4. The metropolis illuminated to celebrate the victory of the Nile.

12. CAPTURE OF WOLFE TONE.—Sir John B. Warren captured the *Hoche* and six frigates, destined for the support of the insurgent cause in Ireland. Aboard the *Hoche* was the celebrated Theobald Wolfe Tone, a man of courage and ability, and the founder of the society of United Irishmen. This ardent spirit was arraigned before a court-martial, to which he made a bold and clever address. He anticipated the vengeance of the law by terminating his own existence in prison, at the moment the court of king's bench had, on the motion of Mr. Curran, interfered by habeas corpus, to prevent his execution. Mr. Tone was the last victim to the Irish rebellion, an enterprise more alarming than dangerous, and not less weakly conducted than rashly begun. It is computed that in its short and sanguinary course, 30,000 lives were sacrificed. Although the catholic peasantry were of necessity the instruments of the insurrection, yet the leaders generally belonged to other religious communities. The higher description of catholics, whether ecclesiastical or civil, maintained their loyalty, and went even so far as to publish a paper signed by the twenty-two titular bishops and archbishops, with the lords Fingal, Southwell, Gormanstown, and Kenmare, sir Edward Bellew, &c. dissuading their countrymen from joining in the rebellion.

26. A violent insurrection against the French at Cairo, which was not suppressed without much bloodshed. Numerous actions followed against the Mamelukes and

Arabs, in which the French were successful, and they established their authority through the greater part of Egypt. Buonaparte affected great respect for the Mahometan worship; and at the close of the year prepared to invade Syria, where Ibrahim Bey had taken refuge, under the protection of Djezzar Oglou, the pacha of Acre.

Nov. 15. The island of Minorca surrendered to a British force under general C. Stuart, and soon after Gozra, near Malta, to a detachment of admiral Nelson's squadron.

The French prisoners in England were estimated at 27,000, the English in France at 6000.

20. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who descanted upon the victory of the Nile, the suppression of the Irish rebellion, the warlike decision of the Porte, and the magnanimity of the emperor of Russia.

23. The king of Naples alarmed by the near approximation of the French republicans, entered the Romish territory at the head of 80,000 men, accompanied by Mack the Austrian general. Their triumph however was short. Championet, collecting the scattered corps of the French, marched against the Neapolitans, and though greatly inferior in number, soon reduced them to the necessity of acting on the defensive.

24. Napper Tandy and his confederates, charged with treasonable practices, were arrested in Hamburg, by command of the British minister: the minister of France claimed them as French citizens, and the senate, unwilling to offend either power, came to no decision on the subject.

27. A day of thanksgiving.

Dec. 3. Coni, the strongest fortress in Italy, surrendered to the Austrians.

4. INCOME TAX.—The triple assessment of last session, which Mr. Pitt termed his "new and solid system of finance," having been found oppressive and unproductive, he came forward with a fresh expedient for raising the chief supplies within the year. This was the celebrated tax on income. In substance his resolutions were, that the augmentation of the assessed taxes should be repealed, and in its place a duty of ten per cent upon income be substituted, to commence with incomes above 60*l.* a year, but in a reduced ratio from that sum to 200*l.*; the return of income by individuals to be according to their own statement, but liable to be checked by surveyors, if there were reason to suspect deficiency. He calculated the national income at 102 millions, which would produce a tax of 10 millions. Objections were made to the equity of the principle of taxing the produce of industry

and capital in an equal ratio. But the resolutions were well received; they passed three readings before the holidays, and a bill founded upon them became law in the ensuing year.

9. The French directory deposed from his Italian dominions the king of Sardinia.

15. An army of 60,000 Russians arrived at Brunn in Moravia, under Suvarof, and were joyfully received by the Austrian court.

18. Provisional treaty concluded between the emperor of Russia and England, the chief object of which was to induce Prussia to join in the new confederacy against France. Failing in this, Paul stipulated, on condition of a monthly subsidy from England, to have ready for the field 45,000 men, to be "employed wherever the utility of the common cause should require." Prussia firmly, but in guarded terms, declined to accede to this coalition.

19. On the second reading of the bill for the continued suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, remarks were made by Mr. Courtenay and sir Francis Burdett, on the severe treatment of the state prisoners, especially in Cold Bath Fields. The number now imprisoned was seventy, among them colonel Despard; but the reports of their cruel treatment was contradicted by the ministerialists.

24. In the night the thermometer was 14 degrees below the freezing point.

AMERICA.—The disregard of national rights by the French government nearly involved them in a dispute with the United States of America. Agreeably with the interpretation of international law by the directory, neutral vessels were declared subject to capture and condemnation, if any portion of their cargoes consisted of British manufactures; and if the subjects of any state at peace or in alliance with France were found on board a British vessel, they were pronounced pirates. America having vainly remonstrated against these unjust decrees, commissions for reprisals at sea were issued by the states, the military were augmented, and the supreme command of the forces confided to general Washington.

St. Domingo.—The negro chieftain, Toussaint l'Ouverture, was left in possession of St. Domingo during this year; the English troops having evacuated the island in May, and the French before the close of autumn.

NETHERLANDS.—The oppressions of the directory in Belgium, especially their military conscriptions, excited a formidable insurrection during the autumn, which was not quelled without bloodshed.

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS.—Dr. Herschel discovered four additional satellites to the planet bearing his name.

The manufactory of Bolton and Watts lighted with gas.

Life-boat invented by Greathead.

An improvement made in gun-making, by the barrel being bored out of a solid piece of steel.

Gypsum found in America to be a valuable manure.

A patent granted for hanging a window-sash and shutters, without the appearance of lines and pulleys.

A patent was granted to a tailor of Finsbury, for making gentlemen's breeches, so as to do away with all the inconveniences hitherto complained of.

ARMY AND NAVY.—The British army consisted of 41 regiments of cavalry; 110 infantry; 30 fencible cavalry; 42 fencible infantry; 110 of old and new militia; besides invalids and volunteer-corps of 100,000 men more. The number of field-marshal, 6; generals, 289; colonels, 325; lieutenant-colonels, 648; majors, 595; total 1863. The British navy in commission consisted of 140 ships of the line; 22 of 50 guns; 165 frigates; 317 sloops; with part of which, the Texel was blockaded by Duncan; Brest by Bridport; and Cadix by St. Vincent. The number of admirals was 102; post-captains, 520; commanders, 359; lieutenants, 2008; total 2989.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Williams, LL.D., an eminent dissenting divine. At his seat at Downing, Flintshire, Thomas Pennant, 72, an agreeable writer, a florist, tourist, and zoologist. William Jennings, the greatest stockholder in England. At Baltimore, Robert Merry, an accomplished but affected poet, well known in England by his signature of *Della Crusca*. John Zephaniah Holwell, 87, an intelligent writer on East India affairs, and one of the sufferers in the Black Hole at Calcutta in 1756. George Vancouver, the circumnavigator, and a captain in the British navy. At Chantilly, near Paris, Thomas Mur, 33; he was one of the victims of the state trials in Scotland, in 1793, and who after being brought off from Sydney in an American vessel, had undergone surprizing adventures.

A.D. 1799. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—This year is memorable by the effort of a third confederacy of Europe against the power of France. English subsidies brought into the field the hordes of Russia; and Austria, encouraged by such powerful co-operation, abruptly terminated the protracted negotiations at Radstadt, and resumed hostilities against the republic. The scene of warfare extended over the whole surface of Italy, along the banks of the Rhine, among the marshes and canals of Holland, and amidst the lakes and mountains of Switzerland. After gigantic efforts on both sides, the

campaign ended with the loss of Italy, with the exception of Genoa, by the French, who however still retained for their frontier, in defiance of their antagonists, the iron barrier of the Alps, and the entire left side of the Rhine. They were relieved at the end of the year by the sudden defection of Russia from the coalition. Meanwhile a great change was effected in France; the directorial government, which had become weak and unpopular, was overthrown, and the consular establishment substituted. By this revolution, the ascendancy of the military over the civil power was confirmed, and long kept paramount in France. The offensive part taken by England in the third coalition, consisted of an unsuccessful effort to revolutionise Holland, and in aiding with her naval force the royalists in Italy, in the restoration of the pope and the queen of Naples. The death of Tipoo Saib, and the dismemberment of his kingdom, formed another feature in foreign transactions.

Jan. 1. Athenæum at Liverpool opened.

2. Sir Sidney Smith arrived at Constantinople on a mission from this country, and was favourably received.

6. A soldier robbed the Mint of 2000 guineas, but was taken at Dover.

8. The lease of Don Saltero's coffee-house at Chelsea was sold, with all the curiosities. It was first opened in 1695 by one Salter, a barber, and became a noted place of resort, and depository of rarities, the gifts of naval officers, and the superfluities of sir Hans Sloane's museum. It is mentioned in the "Tatler," No. 34, where the don is ridiculed for his credulity in appropriating his hats and pincushions to queen Elizabeth's chambermaids.

10. The French ministers, who had been carrying on negotiations during the whole of last year, relative to German boundaries at Radstadt, informed the emperor of their determination to leave the place, if the Russian troops were permitted to enter his dominions.

12. The corporation of Cork passed resolutions favorable to a legislative union between Britain and Ireland.

14. Five English gentlemen who had been sent to investigate the title of Vizier Ally, were assassinated by his orders at Benares.

22. A royal message delivered to both houses of parliament, recommending a LEGISLATIVE UNION between England and Ireland, in order the better to defeat the common enemy of both countries. On the 31st, Mr. Pitt brought forward a series of resolutions, which were almost unanimously adopted, and with a joint address from both houses, were presented to the king as the basis of the contemplated incorporation of

the two kingdoms. [For the terms of the union, see July 2nd, 1800, when this great measure was completed.] The Irish house of lords was in favour of the union. The commons divided, 109 to 105 against it. The English house of commons on the same question divided, 140 for, 15 against it. Mr. Fox opposed the union from the beginning (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 1); he apprehended that from the manner in which the Irish representatives were returned, they would be constantly found in the ranks of whoever was minister, and give him a preponderating influence over every parliamentary opposition.

24. Naples surrendered to the French after a spirited resistance, chiefly from the Lazzaroni, who were averse to a change in established institutions.

31. The fortress of Eherenbritstein, which had been blockaded since 1797, surrendered to the French; by which they became masters of both sides of the Rhine, from Dusseldorf to Schaffhausen.

Feb. 2. A young woman, returning from Impington to Cambridge, was overtaken by a snow-storm, and from fatigue fell down, when she was covered with the snow, in which she continued eight days without food. Being discovered by a farmer, her life was saved, though she lost her feet by mortification.

20. El-Arisch surrendered to Buonaparte: soon after, Gaza opened her gates, and Jaffa was carried by storm. Palestine was thus overrun, and the victor continued his triumphant march towards Acre.

21. Rev. Gilbert Wakefield tried for his pamphlet in answer to the bishop of Llandaff (*ante* p. 601), and condemned to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and to suffer two years' imprisonment. At first this eminent scholar was confined in the King's-bench prison, but was soon removed to the common gaol of Dorchester.

27. A general fast-day.

Mar. 1. The directory having declared war against the emperor, Jourdan, at the head of 40,000 men, crossed the Rhine at Kehl and Basle.

5. The East India Company gave up the point of recruiting for its own service. Recruits in future were to be engaged for ten years, leaving it to their option to enlist for a further term of five years, the company stipulating to defray the expense of their passage home.

Archduke Charles crossed the Leck.

6. The snow lay so thick on the ground that the passage of the Manchester and Carlisle coaches was impeded, and the mails forwarded on horseback.

8. Massena took by assault the fortress of Luciensteig, cut out of a rock in the channel of the Rhine, and the only passage

through the Rhetian Alps between the Voralberg and the Grisons.

13. Nearly two-thirds of Pera, a suburb of Constantinople, destroyed by fire.

16. By the accidental sinking of the pavement a well was discovered near the front gate of the Royal-exchange, which had not been used for 600 years. The water being of excellent quality, the ward of Cornhill purposed erecting a pump over it.

18. SIZEZ or ACRES.—Buonaparte reached Acre on the 18th, and on the 20th opened his trenches. Sir Sidney Smith, in the *Tigre* of 84 guns, was in the road. He had captured the French flotilla laden with their besieging train. However, the French pushed their works within half-musket shot of the town-ditch, and, having made a breach, attempted to carry the place by assault, but were repulsed. An alternation of attacks and sorties followed for the space of sixty days, in which Buonaparte pitilessly sacrificed his bravest soldiers, and was at last compelled to raise the siege.

25. Battle of Stockach, between the archduke Charles and Jourdan. Ten thousand men were left dead or dying on the field, and the French compelled to retreat towards the Rhine.

Apr. 5. Battle of Magnan: the Austrians, under Kray, being joined by the vanguard of the Russians, forced the French, under Scherer, to retreat across the Mincio. This was Scherer's third defeat, and his retreat rendered unavailing the success of Lecourbe in the Tyrol, who withdrew into the Engadine. At the opening of the campaign, the whole of Italy was in possession of the French; and the revolutionary spirit having strongly seized the more enterprising of the Italians, a native auxiliary force might have been raised, which would have enabled them to defy the efforts of the combined forces; but the proceedings of the French Directory had long been marked by arrogance and imbecility, and their generals, especially Scherer, the late minister of war, were unequal to the emergency.

14. General Suvarof assumed the command of the Austro-Russian armies in Italy. In a short time the French were expelled from the principal towns in the north, which compelled Macdonald to evacuate the kingdom of Naples, and cross the Appennines.

15. Orders issued on the parade, St. James's-park, for disbanding the 5th, or Royal Irish regiment of dragoons, for insubordination; the officers to continue on full-pay till December, and then be placed on half-pay.

Sackville (earl of Thanet), Denis O'Brien, R. Ferguson, T. Thompson, and

T. G. Brown, were tried for a riot and attempt at rescue at Maidstone, at the conclusion of the trials of O'Connor and others for high treason. Lord Thanet and Ferguson were found guilty, fined, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

16. A powerful army of Turks having assembled, from Damascus and about Mount Tabor, to raise the siege of Acre, they were suddenly attacked by Buonaparte, and great numbers driven into the Jordan. What most surprised the Infidels was to be at once beaten through a line of nine leagues; so little were they acquainted with the rapid combinations of European tactics.

28. The French plenipotentiaries at Radstadt, Bonnier and Roberjot, were way-laid and assassinated near Radstadt, by a troop of Szeckler's hussars, or persons resembling them. Jean Debry was also left for dead, but recovered. The perpetrators of this base crime were never discovered; the infamy is shared between the French emigrants and Austrians.

The Austrians under Melas entered Milan. At Bortero the French under Serurier, to the number of 3000, surrendered.

May 3. Benjamin Flower, the printer of the "Cambridge Intelligencer," was brought to the bar of the lords for reflecting, in a paragraph, on the bishop of Llandaff's speech, on the subject of a union with Ireland; and lord Grenville moved that he be fined 100*l.*, and committed to Newgate for six months. Lord Holland objected to this summary proceeding; but it was justified by lord Kenyon, and the motion was carried.

20. Buonaparte compelled to raise the siege of Acre. He cheered his followers—for this reverse met with his accustomed bombast—informing them that "new dangers and glory awaited them."

27. The Russians entered Turin.

30. James Perry, the editor; John Vint, the printer; and George Ross, the publisher of the "Courier" newspaper, fined, and sentenced to imprisonment, for a paragraph, stating "the emperor of Russia to be a tyrant among his own subjects, and ridiculous to the rest of Europe."

June 5. Archduke Charles compelled Massena to evacuate Zurich.

15. Buonaparte reached Cairo from Acre, having traversed the Great Desert, 70 leagues wide, which separates Asia from Africa.

18. Suvarof defeated Macdonald on the Trebia, with immense loss.

20. Cardinal Ruffo, at the head of the royalists and some Russian auxiliaries, entered Naples. Soon after, a confederate force of English, Russians, Italians, Portuguese, and Turks entered the port under the convoy of lord Nelson, and invested the

castle of St. Elmo. Capua and Gaeta were afterwards taken by the assistance of the English. A severe vengeance was shortly after inflicted, in contravention of a solemn treaty, on the Neapolitan patriots, with the culpable connivance of Nelson, acting under the influence of the profligate wife of the English ambassador, sir William Hamilton.

21. George III. inspected the volunteer corps of the metropolis, to the number of 12,200, at their respective stations.

18. CHANGES IN THE DIRECTORY.—The annual renewal of one-third of the legislature did not improve the position of the directory, who had become unpopular from the expedients to which their financial difficulties had compelled them to resort, and the reverses of the republican armies. On the removal of Rewbel on the 18th, by the lot of secession, the other directors, with the exception of Barras, relinquished the directorial purple. Four new rulers were therefore chosen; among whom were the silent and speculative abbé Sieyes, then ambassador at Berlin. These changes did not restore public confidence, and a general insurrection against the existing authorities prevailed in the western departments.

July 7. The Kennet and Avon canal opened.

25. Battle of Aboukir, in which the Turks lost 18,000 men, and the French 1000. By this signal victory, Buonaparte retrieved French affairs in Egypt, which had suffered during his absence in Syria.

28. Mantua, with a garrison of 10,000 men, dishonourably surrendered to the Austrians.

Aug. 1. The king reviewed the Kentish volunteers, to the number of 5000, at lord Romney's seat. Seven thousand persons dined in marquees erected on the lawn.

16. BATTLE OF NOVI.—The combined armies, under Suvarof and Melas, defeated the French under Joubert and Moreau. It was the most bloody encounter of the campaign. Three times Suvarof charged the centre of the enemy in person, at the head of his hardy veterans, and three times he was repulsed by the valour of the French. The gallant Joubert, leading on the French infantry to the charge, was struck by a ball which pierced his heart. The loss on both sides, in killed and wounded, was estimated at 20,000 men. The fortune of the day was decided by Melas turning the right wing of the French.

20. The valuable Dutch settlement of Surinam surrendered to the English, under lord H. Seymour.

24. BUONAPARTE LEAVES EGYPT.—Party dissensions in France, her danger from external foes, and the opening these difficulties afforded to the ambition of this ex-

traordinary leader, seems to have suddenly determined him to quit Egypt. His campaign in the East had been signalised by splendid triumphs, and only one reverse. It greatly increased his European fame, by showing him no less a Mahomet than a Zinghis Khan. He had availed himself of the usages of warfare, as well as of the superstitions of Islamism. The military execution of his Turkish prisoners at Jaffa, though sanctioned by the strict rules of modern war on flagrant breaches of parole, was one of those sanguinary acts that could only have been perpetrated in a barbarous region. Buonaparte gave no intimation of his departure, further than the following brief announcement to the army, dated August 23rd:—"In consequence of news from Europe, I have determined immediately to return to France. I leave the command of the army to general Kleber. It shall hear from me speedily: *this is all I can say at present.*" Next day he sailed from the road of Aboukir, taking with him Berthier, Lannes, Murat, Marmont, Andreossi, and Bessiers; with the philosophers Berthollet, Mongé, and Arnaud. On September 30th he reached Corsica, and October 7th, landed at Frejus. The same good fortune, in escaping the enemies' cruisers, attended him in leaving and returning to France.

26. **EXPEDITION TO HOLLAND.**—While the armies of France were fully occupied in Italy and Germany, a favourable opportunity seemed to offer for wresting Holland from her dominion. An expedition, under sir Ralph Abercrombie, having set sail from England on the 13th, came to anchor in about a fortnight, off the Helder, where the troops disembarked. On the 30th, admiral Mitchel summoned the Dutch fleet to surrender, and to hoist the Orange flag, which was complied with unresistingly. The number of ships captured were eight of the line, besides smaller rates, and four Indiamen. An affair with general Brune, who commanded the French and Dutch troops, to the amount of 25,000, September 10th, terminated in favour of the English. On the 13th, the duke of York assumed the chief command of the army, which amounted to nearly 35,000 effective men, including 17,000 Russians. On the 2nd of October, general Brune was driven from his position, and forced to take up a new one near Beverwyck. An attempt made to force this position failed; this, and the severe defeat of the Russians by Vandamme, led to a suspension of arms. The British commanders, finding no support from the inhabitants, resolved to relinquish the enterprise. In conformity with this resolution, they evacuated Holland by capitulation; and, as the price of being suffered to

re-embark without molestation, 8000 seamen, Dutch or French, prisoners in England, were to be liberated.

29. Died, at Valence in France, whither he had been conveyed by order of the directory, pope Pius VI., aged 82.

Sept. 11. Tortona surrendered to Suvarof. Italy had been reconquered in less time than it had been lost by the disasters of the Austrians in 1796. In obedience to his capricious master, Suvarof now directed his march towards Switzerland, where a second army of Russians, under Korsakoff, had joined the archduke Charles at Schaffhausen. This formed the right wing of an extended military line, having for its centre the force under Suvarof, and for its left, in Italy, the Austrians under Kray and Melas.

24. **BATTLE OF ZURICH.**—The approach of Suvarof with reinforcements determined Massena immediately to attack the enemy before him. At the first onset, the brave Austrian commander Hotze was killed. Zurich was entered, sword-in-hand, by the French, and Korsakoff, with the loss of his baggage and artillery, retreated by Bulach. Suvarof, enraged at this repulse, wrote to Korsakoff,—"You shall answer with your head if you make another retrograde step I am coming to repair your error."

PARLIAMENT was assembled, to enable the king to avail himself of the voluntary services of the militia. A bill for this purpose was forthwith introduced, allowing, instead of one-fourth, as permitted by the act of last session, three-fifths of the militia of each county to enlist in regular regiments, with a bounty of ten guineas to each man upon so enlisting. The other parliamentary business of the year related chiefly to commercial and financial matters.

27. Commodore Trowbridge having blockaded the port of Civita Vecchia, the city of Rome surrendered to the arms of Britain; a destiny of this famous capital of the world never revealed by the augurs of the Julian or Augustan ages! The French garrison, aware of the fate of the patriots of Naples, refused to capitulate till the safety of those of Rome was guaranteed: to which Trowbridge generously acceded, unwilling to be the instrument of the vengeance of the queen of Naples.

Oct. 4. Suvarof penetrated to Schwitz, and carried by assault the post of Brunnen, with the bridge over Molen, after a desperate resistance from Lecourbe. This was the last of his triumphs; he was unable to join Korsakoff. Had he pushed through the valley of the Glaris, he would have fallen into the snare which Massena had laid for him. Indignant at this check, he sullenly retired into the Grisons, closely pursued by the French, who cut off a large

part of his heavy artillery and baggage. On the 7th, Korsakoff again advanced, but the indefatigable Massena—now the Ajax of France—passing rapidly from the right to the left of the French line, gave him another repulse. It was incessant fighting, and the slaughter dreadful. Constance, three times won and lost, remained at last with the republicans. In the space of fifteen days 30,000 men on both sides are said (*Belsh. Hist.*, xi. 151) to have fallen victims to the sword.

9. The *La Lutine*, which had sailed from Yarmouth with 600,000 dollars on board, shipped by English merchants for the relief of commercial houses in Hamburg, foundered at sea: every soul on board perished, except Schabracq, a notary-public, who was picked up.

28. Sir George Dunbar, bart., major of the 14th Light Dragoons, shot himself with a pistol at his house in Norwich. The catastrophe arose out of a quarrel, at mess, with his brother officers, which preyed on the baronet's mind.

Nov. 7. The directory gave a grand entertainment, in the church of St. Sulpice, to Buonaparte and Moreau, who a few days before had met, for the first time in their lives, at the house of Gohier, president of the directory. Seven hundred and fifty guests were present; but no women or spectators were admitted. The president gave for a toast, "*Peace*;" and Buonaparte, the "*Union of all Frenchmen*."

9. **DISSOLUTION OF THE DIRECTORY.**—The reception of Buonaparte at Paris, and on his journey from Frejus, had been most enthusiastic. He was considered the good genius of France, who would extricate her from all her difficulties. The directory had become unpopular from its arrogance, tyranny, and rapacity; and, exclusive of the royalists, the country was divided into the two prevalent parties of the moderate and violent republicans. All parties paid court to Buonaparte, and confided to him their designs; but his aim was to attach the military, in which he succeeded. After some time passed in political intrigues, the moderates, at the head of whom was Sieyès, agreed upon a scheme for the subversion of the existing government. An alarm of a conspiracy was spread; the council of elders, a majority of whom were favourable to the design, was suddenly assembled, and a decree passed to remove the legislative sittings to St. Cloud, and to invest Buonaparte with the command of every species of armed force in the capital. The result of these measures was the resignation, voluntary or forced, of the three directors, Gohier, Moulins, and Barras, who were opposed to the movement, Ducos and Sieyès being favourable. On the 9th,

the legislature met at St. Cloud; the council of elders in the Great Gallery, and that of 500, of whom Lucien Buonaparte was president, in the Orangery. Buonaparte entered the council of elders, and, in an animated address, described the dangers that menaced the republic, and conjured them to associate their wisdom with the force which surrounded him. A member using the word "*Constitution*," Buonaparte exclaimed, "*The Constitution!* It has been trodden under foot, and used as a cloak for all manner of tyranny."—*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 20. Meanwhile a violent debate was going on in the Orangery, several members insisting upon knowing why the place of sitting had been changed. The president endeavoured to allay this storm; but the removal had created great heat, and the cry was, "*Down with the dictator! No dictator!*" At that moment Buonaparte himself entered, bareheaded, followed by four grenadiers: on which several members exclaimed, "*Who is that? No sabres here! No armed men!*" while others descending into the hall, collared him, calling him "*Outlaw*," and pushed him towards the door. One member aimed a blow at him with a dagger, which was parried by a grenadier. Disconcerted at this rough treatment (*Hazlit's Life of Napoleon*, ii. 297), general Lefebvre came to his aid; and Buonaparte retiring, mounted his horse, and addressed the troops outside. His brother Lucien also made a forcible appeal to the military, and the result was, that a picket of grenadiers entered the hall, and the drums beating the *pas de charge*, cleared it at the point of the bayonet. In the evening the council of elders, and that of the 500 again assembled; but the latter was a more compliant assemblage than had met a few hours before. Lucien Buonaparte congratulated the members present on the deliverance they had obtained from the yoke of demagogues and assassins. His speech was interrupted only by applause. The way being now sufficiently prepared, Boulay de la Meurthe, in an able speech, urged the necessity of a radical change in the constitution, and an intermediary project, already adopted by the council of elders, was introduced. By this it was declared that the directory had ceased to exist; that sixty-one deputies were disqualified, by their violence, for the national representation; that a provisional consular commission should be appointed, composed of citizens Sieyès, Ducos, and Buonaparte; and that the two councils should name committees, of 25 members each, to prepare a new constitution. Thus terminated the famous revolution of the 18th Brumaire, and which, like that of Thermidor, in 1796, was wholly effected in

the short space of twenty-four hours (*Belsh. Hist.*, xl. 223). Both were accomplished after the Cromwellian fashion, the intervention of the soldiery, and the forcible exclusion of refractory representatives, being the leading features.

18. In the interval between the abolition of one constitution and the creation of another, the consuls were vested with a dictatorship, in virtue of which, 59 of the most inveterate Jacobins were sentenced to banishment; but this decree was never carried into effect. Several rigid republicans, who had been exiled, were recalled. Among them, Carnot and Pastoret. Lucien Buonaparte was made minister of the interior; Talleyrand, of foreign affairs; Carnot, of war; and Fouché, of police. The tyrannical laws against emigrants and priests were softened or repealed. On the other hand, only twelve newspapers were allowed to be published. Before this purgation, there had been fifty journals in Paris, morning and evening.—*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 50. They were, for the most part, badly printed, in respect of type and paper. The price was two sous; of which the hawkers were allowed one-third for profit.

27. The earl of Scarborough, with his sister, passing through a side of Fitzroy-square which was badly lighted, the coachman mistook his way, and drove over, into an area 10 or 12 feet deep. His lordship and sister escaped with slight contusions; the coachman had his ribs broken, and the footman died in consequence of his injuries.

Died, in his 90th year, Kien Long, emperor of China, over which he had reigned sixty-four years; and had the honour of receiving, successively, poetical addresses from Voltaire; the author of the "Pursuits of Literature;" and Peter Pindar.

Dec. 6. A meeting at the London-tavern to alleviate the distresses of the poor. The example of 1795 was recommended; and Mr. Forster stated, that in the month ending April 27th, 40,000 persons had been relieved, by 759,918 meals from the soup-shops, at an expense of 3476*l.* A subscription was opened.

13. CONSULAR CONSTITUTION.—The legislative committees having finished their labours in little more than a month, the new constitution was presented to the French nation. The government generally acknowledged to be the most desirable, was one adapted to practical uses, not to any preconceived theory. By the new code, the constitution was to consist of an executive composed of three consuls, one bearing the title of chief, and in fact possessing all the authority: of a conservative senate composed of eighty members, appointed for life; the first sixty to be nominated by the

consuls, and the number to be completed by adding two, annually, for ten years; and a legislative body of 300 members; with a tribunate of 100. The power of proposing new laws was vested in the executive, and the senate were to fill up vacancies in their own body. The integrity of the representative principle was obviously compromised in the consular system; but it was accepted by a vast majority of the citizens. The votes in favour of the constitution were 3,012,659; against it, 1562. Buonaparte was nominated the first consul, for ten years; Cambacères and Lebrun, second and third consuls, for five years. Sieyès, who had taken an active part in the revolution, and in framing the new constitution, was rewarded by the grant of an estate, in the vicinity of Paris, of the annual value of 15,000 francs.

14. DEATH OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.—This great man, and chief founder of American independence, expired, in his 68th year, leaving a name likely to conciliate the general suffrages of posterity. Characters of greater brilliancy there may have been, but none possessing more solid worth and usefulness. Judgment and good sense were the predominant traits of his intellect, to the exclusion of fancy or vivacity, to which he made no pretension. Equally inaccessible to the flatteries of life, or the suggestions of despondency, he held on his firm and patriotic course with undeviating consistency. Washington left a widow, but no issue; and honours of every kind were paid to his memory by his grateful countrymen.

25. Buonaparte was no sooner made first consul than he made a direct overture to the king of England for peace. It was written with manly simplicity, and an appearance of sincerity, but did not meet with a corresponding return. It was handed to lord Grenville, who, in a long official reply, adverted to the origin of the war; and without assuming to prescribe a form of government to France, expressed an opinion, intimating that the "restoration of the ancient line of princes, under whom France had enjoyed so many centuries of prosperity," would afford the best guarantee for the maintenance of peace between the two countries. The last condition, involving in its attainment the destruction of the existing government in France, of course put an end to all further communications.

30. French consuls decree that the remains of Pius VI. should receive sepulchral rites, which for six months had been denied them.

31. The French prisoners in England amounted to 25,646, and the consuls signified their intentions of discontinuing the usual remittance for their subsistence. The

French government had hitherto maintained the French prisoners in England, and England had maintained the English prisoners in France; but the consuls reckoned on a saving by discontinuing this system; as the number of prisoners was fewer, and the price of provisions less, in France than in England.

PRICES OF CORN.—The average price per bushel of wheat this month was 8*s.* 5*d.*; barley, 4*s.* 5*d.*; oats, 3*s.* 5*d.*

DEATH OF TIPPOO SAIB.—Among the events of this year was the death of Tippoo Sultan, and the extinction of the Mysore kingdom. This chief ill brooked the curtailment of his dominions, and had opened negotiations with the French republic. Upon the 5th of May, his capital (Seringapatam) being stormed, Tippoo, after contesting every inch of ground to the interior of his palace, was found, when the conflict ceased, amidst a heap of slain. His two sons had previously surrendered, upon an assurance of safety. His territories were divided by the conquerors; the English taking the southern portion and Seringapatam, by which their empire reached from sea to sea. The Nizam and the Mahrattas had the remainder; but the latter refused their portion, and it fell to the other partners in the dismemberment.

IRISH REBELLION.—The amount of claims for damage sustained by the loyalists from the rebels, in the summer of 1798, were, for the county of Wexford, 311,341*l.*; Wicklow, 129,978*l.*; Mayo, 99,739*l.*; Kildare, 932,233*l.* The total of claims for all the counties was 792,508*l.*—*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 32.

SCIENCE AND ARTS.—A new instrument was invented by Lowry to engrave parallel lines.

The French introduced their new, but not very intelligible, system of weights and measures, founded on the kilogramme and the metre, or ten millionth part of the distance from the pole to the equator.

The metaphysics and poetry of Germany began to be noticed in England: the former from Kant's writings, and the latter from the plays of Schiller and Kotzebue.

Dr. Jenner, who had begun his investigations on the cow-pox so early as 1776, succeeded this year in getting it into extensive practice.

In the "Philosophical Transactions" was published an account of a sub-marine forest, examined by Mr. Correa, on the coast of Lincolnshire, near the village of Huttoff.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Halle, John Reinhold Forster, LL.D., author of several works on natural history, and the gentleman who, with his son, accompanied captain Cook in his second voyage of dis-

covery. Thomas Payne, 82, who for forty years kept a bookseller's shop at the Mews-gate, and which obtained the name of "The Literary Coffee-house," from the number of literati frequenting it. Spallanzani, a celebrated Italian naturalist. Galvani, the discoverer of galvanism. William Melmoth, 89, author of "Letters of Pliny the Younger," &c. At the Carpenters' Arms, in the parish of Wick, James White, an unfortunate literary gentleman, author of the "Adventures of Richard Cœur de Lion," &c. James Burnet, called Lord Monboddo, 85, an eccentric metaphysical writer. William Seward, F.R.S., 52, biographical and anecdote writer. Joseph Towers, LL.D., dissenting minister, and an author of eminence. William Curtis, 53, author of "Flora Londinensis." At Athens, John Tweddell, 32, an accomplished scholar and traveller. Richard earl Howe, a successful English admiral. John Bacon, 59, the celebrated sculptor. At Bowood-park, John Ingenhouz, M.D., an ingenious natural philosopher. At Abbeville, Marmontel, 79, author of "Belisarius," and his own "Memoirs." Borda, 84, an eminent French mathematician.

A.D. 1800. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—The first consul adopted prudent measures to secure himself in power. He conciliated the royalists, treated the clergy with respect, and offered peace to England and Austria. His amicable overtures not being favourably received, he sought peace by a vigorous prosecution of the war; and this, so far as Germany was concerned, was attained by the victories of Marengo and Hohenlinden. The fickle Paul of Russia not only withdrew from the confederacy against France, but revived, in hostility to England, the armed neutrality of the northern states. Malta, Goree, and Curacao surrendered to the British arms; but the attacks on Ferrol and Cadiz failed. The union with Ireland was completed. The scarcity of this year was greater than the preceding, and occasioned tumults in London and other places. Parliament passed several measures to increase the supply and diminish the consumption of bread. But prosecutions being instituted, at the suit of the crown, against regrators, engrossers, and forestallers, the popular prejudice against an useful class of middlemen was inflamed, and the most effective mode of enforcing national economy, in the use of bread-corn, counteracted.

Jan. 1. There prevailed hot disputes in France and England about the commencement of the new century; some ascribing it to Jan. 1, 1800, and others, to Jan. 1, 1801; but the astronomer Lalande, who took part in the dispute, showed clearly that the year 1800 was part of the 18th

century. The same ridiculous question was agitated in 1700.

9. The Bank agreed to advance 3,000,000*l.* to government without interest, for six years, but liable to be called in, if the 3 per cent. consols rose to 80, on condition of a renewal of their charter to Aug. 1, 1833.

10. First soup-establishment for the poor in Spitalfields.

15. The question of the UNION being brought forward in the Irish house of commons, it was strenuously opposed by Grattan, Curran, and W. C. Plunkett. It was supported by Corry, the chancellor of the exchequer, and lord Castlereagh, secretary; and an approving address was carried by 139 against 96.

17. Chelmsford church fell in. It was erected, by the contributions of the townsmen, in 1424.

20. Correspondence with Talleyrand closed by a letter from lord Grenville of this date.

22. PARLIAMENT reassembled, and, in a message from the king, notice was taken of the late correspondence with France. A vehement debate ensued; but such was the dislike and suspicion of the French government, that an approving address was voted in the lords, by 79 to 6; and in the commons, by 260 to 64.

24. A convention signed between general Kleber and the grand vizier, for the evacuation of Egypt by the French troops. The negotiations had been carried on in concert with sir Sidney Smith, aboard the *Tigre*.

A storm blew down the remains of king John's castle at Old Ford, near Bow. It was built in 1203, and was the place where that prince usually slept after signing Magna Charta.

Feb. 6. REPENTANCE OF ORLEANS.—The duke of Orleans (Louis Philippe, the present French king) having arrived in London from Clifton, waited on Monsieur (afterwards Louis XVIII.), and on being introduced into his closet, addressed him by saying, "That he had come to ask forgiveness for all his faults, which he hoped would be forgotten. They were the effect of error, and were chiefly to be attributed to the evil councils of an intriguing woman (madame de Genlis), who had been entrusted with the care of his education. He was ready to shed the last drop of his blood in the reparation of his errors, and in defence of the rights of his lawful sovereign."—*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 3. Monsieur then embraced the duke, and said he had no doubt of the sincerity of the professions he had just heard.

19. Resolutions in favour of peace were moved by Mr. Waithman, and carried at a common-hall of the city of London; 2000 persons were present.

26. SCARCITY OF BREAD.—An act came into force, prohibiting the sale of bread which had not been baked twenty-four hours. It was thought that the consumption of stale bread would be much less than new, and was intended to mitigate the prevailing scarcity; the price of bread having become higher than had ever before been known, owing to two successive bad harvests. Resolutions were also entered into by members of both houses of parliament, to lessen as much as possible the consumption of bread and flour in their families; and their example was generally followed by the superior ranks. Mr. Arthur Young estimated the average deficiency of the late harvest at rather above one-third.

Mar. 11. The Royal Institution, for the promotion of the fine and useful arts, held its first sittings.

At a conclave held at Venice, cardinal Chiaramonte, a native of Cesena, was elected pope, when he took the name of Pius VII.

17. Lord Keith's flag-ship the *Queen Charlotte* of 110 guns, caught fire just before day-break, while under easy sail, between Gorgona and Leghorn, and burnt to the water's edge, and then blew up, by which upwards of 700 lives were lost, the boats not being able to contain one-fourth of the crew. Lord Keith was at Leghorn when the accident happened.

20. British government refused to ratify the convention for the evacuation of Egypt by the French: upon which Kleber vigorously assailed the Turks, and defeated them.

21. Ionian republic, consisting of Zante, Corfu, and other Venetian islands, formed, under the protection of the Porte.

27. Legislative union agreed to in both houses of the Irish parliament, chiefly through the management of lord Castlereagh.

The crew of the *Danaë* frigate mutinied, and carried her into Brest harbour.

30. At the close of the assizes at Chelmsford, the judge having put the black cap on, to sentence a man for forgery, Mr. Garrow pointed out a variance in the spelling of the Christian name in the forged note and in the indictment: in the former it being abbreviated Bartw., and in the latter, Bartholomew. Baron Hotham held the objection to be fatal to the indictment, and the culprit escaped death.

Apr. 5. Lord Keith blockaded Genoa, which was besieged on the land side by the Austrians under Melas, and resolutely defended by Massena.

25. Moreau crossed the Rhine.

May 3. Defeated, with great loss, general Kray at Stockach.

5. Buonaparte leaves Paris to place him-

self at the head of the grand army of reserve, 50,000 strong, at Dijon.

15. James Hadfield discharged a pistol at the king from the pit of Drury-lane theatre. He had been in the army, and wounded in the head, and was soon discovered to be insane. On the morning of the same day, while the king was reviewing a battalion of the guards in Hyde-park, a spectator standing near his majesty was wounded by a ball-cartridge, fired in one of the volleys by a soldier, who was not discovered.

18. DEATH OF FIELD-MARSHAL SUVAROF.—This able but ferocious warrior died near Petersburg, in his 70th year. His death is supposed to have been hastened by chagrin; arising either out of the late check he met with in Switzerland, or the sudden change in Russian policy. He was not, however, disgraced, but received with distinction by the imperial court. Suvarof was of Swedish extraction, and originally intended for the legal profession, which he early abandoned for the more congenial pursuits of violence and slaughter. He was disinterested, affable even to buffoonery, superstitious, and desperately brave, but cruel to the vanquished.

20. Buonaparte, after astonishing efforts, passed the Great St. Bernard.

June 5. The French enter Pavia. On the same day Massena, after a pertinacious defence, surrendered Genoa to the Austrians; and that day the Austrian general Ott received orders to raise the siege.

14. General Kleber assassinated in his garden at Cairo. The general received four stabs; and Protain, the architect, was severely wounded in trying to parry the poniard of the murderer. The assassin had come from Aleppo across the desert, and confessed he was employed by the aga of the janizaries in the grand vizier's army.—*Menou's Dispatch, July 3rd.* He was executed after the Egyptian fashion, being impaled, having first had his right hand burnt; and three chiefs who were privy to, and had concealed the object of his atrocious mission, were beheaded, and their bodies burnt.

17. VICTORY OF MARENGO.—This irregular but sanguinary conflict decided the fate of Italy. It was fought on a plain six miles long, between Tortona and Alexandria. The French force, commanded by Buonaparte, was about 50,000, of which 3000 were cavalry: that of the Austrians, under Melas, 60,000; of which 15,000 were cavalry. The French were formed in two lines, with cavalry on the wings. Behind their centre was a defile, having a wood on the one side, and on the other a chain of vineyards extending to the village of Marengo. The Austrians were drawn

up on the banks of the Bormida, over which bridges had been thrown. About noon the battle began. Eighty pieces of cannon preceded the Austrian battalions, and discharged into the ranks of the French showers of shot and shells. After several hours' desperate fighting, the left of the French, under Victor, and the right, under Lannes, began to give way; and it was with difficulty the centre, commanded by the first consul, kept its ground. At this critical juncture the divisions of Desaix and Monnier arrived on the ground. The fortune of the battle now began to change. Unable to force the centre of the French, Melas tried to turn the defile in their rear by extending his wings. Weakening his centre for this movement, Buonaparte seized the opportunity to pierce it with a collective force; and Desaix with his fresh troops, falling with irresistible impetuosity on the left wing of the Austrians, they everywhere gave way. The Austrian cavalry, by charging en masse, attempted to retrieve the day, but were repulsed by Murat. Night coming on, the confusion was irremediable; and at the passage of the Bormida a terrible carnage ensued. The village clock struck ten, when the French, weary of slaughter, returned slowly to their camp, leaving the field covered with the dead and the dying. The loss of the Austrians, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was 15,000; that of the French, 10,000, including the intrepid Desaix, who finished a short life (being only 32) of military glory in the arms of victory. The loss of the Austrians in the first month of the Italian campaign amounted to 60,000, and induced Melas, the day after the battle of Marengo, to propose an armistice. It was acceded to by the victor on the conditions that neither side should send reinforcements into Germany, and that the Austrians should surrender to the French Genoa, Tortona, Coni, and other strong places. Immediately after, Buonaparte re-established the Cisalpine republic, and, with Berthier, sung *Te Deum* in the cathedral of Milan, regardless, as he said, of the taunts of "the atheists of Paris."

28. Moreau, forcing Kray before him, penetrated to Munich.

July 2. UNION WITH IRELAND.—The act for this purpose received the royal assent, to commence January 1st, 1801. By this important instrument the established churches and legislatures of the two countries became consolidated, and the two kingdoms united, under the name of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Four lords spiritual, by rotation of sessions, and twenty-eight temporal lords, elected for life, were to represent the peers of Ireland in the house of lords; and 100

commoners to sit in the house of commons. The laws and courts of each kingdom were to continue unchanged. The contributions of Britain and Ireland towards the public expenditure were, for twenty years, to be in the proportion of fifteen to two; but the interest of the public debts of each was to be separately defrayed.

4. Mr. Rusby found guilty of regrating, in buying corn in Mark-lane, and on the same day, in the same place, reselling it. Lord Kenyon said to the jury, "You have conferred by your verdict almost the greatest benefit on your country that ever was conferred by any jury" (*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 23). During the existing scarcity, forestalling, regrating, and engrossing, excited as much popular—and seemingly, from the remark of the learned judge—judicial prejudice as witchcraft formerly.

12. First stone of the new dock in the Isle of Dogs laid.

Downing college incorporated.

15. Armistice agreed to in Germany.

22. Sir Francis Burdett complained, in the house of commons, of the treatment by governor Aris of the prisoners confined, under the suspension of the Habeas-corpus Act, in Cold-Bath-fields.

28. Preliminaries of peace between France and Austria signed at Paris, which the emperor refused to ratify, because England was not a party to them.

29. Parliamentary session closed.

Samuel F. Waddington tried at Worcester assizes, and found guilty of forestalling hops.

John S. Boothby Clopton, esq., committed suicide with a pistol. He was well known at the club-houses, and left an estate of 7000*l.* a year.

Aug. 2. The Union Act having received the assent of the Irish parliament, the session and their existence terminated.

Two new squares began to be formed on the duke of Bedford's Bloomsbury estate: one to be called Russell-square; the other, Tavistock-square.

10. A person by accident set fire to Radnor forest, and, owing to the dryness of the season, it burnt for thirty miles in circumference, destroying thousands of sheep and many cottages. The earl of Oxford and Mr. Lewis were the chief sufferers.

23. A sad accident happened near Selkirk in Scotland. Four young ladies—Miss Ayres, Miss Anderson, and the two Miss Scotts of Singlee—were drowned, while bathing in the Ettrick, which ran at the bottom of Mr. Scott's garden. It is supposed one of the ladies had got out of her depth, and all had perished in a vain attempt at saving her.

25. Sir Edward Pellew and sir James Pulteney fall in an attack on Ferrol.

27. Lord Keith despatched two sloop of war to burn the small town of Cesenatico on the Adriatic Gulf; which fully succeeded in their mission, and retaliated on the inhabitants the offence they had given his lordship by arresting a British officer charged with dispatches.

29. The emperor of Russia, in an edict, complained of the interruption of the navigation of the Sound by British ships; and sequestered the property of British subjects in Russia.

30. The grand-jury of York recommend the enclosure of waste lands, of which there remain 7,800,000 acres in England, as the best preventative of future scarcity.

Died, Mrs. Montagu, sister of lord Rokeby, and author of an "Essay on the Writings of Shakspeare;" and distinguished for her hospitality to the chimney-sweepers, whom she regaled with roast-beef and plum-pudding, every May-day, on the lawn before her house. She was an excellent scholar and, like her name-sake, a celebrated letter-writer. Her estates, about 10,000*l.* per annum, devolved to her nephew Mr. Montagu.

31. Riots at Birmingham and other towns, owing to the high price of provisions. The houses of bakers and mealmen were violently attacked; and hardly any corn-factor could sleep in his bed with security. (*Belsh. Hist.* xii. 123.)

Sept. 5. Malta, the chief place of which, La Valetta, had been two years under blockade, surrendered to the British.

14. An inflammatory placard stuck on the Monument, urging the people to rescue themselves from famine by their own exertions, and take vengeance on monopolists and forestallers.—*Annual Register*, xlii. 212. In consequence, for several days, there were riotous assemblages, who began breaking the windows of bakers and other obnoxious persons. But by the prudence of lord mayor Combe, aided by the volunteers, no serious outrages were committed.

30. Joseph Buonaparte, on the part of the French republic, signed a treaty of amity and commerce with the United States of America.

Oct. 9. The British government refusing to negotiate on the basis of a separate peace with France, the correspondence between M. Otto and Lord Grenville was abruptly terminated.

31. The superb chapel of St. George, Windsor, finished in the Gothic style.

Nov. 7. Paul of Russia laid an embargo on British vessels to the number of 300, and their crews, contrary to usage in such cases, were taken out and sent into the interior; and all English property sequestered. The alleged ground of these outrages was that the English had taken

possession of Malta, without recognising the right to the island of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, of which the emperor was grand-master.

9. PARLIAMENT opened by the king with a speech, chiefly referring to the high price of provisions.

10. Prussia takes possession of Cuxhaven under pretext of maintaining the neutrality of the north of Germany, and thereby occasions some uneasiness in England.

The guard of a Dover coach shot near Shooter's-hill, and the coach robbed by two highwaymen.

19. Mr. Abbot introduced a bill for ascertaining the population of Britain.

22. American congress assembled, for the first time, at the new city of Washington.

Dec. 3. The Austrian army, under the archduke John, attacked the French, under Moreau, at HOHENLINDEN; but, one of the Austrian columns losing its way, they were entirely defeated with the loss of 10,000 men and eighty pieces of cannon. After this victory Moreau penetrated into the Salzburg territory, and Augereau having made himself master of Bamberg, and Brune of Trent, the emperor was again induced to propose an armistice, which was agreed to on the 25th.

15. ARMED NEUTRALITY.—The northern powers revived the armed neutrality for the protection of maritime rights, to which Prussia acceded. The basis of this league was:—1. That merchant ships under convoy are not liable to search. 2. That the effects which belong to the subjects of the belligerent powers in neutral ships, with the exception of contraband goods, shall be free. 3. That arms and ammunition only shall be considered as contraband. (*Belsh. Hist.*, xii. 99.) These maxims of international law were especially directed against England; and the establishment of them would have deprived her of the chief advantages of her naval superiority.

29. INFERNAL MACHINE.—An attempt made in Paris on the life of the first consul, by placing a combustible machine in a cart, intercepting his way to the opera; it exploded after he had passed, but did considerable damage, and destroyed several lives. Several royalists and jacobins were apprehended by the activity of Fouché, on suspicion of being contrivers of the infernal machine, and special tribunals created, with despotic powers, for the trial of the disaffected.

31. This short parliamentary session and the century closed by the king. Before his majesty withdrew, he ordered the chancellor to read a proclamation declaring that the individuals who composed the expiring parliament should be the members

on the part of Britain of the parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that this imperial parliament should assemble January 22nd, 1801.

31. CALENDAR.—Owing to the act for the correction of the calendar in 1752, this year was not a leap-year, as it otherwise would have been, and from the first day of March there was a difference of twelve days between the new and old styles, instead of eleven as formerly. By this alteration old Lady-day will be on April 5th, and so continue for a century.

IMPORT OF CORN.—The following is the quantity of corn imported into Britain, between September 26th, 1799, to September 27th, 1800:—

Wheat and flour . . .	1,261,932 qrs.
Barley	67,988
Oats	479,320
Rice	300,693 cwt.

The average price in the month of December of wheat per bushel was 16s. 4d.; barley 7s. 6d.; oats 5s. 2d.

BENTHAM'S PROJECT.—Jeremy Bentham, esq., proposed to the lords of the Treasury (*Annual Register*, xlii. 396) to take charge of the convicts now confined in the hulks; to erect a building for their detention; to feed, clothe, educate and instruct them in useful trades: all this he undertook to accomplish at a reduction in the present expense to the amount of twenty-five per cent. In the centre of his establishment he proposed to have a point of view from which a superintendent might see every convict, without being himself visible. He also proposed a subsidiary establishment, to which every convict might resort for employment in the trade in which he had been instructed, after the term of his punishment had expired.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—George Stevens, A.S.S., commentator on Shakespeare, &c. Joseph Warton, D.D. F.R.S., 78; he was brother of Thomas Warton, who died in 1790, and was the editor of an edition of Pope's works in nine vols. 8vo. William Fuller, 95, the banker of Lombard-street, worth 400,000*l.*, and who originally kept an academy in Founder's-court, Lothbury. Hon. Daines Barrington, A.S.S., 73, lawyer, antiquary, and naturalist. Mallet du Pan, 52, a French emigrant who carried on, till his death, a London journal, the "Mercure Britannique." By shooting himself with a pistol, in consequence, as alleged, of losses at play, Sir Godfrey Webster, of Battle abbey, Sussex. At Englefield-green, Mrs. Mary Robinson, the author of "Perdita," 42, a lady of considerable literary abilities and personal beauty, that had attracted the notice of the Prince of Wales. Bryan Edwards, M.P., 57, West

India merchant, and author of a "History of the British Colonies, in the West Indies." Sir Benjamin Hammet, M.P., alderman of London; a gentleman who owed his elevation to industry and perseverance, having been originally a porter on Fish-street-hill. Hugh Blair, D.D., 83, professor of rhetoric and belles lettres in the university of Edinburgh, and author of many popular works on subjects of piety, criticism and morals. Sir George Staunton, bart., secretary to earl Macartney in his embassy to China, and of which he published an account in two vols. 4to. William Cowper, the well-known poet, 69; celebrated not less for his verses and letters than sombre mental delusions.

A.D. 1801. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—At the commencement of the year every continental port was closed against the British; but the sudden death of the emperor Paul, and the victory of Copenhagen, dissolved the northern confederacy. After concluding peace with Austria the attention of the French was drawn to vast preparations for a pretended invasion of England; they answered the purpose of a real descent by alarming the kingdom and wasting the national resources in defensive preparations. In Egypt France suffered a great reverse by the decisive victory of Alexandria; after a pertinacious resistance they were compelled to capitulate to the British and evacuate the country. Meanwhile negotiations for peace were secretly carrying on between the consular and English government, which ended in the settlement of the preliminaries to a definitive treaty. The chief domestic events were,—the first meeting of the Imperial Parliament, the resignation of Mr. Pitt, and the formation of the Addington ministry, a return of the king's indisposition, and the mutiny of the fleet in Bantry Bay. The high price of bread continued till after the harvest, occasioning severe distress among the labouring classes, and much popular discontent.

Jan. 1. Being the first day of the century, as well as of the union with Ireland, it was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the firing of the Tower guns.

3. A royal proclamation declaring that in future the regal title appertaining to the imperial crown of Britain and Ireland shall be, in Latin, *Georgius Tertius, Dei gratia, Britanniarum Rex, Fidei Defensor*: English,—"George III., by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith." Thus the absurd titular assumption of "King of France," was omitted. In honour of the union many promotions were made, and new titles conferred on the nobility of Ireland; a considerable number

of whom either received advancement of rank in their own order, or were created peers of the United Kingdom. A new great seal was presented to the lord chancellor, and the members of the council took the oaths as privy councillors of the United Kingdom.

14. An order of council laying an embargo on all Russian, Danish, and Swedish vessels.

15. East India Company grant a pension of 5000*l.*, to commence from 1798, for twenty years, to the marquis Wellesley. The marquis, with the concurrence of the company, established a university at Calcutta upon a liberal and extensive scale.

22. IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT met for the first time. It was opened by commission, and Mr. Addington was unanimously re-chosen speaker.

26. Tailors' wages advanced by the city magistrates from 25*s.* to 27*s.* a week.

31. The sale of fine wheaten bread prohibited from this day, and brown bread substituted.

The situation of the French prisoners in England very deplorable, the first consul having refused to defray the expense of their clothing.

Thomas Jefferson, after a warm contest, elected president of the United States, and Mr. Burr, vice-president.

Feb. 2. The king opened parliament. Earl Fitzwilliam moved an amendment to the address, which was supported by lords Darnley, Suffolk, Carnarvon, Moira, Holland, and Fife; opposed by lords Romney, Grenville, Mulgrave, and Spencer. It was negatived by 73 to 17 peers. A similar amendment was moved by Mr. Grey in the commons, and negatived by 245 to 63 voices.

9. TREATY OF LUNEVILLE concluded between Austria and France. The whole of the left bank of the Rhine was confirmed to France from Switzerland to Holland. The independence of the Helvetic, Batavian, Cisalpine and Ligurian republics was conceded by the emperor, who was left in possession of his Venetian acquisitions; the Adige being made their boundary. The duke of Tuscany was indemnified in Germany for the loss of his duchy.

10. Mr. Addington resigned the speakership, his majesty having signified his intention of appointing him to an office with which it was incompatible. On the same day lord Grenville informed the upper house, that the ministers being unable to carry a measure they deemed essential to the tranquillity and prosperity of the empire, they had tendered their resignation, which had been accepted.

12. The earl of Pomfret appeared in court to enter into recognisances to keep the peace towards his wife.

Two reports have been made by Mr. Dodd, on the progress of his undertaking to cut a tunnel under the Thames, from Gravesend to Tilbury, for passengers and carriages. The committee examined the shaft, and found that a steam-engine would be requisite to keep out the water flowing in from the lateral springs.

14. A fire in a factory at Manchester, by which forty persons perished.

16. A return of the king's malady was announced under the name of a fever, which did not entirely leave him till March 12th. The last question discussed in the cabinet, previous to the king's indisposition, was that of the extension of political privileges to the catholics of Ireland, which Mr. Pitt had given them reason to expect as a result of the union.

RESIGNATION OF MR. PITT.—On the same day that the king's indisposition was publicly announced, Mr. Pitt took occasion in the house of commons to state the grounds on which he and some of his colleagues had retired from the ministry. This was stated to be their inability to bring forward a measure which they deemed essential to give complete effect to the union with Ireland. Such a measure Mr. Pitt stated if he had "remained in the government he must have proposed." (*Annual Register*, xliii. 129.) Among the difficulties attending the concession of political rights to the Irish catholics, Mr. Pitt did not probably foresee that of obtaining the consent of the king, who conceived it to be contrary to the obligation of his coronation oath. The objection was insuperable and long remained so; and placed the minister in the painful position of being unable to redeem the obligation he had contracted with a numerous body of subjects. This was the sole reason assigned for his resignation, and was perhaps sufficient, but other reasons may have influenced this determination. Mr. Pitt's popularity had declined. All our continental allies had deserted us, and some of them had formed a menacing league hostile to our maritime claims. The expeditions to Egypt and Copenhagen had not yet achieved their brilliant triumphs. Popular discontents were aggravated by a two years' scarcity, and war taxes, though the facility with which an enormous loan was raised in the current year, shows no great pressure of financial difficulties. Peace, however, had become desirable from the hopeless prospects of the war, and the first step to an amicable negotiation was the retirement of men whose minds were embittered by disappointment, and who had assumed a tone of decided hostility to the consular government. Mr. Pitt had been premier more than seventeen years. He was ac-

companied in his resignation by earl Spencer, lord Grenville, Mr. Dundas, and Mr. Windham, all members of the cabinet, and other changes took place afterwards.

18. The completion of the ministerial arrangements being delayed by the king's illness, Mr. Pitt continued chancellor of the exchequer, and brought forward the budget. The sum stated as the amount of necessary supplies was upwards of 35,000,000*l.*, to defray which, besides new taxes, a loan of 25,000,000*l.* was proposed.

Mr. Corry, the chancellor of the exchequer for Ireland, stated the debt of that country to amount to 36,000,000*l.*; more than thirty of which had been contracted since the commencement of the war.

Mar. 2. The state-prisoners who had long been confined in the Tower, Coldbath fields, Shrewsbury, and other county gaols, were brought to the duke of Portland's office, and most of them liberated on their own recognizances. Col. Despard, Galloway, Lemaitre, and Hodgson, refusing to give bail, were committed to Tothill-fields; they insisted upon being discharged unconditionally, or brought to trial.

3. Spain declared war against Portugal, on the ground of her connexion with England, and refusal to ratify a treaty concluded with France in 1799.

12. Lord Castlereagh introduced a bill for continuing martial law, on account of the insurrectionary state of Ireland. It was supported by all the Irish members, Sir Laurence Parsons alone excepted. Mr. Pitt paid many compliments to the talents of lord Castlereagh and his extensive knowledge of the true interests of the British empire.—*Annual Register*, xlii. 157. The bill became law.

The king's illness was distressing to the royal family, particularly as none of the regular medicines administered could induce repose. In this emergency, when professional skill was baffled, the casual observation of Mr. Addington, afterwards lord Sidmouth, upon the virtue of a pillow of hops, was acted upon, and had the effect of relieving the sufferer from his malady.

17. Henry Dundas, president of the board of control, received from the East India Company a pension of 2000*l.* a year, to be continued to him or his assigns during the continuance of the exclusive trade of the company.

ADDINGTON MINISTRY.—The new premier received his appointments on the 17th inst., but the administration was not completed till July 30th, when the duke of Portland was declared lord-president. The following was the ministerial list:—

Mr. Addington, *Premier.*
Duke of Portland, *Lord-President.*

Lords Hawkesbury, Pelham, and Hobart, *Secretaries of State.*

Earl of Westmoreland, *Lord Privy-Seal.*

Earl St. Vincent, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Hardwick, *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Lord Anekland, *Postmaster-General.*

Charles Yorke, *Secretary at War.*

Sir Edward Law, *Attorney-General.*

Spencer Percival, *Solicitor-General.*

Dudley Ryder, *Treasurer of the Navy.*

Thomas Steele and Lord Glenbervie, *Paymasters of the Army.*

The new ministry seem to have been formed with the two-fold object of putting an end to the war, and evading the agitation of the catholic question. Mr. Addington had given general satisfaction as speaker of the house of commons; he had acquired the king's personal favour by his decorous manner and respectable character, but he had no political reputation, neither had any of his colleagues. They were obviously brought forward to do what their predecessors were unable or unwilling to accomplish, and when their task was done they were dismissed.

19. Owing to the prosperity of the Bank of England, the proprietors resolved that in addition to the annual dividend of 7 1/2 per cent., a bonus of 5*l.* in navy 5 per cents. shall be paid on each 100*l.* stock.

21. A convention concluded between France and Spain, by which the latter guaranteed the renunciation of the duchy of Parma by the reigning duke to the French Republic, in lieu of which the duchy of Tuscany was assigned to the son of the duke of Parma, with the title of King of Etruria. Spain also ceded the colony of Louisiana to France and the isla of Elba.

BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA.—A large armament having been fitted out for the recovery of Egypt, under the command of sir Ralph Abercrombie, it effected a disembarkation on the 8th inst., with great spirit, at Aboukir. Advancing against the French, posted at some distance from Alexandria, a severe though indecisive action ensued on the 13th. On the 20th general Menou arrived, and concentrating the whole disposable force of the French, determined next day to attack the British. The force on each side was about 12,000. The English occupied a line about a mile in extent, nearly four miles from Alexandria, having a sandy plain in their front, the sea on their right, and the lake of Aboukir on their left. The battle began before day-light with a sham attack on the English left, which was succeeded by a real one on the right; after a long and

desperate engagement the assailants were completely defeated, and their famous corps of *Invincibles* almost annihilated. The loss of the French in killed, wounded and prisoners, was upwards of 3000; that of the British 1400. Among the latter were the gallant sir Ralph Abercrombie, who terminated a long career of brilliant services. General Hutchinson, a brave and able officer, succeeded to the command, and followed up the victory of his predecessor so effectually, that early in autumn the French army capitulated, upon condition of being conveyed with their arms, artillery, and effects to their own country. A British force from India by the way of the Red Sea arrived, under Sir David Baird, just after the conclusion of the treaty, which terminated the grand project of the French of making Egypt an entrepôt for the conquest of Hindostan.

25. Paul emperor of Russia assassinated in the 46th year of his age, and the fifth of his reign. He was succeeded by his son Alexander, whose first acts were to liberate the English from confinement, and open negotiations by which the armed neutrality was dissolved. Paul had shown signs of insanity, and this was the pretext for his destruction; but, in more civilized countries, such an unfortunate melody meets with different treatment. This extraordinary act seems to have been thought both necessary and laudable in Russia, for Alexander afterwards admitted as guests at his table the murderers of his father.

30. Sir Thomas Duckworth and general Triggs captured the Danish island of St. Thomas, and the Swedish island of Bartholomew in the West Indies.

April 2. ATTACK ON COPENHAGEN.—A powerful armament, consisting of 18 ships of the line, with a number of frigates and bomb-vessels, sailed for the Baltic, March 12th, under the command of admiral Parker, and vice-admiral Nelson. On the 30th the fleet passed the Sound, with no resistance from the Swedish, and little from the Danish side of the strait. On approaching the harbour of Copenhagen the fleet of Denmark was descried flanked and supported by powerful batteries on land and floating. An attack on this formidable crescent was entrusted, at his own request, to Nelson with twelve ships of the line, and all the smaller craft. It began at ten o'clock in the morning, and was kept up on both sides with the greatest courage for four hours, when both fleets exhibited a very shattered appearance. Seventeen sail of the enemy had been burnt, sunk, or taken; while three of the largest of the English ships, owing to the intricacies of the navigation, had grounded within reach of the enemies' land batteries.

At this juncture Nelson proposed a truce, to which the prince of Denmark promptly acceded. The loss of the English in killed and wounded was 942; that of the Danes 1800. Nelson described the battle of Copenhagen as the most dreadful he had ever witnessed.

3. The Prussian troops entered the electorate, and compelled the regency of Hanover to disband their troops. Hamburg was seized by the prince of Hesse with 15,000 Danish troops.

4. A female taken into custody named Robinson, who, under the pretence of being a rich heiress, had swindled tradesmen to the amount of 20,000*l*.

14. On the report of a secret committee, bills for further suspending the Habeas Corpus Act, and preventing seditious meetings, were passed with the usual majority. Bills of indemnity were also passed for protecting persons in authority from the consequences of their *zeal and activity* since 1793; and in Ireland, since 1799.

26. A riot in Wych-street, owing to the discovery of some human bodies, intended for anatomical purposes.

May 4. Earl Temple moved for a new writ for Old Sarum to return a member in lieu of the Rev. J. H. Tooke, who being in priest's orders, was ineligible to a seat in the house of commons. This was not agreed to, but a bill was brought in by Mr. Addington to declare persons in holy orders *in future* disqualified to sit, which became law. The exclusion of clerical representatives in the lower house cannot be esteemed unfortunate, if lord Clarendon's remark be true, that "Clergymen understand the least, and take the worst measure of human affairs, of all mankind that can read and write."

14. The income of the London corporation amounts to 92,062*l*.; its expenditure, to 87,828*l*.

18. First stone of the Stock-exchange, in Capel-court, laid by Mr. Hammond.

June 1. Embargo taken off Russian, Swedish, and Danish vessels in the British ports.

3. The foundation laid for the building of the bank of Scotland, in Bank-street, Edinburgh.

6. The Spaniards under the Prince of Peace having got possession of all the strong places in Portugal, the latter agreed to a treaty, stipulating to shut her ports against the English.

13. Thomas Spence, a poor bookseller, was sentenced by lord Kenyon to pay a fine of 50*l*., and be imprisoned a twelvemonth, for publishing a seditious libel, called "Spence's Restorer of Society;" in which he recommends the abolition of private property in land, and the vesting it in pa-

ishes, for the good of the public at large.

17. Lord St. Helens signed a convention with Russia at Petersburg, by which is conceded the right of search to ships of war; and to which Sweden and Denmark acceded.

19. The duke of York laid the first stone of the Military-asylum, Chelsea.

30. Two of the York hussars shot on Bincombe Down, pursuant to sentence of a court-martial, for an attempt to escape to France.

July 1. STEAM BOAT.—"An experiment," says the *Annual Register*, "took place on the river Thames, for the purpose of working a barge, or any other heavy craft, against tide, by means of a steam-engine on a very simple construction. The moment the engine was set to work, the barge was brought about, answering her helm quickly; and she made way against a strong current, at the rate of *two miles and a half an hour*."

2. Parliament prorogued by commission.

10. Paddington canal opened.

13. Sir James Saumarez burns near Cadiz two Spanish ships of 112 guns each, and captures one of 74 guns. Some days before, the admiral lost an English 74, by her grounding under an enemy's battery near Algeziras.

22. Grand review, by the duke of York, of the London Volunteers, amounting to 4734, in Hyde-park.

14. The queen gave a splendid rural fête in Frogmore-gardens. Six hundred of the nobility were invited by tickets; none others were admitted. Mrs. Mills personated a gipsy, delivering her poetical anguries of the future fortunes of the several members of the royal family. Ducrow exhibited his feats of strength and dexterity, balancing on his chin three coach-wheels; also a ladder, to which was affixed two chairs with two children on them. A ball at the princess Elizabeth's thatched barn concluded the entertainments.

15. An impostor named Smith, without being in orders, or in any way connected with the clerical profession, officiated for the curate of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, solemnizing marriages (which were void), baptisms, &c. He officiated for a month, and would have continued had he not been apprehended on a charge of forgery, for which he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death.

24. Colonel Clinton takes Madeira.

Aug. 4. Lord Nelson bombarded Boulogne, and sunk several gun-boats. This was only an experimental attempt to discover the position and defences of the enemy; and on the 15th and 16th it was renewed in earnest. The most desperate

courage was displayed to board and cut out the French vessels, but they were so well prepared, that only a lugger was brought off, and a severe loss was inflicted on the assailants, who showed more daring than judgment.

21. Sale by auction of Mr. Beckford's splendid furniture at Fonthill-abbey. Not a stool, a tripod, or any other article, fetched so little as a guinea. It was a sign of the times, to see plain Wiltshire farmers bidding for some of the finery in this gorgeous accumulation of an inordinate fortune and effeminate taste.

Sept. 9. Died, at Hackney, much regretted, in his 46th year, the Rev. GILBERT WAKEFIELD, late a prisoner in Dorchester gaol (*ante* 614). Mr. Wakefield had distinguished himself in Biblical and classical learning, and was a sincere lover of the truth, which he pursued with little regard to consequences, in religion, criticism, and politics. A subscription of 5000*l.* was raised for him during his long imprisonment; and he had begun a course of lectures on Virgil in London, when he was carried off by a typhus fever.

Oct. 1. Preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and France were signed at lord Hawkesbury's office, in Downing-street, by his lordship, and M. Otto, on the part of the French government. Weary of a war, now without an object, intelligence of this event was joyfully received by the people of both countries. A few days after, France concluded a peace with Russia, the Porte, and Portugal.

The emperor Alexander crowned at Moscow. Thirty thousand persons were entertained at dinner, the recruiting service for the year discontinued, fines remitted, and debtors to the crown liberated from prison.

10. General Lauriston, aid-de-camp to the first consul, having arrived with the ratification of the preliminaries, the populace took the horses from his carriage, and drew it to Downing-street. At night there was an illumination, which was renewed the next evening.

29. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who announced the signature of preliminaries, and congratulated them on our naval and military triumphs. In both houses the addresses passed unanimously. Mr. Sheridan said it was a peace of which every one was glad, but no one proud.

Nov. 3. DEBATE ON THE PRELIMINARIES.—The subject of the peace was formally debated in both houses; and in the upper house a decided opposition to its terms was expressed by lords Spencer, Fitzwilliam, Caernarvon, Buckingham, Grenville, and the bishop of St. Asaph. It was de-

fended by Moira, Bedford, St. Vincent, Nelson, Westmorland, Hobart, Pelham, and the bishop of London. Nelson said that neither Malta nor Minorca was important as a naval station. On a division the minister's address was carried by 114 to 10. In the commons the preliminaries were defended by Fox, Pitt, and Hawkesbury; and assailed by Windham, Thomas Grenville, and lord Temple. The address carried without a division.

10. Mr. Barclay, of Ury, in Scotland, for a bet of 5000*l.* engaged to walk 90 miles in 21½ successive hours. He began his task at 12 o'clock at night, on the road between York and Hull, and completed it one hour, seven minutes, and fifteen seconds within the time.

Dec. 14. A large armament of 23 ships of the line and 25,000 men sailed from Brest, for the purpose of recovering the islands of St. Domingo and Guadaloupe; permission for this purpose having been obtained from the English government.

The prize-ox at Smithfield weighed near 300 stone, at 8 lb. to the stone, and was sold for 160*l.*

24. Buonaparte declined the offer of the inhabitants of Paris, to have a statue erected to his honour in his lifetime.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Caspar Lavater, the eminent Swiss physiognomist, 60; an ingenious but enthusiastic writer. William Hoberden, M.D., 90; eminent physician and medical writer. Robert Orme, 73; a servant of the East India Company, and author of a "History of Hindostan." Colonel Cyrus Trapaud, 87; the oldest general in the service. William Drake, M.A., F.A.S., 80; an eminent scholar and antiquary. John Chapman, 95, alderman, and six times mayor of Bath. Sir Grey Cooper, 76; a pensioner, and author of some pamphlets in favour of the whigs. James Hurd, B.A., 38; author of a poem, and a critical disquisition on *tanninim*, mentioned in the Scriptures. At Hadleigh, Mrs. Chapone, 75; poetess, and author of valuable works on education.

A.D. 1802. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—Public events were lessened in number and interest by the cessation of hostilities; but though the preliminaries of peace were settled, there was a long delay in the conclusion of a definitive treaty. In the interval France was constantly giving new cause of suspicion and offence by the conclusion of secret treaties with other powers, by annexations of territory, and the assumption of authority in adjoining states. These excited uneasiness and heart-burnings, which were aggravated by the virulence of political writers in London and Paris. France had virtually ceased to be republican. By

the promulgation of a new constitution, almost absolute power had become vested in the first consul. In England the chief domestic occurrences were the dissolution of the parliament, and the discovery of a treasonable conspiracy to overturn the government, at the head of which was a military officer, smarting under a sense of real or fancied injuries. As this plot was unconnected with any political party, and its means strangely disproportioned to its purposes, it excited no alarm, and hardly any feeling save that of commiseration for its misguided partisans. The harvests of this and the preceding year were abundant, and made up for the deficiency of 1800 and 1801.

Jan. 8. Trial of the mutineers of the Bantry Bay squadron began at Portsmouth. The mutiny arose from the squadron being ordered to the West India. Fourteen of the ringleaders were found guilty, and executed.

25. The constitution of the Cisalpine republic having been re-modelled, Buonaparte was elected its president; by which it virtually became annexed to France. Further annexations became known before the peace of Amiens.

28. GOVERNOR WALL.—This person, formerly lieutenant-governor of the island of Goree, was executed at the Old Bailey, for the murder of Benjamin Armstrong, a serjeant in the African corps, by causing 800 lashes, with a rope, to be inflicted by black slaves, with such cruelty as to cause his death. The populace gave three successive shouts of exultation when this unhappy criminal was launched into eternity. He was a native of Dublin, and his trial excited intense interest from his rank, his age, and from twenty years having elapsed since the commission of the offence. Mr. Wall had long lived in obscurity; and the trial at last took place at his own solicitation, either from a wish to disburthen his mind of the atrocious charge, the probability of the death of the witnesses against him, or hope of the royal clemency. But the last was incompatible with the severe justice about the same time being executed on the mutineers of Bantry Bay.

Feb. 8. A Margate-hoy lost on the sands near Reculver, and twenty-three persons drowned.

10. Charles Abbott, late Irish secretary, chosen speaker of the house of commons, in place of sir John Mitford, now baron Redesdale, appointed lord-chancellor of Ireland.

12. A king's messenger, on his way to lord Cornwallis, was attacked by two wolves near Boulogne, who tore off the lips of the horses.

15. The petition of 200 of the principal booksellers of London presented to parliament against the high duty on paper.

24. A puffing advertisement appeared, offering to dispose of a *Queen Anne's farthing*, for which 700 guineas had been offered and refused; alleging that it was one of the only *two* coined in that queen's reign. This, however, was a mistake, if not an artifice to enhance the price. Mr. Leake, in his "History of English Money," says that in queen Anne's reign "there were some few copper *halfpence and farthings* coined," and gives a description of them, pp. 405-6, Lond. edit., 1745. From this it appears halfpence are as rare as farthings, and neither are so much so, as to bear any extraordinary price.

Two attempts recently made by an incendiary to set fire to the town of Boston in New England.

Mar. 8. The lord-chancellor determined that Bibles printed by the king's printer in Scotland could not be sold in England, but might be exported.

The sons of a noble earl (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv. 376), one of whom was breeding to be a *bricklayer*, and the other a *tanner*, have been lately seduced from these employments by their sister, to the great mortification of their father, who is disappointed in his favourite scheme.

Pic Nic SUPPER.—This season, says the *Annual Register*, has been marked by a new species of entertainment, common to the fashionable world, called a *Pic Nic* supper. It consists of a variety of dishes. The subscribers to the entertainment have a bill of fare presented to them, with a number against each dish. The lot which he draws obliges him to furnish the dish marked against it, which he either takes with him in his carriage, or sends by a servant. The proper variety is preserved by the taste of the *maitre d'hotel* who forms the bill of fare.

24. Edward duke of Kent appointed governor of Gibraltar, in the room of the late general O'Hara.

27. PEACE OF AMIENS.—Nearly six months had elapsed since the agreement to the preliminaries of peace; during which time the country had been kept in a state of anxious suspense, and no diminution could be made in the war establishments. The leading feature of the definitive treaty was, that France retained all her conquests, while the acquisitions of England during the war were all given up, except the islands of Trinidad and Ceylon. The territories of the Porte were maintained in their integrity; those of Portugal placed in the same situation as before the war; the republic of the Seven Islands acknowledged; Malta and its dependencies were restored to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, under certain restrictions. The French agreed to evacuate Naples and the Roman states; and the British, Porto Fer-

rajo, and all the ports possessed by them in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic. Such were the leading stipulations of this temporary adjustment.

29. CIVIL-LIST DEBTS.—It appeared from the report of a parliamentary committee that a debt of no less than 900,000*l.* had been contracted since the passing of Mr. Burke's reform bill; and that during the whole period of Mr. Pitt's ministry the provisions of that act had been totally disregarded. A sum, however, was voted for making good the deficiency. Two days after, Mr. Manners Sutton, solicitor to the prince of Wales, made a motion concerning the claim of his royal highness, during his minority, to the revenue of the duchy of Cornwall, amounting to 900,000*l.* The chancellor of the exchequer opposed the motion. He objected that the house was not competent to decide on the legality of the claim; but if that was allowed, the expense of the education and maintenance of the prince ought to be deducted. Mr. Fox held that the prince had a right to be maintained and educated by his father, and that the same account ought to be rendered of the revenues of Cornwall as had been done of those of the bishop of Osnaburg to the duke of York. After much discussion by the law-officers, the claim was got rid of, by moving the order of the day, which was carried by 160 to 103.

Apr. 2. Died, at Bath, lord KENYON, chief justice of the court of King's-bench, over which he had presided since the death of Mansfield, in 1788. His lordship was inferior to his predecessor in eloquence, but respectable for integrity and patience in his judicial capacity. He always manifested a stern dislike to the low practices of pettifoggers, to the pursuits of gamblers, and to the sexual irregularities of the higher orders, as evinced in cases of seduction and adultery.

5. In bringing forward the budget, Mr. Addington announced the abandonment of the income-tax. The national debt was stated to amount to 500 millions, being an increase of 400 millions during the present reign.

9. Bank Restriction Act continued.

12. A motion by sir Francis Burdett, to inquire into the conduct of the late minister, rejected by 207 to 39.

18. FRENCH CONCORDAT.—The principal articles of this agreement with the pope were the establishment of the free exercise of the Roman-catholic religion; a new division of the French dioceses; the bishops to be nominated by the first consul, and to take an oath of fidelity to the republic; the bishops to appoint the curés, but under confirmation by the government; catholics permitted to make endowments to churches. To commemorate the settlement of the

Gallican church, the first consul went in grand procession, drawn by eight horses, to the cathedral of Notre Dame.

19. Sir Edward Law, created lord Ellenborough, appointed lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench.

27. An amnesty, with the exception of those who had borne arms against France, in favour of the emigrants. They were not to interfere with the arrangements of property made previous to the amnesty; but they were restored to such remains of property as still remained in the hands of government.

29. Peace proclaimed in the metropolis. At night a brilliant illumination.

May 3. St. Domingo and its chiefs, Toussaint, Christophe, and Dessalines, submitted to the French.

5. Cleopatra's coffin, head of the Theban ram, and other Egyptian curiosities sent home by lord Elgin, landed at Portsmouth.

6. Rev. George Markham, third son of the archbishop of York, obtained 7000*l.* damages against Mr. Fawcett for *crim. con.* Mr. Erskine was counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Best, for the defendant. The criminal intercourse had existed five years before its discovery, when Mrs. Markham had become the mother of nine children. It was an aggravated case, from a long and confidential friendship having subsisted from infancy between the parties.

7. THANKS TO MR. PITT.—Mr. Nicholls, seconded by Mr. Jones, moved an address to the king, thanking him for removing Mr. Pitt from his councils: upon which lord Belgrave, seconded by Mr. Thornton, moved an amendment to the effect that it was to the energy of the king's councils the country was indebted for the protection of the constitution from foreign and domestic foes. On a division, the amendment was carried by 222 against 52. Sir Robert Peel next moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Pitt, which was carried by 211 to 52. These motions had the fate which might be expected, and were ill-timed. Parliament could not pass a vote of censure on the late minister, whom they had with large majorities supported, without passing a vote of censure on themselves.

8. Buonaparte chosen first consul for life, with liberty to choose his successor. Registers were opened in every commune throughout France on the same day, and the suffrages of the nation taken; when there appeared the vast majority of 3,577,259 citizens for, and only 9074 against, these innovations (*Belsh. Hist.*, xii. 413). In the tribunate, Carnot was the only dissident. On these great honours being conferred upon him, Buonaparte remarking on the inconstancy of fortune, said (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv, 205), "How many are

those on whom she has lavished her favours that have lived a few years too long."

13. Grand debate on the peace in both houses of parliament, but without any novelty of argument. No one affected to be proud of the treaty of Amiens, but such was the general impression of the necessity of peace to the country, and the impossibility of obtaining better terms by a protracted contest, that lord Grenville's motion in the lords was negatived by 122 to 16. In the commons a similar motion by Mr. Windham, impugning the terms of it, was negatived by the still greater majority of 276 to 20.

17. Slavery re-established in the colonies by the French legislatures.

20. A destructive fire in Woolwich Warren, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

24. A bill for the abolition of bull-baiting lost in the house of commons by 64 to 51. It was opposed by Mr. Windham, who contended that horse-racing and hunting were more cruel and immoral than bull-baiting or prize-fighting.

27. Mr. Canning's motion against the importation of fresh negroes into Trinidad negatived.

29. Mr. Pitt's birth-day commemorated at Merchant Tailors'-hall by a meeting of 900 noblemen and gentlemen; earl Spencer in the chair, who gave as a toast,—*"The pilot who weathered the storm;"* forgetting, as Mr. Belsham observes, that the storm was not weathered till the pilot was thrown overboard."

June 3. Parliament voted 10,000*l.* to Dr. Jenner for the introduction of the vaccine inoculation; and 12,000*l.* to Mr. Greathead, a ship-carpenter, of South Shields, for the contrivance of the life-boat.

26. First stone of the London Docks laid by the chancellor of the exchequer.

28. Parliament prorogued by the king, and next day dissolved by proclamation.

July 2. Died at his house in Stanhope-street, colonel BARRÉ, who began his parliamentary career contemporaneously with his countryman, Mr. Edmund Burke, and acquired celebrity by his energetic opposition to the American war. He had long held the sinecure, worth 3000*l.* a-year, of clerk of the pells, which Mr. Addington, at his death, gave to his son, then a youth at school (*Ann. Reg.* 430). Barré had been blind twenty years, but continued a cheerful companion to the last.

4. The king of Sardinia abdicated his throne in favour of his brother. Buonaparte soon after, under the pretext that the people had a right to choose their own government, annexed Piedmont to France.

15. The election for Westminster terminated in favour of lord Gardner and

Mr. Fox—Mr. Graham, an auctioneer, and the popular candidate, declining the further prosecution of the contest. Immediately the result was declared, the mob began the demolition of the hustings, appropriating to themselves, agreeably to immemorial custom, whatever parts of the structure they could carry off.

MONARCHY IN FRANCE.—The French government was making rapid strides to monarchy. By a decree of the 12th, a kind of nobility was established, under the name of the legion of honour, each member receiving a salary proportioned to his rank. Soon after a *senatus consultum* was published, organising a new constitution, which was accepted at a single sitting by the legislative body. It empowered the first consul to name his colleagues, to choose his successor, and appoint forty members of the senate, the whole number of which was 120, and prescribe the only subjects on which they should deliberate.

29. Mr. Byng and sir Francis Burdett, after a severe contest, elected members for Middlesex, in opposition to Mr. Mainwaring.

Aug. 25. Buonaparte prohibited the circulation of English newspapers: immediately the order was issued the police visited the coffee-houses and reading-rooms, seizing the English journals. A war of abuse had been carried on for some time between the English press and the *Moniteur*, the official organ of the consular government.

28. Toussaint, the late chief of St. Domingo, imprisoned at Paris under the pretext of conspiring against the French government.

30. The Preston jubilee celebrated with great pomp and festivity; it is held every twenty-one years, and this is the eighteenth since the incorporation of the guild under Edward III.

Sep. 3. Mr. Fox received with great respect by Buonaparte at the Tuileries.

The number of English at Paris estimated at 12,000.

21. DESCENT BY A PARACHUTE.—M. Garnerin, who had lately ascended in a balloon from Ranelagh, Vauxhall, and Lord's cricket-ground, undertook this day to descend in a parachute. It was made of canvas in the form of an umbrella, having at the top a large flexible hoop of about eight feet diameter. Beneath this was a basket, or tube of wicker-work, in which the aeronaut was seated. The ascent was made from near North Audley-street; and at the height of 4000 feet Garnerin cut the cord, and the parachute separated from the balloon. He descended with great rapidity; and, from the oscillation, and almost horizontal position of the

parachute and basket, the adventurer appeared in the utmost danger. After a few moments of painful suspense to the spectators, he alighted, without serious injury, in a field near St. Pancras church.

28. At Sturbich fair, a false alarm of "fire!" was given at the theatre, which caused such a rush to escape, that four persons were trampled to death and thirty bruised.

Oct. 1. Buonaparte interfered as mediator in the subsisting differences between the smaller Swiss cantons.

2. A famous robber, named Schinderrannes, apprehended. He had long spread terror on both banks of the Rhine by his daring exploits; and was supposed to have formed himself on the model of the *Carle Moore* of Schiller. He robbed only the rich, especially Jews and the clergy, and gave part of his booty to the poor. He had a gang of 200 under him, by one of whom he was betrayed.

The king of Spain annexed to the royal domains all the property of the Knights of Malta in his dominions, and declared himself grand-master of the order in Spain. It was a new obstacle to the execution of the treaty of Amiens, and was supposed to be done at the suggestion of France.

13. A swindler, under the assumed name of the hon. colonel Hope, completely duped many people at Keswick, and contrived to marry the famed "Beauty of Buttermere." His real name was John Hatfield, a married man and uncertificated bankrupt.

21. The bishopric of Osnaburg, which only belonged alternately to the house of Brunswick, was, by a decree of the German diet, secularised, and annexed to Hanover, in exchange for some territories of the electorate.

Nov. 1. During the performance of *Pe-rouse* at the Preston theatre, when the hero fired at the Indian, the wadding entered the thigh of the latter (Mr. Bannerman), which caused mortification, of which he died.

6. After an interval of thirteen months since the signing of preliminaries of peace, general Andreossi arrived as ambassador from France.

An English newspaper called the *Argus* is now published at Paris, which is unceasingly occupied in abusing the government and people of this country. The editor is named Goldsmith, formerly proprietor of the *Albion* newspaper in London, and translator of the "Crimes of Cabinets."

Lord Seaforth has introduced into the West Indies the seeds of the palm that produces the fibres from which the cord-

age and cables, called in the East Indies gomootoo, are manufactured.

16. MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—The new members elected were unusually numerous—they amounted to 184, of whom 145 were English, 14 Scotch, and 25 Irish. The elections had been carried on in Liverpool, Nottingham, Norwich, Westminster, and in Middlesex, with considerable heat, and even violence. At Norwich Mr. Windham was thrown out, and Mr. Mainwaring for Middlesex; in Westminster, Mr. Fox, the "friend of the people," had a sharp contest with the popular candidate. Upon the whole the Whig party was strengthened; but there was no division on the address in either house of parliament, though the royal speech forebode a renewal of the war: Mr. Abbot was unanimously rechosen speaker.

TREASONABLE CONSPIRACY.—Colonel Despard, who was lately discharged from Cold-Bath-Fields prison for seditious practices, was apprehended at the Oakley Arms, Oakley-street, Lambeth, with thirty-six of his confederates, principally consisting of the labouring classes—English, Irish, and Scotch, and among them three soldiers of the guards. After several previous examinations before the privy-council, the colonel and fourteen others were fully committed to take their trial for high treason before a special commission.

29. In the court of king's bench, Hamlyn, a tinman at Plymouth, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of 100*l.*, for offering Mr. Addington a bribe of 2000*l.* to procure for him the place of land-surveyor.

Dec. 10. Lord Ellenborough ruled that no witness should be bound to answer any question which tends to degrade himself, or to show himself to be infamous. This doctrine was warmly oppugned by Mr. Erakine, but his lordship affirmed it to be the law of England.

29. A jobbing gardener, who for twenty years had lived in a cave or hermitage on the borders of Sydenham-common, near Dulwich, and acquired the appellation of the "Man of the Woods," was barbarously murdered by the gipsies of that neighbourhood.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—The Rev. Arthur O'Leary, 73, a popular catholic clergyman, and founder of St. Patrick's chapel, Soho. At Dublin, John Fitzgibbon, earl of Clare, lord chancellor of Ireland, and a statesman deeply engaged in the coercive policy of the Irish government. John Moore, M.D., 72, author of 'Zeluco,' and books of travels. Alexander Geddes, LL.D., 65, a learned Roman catholic, who, under the patronage of lord Petre, commenced a new

and literal translation of the Scriptures, which was not much encouraged either by the divines of his own or of the protestant faith. Welbore Ellis, F. R. S., lord Mendip, 89, one of the Portland party, and often referred to by Junius in not very respectful terms. At Lucknow, in the East Indies, general Claud Martin, who bequeathed a fortune of 475,000*l.* almost entirely to charitable uses. At Woburn, much respected, Francis duke of Bedford, 37; his grace sunk under a surgical operation for hernia; he was never married, and was succeeded in his title and estates by his next brother, lord John Russell. Joseph Strutt, 55, author of "Sports and Pastimes." At Paris, M. de Calonne, the celebrated finance-minister of Louis XVI.

PUBLIC STATUTES. XXXIII. TO XLIII. OF GEORGE III.

33 Geo. III., c. 1. To prevent the circulation of French assignats; also the export of arms.

Cap. 2. Export of naval stores restrained.

Cap. 13. Determines the commencement of acts of parliament by directing the clerk of parliament to endorse the date of the royal assent to every statute, which endorsement fixes the time of commencement, unless some other time is fixed in the act itself.

Cap. 27. Traitorous correspondence bill (*expired*).

Cap. 54. For the encouragement of friendly societies.

34 Geo. III., c. 23. Establishing a copyright in designs and prints of linens, cottons, calicoes, &c.

Cap. 83. Controverted elections in parliament, relating to the time of presenting and considering petitions.

35 Geo. III., c. 34. Idle persons may be sent by magistrates to the navy.

Cap. 101. Prevents the removal of poor persons till they become actually chargeable.

Cap. 124. Woolcombers allowed to follow their own, or any other trade, in any part of the kingdom, without being liable to removal from their new places of residence till actually chargeable.

36 Geo. III., c. 7. For better preservation of the king and government against treasonable and seditious practices.

Cap. 8. For the prevention of seditious meetings (*expired*).

Cap. 9. For preventing riotous obstructions to the free passage of grain, and the bringing of it to market.

Cap. 23. Allowing occasional relief to the poor in their *own houses*.

Cap. 60. Regulates vending and making of metal buttons.

37 Geo. III., c. 45. Restriction of payments in specie by the Bank of England. (*ante*, p. 602.)

Cap. 119. Negroes not to be chattels for the payment of debts in the British American colonies. Before this act negroes were liable to be taken in execution for debt.

Cap. 127. Shortens the time of notice for meeting of parliament; regulates meeting of, in case of demise of the crown.

38 Geo. III., c. 78. Restricting the printing and publishing of newspapers.

39 Geo. III., c. 79. For suppressing seditious societies and practices.

Cap. 110. Augmenting salaries of judges in Westminster-hall.

39 and 40 Geo. III., c. 67. Union between Great Britain and Ireland. (p. 621 and *post*.)

Cap. 88. Regulates the disposition of the private property of the king, accruing from his privy-purse, and those small branches of the crown revenues not surrendered in lieu of the civil-list allowance.

Cap. 93. Regulates trials on high treason, and misprision thereof.

Cap. 98. Prohibits all trusts and directions in wills, whereby the profits of real or personal estate are settled to accumulate for a longer term than twenty-one years, or during the minority of any person living or *in ventre sa mère*, at the time of the death of the grantor or testator. This act originated in the eccentric will of Mr. Thelussou (p. 604), the validity of which became a subject of protracted litigation.

41 Geo. III., c. 15. For taking a census of the population of Great Britain.

Cap. 52. Declaring who is disqualified for sitting and voting in the house of commons of the united kingdom; and what offices in Ireland disqualify from being members of parliament.

Cap. 63. Persons in holy orders declared ineligible to sit in parliament. It arose out of the return of Horne Tooke (*ante*, p. 627), who, however, was suffered to retain his seat till the dissolution of parliament, in the following year.

Cap. 107. Secures the copyright of books to the authors or their assigns in the united kingdom. Ireland had no copyright act prior to this statute.

42 Geo. III., c. 1. Grants premiums on ships employed in the southern whale fishery.

Cap. 42. Repeals the income-tax.

Cap. 73. For preserving health and morals of persons employed in cotton-mills.

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

The war of 1793 was entered into with

sanguine expectations that it would be of short duration. In a military sense France was far from formidable; her army in 1792 did not exceed the usual peace establishment of 130,000 men, and its strength was greatly impaired by the emigration of its principal officers, as well as by the general relaxation attendant on a continental peace of thirty years. All the chances of the contest were in favour of the allies; in the number and discipline of their armies, in extent of financial means, and the stability of their governments, they possessed a decided superiority; a single campaign seemed sufficient to humble the French, to march to Paris, and re-establish the monarchy. These anticipations proceeded upon the old common-place data of politicians, without contemplating the revolutionary resources of talent, energy, and enthusiasm — issues of assignat, levies en masse, and confiscations of property, about to be placed at the disposal of the new rulers of France.

During the first four years of the war no extraordinary fiscal expedient was resorted to; the deficiency in the taxes was supplied by annual loans, which rapidly increased from 11,000,000*l.* in 1794 to 32,500,000*l.* in 1797. In the latter year the war-taxes, chiefly from the increase in the assessed taxes, amounted only to 3,000,000*l.*; but the great loan of 1797, combined with other causes, depressed the 3 per cents. below 48, and rendered a new system of finance necessary to the support of public credit. Upon this emergency Mr. Pitt resolved, by a great increase of the war-taxes, to raise a large portion of the supplies within the year; the public, from the increase of riches, and the general prosperity, being well able to bear additional burdens. This plan was vigorously acted upon in 1798 by the imposition of the income-tax, which at once raised the war-taxes to 12,000,000*l.*; in 1799 to 17,000,000*l.*; in 1801 to 17,000,000*l.*; and in 1802 to 19,000,000*l.*—(*Lowe's Present State of England*, p. 22.) The increase of taxes, however, caused no relaxation in the system of borrowing; greater the means placed at the disposal of government, and greater the expenditure; till at length the war-loans amounted to upwards of forty millions.

The following statement from Dr. Hamilton (*Inquiry into the National Debt*, 3rd edit. pp. 157, 269) exhibits the sums raised by taxes and loans from the commencement of the war in 1793 to the peace of Amiens:—

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
	£	£
1793	17,170,400	4,500,000

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
	£	£
Car. for.	17,170,400	4,500,000
1794	17,308,811	11,000,000
1795	17,858,454	18,000,000
1796	18,737,760	25,500,000
1797	20,654,650	32,500,000
1798	30,202,915	17,000,000
1799	35,229,968	18,500,000
1800	33,896,464	20,500,000
1801	35,415,096	28,000,000
1802	37,240,213	25,000,000

£263,714,731 £200,500,000

The total sums raised by taxes and loans was 464,214,731*l.*; deducting from this sum the probable charge, had peace been preserved, of 18,000,000*l.* per annum, it shows the war-expenditure to the peace of Amiens to have amounted to 284,214,731*l.*, being an average yearly expenditure on account of hostilities of 28,421,473*l.*.

	Principal.	Interest.
	£	£
National Debt } in 1793	254,306,435	10,868,975
Ditto at the } end of 1802	629,467,529	27,043,625

Increase 375,161,094 16,174,650

Extraordinary as these financial exertions were, we shall find them greatly exceeded in the second period of the revolutionary war that began in 1803.

COMMERCE, SHIPPING, AGRICULTURE.

As no market of importance was closed against England by the breaking out of the war, British commerce continued steadily to increase after its commencement. In 1793 there was a mercantile revulsion and a great number of failures, but they were unconnected with the war, and arose from the speculations in corn by some great houses, and the general spirit of over-trading during the nine antecedent years of peace. After Holland was overrun by the French, and forced into the war against this country, the shipping interest was benefited by obtaining a part of the carrying trade of the United Provinces; but only to a limited extent, as the largest portion of this navigation was transferred to neutrals, Americans, Danes, Swedes, and Prussians. It was mainly a continental, not a naval or mercantile war; and, in consequence, the impulse previously given by numerous mechanical discoveries and improvements to commercial and manufacturing industry continued unabated to the peace of Amiens. In the subjoined statement it appears that the official value of the cargoes exported more than doubled from 1793 to 1802; and the amount of

tonnage employed in the export trade of Great Britain increased in nearly an equal ratio:—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1793	1,281,447	£20,390,180
1794	1,557,099	26,748,083
1795	1,400,296	27,123,338
1796	1,563,105	30,518,913
1797	1,351,371	28,917,010
1798	1,508,666	33,591,777
1799	1,535,926	35,991,329
1800	1,924,042	43,152,019
1801	1,958,373	42,100,832
1802	1,895,116	46,120,962

AGRICULTURE would, in the ordinary course, have benefited by the prosperity of commerce, had not its natural tendency been partly counteracted. The first effect of the war was to withdraw from agriculture a portion of labour and capital, to produce a rise in the rate of interest, and to necessitate the abandonment of many projects of improvement, such as drainages, canals, and other undertakings dependent for success on a low rate of interest. The scarcity of capital was partly remedied by the Bank Restriction Act and increased issues of paper money; but another cause operated disadvantageously. This was the unfavourableness of the seasons. In the ten years, from 1793 to 1802 inclusive, there were only three good harvests; the rest unfavourable. In 1793 the season was favourable; in 1794-5, a partial deficiency in each year; in 1796-7-8, seasons less unfavourable; 1799-1800, bad seasons; in 1801-2, good crops.—(Love's Present State of England, p. 130.) As any rise in price, occasioned by a bad harvest, is not an equivalent for a deficiency in the crops, it is obvious that the seasons were against agricultural improvement.

The backwardness of agriculture and high price of wheat in 1795-6 originated, in 1797, a parliamentary inquiry into the waste-lands of the kingdom, and the passing of enclosure acts. In the Report of the Committee it is stated, that the first enclosure act, according to the modern system, was passed in 1710. (Ann. Reg. xxix. 411.) Only one other act passed in Queen Anne's reign. The number of acts passed, and acres of land enclosed, up to 1797, is stated as follows:—

Reign.	Acts.	Acres.
Anne	2	1,439
Geo. I.	16	17,660
Geo. II.	226	319,778
Geo. III.	1532	2,804,197

The Committee estimated the acreage of England at 46,000,000; of which 1,200,000 acres were common fields, and imperfectly cultivated, and 9,800,000

waste or common, leaving one-fifth part open to a general enclosure act.

The following statement will elucidate the condition of labourers in husbandry in the period under notice; it is the weekly expenses of the family of an agricultural labourer, consisting of 5½ persons, being an average of the expense of 65 families of labourers in different parts of England, collected by Sir F. Eden in 1796:—

	s.	d.
Bread, flour, or oatmeal	6	5
Yeast and salt	0	2
Bacon or other meat	1	2
Tea, sugar, and butter	1	2½
Soap	0	3½
Candles	0	4
Cheese	0	4½
Beer	0	3
Milk	0	3
Potatoes	0	7
Thread and worsted	0	2½

Exclusive of rent, fuel, clothes, deaths, births, and sickness, which made the average expense amount to 36*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* a-year.

Wages, both in husbandry and skilled trades, were greatly advanced by the high price of provisions in 1800-1; those of labourers fully one-half, and those of the carpenter, bricklayer, mason, and plumber, rose to above double the rates mentioned on a former occasion (p. 567).

PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

Prices of PUBLIC STOCKS in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT at Windsor market:—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1793	76	172	183	1304	55
1794	68	159	204	816	54
1795	63	152	184	708	81
1796	69	176	216	760	80
1797	55	141	170	869	62
1798	48	118	148	721	54
1799	53	138	163	556	75
1800	61	155	197	745	127
1801	58	151	201	852	128
1802	68	183	211	—	67

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England; the Number of Barrels of BEER charged to the Excise duty in England and Wales; and the pounds weight of TEA sold at the Sales of the East India Company:—

Year.	Circulation.	Beer.	Tea.
1793	11,376,980	7,202,313	17,373,687
1794	10,515,400	7,044,813	19,112,043
1795	12,439,850	7,067,304	21,307,609
1796	9,988,150	7,549,213	20,577,894
1797	10,394,450	7,942,561	18,780,031
1798	12,638,220	7,954,101	22,813,271

Year.	Circulation.	Beer.	Tea.
	£		
1799	13,174,645	7,982,601	24,070,340
1800	15,945,825	6,759,803	23,378,816
1801	15,389,695	6,427,529	24,470,645
1802	16,142,155	6,714,693	25,144,171

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follow:—

Year.	Coals, pr chal.	Coffee, pr cwt.	Flour, pr sock.	Sugar, pr cwt.	Tea, per lb.
1793	26	100	38	43	20
1794	27	100	38	42	20
1795	33	100	48	34	22
1796	—	134	80	58	26
1797	25	126	45	51	24
1798	35	138	45	58	26
1799	38	170	45	59	30
1800	33	128	90	34	24
1801	37	150	130	55	26
1802	—	110	70	33	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and Sheep sold in Smithfield Market, with the Christenings and Burials within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Yr.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Chats.
1793	116,848	728,480	21,749	19,108
1794	109,448	119,420	19,241	18,689
1795	131,092	745,640	21,179	18,361
1796	117,152	758,840	19,288	18,826
1797	108,377	693,510	17,014	18,645
1798	107,470	753,010	18,155	17,927
1799	122,986	834,400	18,134	18,970
1800	125,073	842,240	23,068	19,176
1801	134,546	760,560	19,374	17,814
1802	126,389	743,470	19,379	19,918

The increase of burials in 1800-1 was, doubtless, partly caused by the dearth, approaching to famine, of these years; it is by connecting such effects with their causes that a value is given to statistical tables.

CANAL-NAVIGATION, PORT OF LONDON.

The first efforts to extend internal navigation were directed to the widening, deepening, and otherwise improving the natural rivers of the kingdom. In 1635 Mr. Sandys formed a project for rendering the Avon navigable, through the counties of Warwick, Worcester, and Gloucester, "that the towns and country might be better supplied with wood, iron, pit-coal, and other commodities." Similar attempts, in other districts, continued to be made for a century later; but for the most part with indifferent success. Rivers not communicating direct with the sea, and unaided by the tide, mostly form expensive

and uncertain channels for the conveyance of merchandise. The ascent of them is laborious; their banks and beds are constantly undergoing changes by the shifting of sands, and the action of the current, and of floods; they are often impassable in summer, from drought; and in winter, from inundations. These difficulties in the way of river-navigation suggested the expediency of abandoning the channels of most rivers, and of digging parallel to them artificial channels, in which the water might be kept at the proper level by means of locks.—(*McCulloch's Com. Dict.*, 211.) The first lateral canal of this sort in England was begun 1755, for improving the navigation of Sankey-brook on the Mersey. But it is to the Duke of Bridgewater, and his celebrated engineer, James Brindley, that the country is chiefly indebted for this description of internal navigation. Possessing valuable coal-fields on his estate at Worsley, seven miles from Manchester, but the sale for which was diminutive, owing to the expense of transport, the duke sought to obviate the disadvantage. He first thought of making Worsley-brook navigable to the Irwell, which, was itself navigable to Manchester; but was diverted from the project by Mr. Brindley, who was aware of the inconvenience of river conveyance, and whose favourite idea was that "rivers were chiefly valuable to feed navigable canals." Acting on the suggestion of this bold and ingenious engineer, the duke constructed a level canal from Worsley to Manchester, carrying it over the Irwell by an aqueduct 39 feet high. The canal in 1761 was extended by a side-branch running through Cheshire, parallel to the Mersey, and falling into that river at Runcorn, by which a safer and cheaper conveyance by water was opened from Manchester to Liverpool. Immense benefits resulted from these enterprises; the price of coals was reduced to one-half at Manchester; the rates of carriage from that place to Liverpool had heretofore been 12s. per ton by the Mersey, and 40s. per ton land-carriage: by act of Parliament the duke was limited to the charge of 6s. per ton on his canal, which was a speedier and better conveyance.

Notwithstanding the great reduction in the price of coals at Manchester, and the rates of carriage to Liverpool, the noble proprietor realised, as he deserved to do, an immense revenue from his spirited undertakings; and the success which attended them gave a wonderful impulse to canal navigation. In 1766 Mr. Brindley was employed to connect the Trent and Mersey by a canal, called the Grand Trunk Canal, but he died in 1772, five years before the completion of this undertaking. He had

formed the idea of joining the four great ports of London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Hull by grand canals, from which subsidiary branches might be carried to contiguous towns;—a magnificent conception, that was subsequently realised, though he did not live to see it.

The west riding of Yorkshire was early distinguished by efforts to improve internal navigation. The communication between the Mersey and Humber by the Grand Trunk Canal is circuitous and tedious; and another more northerly line of communication was formed, not less circuitous, certainly, but with the advantage of passing through the chief seats of the cotton and woollen manufacture. A canal was opened from Liverpool, by the way of Skipton, to Leeds, thence communicating at Selby, by the Air and Calder navigation, with the Humber. This gigantic work was begun in 1790: it took forty-six years to complete it, and cost 1,200,000*l.* (*Statistics of the British Empire*, ii, 187.) Notwithstanding its enormous cost, and the competition of other lines, it has become, contrary to what was long anticipated, remunerative to the shareholders. The most extraordinary canal undertaking in this part of the country is the Rochdale and Huddersfield canal, carried over the central ridge that separates Yorkshire from Lancashire. The summit of the canal is 656 feet above the level of the sea, being the highest elevation of any canal in the kingdom; and is carried through a rocky mountain, called Standedge, by a tunnel three miles in length. In speaking of this gigantic work at the period of its completion, the *Annual Register* says, "A century ago the Yorkshire hills were with difficulty passed on horseback; they are now crossed by three navigable canals, on which a million of money has been expended."

The profitable returns from the Bridgewater and other canals had the effect of generating a spirit of speculation. In the summer of 1792 there was quite a rage for these undertakings; and the shares in the Grand Trunk, the Stourbridge, Birmingham, Fazely, and other canals, rose to enormous premiums (p. 561). The consequence was that many projects were entered upon without due consideration either as to their cost or utility; they were the schemes of adventurers, who only sought to profit by the prevailing intoxication, and many became the dupes of their exaggerated representations.

The period under notice was also remarkable for the great improvements effected in the ports and harbours of the kingdom. These partly resulted from the extension of canal navigation, but more

directly from the vast increase of shipping and commerce. This was peculiarly the case with the Port of London. It was only after the termination of the American war, and the loss of the transatlantic colonies, that the commerce of the river Thames began rapidly to increase. At the commencement of the 18th century, in the year 1700, exclusive of the coasting-trade, the

Imports amounted to . . .	£4,875,538
Exports	to 5,387,767

Total £10,263,325

At the middle of the century, in 1750, the

Imports were	£5,540,564
Exports . . . . .	. . . . . 8,415,218

Total £13,955,782

So that in half a century the exports and imports together had increased only 3,692,456*l.* But in the six years from 1790 to 1796, the trade of the port of London, notwithstanding the war, increased more than triple the amount of its advance during the first fifty years of the century, as appears from the following statement:—

Imports and Exports, 1790	£ 22,992,095
Idem 1796	33,262,046

Increase £ 10,269,951

In 1796 the exports and imports of all the out-ports of England amounted to 17,476,953*l.*, or about one-half the trade of the port of London. The accommodations for this vast increase in the traffic of the Thames became quite inadequate, it being prior to the erection of those magnificent works, the London and the East and West India Docks, with their vast piles of warehouses. About 13,000 vessels arrived annually in the river; their cargoes had to be landed at what were termed the *legal* quays, twenty in number, extending from London-bridge to the Tower; or, if these were insufficient, at the sufferance-wharfs on the opposite side of the Thames. It was only the smaller craft that could approach the quays; all the larger vessels were obliged to deliver their cargoes by the means of lighters, as colliers continue to do. The American ships, and the ships in the West India trade, employed lighters. The East India ships discharged their cargoes into decked hoys belonging to the Company. The delay in the delivery of cargoes was often very great; and in particular seasons of the year, when the Pool was crowded with shipping, the confusion was indescribable. Innumerable opportunities were afforded for pillage, fraud, and embezzlement. The revenue suffered, and

Individuals sustained immense losses from depredation and the exposure of their property on the wharfs; sugars and other valuable commodities often remaining for months unprotected upon the quays, six or eight hogheads high. In 1796 a parliamentary committee was appointed to devise remedies for these disorders, and better accommodation for the increased trade of the river. But no legislation followed the appointment of this committee. In 1799 the subject was revived; and the present dock system was entered upon in good earnest, by passing an act for the erection of the West India Docks (39 Geo. III. c. 69). In a year or two after, (*vide* Jan. 1804) acts were passed for the erection of the London and East India Docks. These, with the establishment of the Thames police, effected a complete revolution and vast improvement in the navigation of the port of London.

CENSUS OF THE POPULATION.

It was a remarkable indifference in the Legislature to economical inquiries of great public interest, that no measure was adopted for obtaining an authentic enumeration of the people till the year 1800. Prior to that time the population of England was a matter of conjecture, and very discordant opinions were entertained on the subject by public writers. It was the opinion of Dr. Price, supported by some ingenious remarks on births and burials, that there had been a *gradual decline* in the populousness of England since the revolution of 1688; and that at the time he wrote, about 1780, the number of people in England and Wales amounted only to 4,763,000, being 737,000 less than Gregory King's estimate of the population in 1699 (*ante* p. 266). This statement excited great attention, and encountered a sharp opposition from those who were sanguine in their representations of national prosperity. Arthur Young justly inferred, from the progress of improvements in agriculture, in manufactures, and in commerce, an augmentation in the number of the people. Messrs. Eden, Howlett, and Wales entered the lists against Dr. Price, to show that the public returns on which he relied for the verity of his conclusions were most erroneous, and his reasonings, besides, were illogical and inconclusive. These rejoinders had the effect of reviving the public spirit; and the friends of Dr. Price were so far impressed by them as to be reduced to a state of sceptical suspense, in which they admitted the "uncertainty of the present population." Parliament, however, still remained quiescent: either from superstitious notions of the impiety of an inquiry into the numbers of

the people, or reluctance to betray the desolateness of the country to the enemy, they took no steps to solve remaining doubts, and the statistical controversy on the subject was kept up, with little intermission, to the end of the century. It might not have been then terminated by an authorised investigation, had not the severe distresses of the people in 1795-6, and more acutely in 1800, forcibly suggested the importance of ascertaining whether they were occasioned, or in what degree, by an increase in the number of consumers, or a deficiency of agricultural produce? The results of the parliamentary inquiry satisfactorily showed that the people had increased, were increasing, and, in the opinion of some, ought to be diminished, either by emigration, moral restraint, or some other of the preventive checks of Mr. Malthus.

The Population Act, introduced by Mr. Abbot in 1800, has been repeated at every decenary period down to 1831. Availing himself of the returns of births, marriages, and deaths, obtained under these acts, Mr. Finlayson has drawn up a statement of the progress of the population through the whole of the last century. From this statement, which is subjoined, it appears that population rather declined in the first ten years after 1700, and that it only increased slowly during the tranquil reigns of George I. and II. In 1760 the inhabitants of towns began rapidly to multiply, from the powerful impulses given to commercial and manufacturing industry by mechanical inventions.

Progress of the Population of England and Wales from the year 1700 to 1800:—

Year.	Population.	Year.	Population.
1700	5,134,516	1760	6,479,730
1710	5,066,337	1770	7,227,586
1720	5,345,351	1780	7,814,827
1730	5,687,993	1790	8,540,738
1740	5,829,705	1800	9,187,176
1750	6,039,684		

For more detailed returns of the population in 1801 and subsequent years, see 1831, when the latest census was taken. No complete census of the population of Ireland was taken till 1821.

UNION WITH IRELAND.

The chief epochs in the history of Ireland up to the present era were the great revolution in the landed property of the kingdom under the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell (*ante* p. 247); the Treaty of Limerick in 1691, which guaranteed to the catholics the religious immunities enjoyed under Charles II.; the efforts of the Irish volunteers in 1782 to obtain from the English government a free trade; and succes-

sive mitigations, in the course of the reign of George III., of a penal code, that not only subjected catholics to severe religious disqualifications, but interdicted to them the ordinary rights of property, inheritance, and marriage. In 1793 catholics were admitted to vote for members of parliament. It was only by a violation of the articles of Limerick that they were excluded from seats in the house of commons. During the reign of Charles II. catholics sat in parliament, and they were only excluded by a statute of William III., which required the members of both houses to take the oath of supremacy. As the Irish house of commons assumed to be independent of the English, this statute did not extend to Ireland, but it was acquiesced in, and catholics ceased to sit in parliament. The Irish house of commons, indeed, for a long period after the Restoration, was not legislative; it was a mere council placed at the arbitrary will of the executive government. It met only every two years; and the members held their seats, not by triennial or septennial election, but during the pleasure of the crown.

The close of the rebellion of 1798 offered to Mr. Pitt a favourable opportunity for terminating the separate existence of the Irish parliament. The loyal part of the population were alarmed by the evidence of foreign connexions which that disastrous experiment disclosed; and many who had engaged in the struggle, and were distracted between the fear of punishment and the hope of mercy, were glad to purchase safety by acquiescence in the minister's scheme. The catholics were seduced by delusive hopes of emancipation; and while the established church was assured of its ascendancy, protection was held out to sectarians. To lord Castlereagh, under the guidance of the viceroy, the marquis Cornwallis, was confided the operative part of procuring the concurrence of the Irish parliament. The principle upon which the chief secretary proceeded was that of preventing loss and of securing benefits to those possessed of political influence. Some, like sir Jonah Barrington, however, refused to be won, and preferred the glory of legislative independence—though it had never been productive of benefit to Ireland—to the most seductive lures of the minister.

Lord Castlereagh's first object was to introduce into the house of commons, by means of a Place Bill, a sufficient number of dependents to balance opposition. He next openly announced a scale of compensation, to all who chose to accept it, for the loss of patronage and interest. First, he proposed that to every nobleman who returned members to parliament should be

paid 15,000*l.* for every member he returned. Secondly, that every member who had purchased a seat in parliament should have his purchase-money repaid to him by the Irish treasury. And, thirdly, that all other members, and those who were losers by the Union, should receive full compensation for their losses. In order to carry these objects into effect, 1,500,000*l.* was raised by taxation on the people of Ireland to buy up the interests of their representatives and of the borough proprietors.

The sums paid, as stated by sir Jonah Barrington, to the following (*Historic Memoirs of Ireland*, ii. 342), will elucidate the scale of compensation:—

Lord Shannon for his patronage in the Commons	£45,000
The marquis of Ely	45,000
Lord Clanmorris, besides a peerage	23,000
Lord Belvidere, besides his <i>douceur</i>	15,000
Sir Hercules Langrishe	15,000

By this mode of procedure the obstacles which had opposed the legislative union of England and Ireland were removed. Sir Jonah Barrington says (*Historic Memoirs*, ii. 376) that twenty-five members who had successfully opposed the union in 1799 voted for it in 1800, making a difference of fifty in its favour. In England there was some difference of opinion as to its policy. Mr. Fox, as before noticed, was against the union, on the ground that the influx of Irish members into the imperial parliament would be so much additional weight placed at the disposal of the crown. Lords Holland, Thanet, and King signed a protest against the union in the upper house (*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 201). They relied on precedent; alleging that the union with Scotland was a source of discontent and tumult; and that the Scotch peers petitioned for its dissolution six years after it was concluded.

MEM OF LETTERS.

William Robertson, D.D., modern historian, 1721—1793. "History of Scotland during the Reigns of Queen Mary and James VI," 2 vols. 4to., 1759; "History of the Emperor Charles V," 3 vols. 4to., 1769; "History of America," 2 vols. 4to., 1777; "Disquisition concerning the Knowledge which the Ancients had of India," 4to., 1791.

Horace Walpole (earl of Orford), 1718—1797. "Royal and Noble Authors," 1758; "Anecdotes of Painting," 2 vols. 4to., 1761; "Castle of Otranto," 1765; "Historic Doubts of Richard III," 1769;

A collective edition of Walpole's Letters and Manuscript Works was published in 1798, in 5 vols. 4to.

James Bruce, Abyssinian traveller, 1730—1794. "Travels," 4 vols. 4to., 1796.

John Hunter, eminent anatomist, 1728—1793. "Natural History of the Teeth," 4to., 1771; "Observations on the Animal Economy," 1786; "Treatise on the Blood and Gun-shot Wounds," 1790.

George Colman, dramatist and essayist, 1733—1794.

Thomas Reid, Scottish divine and metaphysician, 1710—1796. "Inquiry into the Human Mind on principles of Common Sense," 1764; "Essays on Intellectual Powers of Man," 1786; "Essays on the Active Powers," 1788.

Edward Gibbon, Roman historian, 1737—1794. "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," 1st vol. 4to. 1776, 2nd and 3rd vols. 1781, and the remaining 3 vols. of this great work in 1788; "Miscellaneous Works," 2 vols. 4to., posthumous, in 1796.

William Mason, poems and biography, 1725—1797.

Edmund Burke, celebrated orator, 1730—1797. "Vindication of Natural Society," 1756; "Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful," 1757; "Annual Register," vol. i. 1758 (*vide* p. 604); "Short Account of a Short Administration;" "Thoughts on the Cause of present Discontents," 1770; "Reflections on the French Revolution," 1790; "Letter to a Member of the National Assembly," 1791; "An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs;" "Letter to a Noble Lord on his Pension;" "Thoughts on a Regicide Peace;" "Letter to Sir Hercules Langrishe on the Catholics," 1792.

Robert Burns, Scottish poet, 1759—1796.

Joseph Milner, sermons and church history, 1744—1797.

Hugh Blair, Scottish divine, 1718—1800. "Sermons," 1777; "Lectures on Composition," 1783.

Sir William Jones, lawyer and orientalist, 1746—1794. "De Poesi Asiatica," 1774; "Legal mode of Suppressing Riots," 1780; "Dialogue between a Farmer and a Country Gentleman," 1782; "Ordinances of Menu," 1794; with various papers in the Asiatic Researches.

James Boswell, 1740—1795. "Account of Corsica," 1768; "Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.," 2 vols. 4to., 1790.

Joseph Strutt, artist and antiquary, 1749—1802. "Regal and Ecclesiastical Antiquities of England," 4to., 1773; "Biographical Dictionary of Engravers," 2 vols., 1786; "Dresses and Habits of the English," 4to., 1792; "Sports and Pastimes of the People of England," 1801.

James Macpherson, Scottish writer, 1738—1796. "Fragments of Ancient Poetry," 1760; "Poems of Ossian," 1763. Macpherson was also author of several historical works, and of a prose translation of Homer's Iliad.

William Cowper, poet, 1731—1800. "Tirocinium," a poem; "The Task," 1785; Translation of Homer into blank verse, 2 vols. 4to., 1791.

Erasmus Darwin, physician and poet, 1721—1802. "Botanic Garden," 1781; "Zoonomia, or Laws of Organic Life," 1793; "Philosophy of Agriculture and Gardening," 1801.

GEORGE III. A.D. 1803 to 1816

THE second period of the great revolutionary war was terminated by the decisive battle of Waterloo, and the settlement of Europe under its ancient dynasties. It is pregnant with grand military achievements. Directed by a chief of transcendent genius, France overpowered in rapid succession the continental states, and aspired to the glory of universal dominion. England singly stood forth to challenge her ambitious pretensions, and sought, by her maritime preponderance, like Carthage of old, to limit her territorial encroachments. A second Punic war ensued, distinguished by wonderful vicissitudes, but the sequel of which, contrary to that recorded of the memorable struggle of the rival commonwealths of the Roman era, terminated in the signal triumph of the naval power.

The Treaty of Amiens was never consummated. A hollow peace was agreed to, but confidence was not inspired, and both combatants remained with lance at rest, ready to renew the conflict. France complained of the non-evacuation of Malta; England rejoined that the evacuation of the

island to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem had become impracticable, in consequence of the conduct of France and Spain, in having destroyed the independence of the Order by the sequestration of its revenues. Other and more serious grounds of mistrust and irritation subsisted between the two nations. Misled by a military education, the First Consul sought the greatness of France chiefly by an extension of empire, and was unceasingly occupied in projects of aggrandisement, in forming secret alliances, in fitting out expeditions hostile to England, in annexations of territory, and in sending out exploratory missions to Egypt, and even to this country*. These proceedings excited the suspicion and jealousy of England. Moreover, a powerful war-faction existed, which had from the first deprecated the peace of Amiens either as dangerous or inglorious, and seized every opportunity to aggravate the differences and, if possible, produce a rupture between the two countries. The British press was the chief instrument employed. Buonaparte's character and personal history were depicted in revolting colours, and his own unguarded demeanour afforded plausible pretexts for the exaggerations of party writers. Naturally arrogant, and elated and restless by his sudden elevation to supreme power, he betrayed a petulance and want of dignity unworthy of his high station. He personally insulted the English ambassador, questioned the right of England to meddle in continental affairs, and, in soldierly gasconade, boasted that Britain could not contend singly against France. The last, more than the infliction of any real injury, or the violation of any compact, produced a renewal of hostilities. National pride was hurt, and the prejudices of the people roused; so that the second war began, like the first, with the popular sanction.

The situation of the two countries was unfortunate: they could neither live at peace nor effectually wage war against each other. Like quarrelsome boys on the opposite sides of a brook, they could only throw stones at a distance. All, however, that could be done for mutual injury and annoyance was promptly executed. England swept the seas of the enemy, and took possession of her colonies; France seized Hanover, despite of the declaration of George III. that he was at war only as king of England, not as German elector. Contrary to international usage but on the plea that French ships had been captured prior to a declaration of war, Buonaparte arrested all the English in France, detaining them prisoners of war. Much individual suffering was thereby occasioned, as well as from the interruption of commerce in the north of Germany. Spite and hatred could suggest nothing further in the first year of hostilities, and the belligerents were compelled to sit down, growl, gnash their teeth, and hurl reciprocal defiance. Napoleon revived the threat of an invasion, and England sought to subsidise a new coalition on the Continent. Animosities were exasperated by the conspiracy of Pichegru, Georges, and other royalists, landed from England to assassinate the First Consul; and the duke d'Enghien became the victim of the retaliatory vengeance of the French ruler. It paved the way, already not much impeded, for the assumption of the imperial dignity by Napoleon, who became, in May, 1804, emperor of the French, with power to choose his successor.

In the same month an important change took place in the British councils. Mr. Addington first sought the auxiliary aid of Mr. Pitt; but that gentleman, adhering to the rule of his outset in life of "not accepting any

* Vide the Declaration of War, May 18, 1803.

subaltern situation*," declined copartnership: only the premiership would satisfy his ambition, and, in the existing position of political parties, it was sufficient that he willed it. Up to the present, Mr. Pitt had given ministers his parliamentary support; but, thinking the time had arrived for resuming the helm, he joined the opposition of Mr. Fox and lord Grenville, which forced Mr. Addington to resign. Mr. Pitt's second ministry was popular in the nation, but weak in parliament. His political character suffered by the abandonment of the catholic question—to which the Grenvilles adhered—and the exclusion of Mr. Fox. He sought to strengthen himself by raising Mr. Addington to the peerage, and by his appointment to be lord-president of the council. This union was short-lived, viscount Sidmouth dissenting from the minister's scheme to screen the delinquencies of lord Melville from punishment; and soon withdrew from his administration.

Amidst these difficulties and disagreements was the disastrous continental war. The impatience of the British government had hurried Austria into hostilities before the arrival of the Russians, and without concert with Prussia, or even ascertaining whether that power intended to be neutral, friendly, or hostile in the struggle. The result was almost magical. With his maps and compasses, Buonaparte planned the destruction of the Austrian forces; and what he had warily conceived in the Tuileries he executed in the field with the celerity and force of the thunderbolt. General Mack was surrounded at Ulm, and compelled to surrender, by the armies which, a short time before, had been assembled in Holland and on the coast of Brittany, for the invasion of England. Confounded by the masterly tactics of the French emperor, Vienna was abandoned to the conqueror, which he entered; and, before the conclusion of 1805, closed the campaign and the war, by the victory of Austerlitz and the Treaty of Presburg. The signal defeat at Trafalgar was the only reverse sustained by the French arms in this year of splendid successes; and this victory England dearly won by the loss of the most generous and brave of her naval warriors.

The death of Mr. Pitt formed the opening occurrence of 1806. It was sought to replace him by one of his colleagues, the earl of Liverpool, but his lordship declined the premiership; justly concluding that the slender materials left by his late superior were of too little weight, either in parliament or in the country, more especially as they were disunited among themselves, to form a stable administration. Recourse was in consequence had to the political combination denominated the "Old and New Opposition," headed respectively by Mr. Fox and lord Grenville, whose influence and principles are described in the Events and Occurrences. Though the GRENVILLE MINISTRY was a combined firm, established by the union of three sections of politicians (*vide* Feb. 5, 1806), and supported by the confidence of the aristocracy and middle ranks, still it was from the first weak, in not having the favour of the court and the populace, and in being actively opposed, through the agency of corporations and the Press, by monopolists and displaced officials. Moreover, it trusted too much to high principles, that conciliated only the minority of the enlightened, while it committed itself irredeemably with the multitude by acts savouring of pecuniary greediness or constitutional violations. The effect was manifest in the cold reception given to its supporters in the

* Belsham's History of George III., xiii. 167.

general election that followed the death of Mr. Fox, in the autumn. The adverse position of affairs on the Continent augmented its embarrassments. Buonaparte was pursuing a career of unchecked aggrandisement, by establishing the Confederation of the Rhine, changing the republic of the Seven Islands into a monarchy for his brother Louis, and placing his brother Joseph on the throne of Naples. We were embroiled with Prussia, who had seized Hanover; and began hostilities with the Turks, in which we were worsted, to compel the Porte to make peace with our ally, the emperor Alexander, who had been the aggressor in the war. In the height of these entanglements was fought the great battle of Jena, which at one blow laid another kingdom at the feet of the conqueror. The humiliation of the court of Berlin was beheld without commiseration. Despised and insulted by the French, at war with England, hated by Austria for her wavering and selfish policy, Prussia had been left singly to contend against her giant opponent, supported chiefly by some reminiscences of military glory derived from the Great Frederick. Before the close of the campaign the French eagles had penetrated beyond the Oder, where the affair of Pultusk with the Russians showed that they had still enemies to combat not unworthy of their daring.

Mr. Fox died in September, leaving a chasm among his colleagues that could not be filled up by any of equal weight and popularity. Like his rival, he expired amidst continental reverses; the requiem of Pitt being the victory of Austerlitz—that of Fox, the overthrow of Jena. In eight months the leading political parties had lost their chiefs under whom they had pertinaciously combated for twenty years. They had been divided, however, rather by views of interest or hereditary predilections than conflicting principles. Ambition linked Mr. Pitt to the court; aristocratic sympathies and companionship, Mr. Fox to the whig families. Both were men of the constitution as settled in 1688, with this difference, that, contrary to the common impression, Mr. Pitt was less apprehensive than his opponent of the ascendancy of the democratic branch of the government. In their notions of external policy there was no divergence. The maintenance of a balance of power in Europe, by continental alliances, was the common pivot; and Mr. Fox trod closely in the steps of his predecessor in 1806, when he made war on Prussia and Turkey, and refused to treat with France for peace unless in concert with our Russian ally. Parties founded on principles may be hereditary, but factions usually expire with the interests that have banded them together. This would have been the consummation of the Fox and Pitt combinations, but that the interests which divided the leaders descended, with their animosities, to their followers, keeping them long after hostilely confederated.

The Grenville ministry did not long survive the loss of the foreign secretary. They had not been more successful in their negotiations for peace than their predecessors, and the events of the war were unfavourable. A difference with the king on the removal of religious tests, that kept a large portion of his subjects in a state of civil disqualification, was the proximate cause of their downfall. It was not, however, for the maintenance of a principle that they were dismissed—that they conceded to the monarch's scruples; but for the profitless ostentation of recording one in the cabinet proceedings. Intriguers, availing themselves of this punctilio, slipped in: a wretched cry of the "Church in Danger" was got up; the sense of the people was taken by a general election, at the height of the popular delirium; and the result was,

the firm establishment of the PORTLAND MINISTRY, of which Mr. Percival was the leading member.

This was in the spring of 1807. Meanwhile Napoleon was waging against the Russians a bloody war in Poland, which was terminated, after the sanguinary conflicts of Eylau and Friedland by the peace of Tilsit. The romantic king of Sweden was our only remaining ally. Despairing of mastering us by the sword, the French emperor resolved to dry up our pecuniary resources, which, he affirmed, had been the bribe and *pabulum* of all the coalitions that had been formed against him. Dictator of continental Europe, he sought to exclude British commerce in every port and place to which his power or influence extended. He began with his Berlin decree, issued in November, 1806: it was followed by others in the present year, dated at Milan. Orders in Council were promulgated by the English in retaliation, and the effect of both was the destruction of neutral commerce. The war had assumed such a character of bitterness, that the rights of nations were not respected by either belligerent, nor even by powers at peace. Russia unjustly wrested Finland from Sweden. England began her infractions of international law by a piratical attack on four Spanish ships of war in 1804, and crowned her turpitude in 1809, by the bombardment of Copenhagen and the seizure of the Danish fleet. Justice was outraged on all sides; the peaceful pursuits of commerce everywhere interrupted; and the enjoyments that result from the reciprocal intercourse of nations abridged, merely because of the rancorous hatred of two governments; for the war had become entirely objectless; neither party had power to injure the other: England was indisputable master at sea, and France on land.

About the year 1808 imperial France reached her meridian greatness. In that year the sway of the French emperor was more absolute in power, and more extended and indisputable in territory, than at any subsequent period. His empire was surrounded by a cordon of vassal kings of his own creation, or by federative unions of which he was the Mediator or Protector. Prussia existed only as a matter of grace and favour; Austria, three times conquered, was fearful to incur his displeasure; while Russia was bound by her late treaty to co-operate with him in his plans for the humiliation of England. About forty-five millions of French, Italian, Flemish, and Dutch subjects were directly obedient to his will, and thirty-eight millions more were influenced by his authority. With all this vast power at his command, Buonaparte could never succeed in fully establishing his CONTINENTAL SYSTEM. It was only his immense influence, his prodigious energy, and a resolution steeled against remonstrance or disappointment, that could possibly have seduced him into the undertaking. It was the will of one man opposed to the interest of every nation, of every individual. British commerce had everywhere its ramifications and interested supporters. A smuggler's cove, an obscure creek, or a dark night, was sufficient to baffle his most savage ordinances, and did baffle them. Heligoland became the great *dépôt* of English manufactures, and they always found their way into the Continent despite of Napoleon's midnight searches, and burnings at Antwerp and Hamburg.

The anti-commercial war of the French ruler was the beginning of the end of his domination. It led to the introduction of French troops into the Peninsula, first under the pretext of excluding British commerce from Portugal, and next of "infusing youth into the decrepid Spanish

monarchy." In 1808 the celebrated intrigues at Bayonne commenced. Charles IV. resigned the crown of Spain to prince Ferdinand, who was jealous of the Prince of Peace, an instrument of France, and the favourite of the queen and her imbecile husband. Buonaparte, who fomented the dissensions of the royal family, procured himself to be appointed umpire of their differences; but, in lieu of awarding the crown to father or son, he placed it on the head of a member of his own family. Europe was an attentive spectator of these extraordinary scenes; on one side was seen folly and weakness almost incredible; on the other, ambition, subtlety, and a contempt for the opinion of mankind, that excited universal indignation. The Spaniards, enraged at the treatment of their princes and the perfidy of their betrayer, flew to arms. A bloody insurrection at Madrid showed that, however debased they were, they were still capable of resistance when trampled upon. England, ever watchful to deal a blow to her implacable foe, exultingly beheld the gathering storm, aided its rising, in which she was zealously seconded by the privileged classes of Spain, especially the priesthood, who foresaw in the ascendancy of the French the degradation of their worship and the loss of their revenues. Before the close of the year, the supreme Spanish Junta was established, and unlooked-for successes attended the patriot cause. A large French force under general Dupont was surrounded at Baylen; the French fleet mastered at Cadiz; and the Spanish troops in Denmark declared in favour of their oppressed countrymen.

The year 1809 was remarkable for events, but not important results. In England public attention was engrossed by a parliamentary inquiry into the conduct of the duke of York in his office of commander-in-chief. The retreat of sir John Moore, and the battles of Corunna and Talavera, were the stirring occurrences of the Peninsula. Austria, availing herself of the diversion of the Spanish insurrection, determined once more to try the fortune of war. The struggle was brief, but sharp and decisive; terminating, after the sanguinary actions of Aspern and Wagram on the Danube, in favour of the French, who a second time entered Vienna in triumph. A peace followed, in which the Tyrolese, who had risen in favour of the Austrians, were unceremoniously abandoned to their Bavarian rulers. The efforts of the emperor Francis were sought to be aided by a powerful armament despatched to the Scheldt from England. This was the memorable **WALCHEREN EXPEDITION**, which, as it was the largest, so it was the most disastrous of all the British enterprises, and the blame of the failure of which is shared between the ministers and the officers they selected for the direction of the undertaking. Great public dissatisfaction was expressed at the ill success of this and other measures of government, which was heightened by the discovery that intrigues and dissensions had existed in the cabinet, terminating first in the resignation, then a duel between Mr. Canning and lord Castlereagh. The duke of Portland dying soon after, an overture was made to the whigs, to co-operate in forming a combined administration, which, being declined by that party, Mr. Percival became prime minister by uniting to his former office of chancellor of the exchequer that of first lord of the treasury. A national jubilee, to celebrate the fiftieth year of the king's reign, concluded the annual occurrences.

Parliamentary transactions hold a prominent place in the events of 1810; of which the expedition to Walcheren, contests respecting the privileges of the house of commons, the depreciation of the currency, and commercial distresses, took the lead in public interest. A **THIRD PARTY** had been gradually acquiring importance in the State, which disclaimed all

connexion with aristocratic interests and associations*. Its chief seat, and even birth-place, was the city of Westminster; and grew out of the maladministration of public affairs, the divisions and selfishness of the factions, the corruptions in the public offices, the inequalities and inefficiency of the national representation, the sale of seats, and the public defence of that sale in the lower house of parliament. Differing from the reform societies established about the close of the American war in 1780, it wholly eschewed co-operation with any section of the aristocracy, considering the entire generation of existing public men, whether *Ins* or *Outs*, as formed only to mislead and betray, and wholly undeserving the confidence of the people. It had another point of distinction, which separated it from the republican societies formed at the beginning of the French revolution. Enlightened by that great social experiment, and disgusted by the usurpations of the French ruler, the popular party sought to realise no visionary dreams of *liberty* and *equality*. Its scope of reform was limited to the pale of the constitution, and consisted in the establishment of a government responsible to the nation, through the medium of virtual representatives in parliament, not the nominees of the Treasury, of borough proprietors, and decayed corporations.

In the course of the session this party took an active part in a contest with the house of commons. The dispute itself was ridiculous in its origin, and consisted in a manifest perversion of a clause in the Bill of Rights. However, it excited great heat and a violent ferment in the metropolis. The house claimed the right forcibly to arrest and imprison an individual, not a member of parliament, for an infringement of its privileges. This was denied by one of its own members, who was himself arrested and imprisoned in the Tower. A riot ensued, and some lives were lost, of which the details will be found in the Occurrences of the year.

Transactions abroad were not deeply interesting. The conduct of the war in the Peninsula Buonaparte abandoned to his generals. Marshal Massena overran Portugal; but his progress was arrested at Torres Vedras by sir Arthur Wellesley, who, in the conduct of the Portuguese campaign, displayed that rare union of skill and cautious enterprise that had made him famous in India and afterwards in Europe. With the view of raising up a successor to the "empire of Charlemagne," which Napoleon boasted he had, under the "favour of Divine Providence," re-established, he separated from the empress Josephine, and married an Austrian archduchess. One of his marshals was elected crown-prince of Sweden, and now fills the throne of that kingdom. The province of Venezuela declared itself independent of the mother-country: the example was followed by other trans-Atlantic states, and was the commencement of a series of sanguinary revolutions in Spanish America.

The year 1811 was memorable for the commencement of the *REGENCY* of the prince of Wales, at first with restrictions on the executive power; but after the expiration of a year, in full sovereignty. It terminated the responsible government of George III., who never recovered from his mental incapacity, to the exercise of the regal functions. No change followed in the policy of the government or in its established administration. In the course of the parliamentary session there were protracted discussions on the state of the currency, and on the commercial difficulties resulting from the Orders of Council, which, with the conflicting Berlin and Milan decrees, interrupted trade with America and other neutral states. The

* Vide "State of Parties," Jan. 1, 1807.

monetary difficulties of the country were very great, foreign exchanges were unusually depressed, two prices were apparently on the eve of being established, and several landlords in England and Ireland demanded payment of their rents in gold, or in paper of equivalent value. A parliamentary report of the past year had ascribed the depreciation of paper money to the redundant issues of the Bank of England; and suggested that, after a time to be fixed, the Bank should be compelled to resume payments in specie. Ministers had sufficient influence to procure a vote of the house of commons negating the conclusion of the Bullion Committee; and the futile expedient was resorted to of passing an act to interdict the sale of guineas, for money or bank-notes, for less than their current denomination. Internal difficulties were augmented by the disturbed state of the manufacturing districts, arising out of the stagnation of industry, and the substitution of machinery for manual labour. The exasperation between the employers and employed rose to such a height, that assassinations were not unfrequent; and armed men, called *Luddites*, instigated by secret associations, went about in the night perpetrating daring outrages. These afflictive disorders continued through the spring and summer of the following year, and were not suppressed till after a severe example had been made of the ringleaders.

In the foreign transactions of the year there was nothing of remarkable interest. The birth of a son seemed to crown the utmost wishes of Napoleon Buonaparte, and afford an earnest of a long line of successors to the imperial dynasty. The war in the Peninsula he affected to treat with indifference, and represented the protraction of hostilities as a politic means of enfeebling the British power. In an address to the Legislative Body, June 16, he said, "When England shall be exhausted—when she shall at last have felt the evils which for twenty years she has with so much cruelty poured upon the Continent—when half her families shall be in mourning—then shall a peal of thunder put an end to the affairs of the Peninsula*." *Diis aliter visum!*—it was otherwise decreed.

Upon the termination of the limitations on the Prince Regent, in 1812, an entire change of administration was expected, and that the prince would call to his councils those with whom he had through life been personally and politically connected. These expectations were entirely frustrated. In a letter to the duke of York the prince expressed himself satisfied with his present advisers, and further, that he "had no predilections to indulge, or resentments to gratify." Notwithstanding this ominous intimation, a correspondence was entered into with the Opposition, more, as it would seem, in satisfaction of an old obligation, than from choice, and the issue of which is stated in the Occurrences.

The whigs declining, as their principles bound them to do, a copartnership with Mr. Percival, that gentleman was continued at the head of the ministry; but shortly after he fell a victim to a revengeful assassin, who with more passion than reason had assumed the adjudication of his own supposed wrongs. Another and more favourable opening was thereby left for them, but with no better result; and in consequence of the failure of which the protracted administration of lord Liverpool was established in power. In this latter negotiation lords Grey and Grenville appear to have claimed concessions from the sovereign, which, if not unimportant, were hardly warranted by their political position and the times. George III. had effectually shaken off the domination of the aristocracy, which could no

* Annual Register, liii. 330.

longer, as in the reigns of his predecessors, dictate to the crown the choice of its servants. Moreover, a third party, as before noticed, had arisen, which had severed from the great families the auxiliary aid of the populace. Up to the present reign the Ours were always supported by the people; because, whether whigs or tories, while *out*, they generally professed popular sentiments, and in virtue of which the people mostly used to restore them to power, after a due course of trial and contrition. Now, however, the people were indifferent from which section of the aristocracy the sovereign selected his advisers—whether they were lords or commoners, or supple lawyers. The last, as most subservient to the court, were generally preferred in the time of George III. By the schism between the aristocracy and their former supporters the crown became independent of either, and had only to secure a parliamentary majority, which it was not difficult to command, with its vast increase of patronage, during the American and French wars.

Turning to the foreign transactions of 1812, the most important was the grand expedition of the French into Russia, upon the issue of which the attention of all Europe was fixed. In this campaign the French emperor appeared determined to dazzle by the splendour no less than the magnitude of his preparations. He left Paris in May, to join the armies. His progress was an intoxicating triumph; the inhabitants of the countries through which he passed, crowding his line of route, gazed upon him as a preternatural being. At Dresden he had convened an assemblage of sovereigns, many of them of his own creation. Seated in the palace of one of the capitals of Germany, surrounded by a gorgeous court, with his young imperial spouse at his side, he seemed more like a monarch receiving his vassals, than a soldier of fortune raised to an equality with kings. The adulation was excessive and universal. Meanwhile, his vast forces were directing their march from all points towards Poland. Austria, Prussia, Italy, the German confederation, all contributed their quotas towards this great enterprise. A human force of greater moral and physical power was perhaps never concentrated. Nothing had been apparently left to chance, yet everything was unforeseen. The gathering of a grand army—a march—a great battle—a victory—an armistice—and the submission of Alexander to his arbitrary fiat, were the anticipations of Napoleon. All turned out the contrary. The enemy fled before him like the horizon; and his mighty host was worn down by continual marches and obstinate battles: then followed the burning of Moscow and the frightful retreat through regions of frost and snow. With the resources of civilization in warfare Buonaparte proved himself more conversant than with those of despotism, aided by illimitable wastes, that afforded neither shelter nor sustenance to invaders.

After various attempts at an amicable settlement, England, in the course of 1812, became involved in war with the United States of America. Differences had first arisen relative to the Orders in Council, but these were revoked contemporaneously with the declaration of war by Congress. The remaining points of dispute referred to the right of search, claimed by England, not only for goods but British seamen on board neutral vessels. As the sovereignty of the seas depended on upholding these maritime rights, the British government was as strenuous in their enforcement as the French emperor of his continental system. A spirited land and naval war was the result, which was carried on, with various alternations of success and defeat, both at sea and in Canada.

The year 1813 was one of great events, signalised by the liberation of Germany from French rule. France never recovered her continental ascendancy, nor hardly an equality of power with her antagonists, after the overwhelming disasters of the Russian expedition. The campaign of Saxony was opened with a numerous army, consisting chiefly of young conscripts, who fought bravely, and even won the battles of Lutzen and Bautzen, but unattended with any decisive issue. Russia and Prussia alone seemed almost a match for the French emperor. In addition to these, the crown-prince of Sweden was preparing to enter the lists against his old master; and fear, or immature preparations, alone kept back Buonaparte's father-in-law. As a preliminary to taking a part in the war, Austria offered her mediation, and an armistice was agreed to. It lasted upwards of two months, and terminated without an amicable arrangement. Proud and inflexible, Napoleon refused to give up Italy and Belgium, and retire within the boundaries of the Rhine. Hostilities recommenced, Austria joining the allies, who had now a vast numerical superiority; and, after some severe fighting, they succeeded in dislodging Napoleon from Dresden, who concentrated his forces in the neighbourhood of Leipsic. Here the great battle was fought, in October, which decided the fate of the French empire. The defeats of Buonaparte, like his victories, were on a grand scale. In the Russian campaign he had lost nearly half a million of men. Out of 280,000 he had led into Saxony, he returned to the Rhine with only about 70,000. Other disasters entered into this year's account. The duke of Wellington hung upon the French frontier, having by his victories driven them out of the whole of the Peninsula, with the exception of Catalonia. At Amsterdam and the Hague the old rallying cry of "Orange-Boven" was raised, and the liberation of Holland was secured by the arrival of a Russian and English force. In Italy the pope was restored, his holiness being conducted back to Rome in great pomp, amidst the joyful acclamations of the people. About the same time Ferdinand VII. was liberated from his confinement at Valençay, and permitted to return to Spain. All things seemed fast returning to their ancient course. Thrones and altars that had been subverted emerged from the revolutionary chaos, and were compared to the gradual reappearance of mountain or promontory after the Deluge.

The Dagon of France was struck down as by a miracle, and, exhausted by their immense losses, the French were anxious for peace. The flower of the population had been destroyed in the wars, and there was hardly a family that had not to mourn the loss of one or more of its members. In two years the tide of victory had rolled back its reflux course from the ruins of Moscow almost to the walls of Paris. The author of these great calamities, on reaching his capital, heard sounds to which his ears had been unaccustomed. There was not only a talk of peace, but of guarantees against the abuses of power. Buonaparte bore himself loftily, declaring that he alone was "the representative of the people," that he "was the state*," and dissolved the Legislative Body. This arbitrary demeanour neutralised the zeal of all parties. It was the despotism of one man, and the thrones of his relatives, that were in jeopardy, and the nation would not rise to defend them. Habits of uncontrolled authority had gained so much upon Napoleon, that he was incapable of listening to any advice which was not in accordance with his own plans. He seemed stunned by the suddenness of his reverses, perplexed amidst the multiplicity of objects demanding his

* Hazlitt's Life of Napoleon Buonaparte, iv. 144.

attention ; and, though he planned much and talked much, nothing was practically done ; and when the allies entered France, they found his means of defence no further advanced than when he crossed the Rhine on his retreat.

The almost expiring struggle of France began in January, 1814. From having been accustomed to send out her conquering legions to dictate laws to her neighbours in their capitals, she now saw her frontier passed by powerful armies, from those very states which she had compelled to purchase peace by submitting to her rule or co-operating in her plans. Of all the nations now leagued against her, there were none, England excepted, which had not acted in alliance with her. "A year ago," as Napoleon emphatically told the senate, "all Europe was marching with us ; now all Europe is marching against us." The campaign opened with little chance of successful resistance. Buonaparte left behind him 80,000 troops in Dresden, Hamburgh, and other German cities ; which, had they been withdrawn in time, would have almost doubled the number of his veterans. As it was, he was compelled to meet the allies with not more than 100,000 men, while the armies of Russians, Austrians, and Prussians, that had already penetrated into France, amounted to 250,000. In reserve was the crown-prince of Sweden at Cologne, and vast reinforcements on their way, along the high roads leading from Warsaw, Berlin, and Vienna. After joining the army, Buonaparte displayed his wonted activity and military science ; but the superiority of his opponents reduced him to the necessity of carrying on a partisan warfare. By the celerity of his movements and the vivacity of his attacks, he at first repulsed and disunited the allied armies ; but at other points they were successful ; and, trusting to their vast masses, they soon reunited, and resumed the offensive. While the fighting was going on, negotiations were in progress at Chatillon, and terms were offered to the French emperor which he ought promptly to have accepted ; but, elated by a temporary advantage at Troyes, he rejected them, and, after a suspicious procrastination, proposed others that were inadmissible. Unable to oppose the invaders in front, he boldly dashed into their rear, hoping to draw the enemy from the capital by alarming the Austrians for their communications with the Rhine. A manœuvre which had often won Napoleon victories entirely failed under different circumstances. Leaving him to pursue his speculative movement behind them, the allies continued their march to Paris, which they entered by capitulation, March 31st. Important events speedily followed. Buonaparte was declared to have forfeited the throne by a decree of the French senate ; and the allied sovereigns issued a declaration, stating that they would no longer treat with him nor any of his family, but that they would "recognise and guarantee the constitution which France should adopt."

Upon the 30th of May the important Treaty of Paris was concluded, and exhibited an illustrious example of moderation and wisdom on the part of the conquerors. Nothing was taken from France that she ought to possess, except the man whose vaulting ambition had plunged her into her present humiliating abyss. There was no attempt at conquest, dismemberment, or dictatorial interference with the internal affairs of the French people. The Bourbons, as a matter of course, and the shortest way to a speedy settlement, were restored. Austria, Prussia, and Holland were the chief gainers ; these states were re-established in their former greatness : but England and Russia, whose persevering and united exertions had mainly contributed to the successful issue, reaped no advantage, save the

glory of the deliverance of Europe from military domination. Even Napoleon himself was magnanimously treated. In a less civilised era he would have been put to death, made a public spectacle of, or imprisoned: he was neither; he was suffered to retain his title of Emperor; to select the place of his retirement, which was given to him in full sovereignty; and a princely revenue, payable by France, was settled upon him and the members of his family.

Immediately peace was concluded the allied troops evacuated France. The germ of new troubles, however, soon appeared. In the twenty years of their exile the Bourbon princes seem to have slept; "they had learnt nothing and forgot nothing." The French people were changed; but they were unchangeable, and, with incredible weakness, they set about restoring superstitions that had become ridiculous, and forms of government that were detestable. All that had been done in their absence they affected to condemn, or consider the work of violence, usurpation, and injustice. Louis XVIII. claimed to be absolute by right of birth, and tendered to the French, as so many manumitted slaves, a Constitutional Charter, as his own free and voluntary offering. The clergy renewed their exactions and their mummeries; actresses were refused the rites of Christian burial; the processions and festivals of the church revived, and an outward sanctity sought to be established inimical to the healthy pastimes and recreations of the people. Intimations were thrown out about a restitution of emigrant property, and excommunication threatened against the purchasers of church lands and national domains, by which the titles of eight or ten millions of landed proprietors were placed in incertitude and jeopardy. It was, however, in the military class that sentiments existed most dangerous to the restored government; and the number of which order, since the peace, had been greatly augmented by the return of prisoners from England, the Italian army, and the garrisons of Germany. Almost without exception, the French soldiery retained a chivalrous veneration for the chief who had so often led them to victory, and under whose banner, notwithstanding recent disasters, they still hoped to retrieve their own honour and that of their country.

In this state of things Buonaparte landed in France, March 1st, 1815. A less able and determined adventurer would have failed at the threshold of the enterprise in which he had boldly embarked, without concert with any party in France, trusting entirely to the popular sentiment in his favour. He was not sought for by the great political leaders nor the middle ranks of the French people. They were dissatisfied with the Bourbons; but they had been not less so with the imperial government—its destructive wars and violations of the constitution by the extinction of the freedom of the press—of trial by jury—arbitrary imprisonments—compulsory exile—and other despotic acts. Even the French marshals—Ney, Massena, Soult, St. Cyr, Macdonald, and Victor, stood aloof from Napoleon, till carried away by the enthusiasm of the men they commanded. It was the soldiery and the multitude, as Buonaparte himself acknowledged, that brought him back to the Tuileries. "I am not alone (as has been pretended) the emperor of the soldiers; I am that of the peasants, of the plebeians of France*." The young and enthusiastic colonel Labedoyere was the first to lead the way in the path of defection; marshal Ney, the "bravest of the brave," deserted by his troops, was the next to follow his example, and proclaim the "cause of the Bourbons for

* Conversation with Benjamin Constant, Tuileries, April 24, 1815.

ever lost." After these accessions of strength, the only difficulty to surmount was the distance from Lyons to Paris:—"the tri-coloured flag flew from steeple to steeple, till it reached the towers of Notre Dame"—and the French emperor alighted at the Tuileries, three weeks after landing at Cannes, like a man dropped from the clouds, without the firing of a musket.

At this juncture, the allied congress, being assembled at Vienna, was busily occupied in completing the settlement of Europe. The sudden advent of Napoleon threw ridicule over their proceedings; and, like men interrupted over a joyous feast, they sullenly laid aside the compasses and maps on which they had been marking out the territorial allotments of the great European family. Not a moment's hesitation, however, was felt about the course to be pursued. Buonaparte at Paris, supported by the French army, endangered the quiet and safety of all crowned heads. His *fraternal* circular, in which he informed the allied sovereigns that France could not be happy without him, was unanswered—by some returned unopened. He was declared an outlaw; and Russia, England, Austria, and Prussia, entered into a solemn compact to raise 150,000 men each, and never lay down their arms till the integrity of the treaty of Paris had been re-established, the intruder ejected, and placed in a condition never again to disturb the repose of the world.

Upon the necessity of expelling Napoleon the unanimity was extraordinary. In England there was hardly any diversity of opinion, and the measures of ministers for the purpose were supported by vast majorities in both houses of parliament, and almost the unanimous voice of the nation*. There were, however, a few individuals in each house, distinguished for talent and integrity, who were opposed to a renewal of the war, and the debate on the message of the Prince Regent of May 22nd was signalised by the opposition of sentiment on this point between lords Grey and Grenville, who had for ten years been politically united. The Grenvilles were as decidedly belligerent as in 1793, when they affirmed "that no nation ought to remain neutral †;" and with this party were included Mr. Grattan and Mr. Plunkett, the two leading members of the Irish representation.

The struggle was fortunately brief, though ardent. It lay between the French army and the European nations, and was terminated by the memorable battle of Waterloo, justly termed "glorious," because bravely and skilfully won, and securing victory's noblest trophy in a lasting peace.

Here we may pause: in the language of Montesquieu, "let us reflect upon so many wars undertaken, so much blood shed, so many people destroyed, so many great actions, so many triumphs, such political combinations, such consistency, such courage: what has been the *issue of it all*?" Europe might as well have remained quiet in 1790, continued to advance, as she was then doing, by peaceable arts in the career of improvement, and escaped the tempest of strife, carnage, and desolation of the intervening period. The resting point of France was determined by the Constituent Assembly of 1789: at that point she has now settled, and to which she has been always tending, like a body propelled from the centre, amidst the anarchy of her revolution, and the barbaric illusions of the empire. Her errors are lessons of wisdom, which exhaust political science. Power could not have been wielded by a more able chieftain than Napoleon; yet it intoxicated and destroyed him. Democracy could not have had more generous and virtuous advocates than Brissot, Vergniaud, Roland, Condorcet, Bailly, and Lavoie

* Belsham's History of Great Britain, xiv. 173.

† Nicholl's Recollections of the Reign of George III., 152.

sier, yet it brought forth Demons, nurtured by popular ignorance, who destroyed them. The conclusion is, that man is neither an angel of light, nor a spirit of darkness; he can neither be governed by abstract philosophy nor a rod of iron, but demands a middle regimen, adapted to his middle nature in the chain of creation.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1803. RENEWAL OF THE WAR.—Under very different aspects did the present year, compared with that which preceded it, commence. In January, 1802, the funds were high; a long peace proportioned to the ardour with which it had been desired was anticipated; and France, thrown open, became an eager object of curiosity, pleasure, and commercial enterprise. In January, 1803, there were strong forebodings of war; the stocks began rapidly to fall in price, and no commercial treaty had been concluded with France. Before the summer England grappled singly with her gigantic foe. The chess-board was instantly cleared; each combatant seemed eager to strike the first blow. England took the colonies and ships, and swept the seas of the enemy; France made prize of the electorate of Hanover, arrested all the English in her dominions, and shut her ports, and those of Belgium and Italy, against British commerce. Domestic events were rendered interesting by the continuance of the Bank Restriction Act, by executions for high treason in England, the suppression of a wild insurrection in Ireland, and the renewal of the volunteer associations to resist a menaced invasion.

Jan. 12. The Hindostan East India-man wrecked off the Reculvers, eighteen persons drowned; the cargo valued at 100,000*l*.

19. Cow-pox INSTITUTION.—A meeting was held at the London Tavern, to consider the best means to be adopted for exterminating the small-pox, when it was resolved to establish a society, to be called "The Royal Jennerian Institution," and a committee of fifty-three gentlemen was appointed to carry the intention of the meeting into effect. It was stated that the present annual deaths in the metropolis from the small-pox were 3000, and in the whole empire 40,000; that the cooling practice of Sydenham, invented 150 years ago, had tended to lessen the devastation; but that the small-pox inoculation, though it had rendered the disease milder, had increased the mortality by spreading the contagion. Drs. Letsom, Hawes, and Denman, the duke of Bedford, and Messrs.

Wilberforce, Travers, Abernethy, &c, took a leading part in the proceedings.

Feb. 1. The French government definitively organised the protestant churches at Paris; a consistory of twelve members was appointed, and three national edifices granted for the celebration of protestant worship.

7. A bill brought in for the continuance of the Bank Restriction Act. The chancellor of the exchequer stated that, as twenty millions of specie had lately been drawn from the country for grain, the removal of the restriction might have the effect of throwing all the remaining bullion out of the country. It became law, and long continued such, lord King only objecting to the principle.

TRIAL OF COLONEL DESPARD.—On the 7th colonel Despard, and on the 9th twelve of his associates, were tried at the sessions, Horsemonger-lane, before a special commission, of which lord chief justice Ellenborough was the principal, on an indictment for high treason. The wild nature of this plot, concocted at an obscure public-house, and the inadequacy of its means, have already been noticed. (p. 632.) Despard was a man of a respectable family, whose mind had become affected from government having delayed to liquidate some alleged claim for his professional services. Upon the trial lord Nelson and Sir Alured Clarke bore testimony to his military deserts, while serving under them. After a trial which lasted eighteen hours the colonel was found guilty, and clearly proved to have been privy to designs for shooting the king, and taking possession of the Bank, the public offices, the prisons, and the two houses of parliament. On the 21st this unfortunate man, with six fellow-conspirators, was executed on the top of the new goal in Southwark. The colonel declined spiritual assistance, and conducted himself with great firmness. From the scaffold he addressed the spectators in an audible voice, expressing his conviction of the "final triumph of the principles of liberty and justice over despotism and delusion." The populace cheered, but it was only a momentary impulse; the platform fell, and the whole

were launched into eternity. After hanging half an hour they were cut down, and the ceremony of decapitation performed. There were some hooting and hissing when the colonel's head was held up. He was interred in the cemetery belonging to the parish of St. Faith, on the south side of St. Paul's cathedral.

12. A great mortality at Paris, in consequence of catarrhal fever (influenza); the interments officially reported to amount to 400 per day. It was ascribed by medical men to sudden changes in the temperature of the atmosphere.

16. A royal message delivered to the House of Commons on the pecuniary embarrassment of the prince of Wales; it terminated in granting 60,000*l.* a-year to the prince for three years and a half.

21. Jean Peltier, a French journalist and advocate of the Bourbons, tried before lord Ellenborough, at the suit of the crown, for a libel on Buonaparte. He was found guilty, though eloquently defended by Mr. James Mackintosh.

26. A proposal made at the instance of Buonaparte, at Warsaw, to the Bourbon princes, to relinquish their claims to the throne of France, but they all refused.

Mar. 1. Military college of High Wycomb projected.

The Caledonian canal begun.

8. A royal message delivered to parliament, which was considered as the prelude to war. It informed the houses of considerable preparations being in a state of progress in the ports of France and Holland, and that his majesty had deemed it expedient in consequence to adopt additional measures of precaution. An address was voted, and an addition of 10,000 seamen.

Died in his 77th year, unmarried, Francis the third duke of Bridgewater. He was immensely rich; his return to the income-tax was 110,000*l.* a-year, the greater part acquired in pursuits not more profitable to himself than his country. His canal project, yielding at his death from 50,000*l.* to 80,000*l.* (*Ann. Reg.* xiv. 500) a-year, he left to earl Gower

13. An extraordinary scene at the Tuileries between the first consul and lord Whitworth, the English ambassador. Buonaparte, in the presence of a numerous court, and in vehement terms, accused England of not fulfilling the treaty of Amiens, in the non-evacuation of Malta. War he threatened as the only alternative of continued refusal.

21. Being the anniversary of the battle of Alexandria, a piece of Turkish ordnance taken by the French, but re-taken by the English, was placed on an elegant carriage in St. James's Park.

April 6. Duel at Chalk-farm between captain Macnamara, of the navy, and colonel Montgomery, a much esteemed man of fashion; the latter was killed, and the former wounded: it arose about the quarrelling of their dogs.

MINISTERIAL NEGOTIATIONS.—An opinion had been gaining ground that good intentions and mediocrity, rather than pre-eminence in talents, were the qualifications most desirable in the ministers of a great country. This was the strength of the Addington ministry, none of whose members were remarkable for shining abilities, nor derived peculiar advantages from birth, title, or territorial possessions. It was what would now be termed a *middle-class* government, from which the great hereditary leaders of parties stood aloof, and by whom it was tolerated, rather from the difficulty of agreeing among themselves, than confided in or supported. Unconnected with the ministers were three descriptions of public men, headed by Mr. Fox, lord Grenville, and Mr. Pitt, by the union of whom the administration could at any moment be overthrown. Mr. Pitt's section was the most powerful and least hostile, and it was with them the minister sought to strengthen himself, by opening in the course of April a negotiation. It was soon however discovered that an insuperable obstacle or misunderstanding existed. The minister sought Mr. Pitt as an auxiliary, but Mr. Pitt sought the dissolution of the ministry, and that upon him should devolve the sole authority of forming another. Upon this discovery the negotiation of course terminated, and the only accession of strength Mr. Addington secured was in the incorporation of Mr. Tierney (made treasurer of the navy) and Mr. Hobhouse, who, to the surprise of their former friends, and very much to the mortification of the Pittites, joined the ministerial ranks. In the upper house Mr. Addington was weaker than in the lower; here his chief strength was in the lord chancellor and chief justice Ellenborough, till they were reinforced by the elevation of lord Hawkesbury to the peerage. Among other ministerial changes in the summer was the appointment of Charles Yorke to be secretary of state in the room of lord Pelham, who succeeded the late earl of Liverpool in the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster.

May 5. An extraordinary forgery was practised in the city—a note, purporting to be from lord Hawkesbury, addressed to the lord mayor, acquainting him that the differences between this country and France were amicably adjusted: in consequence of this communication the stocks rose from 63 to 71. The stock exchange com-

mittee declared all bargains of that day void.

11. The first consul driving a phaeton with four horses in hand was thrown from his seat in the park near St. Cloud. The shock was severe, but no serious injury was sustained. When he recovered he said "it was best for people to confine themselves to their own occupations."

12. Lord Whitworth left Paris: he landed at Dover on the 20th, where he met general Andreossi, minister to the court of London, about to embark for France.

17. An Order of Council appeared in the *Gazette*, dated the 16th (the morning of the French ambassador's departure), directing that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods and subjects of the French republic. Also a proclamation directing an embargo to be laid on all ships in our ports belonging to the French or Batavian republics. A bounty of 5*l.* per man offered for every seaman entering the fleet.

18. DECLARATION OF WAR.—The king issued a declaration of this date (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 734) setting forth the grounds of the war against France. It began with contrasting the liberal commercial spirit of England with that of France, connected with which it mentioned the fact of persons being sent from France to reside in British ports in the capacity of consuls when no commercial treaty between the two countries existed, and who occupied themselves in taking soundings and plans of our harbours and other places of the kingdom. The military occupation of Holland, the violation of the independence of Switzerland, and the territorial annexations of France in Italy, are commented upon. Notice is then taken of the principle assumed by France that England has no right to interfere with any proceeding of the French that is not an infringement of the treaty of Amiens, and the incompatibility of such a principle with existing European treaties. The gist of the dispute, Malta, is next brought on the tapis; and the surrender of the island according to treaty is alleged to have become impossible by France and Spain having destroyed the independence of the order of St. John of Jerusalem. Intimations are then thrown out that France had, by the mission of general Sebastiani to the East, manifested designs, contrary to the treaty of Amiens, of violating the integrity of the Turkish empire by a fresh attack upon Egypt. Buonaparte's attempts to interfere with the liberty of the press in England, the indignities he had offered to our ambassador, and his affirmation "that Britain cannot singly contend against France," conclude this important state paper. Except his

interference with the English press, and sending spies into the country, the grounds of hostilities appear to have been more continental than insular. They concerned Austria and Prussia more than England. It was the personal demeanour of the first consul that mainly enlisted the national spirit in favour of hostilities. He was obviously intoxicated by his remarkable successes and elevation. His caprice and arrogance were offensive to the pride and good sense of the nation, and above all, his gasconade that England could not singly contend against him was sufficient to render the war popular, touching a chord that vibrated through all classes of Englishmen.

22. On the ground that two French ships had been captured prior to a declaration of war, Buonaparte issued a decree for the detention of all the English, from the age of 18 to 60, at present in France. About four months after the number of persons detained under this infringement of international law amounted in France to 11,000, and in Holland to 1300.

23. DEBATE ON THE RENEWAL OF THE WAR.—This subject was discussed in both houses on motions for addresses to the king. Doubts were expressed by some members of the justice, and by others of the expediency, of going to war, at least without further attempts at conciliation, but the predominant feeling was strongly in favour of resisting, by open hostilities, the haughty and encroaching spirit of France. In the commons, Mr. Grey moved an amendment which, while it assured his majesty of their support in the war, expressed *disapprobation of the conduct of the ministers*. It was supported by Fox and Whitbread, and opposed by Pitt, Windham, Canning, Lascelles, Sir R. Peel, and Serjeant Best. Amendment rejected by 398 to 67. In the lords the unanimity was still greater; for an amendment moved by lord King to omit the words which so decidedly imputed to France the guilt of breaking the treaties was negated by 142 to 10. The minority of ten were, the dukes of Bedford and Leinster, the earls of Derby, Cowper, Besborough, Thanet, Albemarle, Stanhope, Guildford, and lord King.

26. At the anniversary of the charity children of the metropolis upwards of 7000 attended St. Paul's.

28. The king, as elector of Hanover, issued a proclamation, stating that he abided by the treaty of Luneville, in respect of his German states, and that, in quality of elector of Hanover, he would take no part in the war.

MEASUREMENT OF A DEGREE.—M. Swanberg and three other Swedish astronomers measured a degree of the meridian, and found it to be 57,209 toises. This is 196

toises less than the degree measured by Maupertuis and others in Lapland in 1736. If the Swedish measurement be correct, it shows the figure of the earth deviates less from a sphere than was inferred from the measurement of the French mathematicians.

June 3. The electorate of Hanover surrendered by capitulation to the French under general Mortier; valuable magazines fell into the hands of the enemy, who also fleeced the country by the levy of contributions. Mortier took up his abode in the electoral palace, on which George III. had just expended 50,000*l.* for the better accommodation of the duke of Cambridge. This acquisition giving the command of the Elbe and the Weser to the French, these rivers were closed against English commerce; and subsequently, in retaliation, blockaded by a British squadron.

7. The English ambassador left Holland, the Dutch being unable to preserve a neutrality in the war. An order issued to arrest all the English in the Batavian territories.

13. Mr. Addington brought forward the budget, which included upwards of twelve millions of war-taxes. Among the ways and means was a property-tax, so called, though differing from the former income-tax only in the proportion now demanded being less, and no particular disclosure being required in incomes from land and the interest of money.

18. Plan of an army of reserve brought forward in the house of commons, to consist of 50,000 men, being 34,000 for England, 10,000 for Ireland, and 6000 for Scotland. They were to be raised by ballot, and not to serve out of the United Kingdom. As another means of internal defence, a bill passed into a law for raising a levy *en masse* in case of invasion.

21. English colonial produce and merchandise prohibited in France.

The Dutch legislative body agreed to place their army under a French commander.

29. The livery of London assembled in common hall, after expressing their readiness to support the government in a "vigorous prosecution of the contest," passed resolutions deprecating a tax on income.

30. The court of common council resolved to raise 800 men for the service of government.

Died at Florence the King of Etruria, the first of the royal creation of Buonaparte.

During the preceding and present month most of the printing-presses in Britain were employed by the partisans of ministers in printing exaggerated representations of the life and conduct of the first consul, for the purpose of exciting a national war-

spirit. Hundreds of tracts, songs, pretended anecdotes, and absurd fables were thus distributed in millions of sheets, which inflamed the passions of the people and answered the misleading purposes of the fabricators. The reckless proceedings of Buonaparte afforded some ground for these attacks, but many of them were libels drawn from that copious repository of eastern stories, colonel sir Robert Wilson's "Narrative of the British Expedition to Egypt."

July 5. A horde of wolves committed the most terrible ravages in the department of Gers. The communes Aignau, Plaisance, and Ladivege suffered in a most extraordinary degree.

8. Robert Astlett, assistant-cashier of the Bank of England, indicted at the Old Bailey for embezzling exchequer bills: he was acquitted on a point of law, the bills having been informally signed. The exchequer bills purloined amounted to 322,000*l.*, of which 91,000*l.* that had been pawned was redeemed by the Bank for 70,000*l.*

9. The roof of the tower in the centre of Westminster-abbey caught fire and fell in, damaging the choir.

20. Great meeting at Lloyd's for promoting a subscription for the war, Brook Watson in the chair.

21. A correspondence between Mr. Addington and the prince of Wales, the latter soliciting in the present crisis a more conspicuous rank than colonel. The king refused the application, saying that his royal highness would have sufficient opportunity for distinguishing himself at the head of his regiment.

The house of commons voted a grant of 60,000*l.* and a pension of 16,000*l.* to the prince of Orange in compensation for the loss of the Texel fleet, which had been taken possession of by the English in his name.

23. **INSURRECTION IN DUBLIN.**—While measures were being taken for defending the country against invasion, a new insurrection broke out in Ireland, which occasioned a considerable but short-lived alarm. It originated with a youthful enthusiast of considerable parts, named Emmet, brother to a gentleman who had been deeply implicated in the seditious proceedings of 1798, and had in consequence been expatriated. This rash attempt to disturb the public tranquillity was made upon the 23rd, when a crowd of country people entered the metropolis, and marched through some of the principal streets, armed with pikes and fire-arms; and, actuated by the feelings of desperadoes, they unfortunately met the carriage of lord Kilwarden, chief justice of Ireland, who, accompanied by

his daughter and nephew, was proceeding to the castle. The ruffians immediately seized the horses, dragged the venerable judge and Mr. Wolfe from the carriage, and butchered them in a barbarous manner. Being attacked in their turn by about 120 soldiers, some of them were killed, others seized, and this insurrectionary riot suppressed. Emmet, the leader, and others afterwards suffered death for their temerity.

26. Great meeting of merchants, bankers, and others, in the Royal-exchange; 5000 persons present, who agreed to a declaration expressive of their determination to "stand or fall with their king and country," Jacob Bosanquet in the chair; seconded by the secretary of the East India Company. "God save the king," and "Rule Britannia," being called for, and nine cheers given, the meeting dissolved.

Aug. 2. A meeting of the freeholders of Middlesex took place at Hackney, to consider of a loyal address: it was carried unanimously, and, on the motion of sir W. Curtis, it was agreed that only one of the county members (Mr. Byng) should accompany the sheriffs in presenting the address, sir F. Burdett having given offence by some observations tending to discourage the national enthusiasm in defence of the kingdom.

3. Lady Munro, of Fowlis, and her three servants drowned while bathing in the bay of Cromartie.

12. Parliament prorogued by the king, who in his way to the house was received with the most ardent acclamations by the populace.

The duke of Clarence enrolled himself as a private in the Teddington volunteers.—*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 422.

20. The drought greater than had been known since 1762. At Pevensay a flock of 300 sheep, being after a long thirst driven to a pond, drank so immoderately that upwards of 100 of them died almost immediately.

23. The distress occasioned in Hamburg by the blockade of the Elbe became every day more apparent. Upwards of thirty suicides were committed in the space of a week.—*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 423.

Sept. 2. Astley's amphitheatre burnt; damages 30,000*l.*, insured only for 1700*l.*

3. John Hatfield, the notorious swindler and seducer (p. 632), executed at Carlisle for forgery. He was originally a rider to a wholesale linen-draper, and in early life had contrived to marry a natural daughter of lord Robert Manners, with whom he got 1500*l.* Deception formed so rooted a part of the nature of this impostor that he threw away many opportunities of settling himself comfortably in life from an uncon-

trollable addiction to insidious and crooked ways.

15. A man who had leaped from the three bridges into the Thames in three quarters of an hour, for a wager, was drowned in attempting to repeat the experiment. When the body was found, it appeared that, having gone down with his arms in a horizontal, instead of a perpendicular position, they were dislocated by the resistance of the water.

18. Robert Emmet, tried at Dublin, and found guilty of high treason, was executed the day following. Emmet was a young Irish barrister, of oratorical talent, but of an enthusiastic temperament.

23. BATTLE OF ASSYR in the East Indies, in which major-general Arthur Wellesley completely defeated the combined Mahratta forces commanded by Scindiah Holkar and the rajah of Berar. It was a well-contested action, in which the English suffered considerably, and the Mahrattas had 1200 men killed and wounded.

Oct. 3. John Silvester elected recorder of London, and Newman Knowlys common sergeant; the recorder's salary was raised from 600*l.* to 1000*l.* per annum.

19. A public fast-day which was observed in the metropolis with the utmost decorum. The volunteer corps of London and Westminster assembled at an early hour, and proceeded to their several places of worship, "where they received (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 442) the instruction of appropriate sermons, and the clergy displayed on the occasion a most laudable zeal to strengthen and improve those generous and manly sentiments with which their audiences were inspired."

26. The volunteer corps of London were reviewed by the king in Hyde-park; Elfi Bey, the French prince, and general Dumouriez were present; the number of spectators was estimated at 200,000; the corps reviewed amounted to 12,401, cavalry and infantry.

28. A grand review of the Westminster, Lambeth, and Southwark volunteer corps in Hyde-park, consisting of 14,676 men, cavalry and infantry: they gave great satisfaction to the king, who expressed his approbation through the commander-in-chief. The number reviewed on both days was 27,077; the total number of volunteers enrolled in the metropolis and out-parishes was 46,000.

Nov. 2. Leclerc the French commander in St. Domingo died, and was succeeded by Rochambeau. The war in that island had been waged with horrid cruelties on both sides.

22. Parliament opened by the king, when the usual addresses were agreed to without opposition. The chief business previous to

the recess was the continuing the suspension of the habeas corpus act, and the existence of martial law in Ireland, and for granting certain exemptions from assessed taxes to volunteers in England.

James Mackintosh, esq., appointed recorder of Bombay, and in the month following received the honour of knighthood.

30. Fort Dauphin having been taken by the English, the French force, commanded by Rochambeau, surrendered, by which the principal part of St. Domingo fell into the hands of the negroes, commanded by their black chiefs Dessalines, Christophe, and Clervaux.

By the falling of a cliff near Harwich the skeleton of an enormous animal, thirty feet long, was found, supposed to be the mammoth; one of the molar teeth weighed seven pounds.

Dec. Peace concluded in India with the rajah of Berar, and Scindiah, the Mahratta chief.

INVASION OF ENGLAND.—The grand project of Buonaparte was a descent on Britain; for which purpose he collected a vast flotilla of gun-boats, and assembled an army ready to cross the Channel the first favourable opportunity. His bombastic threats had the effect of rousing the national spirit. Volunteer and yeomanry corps were formed in every part of the kingdom, and the number of this description of force returned was 379,945 men.

SALE OF LOUISIANA.—In the course of the year the French government assigned their late acquisition of Louisiana to the United States of America for three millions of dollars, by which the States acquired 450,000 square miles of territory, augmenting their territorial area to 1,680,000 square miles. It was an advantageous purchase, consolidating their dominion, removing from them a restless neighbour, and a source of dispute with Spain, which had begun about the warehousing of American goods in New Orleans.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Paris, Madame Clarion, 81, a once popular French actress, and the friend of Marmontel. John Thoresby, the celebrated topographical writer. At Paris, M. de la Harpe, 85, author of "An Ancient and Modern Course of Literature." At Hamburg, Klopstock, 79, the celebrated German poet. Sir William Hamilton thirty-six years British minister at Naples, and distinguished by his antiquarian researches. Henry Swinburne, a celebrated traveller. William Woodfall, 58, a well-known journalist, and the first who undertook and succeeded in publishing the parliamentary debates on the morning following the proceedings. John Hoole, 76, the translator of Tasso. James Beattie, LL.D., 68, poet and moral philosopher. Ralph Grif-

fiths, LL.D., 83, the founder of the "Monthly Review," which he conducted for 54 years. Joseph Ritson, a conveyancer of Gray's-inn, and well known for his publications and criticisms on the old English ballads.

A. D. 1804.—PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.—The war did not stop the progress of works of national utility. The West India docks, occupying a surface of thirty acres, were now completed, and warehouses erected for the safe deposit of merchandise unexposed to fire or plunder, as no lights were suffered, nor any person allowed to remain within the walls after dark. The excavation of the dock for loading, occupying twenty-four acres, was proceeding with spirit. The profits on this undertaking were already such as to warrant a dividend of ten per cent. to the subscribers. The London docks forming in Wapping for the accommodation of the whole trade of the port (East and West India shipping excepted) were in an advanced state, as well as immense warehouses for the bonding of goods. The East India dock was only just commenced. The Commercial-road, beginning at the north-west corner of the West India dock, and coming out at White-chapel near Aldgate, was nearly paved and finished: the tolls received on this spacious thoroughfare averaged from 70*l.* to 80*l.* weekly, and were daily increasing. The Grand Junction canal before noticed was another great commercial undertaking in a forward state. The sum subscribed for this concern was 1,350,000*l.*; its progress was rather impeded by the drought of the preceding summer, but it was expected to be finished by the end of the year.

JAN. 13. CURIOUS CASE.—Francis Smith, officer of excise, was tried at the Old Bailey for wilful murder. It seems the neighbourhood of Hammersmith had been alarmed by what was supposed to be a ghost. The prisoner went out with a loaded gun, with intent to apprehend the person who personated the ghost; he met the deceased, who was dressed in white, and immediately discharged his gun and killed him. Chief Baron Macdonald, Mr. Justice Rooke, and Mr. Justice Lawrence, were unanimously of opinion that the facts amounted to the crime of murder; for the person who represented the ghost was only guilty of a misdemeanor, and no one would have had a right to have killed him even if he could not otherwise have been taken. The jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter, but the Court said they could not receive that verdict; if the jury believed the witnesses, the prisoner was guilty of murder; if they did not believe them, they must acquit. Upon this they found a verdict of guilty. Sentence of

death was pronounced, but the prisoner was pardoned on condition of a year's imprisonment.

28. Some workmen digging to repair the pipes in Leadenhall-street discovered a beautiful tessellated pavement, with a figure of Bacchus, sitting on a tiger at full speed, holding in his left hand a Thyrsis dressed with ivy, and in his right a goblet.

Feb. 5. DEATH OF JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, L.L.D., F.R.S.—This eminent divine and philosopher was born in the neighbourhood of Leeds, where he was for six years pastor of the Unitarian congregation of that town. Subsequently he formed part of the domestic establishment of the earl of Shelburne, where he continued those curious researches in pneumatic chemistry by which he acquired great celebrity, and earned the prize of Copley's gold medal. Dr. Priestley entered warmly into the theological, political, and metaphysical questions that agitated his contemporaries. He became an early convert to Dr. Hartley's theory, that refers all the phenomena of the intellectual powers to physical sensations. His attacks on the Established Church, and his warm admiration of the first outbreak of the French revolution, made him during this heated period an object of persecution, and he severely suffered in the Birmingham riots of 1789. The compensation he received was inadequate to his losses, and, finding himself the victim of party animosity, he withdrew to America, as a more tranquil asylum. Even here he felt the effects of intolerance, until Mr. Jefferson became president, when he had the good fortune to outlive all disquiet on account of his Socinian tenets. He expired at Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, in his 71st year. He was an indefatigable writer and controversialist; and his chief works are enumerated among the "Men of Letters" of this period.

14. A bulletin issued at St. James's intimated the return of the king's mental malady. That the attack was not severe might be inferred from the chancellor of the exchequer's declaration on the 29th, that "there was no necessary suspension of the royal function," and by that of the lord chancellor on March 14th, that "the lord's commissioners were warranted in expressing the royal assent to several bills which had already passed both houses of parliament." It was May, however, before the king was in a state fit for public business, or could enjoy the comforts of his domestic circle.

16. Robert Astlett, the bank-cashier (*vide* July 8, 1803), who had been tried on a second indictment, and on whose case the opinion of the judges had been taken,

was this day adjudged guilty; and on the Monday following sentenced to death. He was subsequently respited during the royal pleasure.

PLOTS AGAINST THE FIRST CONSUL.—In the course of this month a plot was discovered at Paris for the assassination of Buonaparte, and the overthrow of the consular government. The principals in this conspiracy were general Pichegru; Georges, an enthusiastic loyalist, and Lajolais, a confidant of general Moreau. How far Moreau was privy to the scheme does not appear, further than that his house had long been the rendezvous of the disaffected, and that he had held secret interviews with Pichegru on the Boulevards since his return to Paris. Pending the trials Pichegru was found strangled in prison; Georges and some of his accomplices were publicly executed; Moreau was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, which were commuted for banishment to America. Buonaparte pardoned Riviere and the marquis Polignac, the last at the instance of his wife. These proceedings were not terminated till the end of July. During their progress captain Wright was shipwrecked on the French coast, and being brought to Paris was recognised as the same who had landed Georges and the other conspirators from England in Normandy. Wright was examined before the court, but declined answering any questions, as it might "implicate his majesty's ministers." He was detained as a prisoner of war in the temple till the end of 1803, when he put an end to his existence after reading an account (as alleged) of the capitulation of the Austrian general Mack at Ulm.

Mar. 3. Rev. Lockhart Gordon and Loudon Gordon tried at Oxford for the abduction of Mrs. Lee from her house in Bolton-row, Piccadilly. Judge Lawrence stopped the trial, as it appeared that, though Mrs. Lee at first resisted, she subsequently acquiesced in the forcible carrying away, and actually threw a charm of camphor, which she wore against the seductions of pleasure, out of the chaise window. The affair made much noise, the lady being rich, and a natural daughter of lord Le Despencer.

10. Died, in his 29th year, Thomas Pitt, the second lord Camelford. He was shot by captain Best in a duel on the 7th instant, near Holland-house. His lordship, whose character was eccentric, acknowledged himself the aggressor; but a coroner's jury brought in a verdict of "wilful murder" against Best, who was reputed a fatal marksman, and had, a short time before, killed a man by the accidental discharge of a pistol.

EXECUTION OF THE DUKE D'ENGIEN.

—This prince, eldest son of the duke of Bourbon, was seized, under an order of Buonaparte, at Eitenheim, in the neutral territory of Baden, and carried the same day to the citadel of Straßburgh, where he remained till the 18th. On the 20th the duke arrived at Paris under a guard of gendarmerie, and, after waiting some hours at the barrier, was driven to Vincennes. A military commission appointed to try him met the same evening in the castle. The charges against the prince were, the serving in the armies of the emigrants against France; second, of being in the pay of England; and third, of being privy to the conspiracy of Georges. The last was the only criminal charge, and it was not proved: it was Pichegru, and not the prince, who had been mistakenly described as having been seen in company with the conspirators in Paris. Notwithstanding, the prince was found guilty. His sentence was carried into immediate execution; he was shot in the castle-ditch at Vincennes, about six in the morning of the 21st. It was a foul atrocity in all the parties concerned; for, whatever might be the plots against the life of the first consul, they cannot be allowed, on any sound principles of justice, to be pleaded in defence of the judicial assassination of the innocent. The violent seizure of the accused on neutral ground—the composition of the military tribunal before which he was arraigned—the hurried and midnight proceedings, and the nocturnal execution—show that it was determined to reach a retaliatory victim, through every barrier of international law, justice, and humanity. Before his death the prince sought an interview with Buonaparte, which was refused; he wrote a letter to the first consul, which was not delivered till after the catastrophe. The prince was only thirty-two years of age, which, with his reputation for courage and talents, heightened the interest felt in his fate.

Apr. 16. Mr. Pitt made a motion, censuring the naval administration of the country; it was negatived by 201 to 130.

18. A solemn requiem performed in the French chapel, Portman-square, for the late duke d'Enghien; present, many of the English nobility; and of the French, monsieur and the dukes of Berri and Orleans. The prince of Condé, grandfather of the late duke, was unable to attend.

23. On a motion by Mr. Fox for the appointment of a committee to revise the ministerial bills for the defence of the country, Mr. Pitt made a violent attack on ministers. Motion negatived by 256 to 204.

29. Massacre of the whites in Hayti by the blacks under Dessalines.

30. Mr. Addington brought forward the budget, in which the necessary supplies were stated at upwards of thirty-six millions for Britain only. Additions to the war-taxes were proposed, a loan of ten millions, and a vote of credit for two millions and a half.

According to a recent enumeration, it appeared that in the metropolis there are 346 places of public worship: namely, 112 parish churches, 58 licensed chapels and chapels of ease—19 for foreign protestants, 12 for Roman catholics; 133 meeting-houses and methodists' chapels of various sects dissenting from the church, 6 quakers' meeting-houses, and 6 synagogues.

May 1. FIRST CONSUL MADE EMPEROR.—Addresses having been previously procured from the armies, municipalities, and other bodies, a motion was made by M. Curee in the tribunate (the body in which laws originate) for conferring on Napoleon Buonaparte the rank of emperor, with hereditary succession in his family according to the law of primogeniture. The single vote of Carnot formed the only opposition to this regal issue of the republican convulsions. The decree of the tribunate was adopted by the senate; and power given to Buonaparte, if he had no male issue, to adopt an heir from the children of his brothers. The titles of prince, princess, and imperial highness, were conferred on all members of the Buonaparte family. A number of generals were raised to the rank of marshals, and letters sent to the bishops, dictating a religious ceremony for the occasion.

5. Surinam capitulated to the British.

7. Mr. Pitt had an interview with the king, when he received authority to form a new administration, limited only on two points: first, that the catholic question should not be revived; and next, that Mr. Fox should be excluded from his arrangements.

9, 10, 11. Doubts existing in the public mind as to the real state of the king's health, his majesty, on each of these days, drove through the principal streets of London and Westminster, attended by the queen and princesses.

12. ADDINGTON MINISTRY DISSOLVED.—Mr. Pitt was this day gasetted first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. The Addington ministry never possessed inherent strength; it was considered a temporary expedient till the two leading parties of which its predecessors were composed should either reconcile their differences with the court or between themselves. Mr. Pitt, who had taken an active part in its formation, could not, with propriety, appear as an oppositoniast; and he stood apart from the Grenvilles, who

went out with him, in supporting the peace and other measures of the late premier. The accumulating difficulties of the government, however, demanded a more efficient and experienced administration; and Mr. Pitt, whose popularity had increased during his retirement, certainly united, more than any other person, the suffrages of the people in his favour. His elevation, notwithstanding, was accompanied with some considerable loss of reputation for political good faith and inflexibility of principle. Catholic emancipation was abandoned; and the "old" opposition, as it was termed, under Mr. Fox, by whose aid Mr. Pitt had recovered the helm, was thrown overboard. The Grenvilles, or "new" opposition, were consistent; they refused to form part of the ministry unless Mr. Fox was included (*Ann. Reg.*, xlvii. 124). Not having the co-operation of either the old or new opposition, Mr. Pitt made up his staff out of the Addingtons and his own devoted adherents. Of Mr. Addington's administration, the following cabinet ministers retained their situations in that formed by Mr. Pitt:—

Duke of Portland, *President of the Council.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Westmorland, *Lord Privy Seal.*
Earl of Chatham, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*

Lord Castlereagh, *President of the Board of Control.*

Lord Hawkesbury, secretary for foreign affairs under the late ministry, became home secretary under Mr. Pitt's. The new arrangements, therefore, stood as follow:—

Mr. Pitt, *Premier.*

Lord Melville, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Harrowby, *Secretary for Foreign Affairs.*

Earl Camden, *Secretary for the Colonies.*
Lord Mulgrave, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Thus a majority of the late cabinet ministers who were retained formed a majority of Mr. Pitt's administration. In the government of Ireland there was no change, except of the chief secretary, Mr. Wickham, who, retiring, was succeeded by sir Evan Nepean. In the public offices the changes were William Dundas, secretary at war, *vice* Mr. Bragge; George Canning, treasurer of the navy, *vice* Mr. Tierney; George Rose and lord Charles Somerset, joint paymasters of the forces, *vice* Mr. Steele and Hiley Addington; duke of Montrose, postmaster-general, *vice* lord Auckland; William Huskisson and William Sturges Bourne, secretaries of the

treasury, *vice* Vansittart and Sargent. The new ministry was a triumph of the king, who, by his immovability on this as on a former occasion, defeated every attempt of the political leaders, singly or combined, to force upon him either men or measures he disliked. From ambition, or other motive, Mr. Pitt succumbed to the prejudices of the sovereign in respect of the catholics. As respects Mr. Fox, probably the minister made a less reluctant sacrifice to royal antipathies, as he may have entertained, as well as the monarch, from long political rivalry with that gentleman, insuperable objections to being included with him in the same cabinet.

20. Buonaparte proclaimed emperor of the French. Thus terminated the French republic under all its phases. It had lasted 4136 days, only one day less than the duration of the English commonwealth from the death of Charles I.

22. A new coinage of five-shilling dollars and half-guineas issued.

25. A public fast-day. "The sober silence of the streets," says the *Annual Register*, "was only interrupted by the bells of the parish-churches calling the inhabitants to prayers."

26. William Cobbett, the editor of the "Political Register," was tried in the court of King's Bench for a libel on the earl of Hardwicke, lord Redesdale, and others of the Irish government, and found guilty.

June 4. Vaccine inoculation introduced into Persia with great success.

6. Louis XVIII. protests against the assumption of the imperial dignity by Buonaparte as an usurpation.

16. Four journeyman bootmakers of the metropolis, out of 1010, committed to hard labour for combining against their masters.

20. Mr. Western introduced into the commons a bill for the alteration of the corn-laws: exportation to be allowed when the price of wheat was at or below 48s. per quarter of eight bushels; and importation when the price was 63s., but not under: the average prices to be taken from the maritime districts of England and Scotland.

27. The king held a grand levee, the first since his indisposition.

28. Mr. Wilberforce's bill for the abolition of the slave-trade, after a limited time, read a third time. It was supported by Pitt and Fox, but was thrown out in the lords.

General Hamilton killed in a duel at New York with Aaron Burr, the vice-president. It arose out of political differences; and the fatal result caused deep

regret in America, Hamilton being hardly less respected than the great Washington.

July 11. At Bedford sessions an overseer was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and fined 20*l.*, for turning out his female servant while suffering the pains of labour.

12. William Draper Best, serjeant-at-law, was indicted for an assault with intent, &c., on Rebecca, the wife of James Minifie, a person of reduced circumstances, and client of the defendant. The alleged assault took place in the chambers of the learned counsel; but it appearing that the plaintiffs had subsequently tried to borrow 100*l.* of Mr. Best, who denied ever having touched the person of Mrs. Minifie, lord Ellenborough considered it a conspiracy to extort money, and the jury gave a verdict of "not guilty."

13. Three men stood in the pillory in Smithfield, for a conspiracy in fraudulently assuming the characters of merchants, and mutually drawing bills on each other, which they got discounted. After standing the usual time they were carried back to Newgate, there to be imprisoned twelve months.

23. Georges, and eleven of his fellow-conspirators, guillotined at Paris.

31. Parliament prorogued by the king.

Aug. 9. The poll for Middlesex declared; Mr. Mainwaring 2828, and Sir Francis Burdett 2823, being a majority of *five* for the successful candidate. A subscription of 5225*l.* had been raised to defray the election expenses of Mainwaring, but he had declined the contest unless raised to 10,000*l.*

Intelligence having been received that commodore Dance, with the homeward-bound East India fleet, had gallantly repulsed an attack of the French admiral Linois, the directors voted rewards to the amount of 50,000*l.* to the officers and seamen. The value of the fleet preserved was estimated at eight millions.

11. Francis II., to preserve equality with his French neighbour, in lieu of being the elective emperor of Germany, assumed the title of *hereditary* emperor of Austria.

25. The lady of colonel Thornton, on the York course, rode a race for 1000 guineas. It was a four-mile heat, and run in nine minutes and fifty-nine seconds, Mrs. Thornton coming in second.

28. M. d'Oubril, the Russian chargé d'affaires at Paris, demanded his passports, the French not having executed the convention with Russia for the evacuation of Naples.

Sept. 1. Rev. Mr. Massey obtained 10,000*l.* damages against the marquis of Headfort for crim. con.: the offence was

perpetrated on the sabbath while the husband was performing divine service.

6. At a court of pie-poudres, Bartholomew fair, a young gentleman paid 3*l.* 16*s.* for taking away an actress when she was going to perform; and 5*l.* for crim. con. to the husband, the lady being married.

12. Thermometer at 80° in the shade.

20. Bank directors determined on a bonus of five per cent. to the proprietors, and also to pay the property-tax. Salaries of directors raised from 150*l.* to 300*l.* a-year.

29. Their majesties entertained with a naval fête and Dutch fair at Weymouth.

The ancient village of Reculver, in Kent (the Regubium of the Romans) much injured by the equinoctial tides; part of the churchyard washed away.

Oct. 2. CATAMARAN PROJECT.—This was one of many contrivances for destroying the French flotilla, which was collecting in vast numbers on the opposite coasts of the Channel for the invasion of England. The experiment was made under the direction of Lord Keith on 150 gun-boats moored outside of Boulogne pier. The instruments relied on were copper vessels of an oblong form filled with combustibles, and so constructed as to explode in a given time. These vessels were to be towed and fastened under the bottoms of the enemy's boats by a small raft, rowed by one man, who, being seated up to the chin in water, might possibly escape detection in a dark night. (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv. 141.) But the attempt entirely failed: the enemy opened their tiers and suffered the explosive vessels to pass into the rear, where they harmlessly blew up. Ministers were much ridiculed for countenancing this futile scheme, especially lord Melville, whom Mr. Pitt, either from inability to procure the services of earl Spencer, or from boon-companionship, had placed at the head of the admiralty.

5. ATTACK ON A NEUTRAL STATE.—Some cargoes of treasure being expected from the South American mines at Cadiz, and information having been obtained, captain Moore, with the *Indefatigable*, and three other frigates, without any previous declaration of war, was despatched to intercept them. The British officer fell in with the expected squadron, when the Spaniards refusing to surrender an engagement ensued, and the Spanish admiral's ship, *Mercedes*, blew up with a dreadful explosion, the whole crew, forty excepted, perishing; among them an American family, consisting of the mother, four daughters, and four sons; the unfortunate father and another son being on board one of the other vessels, and spectators of the catastrophe. The remaining three frigates struck in succession, after a considerable loss in killed and wounded. The landing of

the captured vessels was of immense value, consisting of gold and silver bullion and rich merchandise. Indignation, however, was generally excited by this piratical enterprise, both at home and abroad; the more so as its fatal results might have been avoided by sending out such a superior force as would have justified the Spanish commander in the prompt surrender of his vessels; whereas the equality of strength rendered a sanguinary combat inevitable. The chief justification of this violence was in the fact that Spain aided France in the war, by subsidies, paid in lieu of a contingent of troops, that she was bound by the treaty of 1796 to furnish to our enemy.

8. The negro Dessalines crowned emperor of Hayti (the native name of St. Domingo), and an imperial court formed with all its etiquette and appendages.

18. The dowager lady Dacre robbed in paying her accustomed nocturnal visit to the tomb of her late lord in Lee church, Kent.

25. A party of French troops crossed the Elbe and arrested Sir George Rumbold, the English resident at Hamburgh, on the pretext of his participating in intrigues for the overthrow of the French government, and for which our ministers, Drake and Smith, had been dismissed from the courts of Bavaria and Wirtemberg. A remonstrance of Prussia procured his liberation, but not the restitution of his papers.

A Roman sepulchre discovered at Ashby-Pueroran, in Lincolnshire.

Nov. 5. On a rejoicing night at Eton college, a young nobleman set fire to a squib in the pocket of one of his companions, which, communicating to others, burnt him so much in the side that he died.

The gilt lion of Button's Coffee-house, which had been the letter-box of the *Guardian*, sold by auction for 17*l.* 10*s.*

9. Mr. Pitt proceeding to the Lord Mayor's feast had his horses taken out of the carriage, and was drawn in triumph by the populace to Guildhall.

12. The king and prince of Wales, having been long at variance, had a conciliatory meeting at Kew-palace.

15. Holkar's army defeated by general Fraser, who died of his wounds near Deeg.

17. Lord Lake defeated the Mahrattas under Holkar, at Furrackabad, taking the whole of his baggage and bullocks.

Dec. 1. Master Betty, called the young Roscius, a youth thirteen years of age, made his first appearance at Covent-garden theatre; the crowd to see him was unparalleled, and the intense interest excited continued through the season.

2. Buonaparte and his wife Josephine crowned by the Pope at Notre Dame emperor and empress, with all the pageantry indigenous adulation could advise.

12. Spain declared war against England.

14. Planet Juno discovered.

24. Price of quatern loaf 1*s.* 4*d.*

MILITARY FORCE.—Lord Castlereagh made the following statement (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 19.) of the military force of the United Kingdom:—there were 130,000 in Britain, and 50,000 in Ireland, on permanent pay; of this total of 180,000 the militia amounted to 84,000, and the regulars to 96,000; volunteer force in Britain 340,000; in Ireland 70,000; making a total of 410,000. The sea fencibles were 25,000. The gross force of the united kingdom was nearly 700,000 men in arms.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Coppet, M. Necker, 72, the celebrated French financier at the commencement of the revolution. Admiral lord Duncan, 73. Rev. Robert Potter, 83, the eminent Greek translator. Charles Bannister, 63, the comedian and vocalist. George Morland, 40, a clever artist in rustic scenery and low life, but of intemperate habits. James Hare, M.P., well known among the whigs for his conversational powers, but who made no progress as a parliamentary speaker. Richard Pepper Arden, Baron Alvanley, 59, lord chief justice of the common pleas. Robert Macfarlane, 70, author of a "History of George III." Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, F.R.S., 53, author of several papers in the "Philosophical Transactions." Timothy Curtis, brother of alderman sir W. Curtis, and one of the heaviest men in England, weighing at one period thirty-four stone. Alderman John Boydell, late lord-mayor of London, and known for his superb edition of Shakspeare. Mr. Carter, musical composer, and author of "Tally ho!" and "O! Nanny, wilt thou gang with me?"

A. D. 1805. THIRD COALITION AGAINST FRANCE.—The storm of invasion alleged to be gathering over England was diverted by the new confederacy on the continent. It was ill concerted and worse conducted than any anterior combination against the power of France. The distant co-operation of Russia was secured, but without the aid of Prussia there was little chance of success, and Austria began the war without any certain knowledge whether the court of Berlin would be hostile or auxiliary in the contest. Buonaparte, by the wariness of his plans and the energy of their execution, disappointed all the calculations of his opponents. By the surrender of Ulm the armies of Austria were ruined without a battle; her capital was taken without resistance; and scarcely had the remnant of her forces joined the Russians in Moravia, when she was compelled to hazard an engagement which laid her prostrate at the feet of the conqueror. The battle of Aus-

terlitz terminated the hopes of the allies, and was followed at the close of the year by the treaty of Presburgh. During the struggle on the continent England acquired new laurels on her favourite element by the victory of Trafalgar—the greatest of her naval triumphs; and, though dearly purchased by the death of admiral Nelson, terminated the cherished hopes of France to rival the maritime power of Britain. In parliamentary occurrences the chief were the charges brought against the first lord of the Admiralty for malversation while treasurer of the navy. Lord Melville had been the staunch supporter and confidential friend of Mr. Pitt; and the charge of peculation against him seriously affected the popularity of his ministry, already weakened by the desertion of the Grenvilles and the hopeless prospects of the war. Lord Sidmouth, after holding office a few months, resigned, not concurring in the minister's scheme of sheltering the state culprit.

Jan. 2. Emperor Napoleon addressed a letter of this date to the king, commencing, "Sir and brother," setting forth the futile nature of the war, and his desire of peace. It was coldly responded to by lord Mulgrave, in a communication of the 14th addressed to Talleyrand, informing him that the object of his majesty was the "future safety and tranquillity of Europe," and that the emperor of Russia participated in his sentiments, having evinced "a lively interest in the safety and independence of the continent."

Died suddenly of apoplexy, at Baylis, near Salt-hill, in his 73rd year, Alexander Wedderburn earl of Rosslyn, an eminent lawyer, but of shifting political predilections. He was one of the chief promoters of the American war, and presided at the trial of the rioters in 1780 with a zeal against the accused unbecoming a judge.—(*Lam Mag.*, No. 27, p. 74.) First a whig, he became a tory under lord North; relapsed into whiggism pending the Regency question, and again deserted the whig to join the war-faction in 1792, receiving soon after the great seal, of which Mr. Pitt had sufficient influence to deprive the king's favourite, Lord Thurlow, who had long by his cross-purposes and underhand practices been a great stumbling-block in his administration. Lord Rosslyn was twice married, but left no issue; sir James Sinclair Erskine, his nephew, succeeded to his lordship's title and estates.

11. MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Pitt, not having strengthened himself by an alliance with any party, found it expedient to become reconciled to the late premier, who was raised to the peerage by the title of viscount Sidmouth, and

made lord president of the council in the room of the duke of Portland. Lord Mulgrave succeeded the earl of Harrowby as foreign secretary; the earl of Buckinghamshire was nominated chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster; and others of the Addingtons were sworn of the privy council, among them Mr. Vansittart.

15. Parliament opened by the king, who adverted to the war with Spain, and his confederate intercourse with the continental powers, especially Russia.

30. The New London Docks opened.

Feb. 1. Abergavenny, outward-bound East Indiaman wrecked; 300 persons drowned, and the loss estimated at 200,000*l.*

20. A public fast-day.

22. The French landed 4000 men on Dominica, but general Prevost collecting the British force on the island they thought fit to re-embark. They next proceeded to St. Christopher's and Nevis, where they levied contributions.

23. Dr. Charles Manners, late bishop of Norwich, installed archbishop of Canterbury, vacant by the death of Dr. Moore.

25. ROYAL FETE.—The king, having taken up his abode at Windsor Castle, determined to give, after the old English fashion, a *house warming*. Upwards of 400 of the nobility and other persons of rank were invited, who mostly appeared in full court suits. Glass chandeliers and lustres of great value were displayed, as well as the silver chandeliers, and four beautiful tables, saved from the French invaders in Hanover. The ball-room, instead of being chalked, was painted with appropriate devices. This royal banquet is supposed to have cost 50,000*l.* The entertainments were kept up to a late hour; the royal family withdrew about half-past three in the morning; but the company did not leave till six. Next day the queen gave a grand public breakfast at Frogmore to about 200 persons of distinction; dancing commenced at three, which continued till six, when the guests sat down to an elegant collation.

28. The tunnel, two miles in length, through Blesworth-hill, near Northampton, completed, opening by the Grand Junction-canal a communication with the metropolis.

Mar. 4. First stone of the East India-docks laid by captain Huddart and John Woolmore, esq.

9. Dr. Henry Bathurst promoted to the see of Norwich.

It was determined in the Marshalsea-court that a tenant holding to the amount of 10*l.* a year must give six months' notice to quit, without agreement.

11. The sheriffs of London committed to Newgate by order of the house of commons, for gross partiality, in favour of sir

Francis Burdett, in the late Middlesex election.

Apr. 6. CHARGES AGAINST LORD MELVILLE.—Public attention was strongly excited by disclosures in the Fourth Report of the commissioners of naval inquiry, impugning the conduct of the first lord of the admiralty while treasurer of the navy, between the years 1786 and 1800. It was brought before the house of commons on the 6th, by Mr. Whitbread, under three heads of charge. These were, his lordship's applying the public money to other uses than those of the naval department; his conniving at a system of peculation in Mr. Trotter (paymaster of the navy), for whose conduct he was responsible; and his having been a participator in that peculation. Mr. Pitt proposed to refer the subject to a select committee, but, on the suggestion of Mr. Fox, changed his purpose to a motion for the previous question. On a division there appeared, for Mr. Whitbread's resolutions, 216; against them, 216; when the speaker gave his casting vote in their favour. An address to the king was then moved for the dismissal of lord Melville from the admiralty, but, at the desire of Mr. Pitt, the motion was postponed. In the interim his lordship resigned, and his name was crossed from the list of privy councillors, and Mr. Trotter (the paymaster) was dismissed. Various proceedings followed till the end of June, terminating in the impeachment of lord Melville of high crimes and misdemeanors.

11. England concluded the treaty of Petersburg, the basis of a third coalition against France.

Bhurtpore surrendered to lord Lake, who concluded a treaty with the rajah, stipulating for the payment of twenty *lacs* of rupees to the East India Company.

23. On the motion of Mr. Grey, Peter Stuart, the editor of the *Oracle*, was brought to the bar of the house of commons for a libellous paragraph, and reprimanded by the speaker.

30. It appeared, from Mr. Trotter's account with Messrs. Coutts's, that his dividends from funded property had increased from 80*l.* per annum, in 1791, to 11,308*l.*, in 1802.

The Spanish Inquisition interdicted the circulation of 102 literary works. Locke's "Essay on the Human Understanding" was condemned on the ground that its doctrines were destructive of moral ideas. Pope's works were censured as obscene, heretical, and blasphemous against his holiness of Rome.

May 7. Died, at his house, Berkeley-square, in his 69th year, WILLIAM PETTY, marquis of LANSDOWNE, a general in the army. This eminent nobleman had long

held a conspicuous place in public and private life, and taken an active part in most of the earlier transactions of the present reign. He was a whig, but was not for fettering the crown in the choice of its ministers by factious combinations. While premier, in 1782, he introduced Mr. Pitt, then twenty-three years of age, to the office of chancellor of the exchequer. His lordship's entailed estates, worth 35,000*l.* per annum, descended to his eldest son; and 10,000*l.* a year, and 100,000*l.* in specie (*Annual Register*, xlvii. 477), were willed to his second son, lord Henry Petty, soon after chancellor of the exchequer.

10. Lord Grenville introduced into the lords the subject of the Irish catholic claims. He was supported by lord Moira, and opposed by lords Sidmouth, Hawkesbury, and Redesdale. Catholic petition rejected by 178 to 49.

13. Same subject brought forward in the commons by Mr. Fox, and eloquently seconded by Mr. Grattan, who made his first speech in the British senate. Mr. Pitt, who resigned in 1801 on the ground of his inability to carry a measure in favour of the catholics, declared that his sentiments remained unaltered, but that, so long as the king was opposed to catholic emancipation and the popular feeling against it, he should consider it his duty not only to oppose the introduction of the subject, but deprecate its agitation. Motion negatived by 336 against 124.

18. Being Saturday night, the bishop of London compelled the curtain at the Opera-house to drop at 12 o'clock, before the ballet was finished. He also tried to prevent the desecration of Sunday by evening routs and concerts in the metropolis.

25. DEATH OF WILLIAM PALEY, D.D.—This eminent theologian and moralist was a native of Peterborough, and slowly rose, from being an assistant in a Greenwich academy, to be archdeacon of Carlisle and a prebendary of St. Paul's; preferments below his deserts, and unequal to the important services he rendered in support of our lay and ecclesiastical establishments. There is perhaps no public writer who has so essentially contributed to form the political mind of the community, and afforded so many ingenious and forcible arguments in defence of the excellencies, along with the defects, of public institutions. It is the sacrifice of principle to expediency that chiefly renders Paley objectionable as a general teacher of ethical and social science. His style is clear and masculine, but not always neat; his illustrations apt and striking; his applications practical; his judgment shrewd and penetrating. At the university he refused to sign the petition for relief in the matter of subscrip-

tion to the Articles; observing, with more point than decorum, that "he could not afford to keep a conscience;" a burst, probably, of the levity not unusual with him, rather than of a rule of life. Mr. Pitt is said to have wished to bestow a mitre upon Paley, but was thwarted in a high quarter, on the ground that the doctor was not sufficiently orthodox for the episcopal bench.

26. Emperor of France crowned king of Italy in the cathedral of Milan. Napoleon himself took from the altar the iron crown of Charlemagne, and placed it on his head amidst shouts of acclamation.

June 4. Genoa annexed to France.

11. Lord Melville appeared within the bar of the commons to answer the charges against him. He solemnly denied having derived any private benefit from the practices of Mr. Trotter; but confessed he had "applied the sum of 10,000*l.* in a way he could not reveal consistently with private honour and public duty." His lordship's speech made little impression, and the house determined on a criminal prosecution.

15. Miss Paterson, an American lady, and wife of Jerome Buonaparte, prohibited landing in France by the French emperor.

21. The commons voted to the duke of Athol in perpetuity an additional grant of 3500*l.* per annum, in compensation for the sovereignty of the Isle of Man, which the duke's ancestor had sold to government, forty years before, for 70,000*l.*

25. Lord Melville's friends having made fresh discoveries, the proceeding by criminal prosecution was abandoned, and an impeachment agreed to.

The famous "Fairlop Oak," forty-eight feet in girth, and supposed to be 500 years old, injured by a party who had lighted a fire near it for amusement.

The preparations for invasion continued with unabated activity at Boulogne. The army assembled amounted 100,000 men, officered by the first military characters in the imperial service. On the other hand gigantic efforts were made to repel the attack, and a range of martello-towers erected on the most exposed parts of the southern coast.

July 1. Hamilton Rowan, in the King's-bench, Dublin, pleaded the king's pardon for treasonable practices.

10. Lords Sidmouth and Buckinghamshire resigned, the former succeeded by lord Camden, the latter by lord Harrowby. The resignations chiefly arose from a difference with the minister on the prosecution of Melville, Mr. Pitt wishing to screen an old colleague. Lord Castlereagh became foreign secretary, and lord Barmham was placed at the head of the admiralty.

12. Parliament prorogued by commission.

23. Admiral sir Robert Calder captured two sail of the line of the combined French and Spanish fleet, off Ferrol. The rest of the enemy's ships got back to Cadiz.

29. Marquis Cornwallis, the new governor-general of India, arrived at Calcutta.

Salisbury-plain, lately an unprofitable waste (*Ann. Reg.* for 1805, p. 400), now in extensive tracts, presents the most gratifying appearance of cultivation and produce. A few years since there was scarcely an enclosure, or a spot of tillage, for upwards of twenty miles, between Andover and Blandford; the whole of which is now reclaimed, and under various crops of excellent promise.

Aug. 9. Austria joined the coalition.

12. Circus, St. George's-fields, burnt.

15. Grand fête at Stowe, given by the marquis of Buckingham to 400 of the nobility and others. The prince of Wales was present, accompanied by Mr. Fox.

25. Died, in his 62nd year, William Henry duke of Gloucester, next brother to the king, much respected for the virtues of private life. He had married an English lady, and conciliated popular favour by the education of his son in England.

Sept. 9. Gregorian calendar adopted in France.

21. Mr. Blight, a respectable ship-broker of Deptford, while sitting in his parlour, was shot by an unknown person. Mr. Patch, whom he had shortly before admitted to a share in his business, was soon after apprehended, tried, and convicted of the murder.

24. The French emperor left Paris to place himself at the head of his army at Strasburg.

Oct. 5. Died, at Gasepore, after a long life devoted to the public service, CHARLES MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, governor-general of India. He was provisionally succeeded by the senior member of council, sir George Barlow. The marquis had only arrived in India in July, and had been sent with the view of terminating the wars of conquest waged against the native princes, and adopting towards them a more pacific line of policy than that of his predecessor, the marquis Wellesley. It was the wish of the East India Company, though its purpose was frustrated by the *veto* of the Board of Control, at which lord Castlereagh presided.

17. ULM capitulated to the emperor Napoleon, by which general Mack and 30,000 Austrians laid down their arms. They were the remains of a veteran army of 90,000. The archduke Ferdinand, at the head of a body of cavalry, alone succeeded in making good his retreat into Bohemia.

This first blow of the war was effected by the masterly tactic combinations of the French emperor, who suddenly invested Ulm, where his opponent lay, apparently spell-bound, without attempting to give battle or retreat. Buonaparte addressed the Austrian officers, and told them he wished for nothing upon the Continent. "France," says he, "desires only ships, colonies, and commerce."

20. Werneck, in Italy, with 15,000 men, surrendered to the French under general Murat.

24. **VICTORY OF TRAFALGAR**, in which the gallant Nelson fell, like Wolfe, in the moment of victory. The combined French and Spanish fleets, consisting of thirty-three sail of the line, had put to sea from Cadix, under admirals Villeneuve and Gravina. The English fleet amounted to twenty-seven ships of the line, mostly of the largest rate. About noon the battle began; the signal being—since become a national proverb—"England expects every man to do his duty." In two columns, under Nelson and Collingwood, the British bore down, piercing the enemy's line, when the conflict became furious; but in a couple of hours nineteen ships struck their colours, including the French admiral's and two other flag-ships. The loss of the combined fleets was enormous: the Spanish admiral Gravina was mortally wounded; and Villeneuve, unable to bear his defeat, soon after put an end to himself. The loss of the English, in killed and wounded, amounted to 1589, and, including the hero of the Nile, cast a shade over this brilliant naval achievement.

27. Captain Wright died suddenly, in the Temple. His death has been attributed to the French government, but it had no interest in such a catastrophe (*vide* p. 659).

Nov. 4. Sir Richard Strachan with four ships, after a spirited fight, captured off Ferrol four French first-rates that had escaped from the battle of Trafalgar.

14. The French entered Vienna. Massena was advancing to the same point from Italy, driving before him the archduke Charles.

26. The stupendous aqueduct of Pont-cyoyte, upon the Ellemere canal, at the eastern extremity of the romantic vale of Llangollen, opened. It is 1007 feet in length and 127 in height; Mr. Telford the architect.

Dec. 2. **BATTLE OF AUSTERLITZ**, near Olmutz; the French emperor defeating the Austro-Russian armies, amounting to 80,000 men, commanded by general Kutusoff and prince Lichtenstein. It was called the battle of the "Three Emperors," and was well contested; but 100 pieces of cannon and 30,000 killed, wounded, and

prisoners, attested the triumph of Napoleon. An immense number perished in a lake by the ice giving way. Davoust, Lannes, Soult, Berthier, and Murat most distinguished themselves among the French marshals.

6. An armistice concluded at a personal interview, on the high road of Hollitach, between the emperors of Austria and France; to which the emperor Alexander acceded.

23. Vice-admiral sir Robert Calder tried by a court-martial for not bringing to action a second time the French fleet off Ferrol on the 23rd and 24th of July last, and found guilty of an error of judgment; for which he was sentenced to be reprimanded. Sir Robert was in his 60th year, forty-six of which he had honourably passed in the public service; and he deeply felt the reproach cast upon him.

24. Peace concluded in India with the Mahratta chiefs Holkar and Scindiah.

26. **TREATY OF PRESBURG**.—Austria ceded the old Venetian states to the new kingdom of Italy, and acknowledged Buonaparte's new kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg. The emperor lost in subjects more than 2,700,000 souls, and in revenue, 16,000,000 of florins. The total exclusion from Italy, and the cession of the Tyrolean frontier to Bavaria, were severe strokes upon the political consequence of Austria. Prussia, which had insidiously held back, watching the progress of the campaign, determined for the present to preserve peace with France, and concluded a convention with that power by which Hanover was provisionally exchanged for Anspach, Cleves, and Neufchatel.

There were committed for crimes in England and Wales, 4605; of whom 530 received sentence of death, and 68 executed; and 595 transported.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—William Buchan, M.D., 76, author of the "Domestic Medicine:" he sold the copyright of this popular manual to the booksellers for 700*l.*, and the sale of it produced them that sum annually (*Ann. Reg.*, xlvi. 467). Of nervous fever, Frederick Schiller, the celebrated German poet. Robert Bissett, LL.D., 46, author of a "Life of Burke," &c. Richard Suett, 49, comedian of Drury-lane. Christopher Anstey, 81, author of the "New Bath Guide." At Paris, M. Anquetil du Perron, 73, a distinguished man of letters. Mrs. Crouch, 46, popular singer and actress. M. Chappe, the inventor of the telegraph: he drowned himself in a well from weariness of life.

A.D. 1806. **FRENCH WAR WITH PRUSSIA**.—The French emperor continued his restless career of change and territorial acquisition. The petty republics which he had

essentially contributed to establish during the rage of democracy were converted into monarchies, or annexed to his rapidly-extending empire. His brothers, Joseph and Louis, were placed on thrones, and several of the electors and princes of Germany elevated to regality. By the establishment of the Rhenish Confederacy, of which he was declared protector, the Germanic federation was dissolved, and the emperor Francis publicly renounced his imperial supremacy. Prussia, not being allowed to form a counter-league in the north of Europe, rashly determined to try the fortune of war after her balancing policy between France and the coalition had left her without a single confederate. In a single battle the pride of victories, of military discipline and organization, inherited from Frederick the Great, was laid prostrate. Within a month Prussia was overrun by the French legions, her strongest fortresses surrendered, and her capital entered by the conqueror. Before the close of the campaign Buonaparte had penetrated beyond Warsaw in pursuit of the Russians, and projected the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland. Domestic events were signalised by the death, first of Mr. Pitt, and then, within a few months after, of Mr. Fox; two statesmen who had long divided in a more equal degree the suffrages of the nation than in the favour of the crown. A stronger disposition towards a continental peace and the reform of fiscal abuses formed the chief features that distinguished the Grenville ministry from their predecessors. A general election, however, at the end of the year showed that they had no support in the country adequate to supply the absence of the confidence of the court.

Jan. 1. The four vergers of St. Paul's made upwards of 1000*l.* by the admission of the public to see the preparations for the funeral of Lord Nelson; "the doormoney" says the *Annual Register*, "is taken as at a puppet-show, and amounted for several days to more than 40*l.* for each day."

5. Great hall of Greenwich-hospital thrown open to the public to view the coffin of admiral Nelson.

8. The English, under commodore sir Home Popham and generals sir David Baird and Berosford, obtained possession of the Cape of Good Hope, experiencing little resistance from Janssens, the Dutch governor.

9. The remains of Lord Nelson interred in St. Paul's cathedral: upwards of 160 carriages followed the burial-car: the prince of Wales and royal dukes, both houses of parliament, and the corporation of London, formed part of the procession.

The funeral service was performed by torch-light.

12. An attorney stood in the pillory, in front of Newgate, for defrauding a man of 140*l.* under pretence of getting him a place in the ordnance.

PARLIAMENT opened by the king. Congratulations on naval successes, regrets at the disasters of our allies, and an intimation that one million of the droits of admiralty would be applied to the public service, formed the substance of the royal speech. Intelligence of the dangerous situation of the minister caused the intention of moving an amendment to be abandoned.

20. Sir J. Duckworth captured three French ships of the line, part of a squadron that had escaped from the harbour of Brest.

23. DEATH OF MR. PITT.—The late premier was the second and favourite of three sons of the celebrated earl of Chatham. At an early period he gave earnest of future eminence, and his father used to say that "he would one day increase the glory of the name of Pitt." Till the age of fourteen his education was domestic, the earl himself sedulously co-operating with a private tutor in directing his mind to useful attainments; accustoming him especially to argue logically and harangue with elegance, fluency, and force. Young Pitt was thus nurtured in the arts of statesmanship by one of its first masters. At Cambridge he was conspicuous for classical and mathematical knowledge. He finished his educational course by entering himself student of Lincoln's-inn, and practising as junior-counsel on the western circuit, to which (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 794.) he thought of returning in 1803, when out of office, as a brief mode of extrication from poverty. His maiden speech in the house of commons was in defence of Mr. Burke's civilist reform bill: he also spoke with energy in favour of parliamentary reform, and made three specific motions on the subject; he was even chosen and acted as a delegate in one of the meetings held in Westminster for the furtherance of that measure. As a son of Chatham he eschewed the Rockingham, and attached himself to the Shelburne whigs, under whom he became chancellor of the exchequer at the age of twenty-three. This ministry being dissolved by the coalition of North and Fox, he was thrown into opposition, where he soon showed himself an adept in parliamentary warfare. Dexterously availing himself of the weak points in Mr. Burke's scheme of Indian government, he supplanted the coalitionists with the concurrent approbation of king and people. For seventeen years after—eight of peace and nine of war—he was prime

minister of England. The character of his peace administration has been already described (p. 533): it was favourable to fiscal and commercial improvements. In war he was signally unsuccessful; except naval triumphs he did not reap even the melancholy glory of victories. It was for the protraction rather than the commencement of hostilities for which Mr. Pitt seems to have been most justly obnoxious to animadversion. Alarmed by the destructive aspect of the French revolution, excited and misled by inflammatory writings, the war was national at the beginning, and perhaps unavoidable by any minister; but the country might have been withdrawn from the arena in 1795, contemporaneously with Spain and Prussia, and Austria left singly to contend for the restoration of the seigniorial rights of the German princes in Alsace and Lorraine. But the unbending mind of Mr. Pitt would not allow him to terminate hostilities when aimless and hopeless; he had reluctantly entered into them, but having done so he must successfully conclude them; and rather than do otherwise, after they became unpopular, he withdrew from office, on the ground of inability to redeem his pledge to the Catholics of Ireland. Both in the commencement of the war, and in his internal policy, Mr. Pitt was controlled by circumstances. "He perceived the formidable co-operation of external and internal enemies; but the former could not be effectually resisted except by open war, nor the latter without coercive acts of the legislature; and he was persuaded that neither of these expedients, exclusive of his own earnest wish not to have recourse to them, would be approved till their necessity was obvious and incontestible."—(*Bishop Tomline's Memoirs of the Life of Pitt*, ii. 618.) Upon these points great differences of opinion prevailed, and still continue to divide politicians. The number of republican societies established throughout the empire was very great, and their activity incessant. This appears from the elaborate Report on Seditious Societies of Mr. Secretary Dundas (*Ann. Reg.* xii. 150), who minutely describes their ramifications through England, Ireland, and Scotland, and their reasonable correspondence with France, through agents established at Hamburg. But notwithstanding the severe and unconstitutional measures to which Mr. Pitt resorted to counteract their machinations, he was a sincere revolution whig of 1688, of a liberal denomination: upon principles of justice and sound policy, he was favourable to every species of domestic reform; there was no abuse in the Church, nor in the revenue department, nor in the laws affecting different religionists, nor even in

parliamentary representation, to the removal of which he was not friendly, but he made his principles subordinate to his ambition. This was the ruling passion of his soul, as it was of his father to be at the head of the public administration. For this he lent himself to the bigotry of the court, to the selfish fears of the aristocracy, to dangerous inroads on the constitution, to popular ignorance and delusion, to intriguing and mercenary lawyers, and to the corrupt agencies of a war-faction whom a long course of lavish expenditure raised into an almost irresistible influence. He was obstinate; he was proud and haughty; but these all bent to the love of power. The African slave-trade, parliamentary reform, catholic emancipation, the friends of humanity, the "Friends of the People," and the Grenvilles, were all in turn abandoned or dashed aside if they endangered the possession or blocked up the passage to the treasury. It must have been an ignoble education that taught him to prefer place to principle; ministerial leadership to the glory of national ameliorations. Notwithstanding this suppleness of course, Mr. Pitt possessed great and uncommon endowments. Self-reliance, boldness, loftiness, discreetness, and perseverance, were the qualities that marked the outset and progress of his career. In a period of unexampled trial there was nothing in our political constitution, in finance or currency, in domestic or foreign policy, that he did not fearlessly put to hazard, to triumph in the struggle; evincing a consciousness of strength and rectitude, if not a resoluteness, approaching to hardness. But though his plans were prosecuted with constancy and vigour, they were often ill conceived, and, from choice of instruments, badly executed. Events attested him to be more a mistaken than successful minister. He cannot be reckoned a great man because he neglected the only foundation upon which true greatness can be established. Public happiness, legislation, morals, science, and literature, owed little to him. He was not even a sagacious statesman, for he neither foresaw the beginning nor the end of the French war; and he conducted and defended it upon grounds irrelevant to its origin and character. His chief gift was eloquence; it was commanding, specious, logical, tasteful, and persuasive. It was, however, more the eloquence of an academician than of genius, of words than thoughts, of ingenious evasions and dexterous suggestions than of solid and original arguments. Its dignified and equable flow, as well as the sarcasm in which he excelled, indicated more of a cold, watchful, and subtle nature, than of generous feeling and noble enthu-

siasm. Mr. Pitt's voice was powerful and harmonious, constituting his chief exterior accomplishment. His figure was gaunt, his countenance harsh and severe, his action ungraceful and monotonous, his air collegiate, and, often walking with his mouth open, his face did not express the intellectuality of his mind. Save the oratory and statesmanship of this celebrated minister, there is nothing else to delineate. His life had neither spring nor autumn; to the joys of youth and the tranquil retrospections of age he died a stranger. Like the cathedral of Notre Dame to the Hunchback of Victor Hugo, Downing-street became his microcosm, out of which he had no existence. In private life he was improvident, but urbane, convivial, simple in his tastes, and void of ostentation. From the meanness of avarice he was totally free; but, disinterested himself, he was perhaps too slow in suspecting the contrary in some of his colleagues. He died, like admiral Nelson, who shed a parting glory over his public administration, in the 47th year of his age.

26. Buonaparte returned to his capital from Vienna. Paris immediately became a scene of splendid fêtes and rejoicings, on account of the late victories in Germany.

27. Mr. H. Lascelles moved in the house of commons an address to the king, to give directions for the interment of Mr. Pitt in Westminster-abbey, and the erection of a monument to his honour. It was supported by lord Castlereagh, Mr. Rose, and Mr. Wilberforce; opposed by lord Folkstone and Messrs. Fox, W. Smith, Ponsonby, and Windham. The last objected to the phrase "excellent statesman," given to the deceased in the proposed address. For the motion, 258; against it, 89.

31. Leave given to bring in a bill to ascertain the population of Ireland.

Feb. 3. Mr. Cartwright moved that a sum not exceeding 40,000*l.* be granted for the payment of the debts of Mr. Pitt, which was carried without opposition.

5. **GRENVILLE MINISTRY.**—So much were the strength and credit of the ministry dependent upon Mr. Pitt, that lord Hawkesbury declined the offer of becoming his successor, and it became necessary to make an entire change in the government of the country. The task of forming the new administration was confided to lord Grenville, who with the assent of the king called to his aid Mr. Fox. These leaders, however, could not command more than 150 members of the house of commons (*Ann. Reg. xlviii. 22*), and, not being cordially supported by the court, they were compelled to strengthen themselves by auxiliaries. For this purpose the Addingtons were incorporated; lord Sidmouth's influence over the king continuing undi-

minished, and his party considerable both in parliament and the country. Thus the new ministry consisted of three sections of politicians: first, the Grenvilles, consisting of the whig families (the Bentincks excepted) who had been the strenuous supporters of the war, but were favourable to catholic emancipation; secondly, the followers of Mr. Fox, who coincided with the Grenvilles chiefly in the policy of the latter question; thirdly, the Addingtons who were opposed to concession to the Irish catholics, but friendly to external peace and the reform of domestic abuses. Mutual concessions and compromises of opinion became inevitable; questions on which they differed were postponed, and those only on which there was a general agreement were agitated. Upon this basis the government was constituted as follows:—

Lord Grenville, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Viscount Sidmouth, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Mr. Fox, *Secretary for Foreign Affairs.*

Lord Erskine, *Lord Chancellor.*

Lord Howick, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Henry Petty, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Earl Spencer, *Home Secretary.*

Mr. Windham, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Minto, *President of the India Board.*

General Fitzpatrick, *Secretary at War.*

Mr. Sheridan, *Treasurer of the Navy.*

Sir Arthur Pigot, *Attorney-General.*

Sir Samuel Romilly, *Solicitor-General.*

The first eight formed the cabinet, with the addition of chief justice Ellenborough, who was included as the friend of lord Sidmouth. In Ireland the duke of Bedford was lord lieutenant; Mr. Ponsonby lord chancellor; Mr. Plunkett attorney-general; Mr. Bush solicitor-general; Mr. Curran master of the rolls. Lord Hawkesbury, who had declined the premiership, obtained for himself, just before the new ministry was completed, the valuable sinecure of warden of the cinque-ports. The auditorship of the exchequer not being compatible with lord Grenville's new appointment, an act was passed to qualify him to hold both offices; his lordship not wishing to relinquish a sinecure for life of 4000*l.* a-year for the uncertain office of first lord of the treasury. A third question that originated much party discussion was the admission of the chief justice of England into the cabinet. This was considered an unconstitutional infringement of the independence of the judges, of which there was no precedent since the Revolution, except in the case of lord Mansfield, who, as a cabinet-minister, took an open part as the adviser of the crown.

6. At a meeting of the common-council of London it was moved that a monument be erected in Guildhall to the me-

mony of Mr. Pitt, and the motion carried by a majority of 77 against 71.

8. Sir Francis Burdett having declined opposing Mr. Mainwaring's petition, the latter was declared M.P. for Middlesex.

18. Joseph Buonaparte entered Naples and assumed the sovereignty.

19. An iron bridge over the New-cut, Bristol, fell down and shivered to pieces.

20. Mr. Pitt's body laid in state this day and the next in the Painted Chamber, Westminster.

Mr. Fox, in a note to Talleyrand, apprised him of the offer of a Frenchman to assassinate Buonaparte. It led to some correspondence on the subject of opening a negotiation for peace on the basis of the treaty of Amiens, but ended without any satisfactory conclusion.

22. Mr. Pitt publicly interred in Westminster Abbey: the funeral was thinly attended. Dr. Vincent, the dean, read the service; and the herald, after pronouncing over his grave the titles of the deceased minister, declared *non sibi sed patrie vixit*.

At the Middlesex sessions the marquis de Chambonas was convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment in Newgate for defrauding of several sums of money Bertrand de Moleville, the author of "Memoirs of the French Revolution."

MANAGEMENT OF PIGS.—The following experiment has been made by a gentleman of Norfolk (*Annual Register*, xviii. 375). Six pigs of nearly equal weight were put to keeping at the same time, and treated the same as to food and litter for seven weeks. Three of them were left to shift for themselves as to *cleanliness*; the other three were kept as clean as possible by a man employed for the purpose with a currycomb and brush. The last consumed in seven weeks fewer peas by five bushels than the other three, yet weighed more when killed by two stone and four pounds upon the average.

24. General Thomas Picton tried in the court of king's bench before lord Ellenborough for ordering, while governor of Trinidad, the torture to be inflicted on Louisa Calderon, a girl eleven years of age, to extort the confession of a theft. The torture employed was that called *picketing*, consisting of suspension by one wrist, the foot resting on a spike. Defence set up was that the general only acted conformably to the Spanish laws under which the island was governed. The jury found him *guilty*.

Mar. 3. Debates in both houses of parliament on the cabinet appointment of the chief justice Ellenborough. Resolution of censure negatived without a division in the lords; and by a majority of 222 against 64 in the commons.

7. The skeleton of a crocodile ten feet and a half in length found at Doddridge in Gloucestershire in a solid stratum of limestone twenty feet thick, and embedded fifteen feet below the surface.

13. Two French ships of war, commanded by admiral Linois, captured by sir J. B. Warren.

26. Mr. Fox informed Talleyrand of the readiness of England to treat for peace, but only in concert with Russia.

28. Lord Henry Petty opened, in a perspicuous statement, the Budget. The annual charge of the debt was now upwards of 27,000,000*l.* The requisite supplies were stated at 43,618,472*l.*; and among the proposed means was a loan of eighteen millions, and war-taxes to the amount of nineteen millions. The income-tax was raised from six and a half to ten per cent., including all property above 50*l.* a-year; and, though highly unpopular, was continued during all the subsequent years of the war. Some salutary regulations were introduced for correcting great abuses in the revenue department. There had been a gradual accumulation of un-audited accounts, amounting, when ministers came into office, to 534 millions. The satisfaction expressed at these economical reforms was only abated by a new impost on pig-iron, the exemption of the funded property of the king from the income-tax, and the additional annuities granted to the royal family.

Apr. 1. The king of Prussia declared himself sovereign of Hanover.

3. Mr. Windham, who had always opposed the volunteer system, brought forward his plan of limited service. He proposed that the infantry should be enlisted for seven years only, with liberty to renew their services for another seven years, receiving an increase of pay. Cavalry and artillery to be enlisted for ten years, the second period six, and the third five years. The plan was strenuously opposed, but passed into a law. Lord Castlereagh said the prosperity of the country was such that ministers "reposed on a bed of roses;" a state of bliss that became the subject of popular caricatures.

5. Richard Patch tried at Horsemonger-lane, for the murder of his partner, Isaac Blight. He was found guilty, as before stated (p. 666), and executed on the 8th, without exciting any commiseration, from the aggravated nature of his offence. He was in his 38th year, and obdurately refused to confess, though he did not deny his crime.

General Miranda sailed from New York to the Spanish main with 360 adventurers of different nations.

18. American congress passed a non-

importation act against British manufactures, on account of the impressment of their seamen, and other violations of their neutral rights.

22. **CHARGES AGAINST MARQUIS WELLESLEY.**—Mr. Paul, a gentleman who had recently returned from India, made several attempts in the course of the parliamentary session to establish charges of maladministration against the late governor-general. On the 22nd he stated the heads of the charges he intended to bring forward. They chiefly referred to the system of territorial acquisition and wasteful expenditure in which lord Wellesley had indulged, in his Indian government, from 1798 to 1805. During this period the debts of the Company had increased from twelve to thirty-one millions. But the profitless results of the impeachment of Mr. Hastings deterred all parties, and even the public, from encouraging a similar mode of procedure. Mr. Paul, whose temper was not very suitable to the arduous task he had undertaken, persevered, however, till his death in his hopeless task.

25. Lord Howick moved for, and obtained an increase of, pay for seamen.

29. Trial of lord Melville, by impeachment of the commons, began in Westminster-hall.

May 12. First stone laid of Hailybury-college, near Hertford, for the education of the civil servants of the East India Company.

Parliament granted to earl Nelson, brother of the late gallant admiral, and his heirs, 5000*l.* per annum, and 120,000*l.* to purchase a family estate.

29. The king directed an inquiry into the conduct of the princess of Wales. About two months after, the commission of inquiry made its report to the effect that the alleged pregnancy and delivery of the princess had been disproved.

June 5. Louis Buonaparte, a younger brother of Napoleon, elected king of Holland.

10. **ABOLITION OF SLAVE TRADE.**—Sir Arthur Pigott, having previously introduced a bill restraining this iniquitous traffic, Mr. Fox moved a resolution, "That this house, conceiving the African slave-trade to be contrary to the principles of justice, humanity, and sound policy, will, with all practicable expedition, proceed to take effectual measures for abolishing the said trade in such manner and at such period as may seem advisable." On a division, the resolution was carried by 114 against 15. On the motion of lord Grenville, the lords concurred in the same resolution by a majority of 41 to 20. But it was not till the next session that this protracted labour of humanity was consummated by an act of parliament.

12. Lord Melville acquitted of the charges brought against him, the substance of which has been before stated (p. 665). The number of peers voting was 135.

27. Buenos Ayres taken possession of by sir Home Popham. The armament for this enterprise had been fitted out at the Cape of Good Hope, without any authority from the government at home; and the gallant commodore was so elated with his success, that he immediately despatched a circular to England, stating that a whole continent had been opened to British commerce.

The tyrannical conduct of Dessalines, the self-constituted emperor of Hayti, having excited an insurrection, in which he was killed, Christophe, who had been a negro slave, and by trade a tailor, succeeded to the supreme power.

July 4. **VICTORY OF MAIDA.**—A British force, commanded by sir John Stuart, consisting of 5000 men, landed at Euphemia, to co-operate with the duke of Calabria and the Neapolitans. The French were 7000 strong, and commanded by general Regnier. Confident in his strength, and sure of success, the French commander descended from his position and commenced the attack, but when the bayonets crossed he was undeceived; his line, immediately giving way, abandoned the field, and were pursued with great slaughter. This victory yielded the British army, however, nothing more solid than glory; for, the enemy being reinforced, sir John Stuart was compelled to retire to Sicily.

10. An alarming mutiny broke out among the native troops in India at Vellore. It chiefly rose from an alteration in the shape of the turban, and an apprehension of the sepoys that they would be compelled to become christians. It was suppressed by a regiment of dragoons, who cut down 600 of them, and shot 200 more.

12. **CONFEDERATION OF THE RHINE** formed, and the French emperor declared its protector: it consisted of the kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg, the elector of Baden, the archbishop of Ratisbon, the landgrave of Hesse Darmstadt, the grand duke of Berg, and other German princes, who renounced their connexion with the Germanic empire, and appointed a diet at Frankfort to conduct their common concerns. Upon news of this association the emperor of Austria renounced the iron crown, and absolved the electors and princes of the empire from the duties which, as imperial chief, he had a right to demand.

20. Peace between France and Russia signed at Paris; but Alexander refused to

ratify it, on the ground that D'Oubril had exceeded his instructions.

23. Jewish Sanhedrim summoned by Buonaparte at Paris, and to which he put various questions: the substance of the answers obtained were, that the Jews allowed of polygamy, divorce, and marriages with other sects, but varied by usage.

Aug. 12. Spaniards retake Buenos Ayres.

26. General abhorrences excited by Buonaparte causing a bookseller named Palm, of Nuremberg, to be shot for vending a book reflecting on his government. Napoleon ordered 6000 copies of the iniquitous sentence on Palm to be distributed to deter others from the like offence.

Sept. 12. DEATH OF LORD THURLOW.—Edward Thurlow was one of three sons of the vicar of Ashfield in Suffolk, to whom the father used to say that a good education was all he could afford to give them, and their success in life must depend on the use they made of it. About Edward he felt no apprehension, being convinced that he would "fight his way," which he did very unscrupulously. An accidental brief he obtained in the great Douglas cause brought him into notice at the bar; and a strong and acute, but coarse mind, much assurance, with great laxity of principle, did the rest. He and Wedderburn, as solicitor and attorney-general were the chief supporters of Lord North in the house of commons, during the disastrous American war. As a *personal friend* of the king, Thurlow retained the great seal during the short ministry of the marquis of Rockingham. Under an outer-crust of blunt honesty and seeming independence, he concealed a great deal of selfish cunning, suppleness, and intrigue. By brow-beating the duke of Grafton, whom he called the "accident of an accident," and other great lords, he made himself popular with the people, and perhaps with George III., who used to wink at his immoralities for the sake of his servility, though the king refused the same indulgence to Mr. Fox, who was not so dexterous a courtier. His double practices were however detected, pending the settlement of the regency, in 1788; when it was discovered that the tory chancellor, to keep his office, had been secretly intriguing with the whig heir-apparent. This appears to have damaged Thurlow in the estimation of the king, who consented to part with him, at the instance of Mr. Pitt, in 1792. "Your friend, lord Thurlow," said lord North to a gentleman known to the chancellor, "thinks that his personal influence with the king authorises him to treat Mr. Pitt with *humour*. Take my word for it, whenever Mr. Pitt says to the king, 'Sir, the

great seal must be in other hands,' the king will take the great seal from lord Thurlow, and never think any more about him." (*Law Magazine*, vii. 76.) Even so; lord chancellor Thurlow was dismissed, and no more heard of in public life. He died after two days' illness at Brighton in his 72nd or 75th year, leaving no reputation beyond that of a successful political lawyer. He was never married, but he left three illegitimate daughters, to two of whom he bequeathed 70,000*l.* each, and to the third, who had displeased him by marriage, 50*l.* a month, so long as she lived apart from her husband. He had a son by a dean's daughter, but he died before reaching manhood. For his brothers Thurlow procured rich church preferments; one of his nephews, a minor, succeeded to his title and estate; and to another he gave the clerkship of the Hanaper in chancery, a sinecure worth 8000*l.* a-year. He was the last of the four great law-lords whose deaths have been recorded in the present reign, who by industry and subtlety acquired peerages and large possessions, but which, by a singular coincidence, they failed to transmit to direct heirs. Dunning's title (Ashburton) expired in the first generation; that of Mansfield, Rosslyn (Wedderburn), and Thurlow, descended to collaterals.

13. DEATH OF MR. FOX.—This eminent and much-respected statesman expired at Chiswick-house, where he had thrice within five weeks undergone an operation for the dropsy. He was in his 59th year, and the second son of Henry first lord Holland, long the opponent of the first earl of Chatham, and whose pecuniary conduct as paymaster of the forces at one time formed the subject of popular animadversion (*Ann. Reg.* xii. 139). Mr. Fox, like his rival, the late premier, gave early indications of superior capacity; and like him was carefully educated for political life. Both these distinguished men began their career in the steps of their progenitors; but crossed in their course, one deviating into the courtly minister, and the other into the popular leader. Natural disposition was too strong for the paternal impulse; and the close ambition of Mr. Pitt threw him as aptly into royal favour as the ardent and ingenuous mind of Fox into the ranks of the people. While acting under the influence of his tory father Mr. Fox both spoke and voted against Wilkes. He soon, however, dropped into his congenial element, as the advocate of freedom. He supported Sir William Meredith's bill to give relief from subscription to the 39 Articles, and steadily opposed the war with the American colonies. It was the fetters of party that enchained his

mind; and to the expediency of faction he sacrificed political rectitude. He coalesced with lord North to supplant the Shelburnes in authority; and on the question of the regency, in 1788, advocated a sort of tory doctrine of indefeasible right to the full exercise of the executive power by the prince of Wales, in which he was neither supported by constitutional analogy, a majority of the house of commons, nor of the people. Mr. Fox belonged to the Corinthian order of politicians (*Butler's Reminiscences*), and was averse to any organic changes in the constitution that might endanger the monopoly of power by the great families. He was probably more inimical to parliamentary reform than Mr. Pitt; and it was only when he despaired of shaking Pitt's ministry by any party combination that he made his peace with Horne Tooke, and avowed himself favourable to a change in the national representation. Mr. Fox entered public life among the aristocracy, lived, and had his being among the order; and with them closed his career. It was by their prevailing influence against the crown that he twice became minister; and by them he was supported throughout. In power he had always their interest in view; of which the patronage he sought to obtain them by his oligarchical India bill was an instance. He supported the property-tax, on the principle that men ought, as far as possible, to be retained in the stations which they once occupied; and that it is quite as reasonable the lower orders should want as that the higher should be deprived of their usual enjoyments. On the breaking out of the French revolution he took a firm and fearless part; but it is likely he undervalued the temporary suffering, and even danger, of that great social fever, though he did not over-estimate its lasting benefits. In the Grenville ministry he had too brief and limited a share to be accountable for its measures; for he began to feel in March the approach of the malady that terminated his existence. The acquirements of Mr. Fox were more classical than scientific. Political economy and finance he did not profess to understand; though in one of his speeches he helped to bring into public notice the "Wealth of Nations," by referring to Dr. Smith, whose works were as little known at the time as those of Bentham many years subsequently. Mr. Fox was probably not much behind his contemporaries on economical subjects; for, though the prosperity of the empire mainly depended on its capital and industry, the laws that regulate them had not generally fixed the attention of statesmen. He was well acquainted with mankind from mingling

freely in society. He thoroughly understood the political history of the country and its constitution, as settled at the revolution of 1688, according to which the executive ought always to be kept subordinate to a parliamentary majority; and which would have been a safe enough guarantee of the public weal, had that majority represented the national interests. Mr. Fox was an orator of the first and best class. His eloquence was argumentative, forcible, sententious, and unpremeditated; it was genuine, the eloquence of conviction, of a warm, just, and noble nature. Mr. Fox was a votary of pleasure. "Indolence," Mr. Nicholls says, "was his sultana queen." A kind, open, and generous heart, procured him many and attached friends; and as he had never much to reward them with, privately or politically, it is likely they were disinterested.

18. Bank of England declared a half-yearly dividend of 3½ per cent., and a bonus of 5 per cent., besides paying the property-tax.

24. Buonaparte left Paris to place himself at the head of his army; the chastisement of Prussia being determined upon, who had long pursued a dubious course of policy, which left her singly, while engaged in hostilities with England, to contend against her powerful antagonist.

Oct. 4. Died, in his 73rd year, Samuel Horsley, bishop of St. Asaph, a prelate of great classical and mathematical acquirements, and an astringent theological controversialist. He was patronised by lord Thurlow, on the ground that those "who defend the church ought to be supported by the church." Dr. Horsley had gone to visit his old friend at Brighton, whom he found dead, and seems not to have long survived.

6. Negotiations for peace between France and Britain terminated, the latter requiring that Russia should be a party. The subscribers at Lloyd's gave a shout of exultation on receipt of the news of the failure of lord Lauderdale's pacific mission.

8. The following ministerial changes had taken place: viscount Howick succeeded the late Mr. Fox in the foreign secretaryship; Thomas Grenville became first lord of the admiralty; viscount Sidmouth lord president of the council; lord Holland privy seal; and George Young, who, with Mr. Francis, had at first been unaccountably left out of the ministry, was placed at the head of the India board.

10. Mr. Fox publicly interred in Westminster Abbey: his body was deposited immediately adjoining the monument of

lord Chatham, and within eighteen inches of the grave of Mr. Pitt.

14. **BATTLE OF JENA.**—After a variety of skillful movements, the French emperor had succeeded in turning the left of the Prussians, and placing himself between their main force and Berlin and Dresden. A general engagement became unavoidable. The French were posted along the Saale from Naumburg to Kahla, their centre being at Jena. The Prussians, under prince Ferdinand, were ranged between Jena, Auerstadt, and Weimar. On the morning of the battle a thick fog covered the ground; but about nine the sun shone out, when the fronts of both armies were found almost within musket-shot. Immediately about 250,000 men, with 700 pieces of cannon, were employed in mutual destruction. Courage and discipline on each side were nearly equal; but the French evinced superior military science. The seasonable arrival on the ground of Augereau, at the head of some of the regiments of Austerlitz, seconded by a brilliant charge of Murat's cuirassiers, completed the business of the day. Napoleon, from the height where he stood, saw the flight in all directions of the Prussians, and the French cavalry taking them by thousands. More than 20,000 Prussians were killed or wounded, and 40,000 taken prisoners, with 300 cannons. Prince Ferdinand died of his wounds. A panic seized the garrisons, and all the principal towns of Prussia, west of the Oder, surrendered to the enemy soon after the battle almost without resistance. The king, who is said to have been urged by the queen rashly to engage in the war, withdrew to Königsberg.

19. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

25. Bonaparte entered Berlin. While in the Prussian capital he received a deputation from the French senate, complimenting him on his wonderful successes, but recommending peace.

30. Thirteen ships of the Jamaica fleet, of 109 sail, foundered at sea.

31. Mr. Sheridan and sir S. Hood, in opposition to Mr. Paul, returned for Westminster; Sir F. Burdett and Mr. Byng for Middlesex; sir Charles Price, Sir W. Curtis, H. C. Combe, and J. Shaw, for the city of London.

Nov. 8. The strong fortress of Magdeburg, with a garrison of 22,000 men, capitulated to marshal Ney.

10. Died at Altona, of the wounds received at Jena, Ferdinand duke of Brunswick, father-in-law of the prince of Wales. He commanded the Prussians in 1792, and promulgated the indiscreet manifesto of that year. Bonaparte would not suffer the remains of the duke to be deposited in the vault of his ancestors.

12. A new institution, the "Refuge for the Destitute," opened at Hackney.

19. Mortier entered Hamburg, and sequestered all English property.

21. **BERLIN DECREE.**—This decree was the commencement of what was termed the continental system, in which Bonaparte declared the British islands to be in a state of blockade; all British subjects found in countries occupied by the French troops prisoners of war; all English property lawful prize; commerce in all British produce and manufactures prohibited; and all vessels touching at England or any English colony excluded from every harbour under the control of France. These infringements of national law the emperor justified on the ground that England had extended the right of maritime blockade to places not actually invested, and insisted that the law should be the same by sea as on land.

23. The Russians entered Moldavia and Wallachia, which occasioned a war with the Turks.

28. The French entered Warsaw.

Dec. 19. Three horses poisoned near Oundle, by eating the fibres of a yew-tree.

MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—The returns to the new parliament had increased, though not equal to expectation, the power of ministers in the house of commons. The whig party, which had been driven out of Yorkshire in 1784, recovered one of the seats for that great county. In Norfolk, after a hard contest, both members returned were whigs. In Liverpool they carried one seat against the slave interest; but in Southwark and Norwich they lost one each; and, by an attack of sir Francis Burdett on the memory of Mr. Fox, a seat for Middlesex was lost to the ministry. In both houses the ministerial addresses were carried without a division.

26. Battle of Pultusk, in which the French, under Lannes and Davoust, were roughly handled by the Russians, under general Bennigsen.

31. Treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, signed with the United States of America.

In this year Dr. Gall, a German, started a new theory concerning the brain, which he called *cranology*.

A large sarcophagus was brought from Egypt, supposed to be the tomb of Alexander the Great.

Committed for crimes in England and Wales, 4346; of whom 325 received sentence of death, 522 were transported, and 57 executed.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—James Barry, R.A., 65, an historical painter of merit, but whose eccentric genius had defeated

the patronising kindness of Mr. Burke and his brother Richard towards him. Mrs. Carter, 89, translator of Epictetus. David earl of Macartney, chiefly known from his splendid embassy to China. Rev. John Brand, M.A., 63, author of "Popular Antiquities." Mrs. Anne Yearsley, a self-instructed votary of the muses, under the name of the "Milkwoman of Bristol." Mrs. Charlotte Smith, an elegant sonneteer, and author of some superior novels. John Buckley, 73, the last of the Muggletonians; a religious sect that originated in Cromwell's time.

A. D. 1807. STATE OF PARTIES.—A prominent feature in the domestic state of the country was a growing distrust of the political factions which had heretofore divided the national suffrages. The reputation of the Pitt party for public integrity had been impaired by the malversations of lord Melville. If they were not peculators themselves, they were regarded by the public as the abettors of peculation, by seeking to screen the accused from punishment. The impression left by this affair was heightened by subsequent discoveries. It was found that the public accounts had been left unaudited for years, and that De Lancey and others were defaulters to a large amount. Some hope, therefore, was entertained that a check at least would be put to fiscal abuses by the whig ministry. But there was little enthusiasm in their favour. Popular feeling, indeed, of any sort had entirely evaporated. The violence engendered by the French revolution had long since spent its fury, and had given place to general indifference on political subjects that did not directly affect the public purse, or concern the naval glory of the kingdom. But while the Grenville ministry could not reckon on the ardent support of the country, they had to contend against the secret disinclination of the court, and the active hostility of the veteran officials they had displaced. None of this party was eminent for talent or experience after the death of Mr. Pitt, but they controlled a powerful machinery. Many of the public journals were under their influence; and, from long practice in the art of governing opinion through the press, they perfectly understood how to work that formidable engine to the best advantage (*Ann. Reg.* xlviii. 33). They had intimate connexions in the city, in the bank, in the India-house, and in most of the municipal and trading corporations, and were able to give an impulse to these bodies whenever it suited their purposes. In all the public offices and departments the subalterns and clerks were indebted to the ex-ministers for their places; and it was by their return to office

they chiefly anticipated further preferment. These obstacles might have been overcome by a popular course of administration. But the Greuilles disappointed public expectation; and, at the time of the death of Mr. Fox, the little confidence with which it had commenced was greatly diminished. Neither peace had been obtained nor the war vigorously prosecuted. The minor imputations against them were the acquittal of lord Melville—a disinclination to investigate the charges against the marquis Wellesley—the increase of the income-tax—the admission of the chief justice of England to a seat in the cabinet—the retention of the auditorship of the exchequer by the first lord of the treasury—and a general eagerness, hardly exceeded by their predecessors, after the emoluments of the government. Hence their removal from office excited little regret, and the accession of the Portland ministry no hope. A war of recrimination and reciprocal exposure that followed the change of ministries helped still further to establish a public opinion independent of the rival parties. "Beware of popery and the encroachments of powerful families on the prerogatives of the crown!" exclaimed one faction. "Beware of the artifices of subtle courtiers and time-serving lawyers!" exclaimed the other: each accused the other of seeking the offices of government, not to serve the country, but to advance their interests and that of their dependents. The people appeared well disposed to believe both. Both parties, the Ours and the Ins, as they now began to be familiarly called, had so uniformly embarrassed government when it was not in their own hands, and yet so uniformly taken the opportunity of deserting the cause they had professed to maintain, that the people at large lost all confidence in public men. The effect of this change of public sentiment was strikingly evinced in the general election of the current year. The representation of the city of Westminster had always been considered the appropriate function of one or the other faction; but the independent electors united and determined to rid themselves of the domination of both. Sir F. Burdett and lord Cochrane became popular by disclaiming all attachment to all parties, and declaring their wishes to overturn abuses and nothing but abuses; to look only to the measures of men, not to their persons and connexions. Their election for Westminster was a complete triumph over aristocratic dictation and all factions whatever. It was the rise of a THIRD PARTY in the state, whose struggles continued for thirty years after, and have not yet terminated.

Jan. 2. Lord Grenville explained in the upper house the grounds of the rupture of the late negotiations with France. His lordship contended that the only proper basis of peace between the two countries was that of actual possession; since England being a great maritime, and France a great continental power, there could be no cession between them that could lead to permanent advantage. A similar discussion ensued in the lower house. Mr. Perceval blamed ministers for protracting the negotiations, as no peace worth acceptance could be concluded with France so long as her councils were directed by Talleyrand and Buonaparte.

7. An order of council issued in retaliation of Buonaparte's Berlin decree, prohibiting the trade of neutrals from any one port to another, both being in possession of France or her allies.

Lord Minto sworn in governor-general of India, and general Hewitt commander-in-chief of the Company's forces.

28. Peace concluded with Prussia.

FREEHOLD ESTATES BILL.—Sir Samuel Romilly, on the 28th, moved the house of commons for leave to bring in a bill for making the *freehold estates* of persons dying indebted, assets for the payment of simple contract debts. As the law stood a person might contract debts to any amount not evidenced by bond or other special instrument, yet dying with property amply sufficient to satisfy these demands, his estate would pass to the heir-at-law, or by testamentary assignment it might pass to a stranger, and his creditors remain unpaid. The bill passed a second reading, but was thrown out on the third.

29. Lord Henry Petty introduced his new plan of finance. Its leading feature was to raise a loan for the present and future years of the war without any addition to the public burdens, by mortgaging the war-taxes. These taxes were to be pledged at the rate of ten per cent. for each loan, five per cent for interest, and five per cent. as an accumulating sinking-fund to pay off the principal. It excited much discussion, and the resolutions embodying the minister's scheme were favourably received.

Feb. 2. Monte Video taken by assault by the English under sir Samuel Auchmuty.

5. The bill for the abolition of the African slave-trade passed a second reading in the lords by a majority of 100 to 36. It was supported by the duke of Gloucester, lords Holland, King, and Rosslyn; opposed by the duke of Clarence, and lords Morton, St. Vincent, Eldon, Westmorland, Hawkesbury, and Sidmouth; the last recommending a preli-

minary moral and religious instruction of the slaves.

8. Battle of Eylau between the French under Buonaparte and the Russians under Bennigsen. The slaughter was dreadful; about 40,000 on both sides killed and wounded, and neither could claim the victory. The Russians retired behind the Pregel, and the French on the Vistula, abandoning their design on Konigsberg.

23. Holloway and Haggerty executed at the Old Bailey for the murder of Mr. Steele on Hounslow-heath, November 6th, 1802. They had been convicted on the 20th, on the evidence of an accomplice, and to the last protested their innocence. They were hardened offenders of infamous character, and little doubt could exist of their guilt. An immense crowd attended the execution, and a cart breaking down in the midst, caused a fatal pressure; twenty-eight persons were trampled to death, and many others dreadfully hurt.

CONDITION OF THE POOR.—On the 23rd instant Mr. Whitbread brought forward his plan in the house of commons for encouraging industry and relieving the poor. He expressed his concurrence in the principles of Mr. Malthus, and his conviction of the tendency of the poor-laws to deteriorate the condition of the labouring classes (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 134). From returns made up in 1803, it appeared that upon a population in England and Wales of 8,870,000 not less than 1,234,000 were partakers of parochial relief; that is, nearly one-seventh part of the people was indebted to the other six, wholly or in part, for support. Mr. Whitbread's undertaking was very extensive. Its main principle was to exalt the character of the industrious orders; to give them consequence in their own eyes; to excite them to acquire property by the prospect of tasting its sweets; to render dependent poverty degrading in their estimation, and at all times less desirable than independent industry. For the attainment of these issues he proposed a system of national education by the establishment of parochial schools; not compulsory on the poor, which would destroy their object, but voluntary. The bill for this purpose fell to the ground, partly from a change of administration, and was finally thrown out of the lords, August 11th, on the motion of lord Hawkesbury.

Mar. 1. Sir John Duckworth repassed the Dardanelles, not having succeeded in his coercive mission to detach the Porte from the interests of France. About 250 men were killed and wounded in this enterprise; and the English, as they repassed the castles, were assailed by the fire of vast blocks of marble, one of which, weighing

800 pounds, cut in two the mainmast of the Windsor man of war.

5. Lord Howick introduced a bill for removing religious tests in the army and navy, and assimilating the practice in England to that already existing in Ireland. It was strenuously opposed by Mr. Perceval as endangering the church-establishment and opening the door to popery; and he strongly expressed his apprehensions of that "spirit of innovation which was stealing in by degrees." Bill read a first time.

6. Sir Home Popham sentenced to be reprimanded for withdrawing, without authority, the king's naval force from the Cape of Good Hope for the attack on Buenos Ayres.

13. Surrey canal-basin, Rotherhithe, opened for shipping.

18. Religious test bill postponed.

20. Alexandria in Egypt taken possession of by British troops under general Fraser.

25. Royal assent given to the bill for the abolition of the slave-trade.

PORTLAND MINISTRY.—The ministers first tried to modify lord Howick's bill so as to adapt it to the king's scruples without destroying its essence. Failing in this attempt they agreed to abandon the bill altogether; but at the same time, in vindication of their own characters, to insert in the proceedings of the cabinet a minute reserving to lord Grenville and lord Howick,—1st, the liberty of delivering their opinions in favour of the catholic question; 2nd, that of submitting this question, or any connected with it, from time to time, to his majesty's decision (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 141). The ministers were called upon not only to withdraw the latter reservation, but to substitute in its place a written obligation pledging themselves never again to bring forward the measure, or to propose anything connected with the catholic question. Conceiving such an engagement inconsistent with their principles and their duty, and having communicated their sentiments to the king, they received next day their dismissal. Their successors were the following:—

Duke of Portland, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Mr. Perceval, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Earl Westmorland, *Lord Privy-Seal.*

Mr. Canning, *Foreign Secretary.*

Lord Hawkesbury, *Home Secretary.*

Lord Castlereagh, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl Chatham, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*

Earl Camden, *President of the Council.*

Lord Mulgrave, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Earl Bathurst, *President of the Board of Trade.*

Mr. Dundas, *President of the India Board.*

Mr. G. Rose, *Treasurer of the Navy.*

Sir Vicary Gibbs, *Attorney-General.*

Sir Thomas Plomer, *Solicitor-General.*

Duke of Richmond, *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Sir Arthur Wellealey, *Chief Secretary.*

Mr. Foster, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Manners, *Lord Chancellor.*

26. Lords Grenville and Howick explained in parliament the causes of the change of ministry, and which have been already stated.

April 2. The Bristol mail robbed of a banker's parcel, but the guard discovering the theft in time, one of the two thieves was apprehended.

6. The Stamford coach performed the journey from London at the rate of twelve miles an hour, exclusive of stoppages.

22. A deputation from the corporation of London, consisting of the lord mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve common-councilmen, presented a loyal address to the king, expressive of their gratitude for his firm support recently given to the protestant religion, and for the exercise of his prerogative in preserving the independence of the crown.

29. Parliament dissolved on the ground of appealing to the sense of the people immediately after recent events: it had existed only four months and fifteen days.

May 1. Duel between Sir F. Burdett and Mr. Paul, owing to a misunderstanding about the former being chairman of a dinner to be given to the latter.

19. Dantzic surrendered to the French after an obstinate defence, the trenches having been opened fifty-two days.

21. A detachment of the British force in Egypt repulsed with considerable loss in an attack on Rosetta.

23. At the close of the poll for Westminster the numbers were, for sir F. Burdett 5134, lord Cochrane 3708, Mr. Sheridan 2645, Mr. Elliott 2137.

29. Selim III. deposed, and his nephew, Mustapha III., placed on the Turkish throne.

June 4. An experimental exhibition of Gas-Lights in Pall-mall.

14. Battle of Friedland, in which the Russians, after an obstinate resistance, were defeated by Buonaparte, with the loss of 18,000 men killed and wounded. The fruits of this dear-bought victory were the possession of Konigsberg, leaving only Memel to the Prussians, and the retreat of the Russians across the Niemen.

16. South-London water-works opened.

23. The American ship Chesapeake re-

fusing to be searched, a broadside was discharged into her by the *Leopard*, English man-of-war, which killed and wounded several seamen.

19. Buonaparte entered Tilsit.

23. Armistice between France and Russia.

25. First interview between Napoleon and the emperor of Russia. They met on a raft moored in the middle of the Niemen and embraced, amidst the acclamations of both armies. The meeting lasted two hours, and preliminaries of peace were agreed to.

26. NEW PARLIAMENT OPENED.—This day was looked forward to with considerable interest: the passions of the people had been excited, and their prejudices inflamed, by the cry of "*No Popery!*" Both the *INS* and *OUTS* tried to muster in great force. The opposition had a grand dinner in Willis's-rooms, at which 180 lords and commoners were present. The electors of Westminster also escorted their champion, sir Francis Burdett, in grand procession from his house in Piccadilly to the Crown and Anchor, where he dined with 1300 of his friends. The divisions on the addresses soon attested the strength of parties: in the lords the ministerial address was carried by 160 to 67; in the commons by 350 to 155.

July 2. A proclamation issued by president Jefferson, owing to the affair of the Chesapeake, prohibits British ships of war from entering the American harbours.

5. General Whitelocke attempted to carry Buenos Ayres: each corps was ordered to enter the streets with unloaded muskets. They were received by a destructive fire from the houses, and compelled to retreat, with the loss of 2500 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. A negotiation ensued between general Liniers, commander of the Spaniards, and the English general, which terminated in the withdrawal of the British armament from the *La Plata*. General Whitelocke's conduct became the subject of inquiry by a court-martial.

7. TREATY OF TILSIT concluded between France and Russia, the terms of which chiefly referred to their allies. The German territories of Prussia were restored to her, but her acquisitions in Poland were created into the duchy of Warsaw, under the protection of the new king of Saxony. Alexander agreed to acknowledge the rest of Buonaparte's kings and the confederation of the Rhine. Napoleon undertook to mediate a peace between the Porte and Russia; Alexander having undertaken to mediate between France and England, or, in the event of his mediation being refused, to shut his ports against British commerce. All the ports of Prussia were to be closed against England till a general peace.

Aug. 2. A bill introduced by Mr. Bankes and passed in the commons for prohibiting the grant of offices in reversion; it was thrown out by the lords.

11. CURIOUS CASE.—At Surrey assizes a man was tried for a rape on the wife of a publican of Guildford. It seems the accused had clandestinely, and in the dark, in the absence of the husband, introduced himself into the wife's bed, who did not discover the deception till after the intruder had completed his purpose. The learned judge, sir James Mansfield, said this could not amount to ravishment. The woman, by her own evidence, was consenting to the act, although her consent was fraudulently obtained, as she acted under the impression that it was her husband who was in bed with her. He consequently directed the jury to acquit of the capital charge, which they did. The prisoner was indicted and found guilty of an assault.

14. Parliament prorogued by commission.

Sept. 2. ATTACK ON COPENHAGEN.—The expediency of this unexpected enterprise against a neutral power long formed a topic of ardent debate. It was undertaken to prevent the Danish fleet falling into the hands of the French, which was supposed by the English minister to be highly probable, now their influence had become paramount in the north of Europe. The expedition consisted of a fleet of twenty-seven sail of the line and 20,000 land-forces, under the command of admiral Gambier and lord Cathcart. The Danes were wholly unprepared for the attack, and the only alternatives offered to them were the prompt surrender of their fleet to the British, on the assurance that it should be restored to them at the conclusion of the war with France—or the bombardment of their capital. The first proposition being rejected, a tremendous fire was opened on Copenhagen. The cathedral, many public edifices and private houses were destroyed, with the sacrifice of 2000 lives. "From the 2nd of September until the evening of the 5th," says Admiral Gambier in his dispatch, "the conflagration was kept up in different places, when a considerable part of the city being consumed, and the remainder threatened with speedy destruction, the general commanding the garrison sent out a flag of truce, desiring an armistice, to afford time to treat for a capitulation." This being arranged, the British army took possession of the citadel and dock-yards, and the British admiral of the shipping, consisting of eighteen ships of the line, fifteen frigates, and some brigs and gun-boats, which he agreed, upon the part of his government, to deliver up when a general pacification should take place.

After an absence of about two months, the victors returned and entered the harbour of Portsmouth in triumph with the captured navy of Denmark.

23. General Fraser being closely invested by a Turkish force, agreed to evacuate Alexandria and retire to Sicily.

Oct. 18. Owing to an alarm of fire at Sadlers Wells theatre, eighteen persons were trampled to death. The catastrophe is supposed to have arisen from a quarrel in the pit, when the cry of "a fight" was taken for that of "fire."

30. Louis XVIII. landed at Yarmouth under the title of the Count de Lille.

TROUBLES IN SPAIN.—An extraordinary manifesto issued by Charles IV. of Spain against his son, the prince of Asturias (afterwards Ferdinand VII.), charging him with a conspiracy against his life and crown. The ground of this charge was a clandestine proposal made by the prince to the French emperor to marry one of his nieces. By the interposition of the Prince of Peace (Godoy, the favourite of the queen of Spain and of her imbecile husband, and originally a private in the guards), the father and son were reconciled. Soon after the treaty of Fontainebleau was concluded between the sovereigns of France and Spain, by which Portugal was to be invaded and partitioned, because of her refusal to enforce the continental system of Napoleon by the exclusion of British commerce. This arrangement was the pretext for the introduction of French troops into the peninsula, and the commencement of many and important occurrences in subsequent years.

31. Russia issued a declaration annulling all connexion with England, and reviving the principles of the armed neutrality.

This month the sheriffs of London, Smith and Phillips, employed themselves in visiting the prisons, and rectifying abuses; also the lock-up houses, which they put under salutary regulations.

Nov. 3. Died, Dr. William Markham, in his 90th year, archbishop of York: he was succeeded by the bishop of Carlisle, Edward Venables Vernon.

4. War declared against Denmark.

9. A robber shot by a party of dragoons, who had long infested the neighbourhood of Chichester, and who had, a few days before, shot dead captain Sargent in an attempt to apprehend him.

11. Buonaparte, by a fresh decree, dated at Hamburg and Milan, enforced with greater strictness his continental system, and appointed residents in the towns under his influence to see that his decrees were carried into effect.

21. To counteract Napoleon's decrees an

Order in Council was issued, allowing neutrals to trade with the enemy on condition of touching at a British port and paying the British custom duties.

A fiddler near Alston-moor, returning home in a snow-storm, took shelter in a hovel, which was soon overwhelmed with snow. Some shepherds heard him next day playing on his fiddle, and relieved him from his perilous situation.

Died, Abraham Newland, in his 77th year, leaving 200,000*l.* in the public funds and 1000*l.* per annum arising from landed property; a large portion of which he bequeathed to his housekeeper, and in friendly legacies to his fellow-servants of the bank of England. He had long been cashier of the bank, and sixty years in its service.

The benevolent society of St. Patrick established at Liverpool.

23. A monument erected on Portsdown-hill to the memory of lord Nelson.

29. The royal family of Portugal left Lisbon for the Brazil under convoy of a British squadron. Immediately after the troops of France and Spain, under general Junot, entered Lisbon without opposition, disarmed the inhabitants, levied contributions, and treated it as a conquest.

Dec. 22. The American congress, to avoid the losses consequent on the conflicting anti-commercial decrees of France and England, passed an act laying an embargo on all vessels belonging to the United States, and commanding all ships from other nations to quit their harbours with or without cargoes.

Sir Alexander Cochrane took possession of the Danish West India Islands of St. Thomas, St. John, and Santa Cruz.

In the sheriff's court lord Elgin obtained 10,000*l.* damages against Mr. Fergusson for *crim. con.* with lady Elgin.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Duke of Richmond, 73, long master-general of the ordinance. His grace first promulgated the doctrine of universal suffrage and annual parliaments. At his house, Edgeware-road, general Paoli, 82, known by his early struggles for the independence of Corsica: he had a pension of 2000*l.* from the English government. Lalande, a celebrated French astronomer. John Opie, R.A., 45, an eminent portrait-painter. In Switzerland, John Deloime, author of a Treatise on the English Constitution. John Walker, 76, author of the "English Pronouncing Dictionary" and other works on elocution. At Rome, cardinal York, 82, the last male branch of the house of Stuart. Dr. Willis, celebrated for his skill in the treatment of insanity. At an advanced age, Clara Reeve, author of the "Old English Baron."

A.D. 1808. SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.—The extraordinary events in the Peninsula made it the centre of political interest. Portugal deserted by her government, and Spain betrayed, the people of each rose in arms in defence of the national independence, endangered by weakness, treachery, and violence. The strange events in Spain chiefly concentrated public attention. Dissensions had arisen in the royal family, occasioned by the sway of a favourite, who for twenty years had governed the kingdom, and whose ascendancy had at length excited the jealousy of the heir-apparent. All the parties referred the arbitrament of their differences to the French emperor. Subtle, ambitious, bound by no principle, and intoxicated by success in every undertaking, Buonaparte sought to make the most of his umpireship. In lieu of awarding the prize to any of the disputants, he first inveigled them all into his power; then, under the mockery of an assignment, seized the crown of Spain for himself, which he placed on the head of his brother Joseph, transferred from the throne of Naples expressly to receive it, and whose place was filled by his brother-in-law Murat. Europe was indignant and Spain furious at these acts of perfidy and usurpation. Disowning the engagements of their princes and nobles, the Spanish people flew to arms; the military sympathised with the populace; those governors and generals whose patriotism was suspected or unknown they deposed or massacred. Success attending their first efforts at resistance, they were joined by the middle ranks; provincial juntas were formed, afterwards consolidated into a central or supreme junta, and before the end of summer the entire Peninsula, from Oporto to Saragossa, was in a state of organised insurrection against the French power. Portugal was freed from the invaders by the British victory of Vimiera. The interest felt in these stirring scenes rendered domestic occurrences of little consideration. All parties united in wishes for the success of the Spanish cause, though some, from misgivings of its ultimate triumph, were less hearty in their co-operation. In parliament the session was chiefly spent in rhetorical displays on the policy and character of the expedition to Copenhagen, and debates on the orders in council, issued to counteract the anti-commercial decrees of France.

Jan. 4. The Lansdowne MSS. purchased by parliament for the British Museum for 4970*l*.

11. A decree, dated the Tuileries, gives one-third of the cargo to any sailor or passenger, who shall inform of any ship that has touched at an English port or been searched by an English cruiser.

21. Parliament opened by commission, and allusion made to the general hostility of every European state. Addresses passed without a division.

A beautiful specimen of virgin gold found in a tin stream in Cornwall, weighing about two ounces.

23. Flushing, Kehl, Cassel, and Wesel, united to the French empire.

28. Thanks voted by both houses of parliament to the officers employed in the Copenhagen expedition.

Feb. 3. Grand debate in the commons on the Danish expedition, on a motion by Mr. Ponsonby for papers. On a division, ministers had a majority of 253 against 108.

8. Similar debate in the lords; majority for ministers 127 against 73. Mr. Windham in the commons, and viscount Sidmouth in the lords, voted against ministers.

10. Hector Campbell sentenced to pay a fine of 50*l*., and to three months' imprisonment, for a libel on the college of physicians.

Russia declared war against Sweden for not co-operating in excluding the English from the Baltic.

18. Russia invaded Finland.

Mar. 9. Lord Folkstone having submitted a series of resolutions condemnatory of the conduct of the marquis Wellesley in India, an amendment was proposed, to the effect, that lord Wellesley had been actuated by an ardent zeal for the public service, which was carried, 180 votes to 20.

11. Died Christian VII. of Sweden, who had long been in a state of mental imbecility.

19. The King of Spain, alarmed by insurrections at Madrid against Godoy, abdicated the throne in favour of his son Ferdinand. At the same time he wrote to the French emperor, stating his abdication to be forced, and soliciting his interference.

20. General Whitelocke, for misconduct at Buenos Ayres, declared, by sentence of a court-martial, unworthy to serve his majesty in any capacity whatever.

24. The grand-duke of Berg (Murat) entered Madrid, and was received with apparent cordiality by the inhabitants, who rejoiced at the fall of Godoy.

April. 10. Ferdinand is prevailed upon by Murat and Savary to leave Madrid and go to meet the French emperor.

11. Mr. Perceval in bringing forward the budget, announced the financial novelty of allowing the holders of 3 per cent. stock to transfer their stock to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, and to receive equivalent annuities in its stead.

15. James Paul, esq., committed suicide at his house in Charles-street, St. James's-square, by dividing the jugular vein. He

had lately been much before the public as the accuser of the marquis Wellesley, and as a candidate for the representation of Westminster. A coroner's jury brought in a verdict of *lunacy*.

23. A great part of Bristol inundated by the overflowing of the Frome.

Lord Castlereagh's plan was adopted for establishing a local militia of 200,000 men, to be trained for twenty-eight days annually. A clause was introduced into the mutiny act to permit men to enlist for life, contrary to Mr. Wyndham's scheme of limited service.

May 2. A furious insurrection at Madrid, occasioned by the departure of the royal family for Bayonne, and the liberation from confinement of Godoy by command of the French emperor. The whole population of the capital was engaged against 10,000 French troops, with Murat at their head, and a dreadful carnage ensued, terminating in the defeat of the insurgents, and the disarming of the city. After order was restored a military tribunal was instituted, and several hundreds of peasants, who had taken part in the riot, were barbarously shot.

5. INTRIGUES AT BAYONNE.—By great weakness on one side, and various subtle contrivances on the other, the entire royal family of Spain, along with Godoy, was congregated at Bayonne to wait the decision of Buonaparte. The queen, in a transport of rage, accusing Ferdinand of treason against his father, said, "I tell you to your face that you are my son, but not the son of the king; and yet without having any other right to the crown than that of your mother, you have sought to tear it from us by force." Charles IV. reproached the prince with being the author of the revolt in the capital, and threatened him and his adherents with the punishment of traitors if he did not instantly sign an abdication of the throne he had usurped. Ferdinand replied that he "had never intentionally offended his father, and that if his happiness, or that of the nation required it, he was ready to resign the crown." "Go and do so," rejoined the king. During this altercation Napoleon was present; and before the scene concluded Charles twice withdrew to an adjoining room to report to Godoy the proceedings. Next day, the 6th, Ferdinand signed his abdication of the crown; and no sooner was his father in possession of this instrument than he hastened to avail himself of it by transferring all his rights to Buonaparte, on the two conditions that the integrity of the kingdom should be maintained, and the Roman-catholic should be the only religion tolerated. A few days after the king and queen of Spain, with

Godoy, set off for Fontainebleau; and Ferdinand, without parade or seeming repugnance, to Valençay, where he was received on his arrival by Talleyrand, the proprietor of the mansion. The ex-king amused himself with hunting, of which, like most of the Bourbons, he was passionately fond; and the young prince with embroidering petticoats for the Virgin Mary. Meanwhile, the Spaniards, enraged at the unprincipled intrigues of the French, and unmindful of the example of their degenerate princes and nobles, prepared for a gallant resistance; in two months the whole country was up, from Cadiz to St. Sebastian.

20. Rev. Francis Stone deprived of his living of Cold Norton, Essex, for preaching doctrines contrary to the 39 Articles.

21. The territories of the pope annexed to the kingdom of Italy by Buonaparte.

25. In an address to the Spaniards Napoleon said, "Your nation is old; my mission is to restore its youth."

A riot at Manchester among the weavers in consequence of the scarcity of work, and lowness of wages: the military being called in, two of the multitude were killed, and many wounded.

MISSION TO SWEDEN.—In the course of this month an English armament of 12,000 men arrived at Gottenburg to cooperate with his Swedish majesty, who adhered with desperate fidelity to his engagements with this country. The British general, Sir John Moore, forthwith proceeded to Stockholm to concert measures with the king, whom he found bent on the invasion of Norway. This wild project not agreeing with Sir John's instructions, and the monarch becoming irritated by opposition, the English general found it necessary, to avoid arrest, to escape in disguise. Finding nothing was to be done in this quarter he returned to England without landing a man in Sweden. The infatuated prince soon after committed the political error of disbanding 4000 of his guards on the pretext of want of zeal in the war against Russia.

June 4. The patriots of Cadiz having killed the governor Solano, compelled, in concert with admiral Collingwood, the French fleet in the harbour, consisting of five ships of the line, with 4000 seamen and marines, to surrender.

15. Palafox gallantly repulsed the French in an attack on Saragossa. The defence of this place was one of the most remarkable events of the war; for having no fortifications, except the old Moorish battlements, the conflict was carried on from street to street, and house to house. The most desperate courage was displayed by the women; and, after three months of

unavailing efforts, Lefebvre was compelled to raise the siege.

28. Marshal Moncey repulsed at Valentia, and compelled to retire to Madrid.

July 4. Peace proclaimed with Spain. The Spanish prisoners in this country were liberated, clothed, and sent to join their countrymen; subscriptions were opened, and general enthusiasm diffused through the kingdom in aid of the patriots.

7. Buonaparte's servile junta at Bayonne accepted his constitution, and swore allegiance to his brother Joseph as king of Spain.

13. The heat of the weather exceeded that of 1790. The thermometer at the northern entrance of the Royal-exchange was at noon at 87. The average heat of the West Indies is about 82 degrees.

14. Bessieres defeated the Spaniards near Medino del Rio Seco with great slaughter; the patriots fought bravely—more than 20,000 are said to have been buried in the field of battle. Upon receiving news of the victory Napoleon said, "Bessieres had put the crown on Joseph's head—the war of the Peninsula is ended."

19. Lord Boringdon obtained 10,000*l.* damages against sir Arthur Paget for *crim. con.*

20. Battle of Baylen, in Andalusia, of which the important result was the surrender of a French division of 14,000 under Dupont, to general Castaños.

Sir Arthur Wellesley, with 10,000 troops, landed at Corunna to assist the Spaniards, but was recommended to direct his steps towards Oporto, the whole of the north of Portugal being in arms against the French.

21. Henry White and H. Hart being convicted of a libel on lord Ellenborough in the *Independent Whig*, were sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

22. Murat made king of Naples on the transfer of Joseph Buonaparte to Spain.

29. After being seven days at Madrid, king Joseph was compelled to retreat to Burgos, carrying with him the crown-jewels.

Aug. 4. A grand dinner given to the Spanish deputies at the London-tavern: it was attended by the leading men of all parties, and by the heads of all the great companies, and commercial and banking firms in the metropolis; 400 noblemen and gentlemen sat down to dinner, and the toasts drank attested the enthusiasm inspired by the cause of Spain.

12. Major Campbell having killed captain Boyd in a duel, under circumstances that implied previous malice, he was tried at the Armagh assizes, convicted of murder, and executed.

16. In the case of *Sir John Carr v.*

Hood and Sharp, chief-justice Ellenborough said every man had a right to criticise the writings of another, and hold them up to ridicule, so that he cast no personal reflections on the author. If fair criticism injured the sale of a work, it was *damnum absque injuria*. Upon this the jury found for the defendants.

21. Battle of Vimiera, in which sir Arthur Wellesley defeated the French under the duke d'Abrantes with the loss of 3000 men and thirteen pieces of cannon. Junot took shelter in the lines of Torres Vedras.

24. Above 16,000 Spanish veterans, whom Napoleon had led to fight his battles in the north of Europe, upon being apprised of the state of their native country, immediately declared for the sacred cause, and, through the means of the English admiral Keats, 10,000 of those patriots, commanded by the marquis Romano, were enabled to embark for Spain.

30. Convention of Cintra concluded between Sir Hugh Dalrymple and general Kellerman, by which it is stipulated the French shall evacuate Portugal with their arms, but leaving their magazines, be transported to France in British ships, having liberty previously to dispose of their private property in Portugal. Loud indignation being expressed at the convention in England, it became the subject of a military inquiry; but sir Arthur Wellesley giving his testimony generally in its favour, it may be safely inferred to have been advisedly concluded; and such was the result of the investigation.

Sept. 3. Russian fleet in the Tagus surrendered to the British under sir Charles Cotton, on condition of being given up six months after the conclusion of peace with France.

20. Covent-garden theatre burnt: the roof unexpectedly falling, a party of firemen were buried in the ruins, by which sad accident nineteen persons lost their lives.

25. The central Supreme Junta, which had been chosen from the provincial juntas, was solemnly installed at Aranjuez, count Florida Blanca being elected president. It was acknowledged by all the constituted authorities, and immediately proceeded to the nomination of a council of war, consisting of five members, of which general Castaños was chosen president. The army was divided into three grand corps; that of the east commanded by Palafox; of the north by Blake; and of the centre by Castaños.

27. Conference between the emperor of France and Russia at Erfurth; it continued some weeks, and was celebrated by grand fêtes, and theatrical entertainments. The two sovereigns appeared to have con-

ceived and expressed the highest personal regard for each other. Napoleon presented Alexander with a sword, which the latter eagerly accepted as a mark of friendship, saying, "your majesty is well assured that I shall never draw it against you."

Oct. 12. The two emperors addressed a communication to England, proposing peace: it was replied to on the 26th, to the effect that the British government could only treat in concert with Sweden, and the existing government of Spain.

20. The inhabitants of Westminster met, to the number of 8000, to express their disapprobation of "the disgraceful convention of Cintra."

25. The British troops, commanded by sir David Baird, landed at Corunna.

Nov. 7. Napoleon placed himself at the head of the French army at Vittoria, with the intent of re-establishing his brother in Madrid.

10. An impostor named Ann Moore is said to have abstained from food twenty months.

22. Battle of Tudela; the Spaniards, under Castaños, defeated.

28. The emperor of Russia refused to treat with the Spanish insurgents, having acknowledged Joseph king of Spain.

Dec. 4. Madrid capitulated to the French emperor; the citizens were disposed to resistance, and some of the streets unpaved for the purpose; but their zeal not being seconded by the authorities, headed by Don Morla, the design was abandoned. Buonaparte was now at liberty to direct his attention to the British force, which was advancing towards the capital; one division from Corunna, under sir David Baird, and the other from the Portuguese frontier, commanded by sir John Moore. These divisions united at Salamanca on the 20th, but were compelled on the 30th to begin their disastrous retreat.

On the day that Madrid capitulated Napoleon decreed as follows:—1. That the inquisition be abolished. 2. That the number of convents in Spain be reduced to one-third. 3. That all feudal rights and services cease. 4. That the provincial barriers which impeded industry be suppressed, and the custom-houses removed to the frontiers. 5. That the seigniorial courts be abolished, and the royal courts only administer justice. 6. That the civil and ecclesiastical revenues alienated to individuals be received by the state.

7. Died in his 81st year CHARLES JENKINSON, earl of Liverpool, the grandson of sir Robert Jenkinson, the first baronet of the family. The earl had filled several important and lucrative offices in

the state, possessed extensive information, and was the author of an able "Treatise on Coins" and other works. He shared the obloquy of the Bute ministry at the beginning of the present reign, and was supposed to be one of the secret advisers, and to enjoy much of the confidence of George III.

8. Alexander Davison found guilty of defrauding the government as agent to the barrack-master general, and imprisoned in Newgate.

31. First stone of Covent-garden theatre laid by the prince of Wales.

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS.—A stone coffin found in Leeds' church, containing a complete skeleton, that had been buried 700 years.

A complete mammoth was found in a state of perfect preservation on the shores of the Frozen Ocean. It was discovered by a Tungoose chief in the autumn, in the midst of an iceberg, but it was not till the fifth year after the ice had sufficiently melted that its body could be disengaged. The chief cut off the tusks and left the carcase to be devoured by bears.

Mr. Buchanan of Glasgow announced the efficacy of the heat of steam in calico-printing, and in warming warehouses and churches.

Humphry Davy announced some new phenomena of chemical changes produced by electricity, particularly the decomposition of the fixed alkalies and the exhibition of the new subjects that constitute their bases.

Mr. Winsor in his memorial on gas lights stated that they may be advantageously applied to the lighting of streets and for fixed lights in private houses. The cotton mill of Phillips and Lee of Manchester had already been lighted by coal gas under the directions of Mr. Winsor.—*Philosophical Transactions.*

Lithography, or the art of engraving on stone, announced.

Sliced and baked potatoes, which had been to New South Wales and back, exhibited in a sound state.

Sir Richard Hoare caused several barrows near Stonehenge to be opened; in them were found a number of curious remains of Celtic ornaments, such as beads, buckles, and broaches, in amber, wood, and gold.

M. Mollet discovered that combustible bodies might be ignited by the mere compression of atmospheric air.

The stone-coffin and ashes of Offa, king of the Mercians, who died in the eighth century, discovered in the church-yard of Hemel Hempstead. Inscription legible.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Roehampton, suddenly, Benjamin Goldsmith, an opulent loan-contractor. John Home, 86, author

of the tragedy of Douglas. Richard Porson, M. A., 49, a masterly critic and classical scholar. At Paris, Madame Cottin, 36, author of the "Exiles of Siberia" and other popular novels. Hugh Meynell, 81, a gentleman who had been well known in fashionable circles for half a century. Rev. J. Whitaker, 73, author of a "History of Manchester," &c. Lord Dorchester, 86, the oldest general in the service, and well known in the American war as general Carleton. Sir Henry Grey, uncle to the present earl Grey, who was his heir. By the death of the baronet, earl Grey came into possession of estates to the amount of 37,000*l.* per annum, besides a fortune for each of his younger children.

A. D. 1809. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—The diversion of the Peninsular war tempted Austria a fourth time to enter the lists against her colossal opponent, which had no better result than her preceding efforts against the power of France. Buonaparte acted with his wonted celerity and military science. Leaving his generals to complete the subjection of Spain and Portugal, he summoned to his aid the contingents of the Rhenish confederation, and precipitating himself into the heart of Germany, dispersed, in a succession of bloody battles, the Austrian armies. In four months he passed victoriously from Madrid to Vienna, and by the decisive battle of Wagram, in July, compelled Francis again to sue for peace. The co-operation of England was more remarkable for the magnitude of her exertions than the success or judgment with which they were conducted. It was a year of expeditions. Sir John Stuart made a descent in Calabria with a view to shake the French dominion in Naples, but unsuccessfully. The British arms were successful in Portugal, and acquired new laurels by the victory of Talavera. Against these advantages was the serious drawback of the disastrous expedition to Walcheren, which was the more lamentable as the same powerful armament landed in the Peninsula might have driven the French across the Pyrenees. For want of this co-operation the cause of the Spanish patriots had a very discouraging aspect towards the close of the year. Dissensions in the British cabinet led to an overture, at the instance of the king, to the leading whigs to form part of a combined ministry. This basis being promptly declined by lords Grey and Grenville, the Perceval administration was formed as the only alternative. These ministerial changes were preceded by the discovery of gross misconduct on the part of the duke of York, in his office of commander-in-chief; also in the conduct of other high functionaries

in the sale of public offices, and even of seats in the house of commons. The attention of the other house of parliament and of the public was intently fixed on these irregularities.

Jan. 5. Peace concluded between Britain and Turkey through the mediation of Austria.

16. BATTLE OF CORUNNA.—The defeat of the Spaniards and the greatly superior force of the French rendered the retreat of the British unavoidable. From Astorga to Corunna, a route of near 250 miles, through a desolate and mountainous country, made almost impassable by snow and rain, harassed by the enemy, the soldiers suffered intolerable hardships from cold, hunger, and fatigue. Embittered by privations and chagrin the army became disorganised, and by their excesses rendered the people they had come to succour their enemies. However, the French were gallantly repulsed in all their attacks, and after the abandonment of their sick, and loss of most of their stores and military chest, the British, in a very distressed state, reached Corunna on the 11th. Soult took up a position above the town in readiness to make an attack as soon as the troops should begin to embark. On the 16th, the operation having begun, the enemy descended in four columns, when sir John Moore, in bringing up the guards, where the fire was most destructive, received a mortal wound from a cannon ball. General Baird being also disabled, the command devolved on sir John Hope, under whom the troops bravely continued the fight till at night-fall the French retreated with the loss of 2000 men, and offered no further molestation. In this expedition the British army lost their magazines and near 6000 soldiers, inclusive of the brave commander-in-chief, who was highly esteemed for private worth and soldierly qualities.

19. Parliament opened by commission.

23. Buonaparte arrived at Paris, having been recalled from Spain by the warlike preparations of Austria.

27. CHARGES AGAINST THE DUKE OF YORK.—Colonel Wardle, an officer of militia, brought forward in the house of commons a series of charges against the commander-in-chief, to the effect that Mrs. Mary Ann Clarke, who had been in favour, but was now out of favour with the duke, had long carried on a traffic in military commissions, not only with the knowledge, but participation, of his royal highness. He concluded with moving for a committee of inquiry, which, on the suggestion of the chancellor of the exchequer, it was determined should be of the whole house. The inquiry, therefore, commenced at the bar of the house, and lasted above two months.

during which numerous witnesses were examined; amongst whom was Mrs. Clarke herself; and the most extraordinary disclosures ensued. It appeared that this woman had not only considerable influence in the military, but also in the ecclesiastical concerns of the kingdom; having, upon one occasion, placed her own footman as a commissioned officer in the army, and, upon another, procured the honour of preaching before the king for O'Meara, an Irish clergyman. In short, there was hardly any department of the state to which her brokeship did not extend; and the list of aspirants upon her ledger included persons of almost every station in society. So far colonel Wardle established his case; but he failed in showing that the duke had derived any pecuniary benefit from the traffickings of his mistress: he had, however, been clearly guilty of the almost equivalent and reprehensible part of knowingly suffering her to barter the patronage of his office for the support of herself and establishment. Public attention was entirely engrossed with the inquiry, and the house was never so well attended as during its progress, many of the members appearing highly edified by the sprightly sallies of the artful courtesan, who was the principal witness interrogated. Though the duke was acquitted of personal corruption by a vote of the house, the impression of his culpability among many independent members, and the public in general, was such, that he found it necessary to resign his employment. This seems to have been considered sufficient atonement, and the whole business was got rid of on the 20th of March, by Lord Althorp moving that the house did not think proper further to prosecute the inquiry after the resignation of his royal highness, which was carried by 235 to 112. Sir Robert Dundas succeeded the duke at the horse-guards.

Feb. 8. James Madison elected president of the United States of America, Mr. Jefferson declining to be re-elected.

14. Saragossa surrendered to the French.

24. Drury-lane theatre burnt down with inconceivable rapidity; the reservoir of water in the roof was powerless in extinguishing the conflagration. It was insured.

28. Lord Falkland killed in a duel by Mr. Powell, of Devonshire: the quarrel originated in his lordship's levity in addressing Mr. Powell, with whom he was on terms of intimacy, by a nick-name, and persisting so to do after he had taken offence at it in a large company at Steven's in Bond-street.

Mar. 3. Fire in the quadrangle of Christ-church college, Oxford; damage estimated at 12,000*l*.

13. Gustavus IV. deposed by the Swedish diet, and his family declared to be for ever excluded from the throne. A new constitution was framed, and the duke of Sudermania elected king, under the title of Charles XIII. A change of policy ensued peace being made with Russia, and English vessels excluded from the Swedish ports.

28. Upon opening the body of a sailor who had died in Guy's hospital, eighteen large clasp-knives were found in the stomach and intestines. The hafts of them were entirely decomposed, and the blades partly so. It seems they had been swallowed several years previously in drunken frolics, and at first without any sensible bad effect.

29. Oporto taken by Marshal Soult.

The loss of the French in the Peninsula, by war and disease, estimated at 183,000 men.—*Genl. Magazine.*

Mr. Whitbread stated in the house of commons that a service of plate, which Mrs. Clarke purchased of a pawnbroker, originally belonged to a prince of the Bourbon family.

Apr. 1. The thanks of the cities of London and Westminster voted to colonel Wardle.

2. A lieutenant Sharp of the Bedford militia not succeeding in his addresses to Miss Shuckburgh, first shot the lady, and then himself, in the park of sir S. Shuckburgh, where they were both found dead.

6. The arch-duke Charles issued a spirited address to the army, preparatory to opening the campaign against France. The whole Austrian army consisted of nine corps of 30,000 or 40,000 each, besides some of reserve and the militia. Buonaparte, in addition to the French corps, now congregated under his standard Bavarians, Saxons, and Poles.

11. Lord Cochrane made a successful attack on the French squadron in Basque Road, destroying in gallant style five sail of the line and three frigates.

20. Buonaparte defeated the arch-duke Louis at Abensberg; and two days after the arch-duke Charles at Eckmuhl: in these two battles the Austrians lost 40,000 men with 100 pieces of cannon. In five days, by the celerity of his movements and admirable tactic combinations, Napoleon completely broke the power of Austria.

21. Captain Manby made a successful trial of a small mortar, to communicate by a line with shipwrecked vessels, and save the crew.

22. Sir Arthur Wellesley landed at Lisbon to command the British army; the Portuguese to be commanded by marshal Beresford.

25. CHARGE AGAINST LORD CASTLE-REAGH.—His lordship it appeared had en-

deavoured to procure a seat in parliament for his friend lord Clancarty, in exchange for a writership which had been placed at his disposal while president of the India board. The seat however not being deemed an equivalent for a writership (valued at 3000 guineas), and the parties not agreeing upon the difference, the negotiation broke of. Resolutions in condemnation of this proceeding were moved on the 25th, by lord A. Hamilton, which were negatived by 216 against 167. A similar fate attended a motion of Mr. Madocks, who charged Mr. Percival and lord Castlereagh with corruptly influencing the return of members of parliament. It originated a bill, introduced by Mr. Curwen, which passed into a law for better securing the purity and independence of parliament.

May 5. Russia declared war against Austria.

12. Hon. H. Wellesley obtained 20,000*l.* damages against lord Paget for *crim. con.* A duel of his lordship with captain Cadogan, who had married a sister of lady Wellesley, was one of the incidents of this affair: it excited great interest, owing to the romantic attachment of lord Paget, who had in vain sought to stifle his unfortunate passion in the turmoil of the Spanish war, in which, during the retreat to Corunna, from his recklessness of life he acquired the reputation of "a rash and adventurous gallantry."

13. French entered Vienna.

21, 22. Bloody battle of Aspern between the archduke Charles and the French emperor. It was fought in the Marchfeld on the left bank of the Danube, two leagues below Vienna, opposite the Isle of Loban. It lasted two days, and the killed and wounded amounted to 20,000 in each army. At the close of the second day Buonaparte was compelled to retreat into the Isle of Loban, where his army was placed in a situation of great jeopardy, the flood having carried away the bridge that connected the island in the middle of the river with the right bank of the Danube. Two months elapsed before he was able to repair the disasters of the battle, and again transport his army across the river.

Rear-admiral Harvey dismissed the service for disrespectful conduct to his superior officer admiral lord Gambier: subsequently restored.

26. Valentine Jones convicted in the court of king's bench of a fraud on government, in his office of commissary-general in the West Indies.

June 1. Professor Herbert Marsh revived the lectures on divinity in St. Mary's church, Cambridge.

A parliamentary report showed that great encroachments had been made in

Windsor Forest: it now comprises twelve entire parishes and extends into five others. The whole quantity of land in the forest, according to the survey and map of 1789, was 59,600 acres.

7. Raab surrendered to the French.

8. DEATH OF THOMAS PAINE.—This celebrated person was the son of a quaker, and born at Thetford in Norfolk, in 1737. Losing his employment in the excise, he obtained an introduction to Dr. Franklin, which led to his emigration to America, where, by the force and acuteness of his writings, he essentially contributed to the establishment of the independence of the colonies. He returned to England and excited great interest by the publication of his "Rights of Man," in answer to Mr. Burke's "Reflections on the French Revolution." In France he was chosen member of the national convention, but offended the extreme republicans by not voting for the death of Louis XVI., and narrowly escaped the guillotine pending the reign of terror. He returned to America in 1802, having a small farm in the neighbourhood of Baltimore, that had been given him by congress, for the services he had rendered in the struggle with the mother country, and which having improved in value during his peregrinations in Europe, yielded him a decent competence for the remainder of his days. Habits of intemperance and the notoriety of his deistical opinions deprived him of the general respect to which he was entitled from natural benevolence and the possession of superior abilities. Few writers have excited greater contemporary interest than Thomas Paine, and he still retains a strong hold of the popular mind; but his political philosophy lies in a narrow compass, consisting of the application of a few abstractions to the complicated affairs of civil society, without reference to the diversity of human character and pre-existing habits, institutions, and associations. This limitation of scope doubtless helped to give point, conclusiveness, and plausibility to theories which were probably corrected in his own mind, as they were in the minds of many others by the lessons of practical wisdom subsequently afforded by the great experiment of the French Revolution.

10. Pope Pius VII. excommunicated Buonaparte for seizing the papal territories.

A parliamentary return showed that there are in England and Wales 3291 livings under 150*l.* per annum.

21. Parliament prorogued by commission. A loan of 11 millions was this year contracted for at a lower rate of interest than money had ever before been borrowed on the public account. The abundance of

capital consequent on the interruption to foreign trade, and the absence of any cause of apprehension either at home or abroad it is likely contributed to the low rate of interest.

28. Daniel Lambert found dead in his bed at Stamford, where he had gone to exhibit himself during the races. He was in his 40th year, and the heaviest man on record, weighing 52 stone, 14lbs. to the stone.

29. A bottle taken up in Martinique, which had been thrown into the sea in lat. 14° 48' N., long. 25° W., showing that it had been floated by the current 2020 miles in 224 days.

A verdict of 1000*l.* was given in favour of the earl of Leicester against the proprietors of the *Morning Herald* for a libel.

At the beginning of the month sir John Stewart, the British commander in Sicily, made a descent on the coast of Calabria: it was at first successful, but the enemy collecting in force, and the Neapolitans manifesting no disposition to revolt from their present ruler, he re-embarked his troops.

July 3. An action brought by an upholsterer against colonel Wardle for 1400*l.*, for furniture sold to the defendant for the use of Mary Ann Clarke, and a verdict given for the plaintiff. It seems the undertaking of Mr. Wardle was in the November preceding the late investigation into the conduct of the duke of York; which threw some suspicion on the motives and characters of the parties who instituted that inquiry.

4. Three Middlesex magistrates convicted in a penalty of 500*l.* for the false imprisonment and impressment of a labourer.

6. VICTORY OF WAGRAM.—This battle was fought between Buonaparte and the archduke Charles; the loss of the Austrians was so great that they immediately sought an armistice of the French emperor.

13. Capt. Barclay finished his task at Newmarket of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, not walking more nor less than one mile in one hour. The captain had 16,000*l.* depending on his undertaking, and towards the close appeared to have become partly habituated to his interrupted rest.

20. William Cobbett, the author of the "Political Register," cast in an action at Winchester assizes for an assault on a boy-servant: damages 10*l.*

28. BATTLE OF TALAVERA.—The French, commanded by Victor and Sebastiani, were defeated by the British, commanded by sir Arthur Wellesley, aided by a corps of Spaniards under Cuesta. The action was severe, the loss of the British amounting to

6000 in killed, wounded, and missing; that of the enemy was much more considerable. Soon after the junction of Soult, Ney, and Mortier, in the rear of the English, compelled them to fall back on Badajoz.

EFFECTS OF INTEMPERANCE.—A labourer near Oxford, who had retired into an out-house to sleep in a state of intoxication, was attacked by rats. The liquor and sleep had so overpowered him that he was incapable either of repelling them or calling for assistance. He continued in an agonised state till his groans drew a person to the place, who found a number of the vermin round the feet of the sufferer, seven of whose toes had been entirely devoured by them.—(*Ann. Reg.* li. 288.) A case still more horrible occurred in the neighbourhood of Dublin in the ensuing month. (*Ibid.* 318.) A man inebriated fell from a car into a hollow, where he lay on his face till discovered by a passenger. On turning him on his back and moving his coat, the whole surface of his body seemed a moving mass of worms: his face was much disfigured, apparently from some bruises inflicted either by a fall or a blow, and from every aperture of his head, his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose poured innumerable worms, as if the cavity of the skull was filled with them. His eyes were dissolved, and his face covered with maggots: he was not dead. After some time he was able to walk, and recollect the adventure of the preceding night. The humidity of the air and the heat of the weather had rapidly caused putrescence in the bruised parts lying in contact with the moist earth. Next day the miserable being died, it being impossible to arrest the progress of decomposition.

Aug. 13. A monument erected to the memory of sir John Moore at Corunna, by the marquis Romana, and his remains removed from the obscure place in the fortress, where they were first interred.

15. EXPEDITION TO WALCHEREN.—In the course of the summer was fitted out with great secrecy one of the most formidable armaments ever despatched from the shores of England. It consisted of an army of 40,000 men, and a fleet of 39 sail of the line, 36 frigates, and numerous gun-boats, bomb-boats, and small craft. The command of the first was given to the earl of Chatham, of the last to sir R. Strachan. The chief objects of the enterprise were to get possession of Flushing, the French ships of war in the Scheldt, and destroy their arsenals and dock-yards. The expedition sailed on the 28th of July, and on the 15th inst. Flushing surrendered, with a garrison of 6000 men. No advantage beyond this was gained. During the siege

of Flushing, Bernadotte had arrived at Antwerp, put the place in a posture of defence, removed the ships higher up the river, and collected a Belgian force to resist the invaders. Owing to these preparations, the reduction of Antwerp was deemed impracticable by a council of war, and had the island of Walcheren been forthwith abandoned, the loss of the British would have been inconsiderable. In lieu of which, either from incapacity in the military commander, or from fluctuations in the council of ministers, this pestilential spot was not evacuated till the latter end of December. An epidemic fever, as was usual in the autumn, raged in the island, and of the five army that had left Portsmouth a few months before, one-half were either consigned to inglorious graves or returned to England afflicted with chronic diseases, in the last stage of debility.

Sept. 3. By the order of Murat, king of Naples, the religious houses in his dominions are suppressed.

17. The new theatre of Covent-garden opened with *Macbeth* and *The Quaker*. The address was attempted to be spoken by Mr. Kemble, but such was the uproar, occasioned by an advance in the prices of admission, that it was wholly inaudible.

21. DUEL OF CANNING AND CASTLEREAGH.—Both these gentlemen having resigned their offices, a personal encounter ensued between them on Putney heath, in which Mr. Canning was wounded. Mr. Canning had some months previously addressed a letter to the duke of Portland, the head of the administration, informing his grace that he should resign the foreign secretaryship if lord Castlereagh continued to hold the secretaryship of war, for which department Mr. Canning thought lord Castlereagh unfit. The duke of Portland, either from not coinciding in opinion with Mr. Canning, or wishing himself, from the infirmities of age, to retire from the ministry, delayed to act on the suggestion of Mr. Canning, though his lordship promised that it should be carried into effect.—(*Ann. Reg.* li. 505.) Meanwhile no communication was made to lord Castlereagh, and Mr. Canning continued to act with him in the cabinet, even while the important expedition to Walcheren was being prepared, without openly avowing any objection to the official competence of his colleague. Under these circumstances his lordship considered that he had been treated with duplicity, and demanded satisfaction.

Oct. 1. Lord Collingwood and sir J. Stuart took possession of Zante, Cephalonia, and the other Greek islands, restoring the Ionian republic.

15. Peace concluded between Austria

and France. Trieste was the principal acquisition of France by this treaty, the chief territorial cessions being made to her allies, Bavaria, Saxony, and Prussia. The brave Tyrolese, who had taken arms in favour of Austria, were abandoned, and their gallant leader, Hofer, expiated his patriotism on the scaffold. A similar fate involved colonel Schill, who had raised the standard of revolt in the north of Germany: he was slain in defending Stralsund.

25. THE JUBILEE.—The King having entered the 50th year of his reign, it was celebrated throughout the empire as a national jubilee, with thanksgiving and other demonstrations of gladness. All deserters and military delinquents were pardoned, and crown debtors liberated from confinement. Divine service was performed in the churches, and splendid illuminations and other rejoicings in the evening concluded the festivities.

30. PERCIVAL MINISTRY.—The death of the duke of Portland, on the 30th, and the previous dissensions in the cabinet, broke up the administration. An overture to the Whigs, as before mentioned, having failed, it became necessary to resort to other materials. Mr. Percival became the new premier, uniting to his office of chancellor of the exchequer that of first lord of the treasury. The marquis of Wellesley was recalled from his embassy to Spain, to succeed Mr. Canning in the foreign secretaryship; viscount Palmerston succeeded lord Castlereagh as secretary at war; and the earl of Liverpool (late lord Hawkesbury) in his (lord Castlereagh's) other office of colonial secretary; the hon. R. Ryder succeeding lord Liverpool in the home department; Messrs. Wharton and Arbuthnot succeeded Mr. Huskisson and the hon. H. Wellesley as secretaries of the treasury. No change was made in the law offices, nor in the Irish government.

Nov. 19. The Spaniards, under Ariezaga, signally defeated at Ocana; the consequence of which was the surrender of Cordova and Seville, leaving the French free access to Cadiz.

Dec. 1. The Spanish junta having become unpopular for want of success, it was determined to assemble the cortes, which had not met for three centuries.

11. At the election for chancellor of the university of Oxford, lord Grenville had 406 votes; lord Eldon 390; duke of Beaufort 288. All the bishops who had a vote voted for lord Grenville, except two, who voted for lord Eldon.

16. The O. P. riots at Covent-garden theatre, which had been sturdily kept up for months, terminated. It was settled that the boxes should continue at 7s.; that the

pit should be lowered to the old price of 3s. 6d.; and the private boxes thrown open to the public. An increase in the prices of admission had been demanded on the ground of improvements in the new theatre, and had been chiefly resisted on account of the monopoly of the patent theatres.

17. The empress Josephine divorced from Buonaparte: as the marriage had never been solemnised except as a civil contract, the dissolution was more feasible.

25. The evacuation of Walcheren completed, after destroying the basin, arsenal, and fortifications of Flushing.

30. **NEW MILITARY REGULATIONS.**—No officer to be promoted to the rank of captain until he has been three years a subaltern. No officer to be a major until he has been seven years in the service, of which he shall have been at least two years a captain; and no major to be appointed lieutenant-colonel until he has been nine years in the service. No officer to fill any staff appointment (except aid-de-camp) until he has been four years in the service. No subaltern officer to be an aid-de-camp unless he shall have been present in the regiment at least one year.

A treaty of amity and commerce was this year concluded with America by Mr. Erskine, but disavowed by the British government, on the ground that the English minister had exceeded his powers.

MERINO SHEEP.—A small flock of this description of sheep was procured for the use of the king, by lord Auckland, the British minister at Madrid, in 1791. They excited little notice, and it was not till thirteen years after that they became an article of sale. It is now ascertained that the fleeces does not degenerate, and is sold as clipped from the back, at 4s. 6d. a-pound. But we may further observe on this experiment (though the discovery belongs to a subsequent period), that though the fleece does not degenerate, the carcase, which is of little weight, does not improve; so that the farmer, whose remuneration depends on the sale of both, has found it his interest to return to the native, hastened, too, by the large importations of fine wool from Saxony, that have superseded both the Spanish and English staple of short wool.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—William Hawes, M.D., 73, a gentleman long known in the metropolis for active benevolence, and the founder of the royal humane society. Hugh Hewson, 85, formerly a barber in Lincoln's-inn-fields, and the original of Strap in Smollett's "Roderick Random." Earl of Dunmore, 78, father-in-law of the duke of Sussex, and in the female line related to the house of Stuart. David Barclay, 81, a grandson of the author of the

"Apology for the Quakers," and lately an eminent merchant in the city. Matthew Boulton, 81, one of the proprietors of the famous Soho manufactory, and successful cultivator of the useful arts. John Henry Petty, marquis of Lansdowne, 44: his lordship was succeeded in his title and estates by his brother, lord Henry Petty, late chancellor of the exchequer. Sir Frederick Morton Eden, diplomatist, and author of a valuable "History of the Poor." J. Haydn, 76, the celebrated musical composer. Thomas Eccleston, of Scarisbrook, a successful improver of the agriculture of Lancashire. Anna Seward, 66, a lady of Lichfield, distinguished for literary talents. In the public hospital, at Kingston, Jamaica, and buried at the expense of the parish, Robert Hepburn Ker, formerly a baker in that city, and who by a late decision of the house of lords was found entitled to the dukedom of Roxburgh, and 100,000*l.* in the funds.

A.D. 1810. COMMERCE AND PUBLIC CREDIT.—The exclusion of British commodities from the continent and the united states of America began to produce a sensible effect on the staple interests of the empire. In several of the principal branches of national industry, especially in the cotton manufacture, there was great stagnation of demand, of which the consequences were numerous and extensive failures. The rate of exchange in foreign markets had become from 15 to 20 per cent. against this country. A rapid and unexampled rise had taken place in prices, not from the briskness of trade, but the extremely artificial state of the currency. Gold coins had almost wholly disappeared from the circulation: guineas were regularly sold at prices above their legal denomination, and paper currency was the only medium employed in commercial transactions and dealings of all kinds. The price of gold had risen from 3*l.* 17*s.* per ounce in bank notes to 4*l.* 12*s.* (*Annual Register*, lii. 126.) The rise in prices, or the depreciation in the currency, produced severe distress among the numerous classes living on wages and fixed incomes; it also lowered the exchangeable value of the public taxes, and the government loan fell so much below par, that some melancholy catastrophes followed among the contractors. These monetary derangements were brought under the notice of the house of commons by Mr. Horner, and became the subject of an able report. In this report the rise of prices and fall in the exchanges is traced to the redundant issue of an inconvertible paper money, for which the remedy suggested is the resumption of payments in specie by the bank of England. Besides commercial embarrassments, the chief topics

of parliamentary discussion were the late expedition to the Scheldt, and a pertinacious struggle about the exercise of the privileges of the house of commons. Abroad, there were no events of striking importance. The struggles against French aggression in Spain had dwindled down on the side of the patriots to a partisan war, carried on by parties of *guerillas*, headed by Mina, El Empeinado, and other adventurous chiefs. The French, under Marshal Massena, overran Portugal, till their progress was arrested by lord Wellington, at the impregnable lines of Torres Vedras. A new scene of interest arose in South America; some of the transatlantic provinces of Spain proclaiming their independence of the mother country. The Spanish colonists were now found to be divided into two parties; the royalists, who adhered to the government, acting in the name of Ferdinand VII., and the republicans, who sought for independence on the plan of the United States.

Jan. 3. At the mansion-house, Mr. De Yonge was charged, under a statute of Edward VI., with selling guineas at 22s. 6d. each, 1s. 6d. above their legal price. See July 4, 1811.

6. Peace between France and Sweden.

18. Mr. Lyon Levy, an eminent Jewish dealer in diamonds, threw himself from the top of the Monument, and was killed on the spot.

23. PARLIAMENT opened by commission: the disasters of the past year were adverted to, and sought to be extenuated.

26. Lord Porchester's motion, in the house of commons, for an inquiry into the expedition to Walcheren, carried by 195 to 186.

Feb. 4. Died, in his 79th year, WILLIAM CAVENDISH, who distinguished himself by important discoveries in natural philosophy, especially the composition of water; by improvements in the eudiometer, and endeavours to ascertain the mean density of the earth. Mr. Cavendish was little known in the busy world, his life being spent in reading, study, and in experiments. He was great uncle to the present duke of Devonshire, and left funded property to the amount of 1,200,000*l.*

5. General Beckwith and admiral A. Cochrane took the island of Guadaloupe, the last possession of the French in the West Indies.

7. Captain Lake dismissed the king's servile for putting a seaman ashore on the desolate island of Sombroso.

11. The spire of St. Nicholas church, Liverpool, fell through the roof, killing 27 persons.

17. The Dutch settlement of Amboyna surrendered to a British force from Madras.

21. PRIVILEGE OF PARLIAMENT.—Pending the inquiry into the expedition to Walcheren, the house of commons became involved in a series of contests that did not exalt its reputation for wisdom. During the inquiry, Mr. Yorke, having from day to day enforced the standing order of the house for the exclusion of strangers, Mr. Sheridan moved its revision, when Mr. Windham took occasion to inveigh against the reporters for the press, which was replied to by Mr. Stephens, who had once belonged to this useful class. This discussion originated another outside the house, at a debating society called the *British Forum*, where a question was propounded,—“Which was a greater outrage on the public feeling, Mr. Yorke's enforcement of the standing order to exclude strangers from the house of commons, or Mr. Windham's attack on the press?” and it being unanimously carried against the former, the result was announced in a placard. This was brought before the house as an infringement of their privileges, being a comment on their proceedings, in contravention, as alleged, of the Bill of Rights. Upon this John Gale Jones, who acknowledged himself the author of the obnoxious placard, was committed to Newgate. Sir Francis Burdett next entered the lists: he denied the right of the house to imprison Mr. Jones, and published his argument, with his name affixed, in Cobbett's *Weekly Register* of March 24th. Pleased with the higher game, the house instantly fell upon the baronet, who was ordered to be committed to the tower, the speaker issuing his warrant for the purpose to the sergeant-at-arms. On the arrival of this officer at the house of sir Francis, he was informed that the legality of the speaker's warrant was denied, and that the baronet would not submit to it unless he were compelled to do so by force. A pause ensued in consequence of the doubts of the speaker regarding the extent of his powers; but these being obviated by the opinion of the attorney-general, the house of sir Francis was violently entered by the sergeant-at-arms, and the baronet forcibly conveyed to the tower. As the soldiery which had conducted the captive to his destination were returning, they were violently assailed by the multitude with stones and other missiles, when the military firing, three of the rioters were killed. On one victim the coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *wilful murder* against some persons unknown. Subsequently sir Francis brought actions at law against the speaker for issuing his warrant, against the sergeant-at-arms for executing it, and against the constable of the tower for detaining him in custody, but he failed in all; the courts of

law, after ponderous legal disputation, refusing to take cognizance of the questions at issue. During his incarceration the baronet was cheered by numerous approving addresses, and at the end of the session he was suffered to return to his house, which he did privately by water, to avoid the risk of popular tumult; though somewhat inconsistently with this pretext sir Francis, without communicating his intention to his friends, suffered them to make preparations for a grand procession through the metropolis, which actually took place. Mr. Francis claimed a right to a trial, and refused to leave Newgate, but was got out by a stratagem, loudly complaining of the grievance of being both illegally imprisoned and illegally thrust out of prison.

24. Mr. Perry, proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, tried and acquitted in the court of king's bench. He conducted his own defence, on the charge of having published a libel, copied from the *Examiner*, reflecting on the king's character.

28. A general fast-day.

Mar. 2. A vote of censure passed the house of commons, on the conduct of the earl of Chatham, he having made a private communication to the king, without the intervention of a responsible minister, impugning the conduct of the navy in the Walcheren expedition. His lordship, in consequence, thought fit to resign his office of master-general of the ordnance.

16. Hanover annexed to Westphalia.

21. Lord Porchester moved, in the house of commons, a series of resolutions, strongly condemning the management of the Walcheren expedition. The debate continued by adjournment four days, and the house did not divide till the 30th, when there appeared for the resolutions 227, against them 275. Two amendments were then moved by general Crawford. The first, approving the conduct of ministers with regard to the policy of the expedition, was carried by 272 to 232; the second, approving the non-evacuation of Walcheren was also carried by 255 against 232.

Apr. 1. Buonaparte married to the archduchess Maria Louisa: on the 27th the bride and bridegroom set out on a tour through the northern departments.

6. Riots in London on account of the arrest and the sending of sir Francis Burdett to the tower.

11. A proclamation, offering a reward of 500*l.* for the apprehension of any person who had been concerned in firing at the military.

17. A petition agreed to in the city of Westminster, occasioned by the imprisonment of sir F. Burdett, in which the electors reminded the house of commons of their refusal to inquire into the conduct of Mr.

Percival and lord Castlereagh, when charged with the sale of seats in the house, and with the avowal in the house that such practices were as notorious as "the sun at noon-day;"—practices, at the bare mention of which the speaker declared, that our "ancestors would have started with indignation." A petition of similar tenor was agreed to by the Middlesex freeholders, but the house refused to receive either.

May 1. The American congress passed an act providing that if either Britain or France modified its edicts, so that they ceased to violate the neutral commerce of the United States, and if the other should not within three months after do the same, the non-intercourse act should cease with regard to the first nation, but remain in force with regard to the second: in consequence, the French revoked their edicts, and the American ports were opened to them in November.

9. News arrived that the Caraccas had declared themselves independent of Old Spain: it was the beginning of a series of revolutions that extended and long continued through the whole of Spanish America.

17. DEATH OF W. WINDHAM, M.P.—This gentleman was in his 60th year, and of considerable eminence in public life, but more remarkable for the novel and honest ardency of his opinions, than their political or philosophical accuracy. Abandoning some of his old confederates in politics, he joined, along with Mr. Burke and others of the practical school of politicians, Mr. Pitt, in opposing the speculative doctrines of the French revolution. He sided with the Grenvilles in reprobating the ephemeral peace of Amiens; and, on the return of that party to power, he again became secretary-at-war. Mr. Windham's eloquence was interesting from its point, raciness, and idiomatic force.

21. Mr. Brand's motion for an inquiry into the state of the parliamentary representation negatived by 234 to 115.

29. The crown prince of Sweden died suddenly while reviewing some regiments of cavalry. The populace, without reason, suspected he was poisoned, and in their fury murdered count Fersen, the marshal of the kingdom.

31. DUKE OF CUMBERLAND.—An extraordinary attempt was made upon the person of his royal highness, while asleep in bed. He received several blows about the head with a sabre, from an unknown hand, and jumping up to give an alarm he was followed by the assassin, who cut him across the thighs. Sellis, an Italian valet of the duke, and his supposed assailant, was found locked in his own room, with his throat cut, and spots of blood leading to his apartment. Next day a coroner's inquest was

held on the body of Sellis, which, after sitting four hours to hear evidence, deliberated about an hour, and then returned a verdict of *felo-de-ee*.

June 15. Mr. Brougham, in a speech of great length and ability, called the attention of the house to the attempts making to evade the act for the abolition of the African slave-trade.

21. Parliamentary session closed.

At Auxonne, in France, twenty-one English prisoners greatly exerted themselves to extinguish a fire. Buonaparte, on hearing it, ordered them to be paid six months pay, and to be allowed to return home, under promise not to serve until they were exchanged.

July 1. Louis Buonaparte, not liking his dependent sovereignty, abdicated the throne of Holland, and went to live as a private individual in Switzerland.

At a magnificent fête, given by prince Schwartzberg at Paris, the ball-room took fire, and 60 or 70 persons perished, among them the princess of Schwartzberg. Jewellery to the amount of 20 millions were lost in the flames and in the tumult.

9. William Cobbett sentenced to pay a fine of 1000*l.*, be imprisoned two years in Newgate, and afterwards enter into recognizances to keep the peace, for a libel, reprobating the flogging of English soldiers, under a guard of the German legion. T. Hansard, Budd, and Bagshaw, were sentenced to short terms of imprisonment for printing or publishing the alleged libel.

Holland united to France.

10. Ciudad Rodrigo surrendered to the French, with a garrison of 7000 men.

The isles of Bourbon and France, in the Indian ocean, taken by the English.

Aug. 21. Marshal Bernadotte, with the consent of Buonaparte, elected crown prince of Sweden.

27. Almeida, garrisoned by 5000 English and Portuguese, commanded by general Coxe, surrendered to marshal Massena. It was the strongest fortress in Portugal, and would have made a protracted defence had not a bomb fallen on an immense magazine of powder, by which explosion a large portion of the town and garrison were blown up.

Sept. 1. Meeting at the exchange, Dublin, to pass resolutions favourable to a repeal of the legislative union. They were seconded by Mr. O'Connell, and most of the speakers seemed to assent to his opinion that Catholic emancipation was an object secondary to that of a separation of the two kingdoms.

17. A body of Neapolitan troops debarked in Sicily, to recover possession of that island, but were repulsed by the British, under sir John Stuart.

24. Spanish cortes assembled in Cadiz, which was beleaguered by Soult, and almost the only place of consequence in possession of the patriots.

27. Battle of Sierra Busaco; the French, commanded by Massena, gallantly repulsed, with the loss of 2000 men, by the Anglo-Portuguese army, commanded by lord Wellington.

28. Mr. Abraham Goldsmid found dead, with a pistol grasped in his hand, in his grounds at Morden-house. He had speculated largely with sir Francis Baring in the government loan of 14 millions, and omnium falling to a considerable discount, he was unable to bear the loss.

Oct. 9. Lord Wellington retreated to the fortified line of Torres Vedras, 30 miles from Lisbon. Massena coming up, reconnoitred the position, and finding it unsailable, fixed his head-quarters at Santarem; the two armies remaining inactive till the end of the year.

31. The court of common council of London resolved to place in the council chamber a statue of George III., commemorative of the blessings they had enjoyed under his long and prosperous reign.

Nov. 1. Mr. Ryder, the home-secretary, informed the lord mayor of the king's indisposition, and that as his successor could not be submitted for the royal approbation, it was expected his lordship would continue to discharge the duties of his office.

A man committed to Newgate, by the property-tax commissioners, for the non-payment of 3*l.* rated and assessed upon him.

2. Died in her 28th year, after a protracted illness, princess Amelia, youngest daughter of the king.

26. John Gale Jones sentenced to 12 months imprisonment in Cold Bath Fields, and to find heavy securities to keep the peace.

Dec. 3. A fire at the Mexican coffee-house, Leicester square: the proprietor and his wife perished in the flames.

General John Abercrombie, with a body of 9000 troops from the Cape of Good Hope, obtained possession of the French island of Mauritius.

11. Nineteen journeymen printers of the *Times* office, convicted of a conspiracy against their employer, sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in Newgate, from two years to nine months.

18. Lucien Buonaparte and family landed at Plymouth: his baggage and that of his attendants weighed thirty-three tons.

20. KING'S INDISPOSITION.—The king's mental disorder continuing, Mr. Percival submitted three resolutions to the house of commons for supplying the deficiency in the executive power. They were of the

same import as those introduced by Mr. Pitt on a like occurrence in 1788-9; affirming, 1, the incapacity of the king; 2, the right of the two houses to supply the defect; 3, the necessity of determining upon the means of giving the royal assent to a bill for this purpose. The opposition on this occasion waving any declaration of the right of the prince of Wales to the regency, Mr. Ponsonby merely moved an amendment that the prince be addressed to take upon him the executive duties. It was rejected by 269 votes against 157. In the lords the same resolutions and a similar amendment were moved, which last was rejected by 100 against 74.

24. St. Paul's cathedral robbed of the whole of the church service of plate weighing 1760 ounces.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Paris, in great indigence, the celebrated Paul Benfield: he returned from India with a fortune of half a million. Chevalier D'Eon, who had assumed the dress of a female, though found at his death a male (ante p. 506). Mrs. Trimmer, 69, author of many popular works intended for the moral and religious instruction of the juvenile classes. Tiberius Cavallo, 61, F.R.S., eminent cultivator of natural philosophy. Caleb Whiteford, 76, a gentleman of wit described in Dr. Goldsmith's "Retaliation." On board the *Ville de Paris* flag ship, admiral lord Collingwood, 60: worn out with the toils of a seafaring life, this excellent man and officer expired just as he was about returning home for the recovery of his health. At Leigh, in Kent, sir Francis Baring, 74, the successful merchant, and considered one of the "strongest links of Mr. Pitt's monied aristocracy." In Charles-street, Berkeley-square, by shooting himself, Francis Baring, esq., second son of John Baring, esq., of Mount Radford, near Exeter: pecuniary embarrassment the alleged cause of his suicide.

A. D. 1811. COMMENCEMENT OF THE REGENCY.—Although the present year was not marked with the rise or downfall of states, it was signalled by many events of importance. The long reign of George III. had virtually closed; the regal functions were vested during the remainder of the sovereign's life by legislative act in the heir apparent, at first with limited powers, and afterwards in full sovereignty. No change either in the policy of government, or in its responsible ministers, followed this transfer of the executive power. Among the minor occurrences of the first year of the regency was the revival of catholic agitation in Ireland, and of their claims for an equality of civil rights with their protestant fellow-subjects. An unsuccessful attempt was made in England

to abridge the liberty of the dissenters under the specious pretext of excluding from the ministry the profligate and illiterate. But the chief topic of parliamentary discussion was the depreciation of the currency: on this question alone almost the entire month of May was consumed in long and anxious debates. The press groaned under the weight of pamphlets and periodicals, that almost hourly issued on the affirmative and negative side. Notwithstanding all the light shed on this intricate subject within and without the walls of parliament, the house of commons committed the mistake of denying the conclusion of the bullionists of a depreciation in paper money, though attested by palpable facts and obvious principles. Abroad, the restless energies of the French emperor were occupied in perfecting his continental system—in vain efforts to exclude British commerce—in the settlement of the Gallican church, disturbed by the contumacy of his bishops and the pope—and, in a tour to Holland, Amsterdam was declared to be the third city of the empire—Rome being the second, and Paris the first. In the Peninsula the war exhibited an alternation of victory and defeat to the contending parties. The Guerillas were troublesome to the French, who, however, succeeded in making themselves masters of nearly all the cities (Cadix excepted) and strong places in Spain. Portugal was the chief scene of their disasters and humiliation. Conducted by lord Wellington, the British proved themselves not less able to win battles by land than sea. The appointment of this general in the course of the year to be commander-in-chief of the Anglo-Portuguese armies, and the introduction into the latter of better discipline and organization held out the promise of future victories.

Jan. 1. Hamburg annexed to France.

8. The Thames nearly frozen, and the northern roads almost impassable by snow.

Feb. 5. REGENCY ACT.—By this act, which became law on the 5th, the regency was vested in the prince of Wales, under certain restrictions: he was restrained from creating peers, and from granting offices in reversion, or places and pensions, for a longer term than during the royal pleasure; the management of the king's household was vested in the queen, and regulations made respecting the king's private property. The restrictions were to continue till after February 1, 1812. Considering himself merely *locum tenens*, in the interim the prince declined making any change in the administration, or to accept any grant for an establishment in virtue of his new functions.

7. Judgment passed on Mr. Finnerty for a

libel, charging lord Castlereagh with cruelty in Ireland, by which he was condemned to an imprisonment of eighteen months in Lincoln gaol.

It appears since the reduction in the duty on whisky 60,000 gallons of that spirit are weekly retailed in 1200 licensed dram-shops in Dublin.

18. Died at his apartments at Paddington, in a state of mental phrenzy, the duke of Albuquerque, ambassador from Spain. Chagrin at the misfortunes of his country, and some undeserved treatment he had received from the Spanish junta, are supposed to have produced this catastrophe.

Mar. 1. Commercial distress continuing to increase, the chancellor of the exchequer moved for the appointment of a parliamentary committee to inquire into its causes. On the 7th the committee made a report, ascribing chief part of the distress to excess of shipment of British manufactures to south America, the returns for which being principally in West India produce, there was no means in the present state of trade of realising them. An advance to the mercantile interest of six millions of exchequer bills was recommended, to be repaid by quarterly instalments; but the security required being onerous, only a portion of this advance was ever applied for.

3. WELLESLEY POLE'S CIRCULAR.—The affairs of Ireland which, since the Union, had had less promnency in the imperial parliament, again claimed anxious attention. The roman catholics, with the view of prosecuting their claims, determined on forming in Dublin a standing delegation, consisting of ten persons elected from each county, charged with the business of acting for the whole body, in seeking the redress of grievances. This kind of organization alarmed the Irish government, and the chief secretary issued a circular letter to the magistrates, enjoining them to prevent the contemplated meeting of the catholic committee. This circular became the subject of parliamentary discussion on the 3rd, of which the consequence was, the withdrawal of the circular and the issuing of a proclamation having the same object, the enforcement of the convention act. Under this act several gentlemen were apprehended, tried, and acquitted. In October the catholic committee, to the number of 300, assembled, with the earl of Fingal in the chair, and voted a petition to parliament; but upon re-assembling, December 23rd, they were formally dispersed by a magistrate.

5. BATTLE OF BAROSSA.—A British force detached from the garrison of Cadiz, commanded by general Graham, defeated two divisions of marshal Victor's army,

The action was severe, the loss of the enemy amounting to 3000 killed, wounded, and prisoners; that of the English, 1243. Both the English general and his troops were highly applauded for the spirit and ability displayed in this encounter.

RETREAT OF THE FRENCH.—Massena, finding it difficult to subsist his army in a devastated country, and despairing of driving "the English into their native element," began his retreat from Santarem, abandoning part of his baggage and heavy artillery. He retired towards the Mondego, marching in one solid mass, with his rear covered by one or two divisions, which successively occupied the strong posts offered by the nature of the country. He thus preserved his army from any great disaster, though watchfully and vigorously pursued by lord Wellington.

10. Badajoz surrendered to the French with a garrison of more than 7000 men. Lord Wellington, who was preparing to raise the siege, was much chagrined: writing to the regency of Portugal, he said, "The Spanish nation has lost in the course of two months the fortresses of Tortosa, Olivenza, and Badajoz, without any sufficient cause; at the same time marshal Soult with a corps of troops, which was never supposed to exceed 20,000 men, besides the capture of the two last places, has made prisoners and destroyed above 22,000 Spanish troops."

14. Died in his 76th year, the duke of GRAPTON. In the early part of the present reign his grace had possessed a large share of notoriety through the attacks of Wilkes and the invectives of Junius. Subsequently he distinguished himself by his steady opposition to the American war, and the revolutionary war with France. At a late period of life he determined, with a mind perfectly unshackled and influenced solely by regard to truth, to enter on a course of theological studies, which terminated in his becoming a unitarian.

19. The bank gave notice that it would receive in payment all dollars taken at the rate of 5s. 6d. each, instead of 5s. This had become necessary to prevent their withdrawal from circulation, owing to the rise in the price of silver.

20. The empress of France delivered of a son, who was created king of Rome. The discharge of 101 pieces of artillery announced the occurrence to the Parisians, who rent the air with acclamations. The emperors of Russia and Austria, and most of the continental states sent ambassadors extraordinary to congratulate Napoleon. Ground was soon after purchased near the Pont de Jena, to erect a superb palace, to be called the *Palace of the King of Rome*.

25. Buonaparte issued a decree, enjoin-

ing the culture of the beet-root, and the plant woad, to supply the place of the sugar cane, and indigo: the success of the experiment was anticipated with so much confidence, that the prohibition of the sugar and indigo of the Indies, or English commodities, was announced for January 1st, 1813.

26. At the election of chancellor for the university of Cambridge, the duke of Gloucester had 470 votes, the duke of Rutland 356.

27. The Danes repulsed by the British in a bold but ill-conducted attempt to recover the isle of Anholt.

Mr. Walter Cox stood in the pillory, Dublin, for a libel in *The Irish Magazine*, recommending a separation between England and Ireland by a French force. He was cheered on coming down by the populace, and the police pelted.

The stagnation of trade having thrown out of employment great numbers in the manufacturing towns of the west of Scotland, a subscription was opened at Hamilton for the relief of the destitute of that place. They however refused to accept it as alms, but said they would be happy to earn it by their labour. The subscribers accordingly agreed to expend the money in making a foot-path between Hamilton and Bothwell-bridge.

April 27. The statue erected to the memory of Lord Nelson in Guildhall opened to the public: the long inscription was penned by R. B. Sheridan, esq.

May 6. Wellington having blockaded Almeida, Massena attempted to raise it, but was skillfully repulsed at Fuentes d'Honor. The English became masters of Almeida on the 10th, the garrison evacuating the place in the night.

8. It appears that the manufacture of woollen cloth in the west-riding of Yorkshire has decreased in the past year 38,575 pieces. Of 1160 shearmen in the town and neighbourhood of Leeds, 400 are out of employment.

Some of the horses entered to run at Newmarket races were wilfully poisoned.

At Tortola, a planter named Hodge executed for murder, by whipping one of his slaves to death.

9. PROTESTANT DISSENTING PREACHERS.—Lord Sidmouth obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Toleration Act. His aim seemed to be by requiring higher testimonials of fitness, to diminish the number of licensed non-conforming preachers of the illiterate class, who, from their popularity, were formidable rivals to the established clergy. But the dissenters took the alarm, and poured in such a broadside of petitions, as overwhelmed his lordship upon the first discharge. Lord Holland

stoutly opposed the bill from its first introduction. He said it proceeded on the error that the right to teach and preach was derived only from the permission of government; whereas he held it to be the right of every man who thought himself able to instruct others, to do so, provided his doctrines did not disturb the public peace.

13. GOLD AND PAPER.—Nearly the whole of the month was occupied in continuous discussion on the state of the currency. On the 6th Mr. Horner introduced the subject to the house of commons in an elaborate speech; contending that paper money was actually depreciated, and the only remedy for which was the resumption of specie payments by the bank. On the contrary Mr. Rose contended that paper was not depreciated, and that if the restriction on the bank was removed, not a single additional guinea would be in circulation. Mr. Horner having moved a set of resolutions founded on his ideas, they were all rejected by a majority of three to one. On the 13th Mr. Vansittart moved a rival and ponderous string of resolutions (*Ann. Reg.* liii. 44), in which he endeavoured to show that the foreign political and commercial relations of the country were sufficient to account for the fall in the exchanges and the high price of bullion, and that it would be highly impolitic to fix any time for the resumption of cash payments by the bank. These passed by a large majority; thus denying, by parliamentary authority, the conclusion of the bullionists of the depreciation of paper; and which was undoubtedly the fact, as guineas were publicly selling for 27s., and landlords, in both England and Ireland, were requiring their rents to be paid in gold, or in such an amount of paper as was equivalent to gold at its selling price.

16. BATTLE OF ALBUERA.—Soult, advancing to the relief of Badajoz, made a vigorous attack on the Anglo-Portuguese army, commanded by marshal Beresford. After a severe, and at one time a doubtful contest, the French were repulsed with great slaughter. The loss of the allies was upwards of 6000; that of the enemy much greater. Six different nations were at once shedding their blood in this fierce encounter; British, Spanish, Portuguese and French, Germans and Poles.

An unfortunate encounter between the English sloop of war *Little Belt*, captain Bingham, and the United States frigate *President*, commodore Rogers: the former had 32 killed and wounded; the loss of the latter trifling. It originated either in mistake, or a naval point of honour not clearly explained.

20. Mr. Percival opened the ANNUAL

BUDGET. A proposed duty on cotton wool was abandoned, owing to the opposition it met with from the manufacturers; and no other novelty in finance was proposed.

25. J. Drakard, of the *Stamford News*, for a libel on military flogging, sentenced to pay a fine of 200*l.*, be imprisoned 18 months in Lincoln gaol, and find security for good behaviour for three years afterwards.

June 6. Viscount Milton in the house of commons moved a resolution, censuring the restoration of the duke of York, by the prince regent, to the office of commander-in-chief. It was negatived by 296 against 47.

17. A national ecclesiastical council was opened at Paris, under cardinal Fesch, Napoleon's uncle. Its purpose was the supply of the numerous vacancies in the episcopal order, which the pope's determined refusal to institute the bishops of the emperor's nomination had occasioned.

A female, who had lately been in the poor-house at Bala in Wales, by a decree in chancery obtained the moiety of 150,000*l.*, as first cousin and next of kin to Mr. Jones of London, brandy merchant.

19. The regent gave a grand fête at Carlton-house to upwards of 2000 of the nobility and gentry, including the French princes and emigrant noblesse; rivalling in gaiety and splendour *la vieille cour de Versailles*. The public were admitted for several days afterwards to see the costly arrangements; the crowd was immense, and many accidents occurred; several ladies had their dresses torn from their backs, and were to be seen in groups in Carlton-gardens with dishevelled hair, and divested of much of their drapery, waiting a fresh supply of clothes.

28. The house of lords disallowed the claim of William Fitzharding Berkeley to the Berkeley peerage. By this decision the four eldest sons of the late earl were declared illegitimate, and the title devolved upon the fifth son, Thomas Morton Fitzharding, the first born in wedlock.

Tarragona surrendered to the French.

July 2. **EARL STANHOPE'S BILL.**—A discussion in the lords on earl Stanhope's bill, by which the passing of guineas for more, or bank notes for less than the current value was prohibited. It originated in lord King having demanded of his tenants payment in gold in lieu of bank notes. His lordship said he had adopted this precaution, in defence of his property, from that progressive depreciation of the currency, produced by the constantly-increasing issues of an inconvertible paper money, by the bank of England. Lord Lansdowne proposed that the circulation of the bank should not be increased be-

yond a fixed amount. Bill passed a third reading by 47 votes against 16.

4. *King v. De Yonge.*—Lord Ellenborough announced the opinion of the twelve judges in this case to be, that the defendant had not infringed the statute of Edward VI. in buying guineas at a price in bank notes above their reputed value. Judgment arrested.

24. Parliament prorogued. In the regent's speech, delivered by commission, strong approbation is expressed of those measures which enabled the government to prosecute the war with increased activity and vigour.

Much public indignation having been expressed at the frequency and severity of flogging in the army, a clause was inserted in the Mutiny Act of this year, giving to courts-martial a discretion they did not before possess, of substituting imprisonment in place of corporal punishment, when they should think fit.

The excessive heat of this month occasioned the conflagration of several forests in the Tyrol, with the consequent destruction of 64 villages, and the loss of 10,000 head of cattle.

Aug. 2. A brig arrived at Liverpool from Sierra Leone, owned and navigated entirely by negroes.

8. Eight newspapers suppressed at Paris.

26. **CONQUEST OF JAVA.**—Batavia, the capital of the Dutch settlements in the East Indies, with the whole island of Java in which it is situated, was added to our Eastern possessions. The expedition was fitted out at Madras under the direction of lord Minto, and the command entrusted to sir Samuel Auchmuty. It landed on the 4th, within twelve miles of Batavia, and on the 26th the works of Cornelis being gallantly carried, the Dutch commander, Jansens, agreed to the surrender of the whole island, together with the adjacent one of Madura, leaving not a vestige of oriental dominion to Holland.

Sept. 1. A comet of great brilliancy began to be visible in England, and continued to the end of autumn.

26. A well discovered in the keep of Dover castle, which exhibited a fine specimen of ancient masonry: it is five feet in diameter, and upwards of 400 feet deep. According to tradition, it is the identical well which Harold promised to deliver with the castle of Dover into the hands of William the Conqueror.

28. A pugilistic contest at Thisleton-gap, between Thomas Crib and Molineux a black: the former declared the victor. A French paper, copying an account of this exhibition, said, "Certainly the English

nobility stand alone in their taste for this singular and degrading spectacle."

Oct. 10. At the quarter-sessions for Leeds a poor weaver appeared before the magistrates charged with deserting his wife and family. Upon being questioned he tried to justify his conduct on scriptural grounds; quoting the text that "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself;" thence inferring, that a stranger equally with his own children had a claim to the fruits of his industry. The bench in vain tried to persuade him that his own offspring required his first consideration; he obstinately adhered to the verity of his own interpretation in preference to that of the rest of mankind and the dictates of nature.

28. General Hill, by a forced march, surprised a French force at Arroyo del Molino, killing and capturing 2000 men, with all their artillery and baggage.

Nov. 11. The national society, for the education of the poor in the principles of the established church, instituted under the auspices of the regent.

30. RIOTS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—In this and the following month the interior tranquillity of the country was disturbed by a series of tumults in the district of the hosiery manufactory. They were occasioned by the discharge of many workmen, owing to the slackness of trade and the application of a wide frame for the weaving of stockings. Against these machines the attacks of the workmen were directed, their practice being forcibly to enter houses and break the frames. The riotous spirit extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, though the county of Nottingham was the centre of mischief. The rioters assumed the name of *Luddites* and acted under the authority of an imaginary *Captain Ludd*, which name appears not to have signified any individual, but a secret committee of management. In the ensuing year these outrages assumed such a dangerous character, that the legislature deemed it necessary to interfere with a new law for their suppression.

Dec. 7. HORRID MURDERS.—About twelve o'clock on Saturday night Mr. Marr, who kept a lace and pelisse shop in Ratcliffe-highway, sent out his servant to buy some oysters for supper while he was putting up the shutters. On her return she rang the bell, but nobody came to the door; she went to a neighbour, and they got into the house by a back-way, when they found Mr. Marr lying dead, near the window, with his skull broken, and Mrs. Marr also dead at the top of the stairs, shockingly mangled: the shop boy was lying on the counter with his brains dashed

out, and an infant, only four months old, in the cradle with its throat cut. The perpetrators of this bloody business had been alarmed, seemingly, by the ringing of the bell, and suddenly escaped without carrying away any of the property. Mr. and Mrs. Marr had only been married eighteen months, and were highly respected.

13. A splendid specimen of Parisian typography has been dedicated to Buonaparte. It is an edition of Homer, in three volumes great folio, each consisting of 370 pages with the text only; 140 copies only were struck off. That presented to the emperor was on vellum.

19. Three other murders equalling in savageness those of the Marrs were perpetrated this night, between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock, in New Gravel-lane, Ratcliffe-highway. Some wretches got into the residence of Mr. Williamson, who kept the King's Arms public house, and murdered Mr. Williamson, his wife, and his maid servant, and probably they would have committed other murders, had they not been disturbed at the alarm given by a lodger, who escaped from a window. A ruffian, of the name of Williams, was apprehended on suspicion, which he confirmed by hanging himself in prison; and he was buried in the public highway.

FRANCE.—The French emperor was this year chiefly occupied in plans for the entire exclusion of British commerce from the continent, and raising a navy that might be able to contend with England for the dominion of the sea. With this object was his scheme of a marine conscription, which consisted in converting the military to a naval conscription, in the thirty maritime departments of the empire. For the purpose of recruiting the navy, youths from the age of 13 to 16 were to be selected and trained to nautical manoeuvres, and placed at the disposal of the minister of marine.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir Francis Bourgeois, R.A., 56, a painter in history and landscape: he bequeathed the bulk of his property and a fine collection of pictures to Dulwich College. T. R. Nash, F.S.A. 86, antiquary and editor of an edition of *Hudibras*, 3 vols. 4to. Nevil Maskelyne, D.D.F.R.S., 79, astronomer royal during 46 years. Henry Hope, 75, lately a partner in the famous mercantile house at Amsterdam. Mr. Hope in 1794 settled in London, where he lived in a style of tasteful magnificence: by his will he left 1,100,000*l.* to his relations. Robert Raikes, 75, formerly a printer and the philanthropic institutor of Sunday schools. Robert Mylne, 79, architect of Blackfriars-bridge. Richard Cumberland, 80, an eminent writer in verse and prose. Henry Dundas viscount

Melville, 60, lately impeached by the house of commons for mal-practices committed in violation of a bill of his own framing. Dr. Percy, bishop of Dromore, author of "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry." Rev. James Graham, author of the "Sabbath," &c. Sir Peter Parker, 96, admiral of the fleet.

A. D. 1812. FRENCH WAR WITH RUSSIA.—This year was memorable for the commencement of the decline of the autocracy of Napoleon Buonaparte. By the Treaty of Tilsit, Russia had engaged to shut her ports against England, if she refused her offer of mediation; but though Alexander's mediatorial interposition was evaded by the English ministry, he never entered heartily into the continental policy of France. The English trade with Russia was too important to that empire to be readily renounced. Many of the nobility derived a great share of their revenues from the sale of products of which Britain was the principal market, and its connexion with the mercantile interest of England was extremely intimate. On this account English goods had never been committed to the flames in that country, and British colonial produce was admitted into the Russian ports on neutral bottoms. Other sources of difference arose between the two empires. Buonaparte never for a moment rested from his system of territorial aggrandisement. On the mere pretext of convenience the duchy of Oldenburgh was annexed to his northern frontier. Disagreements on these points produced the gigantic contest of 1812, into which the two powers, without any formal declaration of war, sullenly entered with a fixed resolve, on one side to conquer, and on the other never to submit. The results were the burning of Moscow, and the disastrous retreat of the French. In the peninsula also, they sustained great reverses, being defeated at Salamanca and compelled to retire from Madrid, which, however, they soon re-entered. Buonaparte having relaxed his Berlin and Milan decrees in favour of America, the example was followed, June 23rd, by the revocation of the British orders in council. They had produced great distress among the commercial classes; but unfortunately, five days before the revocation of the orders in council, the Americans had, by an act of Congress, declared war against England. The chief domestic occurrences of the year were, an unsuccessful attempt, after the death of Mr. Percival, to form a more liberal and efficient administration; the assembling of a new parliament, and disturbances on account of machinery, and the high price of provisions.

Jan. 3. By a decision of the court of

Teinds, none of the established clergy of Scotland will have a smaller stipend than 150*l.*, and 80*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for communion elements, besides a manse and glebe in the country parishes.

5. French repulsed at Tariffa.

7. Parliament opened by commission.

8. Valencia surrendered to the French, under Suchet, with 18,000 men, after a feeble defence by General Blake.

16. Mr. Percival moved resolutions for the settlement of the royal household under the regency, by which a considerable addition was made to the charge of the civil list. An additional provision was soon after made for the younger branches of the royal family.

18. Benjamin Walsh, M.P., a stock-broker, found guilty of stealing from sir T. Plumer 22 bank notes of 1000*l.* each. The case being reserved for the opinion of the judges, they determined that the stealing was not felonious: he was of course pardoned, but expelled the house of commons for a gross breach of trust.

19. Lord Wellington carried by storm Ciudad Rodrigo, and for which achievement the cortes conferred upon him the ducal title of Ciudad Rodrigo.

FRENCH EMPIRE.—According to the almanac of the French board of longitude, the population of the French empire amounts to 43,937,144. Of this number 28 millions speak the French language, 6,453,000 the Italian, 4,063,000 the Dutch or Flemish, 967,000 the Breton, and 108,000 the Basque. The population of the states connected with the system of France, in which number are included the kingdom of Italy, Switzerland, Spain, and the Confederation of the Rhine, is estimated at 38,141,541.

In the course of the month France, with 20,000 troops, took forcible possession of Swedish Pomerania.

Feb. 1. Restrictions on the prince regent ceased.

At the Leeds sessions several methodist preachers were refused licenses to preach, as required by the Toleration Act, on the ground that they were not attached to a separate congregation.

13. THE MINISTRY.—For some time the public mind had been entirely engrossed in speculating on the ministerial changes likely to ensue on the termination of the restrictions on the regency. In the course of the month all uncertainty on this subject was removed. On the 13th inst. the regent, in a letter to the duke of York, after expressing his satisfaction with the conduct of, and paying high compliments to his present advisers, declared that he "had no predilections to indulge, nor resentments to gratify;" intimating, however, a desire that his government might be

strengthened by the co-operating of those with whom his "early habits had been formed," and authorising the duke to communicate his sentiments to lords Grey and Greaville. As might have been, and probably was anticipated, these noblemen at once declined forming any part of an administration notoriously established on anti-catholic principles. In their joint reply to the duke of York, they said, "we must express without reserve the impossibility of uniting with the present government. Our differences of opinion are too many, and too important, to admit of such union. His royal highness will, we are confident, do us justice to remember, that we have already twice acted on this impression—in 1809, on the overture then made to us, under his majesty's authority; and last year, when his royal highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new government." Prior to this correspondence, marquis Wellesley had communicated his intention of relinquishing his official situation, avowedly, because he found Mr. Percival's preponderance in the cabinet becoming too decided. He now, therefore, resigned the seals of foreign secretary, which were entrusted, on the 25th, to lord Castlereagh.

March 6. Daniel Eaton tried and convicted of blasphemy, in publishing some of the writings of Thomas Paine: it was his sixth prosecution, and upon being brought up for judgment, in May, he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, and to stand in the pillory.

14. Treaty of alliance concluded between France and Austria, stipulating the mutual guarantee of their territories, and of assistance in case of attack. A similar treaty with Prussia was ratified on the 5th at Berlin.

18. Public signature of the new constitution for Spain; 184 members of the cortes signed two copies of this instrument, and upon the 20th took the oath of fidelity, in which they were joined by the members of the regency.

19. DEATH OF JOHN HORNE TOOKE, M.A. —This gentleman had long been known in the political world, and distinguished himself in a newspaper contest with the masked champion Junius. After laying aside his clerical function he attempted to prepare for the bar, for which he was well qualified, but was refused admission to the inns of court. He was a strenuous partisan of Wilkes, though they quarrelled when Wilkes sought to make his patriotism subservient to the payment of his debts, by raising a public subscription for the purpose. Mr. Tooke was an active promoter of the various societies instituted for the attainment of parliamentary reform,

and was one of the accused in the State Trials of 1794, when he conducted himself with spirit and ability. He was twice a candidate for Westminster in opposition to the aristocratical interests of that city. For a short time he was in parliament, but entered too late in life to acquire distinction, and his eligibility was objected to on the ground of being in holy orders. His "Diversions of Purley" acquired him much celebrity as an acute and original philologist. The enjoyment of his hospitalities at Wimbledon used to be impaired by his fondness for personal satire, in which he occasionally indulged at the expense of his guests, under cover of a most imperturbable countenance. He was in his 76th year, and though few men had suffered more from bodily pain, and undergone more enmity and obloquy, he always spoke of life as a source of enjoyment.

26. Caracas swallowed up by an earthquake: at 4 p. m. the city stood in all its splendour, a few minutes later 4500 houses 19 churches, besides public buildings, were crushed to atoms, burying in their ruins 8000 inhabitants.

Apr. 6. Badajoz carried by storm. In the siege of this place the allies, under lord Wellington, lost 4850 men. The French garrison, with its commander Philippon, became prisoners of war.

ATTACKS ON MACHINERY.—The disturbances among the manufacturing classes, which began last year in the hosiery district, had extended into the neighbouring counties. Their chief seat was the cotton district of Lancashire and part of Cheshire, and the clothing district of the west riding of Yorkshire. They had now assumed an alarming aspect; men went about armed and disguised in the night, destroying not only the machinery but the property of individuals. A system of organization and military training was adopted, and secret oaths administered. Near Huddersfield, a principal manufacturer was shot in broad day, in the public highway, by four Luddites; and a mill, defended by soldiers, was attempted to be stormed in the night by an armed multitude: several of the assailants were killed and wounded in the attack. At Manchester, three persons were shot, without any knowledge or even suspicion who were the murderers. There were also riots in the west of England, and in other parts, occasioned by the uncommonly high price of provisions. These outrages were fortunately confined to the country. The metropolis was free from popular tumults, though the frequency of murders, burglaries, and street robberies, induced the legislature to institute inquiries into the state of the police.

30. A drawing-room held by the queen,

after an interval of two years: in the evening a splendid entertainment was given by the regent at Carlton-house.

May 9. Buonaparte left Paris to join the grand army in Poland.

11. ASSASSINATION OF MR. PERCIVAL.—During the examination of evidence at the bar of the house of commons, relative to the orders in council, the Chancellor of the Exchequer entering the lobby about five in the evening, a person named Bellingham fired a pistol at him, the ball of which pierced his heart. He staggered, fell, and in a short time expired. The assassin was found to be a Liverpool broker, who having sustained some commercial losses in Russia, for which he thought the government was bound to procure redress, and his memorials on the subject being disregarded, he had worked up his gloomy mind to the monstrous conviction that he was justified in taking away the life of the prime minister. Bellingham was tried at the Old Bailey, and on the 18th executed: he met death with firmness; was attentive to religious rites, but refused to express any contrition for his crime. The untimely death of Mr. Percival drew forth a strong expression of sympathy, and an ample provision was made by parliament for his widow and family. His loss, however, was more a private than public calamity. He was a respectable lawyer, possessed of more subtlety than wisdom; had been a vehement supporter of the war; was superficial in knowledge, and intolerant in his notions.

15. The government of Buenos Ayres prohibited the importation of slaves; expressing their existing inability to abolish slavery in the state without violating the rights of property, and letting loose on society a set of people debased by their abject situation.

19. General Hill assaulted and took Almaraz.

26. At Felling coal-mine, near Gateshead, 93 persons killed by an explosion of hydrogen gas. On the preceding day, in a coal-mine at Orrel, near Liverpool, ten persons were killed by an explosion.

June 9. LIVERPOOL MINISTRY.—The negotiations which had been going on since the death of Mr. Percival, for the reconstruction of the ministry, were at length terminated. The whigs, by their untractable demeanour, seem to have lost a favourable opportunity for expelling the remnants of the no-popery faction from power, and establishing themselves in authority. After the loss of his colleague, lord Liverpool sought to strengthen the ministry by a union with the marquis Wellesley and Mr. Canning, but these gentlemen were favourable to the catholic claims, and the overture was unsuccessful. Pending the nego-

ciation, the house of commons came to a resolution (May 21st) to address the regent to form a strong and efficient administration; thus implying that, in the opinion of parliament, a ministry should be formed of a liberal character. The task of reconciling the jarring elements was consigned to the marquis Wellesley, but lord Liverpool and the whigs at once refused to succumb to the premiership of this nobleman, who resigned his undertaking in despair, lamenting that "the most dreadful personal animosities," and "questions the most complicated," interposed difficulties that could not be surmounted. Lord Moira was next entrusted with the irksome duty, and coinciding with lords Grey and Grenville in political sentiment, it was thought every obstacle to a final adjustment was removed. These noblemen, however, evinced considerable fastidiousness, if not haughtiness, on the occasion. Not satisfied with the concession to them by the regent of all the leading questions of policy, they claimed to interfere with the royal household, and to demand dismissals there which had never before, under similar circumstances, been required. Upon this point Mr. Canning made a curious disclosure in the house of commons. Lord Moira having put directly to the prince the question, "Is your royal highness prepared, if I should so advise it, to part with all the officers of your household?" the answer was, "I am." "Then," said his lordship, "you shall not part with one of them." (*Ann. Reg.* liv. 90.) This sally determined the prince to retain his old ministers, and in consequence the country, for the ensuing 18 years, continued to be governed by a tory, in lieu of a whig administration. The amusing part of the narrative is, that lord Yarmouth, and his father, the marquis of Hertford—the lord-chamberlain and vice-chamberlain, whom the whigs wished to remove—had intended to resign immediately they had accepted the seals of office. The earl of Liverpool's ministry was constituted as follows:—

Earl of Harrowby, *Lord President of the Council.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Westmoreland, *Privy Seal.*

Earl of Liverpool, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Nicholas Vansittart, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Viscount Melville, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Viscount Sidmouth, *Home Secretary.*

Viscount Castlereagh, *Foreign Secretary.*

Earl Bathurst, *Colonial Secretary.*

Earl of Buckinghamshire, *President of the Board of Control.*

Marquis of Camden, *no office.*

These formed the cabinet. Not of the cabinet were—

Viscount Palmerston, *Secretary at War*.
 Earl Clancarty, *Board of Trade*.
 F. Robinson, *Treasurer of the Navy*.
 Lord C. Somerset and Charles L. Long,
Joint Paymasters-General of the Forces.
 Earl of Chichester and Earl of Sand-
 wich, *Joint Postmasters-General*.
 Richard Wharton and Sir Charles Ar-
 buthnot, *Secretaries to the Treasury*.
 Sir W. Grant, *Master of the Rolls*.
 Sir Thomas Plumer, *Attorney-General*.
 Sir William Garrow, *Solicitor-General*.

Both the parliament and the public acquiesced in the new arrangement, satisfied apparently that the regent had not been to blame, and the earl of Moira, whose chivalry had mainly brought it about, was appointed governor-general of India.

15. Two rioters, found guilty by a special commission, executed at Chester, and eight at Manchester.

16. The total number of incumbents in England and Wales found to be 10,261; of whom 4421 are resident, and 5840 non-resident.

17. At the sale of the library of the duke of Roxburgh, the Decameron of Boccaccio, a single volume in small folio, printed in 1471, was knocked down to the marquis of Blandford for 2260*l*.

18. The congress of the united states of America declared war against England. This determination was carried in the representative chamber by 79 against 49; the votes for war being chiefly from the southern states to Pennsylvania, inclusive; those for peace from the eastern and northern, beginning with New York.

A new constitution established in Sicily, upon the model of that of England, under the auspices of lord William Bentinck, the captain-general of the island. The king voluntarily resigned his authority to his son, as regent. The queen, who headed a party in opposition to this change, and who had wickedly proposed to Buonaparte to make a second Sicilian vespers of the English, was sent into retirement.

22. Mr. Canning moved, and lord Castle-
 reagh seconded, a resolution, that the house of commons would next session take into consideration the state of the laws respecting the catholics; which was carried by a majority of 225 to 106 members. On a similar resolution proposed in the upper house, the previous question was put by lord Eldon, and carried by only 126 to 125 yeers.

23. The orders in council of January 7, 1807, and of April 26, 1809, revoked in respect of America, in consequence of the

revocation of the Berlin and Milan decrees. It caused general rejoicing in the manufacturing districts, and an immediate impulse was thereby given to trade.

EXPEDITION INTO RUSSIA.—Napoleon had now fairly entered on his great enterprise. After passing through Dresden, and visiting in rapid succession Dantzic and Konigsberg, he reached on the 23rd the Niemen, the frontier river of Russia. Upon this line upwards of half a million of soldiers were assembled, some thousands of provision-waggons, innumerable herds of oxen, and 1372 pieces of artillery. A proclamation to the army announced the opening of the campaign. Buonaparte told them, in his usual confident and laconic style, that the "second Polish war would be glorious to the French arms like the first. Russia is driven onwards by fatality; let her destinies be fulfilled, and an end put to the fatal influence which for the last fifty years she has had on the affairs of Europe. Let us cross the Niemen, and carry the war into her territories." On the other side vast preparations had been made. Alexander, and under him Barclay de Tolly, his minister of war, a wary and calculating German, directed the Russian forces, amounting to about 300,000. Upon the bank of the Niemen Napoleon's horse tumbled, and threw him on the sand. "That," said some one, "is a bad omen: a Roman would go back." Buonaparte expected and sought a battle; the Russians retreat. Their plan was to draw the invaders from their resources, to make a stand only in favourable positions, to weary them with endless marches over parched and sandy plains, trusting to the increasing difficulties of advance and the inclemencies of the season to stop their career.

30. Mrs. Siddons took her leave of the stage in an address written by Mr. Horace Twiss, after performing her favourite character of lady Macbeth, at Covent-garden.

EXTRAORDINARY CALCULATOR.—The curiosity of the public was much excited during the last three months by the extraordinary powers of calculation in an American child, under eight years of age, named Zerah Colburn. (*Ann. Reg. liv. 507.*) He was altogether unversed in the common rules of arithmetic, and could not perform upon paper a simple sum in multiplication or division, but by an internal operation of his own mind readily solved very difficult questions in ciphering. He not only determined the exact number of minutes or seconds in any given period of time, but discovered with remarkable despatch the square or cube root of very high numbers. Being asked to raise the number 8 up to the sixteenth power, he named the

last result, 281, 474, 976, 710, 656, and was right in every figure. He was asked the square root of 106,929, and before the number could be written down, he answered 327. In numbers consisting of two figures, he would raise some of them to one-sixth, seventh, and eighth power, but not always with equal facility. He had a method of finding out a prime number, or a number incapable of division by any other, in a way peculiar to himself, and unknown to mathematicians.

July 1. The prisoners of war in England amounted to 54,517; of whom 52,649 were French, the remainder Danish.

18. Peace concluded with Russia; and by another treaty with Spain, the emperor acknowledged the authority of the Spanish cortes.

22. The count and countess d'Entraignes were savagely murdered at their house at Barnes, by an Italian servant, who immediately after committing the atrocious deed blew out his own brains with a pistol. He had only lived three months in the family, and was under orders to leave. The count was a French emigrant, and distantly related to the Bourbon family.

22. VICTORY OF SALAMANCA.—This was one of lord Wellington's most brilliant military triumphs. In their efforts to outflank the allies, the French weakened their left and centre. The vigilant eye of the English general marked the error, and an attack was immediately ordered in force. After an obstinate resistance the enemy were everywhere driven from the field. Two eagles and 11 pieces of cannon were the trophies of victory. On both sides the loss in killed and wounded was considerable; that of the Anglo-Portuguese was 5200; that of the French much greater, exclusive of 7000 prisoners. Marshal Marmont was wounded, and four French generals killed. In the course of the year lord Wellington was appointed commander-in-chief of the Spanish armies, in place of Ballasteros.

Aug. 12. The English entered Madrid where they were joyfully received by the inhabitants.

16. The Americans, under general Hull, having invaded Upper Canada, were surprised at fort Detroit, and forced to surrender prisoners of war, to the amount of 2500, to the British, under general Brock.

17. The illuminations in London, on account of the battle of Salamanca, began and continued three nights.

Battle of Smolensko, between the French and Russians, after which the latter continued their retreat, first setting fire to the town. Marshal Kutusoff, who had returned covered with laurels from the Turkish war, assumed the command of the Russians.

19. Conflict between the English frigate *Guerriere*, captain Dacres, and the American frigate *Constitution*, captain Hull, in which the former, after a gallant struggle, owing to the superior weight of metal of the American, was forced to strike.

25. The French retired from before Cadix, after bombarding it at intervals for two years and six months: the raising of the siege was one of the results of the battle of Salamanca.

27. A combined force, under general La Cruz and colonel Skerrett, expelled the French from Seville.

Sept. 7. BATTLE OF BORODINO.—This was one of the most sanguinary of Napoleon's battles. The hostile armies were estimated at 125,000 men each. That of the Russians was strongly posted on all the heights, in a semicircle of two leagues' extent, from the Mosqua to the old Moscow road, and defended by entrenchments. The attack commenced about sunrise, and continued till near nightfall. Few prisoners were taken, but the field exhibited the horrid spectacle of 40,000 men killed or mortally wounded, among them forty-three French generals; and on each side 55,000 cannon-balls were fired. The victory, if such it was, was dearly bought, and won by the French marshals. After the battle had raged with dreadful slaughter for some hours, there was a general cry for the guards to advance and finish the conflict. Buonaparte hesitated; he ordered the guards to advance, then commanded them to halt: he said, "he could not see clearly the state of his chess-board; that the hour of his battle had not yet come; that it would begin in two hours." But it never began: he kept aloof from the bloody strife, walking backwards and forwards, in evident mental and bodily anguish, for he was labouring under an attack of dysury. This is count Segur's representation, who was in the grand army. Murat declared, "That in this great day he had not recognised the genius of Napoleon." Ney was furious, and asked, "What business the emperor had in the rear?" Eugene said, "he had no conception of what could be the reason of the indecision of his father-in-law." In the evening of the 6th an express reached Napoleon, informing him of the defeat of Marmont at Salamanca.

15. BURNING OF MOSCOW.—After the terrible battle of the 7th, the French were impatient to reach the capital of Old Russia, where they expected to rest from their toils in peace and good winter quarters. About mid-day on the 14th the turrets of Moscow, glittering in the sun, were desecrated. Immediately after news arrived that "Moscow was deserted." The French emperor was incredulous. Murat and his

cavalry were the first to enter within the walls. They found every thing uninjured but inanimate. The only signs of life were a few straggling men and women, mostly drunk, and of disgusting aspect. In fact, the city had been entirely abandoned by order of the governor, count Rostopschin. All that had been left were the criminals and lunatics, who had been set free, and bands of incendiaries. A globe of fire, raised over the palace of prince Trubetskoi, was the signal to commence the conflagration. Immediately a dense smoke began to issue from a thousand places; houses that had been thought uninhabited, the exchange, bazaar, and other public edifices, burst into flames. Everywhere was heard the explosion of shells and combustibles. Russian police-officers were seen stirring up the fires with lauces dipped in pitch, and frantic men and women roaming amid the flames with flambeaux in their hands, spreading the work of destruction. Buonaparte, accompanied by the king of Naples, prince Eugene and Davoust, narrowly made their escape through burning streets, and from the elevated heights above the Kremlin, beheld in astonishment the whole extent of the capital around them a waving sea of fire. Napoleon at first had thoughts of stopping the progress of the flames, and ordered several of the incendiaries to be shot; but the plan was too well laid to be frustrated. Five-sixths of the houses of Moscow were of wood, and only one-tenth of the entire city was unconsumed. The terrible catastrophe saved the empire of Alexander, and destroyed that of its daring invader.

29. **PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.**—A proclamation to this effect was unexpected, as parliament had nineteen months to run before its legal expiration, and no urgent reason seemed to call for its dissolution. The recent pledge given by the house of commons, to take into consideration next year the catholic claims was the chief motive assigned; but the more probable is, that the prince regent considered his assumption of the full exercise of the regal functions as equivalent to the commencement of a new reign. Whatever was the object the opposition gained no accession of strength by the appeal to the nation. In the metropolis, and the towns of Bristol and Liverpool, the candidates in that interest were defeated. The case in the latter showed the predominance of political feeling over commercial considerations; the electors rejecting the candidate who had been mainly instrumental in procuring the repeal of the orders in council, in favour of him who had taken an active share in their promulgation.

Oct. 10. New theatre Drury-lane opened, with an address written by lord Byron, and delivered by Mr. Elliston.

13. War declared against the United States of America.

19. Buonaparte began his retreat from Moscow.

25. The English frigate *Macedonia*, captain Carden, captured by the American frigate *United States*, after a desperate fight of two hours, in which the former had 104 men killed and wounded. Our naval disasters with the Americans were ascribed to the superior size, weight of metal, and number of men in their frigates, which made them equal in force to British ships of the line.

27. A man lighting the lamps on Blackfriar's-bridge was, by a sudden gust of wind, blown into the river and drowned.

Nov. 24. New parliament met, when the house of commons unanimously re-chose Mr. Abbot for speaker.

The Austrian prince of Latour Taxis, in celebrating the marriage of his daughter at Vienna, expended 46,000*l.* The festivities were kept up for three weeks. On certain days the guests took the diversion of hunting, for which purpose fifty of the largest wolves that could be procured were purchased, at an expense of 80*l.* each.

30. Parliament opened by the prince regent, who delivered his first speech from the throne. Amendments to the address were moved in both houses; in the lords by marquis Wellesley, and in the commons by Mr. Canning, but there was no division. A grant of 100,000*l.* to be laid out in land, to the duke of Wellington, the renewal of the gold-coin bill, and of 200,000*l.* for the relief of the sufferers at Moscow, were the chief parliamentary business previous to the Christmas recess.

Dec. 9. John and Leigh Hunt tried by a special jury for a libel on the prince regent, in the *Examiner*: they were defended by Mr. Brougham; but the jury, being strongly charged by chief-justice Ellenborough, they were found guilty. Upon the defendants being brought up in the following term to receive judgment, they were sentenced to two years' imprisonment, one in Coldbath-fields, the other in Surrey county gaol, to pay a fine of 500*l.* each, and find security for their good behaviour for five years.

RETREAT FROM MOSCOW.—The French remained nearly five weeks at Moscow, not leaving it till the 19th of October. This procrastination was the ruin of the army. The Russians were astonished at the apathy with which they waited the approach of their mighty winter, that they expected every moment to set in, and urged them to fly. "In a fortnight,"

they told them, "Your nails will drop off, and your arms will fall from your stiff and half-dead bodies." The novelty of misfortune confounded the French emperor, and he was loth to bend to its stroke. He tried in vain to draw the enemy into a negotiation: his letters and messengers were received, but no answer returned by the inflexible Alexander. Around him the enemy was daily increasing in strength, especially in cavalry, and it was not till Murat had been defeated, and the first snow had fallen, that Napoleon determined on his retreat. The grand army was still formidable. Napoleon had entered Moscow with 90,000 effective men, and 20,000 sick and wounded: he quitted it with 100,000 effective men, 50,000 horses, 550 field-pieces, and 2000 artillery-waggons, exclusive of a motley host of followers, amounting to 40,000. All the plunder of Moscow that could be saved from the fire was carried off, together with the gigantic cross of Ivan the Great, for which the Russians had a superstitious veneration, connecting with it the safety of the empire. Their route lay through 300 miles of country already devastated. The French, not liking the Scythian mode of warfare, wrote to their opponents to carry it on less barbarously; but Kutusoff replied, that "he could not restrain the patriotism of the Russians." From that time both sides burnt the towns they left, to deprive the other of shelter. Disasters soon befel the French. By suddenly taking the new road to Kalouga, Buonaparte hoped to elude his pursuers; but there, to his dismay, on the 23rd of October, he found 120,000 men ranged in an unassailable position. A council of war was held in a weaver's hut, the result of which was, that it was necessary to retrace their steps towards Moscow, and advance by the way of Mojaisk towards Smolensko. This route brought them over the plain of Borodino, where they found the unburied remains of the 40,000 victims of that terrible day. It had all the appearance, says Segur, of an extinguished volcano. A trampled waste, covered with the stumps of trees, heaps of half-devoured bodies, fragments of broken armour, drums, and flags, torn, and dyed in blood. A murmur of horror ran through the ranks, and the hideous scene was hurried over. After passing the Kalouga, the winter began to do its work: alternate frost, sleet, and snow, made the weather insupportable. The night bivouacking became dreadful; every resting-place was a vast cemetery of men and horses. Whole trains of the latter were wont to drop at once in harness: in one night 30,000 horses perished. Overcome by cold, hunger, and fatigue,

the soldiers died by hundreds, or helplessly gave themselves up by thousands to the sword or mercy of the Russians. Travelling mostly in a carriage, close wrapped up, Napoleon escaped many of the hardships of his followers: he hurried forward to Smolensko, in the midst of his guards, where he arrived on the 9th of November, having three days before heard of the wild conspiracy of Mallet, and two other ex-republican generals at Paris, to overturn his government. Immense difficulties still remained to be surmounted, the Russians concentrating at all points to cut off the retreat. On the 21st he learnt that they had taken Minsk and Borisof. He had now, in the face of the enemy, to pass the Berezina, a river of great width, with marshy banks. Astounded by the perils around him, the emperor struck the ground with his staff, exclaiming, "It is written in heaven, that henceforth every step shall be a fault." He acknowledged to Daru their situation was calamitous, and commanded him to destroy all the reports of his ministers, lest they should fall into the hands of the Russians. But by a rare piece of dexterity he succeeded in deceiving Tchitchakof, and passed the Berezina at an unexpected ford, discovered to him by a Polish officer, not, however, without losing nearly the whole of his remaining baggage and artillery. After taking leave of his marshals at Smorgony, December 5th, Napoleon privately withdrew from the army, and narrowly escaped on the same night falling into the hands of a Russian detachment. He reached Warsaw on the 10th, and Paris on the 19th, two days after the publication of his twenty-ninth bulletin. Murat was left in chief command, and continued the retreat to Wilna, from which they were soon forced to retire by the advancing Russians. Fatigue, cold, and hunger continued to the last to make dreadful havoc, and immense numbers perished in the hospitals for want of needful assistance. The Russians never relaxed in the pursuit till they reached the Vistula, and hardly a day elapsed in which they did not make prize of some of the fugitives. Up to the 26th instant, they estimated their captures at 41 generals, 1298 officers, 167,510 privates, and 1131 pieces of cannon. On both sides, including the inhabitants that perished from the burning of the towns, and from the compulsory evacuation of Moscow by its vast population, probably the lives of half a million of adults were sacrificed in this destructive campaign. The grand army was annihilated. Napoleon, says count Segur, entered Orcha with 6000 guards, the remains of 35,000; Eugene, with 1800 soldiers, the remains of 42,000;

Davoust, with 4000, the remains of 70,000. The rest strewed their leader's bloody track from the Niemen to Moscow,—

There shall they rot—Ambition's honour'd fools!

Yes, honour decks the turf that wraps their clay!

Vain sophistry! in these behold the tools,
The broken tools, that tyrants cast away
By myriads, when they dare to pave
their way

With human hearts—to what?—a dream alone!

20. Napoleon, seated on the throne, gave audience to the senate and council of state, from whom he received the usual adulatory addresses. He reminded them that the rallying cry of their fathers was, *The king is dead—long live the king*. He cautioned them against legislating on the basis of metaphysical ideas, which had done so much mischief in France, in place of accommodating laws to the knowledge of the human heart and the lessons of history. (*Ann. Reg.* liv. 184.)

The mendicity society was this year instituted.

PATENTS AND DISCOVERIES.—Mr. Miers of the Strand, for a method of generating heat without fuel.

Mr. Blenkinsop of Leeds, Yorkshire, for a locomotive engine, for conveying coals and other minerals.

Mr. Cooke for a machine to teach blind people music.

Chain cables were introduced into the navy.

Mr. Brande found the quantities of alcohol in different kinds of wine as follow:—Champagne 20, port 20 to 24, Madeira 19, claret 15, cyder and perry 12, ale 9, brown stout 8, porter 6.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Edward Hasted, F.R.S., 80, historian of the county of Kent. Francis Jukes, 66, the first who brought to perfection the art of engraving in aquatinta. Mrs. Burke, 76, wife of the celebrated Edmund Burke. Andrew Burnaby, D.D., 80; he was 43 years vicar of Greenwich, and author of a book of travels. John Clarke, F.R.S., author of a work on naval tactics, which was said to contain the first idea of breaking the line. Edmund Malone, an associate of Johnson and Burke, and one of the editors of Shakespeare. Richard Kirwan, president of the royal Irish academy, and author of many valuable works on chemistry and mineralogy. George Frederick Cooke, 57, a dramatic actor, celebrated for an original and forcible but contrivèd style of acting.

A.D. 1813. **LIBERATION OF GERMANY.**—The contrast between the advances of the French into Russia, and of the Russians

into Germany was great. The former was weakened by every forward movement, the latter received an accession of strength. It was force, not the ties of interest or inclination, that held together the several parts of the French empire, and immediately the compression was removed they sought to regain their former positions. Prussia was the first to join the emperor of Russia. The crown-prince of Sweden next abandoned his system of neutrality, and being placed at the head of the armies of the North issued a proclamation, calling on his troops to restore liberty to Europe. Against these three powers the French emperor opened the campaign. He was at first successful, but the issue being still doubtful he acceded to an armistice. At the expiration of the armistice Austria joined the allies, who, having settled their plan at Prague, advanced in full force and attacked Napoleon in Dresden. They were defeated with great loss, and compelled to retreat into Bohemia. But from this time the tide of fortune changed. General Vandamme was surprised and lost his whole corps; Macdonald shared the same fate, and marshal Blucher and the crown-prince beat the French opposed to them. At Leipzig Buonaparte concentrated his entire strength, and was completely routed. At this juncture Bavaria joined the allies, and Wirtemberg, another member of the Rhenish confederation, followed the example. Buonaparte was surrounded with enemies, and with great difficulty he forced his way to Mentz with the wreck of his army. Arriving at Paris in November, he soon received tidings of a counter-revolution in Holland, that Hanover was lost, Trieste possessed by the Austrians, and that the English, under Wellington, had invaded the south of France. The gigantic French empire was dissolved, and Europe emancipated.

Jan. 10. Fourteen Luddites executed at York.

11. By a *senatus consultum* 350,000 men were placed at the disposal of Buonaparte, to supply the losses of the Russian campaign.

25. A concordat signed between the French emperor and the pope at Fontainebleau. Differences had for some time subsisted between them, which Buonaparte, in the existing posture of affairs, wished to conciliate, and he paid a private visit to his Holiness for the purpose; but the Pope subsequently complained of having been overreached.

Feb. 1. Louis XVIII. issued an address to the French nation, calling upon them to throw off the yoke of the usurper.

18. **MARITIME RIGHTS.**—Immediately after the Christmas recess, the papers regarding the American war were laid before

the house of commons. Among them was a declaration of the prince regent, which was important as comprising the principal maritime claims, which Britain was determined to maintain. The points which it was declared would never be conceded were—That any blockade is illegal, which has been duly notified, and is supported by an adequate force, merely because of its extent and the non-investment, at the same time, by land: that neutral trade with Britain can be made a crime, subjecting ships to be denationalised; the right of Britain to search neutral vessels in time of war, and to impress her own sailors found on board. An address was voted on the 18th, approving the maintenance of these rights, and the war with the United States.

22. A bill introduced for the appointment of a vice-chancellor, which had become necessary, owing to the arrear of business in the court of chancery. It became law, and sir T. Plumer was the first vice-chancellor appointed.

25. On the motion of Mr. Grattan, the resolutions for an inquiry into catholic grievances were carried by 264 to 224; but a bill founded upon them was lost, chiefly from the opposition of Mr. Abbot, the speaker.

Mar. 3. Mr. Vansittart proposed some financial resolutions, the tendency of which was an appropriation of part of the sinking fund to the public exigencies. This being the first encroachment on the notable provision of Mr. Pitt for the reduction of the national debt, and the chief boast of his fiscal administration, they excited considerable interest.

A treaty was laid before parliament, by which it appeared that the crown prince of Sweden had agreed to join the confederacy against France with 30,000 men, on condition that Prussia would guarantee to Sweden Norway in exchange for the loss of Finland. Norway had for ages been united to Denmark, and had no wish to be so transferred; but England became party to the compact, stipulating her naval co-operation, and also the payment of a subsidy of one million. All Britain obtained for her aid was the privilege of exporting her manufactures to Sweden for twenty years, subject only to a duty of one per cent.

15. An interview at Breslau, between the emperor Alexander and the king of Prussia. The king wept. "Courage, my brother," said Alexander, "these are the last tears that Napoleon shall cause you to shed."

16. Prussia declared war against France.

22. CHARTER OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.—A great many petitions had been

presented during the session, praying for a dissolution of the commercial monopoly of the East India Company, on the approaching renewal of their charter. On the 22d the subject was brought before parliament by lord Castlereagh. After the examination of witnesses and a long discussion, an act passed renewing the privileges of the company for twenty years, but throwing open the trade to the East, that to China only remaining exclusively in the company. The territorial and commercial branches of the company's affairs were separated. The king was empowered to appoint a bishop in India, and three archdeacons to be paid by the company.

27. Mr. Pitt's monument in Guildhall opened: the inscription is by George Canning, M. P.

The conduct of the princess of Wales became this month a subject of investigation. It was found blameless, and the city of London presented to her royal highness a congratulatory address.

Apr. 13. Sir John Murray, with an Anglo-Spanish force, defeated marshal Suchet, with the loss of 3000 killed and wounded.

15. Buonaparte left Paris to open the campaign of Saxony. He tried before his departure to re-animate the spirit of the nation, by publishing a flattering exposé of the state of the empire, and appointed the empress regent. A great many German fortresses had surrendered to the allies, and Hamburg and Lubec had thrown open their gates.

28. The remains of Charles I. discovered in the vault of Henry VIII. at Windsor, enclosed in a plain leaden coffin, bearing an inscription, "King Charles, 1648."

Prince Kutusoff died: he was succeeded in the command of the Russian army by Wittgenstein.

May 2. Battle of Lutzen between the allies and Buonaparte. The loss supposed to be equal, about 10,000 killed and wounded on each side. Neither could claim a victory, but the allies retreated. On the eve of the battle marshal Bessieres was killed by a spent cannon ball.

5. A bill introduced by Mr. W. Smith, for the relief of those who deny the Trinity: it became a law, and it was a proof of growing liberality that the measure met no marked opposition in the lords, nor from the ministers or bishops; the archbishop of Canterbury merely observing that "the bill had not been called for by any attempt to impede the worship of the unitarians, or to enforce the existing laws against them."

Battle of Bautzen in Silesia. It lasted two days; the French losing 12,000 in

killed and wounded. No great advantage was gained by either side. The students of the German universities, in the allied armies, and the young conscripts of Paris, rivalled each other in valour. After the battle a cannon-ball killed general Kirchener, and mortally wounded marshal Duroc, who was standing near the French emperor. In Duroc and Bessieres Buonaparte lost two of his most faithful officers and attached friends.

31. Mr. and Mrs. Bonar, residing at Chislehurst, near London, savagely murdered with a poker by their Irish footman, who assigned no reason for the deed, further than that the idea struck him in the night, that he must kill his master and mistress.

June 1. Captain Broke, of the Shannon frigate, having perfected his men in discipline, offered battle to the United States frigate Chesapeake, a fine ship of 49 guns, fully manned. The American, nothing loth, bore down on his foe off Boston lighthouse. The ships were soon in close contact, when, captain Broke discerning an opportunity, gave orders for boarding, himself setting the example. The conflict was bloody but short: in fifteen minutes the Chesapeake was mastered and carried off in triumph by the victor.

Breslau entered by the French.

4. An armistice agreed to between Buonaparte and the allies, through the intervention of Austria. During the suspension of hostilities, Napoleon, either to amuse himself or others, or to throw an air of gaiety over the difficulties of his position, sent for the French actors to Dresden, which he made his head-quarters. He had now changed his tastes, seeming to prefer comedy to tragedy, which is easily understood.

21. Battle of Vittoria; the combined force, under lord Wellington, defeating the French, commanded by King Joseph, assisted by marshal Jourdan, with the loss of 151 pieces of cannon and 415 waggons of ammunition. The loss of the allies was 700 killed and 4000 wounded; that of the French must have been equal, exclusive of prisoners. The victory was important in its results; the French, being sharply pursued, retreated across the Bidassoa into France.

July 20. A grand festival in Vauxhall-gardens, to commemorate the victories of lord Wellington; the duke of York presided.

22. Parliament prorogued.

24. The French, under marshal Soult, recrossed the Bidassoa and attacked with vigour the right wing of the allies at Roncesvalles, a place famous in history for the defeat of Charlemagne and all his peers. Although Soult succeeded in forc-

ing this position, he failed in the attempt to relieve Pampeluna, and the French again retreated beyond the Pyrenees.

Aug. 10. The armistice in Saxony abruptly terminated, when Austria joined the allies.

26. Lord Whitworth, the new viceroy of Ireland, arrived in Dublin.

27. BATTLE OF DRESDEN.—Buonaparte had made Dresden the centre of his operations, where he had assembled a force of 220,000 men, that of the allies amounting to upwards of 300,000. Emboldened by superiority of numbers, the allies, on the 26th, determined to carry Dresden by escalade, but after a furious onset were forced to retire. Next day Napoleon became the assailant, marching out of the town and attacking the enemy in their positions. The rain fell in torrents, and after an obstinate conflict the allies retreated into Bohemia. It was on the 27th general Moreau had both his legs shattered by a cannon-ball, which passed through his horse, while talking to the emperor of Russia. He had only a short time before arrived from America, on the invitation of the crown-prince of Sweden, to afford to the allies the benefit of his councils. Moreau survived his disaster only a few days, dying from exhaustion.

31. St. Sebastian taken by storm after an obstinate resistance; the allies under Wellington losing 2300 in killed and wounded.

Sept. 6. The crown-prince of Sweden defeated marshal Ney, with the loss of 12,000 men killed, wounded, and prisoners.

Near four years ago the house of Mr. Smith, a jeweller in London, was robbed of emeralds, rubies, &c., to the amount of 1600*l.*; they were found in this month in a ditch in the Kent-road.

A caravan of 2000 persons from Maschah to Aleppo, in crossing the desert, overwhelmed by the sand, and not more than twenty escaped.

Oct. 1. The commissioners of Public Records discovered the Charta de Foresta of 14 Henry II.

At Pompeii, the portico of the theatre discovered, and many coins of Domitian in high preservation.

5. The allies pressing upon Dresden from all sides, Buonaparte was compelled to quit it, retiring towards Leipsic. Previous to this a French column of 10,000 men, under Vandamme, had been surprised in Bohemia, and the indefatigable Blucher had succeeded in driving back Macdonald and Victor from Silesia.

8. Bavaria joined the allies, by which 50,000 troops were detached from France.

18. BATTLE OF LEIPSIK.—The operations of the war had brought the vast

armies of both sides into the vicinity of Leipsic. The French were estimated at about 180,000 men; the allies at 230,000. On the night of the 15th rockets were seen ascending, announcing the approach of Blucher and the crown-prince of Sweden. At day-break, on the 16th, the French were assailed along their southern front with the greatest fury. Failing to make any impression, Napoleon, in his turn, assumed the offensive. The centre of the allies was broken, and Murat, pouring in with his cavalry, completed the disorder. At this moment Alexander ordered forward the Cossacks of his guard, who, with their long lances, bore back the mass of cavalry, that had so nearly carried the day. Meanwhile, Blucher, with a superior force, had overpowered Marmont, taking from him his artillery and 2000 prisoners. The battle of the 16th did not cease till night-fall, when the French found it necessary to contract their position, drawing nearer the walls of Leipsic. During the night Buonaparte sent general Mehrfeldt, who had been made prisoner, with proposals for an armistice. No answer was returned. The 17th was spent in mutual preparations, without actual hostilities. Next morning the conflict was renewed by the allies, with increased impetuosity. The Austrians, under prince Schwartzberg, formed the left of their line; in the centre were the Russians under Barclay and Wittgenstein; the Swedes and Prussians forming the right. From an eminence called Thornberg, behind the centre of his army, Napoleon commanded a view of the field of battle. Till two o'clock the fighting continued, and the inhabitants of Leipsic, from the walls and steeples, could not discern which side had the advantage. At that moment the allies, by a sudden dash, forced their way headlong into Probstheyda, the central position of the French. The camp-followers now began to fly, when Buonaparte, leading on a reserve of the Old Guard in person, the village was recovered. On the left, however, there had been great disasters: Ney, overpowered by Blucher and the crown-prince, had tried to form afresh at an eminence called Heiterblich; when, just at the time, seventeen battalions of Germans, chiefly Saxons, deserted to the enemy. This loss could not be repaired; and at the close of the battle the French retreated under the walls of Leipsic. Their losses, on the 18th, amounted to 40,000 killed, wounded, and prisoners, with 65 pieces of cannon. Leipsic was no longer tenable, and the French, in the night, began to retreat towards Weissenfels. The king of Saxony offered to treat for the capitulation of Leipsic, but the allies refused to wait, entered the city sword in hand,

and before noon the emperor Alexander, the king of Prussia, and Bernadotte, met in the great square, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants. Arriving at the Elster, the French lost the whole of their rear-guard, owing to the bridge having been mistakenly blown up, before it had passed; and the brave Polish prince Poniatowski perished in the river in trying to escape. With the remains of his army Buonaparte continued his retreat towards the Rhine. At Hanau general Wrede, with the Bavarians, tried to intercept his progress; after some hard fighting the French forced a passage. November 2nd, Napoleon reached Mentz, with not more than 70,000 men; the remains of nearly 300,000, which he had a few months before led to the Elbe and the Oder.

Nov. 1. The French, in their retreat from Moscow, left behind them 1195 pieces of cannon, which the emperor ordered to be employed in two colossal pillars at Moscow and Petersburg, to commemorate the defeat of the invaders.

4. Parliament opened by the prince regent. The speech referred to the treaties concluded with the allies, and exultingly dwelt upon recent events; but it was yet moderate in its tone; declaring "that no disposition to require from France sacrifices of any description inconsistent with her honour or just pretensions as a nation would ever be on his part, or on that of his majesty's allies, an obstacle to peace." Addresses passed without opposition.

9. Buonaparte arrived at Paris.

12. The French garrison at Dresden, to the number of 40,000, surrendered to the Austrians. Stettin, with a garrison of 7000, followed the example. Before the end of the year nearly the whole of Germany was liberated.

15. At Amsterdam the people rose in a body, deposed the French authorities, and proclaimed the sovereignty of the house of Orange. On the 23rd a body of Cossacks entered the city.

20. The Helvetic confederacy, of which Buonaparte was mediator, proclaimed a neutrality. But the Austrians informed the Swiss this could not be respected; it was necessary to prove themselves independent of foreign influence before they could be deemed neutral.

28. The prince of Orange embarked for Holland: 10,000 Dutch prisoners were liberated, and sent over to aid the efforts of their countrymen.

Dec. 1. The allied sovereigns issued from Frankfort a declaration explanatory of their views, evincing in their successes a very laudable moderation. "Victory," they said, "had conducted them to the banks of the Rhine, and the first use which

they made of it was to offer peace. They desired that France might be great and powerful; because, in a state of greatness and strength, she constituted one of the foundations of the social edifice of Europe. They offered to confirm to the French empire an extent of territory which France, under her kings, never knew. Desiring peace themselves, they wished such an equilibrium of power to be established, that Europe might be preserved from the calamities which for the last twenty years had overwhelmed her."

2. General Blucher crossed the Rhine.

11. By way of embroiling matters in Spain, Buonaparte liberated Ferdinand VII., recognising his title to the Spanish throne.

20. Parliament adjourned to March 1st. Before the adjournment a bill was passed, allowing three-fourths of the militia to volunteer into the line, on payment of a bounty; and a supplementary loan of 22 millions was granted. In the present conjunction of affairs, it was thought, both in and out of parliament, that no sacrifice could be too great to bring the contest on the continent to a speedy and desirable issue.

27. Viscount Castlereagh left England, to join the allied sovereigns, with full instructions to watch over British interests.

28. The legislative body counselled Buonaparte to issue a counter-manifesto to the Frankfort declaration, distinctly stating the sacrifices he was disposed to make for the repose of Europe. To this he returned a haughty answer, accusing them of seeking to draw a line between the interests of the sovereign and the people. He reproached them with aiming at changes in the constitution while the enemy was crossing the frontier. "You visionaries," he exclaimed, "are for guarantees against power. I am the only representative of the people; I am the state. If France desires another species of constitution, let her seek another monarch." To the counsel of state he complained in angry terms of the legislative body. "They stun me," said he, "with their clamorous demands for peace. Instead of assisting me with all their efforts, they seek to obstruct mine." On the 31st he suddenly dissolved that assembly.

30. The American general Hull defeated by general Rial on the Niagara frontier. Buffalo and the village of Black-rock were afterwards committed to the flames. Sir G. Prevost, in a proclamation, represented these severities as retaliations for the destruction practised by the Americans in their invasion of Upper Canada.

31. A remarkably dense fog, which extended for fifty miles round London, and

continued for eight days: it was followed by a heavy fall of snow, and a frost that lasted six weeks.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Henry Redhead Yorke, a political writer of some celebrity. Weiland, 80, author of "Oberon," and a celebrated German writer. William Huntington, S.S., 69, a popular preacher among the evangelical dissenters, who built a chapel for him in Gray's-inn-lane. Granville Sharpe, 79, eminent for his philanthropy and love of liberty. Henry James Pye, 69, the post laureate: the laureateship was offered to Walter Scott, who declined it in favour of his friend Robert Southey. At Paris, the Abbé Delille, French poet. Alexander Wilson, the American ornithologist. Edward Long, 76, author of a history of Jamaica. Augusta duchess of Brunswick, 76, mother of the princess of Wales.

A.D. 1814. RESTORATION OF THE BOURBONS.—This year exhibited, in an extraordinary degree, the vicissitudes of warfare. Only eighteen months had elapsed since the French armies were conquerors at Moscow, and their being defeated under the walls of Paris, and compelled to purchase, by capitulation, a humiliating retreat behind the Loire. Most of the ancient princes, who had been driven from their thrones or their territories during the last quarter of a century, recovered possession of them by an unexpected change of fortune. Among the restored sovereigns were Louis XVIII. of France, Ferdinand VII. of Spain, the king of Sardinia, the prince of Orange, the elector of Hanover, and the Roman pontiff, Pius VII. Napoleon Buonaparte, who had heretofore astonished the world by his extraordinary successes, now became an object of not less interest by his rapid and overwhelming miscarriages. Urged by a vain ambition, he had sought to scale the pinnacle of universal empire, and like Phaeton, was suddenly struck headlong from his dazzling course. From being the dictator of continental Europe he became a pensioner of the Bourbon government, an exile on the rock of Elba, with the unmeaning title of emperor, a palace, guards, court-etiquette, and other regal pageantry, he was permitted to exercise a miniature sovereignty, in apparent mockery of his former grandeur. England was intoxicated with joy at the fall of her inveterate foe, which was heightened by a visit from the allied monarchs, and the return of the heroes of the Peninsular war. Amidst the general exultation, there was only one drawback—one dark spot—the aged monarch of the realm still kept his lonely watch-tower, unconscious of the unlooked-for triumph of the cause for which

he had pertinaciously struggled up to the last gleam of expiring intellect.

Jan. 2. The allied armies crossed the Rhine at different points, between Coblenz and Basle. The French marshals Marmont, Mortier, Ney, and Victor, retired before the invaders, whose vast force, amounting to 300,000 men, enabled them to march with confidence into the interior, blockading the fortresses in their rear. By the middle of the month Blücher had taken possession of Nancy, and the Austrians were at Langres.

After a brave and protracted defence, general Rapp surrendered Dantzic to the allies, with its garrison of 11,800 men and 13 generals.

5. Joachim Murat, king of Naples, the brother-in-law of Buonaparte, signed a treaty with England, by which he engaged to co-operate with the allies against France.

12. Sir T. Graham and the Russians, under Bulow, defeated the French near Breda, compelling them to retreat towards Antwerp.

14. Denmark joined the allies, and agreed to cede Norway to Sweden, in exchange for Swedish Pomerania and the isle of Rugen.

17. The river Thames frozen over and booths erected upon it. The snow laid so deep as to impede the mails and other conveyances, causing a great stagnation of business. The thermometer, exposed to a north-eastern aspect, stood 19 degrees below the freezing point.

24. The thaw commenced.

25. The French emperor left Paris to join his armies. He advanced to St. Dizier, on the Marne, and immediately directed attacks upon the corps of the allies collected around him.

Feb. 1. Battle of Brienne, between Napoleon and general Blücher: the force on each side was about 80,000, and both claimed the advantage: the result, however, was the retreat of the French. Troyes was entered by the allies, on the 7th, and Chalons-sur-Marne, evacuated by marshal Macdonald. The progress of the allies threatened speedy ruin to the French emperor, who, finding himself unable to meet their superior numbers in every quarter, determined to concentrate his force at particular points, and, striking home blows in succession, cut off their communications, and destroy them in detail. With this view, he first precipitated himself upon Blücher, whom he forced to retire to Chalons, interrupting his communication with the Austrians. In the interim, however, Soissons was taken by assault by Winzingerode, and the Austrians, under Schwarzenberg, were advancing upon Paris in the direction of the Seine: Sens

was taken on the 11th, and Fontainebleau, on the 16th. To this quarter Buonaparte now turned his attention, and, forcing the Austrian position on the Seine, he re-entered Troyes on the 23rd in triumph.

4. Negotiations for peace opened at Chatillon between the French and the allied powers.

7. Mary Anne Clarke sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, for a libel on the Irish chancellor of the exchequer.

10. The crown-prince of Sweden, with his army, reached Cologne.

12. The custom-house of London burned down, with most of the adjoining warehouses. Three lives were lost, with many books, bonds, and documents, of importance.

22. A fraud practised at the stock-exchange by Ransom de Berenger and others, in which lord Cochrane was implicated—a pretended express from Dover, announcing the death of Buonaparte and the accession of Louis XVIII. The stocks rose ten per cent, by which the contrivers of the cheat sought to profit by selling out.

25. Lord Wellington defeated Soult at Orthez, and, on the following day, crossed the Adour.

Mar. 1. Treaty of alliance and subsidy concluded between Britain, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, at Chaumont.

4. The allies re-entered Troyes.

7. Battle of Craone, between the French and Blücher. It began at day-break: marshals Ney and Victor fought at the head of the infantry; the latter was wounded, together with generals Grouchy and Nansouty. The French were left masters of the field, which was covered with dead.

9. Battle of Laon, in which Napoleon was defeated, with the loss of 5000 prisoners, by the united corps of Winzingerode, Bulow, and Blücher. Buonaparte was not present in any other engagement during the war.

10. A man at Monmouth confessed himself guilty of a murder, for which he had been tried and found innocent 27 years before.

Sir Thomas Graham attempted to take Bergen-op-Zoom, but was repulsed with a great slaughter of the British.

12. Marshal Beresford entered the city of Bordeaux. It was the result of a counter-revolutionary movement of the citizens, headed by the mayor Lynch, who hoisted the white cockade, declaring for the Bourbons. The duke D'Angoulême, nephew to Louis XVI., entered the city with the British troops, and was received with acclamations.

18. NEGOTIATIONS AT CHATILLON.—These negotiations had been in progress

from the time the allies had entered France. Buonaparte, through his minister, Caulincourt, at first proposed an armistice; but this was rejected, as an expedient to gain time; and the immediate signature of preliminaries of peace was demanded. The course of the Rhine, leaving Belgium to Austria: the chain of the Alps, leaving Savoy to France; and the Pyrenees, were designated as the permanent boundaries of the French empire: Italy was to be the subject of future arrangement with Austria. On the 25th of February, two days after Napoleon's triumphant entry into Troyes, he received the overtures of the allies: either elated by his temporary success, or loth, as others state, to leave France less than he found her, he rejected peace on these terms; engaging, however, to send a *contre-projet* on the 10th of March. It was not received till the 15th, when it was found to demand frontiers for France which the allies alleged to be incompatible with their security and the equilibrium of power they purposed to establish. It also demanded Italy for prince Eugene; and that other members of the Buonaparte family should be "placed on foreign thrones." (*Besh. Hist. Geo. III. & IV., 107.*) This scheme of the French emperor was peremptorily rejected; and the negotiations at Chatillon declared on the 18th to be at an end.

21. British parliament met.

The French defeated at Arcis-sur-Aube. The next point to which the French and allied armies were now directed was Vitry, where Napoleon was to be joined by the corps of Ney and Macdonald. But the French emperor suddenly changed his plan, taking the road to St. Dizier. He pushed between the Prussian and Austrian armies, and thought by menacing the rear of the latter to alarm them for their communication with the Rhine. The design was penetrated by an intercepted letter, and failed. While Napoleon was pursuing his "wild-geese chase" in the rear, the allied generals determined to unite their forces, amounting to 200,000 men, and, dividing them into three columns, march direct to Paris.

27. The head-quarters of the grand army of the allies fixed at Coulomier.

28. Blucher crossed the Marne at Meaux.

31. ALLIES ENTER PARIS.—On the 29th the corps of Marmont and Mortier retreated to the capital, and the empress-regent, with the king of Rome, having retired to Blois, Joseph Buonaparte issued a proclamation urging the Parisians to a brave defence. Early the next morning the French army, with 10,000 volunteers from the national guard, and the pupils of the Polytechnic school (amounting altogether

to about 30,000 bayonets), took up a position upon the heights of Montmartre, and awaited the attack of their opponents. It was not long delayed, and a furious conflict ensued: the arrival of Blucher, however, with the Prussians, decided the fate of the day. Further resistance being hopeless against the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, Marmont and Mortier, with the concurrence of Joseph Buonaparte, offered to capitulate. About midnight the terms of the capitulation were agreed to, by which it was settled the French troops of the line should evacuate the capital on the 31st, carrying with them all their military appurtenances. On the same day the emperor of Russia and king of Prussia entered Paris, amidst loud acclamations. At the suggestion of Talleyrand and the abbé de Pradt a declaration was immediately issued by the emperor Alexander, in the name of the allies, explicitly affirming that they would no more treat with Napoleon Buonaparte or any of his family; that they respected the integrity of France as it existed under its legitimate kings; and that they would recognise and guarantee the constitution which France should adopt. The French emperor, who had advanced near the bridge of Charenton, and near enough the enemy to discern the light of their bivouacs spread over the plain of Villeneuve St. George, finding all was lost, retired to Fontainebleau.

Apr. 1. The French senate assembled, under the presidency of prince Talleyrand, and passed a decree for a provisional government, consisting of five persons, the president himself being at the head. By a second decree it affirmed that in a constitutional monarchy the monarch exists only in virtue of the constitution. It next proceeded to prove how Buonaparte had violated the constitution: that he had "forfeited the throne, and that the hereditary right established in his family was forfeited."

4. Buonaparte signed his abdication of the French throne in favour of his son; this not being deemed sufficient, in a few days he signed a second abdication, renouncing the throne intirely for himself and "heirs." The unsuccessful movement of Napoleon in the rear of the allied armies, and his wilful demeanour, deprived him of the cordial support of the French marshals, who were anxious to detach themselves from his fortunes. Marmont appears to have been the first to desert him, his corps being led to Versailles by general Sarrazin, Buonaparte's person was in the power of the allies.

5. Prince of Orange installed sovereign of the Netherlands, at Amsterdam.

10. BATTLE OF TOULOUSE, lord Wellington defeated marshal Soult. The ac-

tion was a severe one, and several thousand lives lost on both sides, owing to the non-arrival of news of the events in Paris, which Wellington did not receive till the 12th. Soulé evacuated Toulouse on the night of the 10th, and next day the white flag was hoisted.

11. Treaty signed between the allies and Buonaparte, by which the island of Elba is ceded to him in full sovereignty, with the imperial title for life; a pension was also granted to him of 2,000,000 of francs, and 2,500,000 more to his relatives, payable out of the revenues of France. Had Napoleon demanded Corsica, instead of Elba, named, by his own acknowledgment, "in the humour of the moment," (*Las Cases's Journal*, iii. pt. iii. 348), it would have been conceded to him without hesitation.

14. In a desperate sally of the French from Bayonne, general sir John Hope was wounded and taken prisoner, and general Andrew Hay killed. This was the last action of the Peninsular war.

17. Genoa surrendered to the British, commanded by lord W. Bentinck, under flattering promises of liberty and independence.

20. Louis XVIII. entered London in great state from his rural retreat at Hartwell, attended by the life-guards, many of the king's carriages, and accompanied by the prince-regent, upon whom he conferred the order of St. Esprit, on his arrival at Grillon's hotel. Here he kept his court, and was congratulated by the lord mayor and citizens of London, and by most of the nobility.

21. Buonaparte left Fontainebleau for Elba. Upon his way he met marshal Augereau, whom he accused of infidelity in the command of the army intrusted to him. The marshal, in return, reproached Napoleon with betraying the army and France; and that he had not "courage to die the death of a soldier." (*Belsh. Hist.* xiv. 116.)

24. Louis XVIII. embarked for Calais, convoyed by the duke of Clarence; the prince-regent, and many of the nobility taking leave of him at Dover.

28. Buonaparte embarked at Frejus for Elba.

May 1. The marquis of Wellington created a duke, for his great services in the Peninsula. An annuity of 13,000*l.* settled upon him by parliament, and a grant of 300,000*l.* to purchase a suitable estate and mansion.

2. The states-general of the united provinces, assembled at the Hague, took the oaths to their new constitution, formed on the representative model of England.

3. Louis XVIII. entered Paris: he was favourably received by the inhabitants, but the soldiery were silent.

4. Ferdinand VII. dissolved the Spanish cortes, and caused several of its most distinguished members to be arrested. He entered Madrid on the 14th, and was received with every demonstration of attachment by the inhabitants, despite of his constitutional antipathies. Measures were forthwith adopted for re-establishing the Inquisition, and restoring every other institution, civil and ecclesiastical, to its former state.

5. Pius VII., in a proclamation from Cezena, assumed the ancient title of "God's vicar on earth," and spoke of his temporal sovereignty as essentially connected with his spiritual supremacy.

17. The Peninsular generals Beresford, Hill, Cotton, Graham, and Hope, elevated to the peerage; the two former by their family names; the three latter as lords Combermere, Lyndock, and Nidry.

26. Hamburg recovered its municipal government and independence, under the patronage of the allied sovereigns.

30. THEATY OF PARIS.—The terms of this celebrated compact were liberal towards France, assuring to her the boundaries existing January 1st, 1792, with some additions of territory on the side of Belgium, Germany, and Savoy. The navigation of the Rhine was declared free, and the German states to be independent, united by a federal league. Switzerland to continue independent, under its own government. Italy, out of the Austrian limits, to be composed of sovereign states. England restored all her conquests to France, with the exception of Tobago, St. Lucie, and Mauritius. Malta was confirmed to her; and France engaged to erect no fortifications in India, and to co-operate with Britain in procuring the abolition of the slave-trade. Farther dispositions were referred to a congress, to be assembled at Vienna, and to which each power engaged to send a plenipotentiary.

June 3. The empress Josephine buried at Ruel: she was born in 1763, and married to Napoleon Buonaparte in 1797. The emperor Alexander had visited her several times at Malmaison; and Buonaparte, at St. Helena, always spoke of Josephine as uniting sweetness of disposition with singular grace and accomplishments.

Irish catholic board suppressed by proclamation.

4. A constitutional charter delivered by Louis XVIII. to the legislative body, differing in some points from that framed by the senate.

8. VISIT OF THE ALLIED SOVEREIGNS.—The emperor of Russia, with his sister, the duchess of Oldenburgh, and the king of Prussia, and his two sons, attended by various persons of distinction, arrived in London; prince Metternich, generals

Blucher, Barclay de Tolly, Platoff, the hetman of the Cossacks, &c. The metropolis was illuminated, and became a scene of great gaiety during the three weeks' stay of the royal visitors. Splendid and costly entertainments were given to the illustrious strangers by the corporation of London, and by the merchants and bankers, at Merchant Tailors' hall. Westminster-abbey, the bank, the dock-yards and arsenal at Woolwich, were visited, amidst a vast concourse of people. The emperor Alexander acquired great popularity by his affability, as well as by the magnanimity of his recent conduct. The Prussian monarch appeared rather dejected: it was ascribed to the recent loss of the queen, who never recovered the mortifying disasters of the war of 1806, when, according to her own emphatic expression, "La mémoire du grand Frédéric nous a fait égarer."

20. Grand review in Hyde-park.

21. Lord Cochrane, De Berenger, and others, who were tried on the 8th, for a conspiracy, by false reports, to raise the price of the public funds, received their sentences. His lordship was sentenced to pay a fine of 500*l.*, to stand in the pillory, and be imprisoned for twelve months. The severity of this sentence, and the deportment of the chief-justice Ellenborough during the trial, turned the tide of public feeling entirely in the accused nobleman's favour; particularly when persecution was traced to the active part lord Cochrane had recently taken in the political world, in opposition to the ministers. The infamous part of the punishment, the pillory, was remitted; but his lordship's name was erased from the roll of the Knights of the Bath, and he was expelled from his seat in the house of commons. The electors of Westminster, however, unanimously re-elected him, expressing, at the same time, a strong opinion in favour of his innocence.

25. Naval review at Portsmouth.

27. The allied sovereigns embarked at Dover for the continent.

July 4. PRINCESS OF WALES.—The income of the princess of Wales was raised to 50,000*l.*, but at her own request, in a letter to the speaker of the house of commons, it was limited to 35,000*l.* During the stay of the royal visitors the disputes of the princess and the regent had become very prominent, especially after the public declaration of the prince, that he "would not meet her royal highness upon any occasion, either public or private." The princess Charlotte, her daughter, it was expected, would have been affianced to the prince of Orange; but to this union she had a decided aversion, and actually ran away from Warwick-house, in a hackney-

coach, to avoid it. The prince-regent was incensed at her refractoriness, and never forgave the duke of Sussex the share he had in breaking off the match; and the regent went on a sudden to the residence of the princess, and dismissed all her servants. Her mother, the princess Caroline, then obtained, contrary to the advice of Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Brougham, and others, permission to make a tour on the continent.

9. A thanksgiving for peace. The prince-regent and two houses of parliament went in state to St. Paul's.

21. The regent gave a superb fête at Carlton-house, in honour of the duke of Wellington. 2500 persons present.

22. Admiral William Bradley found guilty of forging letters to defraud the revenue. He was sentenced to death, which was commuted for banishment.

30. PARLIAMENT PROROGUE.—The business of the session had not been important. Sir Samuel Romilly succeeded in carrying bills for taking away corruption of blood in felony, and of disembowelling in the punishment of traitors. Lord Morpeth's motion of censure on the speaker for an improper advertence to the rejection of the Roman catholic bill of last session was negatived. The subject of the corn-laws was discussed, but any definite legislation upon them was deferred. Mr. Peel, the Irish secretary, introduced a bill, which passed into a law, for the better preservation of the peace in Ireland. It was occasioned by the existence of outrages in some parts of the country, of which the most savage were perpetrated by the *carders*; so called from their application of wool-cards to the skin and flesh of the objects of their vengeance. In the debates on this measure observations were made on the orange societies, and of the attempts made to establish similar associations in England.

Aug. 1. A grand jubilee in the parks, to commemorate the return of peace. A Chinese bridge was thrown over the canal in St. James's-park, upon which a superb pagoda was raised, for the display of fireworks. In the green-park a magnificent temple of concord was erected, with a gallery for the foreign ministers, and other persons of distinction. On the Serpentine was a miniature representation of a sea-fight, between the English and Americans, in which the latter were beaten! Mr. Sadler ascended in his balloon. The fair in Hyde-park was continued several days, and only one accident occurred to damp the festivities,—the burning of the pagoda bridge.

7. A bull of the pope re-established the order of the Jesuits. By another edict, of the 15th, his holiness, after lamenting

the destruction of the monastic communities, provided for the restoration of the monks to their convents. The renovation of the festivals observed at Rome, prior to its incorporation with the French empire, was another indication of the prevalent spirit.

24. **BURNING OF WASHINGTON.**—The war against the United States was continued with varied results. In an attempt to take fort Erie the British were repulsed, with the loss of 900 men killed and wounded. An enterprise, planned by sir A. Cochrane and general Ross, against the city of Washington, was more successful. Arriving within five miles of the capital, the British found the Americans, to the number of 8000, strongly posted; but they fled on the first onset. Washington was entered the same evening; and immediately after the object of the expedition was entered upon, by the destruction of the president's house, dock-yard, arsenal, war-office, and other public buildings. A frigate, ready to be launched, and a sloop of war, were also destroyed. On the 30th the troops re-embarked.

Sept. 11. A British naval force attacked the American flotilla, before Plattsburg, on lake Champlain; but after a severe conflict were all captured, except some gunboats. In consequence of this disaster, sir G. Prevost abandoned his design of penetrating into the state of New York, leaving his sick and wounded to the mercy of the enemy.

13. General Ross killed before Baltimore, and, the Americans having made vigorous preparations, the intention to treat that city the same as Washington was frustrated.

Oct. 11. The electorate of Hanover erected into a kingdom, under the rule of the British sovereign. The electoral function had ceased by the dissolution of the Germanic empire, and the imperial throne of Austria becoming hereditary. The reason assigned by the prince-regent for the change was the wish to facilitate the general arrangements of the allied sovereigns, by assimilating the electorate to Bavaria and Wirtemberg, which had been erected into kingdoms.

13. A gentleman's gardener at Leighton Buzzard, having had his green-house robbed, sat up therein to watch, but in the morning was found dead, destroyed by the mephitic gas.

15. One of the large vats in the brew-house of Meux and Co., St. Giles's, burst, and demolished two houses; 3500 barrels of beer were lost, and four persons killed.

Colonel Quintin, of the 10th hussars, acquitted by a court-martial of the charges of cowardice and incapacity. The prince-

regent confirming this sentence, several officers of the hussars were transferred to other regiments.

19. The East India brigade disbanded.

20. A large majority of the Norwegian diet assented to the annexation of Norway to Sweden. This amicable issue was produced by the politic conduct of the crown-prince of Sweden, who accepted the constitution framed by the diet.

25. Mr. George Canning appointed ambassador extraordinary to the prince-regent of Portugal. At this time there was no court at Lisbon, and the appointment is represented to have been created for the convenience of the honourable gentleman, whose son was unwell, and required a warmer climate.

29. A man crushed to death on the top of a coach, by imprudently sitting there when passing under a gateway.

Nov. 1. The congress of Vienna met to complete the settlement of Europe: lord Castlereagh attended on the part of England.

8. The autumnal session of parliament was opened by the prince-regent; but nothing important occurred prior to the recess. The usual addresses in each house were carried without a division.

Dec. 3. John Hankey, F.A.S., who had been missing since August, was found in his chambers, in Gray's-inn, almost devoured by flies. He was in affluent circumstances, but extremely penurious, and never admitted any person into his chambers.

4. At a methodist chapel in Manchester, on a false alarm of the gallery giving way, two women were killed, and many severely injured.

10. Lord French, in a fit of insanity, shot himself at Dublin.

The earl of Roseberry recovered 15,000*l.* damages from Sir H. Mildmay, for *crim. con.* with the countess.

12. At Myfod, in Montgomeryshire, twelve cattle having eaten of some branches of the yew-tree, six of them were found dead near the spot.

20. A riot at the theatre, Dublin, which continued some nights. Mr. Richard Jones, one of the managers, obliged to withdraw from the concern.

24. Peace concluded between Britain and the United States of America, at Ghent. The disputes respecting territorial boundaries were to be determined by commissioners, mutually appointed. No mention was made by either side of the claim of maritime rights that had originated the war.

26. Genoa annexed to the Italian dominions of the king of Sardinia. Hopes had been held out by the British government that Genoa would form a separate and

independent state; but this, it was alleged, would weaken the system the Vienna congress had determined to establish in Italy. On the same plea Venice was annexed to the Austrian empire.

27. DEATH OF JOHANNA SOUTHGOTT.—During the whole summer, and up to the present, public curiosity had been intensely excited by the delusions of this singular enthusiast. The believers in her divine mission were found in most parts of the kingdom; and, in the metropolis and its vicinity alone, are supposed, at one time, to have amounted to 100,000. She was born about 1750, of humble parents, and, being carried away by the fervour of a heated imagination, gave herself out as the woman spoken of in Revelations.—(*Gorton's Biog. Dict.* ii. 921.) In this, her assumed capacity, although totally illiterate, she scribbled much mystic and unintelligible verse and prose, in the way of vision and prophecy, and carried on a lucrative trade in seals, which were to procure the purchasers salvation. Being attacked by a disorder which gave her the appearance of pregnancy, that, too, was turned to account, and she unhesitatingly announced herself *enccinte* of the promised Shiloh. Several clergymen of the established church, a physician, and engraver of eminence, with many others, whose education ought to have preserved them from such weakness, became the dupes of her misconceptions. A cradle, of the most expensive materials, swaddling clothes, &c. were got ready for the reception of the miraculous babe; and, in the manufacturing towns of the north, large crowds assembled to wait the arrival of the coaches, in expectation of tidings of the great event. About the end of the year the unhappy visionary began to have misgivings concerning the real nature of the signs by which she had been misled, and expressed her conviction that she had been "the sport of some spirit." Death, on the 27th, terminated her perplexities, and a subsequent anatomical inquiry discovered the seat of her disorder. Many of her followers, however, remained unconvinced, and some are still to be found unshaken in their credulity.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. Charles Burney, 68, author of a "History of Music." Sir Benjamin Thompson, a native of America, and better known by his German title of count Rumford, 62; celebrated for his application of natural philosophy to the practical uses of life. The queen of the Two Sicilies, a woman who had acted a diabolical part in Italian politics. Prince de Ligne, 79, a public character of eminence, and author of the "Vie du Prince Eugene de Savoie, écrite par Lui-même;"

and which the *Edinburgh Review* mistakenly thought to be a genuine autobiography of the eminent Savoyard.

A.D. 1815. RETURN OF NAPOLEON FROM ELBA.—The unexpected return of Buonaparte to France seemed to endanger the entire settlement of the preceding year. The juncture chosen for this extraordinary enterprise was both favourable and the reverse. It was favourable as respects the state of the popular sentiment in France, and the temper of the French soldiery; but it was the contrary as respects the condition of the foreign powers. Their vast armies were undissolved; and the allied sovereigns themselves, or their ministers, were assembled in congress at Vienna. No time was requisite for negotiation, and the resolution was promptly taken for expelling the intruder by one vigorous and united effort. The struggle was short, but decisive; and the victory of Waterloo again placed the destinies of France at the mercy of the allies. Pending the hundred days of Napoleon's restoration, the constitutional party of France, consisting chiefly of the middle ranks, did not take a decided part on either side. A short trial had convinced them that the Bourbons were unsuited to the government of the French nation; neither had they a wish for the return of the military despotism of the emperor, which, despite of his constitutional professions, they felt to be inseparable from his character; and they were loth to risk the return of anarchy by again attempting to realize the abstractions of republican rule. In this state of uncertainty they accepted what the fortune of war, a second time, awarded to them—Louis XVIII. The exile of Napoleon to St. Helena, the disbanding of the remains of his army, and the exemplary punishment of his chief adherents, with the military occupation of France for five years by the allies, afforded substantial guarantees against reaction. The pride, rather than the welfare of France was hurt by her reverses; her industry, intelligence, rich soil, and fine climate remained, and, aided by these, she speedily rallied under her misfortunes. If the war had left her weak, her neighbours were not less so. All exhibited symptoms of exhaustion, and none more than that power to which the rest had been accustomed to look for unstinted resources. Britain fought and paid for the general interests of Europe, and the chief return has been envy of her riches and commercial greatness.

Jan. 2. The prince-regent increased the knights of the order of the bath, dividing them into three classes; 72 grand crosses, 180 knights commanders, and an unlimited number of companions.

8. Intelligence of the peace concluded in Europe not having been received, the war between the English and Americans continued, and the vicinity of New Orleans was the scene of a sharp conflict. The Americans, under general Jackson, had taken up a strong position within six miles of the city, having a canal in front, their right resting on the Mississippi, and their left on a thick wood. The British advanced to the attack in face of a destructive fire from every point of the enemy's line, in the midst of which general Pakenham was killed, and generals Gibbs and Keene wounded. Disordered by these disasters, the troops retreated, with the loss of 2000 killed, wounded, and prisoners.

15. The American ship *President*, commodore Decatur, captured. It closed a naval war with America, which had been conducted on both sides with great spirit and enterprise.

18. The remains of Louis XVI. and queen Antoinette exhumed, and deposited with much ceremony in the cathedral of St. Denis.

31. A duel at Bishop's-court between counsellor O'Connell and Mr. D'Esterre, in which the latter was killed. It arose from Mr. O'Connell having called the corporation of Dublin a "beggarly corporation;" which Mr. D'Esterre thought fit, as a member thereof, to resent.

Feb. 9. Parliamentary session began.

17. Mr. Frederick Robinson brought forward his resolutions on the corn-trade; the scope of which was to prohibit the importation of wheat, when the price was under 80s. a-quarter. They became the foundation of a law, which excited much popular discontent, and was wholly inefficient; for an unusually abundant harvest at home reduced the price below the standard, leaving the farmer to struggle with the difficulties resulting from cheap bread and high rents.

19. Candy, the capital of Ceylon, taken by the British troops, under general Brownrigg.

23. The union of Belgium with Holland effected, under the guarantee of the allied sovereigns; and in consequence the prince of Orange assumed the regal title.

28. Tumults in the metropolis, on account of the corn bill: they continued upwards of a week, and at one time bore a serious aspect, but were quelled by the intervention of the military.

Mar. 1. Buonaparte landed at Cannes, in Provence, with about 1000 followers, French, Corsicans, Poles, Neapolitans, and Elbese. At first no disposition appeared to join the invader, and a party of his guards, whom he sent to take possession

of Antibes, were made prisoners by the governor. Advancing rapidly towards Grenoble, he was joined by colonel Labedoyere, who commanded the 7th regiment of the line, and had been sent to oppose him. The impulse thus given, in a manner, decided the contest. At Lyons, which he reached on the 10th, he was received with enthusiasm. He wrote to marshal Ney, who was posted at Lons le Souldier, with 12 000 men, to come and join him. The marshal had volunteered his service to Louis XVIII., and promised to bring Napoleon, "like a wild beast in a cage, to Paris." Carried away by the impulse of the moment, he went over to his old companion in arms, and forthwith issued a proclamation to his troops, informing them that the cause of the Bourbons was for ever lost. This step was decisive. Buonaparte's remaining progress was an uninterrupted triumph. A show of resistance was made at Melun, and a body of troops and national guards were assembled, under the command of Macdonald. In the afternoon an open carriage was seen advancing at full gallop through the forest of Fontainebleau, attended only by a few hussars—it was Napoleon, who, leaping out, was soon in the midst of the ranks drawn up to oppose him. Cries of "Vive l'empereur!" rent the air. At nine in the evening of the 20th, he reached the Tuileries.

13. The allied sovereigns declared that Buonaparte had placed himself out of the pale of civil and social relations, and, as a disturber of the general tranquillity, had rendered himself liable to the public vengeance.

19. Louis XVIII. withdrew from Paris, and established his court at Ghent.

20. Lord Cochrane, who had escaped from the king's bench, was arrested in the house of commons, and carried back to prison.

25. By a treaty concluded at Vienna, Great Britain, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, bound themselves to maintain the treaty of Paris, May 30, 1814; and for that purpose each to keep in the field 150,000 men, and not to lay down their arms till Buonaparte should be deprived of the power of exciting disturbances.

Apr. 4. Buonaparte addressed a circular to the European sovereigns, announcing his accession to the French throne, and the departure of the Bourbons. He received no answer; by some his letter was returned unopened.

5. An East Indianman burnt, in consequence of a candle setting fire to a cask of rum: in less than an hour she sunk. 20 lives were lost.

6. Disturbances at the depôt, Dartmoor.

The American prisoners attempted to escape; and, armed with knives, attacked the guard, who were compelled to fire, and killed seven and wounded thirty-five. A coroner's inquest brought in a verdict of justifiable homicide.

23. Buonaparte published what he entitled "an additional act to the constitution of the empire." It was to be submitted to the free acceptance of France, and contained every safeguard to liberty that could be desired in a mixed monarchy. Had such an instrument been a voluntary emanation from him, in the height of his power, and not extorted by his present exigencies, he might have been confided in, and ranked among illustrious legislators.

May. DEFEAT OF MURAT.—The king of Naples was of the number of those who deserted the French emperor after the battle of Leipsic, in 1814, and formed an alliance with Austria. Murat was a brave soldier, but fickle, restless, and void of political wisdom. Pending the territorial arrangements of the Vienna congress, he felt some uneasiness respecting his own kingdom; and it subsequently appeared that Talleyrand had proposed to the English ministry, who were bound to him by treaty, a joint attack upon Naples. Of Buonaparte's landing in France he was apprised, and approved of the undertaking; but he threw off the mask prematurely. Hearing of Napoleon's triumphant entry into Lyons, he at once commenced hostilities against Austria, issuing a proclamation asserting the independence of Italy. At first he was successful, but was speedily overpowered by the superior force of his antagonist. Driven from Italy in May, and separated from Madame Murat, he offered his services to Napoleon, which were declined, and he then withdrew into Corsica. Collecting in this island a few men as desperate as himself, he made a rash descent on the coast of Calabria. Proceeding to a village, he attempted to raise the people in his favour, by addressing them as their king. The effect, however, was to bring upon him the whole population of the district: he and his followers, after a sharp action, were surrounded and made prisoners. Murat was tried by a military commission, and shot October 15th.

23. Lord Keith laid the first stone of Southwark-bridge; John Rennie was the architect.

Arguelles, a distinguished member of the Spanish cortes, compelled by Ferdinand to serve as a private soldier.

June 1. The grand ceremonial of the *Champ de Mars*, which took place with all the pageantry of a Parisian spectacle.

Its business was to declare the national acceptance of the additional act to the constitution. Napoleon made a speech, beginning—"Emperor, consul, soldier, I hold all from the people;" and then took the oath to the constitution. He distributed the eagles among the troops, who swore to defend them at the hazard of their lives, amidst cries of *Vive l'empereur*.

2. By an explosion of foul air, in a coal-mine, near Newbattle, in the county of Durham, 70 persons perished.

3. The legislative body met. Its address, and the answer of Napoleon, show that entire confidence did not subsist between the two parties. "The seductions of prosperity," said the emperor, "are not the danger which menaces us at present. It is under the *Caudine forks* that foreigners wish to make us pass."

8. A new confederation amongst the German states was concluded at Vienna, by which a general diet, composed of representatives from each state, was formed to manage the affairs of the confederation, and a variety of regulations adopted for the preservation of internal tranquillity, and for the resistance of foreign aggression. The presidency of the diet was vested in Austria, and the number of votes limited to seventeen. Frankfort was the place fixed for the meeting of the diet.

12. Napoleon left Paris for the army in the morning, breakfasted at Soissons, slept at Laon, and next day arrived at Avesnes.

14. The army, under the immediate direction of the French emperor, amounted to 120,400 men, with 350 pieces of cannon. In an order of the day, issued the same evening, he said, "the moment had arrived for every Frenchman who had a heart to conquer or perish." The allied troops in Flanders were yet tranquil in their cantonments. The Prusso-Saxon army formed the left, the Anglo-Belgian army the right. The former was 120,000 strong, commanded by marshal Blucher; the latter 104,000, commanded by the duke of Wellington. The head-quarters of Blucher were at Namur; of Wellington at Brussels, 16 leagues distant.

15. Napoleon, having driven before him the advanced guard of the Prussians, entered Charleroi. From Charleroi are two roads, one leading to Namur, the other, through Quatre-Bras, Gemappe, and Waterloo, to Brussels. In the evening, at 11 o'clock, the duke of Wellington, who was at a ball, received a second dispatch from Blucher, informing him that the French emperor was on his march to Brussels, at the head of 150,000 men. The dance was suspended, and orders issued for assembling the troops.

16. Battle of Ligny, in which Napoleon defeated Blücher, and forced him to retreat to Wavre. The conflict raged with great fury, from three in the afternoon till night, and Blücher narrowly escaped being made prisoner. The loss of the French was 7000 killed and wounded; that of the Prussians more considerable. On the same day there was a sharp action between the left of the French, under marshal Ney, and the Anglo-Belgian army. Lord Wellington had directed his whole army to advance on Quatre-Bras, with the intention of succouring Blücher, but was himself attacked by a large body of cavalry and infantry, before his own cavalry had joined. The prince of Orange was soon overthrown; but he was supported by the Brunswickers, and the English division under general Picton, which arrived in great haste, having marched eight leagues that morning. The contest was warmly renewed, and many left dead on the field, among them the duke of Brunswick. The 42nd Highland regiment was nearly cut to pieces by a charge of the French cuirassiers. By the arrival of the first division of English guards, and Alten's division marching in double-quick time, the enemy was repulsed.

18. BATTLE OF WATERLOO.—The duke of Wellington passed the night of the 16th at the farm of Quatre-Bras. The retreat of Blücher to Wavre compelled the duke to make a corresponding retrograde movement, in order to keep up a communication with the Prussians, and to retire on the 17th towards Waterloo. The chain of heights occupied by the Anglo-Belgic army, two miles in front of the village of Waterloo, crossed the high roads leading from Charleroi and Nivelles to Brussels, and which roads united at the hamlet of Mont St. Jean, in the rear of the British position. The right wing extended to a ravine; between the right and the centre lay the house and garden of Hougoumont, which were occupied in force. The left of the centre was covered by the farm of La Haye, beyond which the British distantly communicated with the Prussians, at Wavre. The cavalry, in three lines, guarded the rear of the troops, which extended three miles. Confronting the position of the allies was a chain of heights, separated by a ravine, half a mile in breadth. Upon this opposite chain of heights Napoleon arrayed his forces, having La Belle Alliance in his rear. They were in six parallel lines; the two first of infantry, having light cavalry at the wings; the third and fourth of cuirassiers; the fifth and sixth of the cavalry of the guard, with the infantry of the guard a little in the rear of the six lines. The

emperor, having rode through the lines, and given his last orders, placed himself on the heights of Rossomme, whence he had a complete view of the two armies, amounting to about 90,000 men on each side. About ten o'clock the battle began by a fierce assault on Hougoumont: it was taken and retaken several times, being bravely defended by the English guards, who parted with their blood dearly, and remained masters of the position. At the same time the French kept up a heavy cannonade against the whole line, and made repeated charges, with heavy masses of cuirassiers, supported by close columns of infantry. They were received by the allies, formed into squares; and the artillery being skilfully planted, told effectually. Despairing of mastering Hougoumont, the enemy made a desperate attack on La Haye, which was resolutely defended by the Scotch regiments and Hanoverians, but was carried at the point of the bayonet. Animated by this success, they renewed their efforts on the British centre. Charges of infantry and cavalry followed thick on each other, with astonishing pertinacity. In bringing up his division, the brave sir Thomas Picton was shot through the head. A grand charge of British cavalry ensued, which for a moment swept everything before it; but assailed in its turn by masses of cuirassiers and Polish lancers, it was forced back, and in the *mêlée*, sir William Ponsonby and other gallant officers were slain. It was now four o'clock. Masters of La Haye, the French began to clear the ground in its rear towards St. Jean; and Wellington himself felt so hard pressed, that he was heard to say, "I wish to God night or Blücher would come." A cannonade was heard on the extreme left,—it was the corps of Bulow, which had been kept back three hours in the passage of a defile. Against this new foe Napoleon despatched count Lobau, while he prepared, by one last effort, to overwhelm the British, before effectual succour could reach them. At seven in the evening he brought forward the imperial guards, sustained by the best regiments of horse and foot, amid shouts of *Vive l'empereur*, and flourishes of martial music. Some disorder, however, occurring in the columns as they advanced, owing to the eagerness of the movement, the British commander seized the favourable juncture, and promptly directed a counter-charge. This was so unexpected, that panic seized the advancing French, and almost before the bayonets crossed, these veteran warriors fled in confusion, despite of every effort of the gallant Ney to rally his flying bands. At the same instant the Prussians, who had arrived in full force,

falling on the flank and rear of the enemy, completed the victory. Napoleon, observing the recoil of his columns on all sides, and the remediless confusion around him, said, "It is all over," and retreated across the fields. They were pursued by the victors till long after dark; when the British, who had been under arms during the whole of the preceding tempestuous night, overcome with fatigue, halted, and left the further pursuit to the Prussians. The task was well performed, and nothing could be more complete than the discomfiture of the routed army: all their camp equipage, artillery, and even the private carriages of Napoleon, were abandoned. Exclusive of the slaughter in and after the battle, 7000 prisoners were taken. The loss of the allies was great; that of the British and Hanoverians alone amounted to 13,000. The British officers suffered severely; two generals and four colonels fell in the field, and nine generals and five colonels were wounded; among them lord Uxbridge, who had fought bravely, and was wounded with almost the last shot of the enemy. Such in its main circumstances was the great battle of Waterloo; the most gallantly and scientifically contested, and the most important in its results of any on record.

21. Buonaparte returned to Paris. The legislative body had assembled, and declared its sittings permanent. Having sent for Benjamin Constant in the evening, Napoleon learnt that there was a disposition to depose him, which he anticipated next day, by announcing that his "political life was terminated, and that he resigned in favour of his son, Napoleon II." A provisional government was forthwith appointed, consisting of Carnot, Fouché, Grenier, Caulincourt, and Quinette; and a commission despatched to treat with the allied armies.

22. A general illumination in London.

29. The allied armies, under Wellington and Blücher, invested Paris. Napoleon left Malmaison for Rochefort, intending to embark for America. Just before he set out, Buonaparte was guilty of the weakness of sending a message to the provisional government, offering to take the command of the army as general.

July 3. Marshal Davoust, the commander of the French army, concluded a convention with lord Wellington and marshal Blücher. It stipulated "that Paris should be evacuated in three days by the French army, which should retire beyond the Loire; and all individuals now resident in the capital should enjoy their rights and liberties, without being disturbed or called to account, either for the situations they may have held, or as to their conduct or political opinions."

6. Louis XVIII. made his public entry into Paris, amidst cries of *Vive le roi!*

Died, on the 6th instant, in his 55th year, by his own hands, SAMUEL WHITBREAD, M.P., a gentleman of superior energy and abilities, and highly popular from the patriotic objects to which he had directed the exercise of his powers. Although not of the patrician order, he had many years been a leading member of the house of commons, and esteemed one of the most shrewd, investigative, and vigorous opponents of the Pitt ministry. He conducted the impeachment against lord Melville, and was a whig, but often acted according to his own views, independently of party. His melancholy death was ascribed to aberration of intellect, produced by over-anxious attention to business.

11. Parliament prorogued by a speech, chiefly referring to the successful termination of the war.

Towards the end of the session a message was delivered from the prince regent, announcing the marriage of the duke of Cumberland with the princess of Salmes Braunfels, relict of the late prince, and daughter of the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, brother to queen Charlotte. The union was displeasing to the queen, and the house, either from a similar moral repugnance, or dislike to the duke, negatived a grant for a marriage portion, by 126 to 125 voices.

14. The house of a maker of fire-works in Spitalfields exploded, and eight persons killed.

15. Buonaparte, who had been living at Rochefort since the 3rd, finding it impossible to elude the British cruisers, went voluntarily on board the Bellerophon, captain Maitland. Prior to this, he had sought to stipulate for a free passage, or to surrender on conditions, but neither could be conceded. From the Bellerophon he addressed the following letter to the prince regent:—"Exposed to the factions which divide my country, and to the hostility of the greatest powers of Europe, I have closed my political career. I come, like Themistocles, to seek the hospitality of the British nation. I place myself under the protection of their laws; which I claim from your royal highness, as the most powerful, the most constant, and the most generous of all my enemies." Even the flattery, to which Napoleon descended in this epistle, failed to procure for him an answer from the regent.

26. Elizabeth Fenning who had been convicted, April 16th, of an attempt to poison her master and mistress, was executed at Newgate. She protested her innocence to the last, and the multitude were so convinced of the malice of her prosecutors, that they broke their win-

dows: a vast concourse attended her funerals on the 31st.

28. The Belgic prelates, in an address to the king of the Netherlands, complained that the equal favour promised to all religions, in the new constitution, was inconsistent with catholic supremacy. They further admonished the king that it would alienate the hearts of his subjects, "with whom attachment to the catholic faith is stronger than in any other country in Europe."

31. By the explosion of a locomotive steam-engine at Newbattle, 57 persons were killed and wounded.

Aug. 7. Buonaparte transferred to the Northumberland, admiral sir George Cockburn, which sailed next day, for St. Helena: Napoleon vehemently protested against the injustice of his banishment to this island, after voluntarily surrendering himself to the hospitality of the British nation. He was accompanied in his exile by general Bertrand, Las Casas, general Gourgaud, and count Montholon.

19. Colonel Labedoyere, having been found guilty of treason, in joining Napoleon, at Grenoble, was shot on the plain of Grenelle.

Sept. 19. General Porlier attempted to excite an insurrection in Galicia, against Ferdinand VII.; failing in his enterprise he was shot at Corunna.

26. A treaty or compact signed at Paris, by the emperors of Russia and Austria, and the king of Prussia, declaring their resolution to make christianity the basis of their actions—domestic and foreign. They affirmed their delegation, by Providence, to govern "three branches of one and the same christian nation." The prince regent was invited to become a party to the "HOLY ALLIANCE," but he contented himself with expressing his approval of its tendency.

30. A fellow at Queenborough, having left his wife and family, was taken and ordered to be flogged. As no one could be found to flog him, the mayor himself performed the duty.

Oct. 15. Buonaparte landed at St. Helena.

21. Great riot at Sunderland, the sailors refusing to let the colliers proceed to sea, till their demands for higher wages were complied with: the military were called in, and the combination dissolved by the apprehension of the president and committee.

25. Waterford cathedral damaged by fire.

31. A fire at the Mint, in the tower, which destroyed the new machinery: damage estimated at 80,000*l*.

Nov. 4. London Institution began building.

5. By a treaty concluded with Russia, the Ionian islands were placed under the protection of England.

20. SECOND TREATY OF PARIS.—The failure of Napoleon's enterprise subjected France to great humiliation. The masterpieces of art deposited in the gallery of the Louvre, and the trophies of so many victories in distant regions, were reclaimed by their former owners. Venice received back the famous Corinthian horses; Florence the Venus of Medicis; and Rome the Apollo Belvidere. By treaties and conventions signed at Paris, on the 20th, the allies were indemnified for their recent exertions by cessions of territory, and in pecuniary contributions. For the first, certain alterations in the frontier between France, and Belgium, and the Rhine, were required, not considerable in extent, but important, from leaving a free passage into the heart of France. For the second, the payment of 900,000,000 of francs to be divided among the allies. In order to retain hold on the French, seventeen fortified towns and cities were to be delivered up to the allies, to be held in trust for five years, by an army of occupation of 150,000 men, to be maintained at the expense of France. Such were the bitter fruits of the hundred day's reign of Napoleon, and the terms on which France was permitted to retain her nationality.

Dec. 7. Marshal Ney shot pursuant to his sentence in the gardens of the Luxembourg. He died nobly. The marshal had relied on the faith of the capitulation of July 3rd, and made a direct appeal to the duke of Wellington; but the duke gave it against him, affirming that the object of the capitulation was limited to the "prevention of any measure of severity, under the military authority of those who made it." This evasive interpretation was the death-warrant of the gallant Frenchman.

M. Lavalette, the post-master-general under Buonaparte, and who had been condemned to die, escaped from prison dressed in the clothes of Madame Lavalette.

Lord Cochrane sentenced to pay 100*l*. fine for escaping from the king's-bench prison. It was paid by voluntary subscription, not exceeding one penny each.

26. Eaton, a noted pedestrian, finished his task on Blackheath, of walking 1100 miles in 1100 successive hours.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—George Ellis, F.R.S., 70, author of "Specimens of early English Poetry." William Nicholson, 57, many years editor of the "Philosophical Journal." William Hutton, F.A.S., 92, author of a "History of Birmingham." John Lettsom, M.D., 71, an eminent physician and author of numerous medical and other works. Marshal Ber-

thier, prince of Wagram, committed suicide at Bamberg, by throwing himself from a window. Mrs. Abingdon, actress, 84.

PUBLIC STATUTES. XLIII. TO LVI. OF GEORGE III.

43 Geo. III., c. 56. Regulates vessels conveying passengers to foreign parts, as to number, provisions, and medical aid.

Cap. 58. Prevents malicious shooting, cutting, wounding, and stabbing.

Cap. 59. County bridges and works.

Cap. 84. Spiritual persons holding farms.

Cap. 107. Bequeathing property to queen Ann's bounty.

Cap. 158. Issuing 50,000*l.* for glebe houses in Ireland.

44 Geo. III., c. 43. No person to be admitted a deacon till he attain the age of 23, nor into priest's orders till 24 years of age.

45 Geo. III., c. 50. For discouraging immoderate use of spirits in Ireland.

Cap. 54. Maintenance and employment of the poor.

46 Geo. III., c. 37. Declared unlawful for witnesses on trials to refuse answering any relevant question that has no tendency to criminate them, merely on the ground that it may establish a civil debt.

47 Geo. III., c. 36. Abolishes the African slave-trade after May 1st, 1807.

Cap. 13. sess. 2. Insurrection act, preserving peace in Ireland.

Cap. 74. Makes the real estates of traders liable, after their death, to the payment of simple contract, as well as specialty debts.

48 Geo. III., c. 60. Tanners not to be shoemakers, curriers, or leather-cutters.

Cap. 138. Regulating power of commission of teinds, in augmenting stipends of Scotch clergy.

49 Geo. III., c. 118. Preventing corruption in election of members of parliament.

Cap. 127. Augmenting salaries of twelve judges in England and Wales.

50 Geo. III., c. 117. Account of increase and diminution of public salaries to be annually laid before parliament.

51 Geo. III., c. 1. Regency act; administration of royal authority, and custody of the King during his illness.

Cap. 6. For taking a census of the population.

Cap. 34. Premium to ships employed in the southern whale fishery.

Cap. 55. Penalties on printers and publishers of books, without the printer's name.

Cap. 79. Pauper or criminal lunatics.

Cap. 122. Commission of inquiry into Irish bogs.

52 Geo. III., c. 16. Frame-breaking act.

Cap. 17. Watch and ward; justices appointing rotation of.

Cap. 102. Registering charitable gifts.

Cap. 133. Taking a census of population in Ireland. The act was only partly carried into effect, and a complete census not taken till 1821.

Cap. 144. Suspending and vacating seats of members of parliament, becoming bankrupt.

Cap. 146. Marriages and births, registration of.

Cap. 147. Repealing allowances of assessed taxes in respect of number of children.

Cap. 155. For protecting religious worship of dissenters.

Cap. 162. Preserving peace in disturbed counties.

53 Geo. III., c. 40. Repeals power of justices to fix wages or prices of work.

54 Geo. III., cap. 56. Copyright in sculpture casts.

Cap. 108. Burying in woollen abolished.

Cap. 134. Maintenance of Asiatic seamen in this country.

Cap. 145. Abolishes corruption of blood, except in poison or murder.

Cap. 146. Punishment in treason limited to drawing on a hurdle, hanging, and beheading; disembowelling and burning abolished.

Cap. 156. Fixes copyright of books for 28 years absolute, and for the life of the author if he survive that period.

55 Geo. III., c. 42. Establishes trial by jury in civil causes in Scotland.

Cap. 47. Returns of expense and maintenance of the poor.

Cap. 57. Exclusive privileges of South Sea Company abolished.

Cap. 128. For establishing telegraph stations.

Cap. 194. Regulating practice of apothecaries.

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

The financial history of the war, from 1793, to the conclusion of a permanent peace in 1815, may be divided into three periods. First, the four years previous to 1797, during which no great fiscal effort was made, and the treasury was conducted, as in former wars, without any innovation in regard to war-taxes or paper-money. Second, the interval from 1797 to 1805, in which we had war-taxes to a considerable amount, and an inconvertible paper-money, but without greatly depreciating one, or carrying the other to an extreme. Third, the period from 1805 to 1815, in which the supplies raised within the year became

enormous, and the depreciation of paper, particularly after entering into the war in Spain, in 1809, augmented greatly financial difficulties.

The sum raised by taxes and loans, during the war in 1793, has been already stated (p. 634). The subjoined is a corresponding statement for the war of 1803:—

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
1803	£37,679,063	£15,202,931
1804	45,359,442	20,104,221
1805	49,659,281	27,931,482
1806	53,304,254	20,486,155
1807	58,390,225	23,889,257
1808	61,538,207	20,476,765
1809	63,405,294	23,404,691
1810	66,681,366	22,428,788
1811	64,763,870	27,416,829
1812	63,169,854	40,251,689
1813	66,925,835	54,026,822
1814	69,684,192	47,159,697
1815	70,403,442	46,089,603
	£770,962,331	£388,766,925

The total money raised by taxes and loans, exclusive of 46,612,106*l.*, for the service of Ireland, was 1,113,000,000*l.*; deducting from this sum an average peace expenditure of 22,000,000*l.* for 13 years, the cost of the war was 827,000,000*l.* If to this sum be added the expenditure of the war of 1793, amounting to 284,214,731*l.*, it shows that the French revolutionary war cost England 1,111,214,731*l.*, being an average yearly expenditure, during 23 years of hostilities, of 48,314,000*l.* The expenditure of the war of 1793 was nearly double that of any preceding contest; and the expenditure of the war of 1803 exceeded that of 1793 in the proportion of more than three to one. It is to be observed, however, that the enormous expenditure of the latter years of the war was swelled by the accumulation of interest on the previous expenditure, and the depreciation of the currency amounting, after 1810, to full 20 per cent.

The PUBLIC DEBT at the beginning and conclusion of the war of 1803, was as follows:—

	Principal. £.	Interest. £.
Debt in 1803	629,467,529	27,043,625
Debt in 1815	1,121,407,936	43,984,579
Increase	£491,940,407	£16,940,954

The debt did not accumulate so fast in the second as in the first period of hostilities. In the war of 1803, a greater part of the expense was defrayed by the property-tax, the assessed taxes, and other supplies raised within the year. In 1815 the public income, exclusive of Ireland, was as follow:—

Excise	£23,370,055
Customs	11,807,323
Stamps	6,492,805
Carried forward	£41,670,183

Brought forward	£41,670,183
Land and assessed taxes	7,911,938
Post-office	2,349,519
Pensions, &c.	32,057
Hackney coaches and hawkers	50,875
Hereditary revenues	173,367
War customs	2,841,406
— excise	6,737,029
Property-tax	15,227,500
Income-tax	314
Lottery	327,907
Miscellaneous	260,173
Gross receipt	77,582,268
Drawbacks and balances	6,429,126
Actual taxation	£71,153,142

Return of the annual value, the rate of assessment per pound, and gross assessment under the PROPERTY TAX, for the year ending April 5th, 1815.—(Parl. Pap. No. 59. Sess. 1823.)

	Annual value. £.	Gross assessments. £.
Lands, tenements, and hereditaments, for every 20 <i>s.</i> of the annual value 2 <i>s.</i>	60,138,330	5,923,486
Occupiers of lands, dwelling-houses, and tenements, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Scotland, 1 <i>s.</i>	38,396,143	2,734,450
Annuities and dividends arising out of any public revenues, 2 <i>s.</i>	28,855,050	2,885,505
Increase and profits from professions, trade, or vocations, 2 <i>s.</i>	38,310,935	3,831,088
Public offices, pensions, and stipends, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	11,744,557	1,174,455
Total	£177,451,015	£16,548,984

COMMERCE, SHIPPING, AGRICULTURE.

The progress of commerce, during the second period of the war, was eventful, and marked by extraordinary vicissitudes. In the interval between 1807 and 1809, our supplies of many articles of foreign production were in danger of being abridged or entirely cut off. From a great portion of the continent, the anti-commercial decrees of Napoleon interdicted all intercourse: and after the attack on Copenhagen, Russia and Denmark joined the league against this country. The orders in council on our part, and the non-intercourse acts and embargoes on the part of the Americans, destroyed all traffic with the United States. Our exclusion from these markets caused great speculative avidity, and the prices of hemp, wax, tallow, cotton, silk, and tobacco, rose enormously. There was also a rise in the price of agricultural produce, owing to a decided failure in the crops of 1809. About the time the markets in Europe became narrowed for British manufactures, a new field of adventure opened in South America, by the emancipation of the Spanish colonies. This gave an impulse to domestic industry; but the shipments to South America were much beyond the amount of capital the adventurers could fairly command, and still more beyond what the consumption of the places, for which the investments were destined, could absorb, upon the condition of making adequate returns. To support these speculations the country bankers, and the bank of England, increased their issues of paper. But this prosperity was ephemeral. In 1810 prices began to recede; and in the autumn of that year, and spring of the following, there was a mercantile reaction.

In 1815 there was a second revulsion in trade, which arose out of our over-trading to the Continent on the overthrow of the French emperor. The markets abroad being glutted with our commodities, prices fell ruinously low, and English manufactures were sold on terms that scarcely defrayed insurance and shipping charges. In Holland the market had been so overstocked, that our manufactures were actually cheaper than in England. The bankers had in this, as in the former instance, fostered the spirit of over-speculation, and many of them became bankrupts.

Notwithstanding these vicissitudes, the commerce of the kingdom increased in the second as in the first period of the French war. The average official value of our exports in the nine years of the war of 1793 was 30,760,000*l.* The average in ten years of the second war, from 1803 to 1812, inclusive, was 42,145,000*l.* The following statement shows the tons of shipping that cleared outwards, and the official value of the cargoes exported from Britain between 1802 and 1815. The accounts for the year 1813 were lost by the fire at the Custom-house:—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1803	2,019,382	£31,438,495
1804	2,051,135	34,451,367
1805	1,900,609	34,308,545
1806	2,053,713	36,527,184
1807	2,050,013	34,566,571
1808	1,654,944	34,554,267
1809	2,230,902	50,286,900
1810	2,862,801	45,869,859
1811	2,203,585	32,409,671
1812	2,206,420	43,243,173
1813		
1814	2,447,298	56,624,229
1815	2,759,720	60,983,063

AGRICULTURE, like commerce, underwent great vicissitudes, and, like it, continued to advance in spite of occasional depressions. Owing to the favourable seasons of 1801–3, the price of wheat fell to 3*l.* a quarter; a fall which led to the corn-law of 1804, by which the import of foreign wheat was in a manner prohibited until our own should be at or above 63*s.*, and taxed till our own reached 66*s.* High as these prices then seemed, they were subsequently greatly surpassed, partly from the depreciation of the currency, the interruption of neutral traffic, and a deficient harvest.

In 1812 and 1813 wheat rose to 66*s.* a quarter, a rate ill-calculated to prepare the farmer for the approaching revulsion. After the peace of 1814, imports co-operating with favourable seasons, the price of corn fell rapidly, and it was in vain parliament passed (in 1815) a new corn-law, by which the importation of foreign wheat was prohibited till the home-price of our own wheat exceeded 80*s.* The market continued low, and for a time exposed both the farmers and the public to the evils of sudden transition.

The following statement will show the average expense of farming in England before the war and its increase, up to the last year of hostilities. It shows the expense of cultivating 100 acres of arable land, in England, at three distant periods, calculated on an average of the returns made to circular letters from the Board of Agriculture, to farmers in different parts of the kingdom:—

	1790.			1803.			1813.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent	58	6	3½	121	2	7½	161	12	7½
Tithe	20	14	1½	26	8	0½	38	17	3½

Brought forward	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Rates	109 0 5½	147 10 7½	200 9 11½
Wear and Tear	17 13 10	31 7 7½	38 19 2½
Labour	15 13 5½	22 11 10½	31 2 10½
Seed	85 5 4½	118 0 4	161 12 11½
Manure	46 4 10½	49 2 7	98 17 10
Teams	49 3 0	68 6 2	37 7 0½
Interest	67 4 10	80 8 0½	134 19 8½
Taxes	22 11 11½	30 3 8½	50 5 6
	—	—	18 1 4
Total	£411 15 11½	547 10 11½	771 16 4½

PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

Prices of PUBLIC STOCKS in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT at Windsor market:—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1803	70	187	212	901	60
1804	55	150	171	910	69
1805	59	172	184	866	83
1806	60	194	187	865	88
1807	61	212	182	1022	78
1808	63	225	172	1058	79
1809	66	240	182	1670	106
1810	69	175	177	2000	112
1811	66	241	178	1616	108
1812	62	230	181	1599	128
1813	60	222	164	1066	120
1814	65	245	191	1285	85
1815	64	255	192	2029	76

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England; Number of Barrels of BEER charged to the Excise duty in England and Wales; and the pounds' weight of TEA sold at the Sales of the East India Company:—

Year.	Circulation.	Beer.	Tea.
	£.	Barrels.	lbs.
1803	16,305,630	7,244,303	25,401,468
1804	17,115,860	7,045,193	23,089,267
1805	17,129,785	7,198,938	24,926,560
1806	19,378,795	7,215,256	22,887,530
1807	18,314,520	7,309,886	24,077,824
1808	17,650,075	7,281,603	25,901,451
1809	19,558,520	7,196,010	2,920,052
1810	22,906,795	7,388,907	24,958,255
1811	23,323,535	5,625,426	23,058,496
1812	23,217,605	7,454,263	24,856,914
1813	24,019,525	6,838,605	25,895,005
1814	26,584,680	7,056,744	29,597,055
1815	27,255,160	7,667,846	27,787,239

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:—

Year.	Coals.	Coffee.	Flour.	Sugar.	Tea.
	pr chd.	pr cwt.	pr sack.	pr cwt.	per lb.
1803	37	125	50	30	20
1804	37	150	50	41	22

1805	38	169	95	52	26
1806	36	170	65	41	22
1807	38	140	75	29	22
1808	39	110	70	28	29
1809	45	120	80	50	24
1810	46	125	90	48	24
1811	40	100	80	42	21
1812	39	85	100	42	23
1813	40	97	110	53	32
1814	46	135	90	70	35
1815	41	116	62	70	38

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield market; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Yr.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Chrgs.
1803	117,551	787,430	19,582	20,943
1804	113,019	903,930	17,038	21,543
1805	125,043	812,410	17,565	20,295
1806	120,250	858,570	17,938	20,380
1807	134,326	924,050	18,334	19,416
1808	144,042	1,015,280	19,945	19,906
1809	137,600	989,250	16,080	19,612
1810	132,155	962,750	19,893	19,930
1811	125,012	966,400	17,043	20,645
1812	133,854	953,630	18,295	20,399
1813	137,770	891,240	17,322	20,528
1814	135,071	870,880	19,783	20,170
1815	124,948	962,840	19,560	23,414

ARMY AND NAVY.

Our splendid naval victories during the early part of the war, and the failure of most of our land expeditions, threw the army into the back-ground; but England had antecedently established her claim to be considered a great military power. The continental wars of William III., and the triumphs of Marlborough in the next reign, proved us powerful enough to take a foremost part on land as well as by sea. In peace the military force was fixed at a low scale: the standing army of king William was reduced to 7000 men, and that of

George II. did not exceed 17,000, exclusive of the troops in Ireland. But the nation's strength was shown in the subsequent war, when called forth by the energies of the earl of Chatham. In 1762, the last year of hostilities, the total number of men employed in the army and navy, including militia and foreign troops, was 337,106 (p. 461). Of this number 51,645 were seamen, and 18,335 marines. Such a display of force was very extraordinary, considering the population of the kingdom at the time, and was hardly exceeded during any period of the French revolutionary war. In March, 1804, lord Liverpool declared in parliament that our army and navy, including militia, but exclusive of volunteers, was about 400,000; being more than one in ten of the able-bodied population of the United Kingdom. France, he added, had at that time in arms about 560,000 men, or one in fourteen of her able-bodied population. Austria had on foot also one man in fourteen, and Russia nearly the same proportion. Prussia was the only power whose military force (about 240,000) bore, like ours, the proportion of one in ten to her able-bodied males.

After the peace of Paris, in 1763, the standing army was fixed, including the troops in Ireland and in garrisons abroad, at about 40,000 men. It did not greatly exceed this amount after the termination of the unfortunate contest with the American colonies. In 1792 the regular military, exclusive of artillery and marines, and of the East Indies, amounted to 45,242 men. The following is a statement of the military force of the empire, regular and irregular, and of its distribution in 1792:—

In Britain	15,919
In Ireland	12,000
In colonies	17,323
Royal artillery	3,730
Ditto marines	4,425

Total, regulars	53,397
Militia disembodied	33,410

Total, regulars & irregulars	86,809
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In 1815 the regular force amounted to 220,714 men; reduced in 1821 to 101,539; in 1834, to 88,519; which is about the present amount of our peace establishment.

The British navy at the accession of George III. consisted of 412 ships, the force and distribution of which have been before stated (p. 460). During part of the American war, owing to defective discipline, the combined fleets of France and Spain seemed to have an ascendancy till our previous superiority was restored by

the victories of admiral Rodney. Napoleon, after mastering the Continent, indulged the hope of being able to cope with us at sea, thereby opening a path for a descent on our shores; but after the decisive overthrow at Trafalgar, he gave up the idea of becoming a naval power. The subjoined statements seem to comprise the chief information necessary to elucidate the progress of the army and navy during the war. Recruiting continued with unabated activity during the whole contest: either the alarm of invasion, or the continental aggrandisement of the enemy, imposing on the country the necessity of a strong and vigilant defensive attitude. The plan of enlisting for limited periods, which began in 1806, greatly facilitated recruiting; and, after engaging in the struggle for Spanish independence that united all hearts, the augmentation of the army was popular, and additional importance became attached to the military arm of the national strength.

Total Expense of the Army, Navy, and Ordnance from 1790 to 1815, inclusive:—

1791	4,226,000	1804	30,854,000
1792	8,750,000	1805	36,219,000
1793	13,511,000	1806	37,706,000
1794	20,247,000	1807	36,176,000
1795	28,751,000	1808	39,778,000
1796	30,165,000	1809	42,073,000
1797	27,606,000	1810	43,246,000
1798	25,982,000	1811	47,968,000
1799	27,257,000	1812	49,739,000
1800	29,613,000	1813	54,872,000
1801	26,998,000	1814	60,239,000
1802	23,121,000	1815	43,282,000
1803	21,106,000		

Statement of Ships in Commission and in Ordinary in 1792 and 1815:—

Rates.	1792.		1815.	
	Com.	Ord.	Com.	Ord.
1st.	—	7	1	12
2nd.	2	19	2	15
3rd.	10	102	22	173
4th.	5	16	5	15
5th.	14	79	50	100
6th.	12	30	25	80
Small vessels, &c.	81	179	113	167

MEN OF LETTERS.

James Beattie, L.L.D., poet and miscellaneous writer, 1735—1803. "Essay on Truth," 1770; "The Minstrel," 1774; "Evidences of the Christian Religion," 1786.

Joseph Priestley, L.L.D., F.R.S., philosopher and divine, 1733—1804. "Essay on Government," 1764; "History of Electricity," 1767; "Discoveries relative to

Vision, Light, and Colours;" "Disquisitions on Matter and Spirit," 1777; "History of the Corruptions of Christianity;" "Letters to a Philosophical Unbeliever;" besides various papers in the "Philosophical Transactions," and a great many theological and controversial productions. Priestley was a voluminous author, his entire works amounting to 70 vols., 8vo.

Rev. W. Gilpin, 1724—1804. "Lives of John Wickliff, &c.," 1764; "Remarks on Forest Scenery;" "Exposition of the New Testament," 1790.

William Paley, D.D., theologian and philosopher, 1743—1805. "Elements of Moral and Political Philosophy," 1785; "Horæ Paulinæ;" "View of the Evidence of Christianity," 1794; "Natural Theology," 1802.

Samuel Horsley, L.L.D., prelate and mathematician, 1733—1806. "Power of God deduced from the Solar System," 1767; "Apollonius on Inclinations," 1770; "Dissensions of the Royal Society," 1784; "Biblical Criticisms," 4 vols. 8vo.

Charles James Fox, M.P., 1748—1806. Letter to the Electors of Westminster," 1793; "History of the Early Part of the Reign of James II." (Posthumous.)

John Whitaker, divine and antiquary, 1759—1808. "History of Manchester," 1771; "Mary, Queen of Scots Vindicated," 3 vols. 8vo., 1787; "Course of Hannibal over the Alps."

John Horne Tooke, 1736—1812. "Divisions of Purley," 1786; a second part of the "Divisions," in 1805. Mr. Tooke was also author of several political pamphlets, and some letters in reply to Junius.

Richard Cumberland, drama and miscellaneous, 1732—1811. "The West-Indian," 1771; "Anecdotes of Spanish Painters;" "Calvary;" "The London Review," "The Observer."

Richard Porson, critic and classical scholar, 1759—1808. "The Tragedies of Euripides," 1795; "Æschylus's Tragedies;" "Letters on the Three Heavenly Witnesses, mentioned 1 John, v. 7;" "Adversaria; or, Emendations of the Greek Poets."

Thomas Beddoes, physician and medical writer, 1760—1808.

John Home, Scottish divine and dramatist, 1724—1808. "Douglas," 1756; "History of the Rebellion of 1745."

Nevil Maskelyne, D.D., 1732—1811. "The Nautical Almanac," 1767; "The British Mariner's Guide;" "Astronomical Observations."

John McDiarmid, 1779—1807. "Inquiry into the Military Defence of Great Britain," 1803; "Civil and Military Subordination;" "Lives of British Statesmen."

Charles Burney, 1726—1814. "Musical Tour through France and Italy," 1771; "History of Music," 1776; "Life of Metastasio," 1796; "Essay on Comets."

GEORGE III. A.D. 1816 to 1820.

THE national joyousness of war may exceed that of peace, but its joys are more fallacious, if not criminal. It is a period of exertion, of high excitement, in which a consciousness of internal maladies is forgotten in the death-struggle for foreign mastery. Moreover, it is a season of spending, waste, and reckless prodigality. It is a delirious state—intoxicated by victories, if successful—bursting into rage, or sinking into despondency, if defeated. Peace, on the contrary, is less obnoxious to extremes. It is a time of quiet, of reckoning up, saving, and forethought. The smallest evils that exist are felt; all that are impending are imagined and magnified. War affords a ready excuse for every disorder, every public privation, every remedial postponement; but peace is the ordeal of rulers. Public burdens are nicely weighed, and the pretext for their continuance scrutinised. Not only is the physical condition of the people considered, but their laws, religion, political rights, and even morals, become the common topics of investigation. There is leisure for everything, as well as disengaged talent, energy, and enterprise. The troubles and entanglements of peace are mostly the bitter fruits of war; but the glories of war can only be won by dissipating the blessings peace has accumulated.

It was only after the storm had subsided that England became sensible of the wounds received in her late tremendous struggle. While hostilities lasted, she felt neither weakness nor disorder. Though a principal in the war, she had been exempt from its worst calamities. Battles were fought, countries were overrun and desolated, but her own border remained unassailable. Like a spectator viewing securely the tempest at a distance, she was only sensible of its fury by the wreck of neighbouring nations, wafted at intervals to her shores. Up to the period of our interference in Peninsular affairs, we carried on the war mostly by deputy; and the immense subsidies by which we hired, in succession, every continental gladiator, did not impose a proportionate and immediate sacrifice. By the modern device of anticipating future resources, a large portion of the burden was thrown on posterity; so that George III. and his contemporaries enjoyed the *sport* of this royal pastime, leaving to distant ages to bear the cost and incumbrance.

The cessation of hostilities, in 1815, was like the cessation of motion in a gigantic machine, which has been urged to its maximum velocity. One of the first results of peace was an enormous diminution in the war expenditure of the government. During the five last years of the war, the public expenditure averaged 108,720,000*l.* During the five first years of peace it averaged 64,660,000*l.* Peace thus caused an immediate reduction of nearly fifty millions in the amount of money expended by government in the support of domestic industry.

During the war, all our establishments, private as well as public, had been formed on a large scale,—a scale that supposed a power of consumption and of payment much greater than was found to exist after the peace. This was the case, not only in the public offices, but private establishments of the most dissimilar character: manufacturers, mercantile houses, seminaries of education, and a variety of undertakings, almost all of which, whether in the metropolis or provincial towns, were adapted to a community increasing in numbers and its means of expenditure. In no former contest had our military force been so great: the number of militia-men, soldiers, and sailors discharged, amounted to between two and three hundred thousand, of whom many returned to productive labour, while a considerable proportion of manufacturers, perhaps not less than one hundred thousand, ceased to receive employment in preparing clothing, arms, and other military stores. Hence a rapid redundancy of products, and no less rapid fall in wages and profits. Similar causes were in operation on the continent. Almost all Europe had been in military array, and every country felt the sudden change from the disembodiment of armies, cessation of government purchases, and surplus of labourers. The embarrassments of our neighbours augmented our own. Add to this, that our chief customers, the United States of America, had suffered so severely from the stoppage of their navigation by the belligerents, as to be far less able to pay for our goods than before the ruinous Orders in Council. Our foreign trade, more from irregularity of payment than diminution of amount, failed to prove an efficient source of relief; and internal distress was augmented by the immense number of absentees, who, as travellers or as residents on the continent, expended large sums abroad, when most wanted at home.

Transitions, whether from peace to war or war to peace, invariably produce derangements, if not aggregate loss, in the economical relations of the community. In the first, there is the abandonment of various projects of

improvement, as roads, canals, bridges, and buildings; and of undertakings in commerce, agriculture, and manufactures, that depend on a low rate of interest, and moderate price of labour: in the last are the derangements just alluded to, of soldiers and seamen discharged, foreign colonies relinquished, manufactures, suited to a state of war, suspended, workmen and capital put out of employment, and the public loaded with enormous debts, and the maintenance of reduced placemen, and naval and military supernumeraries.

During the war, the country was in the state deemed most cheerful and animated, namely, the progressive, not the stationary, which is dull, nor the retrograde, which is melancholy. Employment was abundant, both for capital and industry. All incomes, except those fixed by law, were increasing, and every one seemed growing rich. Wages and salaries, profits, rents, and tithes, were all on the advance. Much of this prosperity was fallacious, arising from the expenditure of borrowed money by government, and the depreciation of the currency; but it was not less effective than real in producing general intoxication. Owing to these causes, incomes increased faster than wealth, generating expensive habits among all classes, which were reluctantly abandoned on the return of peace. It must not, however, be inferred that capital did not increase as well as income during the war. It certainly did. Our unrivalled industry and mechanical improvements were more than a match both for the prodigality of the people and their rulers; and the capital of the country increased enormously, though not so fast, nor on so solid a foundation, as in the subsequent reign of George IV.

The difficulties of the first years of peace were augmented by unfavourable harvests. That of 1815 was rather above the average; but in 1816 there was a great and general deficiency. In 1817 and 1818 the crops did not exceed an average. During these two years the average price of wheat was 89s. a quarter. The high price of provisions, combined with the low wages produced by scarcity of employment, caused very general discontent, especially in the manufacturing districts.

Upon these elements the political agitation we are about to notice began to work. In times of industrial prosperity the masses take little interest in public affairs; their differences are with their employers. Encouraged by the demand for labour, they seek by combination to extort higher wages. The struggle continues till high prices and overstocked markets produce a mercantile revulsion: then workmen are discharged, wages lowered, and masters recover their ascendancy. It is in this state of depression that workmen begin to listen to representations of public grievances. Republican writings increase in circulation; abstract theories of government are propounded; and the equal right of all to share in political franchises is boldly asserted and readily believed. While the popular excitement lasts the property-classes keep aloof, having no wish to countenance opinions incompatible with their present immunities; and the aristocratic politicians of all parties either combine against the common enemy, or suspend the agitation of their mutual differences.

This was the state of the country in 1816: in the metropolis and in the northern counties there were vast assemblages of people in the open air, but they were unattended by the rich and influential. Working men called the meetings, drew up resolutions, and made speeches, setting forth the evils of non-representation, of liberticide wars, of the pressure of taxes

levied on the industrious, to be squandered in extravagant salaries, sinecures, and unmerited pensions—for all which the remedy prescribed was a RADICAL REFORM of the house of commons, on the basis of universal suffrage, annual parliaments, and vote by ballot. Of such doctrines there were supporters in parliament, namely, sir Francis Burdett, lords Folkestone and Cochrane, and Mr. Hobhouse; out of it, the chief leaders were Major Cartwright, sir C. Wolseley, and Messrs. Cobbett, Wooler, Hunt, Hone, and Sherwin.

At this period the government was directed by men unswayed by high principles, of secondary abilities, and meanly subservient to the will of the prince regent. The popular demands were met with haughtiness and insult. Coercion, in lieu of conciliation, was determined upon: the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended; suspected persons imprisoned; the press silenced by persecutions; victims were sought to be obtained by stretching the treason-laws; and the metropolis and the provinces overrun with government spies, who acted a diabolical part.

Elated by the triumph over Napoleon, a course of foreign policy was pursued, inimical to the solid interests of the country, and which required the maintenance of a large military establishment in the time of peace. A standing force of 176,000 men was demanded in 1816, when there did not exist the most distant danger from any external enemy. In the speech of the regent, the "security of the country" was not, indeed, the only reason assigned for this enormous army. It was also "to be suitable to its station and high character among the European powers." There was neither the ambition of Louis XIV., the maintenance of the balance of power, nor the interests of the electoral dominions to plead; so a novel pretext was discovered. It was not the safety of ourselves or neighbours that was sought, but military ostentation. Not satisfied with maritime supremacy, we sought territorial distinction. The aim seemed to be to make a Germanised military figure, to become a leading military, as well as naval power; and the thirst of universal empire, imputed to the French emperor, was imbibed by the British ministry.

Though the policy of government was unpopular, the political effervescence subsided towards the close of 1817. This was partly occasioned by the revival of trade, and partly by ministerial coercion. The fall of prices having quickened the consumption of commodities, they began gradually to rise from their minimum depression, by which manufacturing industry and commercial enterprise were stimulated. Under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, the leading reformers were imprisoned, or awed into prudential silence. Popular alarm subsided by the explosion of the *espionnage system*, it having been discovered that Oliver, Castles, Edwards, Franklin, and other agents of the Home-office, had been the chief fomenters, by speeches and writings, of the seditious acts in the metropolis and the northern counties. The experiment, however, of the masses to effect political reforms, by their own unaided efforts, had entirely failed. Upwards of a million and a half of persons petitioned for universal suffrage and annual parliaments, but their prayers were unheeded by the legislature. They excited no debate, nor hardly an observation. Unsupported by the intelligence and property of the community, the petitioners were felt to be powerless, and their aims impracticable. Government, on this as on former occasions, was strengthened by violence, and an old lesson was a third time repeated. In 1780 parliamentary reform, as we have seen, was just

on the eve of accomplishment, by a combined effort of the middle and upper ranks, when the end was frustrated, and all desire for it ceased, through the intervention of the riots of lord George Gordon. A dread of the ascendancy of the multitude was diffused among the wealthy, and they shrank back dismayed from all co-operation in political changes. A similar re-action ensued in 1793, differing from the former only in the fact, that one originated in religious, the other in political zeal. "Toryism," says Mr. Cooke, "never was so strong; Whiggism, nay, democracy, never was so weak, as whilst Thelwall was haranguing from his tribune, Gerald declaiming among the friends of free debate, and Condorcet congratulating the Corresponding Society that the throne of George III., founded on sophistry and error, was nearly sapped through by republican truths."* In a storm, or when one impends, the pilot is looked up to as a god, though at other times he is treated, as he may deserve to be, as an indifferent character.

In 1818 the country was prosperous and tranquil. Such was the representation of the regent's speech on the meeting of parliament. The state-prisoners were permitted to return to their families, and ministers obtained a bill of indemnity, to protect them against the penalties of illegal acts committed during the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. It was a transitory gleam that soon ended in gathering clouds, and the old yoke-fellows, commercial difficulties and political discontent, re-appeared on the scene. Towards the end of the year prices, which had obtained a considerable elevation, began to recede, and the usual consequences followed—numerous bankruptcies, the destruction of private credit, and scarcity of employment in the manufacturing districts. The itinerant orators who had recently escaped from the dungeons of the Secretary of State, resumed their tours of agitation, and the cheap political pamphlets, which contained the diagnosis and cure of social maladies, rapidly increased in number and circulation. In the summer of 1819 the popular excitement was extreme. At the chief towns in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the north-west of Scotland, field-meetings were held, attended by vast multitudes of work-people, who listened to vehement harangues, descriptive of their wrongs, and the abuses of the government. Associations began to be formed, delegates appointed, and the more ardent prepared for an appeal to physical force, by nocturnal trainings in military exercises. At Manchester the project was started, and partly executed, of proceeding in a body to London, to petition the prince regent. At a great meeting in Birmingham, a "legislatorial attorney" was chosen, by show of hands, for the purpose of demanding admission into the house of commons, as the legal representative of the inhabitants. This example was about being followed by other unrepresented towns, when the public authorities became alarmed, and the tendency to a general insurrectionary movement arrested by the military execution of the people at Manchester, on the 16th of August, and the passing by parliament of the celebrated SIX ACTS.

The details of these extraordinary measures are given in the Occurrences. They were strong, went beyond the emergency, and could only have been sanctioned by a ministry which had shown itself more enamoured of the despotisms of the continent than of the English constitution. The massacre of Glencoe, in the reign of William III., formed the only historical parallel that could be found to the outrage perpetrated by the magistrates and yeo-

* History of Party, vol. iii. p. 412.

many of Manchester. Granting that the meetings of the reformers had become dangerous to the public peace; that they were of an unlawful character; they ought to have been suppressed by a lawful procedure, not magisterial violence. Numbers, it was alleged, constituted force—force, terror—terror, illegality. The object of the Manchester meeting to petition for parliamentary reform was admitted to be legal; but the numbers that assembled, and the manner of assembling in military array, with banners and flags, inscribed with threatening mottoes of “Liberty or Death,” creating alarm in the minds of the peaceably disposed, were declared to constitute its unlawfulness. Its illegality, then, ought to have been declared beforehand; if that had failed, no more violence ought to have been employed than was needful to secure the arrest of the ringleaders, and that only after the forms which the law prescribes had been observed. At most, the offence was only a misdemeanor; but the outrage committed was such as could be only legally justified in resisting a burglary, murder, or other capital crime.

The prince regent was ill-advised enough to return a letter of thanks for a catastrophe which all must have deplored, after the heat had subsided. Motions for a parliamentary inquiry into the Manchester transaction were peremptorily rejected by large ministerial majorities. Courts of justice were open, but the grand juries threw out the bills presented against individuals of the yeomanry force; and the local magistrates, sheltering themselves under their decision, refused to entertain charges against the accused. Coroner’s inquests were held on the bodies of those who lost their lives by the furious charge of the cavalry; but the proceedings were either quashed, as in the case of the Oldham inquest, by the court of king’s bench, or such verdicts returned by the juries as could lead to no judicial proceeding. Some were “accidental death;” another, on a child, “died by a fall from its mother’s arms;” a third, “died by the pressure of the military, being under the civil power.”* In all the homicide was accidental, excusable, or justifiable.

These results indicated the state of feeling among the middle and upper ranks, who, alarmed by the acts, no less than the doctrines of the more intemperate of the Radicals, congregated round the constituted authorities. By some writers of this party, republican sentiments were promulgated, the killing of kings openly justified, the truths of Christianity impugned, and the institution of property decried as an usurpation on the common rights of the people. The Whigs were divided as to the aspect of the times, but mostly lent their support to the executive government. Mr. Brougham, in the house of commons, denounced some of the weekly pamphlets which now circulated in great numbers among the working classes, as of a seditious and blasphemous tendency, and reprehended the supineness of the law-officers of the crown in not prosecuting the authors. Mr. Plunkett, the organ of the Grenvilles in the lower house, pronounced the meeting at Manchester illegal, and deprecated parliamentary inquiry. In this opinion Mr. Wilberforce, to the surprise of many, coincided, and said, “that the majority of thinking persons were satisfied with the steps taken by the magistrates of Manchester, and would be dissatisfied if inquiry at the bar were instituted.”† Such being the prevalent sentiments of the

* Annual Register, vol. lxi. p. 107.

† Belsbam’s History of Great Britain, xiv. 296.

legislature, the coercive measures of ministers passed with little effective opposition, the Grenvilles giving their strenuous support to the new code of laws; and the great body of the religious out of doors, alarmed at the infidel spirit abroad, throwing their weight into the same scale, the administration, though far from popular, succeeded almost triumphantly in making an unprecedented inroad on the national liberties.*

About the time the Six Acts passed, the old king died. The mental disorder, which for the last nine years had disqualified him for the executive government, continued, without a lucid interval, up to his demise. In the relations of private life, and in capacity for government, GEORGE III. was superior to his two immediate predecessors. Exemplary in the observance of the conjugal duties, religious, moral, and temperate, his conduct was in accordance with the national standard of propriety and decorum. His memory was retentive, his judgment shrewd and circumspect; his demeanour in pressing emergencies fearless and unflinching. He was consistent and conscientious; never knowingly a wrong-doer. In conversation he was easy and familiar, but inquisitive and repetitious. He possessed no remarkable accomplishment, nor educational acquirement. For science and literature he had little taste; and the occupations of his leisure consisted of hunting, agriculture, mechanical contrivances, military reviews, music, the theatres, and rustic festivals.

Though the king was by birth an Englishman, the predilections of the Hanoverian elector had not become extinct. That the Brunswick family was still German is shewn by the education given to the princes. Of the king's seven sons five were educated in Germany, and with the exception of the duke of Sussex, whose health rendered such an education impracticable, they were all educated as the younger sons of other German princes; that is to say, as German military.

It was a common opinion at the commencement of the present reign, and indeed through the entire course of it, that the king had more confidential advisers than his responsible ministers. These constituted the king's friends, or what was called by the earl of Chatham, the "influence behind the throne," but which influence, it is now certain, did not exist; and the imputation was probably only a factious invention, in revenge for the king having, in the exercise of his prerogative, broken through the jobbing combinations of the aristocratic parties. The most favoured ministers of George III. were only his servants, whom he dismissed when disagreeable, or unable, from the loss of a parliamentary majority, to carry on the government of the country. His conduct in this respect occasionally savoured of ingratitude, if not dissimulation; for some of his councillors, who most flattered themselves in their ascendancy, were surprised with a sudden manifestation of royal forgetfulness and independence.

The king's ambition to rule unfettered was accompanied with a counter-acting evil; it threw the government into the hands of a meaner agency than that of the great families. During the present reign the executive was chiefly carried on by the needy cadets of noble families, or legal adventurers, whose politics were secondary to objects of professional ambition and emolument. Hence the supremacy of Toryism. Next to ecclesiastics mere lawyers are the least independent, the least gifted with political wisdom;

* In the opinion of the religious, "the worst feature of the disaffected was their zeal against the Christian faith." (*Life of Wilberforce, by his Sons, v. 40.*)—"Heretofore," says Mr. Wilberforce, in one of his private memoranda, "they inveighed against the inequality of property, and used every artifice to alienate the people from the constitution of their country. But now they are sapping the foundations of the social edifice more effectually by attacking Christianity."—(*Ibid.*)

and it is to the influence of Mansfield, Kenyon, Thurlow, Loughborough, Ellenborough, Eldon, and Perceval, that much of the arbitrariness and bigotry of the court may be ascribed. The early part of the reign was least exceptionable. The conclusion of peace in 1763, amidst splendid successes, was magnanimous. There was, however, little dignity in the contest with Wilkes; nor in the exasperation manifested about the political trifles which drew forth the ire of Junius. The independence of the American colonies was one of those junctures in the history of nations, that a government can neither avoid, nor without loss of character quietly submit to. However, the issue was favourable to both—barring the pecuniary entailments of the mother country,—and the loss of empire in the West was replaced by new acquisitions in the East. In the French revolutionary war, though the king was a leading alarmist, he had the support of the rich and titled, whose wishes in every community are equivalent to laws, and cannot be disregarded. But he was more pertinacious in the continuance of hostilities both with America and France, than the most belligerent of his subjects. George III., indeed, lacked the most shining part of a Christian, in not being a lover of peace, but prone to war, which was less excusable, as he neither shared its perils nor privations. While Europe was being made a vast pool of blood, through the stimulus of English subsidies, the court was being amused with Dutch fairs, jaunts to watering-places, and the pageantry of militia and volunteer reviews. The king's chief virtues were domestic; his vices those that distress nations.

In domestic government there was little scope for enlogium. The ascendancy of Toryism was interrupted only by fitful interludes of Whiggism. Important guarantees of constitutional liberty were abrogated or suspended. The growth of public opinion, and the increase of wealth and intelligence among the people, formed the chief bulwarks against the increasing influence of the crown, and the augmentation of the peerage and government expenditure. The right of publishing the parliamentary debates, which was only fully established in this reign, imposed an indirect responsibility to the community on the legislature, the force of which was strengthened by the frequency of county and other public meetings, aided by the numerous societies established for political reform and the diffusion of political information. The external pressure was felt and evinced in public acts. Ireland was sought to be conciliated and improved by the mitigation of the penal laws against Catholics, the opening of her foreign trade, and her legislative union with England. The intrigues of faction, and their endless parliamentary conflicts, fell into disrepute. Questions bearing more directly on the common weal—the freedom and advancement of commerce—popular education—fiscal and judicial improvements—mitigation of the criminal law—the growth of indigence and population—monetary fluctuations, and police, obtained a larger share of attention.

The age was intellectual; but George III. did not actively interest himself in its triumphs, further than by the patronage of the elementary teachers of education, of the fine arts, and voyages of geographical discovery. Since the days of cardinal Wolsey, England has not had a prominent Mæcenas among her kings or ministers. Even the national universities, and the public and grammar-schools of the kingdom, continued fettered by usage, by devotion to an exploded philosophy, or by the tenure of their foundations, and did not essentially accelerate the advancement of science. With little aid, however, from these sources, knowledge of a useful kind made an extraordinary progress, stimulated by the wants, or fostered by the increasing riches of the people. The subtleties of metaphysics, whose con-

finer lead nowhere; the niceties of classical scholarship, which savour of pedantry, and the higher order of mathematics, whose uses and reasonings are inapplicable to social life, were less successfully cultivated, and gave way in public estimation to the more available pursuits of chemistry, mechanics, political economy, geology, the medical art, history, and natural and experimental philosophy. It was an age of utility, not morally, but physically in the application of intellect to the substantial requisites of commerce, agriculture, and manufacturing arts.

It was an age of humanity. Of this the abolition of the African Slave Trade, and the efforts made to induce other nations to follow the example, is a noble testimony. The tendency of the national feeling was evinced in the encouragement given to the Bell and Lancaster schemes of popular education; to institutions of charity and benevolence; to efforts to mitigate or extinguish loathsome and destructive infectious maladies, and to better the state of the poor by an indulgent, though not always enlightened philanthropy. The infamous, and often cruel and unequal punishment of the pillory, was abolished; also the barbarous one of burning females for petty treason, and the disembowelling of traitors. Corruption of blood in the descendants of criminals was limited, and the gothic jurisprudence of wager of battle abolished. Another departure from feudal usages consisted in making the real estates of traders dying intestate liable both for their simple and specially contracted debts.

Among the intellectual changes may be noticed the revolution in periodical literature. It declined and revived with some alteration of character. Essay writing on men and manners conferred great national benefits at the beginning of the king's reign; but the field was exhausted by Addison, Johnson, Goldsmith, and Hawkesworth. The public appetite for ethical monitions, with which most people are familiar, but fail in self-denial to practise, abated. The periodical literature that survived was mostly contemptible for political partisanship, venality, subserviency to booksellers, or absence of critical force and discrimination. By the establishment of *The Edinburgh Review*, in 1802, and its followers, a more independent and philosophical spirit was infused into the periodical press. Fanaticism was rebuked; a just and healthy morality inculcated; dreams of human perfectibility exploded; and questions of practical interest, bearing on religious liberty, commercial freedom, the colonies, education, slavery, population, and currency, made generally familiar and interesting. It is to this source the middle and upper ranks owe much of their advance in knowledge and liberality.

The long reign of George III. is dull so far as it was unmarked by the consummation of any great social or political revolution. Still it is eminently instructive from the novelty, number, and vast interest of its occurrences. It is a magnificent era, signalized by the spread of intelligence—increase of national riches—extraordinary scientific discoveries—great internal improvements, and brilliant naval and military triumphs. For the most part of his life the king was popular, attesting that the tenor of his government was in accordance with the national sentiment. On the bright side of the monarch's character may be urged his private worth, piety, humanity, and love of justice; on the dark his selfishness, bigotry, obstinacy, vindictiveness, dissimulation, love of power, and ingratitude. His understanding and regal abilities have been underrated. It is sufficient to say, that he abased the factions, and thoroughly understood his own interest. To his successor he left a splendid inheritance—a crown, in more complete sovereignty—more independent of aristocratic influence—disputed title—favouritism, or other control, than it had been held since the Conquest.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1816. *Jan. 2.* The Jesuits expelled from Petersburg and Moscow by the emperor of Russia.

12. The relatives of Buonaparte banished from France.

18. A general thanksgiving for the peace.

Feb. 1. Parliament opened by commission. Mr. Brand moved an amendment to the address, pledging the house to a revival of the civil and military establishments of the country. Negatived by 90 to 23 votes.

9. Mr. Brougham introduced the subject of the Holy Alliance. The production of a copy of the treaty was refused on the ground that England was not a party to it.

11. At a wedding at Michelstown, Ireland, a party met to dance in a barn, when the fire being too hot, a young man, to extinguish it, threw into the flames a jug full of spirits. Immediately the barn was in a blaze, and the door being locked, 25 persons were burnt to death, and others greatly injured.

12. A monument erected at Rome, by order of the prince-regent, to the memory of cardinal York, the last of the Stuarts.

17. A man fired a pistol at Miss Kelly from the pit of Drury-lane theatre. He was found to be insane.

Mar. 19. Ministers defeated on the property-tax; 238 members voting for its repeal and 201 for its continuance. Charged at this defeat, the chancellor of the exchequer relinquished the additional malt-tax of 2,000,000*l.*

20. Captain Tuckey set out to explore the interior of Africa, and major Peddie to trace the source of the Niger.

April 21. Sir R. Wilson, Mr. Bruce, and captain Hutchinson tried in Paris for aiding the escape of Lavalette, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

23. Sir John Newport moved for an inquiry into the state of Ireland. It was opposed by Mr. Secretary Peel, and negatived after an animated debate.

A fire broke out in the coffee-house over the Stock-exchange. It did considerable damage, by extending to the adjoining counting-houses and buildings.

May 2. Princess Charlotte of Wales married at Carlton-house to prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg; after the ceremony the royal party set off for Oatlands. Prior to the nuptials parliament voted a provision for an establishment of 60,000*l.*; and, in the event of the decease of the princess, 50,000*l.* was settled on the prince during his life.

19. A riot at Brandon on account of the

high price of provisions. In the course of the month there were, from the same cause, serious tumults at Norwich, Newcastle, Ely, and other places, and which were not quelled without the intervention of the military.

June 15. The Lyceum opened for the performance of English operas.

18. A special commission opened at Ely to try the rioters: 34 were capitally convicted, and five left for execution.

21. A motion in the lords for the relief of the catholics. It was ably supported by the duke of Sussex and lords Donoughmore and Stanhope: opposed by lords Eldon, Bathurst, and Redesdale. Resolution negatived by 73 peers to 69.

26. The house of a tallow-chandler in Aldersgate-street first robbed, and then set fire to.

July 2. Parliament prorogued by the prince-regent.

4. DEATH OF RICHARD WATSON.—The late bishop of Llandaff was in his 79th year, and had long lived retired at his beautiful seat of Colgarth-park, near the lakes of his native county. As a sizar at Cambridge in 1754, he drew attention by his intense studiousness and the rusticity of his dress, which consisted of a coarse mottled Westmoreland coat and blue yarn stockings. Watson became an able chemist and copious writer on theological and political topics. He published an "Apology for Christianity," which needed none, in answer to Gibbon; and an "Apology for the Bible," in reply to Paine. The bishop was liberal in his religion and politics; but after the North and Fox coalition, he felt a contempt for political parties. "Philosophically speaking," says he, "there were neither whiggism nor torism left: excess of riches and excess of taxes, combined with excess of luxury, had introduced universal selfishness."—(*Anecdotes of Watson's Life, by his Son, p. 194.*) The part which Dr. Watson took on the Regency question is supposed to have damaged him in the estimation of the king, and for which he failed to atone by his subsequent publications on the dangerous tendency of French principles. There seems, however, to have been little ground for the querulousness which marked the latter days of the bishop. His life was not unfortunate: he held valuable college and church preferments, and received a large addition to his income from the bequest of a valuable estate from Mr. Ongar, one of his pupils.

5. DEATH OF MRS. JORDAN.—This once popular actress, whose maiden name was

Bland, died in retirement at St. Cloud. Comedy was Mrs. Jordan's chief walk, but she appeared to almost equal advantage in tragedy, where the tender, rather than the violent and lofty feelings of the mind were to be portrayed. Her recent separation from the duke of Clarence, by whom she had a large family, seems to have been resorted to as preliminary to a more legitimate connexion. She was not in indigence, the prince having made a provision for her maintenance and that of her children, inclusive of three she had had by a former connexion, to the amount of 4400*l.* per annum.

July 7. DEATH OF MR. SHERIDAN.—This popular orator, wit, and dramatist, was in his 65th year, and had survived, notwithstanding personal irregularities, the more illustrious of his contemporaries. He was a native of Dublin, but received his chief education at Harrow school, and was intended for the legal profession. His public career may be pronounced to have been prosperous; for, without any special advantage derived from paternity or connexion, or any extraordinary exertion of industry, or self-denial, he rose to be one of the most conspicuous men of his time. The difficulties that clouded the four last years of his life can hardly be termed misfortunes, since they were the natural results of political disagreements with old friends, and inveterate habits of imprudence. Mr. Sheridan's abilities were more the result of observation than of any original fund of intellectual power. His first play (the *Rivals*) and his first speech in the house of commons were not successful; but the failure of these maiden essays became, by the aid of nice discernment and a disposition to improve, the stepping-stones to future triumphs. He was singularly clever—a dexterous and elaborate artist, as his biographer has shewn, of jokes, smart sayings, and dazzling oratory; and there is hardly any excellence of which he was not able to catch the representative save prudential virtues. After the death of Mr. Fox, Sheridan disclaimed allegiance to any whig chieftain apart from Carlton-house. By seniority and talents, if not character, he had himself fair claims to the vacant leadership; and the scruples by which his party lost power, and were kept out of it, were naturally distasteful to a person of his managing aptitude. Except in framing an answer for the prince-regent in apparent rivalry of his colleagues, and keeping back the information of the intended resignation of the Hertfords in the royal household, his fidelity to his party is unimpugned.—(*Moore's Life of Sheridan*, ii. 42*b.*) He was a consistent and disinterested politician, the merit of which is enhanced by the temptations he was under to

be otherwise from his own splendid abilities and embarrassed circumstances. As an orator, he was the most finished and varied of the rhetorical school; and his celebrated speech on the impeachment of Warren Hastings is often referred to as one of the most extraordinary specimens of English eloquence on record. The usually accompanying anecdote, however, does not testify so much to the *utility* as the fascination of this oratorical display; for it is related that the excitement produced was such that the business of the day was necessarily adjourned, and the merits of the speaker, rather than of the case, became the prevailing topic of discussion. The finest speech and the most entertaining, if not the most natural, of English comedies, ought to have guaranteed their celebrated author from the lamentable incidents of his death-bed.

22. The duke of Gloucester married to his cousin, the princess Mary, fourth daughter of the king.

Aug. 3. A riot at Glasgow on account of the soup-kitchens. Several persons wounded in skirmishing with the military.

13. A howitzer of uncommon size, left by marshal Sout to his retreat from Cadiz, placed in St. James's park.

25. One of the convicts in Newgate having stolen a watch, the whole of them, to the number of 140, refused to be searched. A riot ensued, but they were reduced to submission by withholding from them their food.

27. EXPEDITION TO ALGIERS.—Lord Exmouth with a British and Dutch fleet bombarded Algiers; and the Algerine batteries, shipping, arsenal, and magazines being destroyed, the dey thought fit to submit. Eight hundred lives were lost by the assailants, but the result was decisive. The dey was forced to agree to the total abolition of christian slavery, and to the release of all christian slaves within his dominions.

Sept. 13. A party of 13 persons drowned by the upsetting of a boat at Rochester bridge. The accident was occasioned by a piece of timber lying across the starlings of one of the arches.

18. Tumults at Preston by the unemployed.

23. Hon. Augustus Stanhope dismissed the king's service for having enticed lord Beauchamp (a youth only 16 years of age) to play for high stakes at a game of chance, by which the young lord lost large sums, for which he gave his note of hand.

29. Wey and Avon canal opened.

Oct. The quarrels among the students at Gottingen occasioned several duels: four students were killed. The number of students at the university has increased to

1152: of these, only 586 are natives of Hanover; 566 are from other German states; and 180 foreigners, Russians, Danes, Swiss, and English.

21. A new silver coinage issued.

22. Disturbances among the workmen employed in the iron-works at Merthyr and Tredegar, owing to a reduction in wages. Upwards of 12,000 assembled, and the military were called in, to quell the rioters.

26. A prize-fighter named Turner found guilty of manlaughter.

Three-fourths of Belvoir castle destroyed by a fire: damages estimated at 120,000*l*.

Nov. 15. A public meeting of distressed mechanics and others to petition for parliamentary reform. Mr. Henry Hunt presided.

Dec. 2. SPA-FIELDS RIOT.—A large number of the populace assembled in Spa-fields to receive the answer of the prince-regent to their petition. While this meeting was waiting the arrival of Mr. Hunt, a band of desperadoes appeared on the ground with a tri-coloured flag and other banners, headed by a young man named Watson, who, after making a violent harangue from a waggon, led the crowd into the city. Stopping at Snow-hill, they attempted to procure arms by plundering the shop of a gunsmith; Watson firing a pistol and wounding a person who remonstrated against the outrageous proceeding. At the Royal-exchange they were met by a strong party of police, headed by lord-mayor Wood, who ordered the gates to be shut, and seized several who had arms. The military and civil power collecting, the rioters dispersed, after plundering some gunsmiths'-shops in the Minories. Many were apprehended, and two suffered capital punishment; but the ringleader (Watson), for whom a large reward was offered, succeeded in escaping to America, where he died in 1838.

7. Watch-and-ward act enforced at Nottingham.

9. A petition of an unusual tenor was presented to the prince-regent from the corporation of London. It denied that the distresses which afflicted all classes of the people resulted from a "transition from war to peace: it ascribed them to unjust and ruinous wars, and to a long course of lavish expenditure, arising from the "corrupt and inadequate state of the representation of the people in parliament." This language was extremely inconsistent in the city of London, which for the last thirty years had almost uniformly supported the measures of the court, with little apprehension of the consequences.

15. Died, in his 64th year, Charles, third earl of Sandwich, a nobleman of considerable scientific ingenuity, and an ardent friend of civil and religious liberty. His lordship openly professed republican-

ism, and laid aside the external symbols of nobility. He was the inventor of an arithmetical machine, a printing-press, and monochord.

PATENTS AND DISCOVERIES.—To Mr. Taylor for producing gas-light from vegetable oil.

To Mr. Povey for making gentlemen's coats without seams.

Sir Humphry Davy invented a safety-lamp to prevent accidents from foul air in coal-mines.

The sculptures brought by lord Elgin from Greece were purchased by government for 35,000*l*., and deposited in the British-museum.

A canoe was found under the river Witham in Lincolnshire.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Samuel viscount Hood, 92, a distinguished naval officer. Adam Ferguson, L.L.D., 93, late professor of moral philosophy in the Edinburgh university. Patrick Duigenan, M.P. for Armagh, a warm anti-catholic. Duke of Macklenburgh Strelitz, brother to queen Charlotte. Richard, viscount Fitzwilliam, of the kingdom of Ireland: his lordship had, at his house at Richmond, one of the most valuable collections of pictures in Europe; more than 10,000 proof prints by the first artists; a very extensive library, and a scarce and curious collection of the best ancient music; among which were the original virginal book of queen Elizabeth, and many of the works of Handel, in the hand-writing of that great composer. He left his pictures to the university of Cambridge, and 100,000*l*. stock to build a gallery to exhibit them. The viscount died unmarried; his brother John succeeded to the title, but a large portion of his estates passed to the earl of Pembroke.

A.D. 1817. RISE OF RADICALISM.—The period which had elapsed since the peace had been marked by the prevalence of general distress among the industrious classes of the community. The triumphs of the war began to be undervalued when it was found that they had entailed burdens almost insupportable. By ministers the public difficulties were ascribed to the sudden transition from war to peace, and hopes were held forth that they would be temporary. Relief was sought by numerous petitions to parliament, but the reception of these only served to show how little sympathy existed between the national representatives and their constituents. Recourse was next had to petitions to the prince-regent. Large meetings were held at Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, and in the metropolis for this purpose. One remarkable circumstance attending these assemblages was, that they were convened, attended, and conducted almost exclusively by the working classes, the middle and

higher ranks taking no share in their proceedings. In almost all the popular meetings held in 1816-17 men appeared in the garb of poverty, who in fluent and impressive language pointed out the various civil and political evils which in the present reign had produced their altered condition. They enlarged upon the waste of the public money in perpetual wars, in pensions, sinecures, and extravagances of every kind pervading the government; but above all, insisted upon the corrupt dependence of their representatives upon the crown and aristocracy, who, by themselves or by their relatives and dependents, absorbed the money levied on the general industry. The utter hopelessness of any effectual remedy under these circumstances being manifest, the orators urged that a **RADICAL REFORM** in the commons' house of parliament was essential to the salvation of the country. Such was the popular excitement produced by these harangues, aided by the circulation of cheap political writings, that ministers resorted to the extraordinary measure, in 1817, of a double suspension of the Habeas Corpus-act; first, near the close of February, and afterwards, on a fresh alarm, in the month of June. The majorities by which these measures were carried sufficiently indicated the affright which was spread through the most opulent and the most timorous class of the nation. At the same time the number was not inconsiderable who held firmly to the maintenance of laws regarded as the guarantees of English liberty. The termination of these alarms threw great discredit on the ministry, who, by the employment of spies of abandoned character, aggravated popular discontents, and seduced the ignorant into the commission of crimes which they expiated on the scaffold.

Jan. 20. John Cashman, a sailor, and four others, tried at the Old Bailey for burglariously entering the shop of Mr. Beckwith, a gunsmith, on the day of the Spa-fields riot. Cashman only was found guilty, and executed opposite Beckwith's house.

27. A riot near Leicester. Several corn and hay-stacks set on fire.

28. Parliament opened by the regent, who adverted to the popular discontents, which were ascribed to the efforts of designing persons to mislead the people. An amendment to the address was moved in the lords by earl Grey, but negatived without a division. In the commons, the majority for ministers was 264 to 112 votes. On the return of the regent, he was received with strong marks of popular resentment. On passing Carlton-house the glass of the royal carriage was broken by a stone, and it was not without difficulty he reached the palace.

29. A reward of 1000*l.* offered for the discovery of the perpetrator of the outrage on the regent.

Feb. 3. A royal message, accompanied with documents, informed parliament that combinations existed in the metropolis and in other parts of the kingdom dangerous to public tranquillity. These papers being referred to secret committees in both houses, reports were shortly presented of an alarming tendency. Amongst other matters the committees stated, that very numerous associations were enrolled, under the denomination of "Spencean Philanthropists," whose aim was an equal division of the land, and confiscation of funded property. Whatever impression these reports might have made within the walls of parliament, without they were far from obtaining implicit credence. Of the Spenceans the public had not before heard; and being now officially made acquainted with a sect founded upon the speculations of a visionary, who had written, without being generally read, twenty years before, the revelations of the *green-bag* created more surprise than alarm.

6. Lord Cochrane presented to the house of commons the Spa-fields meeting petition, signed by 24,000 persons. It prayed for annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and reduction in the public expenditure. He also presented a petition from Manchester, signed by 30,000 persons, praying for reform in parliament, and economy in the public expenditure. Sir Francis Burdett presented a petition to parliament, from Leeds, signed by 7000, for the same objects.

7. The regent surrendered 50,000*l.* per annum to the public exigencies. Marquis Camden generously gave up the fees of his tellership of the exchequer, 13,000*l.*, reserving only the salary of 2700*l.* Mr. Ponsonby resigned his pension as late lord chancellor in Ireland.

8. Died at Pisa, in Italy, in his 39th year, FRANCIS HORNER, barrister, a gentleman much respected, who had evinced during his short public life superior abilities. He was brought into parliament by his college friend, lord Henry Petty, and acquired distinction as an able debater, and author of the valuable report, in 1810, of the Bullion Committee. He was one of the earliest and most talented writers in *The Edinburgh Review*.

The subscriptions for the widows and children of the privates who fell at Waterloo amounted to near half a million.

4. The price of Cobbett's Political Register being reduced to twopence, it reached a weekly sale of 50,000 copies.

Mar. 4. Habeas Corpus Suspension Act received the royal assent.

11. Great meeting at Manchester for the avowed purpose of petitioning the regent. It was recommended to the petitioners to proceed in a body to London, and many thousands met, provided with a bundle and a blanket for the journey; but by the activity of the magistrates, aided by the military, the design was frustrated. Johnstone, Ogden, and others, to the amount of 200, were arrested.

15. Mr. Cobbett, the popular political writer, left London for America.

20. The proprietors of Drury-lane theatre agreed to let it on lease. The receipts, since building had been—first year, 79,924*l.*; second, 68,889*l.*; third, 61,585*l.*; fourth, 49,586*l.*

Stage-coaches, on the English plan, set up in France. The first between Paris and Versailles.

Apr. 21. Eight persons went on the Lavan sands to gather cockles, when a thick fog coming on they lost their way, and were drowned by the returning tide.

In this month incendiary fires were frequent in the rural districts, chiefly in Essex.

May 8. The Belgic bishops presented a memorial to the king, affirming that it is to the Catholic church the world is indebted for universities, which succeeded the episcopal schools; and that it is to "preserve youth from the contagion of philosophical errors that religion has presided over all studies, under the intervention of the bishops."

12. SIDMOUTH'S CIRCULAR.—Lord Sidmouth having addressed a circular letter to the lords-lieutenant of England and Wales, apprising them that the law-officers of the crown had given an opinion, that magistrates possessed the power of holding to bail persons found selling writings which were deemed, though not legally adjudicated, seditious or blasphemous libels, and requesting that they would notify the same to the respective justices within their jurisdiction, earl Grey brought the matter before the house of lords, by moving, "that the case submitted to the law-officers should be laid before the house;" and his lordship indignantly reprobated the principle. It was, however, maintained by the chief-justice Ellenborough, in opposition to lords Erskine and Holland, and the motion was rejected by a very considerable majority. The same subject was brought before the commons by sir Samuel Romilly, and shared the same fate. The circular, however, was not acted upon, being deemed too hazardous an encroachment upon the liberties of the people.

20. Sir F. Burdett moved for a committee to inquire into the state of parliamentary representation. Motion negatived

by 265 to 77 voices. Six hundred petitions were presented this session for parliamentary reform; most of them praying for annual parliaments and universal suffrage. They were got up chiefly by the activity of Major Cartwright, Mr. Cobbett, and sir F. Burdett.

23. The Royal George man-of-war, which sunk off Portsmouth (*Aug.* 30, 1782), surveyed by means of a diving-bell, and found to be a mass of shapeless timber.

28. The members of a debating society at Cambridge, many of them noblemen, remonstrated against its suppression by the vice-chancellor.

30. Mr. Abbott resigned the speakership of the house of commons, on the ground of ill-health, and was called to the house of lords by the title of lord Colchester: an annuity of 4000*l.* was granted him for his services. Mr. Charles Manners Sutton became the new speaker.

June 6. Thomas Jonathan Wooler tried for a libel on ministers; when after a verdict of guilty had been returned, doubts arose as to the validity of the verdict, it being subsequently ascertained that the jury had not been unanimous: upon which the accused applied to the court for an acquittal, and he escaped punishment.

9. The state-prisoners, Watson, Thistlewood, Preston, and Hooper, conveyed from the tower to the court of king's bench, to be tried for high treason. Watson was first tried, and was ably defended by Wetherell and Copley. His trial lasted seven days, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The attorney-general Shepherd then gave up the prosecution against the others. All the accused were in indigent or humble circumstances, and the chief witness against them was Castles, a government spy.

17. Rundell and Bridge were defrauded of jewels to the value of 20,000*l.* by a foreigner, who ordered the articles to be enclosed in a paper box and sealed, which box he contrived to change, and left another, in which, when the seals were broken, only a few halfpence were found. The box containing these valuables was only five inches long, three wide, and two deep; and a communication was subsequently opened with the successful purloiner at Paris.

22. John Kemble took his leave of the stage in a farewell address, written by Mr. Campbell.

29. Pope Pius issued a bull against bible societies, as tending to the circulation by heretics of unauthorized versions of the Scripture.

July 2. A Margate steam-packet burnt to the water's-edge; the fire arose from

the furnace. Crew and passengers saved by running the vessel into Whitstable.

5. An issue of a gold coin, called "sovereign," value 20s.

8. Died, of apoplexy, in his 63rd year, George Ponsonby, M.P., formerly chancellor of Ireland, and a leading member of the opposition. Mr. Ponsonby was a plain but argumentative speaker, and of gentlemanly manners.

12. Parliament prorogued by the regent.

15. Died at Paris, aged 53, Madame de Staël, daughter of the celebrated Neckler, and herself a lady much distinguished in the literary world. She married baron de Staël, the Swedish ambassador, and left a son and daughter; the latter married to the duke de Broglie.

23. The strenuous efforts of the emperor Alexander to erect universities and schools in different parts of the Russian empire appear to have been successful.

29. A number of persons imprisoned in Elinburgh, under a charge of treason, liberated, after receiving 7s. each to carry them home.

30. Lord Amherst arrived at Spithead from his embassy to the court of Peking, after an absence from England of seventeen months. He was foiled in the object of his mission chiefly from refusing to conform to the Chinese ceremonial of prostration before his "celestial" majesty.

Aug. 2. New custom-house, in Thames-street, finished: the architect, David Laing, esq.

5. Roger O'Connor, esq. acquitted at Meath assizes of a charge of conspiracy to rob the public mail. Sir F. Burdett bore strong testimony to the honour and integrity of Mr. O'Connor.

7. A new criminal code, and an act for the abolition of paper money for less sums than 20s., proclaimed on Tynwald-hill, according to ancient usage, in the isle of Man.

Sept. 17. Three of the maid-servants of sir John Thomas Stanley went to bathe, as usual, his youngest daughter, when they stripped to bathe, and the four were found drowned. It is the third accident of the kind we have met in the occurrences of the present reign (*vide* pp. 622 and 657).

Typhus fever prevalent in Ireland.

The Old Bailey calendar contained 476 prisoners for trial; 45 more than ever known.

23. A treaty signed at Madrid between their Britannic and Catholic majesties, by which England stipulated to pay 400,000*l.* to Spain for the losses she sustained by the abolition of the traffic in negro slaves.

24. An unsuccessful attempt was made at the English Opera-house to divide the entertainments of the night into two dis-

tinguished performances, the first performance to begin at six and continue till nine, and the second to begin at half-past nine and continue till twelve.

Oct. 15. A special commission opened at Derby for the trial of the persons implicated in the tumults of the northern counties. Bills of indictment had been found against 40, but only four were convicted of treason, Brandreth, Turner, Ludlow, and Weightman, the last not executed. During the trials it appeared an informer, named Oliver, had been active in inciting to treason, to reap the reward of discovery.

18. Being the anniversary of the battle of Leipsic, it was celebrated with great rejoicings by the northern cities of Germany, as the era of their emancipation from the French yoke. At Wartburg 500 students assembled, most of whom took the sacrament of the holy supper.

Nov. 6. Died, in the 22nd year of her age, after giving birth to a still-born child, the princess Charlotte, daughter of the regent, and consort of prince Cobourg. The sudden demise of this accomplished and high-spirited princess caused general and intense regret,—“the expectancy and rose of the fair state” having untimely perished. The remains of her royal highness were deposited in the regal vaults of Windsor on the 18th; prince Leopold chief mourner.

WAGER OF BATTLE.—William Ashford appealed Abraham Thornton, who had been acquitted at the Warwick assizes, under circumstances of strong suspicion, of the murder of his sister, Mary Ashford. The writ of appeal was awarded, and Thornton appeared in the court of king's bench, and offered, according to ancient custom, his wager of battle, which the judges decided he was entitled to: but Ashford being only a boy, the challenge was declined, and Thornton discharged. It gave rise to an act of parliament (59 Geo. III., c. 40), that abolished the right of appeal, as a remnant of Gothic jurisprudence.

Strathfieldsaye, a mansion and estate of lord Rivers, was purchased for the duke of Wellington, for 263,000*l.*

9. The usual festivities and procession on lord Mayor's day dispensed with, in consequence of the lamented death of the princess Charlotte of Wales.

14. Died at Brompton, in his 67th year, JOHN PHILIP CURRAN, the celebrated Irish advocate. Mr. Curran obtained a pension of 3000*l.* a-year on resigning the mastership of the rolls in Ireland, in 1814; since which he had lived in England. His talents were more shining than solid: he possessed much wit, drollery, pathos, and a bold and fanciful oratory.

28. British subjects prohibited by proclamation from serving on either side in the pending dispute between Spanish America and the mother country.

Dec. 2. Mr. Munro, who had succeeded Mr. Madison in the presidency, in his message to congress, recommended the abolition of all internal taxes, as not requisite for the public service.

18. TRIALS OF WILLIAM HOUE.—This person having in the course of his trade published some parodies, for the purpose of ridiculing the members of government, was arraigned upon a criminal information, filed by the attorney-general, in the court of king's bench, as a profane libeller of parts of the liturgy. He underwent three trials, on three successive days, before different juries, and two different judges; Mr. Justice Abbott presiding the first day, and lord Ellenborough the other two. Mr. Houe conducted his own defence, with unexpected energy and ability, and each day came off victor, to the great joy of the public, who looked upon the prosecution as a violent effort of power to fetter the press and crush the accused. The obstinacy of the chief justice in trying the defendant on the third and least noxious of his publications, after he had been acquitted by two special juries, was generally censured. A public subscription, which amounted to 3000*l.*, was raised for the defendant in return for his well-timed exertions.

A young swindler, who represented himself as possessed of immense wealth, was so successful in his depredations on credulous tradespeople, that he acquired the name of the "fortunate youth."

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENTS.—In the course of this year the representative system established in Sicily, under the sanction of England, was found unsuitable to the people, and abolished. In Prussia and other German states, there was a general desire for representative governments, which created considerable popular agitation. The constitution offered by the king of Wirtemberg to his people was rejected as inadequate to their wants; and the assembly of the states was in consequence dissolved. The court of Saxe Weimar had long been distinguished as one of the most polished and enlightened in Germany, and the reigning duke not only granted to his subjects a free constitution, but made a voluntary proposal to the diet at Frankfort, that the constitution should be placed under the guarantee of the Germanic confederation.

EAST INDIES.—The judicious administration of the marquis of Hastings strengthened the British power in the East Indies. Holkar was defeated at Mehudpore, by sir Thomas Hislop, and peace concluded with

the Mahrattas. The roving and predatory bands of Pindarries were successively brought to submission, and many of them to habits of peace.

THE WEATHER.—The mean height of the thermometer this year, in the neighbourhood of London, was 48.26; in the month of June it was highest, averaging 86. Rain 24.09 inches. The average of rain for the previous 40 years was 20.635 inches.

Thirty-seven coaches ran this summer, every day, from Loudon to Brighton.

The magnetic needle, which had for many years taken a western declination from the meridian, returned towards the north.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir William Innes, 100, a volunteer at the battle of Dettingen. Rev. William Belasco, 60, translator of Herodotus, and co-proprietor, with Mr. Nares, of "The British Critic." William Saunders, M.D., 74, a copious medical writer. At Dresden, Werner, the celebrated mineralogist. Richard Lovell Edgeworth, 74, a writer of some eminence, and father of the celebrated Maria Edgeworth. David La-touche, 88, an eminent banker of Dublin, and 40 years member of the Irish parliament. Hon. Henry Erskine, brother of lord Erskine: Mr. Erskine was long the leader of the Scotch bar, and celebrated for his conversational powers. At Windsor, John Andre de Luc, 91, a celebrated geological writer.

A.D. 1818. FORGERIES ON THE BANK OF ENGLAND.—During the first two years of the peace the forgeries on the bank of England almost doubled; and in 1817 the quantity of paper presented to the bank, which was rejected as forged, and the loss thrown on the holders, amounted to 37,180*l.* The forgeries were chiefly of the *one-pound notes*, those of a higher denomination circulating under greater precautions, seldom counterfeited. The increase of forgery was contemporary with the bank stoppage in 1797, when the small notes first began to be issued. In the eight years preceding the suspension of cash-payments, there was not a single prosecution for forgery; but in the eight which followed the restriction act there were 146 capital convictions for that offence. In the year 1817 there were 32 capital convictions for forgery, and 95 for having forged notes in possession, which last subjected only to transportation. From 1805 to 1818 the number of persons executed for forgery in England and Wales, was 207; for murder 202; for burglary 199; for robbery from the person 188. Of the number 207 for forgery, no fewer than 76 were the victims of bank prosecutions. So that almost as many lives had been sacri-

ficed to protect the inviolability of the paper of this monetary corporation as to protect the person from the highest crime, or property from the most violent depredation. A strong public feeling was in consequence excited in 1818-19 against the numerous prosecutions of the bank, especially when it was found that its multiplied punishments had not succeeded in lessening the number of offences. This feeling was heightened when it was discovered, during the trials at the Old Bailey, that the forgery of bank notes was a matter of easy accomplishment; that it was impossible for the public to distinguish between true and false notes; that the bank servants were often unable to distinguish genuine from forged paper, and that unknowingly they had often refused the payment of good notes. These facts were established by the returns made by the bank to parliament, and in consequence of which juries refused to convict on the evidence of its inspectors and clerks, unless they would discover the private marks by which they discriminated forged from genuine paper. This placed the bank in the dilemma of either abandoning prosecutions, or of giving publicity to their own safeguard, by which its utility would be destroyed. Attempts were made to improve the workmanship of their notes, so that they could not be imitated; but if the idea of fabricating an inimitable note is not chimerical, it was certainly chimerical to think of producing a note for general circulation that could not be imitated correctly enough to elude the ordinary vigilance of individuals. The only effective preventive of the evil was that subsequently adopted, namely, of withdrawing the notes of less amount than 5*l.* from circulation. This was a principal reason for the passing, in 1819, Mr. Peel's Act for the resumption of payments in specie by the bank in 1823,—a period, however, which was anticipated; for the directors, having accumulated a large quantity of gold, they began specie payments May 1st, 1821.

1818. Jan. 1. Tri-centenary of the Protestant Reformation celebrated at the London tavern by 1500 persons.

3. The streets of the metropolis were filled with unemployed sailors almost in a state of nudity, and a subscription was raised for their relief.

27. Parliament opened by commission. The addresses passed without opposition in both houses.

28. Habeas Corpus-act restored, and a bill of indemnity passed to screen ministers and others from the legal penalties they might have incurred by the abuse of the power of arbitrary imprisonment, with which they had been temporarily invested.

Feb. 5. By virtue of a royal commission

granted to Mr. Walter Scott and others, the crown-room and chest at Edinburgh were opened. The dust of upwards of a century lay on the floor, and was six inches thick. In the chest the regalia of Scotland was found, consisting of the crown, sword of state, and sceptre. The sword was a present to James IV. from pope Julius.

7. A meeting at the Freemasons'-tavern to raise a fund for building additional churches in the metropolis; the archbishop of Canterbury in the chair, supported by nearly the whole bench of bishops and 25 lay peers.

14. Charles XIII. of Sweden died. He was succeeded by the crown-prince, formerly marshal Bernadotte, and the only one of Buonaparte's generals that retained his exalted station.

Sir Richard Croft, the eminent accoucheur who attended the late princess Charlotte, destroyed himself by a pistol at the house of the Rev. Dr. Thackeray, where he was in attendance on Mrs. Thackeray, who was confined. It appeared, from a coroner's inquest, that since the unfortunate result of the accouchment of the princess he had evinced timidity in his profession, and suffered from a depression of spirits that had produced mental derangement.

17. The emperor Alexander fixed the meeting of the Polish diet, and announced that he had given a constitution to Poland to secure to her the benefits of national representation.

Apr. 1. The Prussian government contracted with N. M. Rothschild in London for a loan of 5,000,000*l.*, to be raised by ten monthly instalments.

8. Lord Palmerston, the secretary at war, fired at by lieutenant Davis, and slightly wounded. Davis was actuated by some supposed injury, but was found to be insane.

13. ROYAL MARRIAGES.—The death of the princess Charlotte occasioned several of the junior branches of the royal family to form matrimonial alliances; and a message was brought to parliament on the 13th, announcing the contemplated nuptials of the dukes of Clarence and Cambridge with the princesses of Saxe-Meiningen and Hesse-Cassel; that of the duke of Kent with the sister of prince Leopold, the dowager princess of Saxe-Weiningen. Additional allowances of 6000*l.* were voted to the princes; but upon a motion to make a similar addition to the income of the duke of Cumberland, it was negatived by 143 to 136 members. In the course of the month the princess Elizabeth, third daughter of the king, espoused the hereditary prince of Hesse-Homburg; but the occurrence occasioned no application to parliament.

15. Remains of a Roman villa discovered in the duke of Marlborough's estate at Stonesfield near Oxford.

25. The foundation-stone of an observatory laid at Edinburgh by the Astronomical Institution.

May 9. A pedestrian named Crisp finished his extraordinary task of walking 61 miles each day for 17 successive days.

19. Sir Robert Heron's motion for the repeal of the septennial act negatived by 117 to 42 members. It was supported by Mr. Brougham and sir Samuel Romilly. Strangers were not permitted to be present during the debate.

27. Several persons convicted by the excise of selling ground beans and peas for coffee.

28. A new constitution published for Bavaria, establishing Representative Assemblies. The preamble is remarkable for liberality, granting to the people freedom of opinion, with restrictions against abuse; an equal right in all to public offices and distinctions due to merit; equal laws, and equality before the law; equality of imposts; and, as security to the whole, States-general formed from all classes of domiciled citizens.—(*Ann. Reg.*, ix. 76.) The constitution gave general satisfaction to the Bavarians.

June 3. Sir F. Burdett, after presenting 90 petitions to the house of commons praying for parliamentary reform, moved resolutions for annual parliaments and universal suffrage, which were seconded by lord Cochrane: when the house divided, 100 to 2, the mover and seconder.

10. Parliamentary session terminated by a speech from the prince-regent, congratulating the two houses "on the manifest improvement in the internal circumstances of the country, and the growing indications of national prosperity." The lord-chancellor then declared that it was the pleasure of the prince that the parliament be now dissolved. Proroguing and dissolving parliament at the same time was deemed ungracious (*Life of Wilberforce*, iv. 382), and it was the first time it had been done since the reign of Charles II.

Imprisonment for debt abolished in the state of New York.

18. GENERAL ELECTION.—Except in the metropolis, the elections passed over quietly, and produced no change in the parliamentary majority of ministers. In the city of London, after a sharp contest, the ministerial candidate, sir William Curtis, was thrown out, and Messrs. Wood, Wilson, Walthman, and Thorpe elected. In the city of Westminster there was some disturbance. The populace made a violent attack on the court candidate, sir Murray Maxwell, and the guards were called in, to aid the civil power. The election termi-

nated as follows, a whig and radical being returned:—Sir Samuel Romilly, 5339; sir F. Burdett, 5238; sir M. Maxwell, 4808; Henry Hunt, 84.

21. By a convention with Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Britain, France agreed to pay 14,000,000 francs, annuities, for liquidating the debts due by France to individuals on the Continent, and 3,000,000 to satisfy the claims of British subjects.

30. Mr. Merceron, who was tried May 16th, and had been 25 years a magistrate of Middlesex, was sentenced to fine and imprisonment for embezzling parish money, and licensing publicans not legally qualified.

July 2. Intelligence received of the loss of the *Cabalva* East Indiaman; ship and cargo valued at 350,000*l.*: and most of this value belonged to the East India Company, who never insures.

16. Prussia, having acquired several fine provinces on the Rhine, is occupied in strengthening the fortifications of Wesel, Cologne, and Coblenz. The famous fort of Ehrenbreitstein is to be completely repaired.

31. Charles Hussey convicted at Maidstone of the murder of Mr. Bird and his housekeeper at Greenwich. After confessing his crime, he was executed on Penenden-heath.

Aug. 12. The king of Saxony abolished the ancient usage, by which Jews, who frequented the fair at Leipzig, were restricted to a particular part of the town in the exposure of their commodities for sale.

15. The contest between the cotton-spinners of Manchester and their employers kept up with great bitterness. In a statement put forth by the former, they say that their object is only to raise wages to the average of 2*s.* a-week, which they were prior to the reduction consequent on the stagnation of trade in 1816–17. Their ordinary hours of labour they state to be from five in the morning to seven in the evening, in rooms heated from 70 to 90 degrees.

Miss Mary Ann Tucker was acquitted, at the Cornwall assizes, of a libel, inserted in the *West Briton* newspaper, on the vice-warden of the Staunary-court. The novelty of the case was a clever defence made by the defendant in person.

Sept. 3. The weather changed, after 108 hot and clear days. During the three months of June, July, and August, the thermometer at London, at the highest, averaged 90°. At Paris it rose to 98°. In many parts of England the trees blossomed twice.

7. A public meeting in the Palace-yard to petition the prince-regent for annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and vote by ballot. Mr. Hunt, who presided, proposed that they should present it in a body at the Home-office, where it was received by

an officer. But lord Sidmouth refused to lay it before the regent on the ground that in the petition it was set forth to be that of the inhabitants of the metropolis, which was notoriously untrue, there not being 500 persons at the meeting.

11. Vassalage abolished in Courland by the emperor of Russia; and, with the concurrence of the nobility, 4,000,000 peasants were thereby elevated to the rank of freemen.

15. In the south of Ireland one-fifth of the population supposed to be afflicted with the epidemic fever. During the last twelve months 14,060 persons were admitted into the fever hospitals in Dublin.

29. Congress of the allied sovereigns assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle.

30. An accidental explosion of gunpowder at Nottingham, by which several buildings were blown down, and eleven persons lost their lives. Such was the power of the explosion that a large portion of stone pavement was forced six or seven feet into the solid earth.

Oct. 1. At the university of Moscow almost all the public courses have recommenced, and it is remarked that the disasters of that city have had a favourable influence on the state of the sciences. The gymnasium has been opened anew, and perfected in several points. The nobility and the opulent, following the example of the emperor, patronise by donations the schools of popular instruction in this country.

31. A small issue of crown-pieces completed the series of the new silver coinage.

Nov. 2. **SUICIDE OF SIR S. ROMILLY.**—This eminent lawyer was in his 62nd year, and had attained the foremost rank at the chancery bar by his logical and forcible eloquence. His professional gains averaged 14,000*l.* per annum. He was a whig, and filled the office of solicitor-general while that party was in power in 1806. Sir Samuel had taken the lead in the reform and mitigation of the criminal law, upon which he published an able pamphlet. A nervous disorder, produced by the death of his lady, and over-exertion in his profession, which allowed neither of recreation nor domestic comfort, were the alleged causes of his suicide. Even the Sunday was not a day of rest, but often spent in legal consultations;—a practice which Mr. Wilberforce (*Life*, v. 134) in vain tried to prevail on sir Samuel to relinquish.

4. Mr. justice Abbott appointed chief-justice of the court of King's-bench; vice lord Ellenborough, resigned. Next day Mr. justice Dallas was appointed chief-justice of the Common-pleas; vice sir Vicary Gibbs, resigned.

6. Two respectable farmers, tenants at Heckley-grange, near Alnwick, having

lived together in the greatest harmony from childhood, voluntarily terminated, at the same moment, their existence. They were brothers, one 70, the other 60 years of age.

10. Captain Ross and lieutenant Parry returned from their voyage of discovery, after a fruitless effort to find a north-west passage to Asia.

15. The ministers of England, France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle, issued a declaration, expository of their principles, and of their determination to maintain the existing state of Europe. "Henceforth," they say, "they shall devote all their efforts to the protection of the arts of peace, to the increase of the internal prosperity of their states, and to the awakening of those sentiments of religion and morality, whose empire has been too much enfeebled by the misfortunes of the times." The composition of this document is ascribed to M. Gentz, secretary to the congress.

Pending the congress the English boxers Gregson, Cooper, and Carter, exhibited in the great hall at Aix-la-Chapelle before prince Metternich, prince Charles of Prussia, the prince de Salms, and a number of other foreigners of distinction, who repeatedly cheered the onsets between these fistic heroes.

17. **DEATH OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE.**—Her majesty was in the 75th year of her age and the 58th of her marriage with the king. Avarice, and the exertion of a political influence on the unpopular side, were imputed to the queen; but the first imputation is hardly reconcilable with the fact that she expended upwards of 5000*l.* annually in works of benevolence. She was diminutive and very plain in person; obstinate, unforgiving, and contracted in mind; and had all the pride, along with the meanness, of German aristocracy. In the careful management of a large family and in her attentions to the king she had been exemplary, but her general manners were offensive, from prudery and dulness. Mrs. Trimmer, Mrs. Hannah More, Madame d'Arblay, Charlotte Helen Maria Williams, and other female authors, whose writings were directed to moral and religious improvement, received some marks of her favour.

Dec. 5. Two juries at the Old Bailey, one of the Middlesex, and the other of London, acquitted the persons tried before them on the capital charge of passing forged notes, because the clerk of the bank would not explain the marks by which he believed the notes to be forged.

11. **DEATH OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.**—The late chief justice of England was one of four brothers, two of whom attained the episcopal dignity, and his father, Dr. Edmund Law, was bishop of Carlisle, an ami-

able but latitudinarian prelate. The future judge was early located in the South, first on the foundation of the Charter-house, and next at Cambridge; but the Northumbrian burr—the rattling *r*, which indicated the hyperborean scholar—always stuck to him. Young Law's success in life could never have been dubious. Intellectually strong, ambitious, resolute, and industrious, instructed by the companionship of Dr. Paley, and assisted by the patronage of Mr. Justice Buller, and of a good family connexion, he was not likely to experience much delay or difficulty in his legal career. Almost his first and most successful suit was the marrying of a beautiful woman of large fortune, and the descendant, by the mother's side, of a great lawyer, sir Thomas More. He was entrusted with the conduct of the defence in the great cause of Warren Hastings: it had been offered to Erskine, who declined it, owing to his connexion with the whigs, who were the leading impeachers. His professional studies enabled him to make a firm stand against the formidable but unlearned triumvirate of Burke, Fox, and Sheridan: it was *law* against eloquence; and, with the tribunal he addressed, logic and special pleading told more effectively than oriental metaphors. The trial terminated, as is well known, in the acquittal of the accused ex-governor, leaving his able defender in possession of the solid advantages of a large *honorarium*, and high legal reputation. By the dissolution of the Pitt ministry in 1801, Mr. Law became attorney-general, and ten months after, by the death of lord Kenyon, chief-justice of England and baron Ellenborough. The honours were now won; they required only to be worn with dignity and moderation. Pending the Grenville ministry, in 1806, his lordship, after the example of Mansfield, accepted a seat in the cabinet:—a solitary precedent, more honoured in the breach than observance; and from which, the inconveniences resulting from the union of political and judicial functions in the lord chancellor, ought to have deterred a constitutional administration from following. Lord Ellenborough subsequently concurred in its inexpediency, and we have the authority of his son for saying (*House of Lords, July 7th, 1837, Parl. Debts.* xxxviii. 1842), that "if it were to do again he would not do it." Though a sort of whig in principle, lord Ellenborough was practically a conservative: he was anti-catholic; he originated no legal reforms, (unless the act bearing his name be one.) and watched with jealousy, and often stifled with asperity those of others. Even the mild attempts of sir Samuel Romilly were fiercely met by the chief-justice, who declaimed against "speculative humanity," when

prisoners might be pressed to death for standing mute—when women might be flogged, to the outrage of female delicacy, and burnt to death in due form of law—when traitors were drawn, hung, quartered, and disembowelled—when criminals were slain by the capricious fury of the mob in the pillory—when flagrant, but merciful perjury was in constant practice by jurymen—when the twelve judges might be called into the open air to try a wager of battle; and, reluctantly, and in solemn mockery of justice, pronounced sentences of death never meant to be executed. (*Law Magazine*, xi. 342.) Under the impulse of a better spirit and intelligence, these enormities have been removed from the statute-book. In his judicial capacity lord Ellenborough was remarkable for force of language and of reasoning; his integrity and independence were unquestioned; but he laboured under the deep reproach of being an *angry judge*. Carried away by the violence of his temper, he shot beyond the bounds of legal decorum and even of justice; for in lieu of being the counsel of the accused, he became the open advocate of the prosecutor. His judgments were sometimes cruel and unsuitable, as that which sentenced lord Cochrane to the pillory. The overbearing demeanour of the judge in political trials did not pass unproved, either in the senate or in his own court; but his irascibility increased with age, and on the trial of Mr. Hone it blazed out furiously. He failed, however, to extort a conviction of "the poor bookseller," and he only survived this mortifying discomfiture about a twelvemonth, dying in his 68th year. His health had long been declining through the pressure of anxious and toilsome duties, to which he stuck with iron inflexibility. A large family survived him—one a natural daughter, whom he kindly remembered in his will. Leaving a fortune of 320,000*l.*, he was able to make a munificent provision for his descendants. He flourished, and was almost the last chief-justice that did so, in the age of rich legal sinecures, when offices in courts of justice, worth 80,000*l.*, were openly saleable.

17. Mr. Hobhouse nominated M. P. for Westminster, in lieu of the late sir S. Romilly.

31. A riot at Edinburgh during the execution of a man for robbery: he was cut down by the mob, but the police being reinforced by the military, he was again suspended, and the hanging completed.

EVACUATION OF FRANCE.—The most important circumstance of the present year was the entire liberation of the territory of France from the chains under which it had been held by the occupation of a large part of its domains by the great

powers who had taken possession of it. By the second treaty of Paris, the stay of the occupying army was not to exceed five years; but in the present month, the allied sovereigns, having completed three years, during which France had been considered as in foreign possession, they entered into a resolution, at Aix-la-Chapelle, of withdrawing their respective forces from the common territory, and leaving it entirely free and independent.

MISCELLANIES.—Houses began to be heated by steam.

It appears, in London, that there are 532 painters, 45 sculptors, 149 architects, 2060 engravers in stroke, mezzotinto, aquatinta, and wood.

The kaleidoscope invented by Dr. Brewster. The Himala mountains discovered to be the highest in the world: 19 of them higher than Chimboracco, in Peru.

Three systems of education in this year claimed public attention: that of mutual instruction propagated by Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster; the interrogative system of questions without answers; and that of M. Pestalozzi by oral questions.

The British and Foreign Bible Society distributed between March 31, of 1817 and 1819, bibles 89,795, and testaments 104,306.

Belzoni transported from Egypt to England the statue of Memnon.

It appeared by the report of the house of commons, that four millions of pounds' weight of sloe, liquorish, and ash-tree leaves, are every year mixed with Chinese teas in England.

A parliamentary report exposes abuses in sales by auction, reprobating them as affording encouragement to the manufacture of inferior articles, and exciting a competition for lowness of price in preference to excellence of quality, whereby the honest tradesmen and best workmen are injured.

Another report recommended the repeal of the usury laws, as futile and mischievous.

A patent obtained for improvement in printing-presses to work by steam, and for rollers for distributing ink for the types.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Thomas Cogan, M.D., 82, moral and medical writer. Sir Richard Musgrave, author of the "Irish Rebellions." George Dempster, esq., 86, a Scotch advocate, many years member of the house of commons: he was the first who taught his countrymen the art of packing salmon in ice, by which means it may be sent to a good market in the British metropolis. Prince of Condé, 82, one of the leading emigrants in 1789. Patrick Brydone, author of "A Tour in Sicily." Earl of Kerry, 78: his lordship had no

issue, and was succeeded in his honours by his cousin and heir-male, the marquis of Lansdowne. Mrs. Pope, 75, actress. John Palmer, esq., late comptroller of the post-office: he introduced an entire change in the mode of conveying the post, in defiance of an interested opposition, and was rewarded by a public grant of 50,000*l.* Warren Hastings, esq., 86, formerly governor-general of India, and celebrated for the seven years' impeachment of the eloquent triumvirs Burke, Fox, and Sheridan. At his house, in St. James's-square, sir Philip Francis, 78, the supposed and probable author of the "Letters of Junius." Sir Philip spent several years in India, and subsequently took an active part in Indian affairs in the house of commons. When upwards of 70 he married the daughter of a clergyman; but though the disparity of years was great, his motive was companionship, which object he accomplished to the utmost gratification of his hopes.

A.D. 1819. STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The internal condition of the country this year was one of painful interest. Pecuniary distress was nearly universal: the agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing interests laboured under unusual depression and embarrassment. That portion of the people engaged in the labours of husbandry, little susceptible, from their dispersed habitation and rusticity, of political excitement, endured the evils of their lot without audible murmurs, or any expression of hostility against the established order of society, or the conduct of government. In some manufacturing districts, also, severe distress was sustained with mute resignation; in others the case was widely different. The government and the higher classes became alarmed. The prince-regent issued a proclamation against seditious meetings; and soon after a vast assemblage of reformers at Manchester were savagely dispersed by military force. This act of violence was followed up on the part of government by severe measures against the press and seditious meetings; which had the effect of checking popular agitation without eradicating the inherent causes of discontent. Population was felt to be redundant in the existing depression of industry, and encouragement was given to emigration. In the first session of the year a parliamentary grant of 50,000*l.* was voted for the purpose of establishing settlers on the eastern border of the Cape of Good Hope. Public attention was directed to New South Wales, as opening a boundless region for the profitable employment of surplus labour and capital. The poor-laws, with the influence exerted by them on the moral and physical condition of the people; the state of the prisons

and of prison discipline; and the state and actual operation of that portion of the criminal laws under which capital punishment was denounced, became the subjects of able and laborious parliamentary investigation. Political economy, statistics, and the principles of legislation, which had hitherto had little regard even from rulers, were now forced on the attention of all classes, from the light they shed on their mutual interests, rights, and social relations.

Jan. 8. The will of the late queen Charlotte proved in Doctors' Commons, by the executors, lord Arden and general Taylor; the personal property sworn under 140,000*l.* The jewels presented to her late majesty by the nabob of Arcot were bequeathed as an heir-loom to the house of Hanover, and the queen's real estate at New Windsor to the princess Sophia.

13. Several of the disciples of the late Johanna Southcott appeared at Guildhall, to answer the charge of creating a riot in the streets. It seems they had paraded the city, decorated with a white cockade and star on the left breast, proclaiming with a brazen trumpet and stentorian voice the coming of the promised Shiloh. A mob collected and a battle ensued. Before the magistrate they maintained the verity of their mission, and that it was right they should obey God rather than man. After a suitable admonition on the lamentable character of their delusion, they were detained in custody till they could find security to keep the peace.

14. Parliament opened by commission, and Mr. Manners Sutton a second time chosen speaker. The royal speech was read on the 21st, and congratulated parliament on the evacuation of France, and the improvement of the revenue. The address in both houses passed without a division.

20. Died at Rome. Charles IV., ex-king of Spain, in the 71st year of his age, having survived his consort only a fortnight.

25. In consequence of the queen's death a bill was introduced, which passed into a law, for vesting the custody of the king's person in the duke of York, with an allowance of 10,000*l.* per annum. The pecuniary grant was strenuously opposed, but defended on the ground of the pecuniary embarrassments of the prince.

Petitions were presented from the common-council of London, and from the quakers, for a revival of the criminal law.

A circular issued from the home-office, specifying the conditions on which persons would be permitted to emigrate to the Cape of Good Hope. On a deposit of 10*l.* for each head of a family, government undertook to provide a passage and grant an

allotment of land, to the extent of 100 acres.

Feb. 1. An experiment at Portsmouth to make ropes of grass, of a strong and pliable texture, grown in the island of New Zealand. The result was promising.

16. The trade of Hamburg remarked to have undergone three revolutions. The prosperity of the city originally depended on its breweries; its beer is now the worst and least known in Germany. Ten years ago sugar-refiners flourished, and its sugar was exported even to countries which had sugar-refiners of their own. These have declined from the rivalry of other nations, and the trade of insurance has now taken the lead. Hamburg has twenty native insurance companies, each with a capital of from 450,000 to 1,500,000 marks banco, exclusive of private insurers.

Mar. 2. Sir James Macintosh made a motion for the appointment of a committee on capital punishments: it was carried, in opposition to ministers, by 148 to 123.

3. The Westminster election, to fill the seat of sir S. Romilly, terminated, after a sharp contest between the whig, radical, and ultra-radical candidate. The first was returned and the last at the bottom of the poll: the numbers being, G. Lamb, 4465; J. C. Hobhouse, 3361; major Cartwright, 39.

Kotzebue, the celebrated German dramatist, assassinated at Mannheim, by a student of Jena, named Sandt, on the ground of his being a spy in the pay of Russia, and an enemy to the liberties of Germany.

18. Sir Manasseh Lopez convicted at Exeter assizes of bribing the electors of the borough of Grampond, and sentenced in the November following to two years' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000*l.*

20. Burlington arcade opened.

24. Southwark bridge opened, making the sixth metropolitan bridge over the Thames.

A new machine appeared in London, for aiding pedestrians, called a "velocipede," consisting of two wheels, one before the other, connected with a perch, on which the rider rests his body, while with his feet he urges the machine forward. The use of it, if any, was limited to corpulent people, and, after the novelty ceased, it was discontinued.

Apr. 14. A court of honour established in Bavaria, to prevent duelling.

20. A gang of swindlers, named Levy, Woolf, Kinnear, and Meyer, who had succeeded in obtaining goods to the amount of 50,000*l.*, were convicted of a conspiracy, fined, and imprisoned.

27. The Leeds newspapers notice the

serious decrease in one year of upwards of 240,000 pieces of woollen cloth in the manufacture of the west riding of Yorkshire.

May 3. Petitions from the catholics of England and Ireland, from the protestants of Dublin, in favour of their claims, and the corporation of the same place against them, being presented to parliament in the course of the session, Mr. Grattan moved for a committee to take into consideration the laws which affected the catholics, in which he was ably seconded by lord Normanby. After an animated debate the motion was lost by two votes only, the numbers being 241 to 243. The same question was similarly determined in the lords, but with a majority of 147 to 106.

5. The Americans are fitting out, for the first time, an expedition to sail round the world.

10. The Pargiotes left their city, rather than submit to the rule of the Turks, to whom they were abandoned in virtue of an agreement concluded with Ali Pacha by sir Thomas Maitland, governor of Corfu, in breach of the good faith under which the Pargiotes had submitted, in 1814, to the protection of the British government. Only 40 inhabitants were found in Parga when taken possession of by the Turks. The exiles were conveyed first to Corfu, and subsequently to a barren island, called Meganisi.

11. Marquis Camden, having nobly relinquished to the public, as before noticed, the fees of his patent office of a tellership of the exchequer, a bill was introduced to legalize the patriotic donation, doubts having been started whether it was not of the nature of a *benevolence* unwarranted by law.

13. A bill introduced, which became law, to prevent enlistment, and the equipment of vessels for foreign service. Its real object was to prevent British subjects lending their aid to the South American colonies in their struggle with Spain: it was unpopular both in and out of parliament, but was passed into a law by the ministerial majority.

24. Princess Victoria, daughter of the duke and duchess of Kent, born at Kensington palace.

The plan of mutual instruction, adopted in England and at Paris, has been successfully introduced into the Russian army. The progress the soldiers make is astonishing, especially the Cossacks.

28. The plague at Tunis has carried off half the inhabitants.

June 2. The number of new works published at Leipzig fair amounts to 3000, and comprises all works that have been printed in Germany since Michaelmas, and that

are to be published before Midsummer. Medicine and surgery furnish the greatest number of works, amounting to 73 in that department.

7. A large armament, that had long been fitting out at Cadix to recover possession of Spanish America, is frustrated by a mutiny of the troops.

10. Dreadful earthquake at Poonah, in the East Indies. The earth opened, and the extensive district of Kutch sunk, with 2000 inhabitants.

During the voyage last year to Baffin's-bay a bottle was thrown into the sea, from lieutenant Parry's ship, off Cape Farewell. About two months since the bottle was found in the island of Bartragh in Killalubay, and is supposed to have floated, at the rate of eight miles per day, across the Atlantic.

14. A large meeting of unemployed workmen on Hunslet-moor, near Leeds, to petition for annual parliaments and universal suffrage.

16. A meeting of the weavers at Glasgow for similar objects.

July 1. The attainder against lord Edward Fitzgerald reversed.

5. Great meeting of radicals at Stockport.

6. Madame Blanchard made a nocturnal ascent in a balloon at Paris amidst a display of fireworks: when at a considerable height it took fire, and the unfortunate aeronaut was killed.

7. Lord Sidmouth issued circular letters to the lords-lieutenant of the disturbed counties, recommending prompt and effectual means for the preservation of the public tranquillity, and that the yeomanry should hold themselves in readiness.

12. A meeting of parliamentary reformers at Newhall-hill, Birmingham, to the number of 15,000: sir Charles Wolseley nominated, by a show of hands, "legislatorial attorney and representative for Birmingham."

The number of suicides, attempted or executed, in the first four months of this year at Paris amounted to 124, of which 33 were by females. Among them were 64 married, and 60 unmarried: 53 destroyed themselves from disgust of life, the rest from pecuniary difficulties.

13. Parliamentary session terminated.

22. A radical meeting in Smithfield; Henry Hunt presided. Mr. Harrison was arrested at the hustings on a charge of sedition at Stockport. Great military preparations, and 6000 special constables sworn in, to preserve the peace of the city.

24. A constable who had arrested sir C. Wolseley for sedition openly shot in the streets of Stockport.

A female reform-society established at

Blackburn, from which circular letters were issued, inviting the wives and daughters of workmen to form *sister societies* for the purpose of co-operating with the men, and instilling into the minds of their children "a deep-rooted hatred of our tyrannical rulers."

26. A numerous meeting at the City of London tavern to consider the scheme of social improvement of Mr. Owen of Lanark, the duke of Kent in the chair. It was resolved to carry the plan into effect, and a subscription was opened for the purpose.

27. At West-end fair, near London, 200 ruffians armed with bludgeons robbed with impunity, and grossly ill-treated several females. The number and strength of the thieves deterred the police from interfering.

30. A proclamation issued by the prince-regent against military training, seditious meetings, and writings, and the election of "legislatorial attorneys."

Aug. 1. A congress of the continental powers held at Carlsbad, when some resolutions were agreed to, denouncing the freedom of the press and liberal opinions.

7. Drury-lane theatre let to Mr. Elliston for 10,200*l.* a-year (exclusive of the fruit-offices) for 14 years, during which he was to expend 15,000*l.* in repairs.

9. The Manchester reformers having convened a meeting for the choice of a parliamentary representative, they were apprised by the magistrates that the object was illegal; upon which the design was abandoned, and a meeting convened for the 16th, to petition for a reform in parliament.

10. First stone of Menai-bridge laid, by which the island of Anglesey is connected with Caernarvon, and the Bangor ferry superseded. The design is by Mr. Telford, on the suspension principle.

16. MANCHESTER REFORM MEETING.—This memorable meeting was held on a piece of ground called St. Peter's-field, adjoining a church of that name. During the whole of the morning large bodies of reformers, arrayed in regular order, continued marching into Manchester from the neighbouring towns and villages. Each had its banner; some with caps of liberty, and bearing the inscriptions, "No Corn Laws," "Annual Parliaments," "Vote by Ballot," "Liberty or Death." Two clubs of female reformers advanced, one of them numbering upwards of one hundred and fifty members, and bearing a white silk banner. A band of special constables took up a position in the field without resistance. At one o'clock, when Mr. Hunt took the chair, the numbers assembled were estimated at 50,000 men, women, and children, all in holiday spirits. The chairman expressed his full confidence in their peaceable demeanour, nor was an offensive weapon to be seen among them.

While he was speaking, surprise was excited by the appearance of the yeoman-cavalry at the extremity of the field, who, after pausing a moment to breathe their horses, brandished their swords, and charged, right through the crowd, up to the platform. On coming up, the commanding-officer told Hunt he was their prisoner, and, with Johnson and others, was taken into custody. A cry now rose among the military, of "Have at their flags;" and they struck down not only those fixed round the platform, but others dispersed through the field, charging right and left with their drawn swords, and dashing through all that obstructed their passage. A dreadful scene of confusion and terror ensued, numbers being trampled under the feet of the horses, or cut down, men and women indiscriminately; while a body of magistrates, at the head of whom was a Christian minister, viewed the bloody scene in security, from the windows of an adjacent house, and are said to have read the Riot-act; but this was known to few, and it is certain no time was allowed for dispersion, as scarcely twenty minutes had elapsed from the opening of the meeting before the massacre began. The killed and wounded was upwards of four hundred. Coroners' inquests were held on the bodies of the slain; but the verdicts of the juries were evasive, and led to no judicial proceeding. Bills preferred against individuals of the yeomanry to the grand-jury at Lancaster were thrown out, and their example was pleaded by the Manchester magistrates for refusing to commit on any charge connected with the transactions of the 16th. True bills, however, were found against Messrs. Hunt, Moorhouse, Johnson, and seven others, for a conspiracy to overturn the government.

27. Lord Sidmouth communicated to the Manchester magistrates, and to major Trafford, and the military serving under him, the thanks of the prince-regent "for their prompt, decisive, and efficient measures for the preservation of the public tranquillity" on the 16th instant.

Sept. 2. Meeting in Westminster, at which sir Francis Burdett presided, relative to the late outrage at Manchester. Meetings were also held about the same period in the city of London, at Glasgow, York, Bristol, Liverpool, Norwich, and Nottingham, to address the regent or parliament on the same subject. Some petitioned for inquiry; others passed a strong censure on the Manchester authorities and the ministers who advised the royal letter of thanks. There were also counter-addresses, calling for the repression of sedition and blasphemy; one from the city of London with 5000 signatures.

25. **OLDHAM INQUEST.**—A coroner's inquest was held at Oldam on John Lees, who was killed at the Manchester meeting on the 16th of August. After hearing an immense mass of conflicting testimony, the coroner unexpectedly adjourned the inquest to December 1st. Before this period arrived, the case being referred to the court of King's-bench, the whole proceedings were declared null and void by the irregularity of the coroner himself, who had neglected to view the body in the presence of the jury, as by law required, and the court in consequence directed that *no verdict* should be returned. By this decision the hope that had been cherished, of obtaining a legal decision on the character of the Manchester affair, was destroyed.

Oct. 12. Richard Carlile tried and found guilty of a blasphemous libel, in republishing Paine's "Age of Reason." The trial lasted three days, and the accused defended himself. He was also found guilty of publishing Palmer's "Principles of Nature," an American publication. Upon being brought up for judgment (November 16th), an affidavit was put in by the defendant, stating that 3000 copies of the "Age of Reason" had been sold at half-a-guinea a copy. For both libels he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in Dorchester gaol, and to pay 1500*l.* fine.

23. Earl Fitzwilliam dismissed from the lord-lieutenancy of the West Riding of Yorkshire, having signed the requisition for the York meeting on the Manchester outrage. In consequence of the earl's dismissal, several officers resigned their commissions in the Yorkshire yeomanry.

Nov. 6. As a precaution against the designs of the radicals, lord Sidmouth issued a circular to the lords-lieutenant, directing that all pieces of cannon "*laying about*" in the streets were to be removed out of the way, or made useless.

23. Parliament opened by the regent, who was greeted in no flattering manner by the populace. In the lords an amendment to the address was moved by earl Grey, with reference to the Manchester proceedings, which were characterised as illegal and unconstitutional; and ably supported by Erskine, but negatived by 159 peers to 34. A similar amendment, after two days' debate, was negatived in the commons, 150 members voting for, and 381 against, inquiry.

30. **SIX ACTS.**—Lord Sidmouth, in the upper house, and lord Castlereagh, in the lower, gave an outline of the coercive measures they had in contemplation in the present state of the country. They acquired the name of the "Six Acts," and consisted of the following bills:—1. To take away the right of traversing in cases of misdemea-

nor: 2. To punish any person, found guilty, on a second conviction, of libel by fine, imprisonment, and *banishment* (as first introduced, *transportation*) for life: 3. For preventing seditious meetings, requiring the names of seven householders to the requisition, which in future convened any meeting for the discussion of subjects connected with church or state: 4. To prohibit military training, except under the authority of a magistrate or lord-lieutenant: 5. Subjecting cheap periodical pamphlets on political subjects to a duty similar to newspapers: 6. And lastly, a bill giving magistrates the power of entering houses *by night* or by day, for the purpose of seizing arms, believed to be collected for unlawful purposes. These bills were all carried by large majorities; the entering houses *by night*, and the severity of the restrictions on the press, were chiefly objected to; but there appeared a general concurrence in the necessity of strong measures.

Dec. 1. Upon a motion by the marquis of Lansdowne, for an inquiry into the state of the manufacturing districts, the Manchester affair was again discussed. Marquis Wellesley agreed that the country was in danger; but the danger proceeded from the advocates of annual parliaments and universal suffrage. Lord Grenville declared he could see no necessity for the present motion, nor an inquiry into the Manchester transactions, convinced, as he was, that the conduct of the magistrates was highly meritorious. Motion negatived by 178 to 47.

3. Mr. Cobbett arrived in London from America. In his way from Liverpool he had purposed passing through Manchester, but was deterred by the preparations made by the magistrates for his reception.

15. Mr. J. C. Hobhouse taken into custody by a warrant of the speaker, for observations on the house of commons, in his pamphlet of a "Trifling Mistake," and committed to Newgate.

Miss O'Neil, the celebrated tragic actress, married to W. W. Becher, M.P.

30. The labourers of St. Giles's petitioned parliament to be employed in cultivating the four millions of waste land in Ireland.

31. The poor experienced great distress from the severity of weather. In London places were opened for the reception of the houseless, under the patronage of benevolent persons.

FRANCE.—At the beginning of the year a new ministry was appointed, with M. de Cazes at their head. They were popular, but the ultra-royalists carried a vote in the house of peers which tended to destroy the freedom of election. Louis XVIII. inclined to the moderate party, and, to se-

cure their preponderance, he created 54 new peers, and recalled twenty-two of the number erased from the list in 1815, chiefly the marshals and adherents of Napoleon. Some relaxation was made in the law restraining the liberty of the press; and the attempts made to renew the outrages against protestants in the south of France were defeated. Agriculture was flourishing, and the arts and all branches of industry beginning to revive.

GERMANY.—In Hanover, where the duke of Cambridge acted as regent, the states abolished torture, reduced the army, and made the nobles liable to share in public burdens. Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Baden had redeemed the pledges given to their subjects pending the struggle with Napoleon, to grant them constitutions; but Prussia acted evasively. Great discontents were in consequence manifested among the intelligent part of the population, and many patriots were imprisoned or banished for insisting on their civil rights. The professors and students of the universities were strenuous in their efforts to obtain the establishment of constitutional governments. But zeal carried them to excess, and Austria and the leading powers became alarmed at the existence of secret associations. The Russian students were recalled from the German universities. The diet established a central tribunal at Mentz, with inquisitorial authority to hunt out and punish all suspected of political offences.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The efforts of those provinces had been recently crowned with success. General Bolivar completely defeated the royalist armies in New Grenada, hoisted the standard of republicanism, and proclaimed the union of New Grenada with Venezuela, under the general name of Columbia. A republican constitution was afterwards promulgated for these vast regions, and an assembly of representatives opened by a speech from the liberator replete with moderation and political wisdom. Lord Cochrane, who had fitted out a ship in England to join the patriots, was appointed to the command of the Chilian squadron, and displayed his characteristic skill and enterprise.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Somers-town, Dr. Walcot, 81, better known as *Peter Findar*. In Canada, of which he was governor-general, Charles fourth duke of Richmond, of hydrophobia: it resulted from the bite of a lap-dog, six weeks previously. James Watt, LL.D., 83, the celebrated improver of the steam-engine and cultivator of natural philosophy. John Playfair, D.D., F.R.S., 70, professor of mathematics in the university of Edinburgh, and eminent philosphical writer.

Samuel Lysons, F.R.S., 56, keeper of the records in the Tower, and distinguished antiquarian. Right Hon. George Rose, 73, author of a pamphlet on the "Influence of the Crown," and an active and industrious placeman under Mr. Pitt's ministry. Dr. Cyril Jackson, 79, master of Christ-church, and preceptor of the prince-regent. Malcolm Laing, 57, late M.P., and Scottish historian.

A.D. 1820. *Jan. 1.* Colonels Riego and Quirvoga proclaimed the constitution adopted by the cortes in 1812, and marched towards Cadiz.

7. Birmingham theatre burnt. It was at first ascribed to the radicals in revenge of the ultra-loyalty of manager Hunn, who nightly persisted in singing "God save the King;" but was found to have proceeded from the wadding of a pistol having unobserved lodged in the scenery.

19. Foreign journals prohibited in Austria.

The Rev. Mr. Hay, rector of Ackworth, chairman of the Lancaster quarter-sessions, and the leading magistrate at Manchester (August 16), presented to the valuable vicarage of Rochdale by the archbishop of Canterbury.

23. Died, at Sidmouth, in his 53rd year, prince Edward, duke of Kent, fourth son of the king. His death was occasioned by exposure to wet and cold, after a long walk, on the 13th instant. He left behind him a widow, the sister of prince Leopold, and a daughter only eight months old, to whom he bequeathed all his property, by a will dated on the day preceding his dissolution. The duke had been much in the army, where he was a strict disciplinarian. His habits were tinged with eccentricity, but he was much respected for his charitable disposition and moderation. In politics he did not take an active part, but inclined to the side of the opposition more than to that of ministers.

27. **ARCHES COURT.**—A curious case occurred in Doctors'-commons:—George Norton, esq., sought to annul his marriage on the ground of his own impotency! The object was stated to be to protect the legal heirs to Mr. Norton's property, the lady, after seven years of cohabitation, turning out to be pregnant. Sir J. Nicholl, and all the lawyers, agreed that the suit was wholly unprecedented. The husband was 45 years of age when he married in 1812, and the wife 23; and he now prayed a divorce, *propter naturalem et insanabilem defectum suum*. The learned judge dismissed the suit, chiefly on the ground of the time that had elapsed since the nuptials, and that the husband married with a knowledge of his impotency.

Another curious case in the Consistory

court was that of Mrs. Mortimer of Blackheath. In 1811 Mrs. M. gave birth to a male child, and, being alarmingly ill, she, in the belief of approaching death, told her husband that she could not die happy without relieving her mind by confessing to him that she had long carried on an adulterous intercourse with a Mr. Young. The same evening she received the sacrament, but unexpectedly recovered. Mr. Mortimer, however, determined upon a separation, and, after consulting with the lady's father, it was mutually agreed that she should go and live with him, Mr. Mortimer agreeing to allow her a maintenance of 100*l*. a-year. Mrs. Mortimer now applied to the court for a restitution of conjugal rights, on the ground that no *legal* proof of adultery existed against her—her own confession not being admissible as such. Sir John Nicholl refused the application.

29. DEATH OF GEORGE III.—The late king was in the 82nd year of his age, and the 60th of his reign. He had issue, by queen Charlotte, seven sons and five daughters, of whom six of the former and four of the latter survived him. His bodily health had continued good till within two or three months of his dissolution; but he had not enjoyed a lucid interval since the beginning of the regency, in 1811. His majesty's recollection of past events was exact; and occasional sketches of the persons and characters of his early ministers often formed the subject of his lonely soliloquies at Windsor. He had long been totally blind and almost deaf; and, from the aversion he had to any of his attendants rendering him personal assistance, his beard had been suffered to grow to an almost patriarchal length. Before his deafness he frequently amused himself at the harpsichord, and seldom played anything but the music of his favourite Handel. The duke of York, lords Henley and Winchelsea, and general Taylor, were present when the king died. St. Paul's bell began tolling at midnight. It was preceded by the tolling of all the other church-bells in London. The dean ordered the great bell of the abbey to begin tolling at one o'clock.

PUBLIC STATUTES. LVI. TO LX.
GEORGE III.

56 Geo. III., c. 22 and c. 23. Regulates intercourse with the island of St. Helena during the detention of Buonaparte, and indemnifies persons concerned in his detention.

Cap. 60. Transfers dividends, lottery-prizes, &c., unclaimed for ten years, to commissioners for reduction of national debt.

Cap. 68. Provides a new silver coinage, and recalls the old. Silver bullion to be coined into silver coins of a standard fineness of 11 oz. 2 dwts. of fine silver, and 18 dwts. of alloy in the pound troy; and in weight at the rate of 66*s*. to every pound troy, whether in crowns, half-crowns, shillings, or sixpences. Gold coin the only legal tender throughout the United Kingdom for any sum exceeding 40*s*. (before it was 25*l*.) either by weight, tale, or otherwise. Weight and fineness of gold coin, 22 carats fine, and 2 alloy, divided into 44*½* guineas of the present value of 2*l*., or proportionably in any coinage of gold, of a new denomination. Under the latter clause sovereigns were issued early in the next reign, containing $\frac{3}{4}$ parts of a guinea, of the like standard fineness.

Cap. 100. Securing liberty of subject, empowering judges to issue writ of habeas-corpus, and make the same returnable to themselves in vacation.

Cap. 120. For procuring annual returns of criminals in Ireland.

Cap. 138. Abolishes pillory except for perjury and subornation of perjury.

57 Geo. III., c. 3. Suspends habeas-corpus act.

Cap. 6. Preservation of sovereign's person against treasonable practices.

Cap. 7. Seduction of soldiers.

Cap. 19. Prevention of seditious meetings.

Cap. 61. Abolishes offices of wardens, chief-justices, and justices in eyre, north and south of Trent.

Cap. 65. Recompensing persons who have held high and efficient offices; pensions granted to first lord of the treasury, chancellor of the exchequer, &c., after holding offices fixed periods: intended as an equivalent for sinecures that were abolished at this period.

Cap. 75. Abolishes whipping of female offenders.

Cap. 93. Regulates costs of distresses for small rents.

58 Geo. III., c. 30. Prevents frivolous actions of assault and slander. If damages recorded under 40*s*., costs obtained not to exceed 40*s*.

Cap. 45. For building additional churches in populous parishes.

Cap. 70. Abolishes rewards on conviction of persons of highway robbery and other offences; facilitates prosecution of such offences; suppression of disorderly houses. These rewards, or *blood-money*, as it was termed, were found to be an inducement to perjury, and police-officers and others had been convicted of inveigling persons into the commission of crimes for the sake of the rewards.

Cap. 91. Appoints commissioners for in-

quiry into the management of public charities left for the education of the poor; universities and public schools exempt from inquiry. The act originated in the inquiries of a parliamentary committee, of which Mr. Brougham was the very efficient chairman, and which discovered great abuses in the management of public charities.

Cap. 95. Election of county coroners regulated.

59 Geo. III., c. 7. Prevents frauds in outlery trade.

Cap. 35. Establishes trial by jury in civil causes in Scotland.

Cap. 39. Qualification of M.P.'s.

Cap. 46. Abolishes appeals and wager of battle.

Cap. 49. Bank restriction continued till May 1, 1823; gradual resumption of cash payments; export of gold and silver allowed.

Cap. 127. Provides for care of pauper lunatics.

60 Geo. III., c. 1. Against military training and exercises.

Cap. 2. Authorises justices to seize arms in disturbed counties in England and Scotland.

Cap. 4. Prevents delay in administration of justice.

Cap. 6. Prevents seditious meetings.

Cap. 8. Prevents blasphemous and seditious libels.

Cap. 9. Subjects certain periodical pamphlets containing matter relative to church or state to the newspaper stamp-duty.

Cap. 14. Remedies inconveniences in committing power of magistrates in local and peculiar jurisdictions.

FINANCE, TAXATION OF IRELAND, MR. SECRETARY PERL'S BILL.

THE period from the peace to the king's death was one of fiscal difficulty, and the impatience of the people to be relieved of their most irksome burdens, combined with the stagnation of trade, made it impossible for ministers to act on a general system of finance. The course contemplated by government at the close of the war was to keep up an efficient sinking-fund, and to continue, during several years, the property-tax on the reduced scale of 5 per cent. This plan fell to the ground on the rejection of that tax by the house of commons, March 19, 1816; a rejection altogether unexpected by ministers, who were so chagrined at the eagerness of the rich to throw off their share of the war-taxes, that they voluntarily, and as an act of justice to the poor, gave up the war-duty on malt. Thus the public was at once re-

lieved to the amount of about 17 millions per annum. Great as was this easement to the community, it was not equivalent to the loss sustained by the fall in prices, and consequent diminution of profits and income to the productive classes; while, on the other hand, ministers were embarrassed by the sudden withdrawal of so large a portion of the revenue, and, compelling them to continue the practice of anticipation, exchequer-bills were issued, and a loan of nine millions borrowed from the Bank. In consequence of the system forced on government, no progress was made in the reduction of the public debt of the kingdom during the first five years of the peace: on the contrary, it greatly increased, and in January, 1819, the annual interest of the debt exceeded by 5,202,771*l.* (*Parl. Paper, No. 35, Sess. 1819*) the interest in 1815. To continue augmenting the debt in peace as well as war could only have one inevitable issue; but the general eagerness for relief left no alternative to government. In 1819, however, they made an effort to bring the income nearer to the expenditure. In that year, having called on parliament to give efficiency to the sinking-fund, they succeeded in a measure little expected in the midst of peace, the imposition of new taxes to the amount of three millions. These were imposed chiefly on malt, spirits, and tobacco, and paid with reluctance during the next two years of doubt and embarrassment. It was not till the following reign that financial prospects brightened, and which was brought about by the restoration of tranquillity among the working classes, the reduction of the 5 per cents., and a transfer of a portion of the half-pay and pension-list to the next generation.

The following exhibits the nett income of the country during the first five years of peace, from taxes and loans (the last inclusive of exchequer-bills funded and the excess of issue):—

Year.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
1816	£62,635,711	£18,890,771
1817	52,372,403	17,325,061
1818	53,959,218	33,330,806
1819	53,291,508	23,255,859
1820	55,063,693	28,127,480

The property-tax received in 1816 amounted to 12,276,871*l.*; in 1817, to 2,568,654*l.*; in 1818, to 658,338*l.*; in subsequent years the arrears received were inconsiderable.

Prior to 1798 no uniform account of income and expenditure was laid before the nation. In that year a committee of parliament was appointed to arrange an order and form of accounts to be presented annually to the house of commons. The

union of exchequers forms another epoch in finance which it is important to notice. On the 5th of January, 1817, the exchequer of Ireland was united to that of Great Britain. All our previous statements of income, up to 1816, inclusive, refer to the revenue of England and Scotland apart from Ireland, which, previous to the consolidation of the two exchequers, had its own chancellor of the exchequer and public accounts. As we have not hitherto given any account of the revenue of Ireland, we subjoin a statement of the sums raised by taxes in that kingdom, exclusive of loans, from the Union to 1820 :

£.		£.	
1800	2,409,493	1811	5,550,743
1801	3,462,234	1812	6,304,375
1802	4,353,790	1813	6,504,558
1803	3,663,715	1814	7,154,070
1804	4,042,628	1815	7,334,786
1805	4,224,131	1816	6,204,785
1806	4,894,829	1817	5,541,410
1807	5,502,130	1818	5,611,215
1808	5,687,617	1819	5,401,217
1809	5,490,343	1820	4,715,314
1810	4,970,148		

Measures were adopted, towards the close of the present reign, for the restoration of the currency. For this purpose a bill was passed, in 1819, for the resumption of cash-payments by the Bank of England, commonly called Mr. Peel's Bill. The time fixed was May, 1823; but the Bank, having accumulated a large supply of gold, anticipated this period, and recommenced specie-payments in May, 1821. Before the enactment of Peel's bill, bank-paper had almost entirely recovered from its previous depreciation, which greatly facilitated the return to cash-payments. This recovery was partly occasioned by the breaking of the country-banks in 1814, 1815, and 1816, and the immense reduction in provincial paper, which, leaving an opening for the circulation of the Bank, raised its value nearly to a par with gold. In 1815 paper, which had been depreciated 16 per cent. below that of gold, rose, in 1817-18, without the interference of government, to within little more than 2½ of the value of gold; and in 1819 the depreciation amounted to only 4½ per cent. (*McCulloch's Com. Dict.*, 1st edit. 71.) It follows that the rise in the value of the currency could not have originated in Mr. Peel's bill, since the change had been in great part consummated before Mr. Peel's act was passed. It is to other causes that we must ascribe the fall in the prices of commodities; namely, to a diminution in the cost of production by the more extensive use of machinery, to the competition

of foreign products, and the extinction of monopolies.

COMMERCE, OFFICIAL AND DECLARED VALUE OF EXPORTS, DEPRECIATION IN PRICE.

DURING the war commercial prosperity was commonly ascribed to certain monopolies in navigation and commerce, which we enjoyed in virtue of our naval superiority. These were unquestionably advantages. Without the command of the seas, our colonies would have been liable to be captured, our trade interrupted, and partly destroyed. The ascendancy of our navy kept open for us the common highway of nations: it prevented detriment from the war, but it did not open new outlets for British produce and manufactures further than by an extension from the acquisition of the colonies of the enemy. The war was not commercial nor maritime. France, after the loss of the Toulon fleet and the decisive victory of Howe on the 1st of June, ceased to contend with us for the mastery of the ocean. It was not on that element her existence was endangered, but on land, and it was to resist the continental powers leagued against her that she concentrated her energies and resources. In balancing the losses and gains of hostilities to British commerce, it is probable the former preponderated. The conquest of sugar-islands, and the extension of the colonial market, to which Mr. Pitt and his colleagues were wont to attach such undue importance, and which constituted their chief trophy, was not an equivalent for the interdiction of mercantile intercourse with Spain, Holland, Belgium, and Italy. Neither did the increase of the carrying-trade make up the deficiency; for this was an advantage of trifling import, and one in which we shared in common with the Americans, Danes, Prussians, and other neutral states. Because trade increased during the war, its prosperity seems to have been erroneously ascribed to it; whereas had general peace continued—had the nations of Europe not been impoverished and their intercourse impeded by hostilities, it is highly probable that all of them (England especially) would have advanced, much more rapidly than they did, in riches, industry, and commerce. So far as Britain is concerned, this conclusion is incontestable; for though British commerce increased greatly during the war, it increased still faster during peace.—a truth clearly shown by a comparative return of exports.

The average exports of Britain for nine years, from 1793 to 1802, were 30,760,000*l.*

The average exports of ten years of the second war, from 1803 to 1812, both in-

clusive (leaving out 1813, the records of which were destroyed by the fire of the custom-house, and considering 1802 as a year of peace), were 42,145,000*l.*

But the average exports of the seven years of peace, from 1814 to 1820, both inclusive, were 53,922,000*l.*; showing the proportionately more rapid extension of commerce during the latter than the two former periods.

It may be here repeated that the first years of peace were years of difficulty, arising from unfavourable harvests, prevalence of political discontent, unsettled state of the currency, and revulsion in prices. But the tranquil period of the next reign will more clearly establish the superior commercial advantages of peace over war, and to that we defer a more detailed exposition of the progress of commerce and manufactures since 1815.

The value of exports given above is the *official value*; but the conclusion would have been the same had we used the declared value. (*Lowe's Present State of England*, p. 26.) A discrepancy between these different forms of custom-house returns had now become very apparent, and increased still more glaringly during the reign of George IV. It may be suitable in this place to explain the origin of the difference.

The *official value* of exports is computed according to the weight or magnitude of merchandise, and at a uniform rate of price fixed so far back as 1698. The *declared value* of exports is computed according to the value declared by the exporting merchant, and varies with the fluctuations of the market. Official value measures the quantity of commodities annually exported; declared value, their current prices. It is a curious fact in the commercial progress of the country, that the increase in the declared value of exports has not kept pace with the increase in their quantity. While the exports of British produce and manufactures rather more than doubled in quantity in the twenty years from 1798 to 1818, the declared value of them only increased from 33,148,682*l.* in 1798 to 45,198,250*l.* in 1818. This discrepancy began to be most apparent about 1808, and has continued, with accelerated pace, its downward progress to the present time. The causes which have enabled merchants to offer our cottons, linens, hardwares, and other products, to foreigners at such greatly reduced prices, must be sought for in the reduction of wages and profits; the use of machinery, which has lessened the cost of production; and the fall in the price of the raw material. As price is merely relative, if the depreciation in the money value of our imports had been proportionate, no national loss would have been sustained.

But this is probably not so. The cheaper rate at which we have offered our manufactures abroad is an advantage obtained in part by the reduction in the price of manufacturing labour at home; thereby abridging the comforts of those whose employments have been superseded or abridged by the competition of mechanical applications.

POPULAR EDUCATION, BELL AND LANCASTER, PUBLIC CHARITIES.

The institution of charity-schools in 1698, and of Sunday schools in 1781, were steps at long intervals towards the education of the English poor. In 1797-8 a further advance was made by the schemes of popular instruction brought under public notice by Dr. Bell and Joseph Lancaster. Their plans excited much interest, and by the introduction of mutual instruction, slate writing, reading, and pronouncing by syllables, and a mode of tuition better adapted to juvenile minds, great improvements were effected in the practice of education. It was rendered more expeditious, less expensive, and not so irksome and unnatural to children. From Dr. Bell the National School Society had its origin, and from Mr. Lancaster, the British and Foreign School Society; the latter being patronised by the Dissenters, and the former by the Established Church, between whom there long existed a rivalry that terminated to the benefit of the community by the establishment of many useful institutions.

INFANT SCHOOLS formed another useful auxiliary of popular instruction. The idea of an infant school was suggested by the asylum founded by Mr. Owen for the children of the adult population of New Lanark. The objects sought by these establishments were threefold: first, to provide a receptacle for children whose parents are occupied during the day, or unable or unwilling to take care of them; secondly, to instruct them in the rudiments of virtue and knowledge; and, thirdly, to accomplish both these ends by a more natural and cheerful mode of instruction than heretofore practised in dame schools. The first infant school in the metropolis was established in 1818 under the auspices of lords Lansdowne and Dacre, and Messrs. Brougham, Macaulay, Mill, and Wilson. They are now pretty general throughout Britain and in Ireland.

About 1819 Robert Owen began to attract attention by the zeal with which he sought to promote his RATIONAL SYSTEM OF SOCIETY. His leading idea was that the character of man is not formed by him but for him, either by natural organization or the external circumstances to which he

has been subjected from birth. Hence Mr. Owen concluded that by improving the circumstances which surrounded an individual in his early years the individual himself may be improved, and, in place of an inferior, he may be made a very superior being. The main position that the "child is father to the man" was readily conceded, but difference of opinion prevailed as to the best practical application of this truth. The philanthropist himself was for establishing separate and insulated communities, from which evil example and association should as much as possible be excluded, and in place of the competition and emulation of every-day life, equality and community of property and labour be substituted. As Mr. Owen's ideas involved an entire change in the existing structure of society, they encountered opposition, but in the following reign he had obtained a sufficient number of followers to subject his scheme of social amelioration to a course of experimental trial.

During the four last years of the present reign Mr. Brougham was almost unceasingly occupied in suggestions and inquiries for the advancement of popular education. His aim was two-fold: first, to introduce a parochial system of instruction; secondly, to provide funds for the undertaking, either by a public provision, or by restitution to their original purposes of the misapplied endowments of charitable foundations. As chairman of a parliamentary committee appointed to "inquire into the education of the lower orders," he collected a mass of useful information, showing, first, the large portion of the population that were without the means of instruction; and, secondly, the vast funds existing in the kingdom, piously bequeathed for the purpose, but which had been misapplied by the fraud and negligence of trustees. The result of his powerful exertions was the appointment of a commission to inquire into the abuses of public charities; and in the first session of the new reign (*June 28, 1820*), in an able speech he brought the subject of popular education under the notice of parliament. The leading feature of his project was to render national education subordinate to the established clergy. Parochial schools were to be established and partly maintained by a school-rate levied on housekeepers, and partly by a trifling weekly payment by scholars. Mr. Brougham said there were 12,000 parishes in England. Of these, 3500 had not a vestige of a school endowed, unendowed, or dame. Of the remainder, 3500 had endowed schools, and the other 5000 relied entirely on unendowed schools, of course fleeting and casual. (*Ann Reg.*, lxxii. 5.) A bill founded

on this exposition was brought in, but after a first reading was abandoned. The established clergy, though the new measure would have given them the control of parochial education, were not satisfied, because dissenters were not excluded from its benefits. On the other hand, the sectaries were jealous of the great influence it gave to the established clergy.

COURT OF GEORGE III.—NOBILITY AND MIDDLE CLASSES, PUBLIC MANNERS, POLICE, COSTUME, AND NEWSPAPERS.

THE reign of George III. began with a proclamation against vice and profaneness, and there appeared a disposition in the young sovereign to reform, by his own example, the manners of his court. The licentiousness which had been imported from Hanover, and which was common to the petty courts of Germany, was openly practised during the reigns of his two predecessors. Both George I. and George II. lived in concubinage, they both kept mistresses: but the early marriage of their successor, with a discreet princess, cut off this adjunct of royalty, and the gross impropriety of the monarch selecting the wives of his courtiers, and pensioning the husbands, ceased to be the practice of St. James's. Stricter etiquette, as well as decorum, was enforced in the new reign. This was probably a contrivance of the earl of Bute, whose aim was not only to humble the aristocracy, but by keeping them at a greater distance from the throne to preserve, undiminished, his influence over the king, his consort, and the princess dowager of Wales. An anecdote related by the countess of Craven will illustrate the system of the favourite, and the discipline to which he sought to accustom the nobility. "Her majesty expressed a desire to see a certain painting done by lady Bolingbroke. As a peeress of the realm, her ladyship thought it proper to attend herself with the picture; and, although a lady of the bedchamber, but not in waiting, she sent a page to say that she was solicitous to present the picture in person. Lord Bute who was present with their majesties at the time, came out and said in a peremptory manner that lady Bolingbroke must deliver it to the lady in waiting." (*Memoirs of the Margravine of Anspach*, i. 38.) It was thought derogatory to regal dignity for queen Charlotte to receive anything from the hands of a lady, even a peeress, unless officially in attendance.

For a long time after his marriage the court of George III. continued very dull, very decorous, and very parsimonious. The royal family rarely appeared in public, and the retirement in which they lived

became a subject of complaint. Devoted to the nurture of a numerous family, in the seclusion of Windsor or Kew, these were, probably, the king's happiest days, and his homely joys were only interrupted by the intrigues of politicians, an envenomed shaft from the pen of Junius, or the appearance of Wilkes's terrible "North Britain," No. 45. A gayer scene opened by the prince of Wales and duke of York attaining their majorities, and the rise of the princesses into womanhood. The prince was the "prince of good fellows," and won all hearts; he became the choice companion of the convivial and accomplished—appeared familiarly on the turf, and at the club-houses, and attended the brilliant *soirées* at Devonshire-house, where he was charmed with the wit of George Selwyn, or the mellifluous vocal notes of young Wilberforce, the new M.P. for Hull. The icyness of the court was now thawed; even queen Charlotte became hospitable and condescending, dined with the citizens at Guildhall, resplendent with diamonds and ugliness; gave *fêtes champêtre* at Frogmore, where the princesses were amused with Dutch fairs, the feats of tumblers and fortune-tellers. St. George's Hall often rung with the festive gatherings of the scions of nobility met to commemorate a royal birth-day, a house-warming, or other joyous event. The good king did his part; he kept up the old English customs of early dinners and early risings; but shone at militia and volunteer reviews in the Windsor uniform; took vigorous equestrian exercise; chatted familiarly with the farmers, with Dr. Beattie, the great lexicographer, and Joseph Lancaster, the popular educationist, and delighted at the evening promenade on the Castle terrace, in the midst of his lieges and his children, allowed to be the finest royal family in Europe.

These were the *beauz jours* of the court. They were also the palmy days of our splendid aristocracy. They had all that nobility could wish for; they had honour, reverence, and troops of friends; there was no third party to challenge their political supremacy, they had no rivals even in riches, for they had the broad acres, which constituted in a much larger proportion than at present the wealth of the community; they had also the boroughs, the church, and corporations, the army and navy, the public offices and both houses of parliament; they had even the populace of the towns, for everything was either whig or tory, or nothing. Parliamentary elections were theirs; the people not being troubled with the choice of representatives, or even the labour of thought; all being done for them by their

lordly superiors, or by their clever retainers, who, like Burke, Sheridan, and Francis, were engaged in the advocacy of the sentiments of their patrons. The borough elections were settled at Boodle's or the Cocoa Tree, and the counties were often a mere drawing-room arrangement: Mr. Wilberforce says (*Life by his Sons*, i. 56), sir George Saville was chosen member for Yorkshire by the "whig grandees" in the marquis of Rockingham's dining-room. "In those days they kept up a vast deal of state, and the great men all drove up in their coaches and six." Wilberforce was returned for Yorkshire in 1784, by the middle class of freeholders. At that time the clothiers of the West Riding were all Tories (*ibid.* 51).

The burges order has always been narrowing the aristocratic circle. It was the rise of the cities and towns that destroyed the feudal system. These causes of the decline of the nobility were greatly strengthened by the astonishing mechanical discoveries of the present reign. It was in truth the spinning-jenny and smoke of the steam-engine that dimmed the lustre of the aristocracy. They were made richer by the change, but relatively to other classes they became poorer. Accompanied as these wonderful inventions have been by the rise of Dissent and Radicalism, they deprived the patrician class of the autocracy of wealth and numbers which they before possessed. They are, however, still a magnificent pillar of the state, whose condition needs no commiseration. It is not that they have fallen so much as that other classes have risen into competition with them; and if their exclusiveness has been encroached upon, it has been more than compensated to them by a vast increase of enjoyments, and that enviable social distinction which they continue to hold by courtesy, if not so absolutely as heretofore by indefeasible pretensions.

The increase of national riches consequent on commercial prosperity was attended with the natural adjunct of a vast increase in the luxurious arts. Horticulture, architecture, music, painting, and sculpture, were munificently encouraged. Splendid mansions rose in every part of the country, replete with every enjoyment and convenience that wealth, art, and science could produce. It was about the middle of the king's reign that the nobility and successful commercialists, Angerstein, Beckford, Methuen, and Ellis, began to form those magnificent galleries of art that are now the astonishment and admiration of foreigners. The superb collections of some of the French noblesse and of their farmers-general, as well as those of Holland and Belgium, dispersed by political revolutions,

found ready purchasers in this opulent country; and the result is, that "not only in cabinet pictures, but pictures of all kinds, England is now supposed to be the richest depository of the works of the great masters in the world." (*Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvi. 401.) Luxury and improvement were rife in everything and among all classes. Private carriages, country-seats, and pleasure-horses multiplied. The hours of application were shortened; mercantile and the better class of tradespeople, in lieu of their ledgers and counters, devoted the afternoon to wine, music, literature, or the theatres. Employments were more nicely subdivided; and in easement of their superiors, more superintendents, clerks, overseers, bailiffs, stewards, valets, footmen, and ladies' maids were kept than formerly. In towns, in-door apprenticeships became less frequent, and in the country there were less of yearly hiring, and the farmer and yeoman no longer sat down in common fellowship, at a common board, with his hind and husbandman. There was also great amelioration during the war in the condition of the labouring, handicraft, and artificer classes. Their clothing, lodging, furniture, and diet improved. If their masters exchanged the spinnet and harpsichord for the more dulcet notes of the piano or guitar, the treenware, the wooden spoon and trencher, and the pewter platter disappeared from cottages; and, what is more, that infallible sign of plebeian luxury, the wheaten loaf, after battling against the rye, the barley, and oats, in the South, at last wended its way from the Thames to the Tees, and is now struggling onward to the Clyde, the Frith of Forth, and John O'Groats.

There was moral as well as physical amendment. Intemperance might continue to be a Scotch or Irish, but ceased to be an English vice. A visitor no longer feared disobliging his host by leaving his table sober. Punch, that jolly but deleterious wassail-bowl, in which loan-mongers and contractors used to pledge bottle deep to the victories of Howe, St. Vincent, Jervis, and Bronte, disappeared. Wine was drunk in moderation, and more as a condiment to conversation than for the purpose of intoxication. Tavern duels ceased, and gentlemen who wore swords were compelled to adjourn the settlement of their disputes to Chalk-farm, Putney, or Battersea. There was less of the wild justice of nature allowed; street-fights were fewer; petty thieves were not allowed to be pumped upon or dragged through a horse-pond; nor juvenile delinquents scourged or maimed, at the mercy of individuals. In short, men were not suffered to adjudicate their wrongs agreeably to their passions and in-

terests, but were compelled to bring them before a suitable tribunal, by which the nominal amount of criminality was augmented, but strife and ill-blood among neighbours prevented, and greater order and security obtained. Police was rendered more efficient and better organized. That great approbium of London, the *trading-justices*, whose harvest was fees, arbitrarily extorted, were superseded by a stipendiary magistracy, who, being independent of the suitors, and their hours and places of session fixed, justice was surely and more impartially administered. Under this system, suggested by Conant and adopted by Mr. Secretary Dundas in 1792, great improvements were effected in the metropolis and neighbourhood. Travelling by night became as secure almost as by day; and those gangs of *disorderlies*—foot-pads, prostitutes, demireps, and thieves, that used to congregate at Ranelagh, Apollo's-garden, and other places of licentious resort—were dispersed, or reduced to a state of discipline less publicly hurtful and offensive.

There were improvements in *costume* as well as in manners and behaviour. Various extravagances of attire survived queen Anne and the two first Georges. In the reign of the former the dress of noblemen and gentlemen consisted of square-cut coats and long-flapped waistcoats, meeting the stockings drawn over the knee so high as to conceal the breeches, but gartered below it: large hanging cuff and lace ruffles; the skirts of the coat stiffened out with wire or buckram, from between which peeped the hilt of the sword. Blue or scarlet silk stockings, with gold or silver clocks; square-toed, short-quartered shoes with high red heels and small buckles; very long and formally-curled perukes, with three-cornered hats laced with gold or silver, completed the outer man. The tie-wig, bob-wig, and pigtail, were the additions of the next two reigns. George III.'s reign began with a large cocked-hat, called a Kevenhuller, imported from Germany, some of which were open before, like a church spout or the scales they weigh flour in. Gold-laced hats are said to have been general in 1775 and in 1778 (*History of British Costume*, 314), and were adopted by many as a military distinction, or to escape the press-gangs that were busy in the latter year. Round hats began to be worn about the breaking out of the French revolution, which, beside the dowfal of the three-cornered cocked-hat, witnessed also the disappearance of the wig and the practice of "frizzing, plastering, and powdering the hair, till it was at least as ugly as a wig." In 1789 the shirt-collar appeared, and the ruffie vanished. About the same period

pantaloons and Hessian boots were introduced (*History of British Costume*, 316): short boots and loose trousers were the result of the visit of the Cossacks in 1814, and with some slight variations in shape, together with the frock-coat, form the present undress. The changes in ladies' dress are too numerous and evanescent to follow. They continued to wear white stockings in mourning till 1778; hair-powder maintained its ground till 1793, when it was discarded by queen Charlotte and the princesses, and rapidly disappeared from the toilette. The large hoop was only worn at court or in full dress towards the close of the eighteenth century. Geo. IV. abolished the court-hoop.

The changes of fashion often caused great distress among workmen. In 1765 the peace of the metropolis was disturbed by the peruke-makers, who went in procession to petition the king against the innovation of people wearing their own hair. At the recovery of George III., after his first illness, an immense number of buckles were manufactured; they were spread over the whole kingdom. All the wealth of Walsall was invested in this speculation. The king went to St. Paul's without buckles. Shoe-strings supplied the place of straps, and Walsall was nearly ruined. The disuse of wigs, leather breeches, buckles, and buttons is supposed to have affected the industry of a million of persons.

The *tableau* of the present reign would be incomplete without a slight advertence to the state of religion, which presented different aspects at the beginning and towards the middle and end of the reign of George III. At the former period there was much avowed scepticism both among public characters and public writers of eminence. Dr. Johnson and his satellites of rhetoricians, grammarians, and essayists were pious, but Hume, Gibbon, and other philosophical writers, were known infidels. All metaphysical researches, however, that had a tendency to shake the established faith and morality, were discountenanced after the outbreak of the French revolution. The higher classes, from fear, as well as loyalty to the king, became exemplary in their religious profession; and the faith of their inferiors was cherished by missionary-societies, bible-societies, and tract societies. Either from the same political cause, or from the example and rivalry of the sectaries, the conduct of the established clergy underwent a contemporary change. They became more decorous, more exemplary in morals, and more zealous and active in the discharge of their spiritual duties. They lost, notwithstanding, the populace of the towns; which, however, was partly made up to them by rich dissenters occasionally

deserting their ranks, and joining the church.

Mr. Wilberforce, judging of religion and morality according to his own standard, which was not exactly that of the Protestant Reformation, but more nearly allied to the Reformation subverted, thought both had declined during the war. At Manchester he found church attendance much diminished, particularly in the afternoon. Sunday had become a more frequent travelling-day with merchants. But of another provincial town he says, "The manners of Leeds remarkably frugal, sober, and commercial. None of the merchants spend money, and it would be discreditable to attend public places."—"An increasing evil at Sheffield is, that the apprentices used to live with their masters and be of the family; now their wives are grown too fine ladies to like it." (*Life, by his Sons*, ii. 164.) This was in 1796, and the changes described may be traced to other causes than a decline of piety.

A satisfactory proof of the improved condition of the people is the expansion of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*. It was to the multiplication of newspapers, as evidence of augmented wealth and intelligence among the middle ranks, that lord John Russell referred in his elaborate speech on parliamentary reform, April 29, 1822. Newspapers had not only increased in number and circulation, but had enlarged in size, improved in literary management, and in the selection and variety of their contents. In lieu of mere chronicles of occurrences, they had become vast depositories of discussion and information on all questions of public interest and benefit. The practice of pamphlet-writing on ephemeral topics had been almost superseded by them, aided by the disquisitions of the quarterly journals. In the almost illimitable columns of the daily papers was embraced not only domestic and foreign transactions, but the proceedings of the senate, of courts of law and police, and of scientific and literary associations. Considering the rapidity with which newspapers are conveyed to every part of the kingdom, that they find their way into every place of human resort, and are almost universally read, it is hardly possible to overrate their importance in the general diffusion of facts and intelligence. If not another language to mankind, they certainly have been, and must continue to be in a still greater degree, the most efficient of popular instructors. It may be further observed of them, that they have become more independent of influence, both from individuals and the government. During Mr. Pitt's ministry, and till the end of the war, journals were frequently set up and supported

by the Treasury. There was little of this, we apprehend, at the close of the present reign. The leading journals had become great properties, vested in private shareholders, who conducted them on commercial principles, and depended for success and remuneration, like literature generally, on public patronage.

The following statement of the number of newspapers published within the United Kingdom, at three distinct periods, will show the progress of the "fourth estate," as it has been termed, during the last forty years of George III.'s reign:—

	1792.	1790.	1891.
Newspapers published in England . . .	50	60	135
Ditto, Scotland. . .	8	27	31
Ditto, Ireland . . .	3	27	56
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	61	114	222

	1789.	1790.	1891.
Brought forward . . .	61	114	222
Daily, in London . . .	9	14	16
Twice a-week, ditto . . .	9	7	8
Weekly, ditto . . .	0	11	32
British Islands . . .	0	0	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	79	146	284

A parliamentary return of 1821 makes the total annual circulation of London newspapers of every description, daily, weekly, twice, and thrice a-week, amount to 15,500,000.

N.B.—The Tables of Prices, of Exports and Imports, of Men of Letters, &c., for the last five years of the present reign, are carried forward to the end of the reign of George IV.

GEORGE IV. A.D. 1820 to 1830.

THE difficulties with which the country had struggled during the first five years of the peace and the last of the Regency continued unabated, so that the new reign commenced unpopularly. Almost one of the first occurrences that marked the accession of George IV. was the discovery, or rather the suppression, of a wild and atrocious plot for the assassination of the king's ministers. The employment of spies in perturbed periods, though sometimes allowable as a needful adjunct of defensive police, is accompanied with serious evils. First, the character of government is depreciated by the co-operation of an unprincipled agency: secondly, the profligate instruments employed have an interest, and mostly pursue it, in fostering, if not absolutely creating, the mischief they are intended to frustrate; and, lastly, the aspect of the times is perplexed, and obscurity thrown over the true origin and extent of public disorders. This was the case with the Cato-street conspiracy. Authorised spies assisted at the orgies of the desperadoes; they encouraged them with blood-money, and there was some difficulty in determining how far the diabolical scheme originated with the myrmidons of the Home Office, in the extreme penury of the conspirators, or in the rankling feelings of revenge left by the unpunished outrage at Manchester, and the recent coercive acts of the legislature. The same dubious features marked the contemporary, but unconnected insurrectionary movement in the south-west of Scotland. The ludicrous rebellion of Bonnymuir—its provisional government, state proclamations, and other accompaniments—being, as subsequently ascertained, chiefly the result of government espionage working on the distresses and ignorance of the population.

The arrival of Queen Caroline absorbed the interest felt by these opening events. Her majesty had been six years absent from England, and for the last twenty-three years had lived apart from her husband. Their union had been of policy, not of choice. Nature had not suited them: dislike ensued, and separation was the consequence. There was no divorce—no legal act of disunion: friendly feelings were preserved up to a certain

point. Their only child was taken from the mother, but occasional interviews allowed. Whispers of misconduct were circulated; so early as 1806 inquiry was instituted, and the result was, that levity was proved and censured,—crime and punishment were neither established nor enforced. Acquittal of guilt only slightly alleviated the irksome position of her royal highness, which was aggravated after the establishment of the regency. The prince declared he would not meet her in public or in private; the effect of which was, to place the princess out of the pale of society. The prince was the fountain of office, honour, and emolument. He was the leader of fashion; his anathema was a social interdict: all who looked forward to preferment or profit, or to mingle in the highest circle, eschewed her company. Under this blighting influence the princess became insulated and neglected. The drawing-room was shut against her. She was not allowed to participate in the honours of her husband. She did not share in the compliments paid to the nation by the kings of Europe. Such was the might of the regent, that even the conquerors of Napoleon shrunk from visiting an illustrious female marked by his displeasure. The literary and philosophical Madame de Staël was no exception to the rest. She interchanged visits with the powerful and prosperous husband, but shunned the humbled and persecuted wife*. Her associates were mostly like herself, of the unfortunate class, or those who had nothing to hope or fear from the court; poets who did not aspire to the laureatship; and politicians out of place, who found in the princess a convenient substitute for a refractory heir-apparent to the throne†.

Torture has become more refined, but is not extinct. Henry VIII. would have rid himself of a hateful wife by openly sending her to the scaffold. A German prince would have immured her in a dungeon castle. English law did not admit of either application to Caroline of Brunswick, but her lot was hardly less cruel. Her life was made almost a living death by the power of her consort. Meet associates were kept from her. She had neither the enjoyments nor distinctions due to her birth and station. She sought consolation in travel, but persecution followed her steps. She was not informed of her daughter's marriage; the news of her child's death reached her in her exile. At home she was neglected; abroad the same spirit pursued her. If she travelled privately, that circumstance attracted inquiry and observation: if she announced herself, the ambassadors of England were charged not to render her the accustomed honours.

This ubiquity of persecution looked vindictive; it was impolitic as well as unfeeling. If the princess had gone abroad with her acknowledged title, had been received by the representatives of the regent as the wife of their master, being at the same time a person of known levity of character, the strictest watch over her conduct would have been justifiable. The honour of the crown required it. Under the contingency of her living with the future king, of becoming the mother of future monarchs, of being placed at the head of British females, this vigilance would have become a duty; but, long re-

* Diary of George IV., I. 355.

† "Faction," Mr. Canning said, "marked for its own the princess." The whig investigation of 1806 was private, and acquitted the princess of the main charge of pregnancy. Her confidential advisers at the time were the "outs"—lord Eldon, Mr. Canning, and Mr. Percival. They projected the publication of the proceedings of the "Delicate Investigation," as a mode of ministerial annoyance. *The Book*, as it was called, was secretly printed at Percival's house, but suppressed, though it afterwards got into circulation: the "No popery" cry affording a more effective handle for turning out the Grenville ministry.

jected and disowned, a system of espionage was superfluous insult. However abandoned, the example of the princess could neither be hurtful to English society nor endanger the royal succession. Rumours, however, became prevalent that the princess had selected her own menial for her paramour, enriched and honoured him, and lived with him in open adultery. All this would have been publicly unimportant had it been disregarded, and as the relations that had long subsisted between the royal parties required it should have been. The most hurtful consequence that could result from this illicit connexion was, in all probability, precluded by the age of the princess. But a commission was indiscreetly appointed; ministers were made *officially* acquainted with the alleged irregularities of her royal highness, and they could not well avoid acting on that information. This was the dilemma. On the death of George III. they had no alternative, save either to admit the princess, if she desired it, to all the rights and privileges of British queen, or by a public investigation establish the grounds of their refusal. Caroline's spirit was high and intractable. She had been incensed by the omission of her name in the Liturgy, and by the refusal of due honours at foreign courts. She was indignant at hearing only threats of degradation and exposure; for, owing to causes never satisfactorily explained, her chief professional adviser concealed from her the acceptance by government of his own private, but unauthorised, proposition, made to lord Liverpool before the king's death, for an amicable settlement, till after her determination was irrevocably taken to brave her persecutor, demand a recognition of her rights and the unqualified avowal of her innocence.

The king and ministers believed the queen guilty, and considered themselves bound to refuse her demands: hereupon the parties joined issue. Messages and green bags, containing the criminating evidence, were sent down to either house of parliament, announcing her majesty's arrival in England, and recommending to serious consideration the charges produced against her. The alleged adulterous intercourse, being committed with a foreigner, did not amount to treason; it was not an indictable offence—it was a mere civil injury. Party was already mixed up in the question, and intemperate speeches were delivered in the angry discussions which ensued. In the lords a committee was appointed, but the commons adjourned to allow time for negotiation. The adjournment was renewed from time to time, by which nothing was gained but delay: protocols were interchanged, and conferences held between two of the ministers of the crown and her majesty's legal advisers, upon the avowed understanding, "that nothing should be admitted on the one side, or retracted on the other," which led to the nullity that common sense might have anticipated from a negotiation conducted on such a principle. Other half-measures, of a similar import, were tried by the benevolent or independent party, headed by Mr. Wilberforce in the commons, and were attended with a like failure.

All accommodation proving useless, a secret committee of the lords reported July 4th, 1820, and next day a bill for the degradation of the queen and the dissolution of her marriage with the king was introduced. Her majesty protested against these proceedings at every step, and her counsel were allowed to be heard at the bar. She petitioned for a list of witnesses and of places where the charges of criminal conduct were laid; both these requests were denied. But before the second reading the queen's counsel were heard against the principle of the bill. Their objections were founded on the tendency of the inquiry to corrupt the public morals; on the queen's

right of recrimination; on the unusual course pursued; and they inferred that the whole originated in the king's desire to be at liberty to contract another marriage. Her majesty was occasionally present during the examination of witnesses. Her defence was not entered upon till the 3rd of October, and her witnesses were of a greatly superior class in life to those adduced by the prosecutors. Complaint was made that important foreign witnesses, in support of the queen, were kept back through the influence of the English ministry. The house, with a laudable regard to its character for justice, resolved that proceedings should pause till this ministerial influence was impartially investigated; and the queen's counsel were desired to call witnesses to prove their assertion, which they confessed themselves unable to do. The proceedings anterior to the second reading occupied the house to the 6th November, when a majority of twenty-eight appeared in favour of the bill. This majority was small. Several peers objected to the divorce clause, and on the third reading the majority had dwindled to NINE: upon which lord Liverpool announced that the proceeding was abandoned.

During the inquiry, the house of commons continued its occasional adjournments, and the excitement in that house and out of it, against the progress of the Bill of Degradation, was of the most intense description. The entire country, in truth, was on the verge of rebellion; and, some of the military having caught the popular feeling, the crisis was pregnant with peril. This feeling, however, was in great part irrespective of her majesty's guilt or innocence, which attests the impolicy of the proceeding instituted against her; for, had all the inculpatory charges been established by irrefragable testimony, the general sympathy would have continued unchanged, since it arose not so much from the merits of the case as conviction of her wrongs—that she was the victim of a twenty-five years' persecution—that, however great her delinquencies, they were grievously provoked—and that the man who had shown himself her most powerful and relentless persecutor was the last in his dominions who ought to have cast a stone against his injured spouse.

For the other points connected with the trial of Queen Caroline we must refer to the Chronicle of Occurrences. There are only a few more circumstances connected with this memorable investigation that require notice in this place. Upon the general question of her majesty's guilt or innocence it is unimportant, and would be hardly decorous to entertain, and certainly not express, save one opinion. She was acquitted by her judges and by the grand-jury of the nation, therefore she is entitled to the benefit of that acquittal in the estimate of her contemporaries and of posterity. In explanation of some parts of her conduct this may be adduced: she knew she was watched; and, either from mere wantonness of mischief, or desire to annoy her persecutors, she was constantly laying mine's nests for them; affording pretexts for the scandalous reports which she well knew would be duly transmitted to their employers by the spies with whom she was constantly surrounded. Hence her ostentatious fondness for, and the mysterious adoption of, the children of strangers. Her levity in this respect sometimes went to the extent of assuming the appearance of pregnancy, apparently to alarm her consort with the danger of having imposed upon him a surreptitious heir, and his royal brothers and the princesses with the prospect of a disputed succession to the British monarchy.

Dismissing this part of the subject, let us advert to its political bearings.

The power of the kings of England was strikingly exemplified in the prosecution of the unfortunate Caroline. While regent, the prince had sufficient influence over the aristocracy to surround his consort with social desolation, and force her into an involuntary exile when no criminal charge existed against her—when she had, in fact, been acquitted, after a solemn investigation, conducted by lords Grenville, Spencer, Erskine, and Ellenborough. After her return to England, in 1820, the charges against the queen were more weighty than in 1806, but, owing to her age, of less constitutional importance, yet the king could still find supple instruments to continue his vindictive persecution. Except George IV. himself, and the major portion of the royal family, there were few who did not commiserate the queen's situation, and contemplate her trial as a hardship to herself and a calamity to the nation. The ministers unwillingly lent themselves to the king's vengeance rather than endanger their places: their fears, however, were groundless. In the existing state of popular excitement successors could not have been found to carry on the persecution. But the king is alleged to have practised a stratagem on his servants. He threatened to dismiss them unless they executed his odious task, and call to his aid other advisers without imposing upon his new councillors the hateful obligation. Rather than be superseded, they brought forward their bill of pains and penalties. Their position was not exempt from difficulty. Their first indiscretion consisted in commencing hostilities against the queen by the omission of her name in the Liturgy, and thereby provoking her claim to regal rights. That done, only three courses were open, either to admit the queen's claim, which was hardly justifiable with the evidence they possessed against her; resign their places; or bring her to trial. They adopted the last, which, if not the most politic, was an undisguised proceeding.

The conduct of the Whigs pending the investigation was honourable and disinterested. There were only a few who sought to make the juncture subservient to ambition, but, as a body, they did not espouse either side. Some of them were obviously staggered by the strong, though incredible, evidence of grossness adduced against her majesty, while others warmly espoused her cause on the same chivalrous grounds that mainly influenced the national judgment.

It is a common attribute of historical occurrences that those possessing great ephemeral have little enduring interest; while, on the other hand, those which comparatively obtain little attention from contemporaries often swell into vast importance to the next generation. The former was peculiarly the case with the queen's trial. It was the leading, as it was by far the most exciting, event of the present reign, yet it is now fast hastening into oblivion, and, along with it, the heated, and, measured by the occasion, the disproportionate ebullition that accompanied it. Had this celebrated conjugal dispute related to private individuals, it would have been long since deservedly forgotten; and, viewed in reference to the high personages it concerned, it appears only one of those ordinary matrimonial disagreements so frequently adjudicated in Doctors' Commons, arising out of personal dislike, incompatible tempers, or late marriages anticipated by earlier attachments.

The king rapidly regained his popularity. On opening the parliamentary session of 1821 he mentioned the queen by name, and recommended to the house of commons a provision for her maintenance. This provision her majesty at first refused, unless her name were placed in the Liturgy; but subsequently altered her determination, and accepted an annuity of

50,000*l.* She was not, however, allowed to share in the coronation, that was celebrated in the summer with unusual splendour. Her exclusion from the ceremony, though, with her wonted spirit, she attended personally to assert her right to be present, did not elicit any strong expression of public discontent, and clearly showed that the disposition to continue the previous excitement in her favour had subsided. Her death, about three weeks after, terminated her misfortunes. The suddenness of her dissolution revived general sympathy, which was tumultuously expressed at her funeral, and there were few who did not lament the untimely end of an illustrious female, whose noble and generous qualities, had they been favoured by a more suitable education and marriage, would have made her the delight and ornament of her exalted station. The king at the time was making his noisy and transitory visit to Ireland, under the laudable but Quixotic impression that his royal presence would mollify the factious spirit and alleviate the chronic maladies of that distracted kingdom.

Contemporary events abroad presented a flattering but illusive aspect. In 1820 the Spanish military, under the influence of Riego and other gallant officers, and encouraged by the discontents of the middle ranks, revolted against the despotism of Ferdinand, and succeeded in establishing a constitution whose chief defects were the premature disregard of popular prejudices and the risks of anarchy. Portugal followed the example of Spain. Besides suffering the evils which arise from an ill-organised government and non-resident sovereign, she had for many years been reduced to the situation of a mere dependency on Brazil. The revolutionary movement began at Oporto, and speedily extended to Lisbon, where it was consummated, after an unsuccessful effort of marshal Beresford and the royalists to arrest its progress. In Naples the Spanish constitution found imitators not less zealous than in Portugal. The desire for a representative government had long existed in the south of Italy among the intelligent and middling classes of society. It was fostered and diffused by the activity of the Carbonari and other political associations. Hopeless of obtaining their object from the spontaneous grace of their sovereign, and encouraged by the example of Spain to confide in the efficacy of their own endeavours, the Neapolitans determined on insurrection, in which the army, headed by generals Pepe and Carascosa, was induced to co-operate. Deserted by the military, the king had no alternative save acquiescence: all existing political institutions were abolished, the Spanish constitution adopted, and Ferdinand and his son pledged their royal faith to its observance. The flame did not stop here, but early in 1821 burst out in Piedmont. Victor Emmanuel, rather than accept the Spanish constitution dictated to him by a union of citizens, soldiers, and students, directed by Santa Rosa and Lescio, resigned his crown, leaving prince Carignano regent of the kingdom, who, with the view of gaining time, and more effectually serving the royal cause, placed himself at the head of the insurgents. Even the provinces of the Turkish empire did not escape the fervor of constitutional movements. In Moldavia and Wallachia an insurrection broke out against the Porte, fomented by prince Ypsilanti, a retainer of the Russian court, and which, by extending into the Mores, or ancient Peloponnesus, became, after a long struggle, the issue of which was delayed by intestine divisions—the natural concomitant of political revolutions—the foundation of the independence of Greece.

Except the establishment of Grecian independence and the severance of Brazil from Portugal, and its erection into an independent state, the stir-

ring events of 1820-1 had no abiding results. The mass of the population were unprepared for regeneration. They were ready enough to join in fêtes and diversions, for they were agreeable to usage and their taste, but they had neither the disposition, the principles, nor the habits that interest men in political changes. It was only the minority of the adventurous and enlightened that co-operated in the revolutions: the peasantry and the populace remained quiescent, and continued—what they had been for centuries—the passive slaves of events. They did not oppose the revolutions, neither did they oppose their suppression. That the changes in the Peninsula and in Italy were not altogether premature is attested by the fact that the insurrectionists were able to overturn the old authorities, to establish new institutions, which they would have maintained, despite of their errors, had not external forces interfered. They were the paramount authority among themselves, but were unable to resist a coalition of foreign despots. For this a physical power was requisite; that could only be organised by a union of all classes, and a national enthusiasm the patriots failed to evoke. In consequence they were overwhelmed by foreigners. Naples and Piedmont were successively overrun by the armies of Austria. They encountered hardly any resistance. The former governments were restored, and, the better to guard against reaction, the fortresses and large towns were occupied by the invaders till the elements of the late risings had been dispersed, or made powerless by executions, confiscation, exile, and imprisonment. The fate of Spain was deferred two years longer. But consultations were held by the great powers, and the overthrow of the constitutional system determined upon at the congress of Verona, held at the close of 1822. Meanwhile the French were silently collecting a military force on the Pyrenees; first under the pretext of a *sanitary cordon*, next as an army of observation, and lastly, in the spring of 1823, the mask being thrown aside, they crossed the Bidassoa. In five months they penetrated to Cadiz, dispersed the cortes, and restored the despotism of Ferdinand. A simultaneous movement was organised in Portugal. Encouraged by the near approach of the French to the frontier, the royalists exerted themselves, succeeded in bringing over to their party some regiments stationed in Lisbon, and, aided by the queen and prince Miguel, re-established, contrary to his own inclination and protest, the king in absolute authority.

Such were the issues of the continental revolutions. Their progress was arrested by the forcible intervention of foreign powers, confederated under the denomination of the **HOLY ALLIANCE**. This celebrated league forms a remarkable feature in European history, and merits elucidation. It was established immediately after the overthrow of Napoleon, and grew out of the subversive principles of the French revolution. Russia, Austria, and Prussia were the leading confederates. England was solicited to join the compact, but George IV. declined on constitutional grounds, contenting himself with a tacit approval of its objects. These objects were laudable, so far as avowed, and as the avowed objects mostly are of every undertaking. They professed to go no further than the enforcement of practical Christianity, and the government of nations agreeably to the Christian doctrine. Their practices interpreted differently their designs, which appeared directed solely to the conservation, however replete with abuses, of existing governments, especially monarchical institutions. They claimed to derive all power from God. They denounced all political changes, not emanating from themselves, as infringements of their divine vicegerency. They met periodically to determine the liberties of nations: at the cities where

they assembled no strangers were allowed to remain; nor was a secretary or reporter permitted to be present during their discussions, lest he should divulge their mysterious proceedings; but they usually terminated with the promulgation of a manifesto darkly expository of their views and intentions. Royal congresses of this character were successively held at Troppau, at Laybach, and Verona. To Laybach Ferdinand of Naples was summoned to hear the fiat of the crowned heads, whether he should be a constitutional or absolute king. They declared in favour of the latter, and forthwith he was restored by Austrian bayonets, despite of his oath and the wishes of his subjects. The same high tribunal decreed the re-establishment of the Sardinian despotism. At Spain there was some demur, but finally the subversion of her constitution was resolved on, and France, or at least her ultra ministers, became the ready executive instruments of absolutism in the Peninsula.

The triumph of the French beyond the Pyrenees, though unjustly and treacherously achieved, was not unaccompanied with benefits to the world. It completed the separation between Spain and her late colonies; and the fears of European interference checked the tendency to disunion among the infant states of South America. A still more important consequence of French aggression was, its eliciting from England a prompt declaration of her intended policy towards the transatlantic powers. That policy consisted in opening commercial relations with them, towards the close of 1823, by the appointment of consuls in Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Chili, and Buenos Ayres, and the declaration by Mr. Secretary Canning to the French government, that England would not interfere with Spain in any attempt to reconquer her late colonies, but she "would not permit any *third power* to attack them, or reconquer them for her." This was extremely unpalatable to the holy allies, whose leading aim was the entire restoration of the ancient system, even to the subjection of Greece to Ottoman domination; so far as that system did not impose sacrifices on themselves: as, for example, by the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland. In this policy England had, under the foreign secretaryship of the marquis of Londonderry, tacitly acquiesced; and it was only about the period of the suicide of that nobleman she began to exhibit symptoms of jealousy at continental dictatorship. At the congress of Verona she openly dissented from the councils of the confederacy, and her ministers protested against the right of the confederates to meddle in the internal affairs of the Peninsula. Britain being dissentient was fatal to the efficiency, if not to the existence, of the regal combination; for by her might she could always impede, if not frustrate, their proceedings. The despots of the continent might thenceforward continue to announce, in circulars penned by Messrs. Gentz and Metternich, their mystical axioms of oppression, but the nations were aware that England had ceased to be either a sleeping or active partner in the firm, and she would neither co-operate in their plans, nor sanction their anti-progressive doctrines.

Coeval with this change in foreign policy was the adoption at home of a more liberal system of internal legislation. To legal reforms, financial economy, commercial and industrial freedom, public intelligence had long pointed, and these domestic ameliorations, not involving constitutional changes, were favourably listened to by ministers and their newly-incorporated allies, the Grenvilles. The times, too, had become auspicious. Symptoms of returning prosperity began to beam with a steady light on

* Annual Register, lxiii. 146.

the horizon. From the peace, up to 1823, the country had suffered in different degrees the evils of transition. Trade had been dull, fluctuating, or embarrassed; agriculture hardly remunerative, and the landowners, burdened with mortgages and settlements contracted during the intoxication of the war, in a depreciated currency, could with difficulty submit to the reduction in rents the impoverished state of their tenants required. The consequences were loud complaints and desperate projects of relief. The abolition of tithes and sale of church property were talked of at county-meetings: the sequestration of the crown-lands, the reduction of the interest of the national debt, or its equivalent, a copious issue of paper money, were also expedients commonly mooted and favourably listened to. During the adverse circumstances of the people these suggestions were favourably received, but, the difficulties of the country surmounted, they were neglected or forgotten. Abundant employment for capital and industry, advancing prices, plenty of money, and boundless private credit, spread general contentment, hilarity, and an inordinate spirit of commercial enterprise.

The absence of political excitement since the Queen's Trial had been remarkable. The Whigs kept up, with an eagerness abated by the apparent remoteness of the object, the old feud with their opponents for power, but, unsupported by the masses, they could not effectively interfere with the crown in the choice of its servants. Radicalism had severed from them their popular allies, and they assumed the name, given them by one of their leaders (Mr. Tierney), of "His Majesty's Opposition," as more significant of their altered position. Their differences with the ministerialists were rather in degree than in principle. To the maintenance of established institutions in Church and State both were steadfastly devoted; but, though the whigs uniformly disowned the subversive doctrines of the radicals, they justly claimed to themselves the credit of having marshalled the way to the tories of a liberal commercial system; of a conciliatory policy towards Ireland; judicial, legal, and fiscal reforms; the suppression of monopolies; and the recognition of the nationality of the South American colonies.

In the dearth of party contention, the debates of parliament were mostly of a pacific character. They referred more to economical, legal, or commercial, than constitutional or political topics. Occasionally there were grand debates on foreign policy, catholic emancipation, the disfranchisement of corrupt boroughs, the influence of the crown and its secret revenues; but the staple and most interesting subjects of sessional discussion were agricultural distress, the currency and the Bank of England, the navigation laws, the laws relative to combinations of workmen, the silk-trade, commutation of Irish tithes, constitution of juries, and the punishment and reform of criminals. Ireland obtained a large portion of legislative attention, especially after the grievous famine of 1822; and in 1824-5 a searching inquiry was instituted, by a committee of the house of lords, into its social state and natural capabilities. Another subject efficiently pursued early in the king's reign was RETRENCHMENT in the public expenditure. Ministers were loth to return to a peace establishment in the army, navy, or public offices. During the waste and negligence of the war sinecures, pensions, and overpaid places had multiplied enormously. The whigs at intervals assaulted these abuses; but, from want of zeal or timidity, their attacks were limited to insulated excrescences, such as the supernumerary lords of the admiralty, an extra postmaster-general, or lieutenant-general of the ordnance. At length this unbeaten field was entered

upon in good earnest ; first by sir Henry Parnell*, and afterwards by Mr. Joseph Hume, a Scotch member of great shrewdness, practical sense, and indomitable perseverance, which no official artifice could exhaust or baffle. Mr. Hume began his labours in 1821 ; he continued them in succeeding sessions with extraordinary resolution and ability, despite of the jeers of Canning, the ribaldry of Croker, and the solemn indignation of Huskisson ; and, supported by the public voice, the honest and independent members of both parties, and not unfrequently sheltered from the missiles of his assailants by the protecting ægis of Henry Brougham's matchless eloquence, important economical reforms resulted from his exertions.

The great MERCANTILE CRISIS of 1825-6 forms an epoch in the commercial history of this reign. It had its origin in the prosperity of the antecedent years, which prosperity was indicated by the low rate of interest, and a boundless spirit of speculation in foreign loans, mining adventures in South America, and joint-stock schemes of every imaginable description for the employment of capital. Excess of riches produced general recklessness in the application of them ; and this redundancy was augmented by the profuse issues and advances of the Bank of England and country banks, combined with an inconsiderate extension of credit and confidence among individuals. The result was a very disastrous reaction, which long weighed on the energies and industry of the community. Before the revulsion, and in the absence of political excitement, the public mind had taken a very gratifying impulse. Instead of the abundance of peace being accompanied with licentiousness, as in former reigns, the people converted the advantages of their situation to moral and intellectual improvements. At no former period had there been manifested so general a desire for information ; a desire, too, not limited to any particular class, but extending to all classes of society. The more opulent formed themselves into philosophical and literary societies ; while the working people established mechanic, apprentice, and gymnastic institutions for mutual benefit and instruction. A new university was projected in the metropolis for the accommodation of the middle ranks of society. Cheap publications for disseminating useful knowledge were issued in incredible numbers ; and, both soil and seed being favourable, it was impossible to anticipate other, had not the mercantile crisis intervened, than a rich harvest of social advantages.

In 1827 there were symptoms, though feeble ones, of returning prosperity. That year is also memorable for the termination of the PREMIERSHIP of the earl of Liverpool. His ministry had been long but not brilliant. Its chief characteristic was inertness. Instead of an impulse, it had been a drag on the advancing intelligence of the community ; and the few and inefficient public reforms which had been carried during the twelve years that had elapsed since the peace, had been reluctantly conceded by the narrow and timid spirit of his administration. Moreover, his government had become weak, partly from the mutual jealousies of its members of superiority, and partly from a division of sentiment on the catholic question. On this they had agreed to differ ; a principle of co-operation often more convenient to the parties than conducive to efficiency or integrity of purpose. The short-lived ministry of Mr. Canning succeeded, after some curious incidents, which are detailed in the occurrences of the period. It was formed by a union with a large section of the whigs under the marquis of Lansdowne, who seasonably

* Financial Resolutions moved by Sir Henry Paruell, July 1st, 1819. Having no party object, these elaborate, economical propositions obtained little notice from the great parliamentary leaders ; the debates were thinly attended, and on one occasion (*Hansard's Parl. Debates*, xl, 1559,) the house counted out !

lent their aid to the new premier, abruptly deserted by his former coadjutors, on the ground that his general policy accorded with that the Opposition had for years past supported and recommended. Earl Grey was not a party to the coalition, which those who were defended as a means of averting the establishment of an illiberal administration, and of forwarding those measures of public amendment upon which the whigs had prided themselves, and which had not been compromised; neither would the introduction of them be delayed in consequence of their new alliance*. The death of Mr. Canning, four months after his elevation, did not dissolve the cabinet. Viscount Goderich succeeded him, and Mr. Herries became chancellor of the exchequer. The last appointment became a source of misunderstandings, which lord Goderich being unable or unwilling to reconcile, his ministry expired almost in its birth, towards the close of the year.

The formation of the WELLINGTON MINISTRY was the commencement, in 1828, of a new era. Civil disqualifications on account of religious differences had been too long maintained. They may have been defensible securities in the infancy of a protestant constitution, but had ceased to be expedient. Dissent was no longer a type of political discontent; nor catholicism, of a divided allegiance. The dissenters were loyal; they had become a numerous, opulent, and intelligent body; and the catholics had publicly disclaimed those dogmas which rendered them unsafe subjects of a protestant state. No solid pretext remained for the exclusion of either from their civil franchises. It was unprofitable injustice, as well as fraught with danger to the empire. It was a source of weakness in war, and of internal divisions and divided councils in peace. Ministry after ministry had fallen to pieces solely on this account. An efficient and united administration could not be formed, because men of ability and patriotism would not be parties to an obsolete system of intolerance. The legislative suffered as well as the executive. Its time was wasted: every year the subject was laboriously discussed, and every year produced the same mortifying nullity. Parliament became more like an ecclesiastical convocation, occupied in the profitless controversies of theology, than a lay assembly delegated to promote the temporal interests of the nation.

The policy of concession was not a new policy. It was the policy of the last reign, and was only interrupted by the French revolution. It began in 1778, by giving to Irish papists the rights of inheritance and of property, and absolving them from imprisonment for life for keeping schools†. In 1791 there were important concessions‡. The oaths and declarations of catholics were modified; their places of worship and schools for education were tolerated, and they were permitted to practise the law. Two years after, the army and navy in Ireland were thrown open to papists, and they were enabled to vote at parliamentary elections§. Subsequent to the Union, and during the regency, nothing was done for them, save an act of 1817, which placed English catholics on a level with the Irish in respect of admission to offices in the army and navy.

During the Canning and Goderich ministries the catholics indulged hopes of further ameliorations, which were entirely extinguished by the formation of that of the duke of Wellington. His grace was a tory and anti-catholic. Liberality was supposed to be alien to his nature; force

* Marquis of Lansdowne, House of Lords, May 2, 1827.

† Irish Act, 18 Geo. III., c. 60.

‡ 31 Geo. III., c. 32.

§ Irish Act, 33 Geo. III.

and arbitrariness his sole weapons of domination. He was feared as well as generally disliked. All this, however, resulted from imperfect knowledge of the real character of the minister—his sterling good sense and ardent zeal for the public welfare. Past events had shown the mischief of an exclusive policy, its disturbing and weakening effect on the imperial government, and the danger of dismemberment with which it threatened the United Kingdom. Resolved to obviate these evils, the duke, with his wonted energy and promptitude, determined on a new course. The task was herculean, but masterly executed.

The first session of the duke's ministry was signalised by the adoption of lord John Russell's bill for the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, by which municipal corporations and offices of power and trust were thrown open to the dissenters. An efficient finance committee was appointed on the motion of Mr. Peel, and the first fruit of whose labours was the stopping a lavish waste of public money in the granting of life-annuities, founded on erroneous calculations of human longevity. Next followed commissions to inquire into the state of the common law, and the law of real property. These resulted from the luminous parliamentary exposition of legal defects and institutions by Mr. Brougham. An act to prohibit the circulation of Scotch small notes in England; and a corn-bill, in the main agreeing with that rejected in the preceding year, but rather more favourable to the agriculturist, concluded, in July, the important sessional business of 1828.

Meanwhile Ireland presented an extraordinary spectacle. To affirm she was on the verge of civil war was merely to reiterate what had been commonly alleged of her situation for the last half-century. She exhibited symptoms more alarming and unmanageable than actual rebellion. By a novel species of agitation, carried on by itinerant orators, who with the zeal of missionaries set forth the wrongs of their country, but who constantly deprecated illegal violence in seeking redress for them—who themselves cautiously kept within the bounds of the law—the Catholic Association had obtained almost the entire control of the population. They ordered a census of the people, levied tribute under the name of "rent," and assumed to be in every respect the representatives of the wishes and grievances of Ireland. A new source of authority was discovered by them in the forty-shilling freeholders. These had been mostly created by the landlords for political purposes. Under the influence of their priests they deserted their former masters, and submitted to the guidance of the catholic leaders. A new election for Clare afforded an unequivocal test of their power. Their great leader, Daniel O'Connell, stood for the county upon the strength of his right, and a new construction of existing statutes. He was returned by a large majority, and the ministerial candidate, supported by almost the whole of the landed gentry, defeated. In the event of a dissolution, the catholics boasted they could return, by the aid of the "*forties*," seventy members to parliament, pledged to oppose every measure of ministers till emancipation was granted. Against a power like this it was impossible to govern Ireland. The Orange societies and Brunswick clubs were revived by way of counteraction; but the contest was now one of opinion, not of physical force. A series of conversions rapidly followed this new aspect of Irish affairs. A brother-in-law of Mr. Secretary Peel was the first to avow his altered sentiments. Next followed the publication of a private letter of the premier, in which he expressed himself favourable to a settlement of the catholic question. Even the lord-lieutenant was con-

vinced of the necessity of concession, and went so far as to encourage perseverance in the peaceful agitation scheme that had wrought such wonders.

Parliament met early in 1829. The opening speech disclosed the new policy forced on government. The Catholic Association was to be suppressed, the forty-shilling freeholders disfranchised, but catholic disabilities were to be removed. Necessity, not choice, had conquered. Still praise is due to the vanquished as well as the victors. They achieved the greatest of triumphs in conquering themselves, in surrendering to the common good inveterate and long-cherished sentiments. The king, the ministry, the church, and the aristocracy, were opposed to catholic emancipation, but controlled by imperative circumstances, directed by the energies of the prime minister.

Such an unexpected revulsion in public policy forms an instance of the little prescience of the wisest in political occurrences, and of the inappreciable causes by which they are produced. Sternness, inflexibility, coerciveness, and a decided hostility to change, were the prominent manifestations anticipated from the Wellington administration. Contrary to these forebodings, it proved almost effeminate in its course, and certainly more conciliatory and promptly liberal in its concessions than any that ever governed the kingdom. The forty-shilling freeholders formed another anomaly of the time. They had been created as mere instruments of servility, for the perpetuation of the ascendancy of their landlords. They were considered so little worth that Mr. O'Connell actually gave them up—consented to their disfranchisement—in 1825: yet this despised order of freeholders proved, if not the saviours of the country, a very potent instrument in its regeneration.

There is one mode of solving a part of these paradoxes. It is often the interest of men that their present conduct should belie their previous reputation. This is peculiarly the case with political bodies, whose power depends on their popularity. Secure of the support of their own adherents, they seek to neutralise opposition by concession, and to strengthen themselves, by making converts in the ranks of their enemies, through the adoption of their measures and opinions. It thus happens that a tory ministry, whose authority is precarious, will often incline to a whig policy, and *vice versa*.

The remaining events of the present reign are not so important as to require notice further than that devoted to them in the Chronicle. Dropsy, which in the last three years had carried off the duke of York and the princess royal of England, terminated, in June, 1830, the protracted sufferings of the king. The seclusion in which his majesty had latterly lived was commonly ascribed to misanthropy, but arose from bodily infirmities that it was thought politic to conceal, and which rendered his appearance in public or even in private society irksome and distressing. Charity and beneficence continued to the last prominent traits in the conduct of George IV.

The transplanting of the Brunswick princes to England was favourable to their improvement. George I. was thoroughly German: he was too old on his accession to the British throne, and his reign too brief, to admit of his outgrowing in any sensible degree his native habits and acquirements. The reign of George II. was much longer than that of his predecessor, and his character superior; but, either from want of taste or aptitude, he hardly assimilated nearer than the grade of yeoman to the national standard of cultivation. George III. attained the rank of a respectable English squire,

though greatly inferior to his successor in social polish and refinement. While the Hanover electors continued aliens in origin, language, and manners, it is not surprising that their prerogatives were contested, and their supremacy grudgingly admitted by the aristocracy. They were felt to be, and in truth they were, little more than the elected servants of the nobility; morally and intellectually their inferiors; hardly even in pecuniary revenue equalling many of the English lords. Much of this competitive equality disappeared in the former and entirely in the present reign. George IV. entered the lists under highly favourable circumstances. His path had been ably pioneered for him by his predecessor. Possessed of a magnificent civil-list, a princely education, richly endowed by nature, he might, independently of his illustrious descent and royal inheritance, fearlessly compete with his loftiest peers in all the pretensions on which aristocracy prides itself.

While prince of Wales, George IV. was mostly popular. Handsome in person, elegant in manners, free, joyous, a clever mimic and vocalist, racy, and amusing in conversation, he possessed the exterior embellishments that mostly win general favour, and made him the idol of the world of fashion, and, in no small degree, of the populace. It was creditable to his taste that he early attached himself to the brilliant, though rather dissolute, circle of Fox, Burke, and Sheridan. He was the votary of pleasure, of that epicurean description which unites wit and elegance with great license, and renders the intellect itself handmaid to luxurious self-indulgence. Though so far a voluptuary, habitual grossness cannot be imputed to him. His connexions with women were mostly of a kind that combined other and more refined attractions than those of sensuality, and of which the selection of his first mistress, the accomplished but vain Mary Robinson, and subsequently of the exemplary Mrs. Fitzherbert, are satisfactory instances. The existence of one legitimate daughter, and no natural offspring, negates the assumption of a very indiscriminate sexual intercourse.

George IV. had the characteristic courage of his family. "No man," said the duke of Wellington, "can intimidate the king." He had the firmness, with less of the obstinacy of his father. This is shown by the mode in which his acquiescence was obtained to the Catholic Relief Bill, against which he had to surrender prepossessions hardly less strong than those of George III. He submitted to the marital choice of the princess Charlotte, though prince Leopold was disagreeable to him, and though he had, by previous arrangement, betrothed her to the prince of Orange; but he was unwilling to control his daughter in a matter in which she was chiefly interested, especially after the lesson of practical wisdom afforded by his own unhappy marriage, having been degraded into a mere pecuniary contract and state contrivance. His secession from the Opposition, in 1793, implied neither caprice nor dereliction of principle, accompanied as he was by distinguished names to whom the public were accustomed, in doubtful emergencies, to look up for guidance and authority. He always manifested a wish to be reunited to his early friends, but not to submit to fastidious and imperious dictation. Such a disposition was apparent on the subsidence of the alarm occasioned by the French revolution, on the establishment of the regency, on the death of Mr. Perceval, and again on the formation of the coalition ministries of Mr. Canning and of lord Goderich; both of which he steadily supported in defiance of a powerful confederacy of the aristocracy.

The present reign was more free than the former from constitutional encroachments. The coercive acts of the regency were temporary expedients to meet a temporary emergency, and not settled features of the king's go-

vernment. He gave a tacit approval to the professions of the Holy Alliance, which were Christian; but when their practices appeared inconsistent with their declared principles he opposed no obstacle to a public disavowal of all participation in their despotic schemes. George IV. was well content with the established prerogatives of the monarchy. He did not, like his predecessor, circulate private notes among his hereditary councillors, to intimidate or influence them in the free exercise of their legislative functions. Neither was *favouritism* remarkably predominant. Mr. Sheridan at one time appeared to exercise a private ascendancy at Carlton-house. He was well suited to the vocation, and would have been proud of it; but, if he exercised a covert authority, it was only for a short period, and he was not, as his after life attested, very munificently rewarded. The Hertfords, earl Moira, colonel Mahon, sir Benjamin Bloomfield, and sir William Knighton, have been successively charged with the office of court minion. The influence exercised by the last, in his situation of private secretary, and which was probably as great as that of any of his predecessors, has been partly unveiled in his *Memoirs*, and seems, contrary to expectation, to have had as great a reference to spiritual as temporal affairs. George IV. was too clever a man—for cleverness is generally conceded to him, he was too acute and penetrating, and had too morbid a sensibility to personal encroachments, slavishly to subject himself to individual influences. Besides, it was incompatible with his nature. It has been, with more truth than gallantry, said of him, that he had a “woman’s character;” fickle, quickly suspicious, and the creature of impulse, rather than reason. He had, notwithstanding, the sagacity, like his father, to use men in their sphere, and for his purpose, but not much further.

Although not the passive instrument of either man or woman, it cannot be supposed that the king was entirely free from the common lot of princes, every one of whom is said to be governed either by his physician, his mistress, or confessor. There were about him, as well as other monarchs, secret and irresponsible influences. It is easy to perceive, from the partial disclosures of sir Wm. Knighton’s *Memoirs*, that, though Liverpool, Wellington, and other premiers, had the drudgery and accountability of the government, the sunshine of the court, its choicest gifts, and confidence, passed through the channel of the privy purse; and of this novel and somewhat unconstitutional course of royal favour, those who sought it were not slow to avail themselves. For the last keeper of the privy purse the king seems to have had a sincere and affectionate regard. His presence was almost indispensable to his existence. His friendship, however, might have proved like his heart—“Irish;” intense, vehement, and tumultuous, but evanescent. The attachment the king manifested towards Knighton, Canning, and men of a like civil grade, and the countenance he afforded them, refutes the common imputation of regal *morgue* and exclusiveness. It shows that, when the king found a man he delighted to honour, he had the manliness to do so, regardless of his humble birth or absence of aristocratic associations.

It has been said that the king’s education was “princely;” such it appears to have been. It lacked nothing of the routine of instruction commonly appropriated to royal and noble personages. His chief teachers, Drs. Markham, Jackson, and Hurd, were embryo bishops, or church dignitaries, and of course theology had a due share of attention; and what was not theological or ecclesiastical was ornamental or scholastic. Possessing superior natural abilities, a retentive memory, quick and lively parts, a

ready wit, correct taste, especially in the fine arts, for which his excellent ear and eye qualified him, with good elocutionary powers, the prince did credit to the limited sphere of tuition embraced by his tutors, and proved equal to the average of his courtiers in his knowledge of the classics, modern languages, constitutional law, and general acquirements. There was, however, it has been justly observed, no provision for scientific instruction in morals, legislation, the structure of governments, and natural philosophy. All that appertained to the drawing-room or the ball-room, the Liturgy, or the merely operative duties of the throne, the king was master of; but he was unversed in the higher requisites of the regal office—in those principles on which true national happiness depends; and which defect of early culture was the more to be lamented in George IV., as he was unquestionably animated by a desire, to the extent of his knowledge and ability, to promote the general welfare.

It is an advantage to a prince whose education has been neglected that the British monarchy is of a plastic nature—that its executive powers are adapted to age or adolescence—to the imbecile or masculine mind; in short, to every uncertainty of character and intelligence to which hereditary descent is liable. A child or a philosopher may be the sovereign of England. There is a permanent regency provided by the constitution for every casualty. Political responsibility only is varied, and the advantage at first sight appears in favour of an incompetent chief magistrate; for, if the king is efficient and active in the discharge of his duties, he exercises great powers without liability—*he can do no wrong*; whereas, in the case of an incapable monarch, the delegated authority necessarily devolving in name and reality upon his ministers, they exercise power, both in law and reason, under a veritable accountability to the nation for their administration.

One charge has been made against the character of George IV. of a very serious import. His *personal veracity* has been impugned. This, if true, not only denudes him of the distinction which sycophancy had assigned to him, of being “the first gentleman in Europe,” but of all claim to gentility whatever. It is founded on his solemn abnegation, on the sacred honour of a prince, of his marriage, either “legally or otherwise,” with Mrs. Fitzherbert. That this denial was untrue is now incontestably established on the testimony of lord Stourton*. It was solely on matrimonial terms that this conscientious lady would consent to a union with the prince; and a marriage was solemnized, not in a foreign dominion, as commonly supposed, and which would have made it invalid, according to the discipline of the catholic church, but in this country, in Mrs. Fitzherbert’s “own drawing-room, in her house in town, in the presence of an officiating protestant clergyman and two of her own nearest relatives.” Legally the marriage was void by the act of the late king; or, if a marriage, by an anterior statute, the Act of Settlement, the prince, by marrying a papist, forfeited all claim of succession to the crown. It is doubtless on the legal nullity of the marriage that the prince authorised the disavowal of it by Mr. Fox and his other whig compurgators. Mental reservation was practised; he was married, but not legally married: a Jesuitical evasion that would have been more passable had the bridegroom, as well as the bride, in lieu of a protestant prince, been in communion with the indulgent see of Rome. However, married or not, it was an unusually convenient union. Both parties were accommodated by it: the pious scruples of the

* Edinburgh Review, cxxxvi. 556.

lady were soothed, the gentleman's passion gratified; and, by the ready *double entendre* of disavowal, the way for the payment of his debts smoothed; those debts which had doubtless partly accumulated from the magnificent bridal presents that showered on the betrothed immediately after the celebration of the hybrid nuptials, which one side construed into mere concubinage, the other into virtuous wedlock*.

Princes are only men, and require, like their subjects, the established salvos for human frailties. In considering the temptations to which they have yielded, we ought to allow for those they have successfully resisted. George IV., from the incidental advantages of station and person, might claim more than an average per-centage of this moral drawback. From the long absence of wholesome occupation—for he was an old man when he became regent—he became indolent, restless, and effeminate; absorbed in trifles—the coxcomby of dress and etiquette; or if anything better intervened, the luxury of novels, plays, paintings, or architecture. He was a man of pleasure; business was distasteful to him; and too exclusively devoted to personal indulgence, it produced the common results of sensual attachments, self-engrossment, aversion to connubial and domestic ties, alienation from noble objects, and debasing habits of profusion and intemperance. Such, in brief, was the king: the good qualities nature had implanted were overpowered by the seductive lures of his exalted position. His biography is mean; it is unadorned by the pursuit or attainment of any great end. The vices of adolescence were not redeemed by the splendour of his meridian years. Through life he was only a grand-master of ceremonies. His prosecution of the princess Caroline was spiteful and vindictive. He was a vain man, especially of the rank of his family, an insult to which he never forgave. He was proud; very jealous of familiarity; and, if any were seduced into it by an ostentatious condescension, he suddenly turned upon them with an assumption of offended dignity. Servility formed the ready currency to royal favour, from both his menials and ministers. His passions were strong—their victims several. His idea of pleasure was sensual, notwithstanding the refinement of his mind. He indulged in the luxuries of the table; was fond of wine, music, and horse-racing. He was a spendthrift, careless of exceeding his income, and an evil example to his subjects as economist and husband. His tastes were magnificent, but costly to the nation. They were Eastern—glittering, fantastic, and showy, but profitless. Indolence and enjoyment were his idols. Everything around him breathed softness, richness, and repose. These are the more unfavourable traits. He was kind and affable to those about his person; he was benevolent. His charity was without ostentation; his religion without fanaticism. In elegant accomplishments he has been rarely equalled; in personal graces never excelled. He was lively and good-humoured in society; cheerful and warm-hearted at home. He was the very *Comus* of mirth in early life. Wherever there was gaiety—wherever “Sport leaped up to seize her beechen bough”—wherever there was a festive assembly of the people—there was the prince. It was only when oppressed with the infirmities of

* Three memorable denials of royal personages are on record, which severely tried the faith of contemporaries. First there is the written denial, in 1787, of the marriage of the prince of Wales with Mrs. Fitzherbert. Secondly, the denial by the duke of York, in his letter addressed to the speaker of the house of commons, dated Feb. 23rd, 1809, “not only of all personal participation but the slightest knowledge of the abuses” carried on in the army by Mary Anne Clarke. (*Belsh. History of George III.*, xiii. 322.) Lastly, Queen Caroline, in a memorial addressed to the house of lords, on the day following the second reading of the Bill of Degradation against her, “most deliberately and before God asserted that she was wholly innocent of the crime laid to her charge.”

age, or the premature effects of the Circean cup he had freely quaffed, that George IV. became morose, selfish, recluse, and irritable.

The intellectual impulse of the last reign continued with unabated force during the present, and presented nearly the same outlines. Science continued more literary, and literature more scientific. Whatever was useful, ornamental, or ministered to enjoyment, received encouragement from both prince and people. Four acts of munificence distinguished the life of the king,—the literary mission to Portici for expediting the unravelling of the Herculean MSS.—the endowment of the Royal Society of Literature—his present of the library of George III. to the British Museum—and the support he afforded to the erection of St. David's College in Wales. The exploration of the ancient records of the kingdom, with a view to its juridical and historical illustration, continued a feature of the times. It was, however, chiefly the imitative arts or light literature, not the useful pursuits of science, that was especially distinguished by the patronage of the crown or its ministers.

In this reign began those splendid improvements of the metropolis by which architectural beauty was sought to be combined with utility and local convenience. The wonder of the age, however, was the further application of the powers of the STEAM-ENGINE; that unrivalled invention which had supported the war, and laid the foundation of commercial, manufacturing, and agricultural prosperity. Hitherto this mighty agent had been chiefly applied to the manufacturing arts, but in its new developments, it was extended to agriculture, road-travelling, and river and sea-navigation. Science in all her more gainful pursuits was cherished, not only as a source of individual opulence, but national grandeur. To the illustrious names of Priestley, Bradley, Arkwright, Maskelyne, Smeaton, Brindley, Cartwright, Dollond, Rumford, Black, Watt, Cavendish, and Playfair, which shed lustre on the reign of George III., may be added, as the contemporary portion of his successor, those of Davy, Wollaston, Dalton, Ivory, Babbage, Faraday, South, Young, Arnott, Airey, Leslie, Brewster, Herschel, Buckland, Telford, M'Adam, and Rennie. Chemistry, and its application to agriculture; geology, mineralogy, civil engineering, mechanics, anatomy, medicine, and geographical researches in Africa and the Arctic regions, constituted the boast of the period.

Political economy was sedulously cultivated by Malthus, Ricardo, Mill, M'Culloch, Thompson, and Torrens; but the economists were not agreed either as to the correctness or value of the additions made to the science since the days of Adam Smith. The great practical question was the tendency of population to become redundant, upon which the physical condition of the working-classes, the prudence of marriage, the rate of wages, colonization, and a public provision for indigence, almost entirely depended. Great contemporary interest was given to this truly national study by the unsettled state of the currency and banking, sudden vicissitudes in employment, and in commercial and manufacturing industry. It also derived importance from the narrow policy sought to be pursued by neighbouring states. Struck by our riches and greatness, but mistaking their sources, foreigners sought to emulate our prosperous career by fostering monopolies and mercantile restrictions, the futility and hurtfulness of which England had newly discovered and partly abandoned.

Except in its economical bearings, Political Philosophy was not successfully cultivated. The shrewd and practical but crude and unscientific work of Dr. Paley continued the standard publication. Jeremy Bentham sought to introduce more general principles in morals, jurisprudence, and

legislation; but, either from prevailing doubts of their soundness, perplexities in the style of his later writings, or their incompatibility with established opinions and interests, he had only partial success with his countrymen. Metaphysics were almost entirely abandoned to Dugald Stewart; and even this accomplished writer, treading in the cautious steps of Dr. Reid, seemed more disposed to limit than extend the range of this nebulous science. Eloquence and the drama declined; or rather the rhetorical embellishments of the former, and the imaginative extravagances of the latter, were less cultivated. Legislative questions had become more practical than theoretic or constitutional: tables and arithmetic superseded tropes and figures; and the pyrotechnical flashes of Chatham, Burke, Fox, Windham, and Sheridan disappeared amidst political economy, newspaper reporting, and the solid folios yearly issued by parliamentary committees, often replete with able and minute information on the most important interests of the empire.

The age, however, was neither dry nor exclusively scientific. It was brilliant with poetry, criticism, history, works of imagination, and the productions of the fine arts. Sir Walter Scott, Byron, Joanna Baillie, Maria Edgeworth, Jeffrey, Gifford, Lingard, Hallam, Roscoe, Palgrave, D'Iraeli, Mackintosh, Wordsworth, Crabbe, Southey, Moore, Coleridge, Rogers, Hogg, Montgomery, and Campbell, are enduring names that would shed lustre on the proudest period of English literature. In essay and the lighter periodical writing, Hazlitt, Lamb, the Smiths, Leigh Hunt, Wilson, Maginn, and Lockhart, shone conspicuous, and completed, with other auxiliaries, the intellectual array who delighted their contemporaries and embellished the pacific era of George IV.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1820. Jan. 29. Accession of Geo. IV.—The new reign commenced without any expectation of changes. As regent the king had long exercised sovereign power, and his accession was merely an alteration in the name of the chief magistrate. During the life-time of the late king the heir-apparent had mostly lived in a state of estrangement from his majesty, partly from connexion with the whigs, and partly from diversity of taste and pursuits. George III. was as little tolerant of differences of manners as of opinion, and the thoughtless dissipation of the son—his constantly-recurring pecuniary embarrassments—his separation from the princess Caroline, and living openly in concubinage, were habits repugnant to the moral sensibilities of the royal parent. Horse-racing and prize-fighting had at one time formed favourite diversions of the prince. He was also prone to riotous conviviality and to gaming; the last a vice to which both he and the duke of York became early addicted. His life, in short, if not absolutely rakish, had been that of a splendid voluptuary, who freely indulged in every pleasure that money, high station, and a fine person could procure. It made him unpopular with the industrious orders; but by the gay world, who assumed a different standard of decorum, he was considered not to have transgressed the esta-

blished license of personal indulgence; and by them continued to be followed and looked up to as “the glass of fashion and mould of form.” The occurrences of the regency did not raise the prince in popular favour. The first years were brilliant by the events of the war and the conclusion of peace, but the latter had been marked by the prevalence of much distress and unusual political discontent. These were sought to be met by coercive acts of legislation, which produced internal quiet, especially as they happened to be aided by the revival of commerce; but they augmented the unpopularity of the Liverpool administration. As the king gave no intimation of an intention either to change his responsible advisers (p. 701) or the spirit of his government, the new reign began sullenly, without indications of hope or general gladness.

30. George IV. held his first court at Carlton-house, and declared his intention “to maintain unimpaired the religion, laws, and liberties of the kingdom.” Being Sunday, the proclaiming of the king was deferred till next day, when the ceremony took place with the customary formalities.

Feb. 1. A bulletin announced the king's indisposition, supposed to arise from fatigue and anxiety. On the 9th the duke of Sussex had an interview of fraternal reconciliation. On the 12th his majesty was convalescent.

8. Died, at Hayes, in Kent, in his sixty-ninth year, sir VICARY GIBBS, late chief-justice of the court of common-pleas. He was the son of a surgeon, and born at Exeter; the native of a county which has been styled (*Law Mag.*, xxix. 58), "the nursing mother of eminent lawyers." Educated at Eton, possessing much natural acuteness, with a mind exclusively and laboriously devoted to his profession, the failure of Gibbs in attaining legal preferment would have been more remarkable than his success. He rendered Erskine effective aid as junior counsel for the prisoners in the State Trials of 1794. The reformers thought they had made an acquisition in their able advocate, but Mr. Gibbs had no taste for politics; moreover, he was always high church, and a Tory. As attorney-general, sir Vicary sought to subject the press to a *reign of terror*, supported by vexatious and ruinous prosecutions. In 1810, of the fifty-two newspapers published in London, about one-half had *ex-officio* informations filed against them. His proceedings were severely reprimanded both in parliament and out, and did not serve the ministers. As a lawyer merely, and a successful one, he was naturally opposed to legal reforms; but in the house of commons he never was of much weight, and seldom spoke. He resigned his office of attorney-general for a judgeship of the common-pleas, and withdrew from public life in November, 1818, completely worn out. Sir Vicary Gibbs won no laurels in private or public life: not that he was without private worth, but he was a thoroughly disagreeable person. Self-sufficient, petulant, irascible, and tyrannical; a foe to mirth and recreation, he seemed destined to live and die over the dry bones of Coke and Lyttleton. His diminutive figure and sour visage did not belie his nature.

11. The *Gazette* contains the alterations in the church-service required by the death of the late king; the name of queen Caroline omitted; but, to obviate the invidiousness of this omission, neither is the name of the duke of York, presumptive heir to the crown, specifically mentioned in the Liturgy, only that of the royal family.

13. Duke de Berri assassinated on leaving the opera by Louvel, formerly a soldier in the imperial guard. His trial was delayed, in the hope that he would be induced to reveal his accomplices; but he constantly denied that he had any, and persisted in his first avowal, that he had not communicated his intention to a single human being, and that his object was the good of France. He was beheaded June 6th, pursuant to his sentence.

17. George III. interred at Windsor.

23. CATO-STREET CONSPIRACY. — For

some time it had been known to government that an attempt to assassinate the king's ministers was meditating, and that Arthur Thistlewood was at the bottom of it. The time chosen for the execution of the plot was on the occasion of a cabinet-dinner at lord Harrowby's in Grosvenor-square. Acting on previous information, Mr. Birnie, a Bow-street magistrate, with twelve of the patrol, proceeded to Cato-street in the Edgeware-road, where, in a hay-loft, they found the conspirators assembled. The entrance was by a ladder, by which Ruthven, Smithers, and others of the patrol, ascended. On the door being opened, twenty-five or thirty men appeared armed: Ruthven stated that he was a peace-officer, and required them to lay down their arms. Thistlewood opposed the officers with a drawn sword, and Smithers, rushing forward to seize him, was pierced, and instantly expired. A desperate struggle ensued in the dark, the lights having been extinguished; pending which, captain Fitzclarence arrived with a detachment of guards, who surrounded the premises, and nine of the desperadoes were taken. Thistlewood and the rest escaped; but the former was soon after seized in bed at an obscure lodging in Finsbury.

29. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

Mar. 3. Mr. Parker, a retired tradesman of Woolwich, murdered, together with his housekeeper, and an attempt made to set fire to the house. The murderer was discovered, and executed on Pennenden-heath, July 31. He was named Nesbitt, had been in the artillery, and was an illiterate and abandoned character.

11. Westminster election terminated in the return of sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hobhouse, the whig candidate, the hon. G. Lamb, being rejected. For Middlesex, Messrs. Byng and S. C. Whitbread were returned. For the city of London, Messrs. Wood and Wilson, sir W. Curtis, and the lord-mayor were the sitting members: Waithman and Thorpe rejected.

16. Trial of Mr. Hunt and others begins at York, before Mr. Justice Bayley, for a conspiracy at Manchester on the 16th August. The trial lasted ten days. Four of the defendants were found guilty of assembling an unlawful meeting with unlawful banners. The verdict was subsequently impeached in the court of king's bench, but confirmed; and, May 15th, Mr. Hunt was sentenced to be imprisoned in Ilchester gaol for two years and six months, and Healy, Johnston, and Bamford to one year's imprisonment in Lincoln gaol. Hunt and Bamford were their own council through these proceedings.

23. Sir Francis Burdett found guilty at Leicester of a libel on government, in his

letter to his constituents, reflecting on the Manchester outrage of the 16th August. The baronet was tried before Mr. Justice Best, and pleaded his own cause.

Apr. 1. Walter Scott, esq., the popular poet and novelist, created a baronet, and the first creation of the new reign.

5. **AFFAIR OF BONNYMUIR.**—A sort of insurrectionary movement in the south-west of Scotland, since known to have been mainly the work of spies. On the morning of the 2nd an incendiary placard was posted on the walls of Glasgow, calling on the people to effect a revolution by force; and recommending the owners of the factories to suspend their works till the struggle was over. (*Ann. Reg.*, liii. 37.) On the 5th there was an assemblage of about fifty radicals, in lieu of 5000 that had been expected, at Bonnymuir, some of whom were armed with pikes, and some with pistols or muskets. Their plan was to proceed to the Carron iron-works, and equip themselves with artillery. They were dispersed by a troop of cavalry, and nineteen of the rebels, after a slight resistance, captured. Numerous arrests followed in Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, and Ayrshire; and, on the very day of the skirmish on Bonnymuir, a committee of eleven, supposed to be the *provisional government*, were taken into custody. A special commission sat in the different counties, in the summer, to try the insurrectionists; three of whom were executed.

11. Sir Charles Wolesey and Joseph Harrison, a schoolmaster, tried at Chester assizes for sedition, and found guilty. They were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment each, and to give securities for future good behaviour.

19. The trials of the Cato-street conspirators began at the Old Bailey, and ended on the 27th, when they were found guilty.

20. Messrs. Brougham and Denman admitted attorney and solicitor-general to the queen in the courts of law, and took their places within the bar.

24. The proprietor of the *Observer* fined 50*l.* by the court for transgressing their order in publishing the proceedings pending the trial of Thistlewood and his associates, but not enforced.

27. **NEW PARLIAMENT** opened by the king. The general election had produced little change in the composition of the house of commons. It had not gained any new ornament; neither had it lost any of those who were wont to take an active share in parliamentary business. The king's speech adverted to the prevalence of distress among the labouring classes, and the machinations of the disaffected through the circulation of seditious and

irreligious publications. In both houses the address was voted without a dissentient voice.

May 1. Arthur Thistlewood, James Ings, Thomas Brunt, Richard Tidd, and William Davidson, were executed at the Old Bailey. They were all in humble or indigent circumstances, and had been convicted of one of the wildest and most atrocious plots on record. During the trial, and at the place of execution, they conducted themselves with firmness, and even hardihood. Davidson was the only one of the sufferers who appeared open to religious impressions. The chief conspirator, Thistlewood, was in his 50th year, and had started in life with some fortune and education. He had been a lieutenant in the army, and was, during the reign of terror, in France, where he had imbibed his political tenets. Owing to some alleged affront he had challenged lord Sidmouth to fight a duel, for which he had been fined and imprisoned. Reduced to indigence, both he and Ings had received small sums of money from Edwards, the government spy. There was evidence to prove that Edwards was the original framer of the plot. The crowd at the execution was immense, but unattended with any marked expression of popular feeling, except that the ceremony of decapitation excited general disgust. Five of the conspirators had their sentences commuted for transportation.

5. Mr. Brougham, preparatory to the settlement of the civil-list, moved for an inquiry into the droits of the crown and admiralty and other branches of the hereditary revenues, not usually deemed to be within the control of parliament. Motion negatived by 273 to 145 votes.

6. The Jesuits banished from Russia. At the time of issuing the decree their number was estimated at 800; and many withdrew to China.

8. Merchants and traders of London, headed by Mr. Baring, petitioned the house of commons to remove the restrictions on foreign trade. A petition of similar tenor was presented, by Mr. Kirkman Finlay, a few days after, from Glasgow. Reversal of the navigation-laws, opening of the China trade, repeal of the wool-tax, and the import of timber from Norway on the same terms as from Canada, were the objects sought.

9. Sir James Mackintosh introduced six bills to mitigate the criminal laws.

14. Died, in his 70th year, HENRY GRATTAN, M.P., the celebrated Irish orator and statesman. It was to his zeal and abilities Ireland was mainly indebted for the patriotic spirit evinced in 1780, which extorted a relaxation in the selfish policy of England. Mr. Grattan's eloquence was

more distinguished for warmth, brilliancy, and rapidity, than correctness and solidity. He was opposed to the Union; but, as a member of the imperial parliament, he gave his support to the war with France. In politics he was a conservative-whig; and almost with his dying breath cautioned his countrymen against the new infection of radical doctrines. By a clause in his will his Queen's-county estate was to revert back again to the public, provided his children (of which he had thirteen) should all die without heirs.

20. Ali-Pasha, of Janina, declared himself independent of Turkey. After displaying for some time a singular union of craft and ferocity, and trying to take advantage of the Greek insurrection in 1821, this fierce old Albanian at last paid the forfeit of his head for rebelling against the Porte.

26. Lord Lansdowne moved for the appointment of a committee to consider the means of extending the foreign trade of the kingdom. His lordship ably detailed the restrictions which impeded commerce, and expressed himself in favour of free trade. Lord Liverpool agreed in the abstract policy of free trade, but thought there was danger in an abrupt departure from an old system.—Committee agreed to. At this period there was a general acquiescence, both in the legislature and in the country, in the wisdom of unrestricted commercial intercourse among nations; and Dr. Smith's principles, after fifty years, had triumphed.

June 2. A bottle picked up on the N.W. coast of Ireland, in lat. 54° 56' N., long. 9° W.: it contained a paper, dated June 20, 1819, lat. 38° 52', long. 64° W. of Greenwich, stating that it had been thrown into the sea to ascertain the strength and direction of the Florida gulf-stream.

6. ARRIVAL OF QUEEN CAROLINE.—For the remainder of the year public attention was almost exclusively fixed on the investigation into the conduct of the queen. It had been currently reported for some years, in the upper circles, that the princess of Wales had been living in habitual adultery with a man called Bergami, whom, from the office of courier, she had raised to the dignity of chamberlain, and familiarly admitted to her table. It was to investigate the truth of these reports that the Milanese commission had been appointed in 1818, under the direction of Sir John Leach, and the result of whose inquiries was, that the English ministers abroad were ordered not to give the princess, in their official character, any public recognition or reception. The princess, in consequence, became an outcast from the courts of Europe. By the death of the late king she became queen of England, which made it

necessary to determine on the conduct to be adopted towards her in that capacity. Mr. Brougham, her professional adviser, had, in 1819, privately offered to Lord Liverpool that the princess should have an annuity of 35,000*l.* a-year settled upon her for life, on condition of permanently residing abroad, and not assuming, in the event of the demise of the crown, the title of queen. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 20.) Such an arrangement was now peculiarly acceptable to government; they even went further, and proposed that her majesty's annuity should be raised to 50,000*l.*; but it was found that the offer of Mr. Brougham had been made without the privity of his client; and the mystery of his conduct was further augmented when it was discovered that he had kept back from her a knowledge of the ministerial proposition till after her majesty's determination became fixed to visit England, in vindication of her character and the assertion of her rights. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxii. 127.) Indeed, the learned gentleman seems to have held more confidential intercourse with the persecutors of the queen than his royal mistress. The alternatives offered to the queen before she sailed from Calais were, either that she should relinquish the royal title on the terms proposed, or her conduct abroad be subjected to a public inquiry. Boldly determining to face her enemies, she landed at Dover, from the ordinary packet, on the 6th, accompanied by alderman Wood and lady Hamilton, after a six-years' absence from England. Her entry into London was a triumph, and she was received with joyful acclamations by the people. On the same day a message was delivered to both houses of parliament, informing them of the king's intention to communicate certain papers respecting the conduct of the queen.

7. Message from the queen delivered to the house of commons, challenging the fullest inquiry into her conduct.

14. Address presented from the common council of the city of London, congratulating the queen on her arrival in this country. The example was speedily followed, and the metropolis kept in a ferment for months by addresses and processions in honour of the queen's return to England.

19. Died, at his seat, Spring-grove, Middlesex, in his 77th year, SIR JOSEPH BANKS, president of the Royal Society, and whose name, with that of Dr. Solander, is familiar to the reader of the first voyage of discovery of captain Cook. Inheriting, at the age of eighteen, a noble patrimony, Mr. Banks did not abandon himself to the pleasures of fashionable life, but gave the preference to pursuits of natural history, to which, through life, he continued passion-

ately attached. In 1778 he was made a baronet, and elected president of the Royal Society. Soon after some differences arose with his mathematical brethren, who thought their favourite studies neglected; but they soon subsided, and nothing further occurred to disturb the long reign of the president. Sir Joseph took an active part in the establishment of the African Association and the Horticultural Society. He died without issue.

21. Great distress in the south of Ireland: eleven banks stop payment.

28. Attempts at reconciliation having failed, a secret committee of the house of lords proceeded to open the *green bag*, containing the inculpatory documents against the queen. Lord Erskine and the marquis of Lansdowne having declined to act on the committee, lords Ellenborough and Hardwicke were substituted in their places.

FRANCE.—The diffusion of property in France is shown by the following return of electors paying the greatest amount of taxes from 1000 francs:—

Electors paying above—

f.	f.	
1000 to 1500		6724
1500 „ 2000		2617
2000 „ 2500		1410
2500 „ 3000		827
3000 „ 4000		853
4000 and upwards		332

The amount of taxation is estimated at about one-fifth of the income.

July 4. The secret committee made their report, recommending a solemn inquiry into the conduct of the queen.

5. Lord Liverpool presented a Bill of Pains and Penalties against the queen, on the ground of her adulterous intercourse with Bergami, and providing that her majesty be degraded from her rank and title, and her marriage with the king dissolved. The assumptions on which the bill was founded stood,—1st, that, in the year 1814, the princess of Wales, at Milan, in Italy, engaged in a menial situation Bartolomeo Bergami, a foreigner of low station; 2nd, that a degrading intimacy ensued; 3rd, that she engaged his family in her confidential service, bestowed upon him extraordinary marks of favour, obtained for him orders of knighthood, titles of honour, and conferred on him a pretended order, instituted by herself, without just authority; 4th, the second charge repeated and extended, that, by her conduct, scandal was brought on his majesty's family and kingdom.

6. Sir R. Fergusson moved, in the commons, for an account of the expenses of the Milan commission, which, it was alleged, had cost 25,000*l.*; and for half

this sum sir Ronald affirmed that witnesses might be procured in Italy to ruin the character of any man or woman, however respectable.—Motion got rid of by the order of the day.

7. The king's coronation, which had been fixed for August 1st, is indefinitely postponed.

Twelve Italians, eleven men and one woman, witnesses against the queen, landed at Dover from France. They were roughly treated by the populace.

14. Symptoms of insubordination among the foot-guards.

A revolution effected at Naples on the 5th instant. The troops joined the people, and a constitution adopted on the model of that of Spain.

18. Captain Brown has just completed the first chain-bridge in England, across the Tweed. The river is 437 feet from bank to bank, and the bridge is without any central support.

29. King reviews the city light-horse.

Aug. 4. Major Cartwright, Wooler, Edmonds, Lewis, and Maddocks, convicted at Warwick assizes of conspiracy in the election of a "legislatorial attorney," to represent, in parliament, the town of Birmingham. Bills of exceptions were tendered to the court on the part of the defendants; and the discussions on the verdict occupied the court of King's Bench during several terms: it was not till Easter, 1821, the verdict was affirmed. Major Cartwright was sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and the others to suffer various terms of imprisonment.

6. Died, at Oatlands, in the 54th year of her age, the duchess of York, eldest daughter of the king of Prussia. She was married to the duke of York in 1791: they had long lived separate, but on friendly terms.

19. The attorney-general, sir Robert Gifford, opened the charge against the queen. He concluded it on the 21st, and called the first Italian witness, Majocchi, whose appearance had such an effect upon the queen, who was present, that she uttered an exclamation of surprise, and hastily left the house.

30. A revolution in Portugal.

Sept. 7. Case against the queen having been closed, the lords adjourned to the 3rd of the ensuing month, to give time to prepare the defence. It was also the day of the greatest solar eclipse that has been visible since 1714, or will again be visible till 1847. It excited great interest in the metropolis, especially in the neighbourhood of the house of lords, where all the passages were crowded with peers, viewing the heavens through coloured glasses; their lordships having left the solicitor-

general nearly deserted in the middle of his summing-up.

30. Twenty Italian witnesses in favour of the queen landed at Dover. Popular enthusiasm was such that the sailors jumped into the sea to convey them in their arms on shore.

Oct. 1. Polish diet terminated its sittings. Numerous petitions had been presented to it, suggesting improvements in the agricultural and commercial regulations of the kingdom. They especially prayed that the Polish army might be clothed in Polish cloth, and the importation of English merchandise prohibited so long as English corn-laws remained in force.

2. The recent political revolutions in Spain, Portugal, and Naples, celebrated at the Crown and Anchor tavern.

3. Proceedings against the queen recommenced, when Mr. Brougham delivered a powerful address, that occupied two days, in her majesty's defence. He was followed by Mr. Williams; and the lords having determined to limit the opening to two counsel, the examination of witnesses followed.

8. Christophe, King of Hayti, committed suicide. Hearing of a revolt of his troops, he exclaimed, "It is over with me," and shot himself. His character has been differently described: by one as bloody and tyrannical; by others as an ardent but rash patriot, "intent on the improvement of his people." (*Life of Wilberforce*, v. 83.) He was succeeded by president Boyer in the government of the island.

9. Franklin, *alias* Fletcher, connected with ministers, charged, at Bow-street, with publishing inflammatory hand-bills, purposely to excite disturbances in the metropolis; a practice he is supposed to have carried on for years past. He was detained by one magistrate, but liberated by sir Robert Baker, and escaped to France. A Mr. Denis O'Brien, who held a colonial appointment, was charged with being implicated in these nefarious practices.

A parliamentary return showed that the expenses of the queen's trial already amounted to 110,000*l*.

11. Spanish cortes resolved to sell the property of the clergy, and suppress monastic orders.

15. First diet of Germany opened.

23. Thomas Davidson, a printer, found guilty of publishing two blasphemous libels. The defendant conducted his own defence; and was three times fined in the course of it, by Mr. Justice Beat, for using improper language, either towards the bench or the established authorities. Mrs. Carlisle was also tried for two similar libels, and found guilty. The prosecutions were at the instance of the Society for the Suppression of Vice.

24. Witnesses in behalf of the queen having been all examined, Mr. Denman commenced the summing-up of the defence in a luminous speech, that occupied two days in the delivery. He was followed by Dr. Lushington, who remarked on the peculiarities of the case in a man seeking a divorce from his wife at the age of sixty, and from whom he had been twenty-four years separated by his own act, and for the gratification of his own appetites. The attorney-general began his reply on the 27th, and did not close till next day, when the solicitor-general followed, whose address lasted till the 30th; after which the house adjourned.

Nov. 2. Accounts received at the Admiralty of the safety of the north-west expedition, under lieutenant Parry. They had passed opposite to the Coppermine river of Hearne, in lat. 75°, long. 115°: they had wintered in long. 110°.

10. CLOSE OF THE QUEEN'S TRIAL.—The judicial part of the proceedings against the queen having closed, the lords met on the 2nd, to discuss the second reading of the Bill of Degradation. Lord Chancellor Eldon, in a brief but forcible speech, avowed his conviction that adultery had been proved, relying chiefly on the fact that the queen had slept under the same tent with Bergami on the deck of a polacre. Lauderdale was strongly of the same opinion. Grosvenor would have thrown the book in the king's face rather than have been guilty of the first act of indignity towards her majesty, by the omission of her name in the Liturgy. Harewood wished he was as thoroughly convinced of the queen's innocence as he was of the impolicy of passing the bill. Donoughmore generally discredited the evidence adduced against her majesty. On the ground of both justice and expediency earl Grey opposed the bill. Liverpool considered the sudden elevation of Bergami to the rank of chamberlain, and the marked partiality shown by the queen to his family, established the existence of an "infatuated passion." Arden would never consent to brand with everlasting infamy a member of the house of Brunswick. Falmouth would support the bill, divested of the divorce clause; and Harrowby said that might be omitted. Ellenborough affirmed it was for "the safety of domestic virtue that conduct like the queen's should be marked as infamous, ignominious, and base." Ashburton and Erskine thought the preamble unproved. Newcastle had been absent during the trial, but was convinced, from reading the evidence, of the queen's guilt. Lansdowne warmly replied to the duke, then went minutely into the evidence, and expressed his conviction that it was

not such as to justify the passing of the bill. Grenville thought an adulterous intercourse was "much too sufficiently and fully proved." Rosalyn said the witnesses were both "suspicious and corrupt." Other lords expressed their sentiments, and the debate continued till the 6th. Upon a division there were, for the second reading of the bill, 123 peers; against it, 95; majority 28. The dukes of York, Clarence, and Cambridge voted in favour of the bill; the duke of Gloucester against it; the dukes of Sussex and Cumberland did not vote. Some were in favour of degradation, but not divorce. Upon a division, 129 voted that the divorce clause should be retained; and 62 for its expulsion. The failure to get rid of the divorce clause, combined with the strong popular excitement in the queen's favour, and the little probability of carrying the bill through the commons, determined many peers who had voted in favour of the second reading to oppose the third. Upon the third reading of the bill, on the 10th, the ministerial majority had fallen from 23 to 9; the numbers being 108 for, 99 against. Immediately the result was known, lord Liverpool announced the intention of government to abandon the further prosecution of this extraordinary proceeding. The news that the bill was relinquished diffused a transport of joy through the metropolis. At night the town was illuminated, which was repeated on the Saturday and Monday following. Public agitation pending the trial was greater than had ever been known: processions were daily, and almost hourly, taking place to Hammersmith, where the queen resided, carrying addresses of congratulation, or to deprecate the prosecution. The powers of the press were vigorously exerted to keep alive the popular excitement. No reserve was observed, either on the part of the peers or the conductors of the press, in communicating, without disguise or curtailment, the entire mass of evidence that could be elicited by the most searching interrogatory from valets, couriers, chambermaids, and chamberlains. The consequence was, that the newspapers became the daily vehicle of more gross and revolting details than can be found in the history of the most abandoned of the Roman emperors. The working and middle classes were almost without exception in favour of the queen. Their feelings, like those of lord Archibald Hamilton, were irrelevant to the merits of the trial, and arose from a deep impression of the provocations she had received, and the long and vindictive persecution she had sustained.

23. Parliament suddenly prorogued without the usual form of a royal speech;

the object sought was alleged to be to avoid the delivery of a message from the queen, complaining that no provision had been made by ministers for her residence or maintenance.

25. Decision in the king's bench, that sufficient evidence had been given that sir Francis Burdett had, by putting a sealed letter into a post-office in Leicestershire, published a libel on his majesty's government in that county; that the trial in Leicestershire was therefore legal; and that consequently no reason existed for a new trial in Middlesex, where the letter was first opened, read, and made public.

29. The queen went in state to St. Paul's to return thanks for her happy deliverance; 150 gentlemen attended on horseback, and the crowd was immense. So great was the desire to obtain a view of the procession that various sums from five shillings to two guineas were given for single stations at windows. Among the gentlemen attending on the queen were sir Robert Wilson, Joseph Hume, M.P., hon. Keppel Craven, and Mr. Hobhouse. At the entrance to the cathedral a committee of 60 ladies, all dressed in white, received her majesty.

30. Sir Humphrey Davy elected, in opposition to lord Colchester, president of the Royal Society, in place of the late sir Joseph Banks.

Dec. Numerous congratulatory addresses were presented to the queen, in the course of this month, from different classes of the people; and counter-addresses to the king, from the universities and the chief municipal and ecclesiastical corporations.

11. Mr. Wright, the editor of the Parliamentary Debates, and formerly a partner with Mr. Cobbett in the bookselling business, obtained a verdict of 1000*l.* damages against Mr. Cobbett, for three libels inserted in his Political Register.

17. Congress of sovereigns at Troppau transferred to Laybach, nearer to Italy. No strangers were allowed to reside at Laybach during this convocation of crowned heads; and to make their councils more secret not a secretary was permitted to be present at the conferences of the ministers.

22. At the Schoolmasters' dinner Dr. Kelly announced that the duke of Orleans had presented to the society a lithographic engraving, from a picture painted at the command of the duke, exhibiting his royal highness in the character of a schoolmaster, he having during the revolution become a teacher of mathematics in Switzerland.

In a letter to his constituents of this date Mr. Canning stated that his sole reason for resigning his place of president

of the Board of Control is the late proceedings against the queen, and that he had no other difference with his colleagues.

23. A society established, assuming the title of The Constitutional Association, for opposing the progress of disloyal principles; sir John Sewell, LL.D., elected president.

28. Francis Jeffrey, the Scottish advocate, and editor of *The Edinburgh Review*, chosen rector of the university of Glasgow.

A prospectus issued for establishing, under the patronage of the king, a Royal Society of Literature, for the encouragement of indigent merit, and the promotion of general literature. Nothing, however, was done towards the institution of this society till June of the following year.

EDUCATION.—A general account (*Ann. Reg.* lxii. 234), showing the state of education in England:—*Endowed Schools*: New schools, 302, children, 39,590; ordinary schools, 3865, children, 125,843; total children, 165,433, revenue, 300,525*l*. *Unendowed day-schools*: new schools, 820, children, 105,582; dames' schools, 3102, children, 53,624; ordinary schools, 10,360, children, 319,643; total children, 478,849. *Sunday-schools*: new schools, 404, children, 50,979; ordinary schools, 4758, children, 401,838; total children, 452,817.

SPAIN, PORTUGAL, AND ITALY.—These countries were this year the scene of revolutions, so auspicious in their commencement as to threaten the entire ruin of the conservative compact of the Holy Alliance. In Spain the troops intended for the subjugation of South America revolted against the government, and, a general spirit of resistance to Ferdinand spreading through the kingdom, the faithless monarch was compelled to swear fidelity to the constitution of 1812, which he had before sworn to defend. The example in Spain extended to Portugal. In August a revolution occurred in Oporto, of which the declared objects were the establishment of a constitutional monarchy. At Lisbon the regency, in the absence of the king in Brazil, endeavoured to gain time, but, the junta of Oporto having proceeded to the capital, all parties coalesced to establish a provisional administration in the name of king John. The revolution in Naples commenced in July, and like the preceding was chiefly effected by the military, who demanded a constitution on the model of that in Spain. Attempts were made to subdue them by force, but the court, on sounding the disposition of the other military in the capital, found they were actuated by the same spirit. When this was known, king Ferdinand submitted to necessity, and declared his assent to the new

order of things. The Neapolitan parliament was convoked, and opened by Ferdinand, assisted by the hereditary prince in the character of lieutenant-general. Meanwhile the sovereigns of Russia, Austria, and Prussia, met at Troppau; they invited Ferdinand to join them to consult on the means of promoting what they called the happiness of nations. He obeyed, and was conveyed to Leghorn, on his way to Laybach, on board an English ship-of-war, leaving however a solemn declaration behind him to adhere to the main principles of the new constitution.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Fewston, in Yorkshire, Mr. John Demoiné, 110; the chief amusement of his life was hunting, which he always pursued on foot, and continued till within the last five years of his life. At Portsea, Mr. Cannon, 94: he was never known to eat fish, flesh, or fowl, or drink anything stronger than water, except tea in the afternoon. Eaton Stannard Barrett, 35, author of the poem of "All the Talents," and some novels said to be almost as popular as the Waverley novels. Rev. Isaac Milner, dean of Carlisle, president of queen's college, and Lucasian professor of mathematics, Cambridge. At Brompton, Dr. Thomas Brown, 42, professor of moral philosophy in the university of Edinburgh; who united the rare qualifications of a poet and an acute metaphysician. General Mudge, 58, a man of science, to whom the public is indebted for the trigonometrical survey of the kingdom and excellent maps of the counties. Patrick Colquhoun, LL.D., 75, a magistrate of the metropolis, and writer of great ability and shrewdness on police, indigence, crime, and statistics: Dr. Colquhoun was a native of Dumbarton, and had spent the early part of his life in commercial pursuits. Arthur Young, 79, secretary to the Board of Agriculture, an experimental farmer and useful writer: he had been blind for the last ten years. At Paris, count de Volney, 65, member of the chamber of peers: a learned and eloquent writer. Mr. Dollond, 90, the celebrated optician. At Paris, marshal Kellerman, 86, the hero of Valmy. William Fielding, 80, police magistrate, and son of the author of "Tom Jones." William Hayley, 75, the biographer of Cowper. At Paris, Tallien, 54, the celebrated French revolutionist. Benjamin West, 82, president of the royal academy. Brownlow North, 79, forty years bishop of Winchester. William Hatsell, 87, chief clerk of the house of commons. Admiral sir Home Popham, 67. Henry Andrews, of Royston, 76; employed for forty years on the Nautical and other almanacks.

A.D. 1821. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Events

on the continent had a striking but illusory interest. At the commencement of the year the Piedmontese army revolted, and following the example of Naples proceeded to frame a new constitution. The king, disliking the infringement of his prerogatives, resigned the crown to his brother, who refused to accept it, and, a body of Austrians marching into Piedmont, the Sardinian despotism was promptly restored. Simultaneously a large Austrian army approached the Neapolitan frontier, where they were met by general Pepe, but his army fled at the first onset with the Austrians, who, in consequence, advanced to Naples without farther resistance. The parliament, which had relied on the fidelity of the king, was dissolved, the people were disarmed, the ancient authorities restored, and persecution took place against the leaders of the late revolution. In Romagna many persons were arrested as Carbonari, and a still greater number in Lombardy. Thirty-four of these were brought to trial in the autumn. Several were sentenced to death, but this was commuted for imprisonment in the castle of Spielberg for 21 years in some cases, and for 10 years in the rest. Spain continued to be agitated by political struggles; the friends of liberty were divided; they proceeded with too much precipitancy in the subversion of the abuses of an ancient system, strong in the prejudices of the people, and the support of a powerful priesthood. Portugal, though drawn into the revolutionary career by the example of her neighbour, continued peaceable and orderly. John VI., on his arrival from Brazil, readily swore to protect the constitution established in his absence, proclaimed the cortes, and the kingdom forthwith entered on a course of political and social regeneration. Beyond the Atlantic, the year witnessed the establishment of the independence of Colombia, and the fall of the Spanish power in Mexico and Peru. Brazil, triumphantly abolishing its old institutions, assumed a more conspicuous rank among free nations, and took a great step towards dissolving the ties that bound it to Portugal. In England there were symptoms of returning commercial prosperity and greater internal tranquillity. The chief domestic occurrences were the death of the queen—the king's coronation—his visits to Ireland and Hanover—and the bitterness of newspaper controversy.

Jan. 4. Mr. Gittam, of Nordelph, Norfolk, undertook for a wager of 100 guineas to skate a mile on the ice in three minutes. He performed the task 15 seconds within the time. Unfortunately he lost his life the same night, on his way home, by coming, whilst skating, with great force in

contact with a willow-tree, not far distant from his own house at Upwell.

16. Mr. Duncan Campbell refused at the mansion-house to be bound over to prosecute a thief, to do which, it appeared, he was not bound by law.

23. Parliament opened by the king in a speech of moderate tenor, in which a provision for the queen was recommended. The addresses in both houses passed without divisions. Mr. Wetherell moved for papers, with the view of showing the illegality of the omission of the queen's name in the liturgy: the crown and the whig lawyers were divided in opinion, and the subject got rid of by the previous question.

24. About the hour of closing the bank of Jones and Loyd, a thief snatched a parcel off the counter, with notes to the amount of 4200*l.*, and got clear off.

25. The duke of Wellington incurs much popular censure by terming a county meeting "a farce;" it was meant, however, to apply only to county meetings on the queen's business, that would hear only one side.

31. The queen, in a message to the commons, declined to accept any pecuniary allowance until her name was inserted in the liturgy. Her majesty soon after altered her resolution, and an annuity of 50,000*l.* was settled upon her by parliament.

Feb. 3. Mrs. Carlile sentenced to two years' imprisonment, in Dorchester gaol, for publishing an alleged libel. The husband was already confined in the same prison.

6. The king visited Drury-lane theatre for the first time since the commencement of the regency, and was favourably received, but the name of the queen was often heard to interrupt the acclamations.

8. Sir F. Burdett sentenced to pay a fine of 2000*l.* and to three months' imprisonment, for his letter reflecting on the Manchester affair. A meeting of the baronet's constituents was held on the 12th, to raise a subscription to pay the fine.

16. Duel at Chalk-farm, by moonlight, between Mr. Scott, editor of the *London Magazine*, and Mr. Christie, barrister: the former was mortally wounded, and died on the 27th, much regretted. The quarrel arose with Mr. Lockhart, who took offence at some of Scott's literary articles; but Mr. Scott declined a meeting with Mr. Lockhart, unless he would first disavow being the editor of *Blackwood's Magazine*. A misunderstanding then ensued between Mr. Lockhart's intended second and the deceased, which had a fatal termination. Coroner's jury having brought in a verdict of *wilful murder*, Mr. Christie and the seconds were tried at the Old Bailey, and acquitted.

21. Lord Lansdowne, in moving for the appointment of a committee on foreign trade, enlarged on the causes of existing embarrassments; which he ascribed, in a great degree, to the diminution of consumption in the country. Lord Liverpool, on the contrary, ascribed them to increased production; and to establish his proposition adduced statements of the increase of the consumption of beer, spirits, and other excisable articles, during the last four years.

25. Order of council fixes the rewards to be given to government ships that explore the Arctic Circle to the 150° W. longitude, or the 83° N. latitude.

March 1. Mr. Hume's motion for a reduction of 10,000 men in the army lost; sixteen divisions during the discussion.

16. Mr. Plunkett's bills for the removal of catholic disabilities read a second time; majority for the second reading, 254; against it, 243. They were opposed by Peel, Bankes, sir Wm. Scott, and Wetherell; supported by Mackintosh, Wilberforce, and Canning. They passed a third reading in the commons, but were thrown out by the lords.

April. True bills found by the grand jury of the Middlesex sessions against Wardell, editor of the *Statesman*, Thelwall, editor of the *Champion*, Dolby, publisher of the *Political Dictionary*, and Mary Ann Carlile, for seditious libels. They were preferred by the Constitutional Association, which, by assuming the duties of the law-officers of the crown, and being supported by the joint subscriptions of the ultra-loyal, soon became generally unpopular.

11. Duel in Paris between Manuel and Beaumont, two wealthy agents of the *Bourse*, in which the former was killed. It originated in the seduction of the wife of M. Manuel, whose body the clergy refused to inter, because he had been killed in a duel.

Thirty-five bills found at the Old Bailey for passing forged notes.

A lady (*Ann. Reg.* lxiii. 56), apparently labouring under considerable fatigue, called at a cottage near Turnham-green, and applied for refreshment, for which she tendered a bank-note. The inhabitant, a female, left the house for the purpose of procuring change, and on her return found the stranger gone. On hearing, as she believed, the cry of her infant, she hastened to its cradle, but to her utter dismay discovered her own child had been taken away, and another, of a tawny colour, placed in its stead. Cash to the amount of 100*l.* was fastened to its breast.

23. Greek patriarch of Constantinople executed at the door of his own church. Great numbers of Greeks massacred in several parts of Turkey.

28. Monument erected in St. Andrew's-square, Edinburgh, to the memory of the late viscount Melville, by a subscription of the officers and seamen of the British navy.

30. The *Fury*, captain Parry, and the *Hecla*, captain Lyon, proceeded on their voyage of discovery.

GREEK INSURRECTION.—The Greek insurrection, which for eight years after engaged a large share of attention, commenced in the spring. It had its origin in the principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, where resistance to the authority of the Porte was organized by Ypsilanti, a Greek prince in the service of Russia. The Boyars, however, declared against the prince, who was unable to make head against the Turks. Meanwhile there was a rising in the Morea, and the flame extended to the islands of the Archipelago, where the Greeks fitted out fleets to cruise against their oppressors. Expectations were indulged in of a war between Turkey and Russia; provocations had been received by the latter, which obliged the Russian ambassador to leave Constantinople, yet the Russian armies made only demonstrations. It is supposed that, as the Greeks fought for independence, and did not seek a Muscovite in lieu of an Ottoman master, Alexander left them to fight their own battles, rather than countenance in any form the spirit of insurrection. The rising of the Greeks led to the beheading of the patriarch of the Greek church at Constantinople, accompanied by barbarous indignities to his person. The execution served as a signal for a general massacre of Greeks in Europe and Asia; while the Greeks, fired with indignation, resisted their assailants, and a mutual massacre, as horrible as any on record, filled most of the great cities of Greece and Asia Minor with victims.

HORTICULTURE.—In the reign of George III. the number of exotics introduced into England was 6750; in the reign of Elizabeth, 578; in the reigns of Charles I. and II., 578; in that of James II., 44; of William III., 298; of Anne, 230; of George I., 182; and 1770 in that of George II. The total number of exotics now in the gardens of this country is 11,970.

May 6. DEATH OF NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.—The late French emperor was in his 52d year, and died of cancer in the stomach, a disease to which his father and sister had fallen premature victims. Upon opening his breast the malady that destroyed him was apparent, though its progress may have been hastened by mental affliction, and the unhealthy climate of St. Helena. He had been confined to his chamber since the 17th March, and on the 15th April began making his will, com-

mening, "I die in the Apostolical Roman religion, in which I was born;" and next expressing a wish that his "ashes may repose on the banks of the Seine, in the midst of the French people, whom I have loved so well." The rest is history, of which Napoleon is now almost as much a portion as Cæsar or Hannibal. In determining his character we have the advantage of beholding him through his entire course, of witnessing his rise and fall, and of seeing him under those contrasted aspects of prosperous and adverse fortune that are wont to elicit the good and bad qualities of our nature. The result is that he was a man of transcendent abilities, to whom circumstances were favourable; that his career was wonderful, but not supernatural, yielding to the common influences which sway the lot of individuals. He attained eminence by wisdom and moderation; he lost it by the seductions of prosperity. His biography is an instructive lesson. The young artillery officer studious, discreet, self-denying, attentive to his duties, and seizing every opportunity to recommend himself to his superiors, could hardly fail of promotion in ordinary times, more especially in a crisis when talents were needed and merit sure of distinction. With tongue, pen, and sword; a prepossessing exterior; exempt from degrading vices, a correct judgment, quickness of observation, great self-reliance, energy, decision, and a sagacity that could pierce every perplexity, Napoleon was sure to win his way. At the head of the Army of Italy he lost none of the qualities that had fixed attention, and in subordinate employments inspired confidence. He was a hero, and the soldiers adored a leader so competent to lead them to battle, and whose soul breathed only republican patriotism and martial glory. Like most successful adventurers, Buonaparte was a great dissembler. He affected to sigh for peace in the midst of brilliant victories; to shun popular applause, and be more a votary of science than of ambition. It was only after he became First Consul that his hidden nature appeared, or that his better qualities were perverted by the intoxication of sudden exaltation. The wary taciturnity that had marked his early life now left him, and he overwhelmed those who approached him with an oracular volubility. Success inspired unbounded confidence in his own powers: he became arrogant, dictatorial, self-willed, restless, encroaching, and tyrannical. The sceptre of Charlemagne awaited him; his fiat was to be European law. Hence the aggressive wars of the empire; his perfidious intervention in the affairs of the Peninsula; his vain efforts to ruin British commerce; and his last gi-

gant enterprise against Russia, when Fortune dashed the "warrior tyrant" to the earth as suddenly as she had raised him. Grandeur of soul did not desert him amidst his astounding reverses; he bore himself nobly, was loth to leave France less than he found her, and only bent to overpowering numbers after exhausting in her defence, with desperate energy, all the resources of his military genius. His second attempt to seize the crown was worthy of his renown. Great and decided in conception, adventurous and heroic in execution, it failed because neither the kings of Europe, nor the enlightened of the French nation, would trust him. On the rock of St. Helena his mighty spirit first began to quail beneath the successive strokes of his adverse destiny. Though not subdued by misfortune, his temper was soured by petty annoyances. Indignant at the supposed treachery of the English ministry in detaining him a prisoner, he descended to altercations with his keepers, more analogous to scenes among the gossips of Richardson's novels than those of his former greatness. Notwithstanding these outbreaks of littleness elicited during the bitterness of his exile, he maintained a lofty bearing, unalterably fixed on grand objects. He had also amiable and generous qualities, which are shown by the number and fidelity of his friends. He was proud and irascible, susceptible of injury, and keenly vindictive. It is not unlikely he died in the ostentation of Catholicism to spite his Protestant gaolers. His conversation was remarkable; it was varied, either sportive or sublime, vivid, picturesque, and replete with new and magnificent ideas. His disposition was to action rather than meditation, and his mind was more imaginative than philosophical. Formed on the model of Plutarch's heroes, his aim was to astonish by the splendour rather than the benevolence of his exploits. He disliked metaphysical abstractions; they had no motive force in them, and moreover, being of a levelling tendency, abated the pride of individual superiority, which was his glory. His ruling passion was power, to which he made religion, pageantry, fear, selfishness,—everything subordinate. Though calculating, and capable of combining many and distant results, he committed the egregious error of seeking to govern the present by the obsolete analogies of past times. His political system had no other foundation than the restless territorial domination of old Rome; it was the arbitrary will of one successful chieftain trampling on modern science, rights, and justice. His usurpation was an insult to his contemporaries, which they felt and resented, and his empire, dependent almost solely

on his own might, would probably have ended like that of the Macedonian conqueror, with his own existence, had it not been overthrown by the crowned heads, with whom he had vainly allied his fortunes. His career was astonishing, but savoured of the melo-dramatic. Surrounded with a theatrical bravery and display, it dazzled the multitude and the military, whose idol he still continues; but the wise must always lament the illusions of his vain-glorious pursuits. Apart from his public course his character was not particularly exceptionable; the domestic affections and virtues existing in fair proportion, and he was the slave of no gross personal vice or folly. Ambition made all his crime. To self-aggrandizement, virtue, truth, honour, and justice were sacrificed. He never sought more good than ministered to his own elevation; therefore mankind owe him nothing, and his fall was a blessing to the world.

May 8. The order of knighthood having been surreptitiously obtained by two medical practitioners at the king's levees, an order was issued from Carlton-house, directing that no person should be introduced to be knighted unless his majesty's consent had been previously signified to the lord in waiting, by one of the secretaries of state.

11. A person named Cooper, mistakenly supposed to be the editor of the *John Bull*, and Weaver, the printer, committed to Newgate for a breach of parliamentary privilege, in misrepresenting a speech of Mr. Grey Bennett.

12. Congress of the sovereigns of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, at Laybach, terminated. The chief subject of their deliberations had been the revolts in Piedmont and at Naples. Before separating they issued a circular, expressive of their determination to maintain "that social order under which Europe has enjoyed so many centuries of glory and happiness. Useful or necessary changes in legislation, and in the administration of states, ought only to emanate from the free-will and the intelligent and well-weighed conviction of those whom God has rendered responsible for power." The monarchs expressed their intention of re-assembling in the ensuing year.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF GRAMPOUND.—In this month parliamentary reform excited interest, and motions on the subject were made by Mr. Lambton and lord John Russell. A bill introduced by the latter for the disfranchisement of Grampond, convicted of corruption, passed into a law; and by the bill, as it passed the commons, the franchise was transferred to Leeds, under a 20^l. qualification (10^l. lord John Russell proposed). But the lords refused

to pass the bill in this shape; and, in lieu of giving two representatives to Leeds, they gave two additional ones to the county of York. The boon, small enough at first, became a nullity.

18. Mr. Kent exhibited his machine for walking upon water, in one of the wet-docks at Leith. It consisted of a triangle of about ten feet, formed of rods of iron, to each angle of which was affixed a case of block-tin, filled with air, and completely water-tight.

24. Government having withdrawn the annual grant of 3000^l. from the Board of Agriculture, the members determined to support it by an annual subscription among themselves.

25. Three manufacturers of forged bank-notes executed at Warwick. 10,000^l. of forged notes were found in their possession, and the plates from which they had been struck.

Mr. John Hunt, of the *Examiner*, sentenced to one year's imprisonment in Cold-bath-fields, for a libel on the house of commons, in stating that it contained more public criminals than public guardians. Thomas Flindall, of the *Western Luminary*, was at the same time sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for a libel on the queen.

June 1. Five Jews apprehended at Leipsic, for issuing Dutch forged paper to the amount of 100,000^l.

27. ECONOMY AND RETRENCHMENT.—The session of parliament was remarkable for the commencement, by Mr. Hume, of a severe scrutiny into the public estimates. His object was to show the immense disproportion between the peace expenditure of 1792 and the present; and, to establish this, he brought forward, in an elaborate speech of the 27th, various statements illustrative of the expenditure of the two periods. The general expenditure had increased from 16,000,000^l., in 1792, to 53,000,000^l. The military force, regular and irregular, had increased from 92,430 men to 263,867; and the expense from 2,330,349^l. to 8,926,421^l. The expense of the navy in 1792 was under 2,000,000^l.; it was now 6,382,786^l. The increase in the expense of the different public offices was shown to be enormous, and to require curtailment. Although 850,000^l. was granted for the king's civil list, various other charges were thrown upon the public under the head of civil contingencies. Salaries had been increased, and sinecures multiplied; the offices of receivers-general of taxes and of distributors of stamps were mostly executed by deputies; the principals held large balances of public money, and were often in arrear at their deaths. Immense savings might be effected by an

improved mode of collecting the public revenues. Out of a revenue of 66,000,000*l.* upwards of 4,000,000*l.* were paid for the expense of collecting it. Mr. Hume concluded by moving a resolution expressive of the necessity of retrenchment, and of an adjustment of the expenditure to the increased value of the currency and the distressed circumstances of the country. An amendment was moved by Mr. Bankes, not greatly differing from the original resolution; and Mr. Hume's resolution rejected by 174 to 94. The details, however, produced made a great impression on the country, and even on the members of government, many of whom were unconscious of the waste in their own departments, and of the greater economy that might be introduced therein without detriment to the public service.

July 4. New theatre in the Haymarket opened.

A letter from Mr. Scoresby states that the Congreve rockets had been successfully used in the whale-fishery.

The queen having, by memorial to the king, claimed a right to be crowned, the privy-council assembled at the Cockpit, Whitehall, to hear counsel in support of her majesty's claim. Messrs. Brougham and Denman were heard in favour of the claim; the attorney and solicitor-general against it. After long deliberation the lords of the council reported that queens consort were not entitled of right to be crowned at any time; which report being communicated to the king, he approved of it.

11. Parliament prorogued by commission.

17. Spain having ratified the treaty for the cession of the Floridas to the United States of America, these much-coveted provinces were formally taken possession of by general Jackson. The republic made, likewise, an acquisition of territory to the westward of the lakes, by purchasing above 5,000,000 of acres of fertile lands from the Indians. It was paid for in merchandises to the value of 25,000 dollars, and an annual payment of less than 2000*l.*

19. CORONATION OF GEORGE IV.—This ancient solemnity was performed in a style of great splendour. Preparations had been making for upwards of a twelvemonth, and in general the precedent of James II. was followed, as described by Sandford. Three tiers of galleries, supported upon columns, were erected on the eastern and western sides of Westminster Abbey, and directly under the south window was the royal platform, on which the throne and king's chair were placed, superbly decorated. Beneath the galleries were sideboards or cellarets, communicating with passages by

sliding panels, for the convenience of the waiters. Separate boxes were provided for the accommodation of the royal family, foreign ministers, and lord great chamberlain. A flooring of wood was laid down in the body of the hall, fourteen inches above the pavement. There were six dining-tables, each 56 feet long and 7 wide. The decorations were in the Gothic style, the better to correspond with the occasion and the building; and a triumphal arch of great beauty was composed of the various orders of architecture existing in the hall itself and in Westminster Abbey. The covered platform, over which the procession moved from the north door of the hall to the west door of the abbey, was 1500 feet in length. In addition to the preparations for the grand banquet, the adjoining courts of law were fitted up for private dinner-rooms, for dining nearly 2000 members of the procession. The preparations in Westminster Abbey were on a corresponding scale of magnificence. Great care was taken of the ornaments by encasing them in boards; and in the erection of the galleries not a single nail or hook was driven into the venerable fabric. Both in the hall and the abbey seats were reserved for the reporters for the public press. At some of the entrances were seen Cribb, Jackson, and other pugilists, intended to assist the doorkeepers in maintaining order. On each side of the platform, from the hall to the abbey, an amphitheatre of seats was erected, to accommodate 100,000 spectators. All the houses and places in the vicinity, from which a view of the pageant could be obtained, were covered with galleries and seats, the prices of which varied from twenty guineas to one guinea. About 7000 tickets were issued by the lord chamberlain and the earl marshal for admission to the hall and abbey. On Wednesday there was a grand rehearsal of the duties of the champion, and of all others who had duties to perform. That night the king slept at the speaker's house. The firing of guns and ringing of bells, at one o'clock next morning, announced the opening of the gala; and so early as two o'clock the streets were filled with the carriages of persons going to witness the ceremony. At five a considerable number of the company had arrived and taken their places in the hall. The corporations of London, Oxford, and Dublin came by water from Blackfriars-bridge. About five the queen arrived in her state-carriage; but no preparation had been made for her reception, and, not having an admission-ticket, her majesty was obliged to retire. At nine the peers, great officers of state, and all who were to take part in the procession, were assembled, in the costumes of their ranks and offices, in

the hall; presenting, with the galleries occupied by the peeresses, foreign ambassadors, and others, in rich dresses, a scene indescribably picturesque and magnificent. At ten precisely his majesty entered, splendidly attired: the persons in the galleries rose to receive him; and the trumpets struck up "God save the king." Almost immediately after the procession began to move towards the Abbey, the king walking under a canopy of cloth of gold, supported by Henry Brougham, M.P., and the other barons of the Cinque-ports. As the different personages went along the platform popular feeling was manifested, some being hissed, others cheered. The administration of the coronation-oath, homage, unction, and other rites of the abbey, occupied about five hours. When the king re-entered the hall, with the crown on his head, he was received with enthusiastic cheers and waving of handkerchiefs: he retired for an hour to repose himself, when his guests took the opportunity to eat their dinners. During this scene the ladies and gentlemen from the galleries promenaded between the tables, and some partook of the refreshments so abundantly supplied. About five the royal banquet was served; the deputy earl marshal, the lord high steward, and lord high constable attending the first course, on horseback, in splendid robes, and their chargers richly caparisoned. Next followed the challenge of the king's champion, the proclamation of the royal titles by the heralds, the officers-at-arms crying "*Largesse*." A noble lord then proposed the king's health, with three times three, which was drunk with rapturous applause. Lord Chancellor Eldon said they ought to have drunk it with nine times nine. The king drank the health of "his peers and his good people." His majesty having died, "*Non nobis Domine*" was sung, and the king shortly after quitted the hall. Immediately a scramble ensued for the viands he had left on his table. The hall was lighted by wax-lights, but they were unnecessary, as the business of the day was concluded before dark. The weather was beautiful, the sun shining brightly all day. The amusements set apart for the people consisted of the ascent of a balloon, a boat-race on the Serpentine, an exhibition of fire-works in Hyde-park, and the throwing open the theatres for free admission. The expenses of the coronation amounted to 238,000*l.* (*Hansard's Parl. Debates*, ix. 1107.) The crown worn by the king was of unexampled brilliance and richness. The jewels of the crown were valued at 65,000*l.*; and ten per cent. interest was paid to Rundell and Bridge for the loan of them. The total quantities of provisions for the dinner and banquet

were as follows:—7442*lbs.* of beef 033*lbs.* of veal, 20 quarters of house-lamb, 20 legs of house-lamb, 5 saddles of lamb, 55 quarters of grass-lamb, 160 lambs' sweetbread, 389 cow-beels, 400 calves'-feet, 250 *lbs.* of suet, 160 geese, 720 pullets and capons, 1610 chickens, 520 fowls for stock (hens), 1730 *lbs.* of bacon, 550 *lbs.* of lard, 912*lbs.* of butter, 8400 eggs. Of *wines*,—champagne, 100 dozens; Burgundy, 20 dozens; claret, upwards of 200 dozens; hock, 50 dozens; Madeira, 50 dozens; sherry and port, 350 dozens; iced punch, 100 gallons.

23. Westminster Hall thrown open to the public for three days.

24. Court of Parma goes into mourning for Napoleon Buonaparte; the duchess Maria Louisa being the widow of the emperor. No mourning in any other European court.

26. The king holds a splendid drawing-room; 2000 persons present.

Coronation-medals distributed by the speaker to each member of parliament, on sending his receipt for it. They weigh a full ounce of gold each, and are well executed.

30. The Queen taken ill in Drury-lane theatre.

31. The king left Carlton-house on a visit to Ireland. He was to embark and dine on board the royal yacht at Portsmouth.

Aug. 7. DEATH OF QUEEN CAROLINE.—Her majesty had for some days suffered from constipation, which baffled the skill of her physicians. She was in her 53rd year, and member of an heroic but unfortunate family. Her father, the duke of Brunswick, lost his dominions and his life at the battle of Jena; and her brother, in 1815, was slain in Belgium. Her marriage with her cousin, the prince of Wales; their separation a twelvemonth after; the princess going abroad; her return to England; and her trial for adultery, are incidents already noticed. Immediately the queen ceased to be an object of persecution the excitement in her favour began to subside; and the little interest evinced on the day of her unsuccessful attempt to take part in the coronation showed the change that had taken place in the popular sentiment. She was felt for as an oppressed, but not blameless, princess. That her marriage should turn out unhappy was to be expected: it was a marriage of interest, not of the affections. George III. urged forward the union, as a mode of reclaiming a dissolute son; and the match became one of pecuniary convenience, formed with a dissipated prince, already affianced to Mrs. Fitzherbert, to whom he was attached, and connected by ties of pleasure with others. Under such cir-

circumstances Caroline had little chance of domestic bliss; neither was she peculiarly fitted, by character or education, to win the regards of her husband. Her heart and understanding were good, but not cultivated. Accustomed to the military license of a German court,—self-willed, hasty and vehement in temper, with little taste for refined pursuits,—it was not likely she would prove acceptable to a fastidious consort, spoiled by self-indulgence. Naturally, the queen was lively and joyous, affable and condescending, fond of being beloved and confided in by those beneath her. She liked music, and had a taste for mechanics; and occasionally indulged in the construction of toys and ornaments. Buoyant in spirits, and careless, she “forgave anything but dulness.” (*Diary of George IV.* i. 255.) She was affectionately regarded by George III., which weighs much in favour of her character; but her royal mother and sisters-in-law soon ceased to be her friends. Though not intellectual, she was shrewd enough to penetrate the wiles of the successive cliques of politicians who sought to make her grievances the ladder of their ambition. Either as a mode of annoying her enemies, or from conscious innocence, she was regardless of suspicious appearances. Hence her adoption of the sail-maker’s son, Austin, her visits to Vauxhall and masked balls, and her mingling familiarly with the fiddlers and vocalists of the theatres. Abroad, her conduct was so unseemly, in adopting a handsome courier for her confidant, that all her English attendants left her service. Her popularity in England was partly the result of the unpopularity of the king, partly of faction, partly of a generous sympathy with misfortune, and a conviction that, if not without fault, she was more sinned against than sinning. Her majesty met death with the characteristic courage of her family; and, as she herself declared, without regret. Her body lay in state at her villa, near Hammersmith; and, on the 19th, was conveyed through the metropolis, on its way to Brunswick, its final resting-place. The day proved one of the wettest of the season, yet countless multitudes assembled to form part of the procession. Instead of the funeral passing through Loudon, a circuitous route had been directed by the king’s ministers; which apparent indignity so incensed the people, that an affray arose with the guards, and two lives were lost. By barricading the streets, the people succeeded in forcing the procession through the city, whence the royal corpse was hurried with indecent precipitancy to Harwich, the port of embarkation. At Colchester, pursuant to the queen’s will, a plate was affixed to the coffin, with an

inscription, dictated by herself,—“Here lies Caroline of Brunswick, the injured (erroneously ‘murdered,’ in the *Edinburgh Review*, cxxxv. 51) queen of England.” This was removed, in spite of the protestations of the executors, by the agent of government, who had the management of the funeral. The remains of the queen reached Brunswick on the 24th, attended by lord and lady Hood, Dr. Lushington, serjeant Wilde, and lady Ann Hamilton. They were deposited in the family vault of the house of Brunswick—already the receptacle of fifty-seven of Caroline’s illustrious relatives.

10. The remains of major André disinterred at New York, with the view of their removal to England.

15. The king landed in Ireland. His reception was enthusiastic. From the entrance of the vice-regal lodge, in Phoenixpark, he made a short address to the people, assuring them that “his heart had always been Irish.”

24. The inquest on Francis, who was shot at the queen’s funeral, returned a verdict of wilful murder against a life-guardsmen unknown.

Sept. 3. A religious society established at Paris, called the *Société de la Morale Chrétienne*, of which the duke de la Rochefoucault Liancourt, a catholic, and the baron de Stael Holstein, a protestant, are members. Its main object is declared to be the inculcation of the importance of the precepts of Christianity, and their application to the practical uses of social life.

12. Coroner’s jury on Richard Honey, shot at Cumberland-gate while viewing the queen’s funeral, returned a verdict of manslaughter against the officers and men of the 1st regiment of life-guards, after sitting fourteen days, ten hours per day.

14. The king having expressed some displeasure at the conduct of sir Robert Baker, in suffering the queen’s funeral to pass through the city, he resigned his situation of chief magistrate at Bow-street. He was succeeded by Mr. Birnie.

15. The king arrived at Carlton-house from Ireland. He left Dunleary harbour (since called King’s-town) on the 5th, but had been detained by tempestuous weather.

20. Major-general sir Robert Wilson removed from the army, by order of the king, for the decided part he had taken in the queen’s favour. A public subscription was set on foot for sir Robert, to compensate him for the loss of his commission, which amounted to upwards of 10,000*l.*

24. The king embarked at Ramsgate to visit Hanover, and landed at Calais.

The duke of York, archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor, and other noblemen, were appointed lords-justices, to administer the government during his absence.

Oct. 5. George IV., having passed through Lisle, Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, and Minden, entered his German dominions. On the 11th he made his public entrance into Hanover, drawn by eight milk-white horses. The joy of the people was extreme at the sight of the first member of the Brunswick family who had exchanged the ancient title of elector for that of king of Hanover. Ten days were spent in the capital amidst rejoicings and festivals. The king underwent the fatigue of a second coronation. He reviewed the military; received the civic authorities; visited the university of Gottingen; spoke German; and joined in a grand hunting-party at Diester.

9. The walls of the metropolis placarded with a statement to the effect that the body of Olive Wilmott Serres, princess of Cumberland, had been taken in execution for debt; and that a legacy of 15,000*l.*, bequeathed to her royal highness by her late uncle, George III., was unjustly withheld from her by the government. According to the representation of the said princess, her mother was married to the late duke of Cumberland in 1767; that the nuptials were kept secret, the duke marrying a second wife; and that she, his legitimate daughter by the first, was born in 1772. The story is only valuable by showing the natural addiction of some minds to imposture. Olive was the daughter of a Robert Wilmott, a house-painter at Warwick, and was brought up by the Rev. Dr. Wilmott, about whom she published a book, to prove the doctor the real Junius. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 150.) The fabrication not succeeding, she started herself as Olive, princess of Cumberland, having previously been married to a foreign artist, named Serres. Mrs. Serres had a singular taste for documentary evidence, generally contriving that the writers of her letters and certificates should be dead before they were produced.

Nov. 2. Lord Byron's tragedy of *Marino Faliero*, having been translated into French verse, is hissed off the stage at the Théâtre Français.

8. The king arrived at Carlou-house from Hanover.

15. Mary Anne Carlile, sister of Richard Carlile, sentenced to pay a fine of 500*l.*, and a year's imprisonment, for publishing a theological libel.

19. A respectable farmer, named Shea, his wife, seven children, and five labourers, who resided in the county of Tipperary,

were burnt in their dwellings in the night by an armed banditti. Such of the unfortunate victims as attempted to escape were fired at by the miscreants, who surrounded the premises, and drove them back into the flames. Shea had dispossessed his under-tenants and the cotters on his farm, because they refused either to pay rent, or labour for its discharge.

24. Proprietor of the *John Bull* sentenced to pay a fine of 1100*l.*, and to nine months' imprisonment, for a libel on lady Wrottesley, charging her with an intrigue with a menial servant.

31. Monument to Martin Luther erected at Wittenberg. Before the statue was uncovered the ancient and celebrated hymn, "*Ein fester Burg ist unser Gott,*" was sung in chorus by a vast assemblage of spectators, and had a sublime effect.

A curious case of copyright occupied the lord chancellor this month. Mrs. Rundell, mother of the silversmith on Ludgate-hill, upwards of fourteen years ago, wrote a book on cookery, and gave it to Mr. Murray, who published it, with additions, and some embellishments. The work at first did not command a rapid sale; but, after a few years, it rose to 12,000 annually. Mrs. Rundell now wished to resume the copyright, and obtained an injunction against the sale of it by Murray; who, in his turn, obtained an injunction against the sale of it by the authoress with his additions. The lord chancellor said that, under the circumstances, he doubted whether a copyright existed; but, without deciding that point, his lordship dissolved the injunction against Mr. Murray.

During the last ten years, it appears (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 181), there have been 163 suicides in the city and liberties of Westminster, of which number 63 were females. The greatest number of suicides was in July, and the fewest in October.

Dec. 5. M. Berenger, the popular French song-writer, sentenced to a fine of 500 francs, and three months' imprisonment, for an outrage, in his writings, against public morals and religion.

29. Marquis Wellesley arrived at Dublin, as the new lord-lieutenant; and, as he was known to be favourable to the catholics, he was not very welcome to the protestant faction.

PRINCE HOHENLOHE.—The curiosity of the Bavarians was much excited by a pretended worker of miraculous cures, in the person of prince Hohenlohe. The principal scene of his performances was Bamberg. Dupes were soon accumulated: in a short time there were hundreds who could attest his efficiency in their own persons, and thousands who were willing to attest it in others. His fame waxed great;

and the daughters of even princely houses repaired to him, to receive health and beauty through the power of his word: for prayer and exhortation were the means by which he made the blind to see, and the lame to walk. Unfortunately for the prince, the police were sceptical: they insisted that he should operate publicly, not secretly; and that a commission of the medical faculty should be present at his cures. Looking upon this supervision as degrading to his holy mission, the prince suddenly left Bamberg, to seek new proselytes, and less prying inquisitors, in the Austrian capital.

RAIN.—The quantity of rain that fell in 1820 was 26 inches; in 1821, 41 inches.

SMALL-POX.—792 persons died of the small-pox within the London bills of mortality in the last year. This is about one-third of the average number of those who perished annually in the metropolis before the introduction of vaccination; showing either the neglect of vaccination, or its inefficacy.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.—A parliamentary return shows that there are forty-two newspapers, or other stamped journals, published every Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, exclusive of eighteen others, published on other days, or twice or thrice weekly. There are eight morning and seven evening papers published in London; the circulation of the former about 18,000, of the latter, 12,000. The total circulation of the London newspaper-press is estimated as follows:—

Of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday editions. . . .	3,250,000
Of other weekly, twice and thrice a-week papers . . .	1,750,000
Of daily papers.	10,500,000

Grand total, yearly. 15,500,000

Of country newspapers there are, of English provincials, 135; Scottish, 47; Irish, 126: total, 308

EDUCATION IN FRANCE.—The number of communes having one or more schools, in 1817, was 17,600; in 1820, 24,124. The number of scholars in 1817 was 865,721; in 1820, 1,063,919. The population of France in 1820 amounted to 30,407,907. In 1817 there were 990,023 births, and 786,338 deaths; making an excess of births, amounting to 203,685.

MISCELLANIES.—A daily paper commenced in Lancashire.

Burgess's swift conveyance established between London, Manchester, and Liverpool, by which two horses run eight-mile stages, at the rate of twelve miles an-hour.

Steam-boats established between Dover and Calais, and London and Leith.

The special juries of London reformed by the exertions of alderman Waithman.

Coal-gas begun to be used in the inflation of balloons, in lieu of the gas obtained from sulphuric acid and zinc or iron-filings. The filling took less time, and was not so expensive.

Three hundred and ninety-three German booksellers published no less than 3322 new works in the course of half a year.

Eight thousand volumes, in the Russian tongue, have appeared within the last twenty years; whereas, till 1800, only 3000 had been printed.

The canal at Alexandria completed by European engineers. It commences near the Nile, a little below Saene, is nearly fifty miles in length, twenty-eight yards in breadth, and seventeen feet deep: 100,000 men were set to work on it in January, 1819; the number afterwards amounted to 290,000.

A penknife, containing 2016 blades, was presented to queen Caroline by a Sheffield manufacturer; another was afterwards made, containing 1821 blades.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Adam Walker, 90, popular lecturer on astronomy, the inventor of the warm-air stove, mail-coach, and revolving lights of Scilly and Cromer. At Rome, John Keats, 25, author of "Endymion," and other poems. Richard Twiss, 74, author of "Travels in the Peninsula," a "Trip to Paris," &c. Dr. Gregory, M.D., 68, professor of medicine in the university of Edinburgh, and author of some philosophical and literary essays. M. Bryant, 64, author of a "Biographical Dictionary of Painters." Mrs. Piozzi, 82, a literary lady, and the well-known friend of Dr. Johnson. The earl of Sheffield, 86, the friend of Gibbon, and editor of his miscellaneous works. At Cheshunt, Oliver Cromwell, 79, a lineal descendant of the Protector. (See p. 217.) James Carmichael Smith, M.D., 80: he obtained from parliament a reward, in 1802, for a discovery of the means of preventing contagion by a mineral acid. The duchess dowager of Orleans, 68: by her death the duke has obtained an addition to his income of 100,000*l*. Mrs. Inchbald, 64, a celebrated novelist and dramatist. Francis Hargrave, 81, recorder of Liverpool, and a voluminous writer on law subjects. Vicesimus Knox, D.D., 68, author of "Essays on Education." John Rennie, 60, eminent civil engineer: Waterloo-bridge, the London and East-India docks, the Bell-rock lighthouse, attest his merits. John Barrett, D.D., 69, vice-provost of Trinity-college, Dublin, and professor of oriental languages. Dr. Barrett's habits were eccentric: he was author of an "Inquiry into the Origin of the Constellations of the

Zodiac;" and, by extreme parsimony, accumulated a fortune of 80,000*l.*, which he bequeathed to his successor for charitable uses. Sir James Mansfield, 88, late chief-justice of the court of common-pleas. James Perry, 65, proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, who contributed greatly to the improvement of the newspaper-press. Rev. Samuel Vince, archdeacon of Bedford, Plumian professor of astronomy at Cambridge, and author of several mathematical works. At Brighton, Phœbe Hessel, 108: this singular woman served many years in the army as a private soldier, and was at the battle of Fontenoy, in 1745. Rev. Thomas Dunham Whitaker, 63, eminent antiquary, and classical scholar.

A.D. 1822. The present was an interesting but not eventful year. It was more remarkable for speculation than action. In the British parliament important questions were discussed but not decided. Among the leading subjects of debate were the state of the currency, criminal law, agriculture, Ireland, parliamentary reform, the influence of the crown, the Scotch burghs, and newspaper press. It was a singular feature of the year that agricultural distress had almost become an European calamity; in France and the Netherlands, as well as England, there were loud complaints of the ruinously low prices produced by fruitful seasons. While, however, the agriculturists of the continent and of Britain were suffering from abundance, a grievous famine arose in Ireland, showing the anomalies of her situation, resulting either from the staple food of her population differing from that of surrounding nations, or the limitation of her commercial interchanges with her neighbours. Her distresses from scarcity were aggravated by the agrarian outrages, originating in the pressure of tithes and rack-rents, on the peasantry and small farmers. Several of the ringleaders of these disorders were apprehended by the civil and military power, and great numbers executed or transported. A new lord-lieutenant was appointed in the marquis Wellesley, the insurrection act passed, and the habeas corpus act suspended, the object of which coercive measures was at least to produce temporary tranquillity. Abroad the chief subjects of interest were the congress of sovereigns at Verona, the progress of the Greek insurrection, the struggles between the liberals and ultras in France, and the erection of Brazil into an independent empire.

Jan. The shop of Carlile, the vendor of irreligious publications, is now fitted up with a novel contrivance for baffling the law-officers of the crown. Publications that are legal are sold openly in his shop,

while those of contrary character are sold from a window in his back parlour, having a turning machine, one end of which conveys the desired book to his customer, the other the money to the vendor. The person who conducts the apparatus is invisible, and the room barricaded.

5. Mr. Loveday, an Englishman resident in France, petitioned the French chamber of deputies on the seduction of his daughter to the catholic faith.

30. *Thames* outward-bound East-Indian wrecked off Beachey-head; twelve of the crew perished, the remainder were saved by captain Manby's life-preserver.

Cortes of Portugal present a laudatory address to Jeremy Bentham, on his writings in behalf of liberty.

Several pieces of plate voted to Mr. Hume, M.P., for his services in enforcing retrenchment and economy.

THE GRENVILLES.—In the course of the month ministers strengthened themselves by a union with this section of the opposition. The marquis of Buckingham was elevated to a duke; Mr. C. Wynne was placed at the head of the India board, and another of the family was named envoy to the Swiss cantons. The accession of the Grenvilles was considered a dereliction of principle, but except the catholic, to which they were favourable, there was no other question on which they differed from the general policy of the Liverpool government. The loss to the opposition was probably greater than the gain to the ministry. Lord Grenville had retired from public life; and no other member of his small party had such talents for oratory or business as to make his aid of much value. In Ireland the catholics were gratified by the removal of the anti-catholic Saurin, and Mr. Plunkett succeeded him in the office of attorney-general. Another ministerial change was the retirement of lord Sidmouth from active employment; who, retaining his seat in the cabinet, was succeeded in his office of home secretary by Mr. Peel. This gentleman became a useful auxiliary to lord Londonderry in the commons, and his political prepossessions mainly coincided with those of his predecessor.

Feb. 4. Will of the late queen proved in the prerogative court. The effects are sworn under 20,000*l.*

5. Parliament opened by the king. His majesty regretted that his visit to Ireland had failed to produce tranquillity; manufactures and commerce were represented to be prosperous, but agriculture to be labouring under difficulties. Amendments to the address were moved by sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hume, but negatived by large majorities.

11. **INSURRECTION ACT.**—The number and daring of the Whiteboys and other nocturnal bands in Ireland rendered defensive measures necessary for the protection of persons and property. The disorders were agrarian, they arose out of the letting of land, rents, and tithes, and were unconnected with religious or political animosities. To meet them ministers proposed to suspend the habeas corpus act, and to renew the insurrection act. By the provisions of the last the lord-lieutenant was empowered, on the representation of justices in session that a district was disturbed, to proclaim it in a state of insurrection; interdict the inhabitants from leaving their homes between sunset and sunrise, and subject them to visits by night, to ascertain their presence in their own dwellings. If absent, they were considered idle and disorderly, and liable to transportation for seven years! The act encountered considerable opposition, but, together with the bill for the suspension of the habeas corpus act, received the royal assent on the 11th inst.

16. An injunction refused to restrain the piracy of lord Byron's "Cain;" the lord chancellor had doubts about the moral tendency of the work, and till they were removed by the verdict of a jury for damages, in a court of common law, he would not extend to the publication the protection of property.

20. Died, at an advanced age, JOHN STEWART, commonly called "Walking Stewart," having, to gratify the *amor videndi*, wandered on foot over most parts of the habitable globe. Early in life he left the service of the East India company, with an intimation that he was destined to a nobler vocation than the making out of "invoices for a company of grocers." After visiting the principal cities of the East, and crossing the desert of Arabia to Marseilles, and thence through France and Spain to England, he went over to the United States of America, all of which he traversed. It was the luxury of seeing himself, not of benefiting others, that seemingly prompted his incessant locomotion, for it does not appear he published to the world the results of his observations. One eccentric opinion of Stewart's was, that the time would come when the wives of the rich would cease to bear children, those of the poor only undergoing the labour. He received a grant of 15,000*l.* from parliament to compensate him for losses sustained in the service of the nabob of Arcot. The last ten years of his life were spent in the neighbourhood of Charing-cross, that he might live, as he said, in Dr. Johnson's "full tide of human existence."

25. **REDUCTION OF NAVY FIVE PER CENTS.**—Mr. Vansittart proposed in parliament his plan for reducing the interest of the Navy five per cents. to four; holders not signifying their dissent to have 10*5* in a new four per cent. stock, and persons dissenting, to be paid off in numerical order. By this scheme an annual saving to the public of 1,140,000*l.* would be effected; besides a farther saving of upwards of 90,000*l.* of annual charge, which would be gained by a similar reduction of the Irish five per cents. The high prices of the public funds obviated all difficulty in the execution of this financial operation, and the holders of the five per cent. stock found it expedient to acquiesce in the minister's terms. The dissentients were in number only 1373, and the stock held by them amounted to 2,615,978*l.*; not a fifteenth part of the five per cent. capital.

26. General Berton heads an insurrection against the Bourbon government of Soumier: it was speedily defeated by the national guards, and the general, with several accomplices in his wild scheme, put to death.

28. Sir N. Conant and other police magistrates found guilty of conspiring to deprive a publican of his licence.

March 1. House of commons resolved, by a majority of 182 against 128, to reduce ('snuff out,' Mr. Wilberforce termed it) two junior lords of the admiralty, leaving ministers in a minority of 54.

6. The tide was so low, owing to a strong south-west wind, in the Thames, near London-bridge, that it was fordable in many places; numerous persons walked across, and several valuable articles that had lain at the bottom of the river for years were picked up.

8. United States of America recognise the independence of the South American republics. Congress voted 100,000 dollars to defray the charges of diplomatic intercourse with the new governments.

9. Mrs. Donatty, a retired widow lady, barbarously murdered at No. 16, Robert-street, Bedford-row: the assassin left a sack filled with plate and other valuables, which from the circumstance of being disturbed he did not carry off.

10. Severe restrictions imposed on the French journals and periodicals; they were opposed by M. Talleyrand.

Litigation has arisen between M. Lafitte, the banker in Paris, and the representatives of Napoleon. In 1815 Buonaparte lodged with the house of Lafitte 4,222,000*l.* in cash, and the remainder of 5,000,000*l.* in securities. The bank gave him a receipt, acknowledging the 5,000,000*l.* to be payable at sight; also a letter of credit on bankers at Philadelphia,

payable at sight, for the same amount. The securities were never realized—a part of the 4,222,000*l.* were remitted to Napoleon's order, and the balance, being 3,149,000*l.*, remains payable to the representatives of Napoleon. The point at issue is, who are the legal representatives?

20. Will of Thomas Coutts, esq., an eminent banker, who died last year, aged 86, proved, and the personal property sworn under 600,000*l.* Mrs. Coutts, formerly Miss Mellon, of Drury-lane theatre, to whom Mr. Coutts had been married eight years, was left universal legatee, to the exclusion of three daughters by a former wife. To Mrs. Coutts was also bequeathed the banking-business in the Strand.

26. Court of chancery decided that Mr. Lawrence's lectures were out of the protection of equity, owing to containing passages inimical to christianity.

Sir Alexander Boswell killed in a duel by James Stuart, esq., of Dunearn; the meeting originated in some literary effusion of the former, inserted in a newspaper recently started in Scotland for political purposes.

27. Mr. Canning appointed governor-general of India, and sergeant Blossett chief-justice of India.

Several instances occurred this month, in the county of Norfolk, of the malicious destruction of threshing-machines, and of the stacks and buildings of farmers, by incendiaries.

30. At the special commission at Limerick, many of "captain Rock's" men convicted; some executed, others transported.

April. FAMINE IN IRELAND.—Owing to the failure of the potato-crop, through the heavy rains of last year, the south of Ireland was afflicted with a grievous scarcity of the staple food of the population. The price of potatoes was quadrupled. Before the end of the month the province of Munster was in a state of actual starvation. The peasantry crowded into the towns and villages, in the vain hope of finding employment or subsistence. At Ennis, many were heard inquiring what crimes were punishable by confinement, as they were willing, by such means, to procure food even in prison. The sufferings of the people were augmented by typhus fever, which spread its ravages. Intelligence of this general distress arriving in England, prompt measures were adopted for its alleviation. A committee was formed in London, and corresponding committees in different parts of the country. The benevolence of individuals was such that large funds were speedily at their disposal, and, being well managed, the Irish soon experienced the benefits of British sympathy.

4. Captain Birley, and others of the Manchester yeomanry, were tried by a special jury, at Lancaster assizes, for unlawfully wounding Thomas Bedford, August 16th, 1819. After a trial of four days, before Mr. Justice Holroyd, the jury returned a verdict of acquittal. A motion was made in the court of king's bench, May 2nd, to obtain a new trial, which was refused, the judges delivering their opinions *seriatim* against it.

11. Newman Knowles, esq., appointed recorder of London, in the room of sir John Silvester, deceased.

13. Sir John Sewell, and other members of the Constitutional Association, tried for a conspiracy, but acquitted.

20. Alderman Waithman obtained 500*l.* damages from the *John Bull*, for a libel, imputing to him perjury, and the receiving of stolen goods.

25. Thomas Denman, esq., elected common-sergeant of the city of London, after a sharp contest with Mr. Bolland, by a majority of 131 of the common council against 119.

29. Lord John Russell's motion on parliamentary reform negated by 269 to 164. His lordship's plan was to add 100 members to the house; 60 for counties and 40 for large towns. This, he urged, had become politic from the evidence of increasing intelligence among the people, especially the middling classes. He was replied to by Mr. Canning, the champion of the existing representation.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESSES.—On the 29th the house of commons resolved itself into a committee, to take into consideration the report of the agricultural committee. On that day three different schemes were proposed for the relief of the farmers and landlords; one by the marquis of Londonderry, the second by Mr. Ricardo, and the third by Mr. Huskisson. That of the marquis was adopted. The pressing evil was the low price of produce, which disabled the farmer from paying his rent, and the landlord from supporting his former expenditure. The remedies chiefly insisted upon were a reduction of taxes, especially those affecting agriculture; secondly, the abolition of tithes; and, thirdly, the reduction of the interest of the national debt. (*Ann. Reg.* lxi. 2.) The last had begun to be very generally insisted upon at public meetings, and its equity defended on the ground of the increased value of the currency since the passing of Peel's bill for the resumption of payments in specie. The exclusion of foreign corn from the British markets had ceased to be relied upon as a panacea, as very little had during the last three years been imported, and the lowness of price resulted from the

abundance of home produce. One novelty in lord Londonderry's scheme was the advance of a loan to the agriculturists, on the security of corn. The idea was not favourably received, and was sharply ridiculed as a species of pawnbroking, unworthy of the government. Moreover, it was urged that the bankers were always ready to advance to the farmers on adequate security; and that it would be impolitic for government to incur greater risk than individuals. Project of a loan was in consequence left out of the minister's plan.

30. A bill introduced by Mr. Canuing for the admission of catholic peers into the lords. It passed the commons, but was thrown out by the upper house.

May 2. Lord Normanby moved a resolution for the reduction of one of the two postmasters-general, which was carried against ministers by 216 to 201.

Duel between the dukes of Bedford and Buckingham, in consequence of some expression of the former at a county meeting; both parties fired, Bedford in the air, and the business terminated amicably.

It is a fact that, though trade is encouraged in France, a merchant or manufacturer, since the return of the Bourbons, if he receives a patent of nobility, must take out "letters of relief," conveying the king's pardon for having descended to trade.—(*Ann. Reg.* 1822, p. 82.)

5. Vauxhall-gardens sold for 28,000*l*.

6. St. Paul's cathedral lighted with gas.

8. The number of aliens in England 24,930.

9. An iron steam-boat exhibited on the Thames; it is propelled by a thirty-horse engine, and is intended to navigate between London and Paris, being the first instance of a direct water-communication between the two capitals.

14. Parliament awarded 800,000*l*. to the army under the command of the duke of Wellington, for property and stores captured in the Peninsula, in the years 1812, 1813, and 1814. The grant for naval prize was 116,400*l*.

Commitments under the game-laws in England had increased from 858 in 1816, to 1467 in 1820.

24. **DEAD WEIGHT ANNUITY.**—The amount of military and naval pensions, and civil superannuations, was about five millions annually. On the 24th Mr. Vansittart brought forward his amended scheme for relieving the immediate pressure of this *dead weight*, by extending it over a longer term of years than the natural lives of the annuitants. For this purpose an annuity of 2,800,000*l*. was appropriated, out of the existing revenue, for forty-five years, and vested in trustees for the discharge of the then payments,

which, for that year, were estimated at 4,900,000*l*., subject to yearly diminution by deaths. It was computed that, according to the ordinary duration of human life, the annuities for the lives of the then holders would be equal to the annuity of 2,800,000*l*. for forty-five years. The trustees were, therefore, empowered to sell, from time to time, such portions of this annuity as would provide the funds required for the payment of the dead weight, according to a computation made of the amount which would, probably, be due in each year. The bank of England became the contractor for a portion of the annuity. There was no novelty of principle in the project; it was only the old one of anticipating distant resources by throwing the burden of the existing generation on the next. It had the further disadvantage of incurring an useless expense for management; whereas the sinking-fund, amounting at the time to about five millions, might have been applied to existing exigencies, and a real saving effected.

June 11. **CURRENCY QUESTION.**—A question opened in the house of commons, on a motion of Mr. Western, which often subsequently occupied its attention. It referred to the effect on prices of Mr. Peel's act of 1819, for the resumption of cash-payments. According to the views of Mr. Western and Mr. Attwood, the value of money had been enormously increased by the resumption of payments in specie by the bank, and its necessary preliminary, a diminution of the circulation. Prices had in consequence fallen; rents, taxes, annuities, and all fixed payments become more onerous. They were opposed by Messrs. Huskisson, Peel, and Ricardo; and on the motion of the former a resolution was carried, by 194 to 30, "That this house will not alter the standard of gold or silver, in fineness, weight, or denomination."

19. Price of gold 77*s*. 6*d*. the ounce, being 4*d*. below the mint price, a circumstance which has not occurred since the year 1797, and was of rare occurrence previous to that period.

20. Bank of England lowered the rate of discount to 4 per cent., and extended the time of bills from 63 to 95 days.

Tonnage of ships, entering the port of Liverpool, has increased from 446,788 in 1812, to 892,902 in 1822.

The clerk of the insolvent court mentioned to a parliamentary committee a paper, in common circulation among debtors, containing instructions how to harass their creditors. By the process described a debtor, incurring an expense of 30*l*., may by the forms of law put his creditor to an expense of 314*l*.

By an order of the court of exchequer, the harsh and absurd process of issuing extents in aid is restricted.

25. Mr. Abercrombie moved for a committee of the house of commons to inquire into the conduct of the law-officers of the crown in Scotland, with respect to the public press. It seems the lord advocate, sir Walter Scott, and other ministerial partisans, had been instrumental in setting up certain scurrilous newspapers, that were made the vehicle of attacks on their political opponents. The exposure by Mr. Abercrombie drew from Messrs. Hope and Menzies, two of the parties implicated, letters of remonstrance, which were deemed by the house a breach of privilege, and they were summoned to the bar. They appeared there, but no ulterior proceedings followed, and the business was got rid of.

July 6. Royal guards at Madrid declared against the constitution, but, being attacked by the militia and citizens, were overpowered, and their instigators banished.

10. Statue of Achilles set up in Hyde-park, in honour of the duke of Wellington.

19. The innkeepers on the Dover road petitioned against the adoption of steam-navigation from London to Calais.

20. Iturbide crowned emperor of Mexico.

A charge of sodomy made against the *bis.* and rev. Percy Jocelyn, bishop of Clogher. Last night he was detected in the back-room of a public-house in St. Alban's-place, St. James's, in a situation with Moverly, a private soldier of the guards, which led to his instant apprehension and removal to the watch-house. There were seven witnesses to the fact. It seems, however, that the capital offence had not been completed; in consequence Mr. Dyer, the magistrate at Marlborough-street, accepted bail to the amount of 1000*l.* for the future appearance of the delinquent. Moverly was committed to take his trial; but some days after he too was bailed. The bail, of course, was forfeited, and the bishop degraded by the sentence of his ecclesiastical superior.

22. Proprietor of *Blackwood's Magazine* convicted of libels impugning the conduct and scholarship of professor Leslie; damages 100*l.*

24. Parliament appeared to-day in a novel character, that of the patron of literature. On the motion of the chancellor of the exchequer, 2000*l.* was voted towards the printing a complete edition of the ancient historians of the realm. This was the more necessary, as some of those in circulation were incorrect, and many remained in manuscript. It was seconded by sir James Mackintosh.

27. A soldier, who had received 300

lashes, was found by a coroner's jury, at York, to have been flogged to death.

29. Several English actors, attempting to perform the English drama at the Théâtre Porte St. Martin, at Paris, were hissed and treated in a very unhandsome manner by the Parisians; the police did not interfere, and the behaviour of the audience applauded by the French journals.

Aug. 6. END OF THE SESSION.—Parliament was this day prorogued by the king. Agriculture, finance, the currency, the pressure of taxes, and the improvement of the navigation-laws, had formed the chief topics of discussion. On the latter five acts were passed, the main purposes of which were to repeal obsolete commercial statutes—to relax in the strictness of the laws enacted for the encouragement of British shipping—and to afford to our colonies a more direct intercourse with foreigners.

The New Marriage Act had excited considerable interest. By the marriage act of 1754, all marriages of minors, celebrated without the consent of certain specified persons, are declared null. A bill passed the commons, giving validity to marriages which according to the existing law were null, and providing that the marriages of minors, celebrated without due notice, should not be void, merely voidable, and liable to be annulled only during the minority of the parties, at the suit of parents or guardians. The retrospective clause of this bill was the only part retained by the lords, who declared against the nullity of marriages. The New Act is said (*Ann. Reg. lxiv. 236*) to have mainly originated in the marriage of the marquis of Donegal with Miss May, who was the natural daughter of a gentleman celebrated for assisting persons of fashion with loans of money. The brother of the marquis sought to set this marriage aside, to render the children illegitimate, and himself, should the marquis die without lawful issue, heir to his title and estates. In law the marriage was void, inasmuch as the provisions of lord Hardwicke's act had not been observed, but it was now protected by the retrospective clause of the new statute.

A parliamentary report of this session showed that there were 89 members of the house of commons, not including those who have naval or military commissions, who hold offices or pensions, either in possession or reversion, to the amount of 170,343*l.* The members holding naval and military commissions were 79.

10. The king embarked at Greenwich for Scotland, and on the 15th landed at Leith. His majesty passed the night of the 18th at Dalkeith, as a guest of the duke of Buccleugh, and next day held a

leves in the ancient palace of Holyrood. He wore the highland costume. After a variety of festivities, a procession to Holyrood-house, a review, and dining with the corporation, the king re-embarked at Queensferry on the 27th, and on the 30th arrived in the Thames.

12. **DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.**—The foreign secretary was in his 54th year, and had for some time been the leading member of government, in the house of commons. Either from the pressure of his public duties, or other cause, he had previously exhibited symptoms of insanity, which terminated in suicide, by cutting the carotid artery, at his seat, North Cray, in Kent. He was unpopular, but esteemed in private life for a gracious and gentlemanly bearing. The cruel and corrupt part he had acted or tolerated in Ireland in the suppression of the rebellion, and in effecting the union, always weighed upon his reputation, which was not redeemed by his subsequent official life in England. The tenor of his foreign policy, in which the interests of kings, not of their subjects, were chiefly considered, and his proneness to arbitrary measures at home, proved him an unfit minister for a constitutional monarchy. He was reputed a successful negociator, and was honoured with the public thanks of parliament for his services in effecting the "settlement of Europe" at the general peace. Except in diplomacy his abilities were ordinary; attentive and pains-taking, but without invention or varied knowledge, and his oratory, though occasionally effective, was generally either in the extreme of feebleness, or turgid and incorrect. The populace evinced their dislike of the marquis at his funeral, by raising an exulting shout when his coffin was conveyed into Westminster Abbey, to be deposited between the remains of Fox and Pitt.

Sept. The commander-in-chief orders that the records of the services of each regiment in the British service shall be prepared, and deposited in the office of the adjutant-general.

9. Sir Benjamin Bloomfield appointed envoy extraordinary and minister to the court of Stockholm.

16. Mr. Canning, who was about to set out to India as governor-general, appointed foreign secretary, in room of the late marquis of Londonderry.

25. Thirty-one patriots sentenced to death at Naples, for being concerned in the late revolution.

Oct. 1. Proceedings began in the court of chancery, to prove the earl of Portsmouth a lunatic.

8. Mr. Bowring, translator of the Russian Anthology, arrested at Calais, by order of the French government; the

charges against him being found frivolous, he was soon after set at liberty.

11. Day-patrols established in London.

12. Revolution in Brazil. Pedro, son of the reigning king of Portugal, and who had been left viceroy of the province in the absence of his father, was installed on the 12th inst. emperor of Brazil. It terminated the American sovereignty of Portugal. The Portuguese troops in Brazil who were opposed to separation from the mother-country, were shipped off to Portugal.

20. An eruption of Mount Vesuvius, the greatest since 1794: the lava flowed in a stream, half a mile in breadth, and immense quantities of stones were discharged.

22. Congress of sovereigns at Verona opened. This is the tenth congress since that of Reichenbach, in Silesia, in 1790.

31. The decoration of the statue of William III., at Dublin, prohibited by proclamation. It had been usual every 4th of November to decorate this statue, in commemoration of Protestant ascendancy, by which religious animosities were kept alive.

An alleged mermaid exhibiting in London, and much visited. Sir Everard Home expressed an opinion that this creature of the poet's brain is merely an artificial composition, consisting of the head, arms, and trunk of the monkey class, joined to the lower extremity of a fish resembling a salmon.

Nov. 1. Caledonian canal opened, after a labour of nearly twenty years, and the expenditure of 900,000*l.*

4. Mr. Hunt's term of imprisonment in Ilchester gaol having expired, he made his public entry into London, attended by vast numbers of the populace.

15. Sir James Mackintosh elected lord rector of the university of Glasgow, for the ensuing year. Mr. Jeffrey, the late rector, made a speech, in which he gave his reasons for voting for sir James, in preference to sir Walter Scott, who had been put in nomination.

20. Fonthill-abbey purchased by Mr. Farquhar, for 330,000*l.*

M. Constant, the liberal member of the chamber of deputies, sentenced to pay a fine of 500 francs and to one month's imprisonment, for a libel.

23. Faculty of medicine suppressed at Paris by a royal ordinance; the alleged cause a disturbance among the students. By this arbitrary proceeding 25 professors of eminence were deprived of their places, and 4000 students of the means of instruction.

The extensive library belonging to the late professor Kall, of Copenhagen, which

consisted of 202 volumes, printed before the year 1500; 1000 folios, 4500 quartos, and 8000 octavos, together with 50,000 controversial tracts, and 688 MSS., mostly relating to Danish history, purchased by Mr. Nestler, bookseller, of Hamburg, for about 600*l*.

Dec. 14. Riot at the Dublin theatre, by the Orange party, on the marquis Wellesley going to the play, when a bottle and other missiles were thrown at the vice-regal box. Not more than thirty persons were engaged in this disgraceful tumult.

15. CONGRESS AT VERONA.—The proceedings of the sovereigns did not terminate till the middle of this month, and had been carried on with great secrecy. Their general principle is not to tolerate any change in the European governments, least of all such as do not emanate from themselves. In a circular, dated the 14th inst., the insurrection of the Greeks is considered a rebellion against the legitimate Turkish empire. Upon the subject of Spain there was a difference of opinion. M. de Montmorency, the ultra-minister of France, represented the actual government of Spain as inconsistent with the safety of monarchical power; and called upon the sovereigns to re-establish the despotism of Ferdinand. To this policy Russia was decidedly inclined; Austria and Prussia were less resolute for violent measures, though strongly opposed to the proceedings of the cortes; England advocated peace, and denied the right of foreign powers to interfere in the affairs of the Peninsula. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiv. 218.) Meanwhile France had exhibited strong indications of warlike purposes: Chauteaubriand and other ultras had for some time been fomenting conspiracies in Spain, and secretly furnishing with arms and ammunition the priest-ridden insurgents against the constitutionalists. An army, which during the previous year had been assembled on the frontier, under the pretext of preventing the fever at Barcelona from spreading into France, changed its name from that of a *Sanitary Cordon* to an army of observation. A note of M. de Villele, the new French prime minister, of the 27th, removed all doubt as to the designs of his government; it was to the effect that unless Spain altered her political constitution, France would use force to convert her from her revolutionary theories.

21. A society formed in London for prosecuting fraudulent debtors.

The subscriptions raised in Britain for the relief of the distressed Irish amount to 350,000*l*.; by grant from parliament, 300,000*l*.; by local subscriptions in Ireland, 150,000*l*.; making a total of 800,000*l*.

FOREIGN LOANS.—A remarkable feature

of the present year was the extent to which speculation in foreign securities was carried, and the variations in their value. Besides a multitude of European loans—Russian, Prussian, Spanish, Danish, Neapolitan—some of the new states of South America came into the money-market. The government of Chili raised a loan of a million sterling; that of Peru one of two millions. These were readily contracted for, and soon rose to a high premium. An adventurer, named Gregor Macgregor, who, though a British subject, chose to assume the title of cacique, or king of Poyais, found persons credulous enough to engage to advance 200,000*l*. to his nominal kingdom, on the faith of its imaginary revenues. The low rate of interest, and facility with which money could be obtained, fostered the wild spirit of speculation. Many of the bankers and capitalists made advances on the scrip of the new loans, which augmented the amount of unemployed capital, and the means for further transactions. In November there began to be signs of reaction. A mystery hung over the proceedings of the congress at Verona; the French threatened to invade Spain, and doubts were thrown on the validity of M. Zea's contract for the Columbian loan. A panic ensued: the prices of all foreign securities fell rapidly, and thousands were ruined or impoverished.

SCIENCE AND ARTS.—Mr. Charles Babbage announced that he had invented various machines by which some of the more complicated processes of arithmetical calculation may be performed with certainty and dispatch.

Sir H. Davy's experiments on the papyrus of Herculaneum closed without producing any marked result. Iodine and chlorine separated the rolls, without injuring the ink, which is of charcoal, on which these agents have no action; but the papyrus itself, containing much undecomposed vegetable matter, baffled the investigation. In general the writing is only on one side; MSS. are rolled round sticks, like the webs of silk-mercers.

M. Humboldt estimated the number of the known species of plants at 56,000, and those of animals at 51,700.

France ascertained to contain 25 libraries, containing 1,700,000 volumes; 613 printing-offices; 1025 booksellers, and 192 paper-merchants.

The French exhibition of paintings this year contained 1715 articles; namely, 1372 paintings of all sizes, landscapes, portraits, &c.; 158 statues, busts, and bas-reliefs; 171 engravings and designs; 14 plans and architectural models.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Benjamin Hawes, esq., 89, a philanthropist, who bequeathed 1000*l*. each to twenty-four different cha-

rities. Rev. Edward Barry, M.D., D.D., 63, lately a popular preacher in the metropolis, and theological writer. Sir John Bursell, admiral of the white: sir John sat in four parliaments, and was a meritorious naval officer. At Burton-hall, Yorkshire, rev. Christopher Wyvill, 83, one of the early advocates of parliamentary reform. Rev. Edward Daniel Clarke, LL.D., 54, the celebrated traveller. Dr. Kipling, dean of Peterborough, a warm theological controversialist. Sir Nathaniel Conant, 77, late chief-magistrate of Bow-street, and the projector of the reform in the police of the metropolis, in 1792. The earl of Hertford, late lord-chamberlain, 79; his lordship's entailed estates are estimated at 90,000*l.* per annum, and descend to his only son, the earl of Yarmouth. Abbé Hauy, the celebrated mineralogist. Sir John Reid, medical writer and lecturer. Dr. Middleton, 53, bishop of Calcutta, and an useful divine. Thomas Oldfield, 67, author of a "Representative History of Britain." John Emery, 46, an admirable comic actor. Sir William Herschel, 84, the eminent astronomer: sir William left one son, who inherits his name and his genius. Mrs. Garrick, 99, relict of the English Roscius; among this lady's bequests was a service of pewter, which her husband David used when a bachelor. Richard Wooddeson, D.C.L., 75, Vinerian professor at Oxford, and writer on the English laws. At Venice, Antonio Canova, 65, the famous sculptor. At Rome, madame Letitia Buonaparte, mother of Napoleon: she was very rich, bequeathing to her eight surviving children 37,000*l.* each, and to her brother, cardinal Fesch, a superb palace, fitted up in the most costly manner. John Aikin, M.D., 75, one of the eminent intellectual characters of his time: in addition to his numerous writings, Dr. Aikin was editor of *The Monthly Magazine*, from its commencement in 1796 to 1806. Count Berthollet, 64, an eminent French chemist. Prince Hardenburg, the able Prussian minister. Augustus duke of Saxe Gotha, great patron of literature and the arts. John Prince Smith, barrister, author of the "Elements of Money," &c.

A.D. 1823. RETURNING PROSPERITY.—The country at the beginning, and through the whole of this year, exhibited unequivocal marks of a steady and progressive prosperity. Every branch of manufacturing industry was in a flourishing state. The cotton-trade was unusually brisk; there was a considerable increase in the quantity of silks and woollen-cloths manufactured; and in consequence of augmenting exportation the demand for hardware and cutlery was reviving from the state of stagnation in which it had been in since the conclu-

sion of the war. The shipping interest, which had experienced more than a proportional share of the late depression, participated in the general improvement. The agriculturists still complained of their embarrassments; and in January no less than 16 counties had sent requisitions to their sheriffs to call meetings, to consider the causes of their distresses. At these meetings the remedies chiefly suggested were a remission of taxes, a reform of the house of commons, a depreciation of the currency, a commutation of tithes, and an appropriation of the redundant wealth of the church to the public exigencies. The landed interest, however, before the end of summer, began to share in the benefits resulting from prosperous commerce and manufactures, and their political agitation subsided.

Jan. 2. A room opened, in Capel-court, for transacting business in foreign securities, which had been previously conducted on the royal exchange.

3. A meeting at Norwich, on the subject of agricultural distress. A series of resolutions were proposed by Mr. Thurtell and seconded by Mr. Coke, but they were promptly rejected, and a petition, proposed by Mr. Cobbett, was adopted with rapturous acclamations. It recommended an appropriation of part of the church property to the payment of the public debt; a reduction of the standing army; an abolition of sinecures and undeserved pensions; the sale of the crown lands; an equitable adjustment of contracts; the suspension of all legal process, for one year, for the recovery of rent and tithes; and the repeal of the taxes on malt, soap, leather, hops, and candles. A counter-petition was got up by the whigs, and when the two petitions came to be presented to the house of commons, Mr. James was the only member who expressed approbation of the Norwich doctrines of spoliation.

5. Russia, Austria, and Prussia recall their ambassadors from Madrid.

12. The Quakers start a subscription for the relief of the Greeks.

17. A county meeting at Hereford, and Mr. Cobbett's Norfolk petition rejected.

22. Great meeting for parliamentary reform at York: the requisition had been signed by 2000 freeholders.

27. Died, at his house in Bedford-row, in his 86th year, CHARLES HUTTON, LL.D., late professor of mathematics in the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich; a votary of science, who rose to eminence by his own spontaneous exertions. Dr. Hutton was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where he had been a schoolmaster, and, during a paroxysm of enthusiasm, a preacher among the methodists. Among his scholars

was John Scott, the future lord chancellor. As a proof how little Dr. Hutton's abilities were impaired, either by his literary labours or advanced age, it may be mentioned that, within the last two years of his life, he corrected the intricate computation of Cavendish on the mean density of the earth, and drew up a paper relative to the most appropriate curve for the arches of the projected New London Bridge.

26. Louis XVIII., in his speech to the two chambers, announced the intention of sending 100,000 men into Spain, to put down the constitutional system. "Let Ferdinand VII.," said the king, "be free to give to his people institutions which they cannot hold but from him, and which, by securing their tranquillity, would dissipate the just inquietude of France."

31. Mr. Vansittart, who had made an indifferent chancellor of the exchequer, exchanged that office for the less toilsome one of chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and was raised to the peerage, by the title of Lord Bexley: he was succeeded by Mr. Robinson. Mr. Huskisson was made president of the board of trade; and, in his stead, Mr. Arbuthnot became first commissioner of the land revenues. These changes were popular, especially among the favourers of free-trade.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A statement appeared of the votes given for and against ministers on the great questions during the past session of parliament. The results were as follows:—

	<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>
40 counties of England	25	37
89 cities and boroughs, open election	59	107
99 close cities and boroughs	151	12
33 counties, and 66 burghs of Scotland	26	11
32 counties of Ireland	24	14
33 cities and boroughs of Ireland	21	7

Feb. 4. PARLIAMENT opened by commission, the king's illness preventing his attendance. The chief topics of the speech were the improvement of the revenue, and the facilities it would afford for a further remission of taxes. His majesty had deprecated foreign interference in the affairs of Spain; the continued depression of agriculture was lamented; but the prosperity of manufactures and commerce was dwelt on with satisfaction. The addresses passed without much remark, further than an attack on funded property by lord Stanhope, and a forcible denunciation by lord Lansdowne, in the upper, and Mr. Brougham, in the lower house, of the meddling doctrines of the holy alliance.

5. Mrs. Wright, who had been convicted of an irreligious libel, and imprisoned, was brought into the King's-bench to receive further punishment for having, in her defence, persisted to state matters which the court deemed offensive. She was sentenced to be imprisoned in Cold-bath-fields for eighteen months, to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and find security for good behaviour for five years.

13. A meeting of 250 solicitors of the metropolis, to consider of the propriety of securing justice to their clients, by employing only such gentlemen of the chancery bar as had leisure efficiently to attend to the legal business placed in their hands.

27. Meeting at the Mansion-house, to consider the claims of the London clergy to 2*s.* 9*d.* in the pound on the net rental, in lieu of tithes, oblations, &c.

28. An investigation into the state of lord Portsmouth's mind, which occupied seventeen days, terminated; when the jury unanimously pronounced him to be of unsound mind, and incapable of having managed his affairs since 1809.

Duel between the Neapolitan generals, Pepe and Carascosa, near Kew-bridge. They fought with swords: Pepe disabled his opponent by a thrust in the right shoulder.

Mar. 3. M. Manuel suspended for one session from his seat in the chamber of deputies, for language offensive to the ultra-loyalists. Next day he took his place as usual, when a piquet of the national guard refusing to eject him, the gendarmerie were called in, who forced him out. Lafitte, Foy, and other liberal members, to the number of 170, withdrew from the chamber for the remainder of the session, and the supplies for the Spanish war were voted by the supporters of Villele.

4. Mr. Hume moved for a committee to inquire into the state of church property in Ireland. He embodied his views in four resolutions, one of them affirming that the property of the bishops and chapters is public property, subject to the disposition of the legislature, regard being had to existing interests. They were sharply opposed by Mr. Peel and Mr. Plunkett, and negatived without a division.

It appears from an account published by parliament, that six individuals, since the year 1809, have bequeathed sums for the payment of the national debt to the amount of 66,626*l.*

7. A splendid entertainment given at the London-tavern to the Spanish and Portuguese ambassadors, lord William Beutinck in the chair.

14. Died, at Turville-park, near Henley-upon-Thames, in his 85th year, general

DUMOURIER, a name that fills some interesting pages of modern history. He was born of noble though not affluent parents, and was classically educated. His life was one of great vicissitude. He entered the army at 18, and made his first campaign against the same duke of Brunswick whom, in 1792, he drove from the French territory. Unable to guide the revolution, he resorted to the questionable expedient of calling in the aid of foreigners to oppose the republicans, and re-establish the monarchy. Failing in this enterprise, he became an exile, chiefly in England, where he lived on terms of intimacy with many of our nobility, and was an especial favourite of the late duke of Kent. Dumourier was a man of spirit, of quick parts, a warm, frank, and generous nature. His conversation was animated, and, having seen much of the world, diversified with a variety of knowledge, and great discrimination of character.

20. Bank reduced its half-yearly dividend from five to four per cent. The effect on bank stock was excessive; it fell from 236 to 210.

24. Dr. Wollaston elected an associate of the French institute, in the room of the late Dr. Jenner. Out of nine men proposed by the institute for election, from all the learned and talented men in the world, five were Englishmen.

April 2. Duke of Angoulême, commander of the French army of the Pyrenees, published an address to the Spaniards, setting forth the motives of the invasion of the Peninsula to be, the suppression of the revolutionary faction which held the king captive, that excited troubles in France, and produced an insurrection in Naples and Piedmont. On the 7th the French crossed the Bidassoa, previously to which Ferdinand and the cortes removed from Madrid to Seville.

4. Elizabeth Bryant and her daughters were tried at the assizes at Taunton, before Mr. Justice Burroughs, for a violent assault on Anne Burgess, a reputed witch. It appeared that the defendants, on a presumption that the prosecutrix had bewitched a child of the elder Bryant, seized her, and inflicted several severe wounds upon her, upon a supposition that drawing blood from the witch would end the charm: this they did under the advice of a pretended conjuror named Baker. The jury found them all guilty, and they were sentenced to four months' imprisonment each.

16. Measures adopted for the suppression of West-end fair and Brook-green fair, owing to the atrocities committed there.

17. **PARLIAMENTARY ALTERCATION.**—The question of the catholic claims being about to be introduced, sir F. Burdett ex-

pressed his determination of withdrawing from the house of commons, pending the "farce of its annual discussion," and accused Mr. Secretary Canning, who wished the subject to be postponed, of compromising his opinion for sake of office. Mr. G. Bennett questioned the consistency of Mr. Plunkett no less than of Mr. Canning. Mr. Brougham followed up the attack with great vehemence. In a climax of bitter invective he accused Mr. Canning "of being doomed to the disquiet of a divided cabinet—of sitting with his enemies, and pitted by his friends—of succumbing to lord Eldon, and exhibiting the most incredible specimen of monstrous truckling for the purpose of retaining office that the whole history of political tergiversation could furnish."—Here he was interrupted by Mr. Canning rising, in evident warmth, to say, "that is false." A pause ensued, the speaker interfered, and by the dexterity of sir R. Wilson an assurance was obtained that the affair should not be prosecuted out of doors.

24. A mass of papers, including the correspondence with foreign courts relative to Spain, having been laid before parliament, the grand debate on our foreign policy began in the lords. The same subject was taken up in the commons, on the 28th, and was agitated for three successive nights. The general impression seemed to be that ministers had been deficient in energy,—had leaned more to the policy of the confederated despots than the interests of the Spanish patriots; and that if they had seriously felt any indignation against French aggression, it was more from apprehension of danger to the Bourbon government than the Spanish constitution. An amendment, in favour of ministers, was carried, so little laudatory of their conduct, that the opposition, on the suggestion of Mr. Brougham, voted in its favour.

26. *Newcastle Courant* had advertisements announcing 82 farms, containing 20,000 acres, to let.

The length of streets already lighted with gas in the metropolis is 215 miles.

Cabriolets for two persons began to be used in London.

May 2. Mr. Peel's currency bill of 1819 came into operation; it had no effect, as the bank, having got a sufficient store of gold, had anticipated the period of commencing specie-payments by two years.

15. Numerous meeting of the friends to the Greek cause, at the Crown and Anchor, Lord Milton in the chair. Animated speeches were made by sir James Mackintosh, lord J. Russell, Mr. Hobhouse, archdeacon Bathurst, &c. The duke of Bedford and Mr. Hunt subscribed 100*l.* each.

16. House of commons passed unanimously a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to adopt measures for ameliorating the condition of the slave-population of the colonies, with a view to their entire emancipation and admission to an equality of civil rights with the rest of the king's subjects. This first and important declaration in favour of the freedom of the African race, was followed up by a circular from lord Bathurst, dated the 28th, to the governors of the West India islands, containing various suggestions for bettering the condition of the negroes.

24. The French entered Madrid.

30. Rebuilding of London-bridge determined on by the court of common council. The estimated expense 300,000*l.*; inclusive of the approaches, 700,000*l.*

June 1. Some quarries of white and green marble have been discovered in the west of Ireland; the first is said to be superior for sculpture to Italian marble.

EXHUMATION. — David Morrison sentenced to seven years' banishment by the Scotch court of judicary, for violating sepulchres. On his trial Dr. Barclay, a teacher of anatomy, deposed that some bodies became decomposed in a few days, others lasted much longer; in some the features could not be known in 48 hours, while in others they might be recognised for a week; but much depended on the previous illness. In three weeks a subject becomes unfit for the purposes of dissection. In two weeks the outer skin comes off; with it the nails and the hair would be loose, but marks on the body might be identified. Relatives frequently mistaken in the bodies they claimed; and one instance he knew where a body, made of leather, was insisted on as being the one they were in search of.

2. A counter-revolution effected at Lisbon by the military, headed by don Miguel, second son of the king, who is re-established in absolute power. The cortes separated, having previously drawn up a protest against any change in the constitution of the year 1822.

10. The primitive methodists, or "rangers," cause great disturbances at Shrewsbury.

11. A bill passed a third reading in the house of commons, by a majority of eight, for repealing the regulations by which magistrates are empowered to fix the wages of the Spitalfields silk-weavers. The masters were in favour of the repeal, the journeymen against it. Owing to the opposition of the lord-chancellor, the bill was lost for the session, though supported by the earl of Liverpool.

18. Meeting at the London-tavern, in favour of Spanish independence; Mr.

Lambton subscribed 1000*l.*, and sir F. Burdett 500*l.* The common council of London voted 1000*l.* for the same cause, and 1000*l.* to aid the Greeks.

25. A horrid tragedy occurred in London. A dissolute student of law, named Abel Griffiths, being reproved by his father, who refused further supplies, the former seized a brace of loaded pistols, and first shooting his parent, then shot himself. The parricide was buried in the cross-road, and was the last so interred, the act altering the mode of interment of suicides receiving the royal assent in the ensuing month.

July 4. A petition presented to the house of lords, signed by 200 ministers and 2000 persons, against the prosecution of writings against the Christian religion.

10. The French loan of 23,114,516 of rentes, obtained by Rothschild, Brothers and Co., at the rate of 87*l.* 75*s.* for every 100 of rentes.

15. Temple of St. Paul's, at Rome, destroyed by fire, from sparks of a chafin-dish, used by plumbers, falling on the timber of the roof.

Engagement with the French before Corunna, when sir R. Wilson and colonel Light, who, with general Quiroga, led on the Spanish constitutionalists, were wounded.

It appears that property in the West Indies, within the last three years, has fallen one-half or one-third in value.

19. Parliament prorogued by commission. The flourishing condition of all branches of commerce and manufactures, and the great abatement in the difficulties of the agriculturists, were dwelt upon in the royal speech. During the session 269 bills received the royal assent, 96 being public and 173 private: 1760 petitions were presented to the house of commons, and 20 select committees were appointed.

28. Several inquests held at the penitentiary, Milbank; 400 persons taken into the infirmary. A too rigid discipline in respect of diet and confinement the assigned causes.

Aug. 3. S. Horrocks, M. P. for Preston, nearly assassinated with a cleaver, by a lunatic and discontented cotton-spinner.

8. Daring burglary at Lambeth-palace; the thieves were disappointed of their prey, as the archbishop, before leaving town, had sent eight chests of plate to his silversmith's for security. The same gang attempted Lambeth-church adjoining, on the 10th, but here, too, they were disappointed, the church plate not being on the premises.

Died, in his 83rd year, Pius VII., a mild and christian character, who had governed the Roman catholic church up-

wards of 23 years. His holiness always dispensed with the ceremony of kissing the great toe when an Englishman was presented to him; it was commuted into a cordial and affectionate embrace.

28. Meeting of bankers and merchants to consider the practicability of forming a chamber of commerce in London.

31. The French surprise and carry the Trocadero, a small island in the harbour of Cadiz.

Sept. 9. Sale of the splendid furniture and rarities of Mr. Beckford, at Fonthill-abbey, began and lasted eleven days.

11. DEATH OF DAVID RICARDO, M. P.—This gentleman was in his 52d year, and died of inflammation of the brain, arising from an abscess in the ear. He had recently acquired celebrity as a writer and speaker on subjects of political economy, and was much esteemed for his conciliatory manners. His father was a Dutch merchant and stockbroker, and young Ricardo was educated in Holland, though born in London, for the same pursuits. Displeasing his parent, who was a Jew, by an early marriage with a quakeress, he was left very much to his own resources: his probity and industry, however, obtained him assistance among his father's connexions, and he became a member of the stock exchange. Here his mathematical turn, shrewdness, and intelligence, found appropriate exercise, and he rapidly accumulated immense wealth. As a member of parliament Mr. Ricardo's course was independent, and on questions of currency, finance, and commerce, he was listened to with deference by all parties. By his clear and comprehensive reasonings he helped to confirm in the legislature those liberal ideas of mercantile policy that had been advocated by the leading whigs, and had been recently adopted by a portion of the ministry. His "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation" were highly applauded on their first appearance, as containing a new revelation of economical truths; but subsequently an opinion began to prevail that the author, by a logic too abstract, had been led into some fallacies concerning rent, tithe, wages, and profits, and that Adam Smith's antecedent exposition of those topics was substantially unassailable.

12. London-bridge committee determine to build the new bridge on a new site, but as near as possible to the old one, which will be left standing till the new bridge is finished.

19. A proclamation, giving currency to double sovereigns or two-pound pieces.

Oct. 3. INVASION OF SPAIN.—The surrender, after a short resistance on the 3rd, of Cadiz, the "cradle," as it was consi-

dered, of liberty, terminated with a sort of iniquitous eclat the interference of the French in the affairs of Spain. In five months, without meeting any resistance of consequence, they had overrun the country from the Pyrenees to the Straits of Gibraltar. Their progress was facilitated by the treachery of the Spanish generals—Abisbal, Morillo, and Ballasteros; Mina was almost the only chief who was true to the patriot cause, and who, after receiving an amnesty for his followers, retired into England. The cortes, who had carried along with them, much against his inclination, Ferdinand, from Madrid to Cadiz, liberated him on the 1st instant; when he forthwith issued a proclamation, annulling all the acts of the constitutional government from March, 1820. The proceedings of the cortes had not been free from faults; they had evinced a want of energy, of practical ideas, and unanimity; while on the other hand they had had great difficulties to contend against in the ignorance of the peasantry, and their bondage to the priesthood, and the treacherous intrigues of the French ultras. Only part of the French army evacuated the Peninsula in the course of the year; 40,000 men retaining possession of the fortresses, to guard against reaction.

29. Captain Parry arrived off Shetland, from his exploratory voyage to the Polar regions. He had failed in the chief object of the expedition; and, owing to the unhappy selection of his course, did not proceed so far west, by twenty, nor north by ten degrees, as on his former voyage. Only five men were lost by illness and accidents during the voyage.

The three grand musical festivals, held within the month at Birmingham, York, and Gloucester, produced the large sum of 30,500*l*.

Nov. 7. Riego, the Spanish constitutional general, hung on a gibbet of extraordinary height at Madrid. He met death with firmness, but ascended the ladder with difficulty, in consequence of the swelling of his legs, owing to the fetters he had worn since his arrest.

17. Convention signed at Vienna for the settlement of the Austrian loan, by which the emperor agreed to pay 2,500,000*l*. in satisfaction of the whole British claims.

DEATH OF THOMAS LORD ERSKINE.—This accomplished advocate died on the 17th, in Scotland, where he was born in 1750. He was the third and youngest son of the tenth earl of Buchan, and was educated at Edinburgh. The poverty of his family rendering a profession necessary, he tried first the navy then the army, and did not enter on his legal studies till his

twenty-sixth year. His success at the bar was immediate, and without probation: he was soon in possession of the best second business in the court of king's bench, that is of the business in which the lead is not given to counsel who are not yet arrived at the dignity of a silk-gown. This distinction he obtained in 1783, five years after being called to the bar. Special retainers now poured in upon him; he had soon sixty-six of these off his circuit, each endorsed with a fee of 300 guineas. (*Life of Wilberforce*, ii. 164.) He was in all the great legal causes of the time—of Carnan, the bookseller, admiral Keppel, Warren Hastings, the dean of St. Asaph, and the state trials of 1794. Erskine was by nature an orator; ready, acute, bold, imaginative, with varied powers of elocution; a melodious voice and fine person, combined with manners singularly bland, courteous, and respectful. His eloquence, however, was of a kind that is now rarely heard at the English bar, and perhaps is not the most appropriate to a court of justice; consisting in its leading characteristics of fanciful allusions, sentimental appeals, exclamations, and profusion of ornament. He was a strenuous vindicator of the constitutional rights of juries; and it was to them, rather than the intelligence on the bench, his most successful forensic efforts were addressed. As a senator his abilities and knowledge were secondary; nor did he acquire enduring celebrity as a political writer. He was the author, however, of a pamphlet on the French war of 1793, to which he was strenuously opposed, that speedily ran through forty-eight editions, owing probably to his great professional repute. The time lord Erskine held the great seal was too brief to afford a conclusive test of judicial ability. His public career terminated with the Grenville ministry. Cut off from the emoluments of the bar by the etiquette of a peerage, and with a pension barely adequate to its support, the rest of his life was "bound in storms and shallows,"—wasted in saloons and soirées, in garrulous vanity, and abortive aspirations to literary distinction.

Dec. 27. Plymouth dock having greatly increased in size, is, at the desire of the inhabitants, called "Devonport," and an order to that effect appeared in *The Gazette*.

In the course of this year several streets in London were broken up and re-paved with granite, broken in small angular pieces, according to the suggestion of Mr. M'Adam.

The king presented to the nation the library of George III. at Buckingham-house, consisting of 120,000 volumes.

The society of arts presented Mr. Cob-

bett with a large silver medal, for the discovery of a plant from English grass, which it was thought would supersede Leghorn.

Mr. Bradley has shown that a pair of sparrows, during the time they have their young to feed, destroy on an average every week 3360 caterpillars.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Edward Jenner, M.D., 76, the discoverer of vaccination. John Julius Angerstein, 91, celebrated under-writer, and patron of the fine arts. Mrs. Anne Radcliffe, 62, author of the "Mysteries of Udolpho," and other romances of great ephemeral popularity. Near Lausanne, John Philip Kemble, 66, eminent tragedian. Admiral viscount Keith, 76. Sir Islay Campbell, 89, late president of the court of session, who presided at the trials in 1793, for high treason. Professor Christian, chief justice of Ely, and legal writer: he first established the claim of the universities to eleven copies of every new publication. Joseph Nollekins, B.A., 86, an eminent sculptor, who by habits of strict parsimony amassed 300,000*l.* At Paris, colonel Thornton, 60, a celebrated sportsman of Yorkshire. Sylvester Douglas lord Glenbervie, 80, an Irish peer, well known in official life, and translator of the first cantos of "Ricciardetto," with notes. At Irthington, R. Bowman, 118, a husbandman, who did not marry till he was 50, and then had six sons but no daughters. Wm. Coombe, 83, author of "Tour of Dr. Syntax," &c. John Hope earl of Hope-toun, a distinguished commander in the war of the Peninsula. Robert Bloomfield, 57, author of the "Farmer's Boy," &c. Matthew Baillie, M.D., 63, physician to the late king, and eminent medical writer. At Gato, on his way to Timbuctoo, Belzoni, the enterprising traveller: he was a native of Padua, and well known in London by his stature, which was above six feet and a half. At Magdeburg, a voluntary exile, since the restoration of the Bourbons, M. Carnot, one of the most honest and able of the French republicans. At Rochetts, near Brentford, John Jervis earl St. Vincent, 89, admiral of the fleet, whose fame is identified with the naval victory of February 14, 1797.

A.D. 1824. PROSPERITY AND SPECULATION.—The present period may be aptly compared to the year 1768, when internal peace, unexampled prosperity, and the rank and influence of the nation abroad formed the exulting theme of contemporary writers and future historians. The public hemisphere appeared without cloud, and it was impossible but to look forward to successive years of augmented glory, increasing opulence, and unrivalled domestic improvements. Even country gentlemen had ceased to complain, and agriculture, by a

rise in the price of wheat of full 30 per cent., since 1822, had entirely recovered from its previous depression. This improvement was effected without legislative expedients, which at best could only have afforded temporary relief, by the sacrifice of other interests of the community. The improvement of the landed interest was the natural consequence of the general improvement in the condition of other classes. While the cultivators of the soil enjoyed a comparative monopoly of the home-market, it was impossible but thriving manufactures, increasing population, and a growing foreign trade, should relieve them from embarrassments. Such was the natural remedy of the *agricultural distresses*; it resulted from an augmented power of consumption in the people, that enabled them not only to consume more, but to give a higher price for the produce of the soil. A diminution in public burdens also contributed to the relief of the farmers, and the diffusion of general comfort and prosperity. Twenty millions of taxes had been repealed since the peace, which augmented the incomes of individuals, and the means of industrial activity. Public prosperity was evidenced in the abundance of capital, and consequent low rate of interest. The bank of England reduced the rate of interest on advances, and other great companies followed the example. In the course of the year interest in the money-market had fallen one-half, which induced capitalists to seek foreign investments. There was scarcely a state in the Old or the New World to which loans were not advanced by this country; in France, Spain, Portugal, and South America, hardly a ship or soldier was put in motion, or a mining adventure entered upon, without the aid of English capital. At home a gambling spirit of speculation arose under the pretext of schemes for the employment of money. Every morning gave birth to one or more new projects. Table-beer, ale, and milk-companies; steam-navigation, banking, and insurance companies of various kinds; washing, baking, and new dock companies were a few of the endless varieties under which new and highly-promising speculations were constantly issuing. Many devices afloat were so obviously intended to entrap the unwary, that the legislature interfered to guard the public against their unprincipled contrivers. A resolution passed the house of lords declaring that no bill for the purpose of incorporating any joint-stock company would be read a second time till two-thirds of the proposed capital of the company had been actually subscribed. This checked gambling in the share-market. Amongst the various projects started some useful bodies were incorporated, of which the plan embraced public

works of utility, but they formed a small proportion to the mass of delusive or fraudulent devices, in which a vast amount of real or fictitious capital was lost or locked up in inconvertible enterprises, yielding little or precarious, and distant returns of profit.

Jan. 1. Austrian loan of 2,500,000*l.* brought into the market. The price at which subscribers receive their shares is 82 per cent., to be paid in five instalments.

Iturbide, ex-emperor of Mexico, arrived in England. About six months after he returned to South America, leaving his children in this country, but was arrested at Soto la Morina, and shot, which terminated his rash attempt to recover his throne.

Alexander of Russia has testified his approval of the invasion of Spain, by transmitting the grand cross of the order of St. Andrew to Chateaubriand, the ultra foreign minister, and strenuous adviser of that enterprise, omitting Villele, president of the council.

5. TRIAL OF THURTELL AND HUNT.—

The trial of these men, at Hertford, for the murder of William Weare, excited great interest, owing to its perfidious and ruffian circumstances. Mr. Weare was a gambler, and connected by similarity of pursuit with Thurtell, Hunt, and Probert. Hunt was a public singer, and had kept a tavern; Probert had been a wine-merchant; John Thurtell was the son of a respectable alderman of Norwich, and had recently been before the public as witness in an action brought by his brother against an insurance-office for the recovery of the loss he had sustained by the burning of his silk-warehouse. The murder was perpetrated on the 24th of last October, in Gills-lane, two or three miles from Elstree. On that day Thurtell had invited Weare down to Probert's cottage, to take the diversion of shooting; on their way thither, in a gig, Thurtell, in a solitary part of the lane, drew out a pistol and fired in the face of his unsuspecting companion, which failing of its purpose, Weare leaped out of the chaise, and was followed by Thurtell, who notwithstanding his cries for mercy despatched him by thrusting the barrel of the pistol into his head, and turning it round in his brain. Probert and Hunt were privy to the intended murder, and shared some of the plunder of the unfortunate man at the cottage of Probert, where they all met after the murder: in the course of the night they went into the lane, put the body of Weare in a sack, and flung it into a pond. The first day of the trial was almost entirely spent in hearing evidence, when the court adjourned till the next, at the request of Thurtell, who then began his defence. It was delivered in theatrical

style, was very bombastic, stuffed with false sentiment, and concluded with a solemn asseveration of innocence. Hunt's defence was read for him, and his feebleness formed a strong contrast with the unabashed demeanour of his accomplice. The jury found both guilty. Thurtell between sentence and execution admitted that justice had been done to him; he met death with the same hardihood he had committed the murder. Hunt's punishment was commuted for transportation for life, on the ground of some promise held out to him by the committing magistrate; Probert was admitted king's evidence, and escaped for this time.

8. At a prize-fight for 600 guineas, between Spring and Langan, on the Worcester race-course, at which 40,000 people are supposed to have been present, a scaffold gave way, by which one person was killed and several were wounded.

9. Will of lord Erskine registered in the prerogative court; the personality sworn under 1000*l.*

16. The arduous operation of removing the thigh at the hip-joint performed at Guy's hospital, for the first time, by sir Astley Cooper, in the presence of some of the surgeons and students of the institution. The limb was removed in the space of 20 minutes, the securing the arteries and dressing occupied 15 more; the whole was completed in 35 minutes. During the operation the patient was extremely faint; but some wine being given him and fresh air admitted, he recovered.

24. A Latin MS. by Milton discovered in the state-paper office. The subject is religious, and fills 735 pages, many of them closely written, and believed to be in the hand-writing of the poet's nephew, Phillips, with interlineations in a different hand. The situation which Milton held of Latin secretary to Cromwell accounts for such discovery in the state-paper office.

Feb. 1. Died, in his 78th year, at Cheltenham, the reverend sir HENRY BATE DUDLEY, prebendary of Ely, and magistrate for four counties in Ireland, and seven in England. This gentleman established the *Morning Post* and the *Morning Herald*, the latter in 1780, the former a few years previously. He was one of the most original and enterprising spirits of his time, and the associate of Garrick, Colman, Bonnel Thornton, Cumberland, and other wits, and himself the author of several theatrical pieces. As a table companion he had few equals; even the judges sometimes lost their gravity at his sallies, which were rarely offensive. About fifty years ago he obtained much notoriety by his duels with Mr. Howes, the husband of the countess of Strathmore, and captain Story. (See Jan. 13, 1776.) It is a singular fact that one of

the ladies about whom parson Bate, as he was called, quarrelled, was the beautiful Mrs. Hartley, an actress, who died at Woolwich the same day with himself. We know no similar coincidence, except in the deaths of two very dissimilar characters, namely, of the two American presidents.

3. Parliament opened by commission, owing to the king's indisposition. The royal speech was highly congratulatory on the general prosperity and the order prevalent among all classes of the community. The appointment of consuls to the new states of South America was admitted, and the subject of the slave-population in the West Indies adverted to in guarded terms. Addresses passed in both houses unanimously.

4. A convention between Britain and Austria laid upon the table of the house of commons, by which the former agreed to accept 2,500,000*l.* as a final compensation for claims on the latter power, amounting to 30,000,000*l.*

A subterranean labyrinth discovered near St. Giles's-gate, Norwich, containing marine shells.

5. Mr. Wilberforce, after being elected six times for the county of York, and nearly 40 years its popular representative, retired from parliament. The care of his "black clients," as George III. used to term them, and whom he had long faithfully served without fee, he consigned to Fowell Buxton, M.P.

6. Missionary John Smith died in the gaol of Demerara, where he was waiting; the decision of the British ministry on his sentence of death for high treason, in exciting the negroes to rebellion. The royal pardon arrived while the unfortunate man was in the agonies of death.

10. From the quarterly return of the coroner of Manchester, it appeared that out of the numerous cases of death 29 had been owing to intemperance, and 26 to drowning, caused by the effects of intoxication.

Samples of wheat, for which this time last year only 34*s.* per quarter were offered, were sold at Canterbury-market at 80*s.* per quarter.

20. Prospectus of a loan of 800,000*l.* for the aid of the Greeks brought out under the sanction of the Greek committee.

A musical phenomenon appeared in the person of George Aspull, a child only eight years old, who performed the most difficult pieces of Kalbrenner, Moscheles, and Czerny, with great ease and appropriate execution. He likewise sings ballads to his own accompaniment on the piano, in a voice weak, owing to his youth, but with peculiar taste and delicate expression.

22. A bill brought forward by Mr. Peel settles the point that prisoners cannot be

compelled to labour on the tread-wheel before trial and conviction.

23. Mr. Robinson brings forward the annual budget, portraying in glowing terms the general prosperity, and pointedly reprobating the notion of the inability of an unreformed parliament to redeem the country from its difficulties. He announced his intention of reducing the interest of the four per cent. stock to three and a half per cent., by which a saving of 375,000*l.* a-year would be effected to the public.

25. Fire at Pickford's wharf, occasioned by the bursting of a bottle of inflammable liquid, to which a light had been incautiously brought in contact. Damages estimated at 30,000*l.*

The flourishing state of Manchester is evidenced by the fact that 16,000*l.* has been subscribed towards the literary institution of that town.

March 2. Revolt of the pacha of Egypt, who had been dispatched by the Turkish government against the Greeks. Patras surrendered to the Greeks. The first number of a newspaper in modern Greek has arrived in England. The type was sent from this country, by the Greek committee.

5. Public meeting to erect a monument, by subscription, to Dibdin, the naval songwriter, who died in indigence.

8. SILK TRADE.—House of commons resolved, on the motion of Mr. Huskisson, to reduce the duties on the importation of raw silk, and that after July 5, 1826, the importation of manufactured silk goods should be allowed on the payment of a duty of 30 per cent. The substitution of a prohibitory duty for the absolute prohibition of foreign silk goods tended to the prosperity of the silk trade, though much opposed by the weavers. Prior to this change the trade had been subject to constant fluctuation, and in the absence of foreign competition no improvements had been introduced into the manufacture. It had been the most protected of any branch of industry, and had thriven the least. The reduction of duty on raw silk brought the manufactured article more within the reach of the poorer classes, and less subject to changes of fashion than when confined to the use of the rich. Employment in consequence, after the inconveniences of the transition state had been surmounted, became more uniform and less liable to sudden alternations of prosperity and distress.

9. An important document received from Mexico. It is a decree of the constitutional congress of Mexico, which declares that "the Mexican nation adopts for its government the forms of a representative federal republic."

According to an account presented to

the house of commons, the average amount of public money in the hands of the bank of England last year was 5,526,635*l.* The profit of the bank, at 3 per cent. (the rate which government pays them for the loan of their capital of 15 millions), is therefore upwards of 165,799*l.*, in its capacity of banker to the public departments.

10. The niece of lord Bathurst, while riding near the banks of the Tiber, at Rome, was suddenly thrown into the river by the falling of her horse, and drowned.

11. Public attention excited by the affair of Mr. Battier, late of the 10th hussars. It appears to be the practice of the officers of the 10th "to recruit among themselves," that is, to admit no stranger into the regiment except he be of their choosing. Mr. Battier, who had obtained a cornetcy from the duke of York, without having passed this ordeal, was in consequence sent to Coventry, and refused the acknowledgments usual among gentlemen. The result was that Mr. Battier was obliged to retire on half-pay, which he subsequently forfeited by sending a challenge to the marquis of Londonderry, colonel of the regiment.

15. An address to the king to acknowledge the independence of the South American states, was moved in the lords by the marquis of Lansdowne. It was a subject, he said, of the utmost importance, involving the interests of 21 millions of people, containing within themselves all the elements of future greatness and strength. Lord Liverpool concurred in the principles of the marquis, but differed as to the application of them. Address negated by 95 to 34.

16. Mr. Canning brought forward the ministerial plan for bettering the condition of the slave-population. It consisted of an experimental attempt, limited to the island of Trinidad, and did not answer the expectations of Mr. Buxton, the leader of the emancipationists.

22. The collection of pictures of the late Mr. Angerstein, thirty-eight in number, purchased by government for 57,000*l.*, as the nucleus of a national gallery. Sir G. Beaumont liberally gave his pictures for the same purpose.

28. On this and the preceding Sunday a gentleman named Robert Taylor, formerly a minister of the established church, lectured in support of Deism, in a place lately used as a theatre, in Grafton-street, Dublin. He harangued the audience from a stage, dressed in canonicals. It passed off quietly the first time, but on the second exhibition he was compelled to retreat behind the scenes.

It is said that ten admirals have died every year during the last ten years. The dry-rot in the shipping, and mortality

among naval commanders, forming alarming symptoms of decline in maritime power.

The standards of weights of foreign countries, which were lately transmitted to England by the British consuls, to be compared with our own, have been deposited at the mint, in the tower.

PARIS.—The annual average of rainy days in Paris is 184. The period of greatest mortality is March and April, of the least August and July. The greatest number of marriages take place in May, the smallest in March and January. Of every hundred works published in Paris, 68 relate to the belles lettres, history, or politics; 20 to the sciences and arts; and 12 to theology and jurisprudence.

April 1. On the appointment of lord Gifford to be master of the rolls, it has been stated there is no precedent of a peer filling that office; there is, however, a precedent for it in the person of lord Bruce, a Scotch peer, who came from Scotland with James I., and filled that office to the time of his death.

At Wexford assizes one of the jury could not agree with his brethren to a verdict of acquittal, when the following stratagem was resorted to. The dissentient wrote down "guilty," then retired, and his brother jurors added "not."

4. Will of Luke White proved, whereby he left 30,000*l.* a-year real estate, and 100,000*l.* in money, to his widow and offspring, after spending 200,000*l.* in elections. To his eldest son, who had offended him, he left only 5000*l.* a-year. Early in life, he had lived by hawking books about the streets.

19. DEATH OF LORD BYRON. — This highly-gifted nobleman was born in 1788, at Dover, and expired at Missolonghi, having generously brought the influence of his renown, his fortune, and his person, to aid in the cause of Grecian independence. His lordship's first publication, under the title of "Hours of Idleness," was not favourably received. *The Edinburgh Reviewers*, who wielded the critical sceptre with great force, described the poetry of the "young lord" as of a kind which neither gods nor men can tolerate. It is likely that the youthful aspirant—for he was then a minor—being robust enough in intellect to outlive this Scotch discipline, that it operated more favourably in the future development of his powers than if he had received indiscriminate and undeserved praise. Accordingly his next publication exhibited a marvellous improvement—originality, imagination, strength, character, and much beauty of composition. From the time of the publication of the first two cantos of "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," in 1812, Byron became a sub-

ject of almost European concernment. Every fresh production of his pen was looked forward to with impatience, was read with avidity, interested all hearts, and occupied almost all literary journalists in the analysis of its merits. The interest excited by his genius was heightened by his eccentricity; his contempt for established opinions and institutions; his pride and misanthropy; his unhappy marriage and separation; his reckless dissipation; his wanderings in the East, and voluntary exile from England. After a brief but intoxicating career he perished untimely, ere he had explored a very wide and diversified field of literary glory. Possessing a noble thirst for fame, an intense and glowing soul, an intellect acute, energetic, active, and observing, it is impossible to divine what he might have become had length of days been vouchsafed to him. As it is he has left splendid remains, often debased by affectation, tawdriness, and extravagance. His dramas were failures, the rest are fragments drawn from the well-spring of his own mind; personifications of his own real or would-be characters, and not very inviting philosophy. One besetting sin does, and always ought to detract from the interest of his poetical creations—they want *moral beauty*. All his characters are unamiable; they are proud, vindictive, sensual, scornful, selfish, satanic beings; there is also a want of truth and keeping in them; for though depicted as possessing strength, energy, devotedness, and fidelity, they must, as creatures of mere animal passion and impulse, have been weak, fickle, vain, and inconstant. His lordship was a good satirist; he had the scorn, hate, and enviousness of one. In high life, in particular, he was a regular Mephistopheles, with very alarming powers of suggestion and penetration. The poet married, in 1815, the only daughter of sir Ralph Milbanke Noel, with a large fortune, which he soon spent, By this lady he had an only child and heiress. He was succeeded in his title and estates by his cousin, captain Byron, of the navy.

May 1. An entire skeleton of a mammoth discovered at Ilford, in Essex. It lay buried at the depth of sixteen feet, in a quarry of diluvial loam and clay, used for bricks.

12. For a wager of 600 guineas six officers of the guards rowed from Oxford to Whitehall, in a six-oared boat, against wind and tide, in five hours and forty-five minutes.

15. An inquest held on a man at Wiu-chester, whose death was caused by suffocation, from a spontaneous enlargement of the tongue. The deceased was in every respect healthy, till within about twenty

hours of his dissolution, when he complained of a soreness on his tongue, and said he thought it was swelling, which proved to be the case, and it continued to enlarge, until, in spite of all medical aid, it reached such an enormous size as to cause death by suffocation. The body was opened, but not the slightest cause could be found for this extraordinary malady.

25. Mr. Harris, accompanied by a female named Stocks, ascended in a balloon from the City-road. After pursuing their course in safety some time, on endeavouring to let out the gas for their descent, some impediment prevented the re-closing of the valve, and the too rapid escape of the air precipitated them to the earth, near Croydon. The man was killed by being dashed against a tree, and the female was dreadfully stunned, but recovered.

31. Earl Grey brought forward, in the lords, the petition of the roman catholics of Ireland. The catholic body had now altered their complaints; they no longer placed emancipation in the front of their grievances, but demanded, as more important preliminaries, a reform in the temporalities of the protestant church, a better regulation of juries, and the disfranchisement of municipal corporations. A petition of similar import was presented by Mr. Brougham, in the commons. Both the peer and commoner expressed their dissent from the new claims of the catholics.

June 1. Mr. Brougham moved for an inquiry into the proceedings at Demerara against missionary Smith: they had drawn forth numerous petitions, and excited much commiseration for the sufferer; but after a debate of two days the motion was negatived.

7. Five of Carlile's shopmen sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, from three years to six months, for selling Paine's "Age of Reason."

9. Sir W. Congreve's rocket-factory, at West Ham, exploded. The explosion was occasioned by a spark struck off in nailing up a case in the finishing-room. Two lives were lost.

Project started for forming a ship-canal between the Bristol and the British channels, to avoid the dangerous navigation round the Land's-end. Annual loss of lives in effecting that passage estimated at 200.

10. A conversation to-day, in the Old Bailey, respecting lawyers' fees. Mr. Adolphus said, "lawyers never returned fees. Counsel could not recover fees, and once paid they were never returned. The profession of the law was not to be regarded on the same footing with a mere trade." Mr. Alley, on the other side, said, he

"knew not what the practice of other gentlemen might be; but he pledged his honour that he never neglected to return a fee if anything prevented him attending to the interests of his client."

15. Petitions presented from the great mercantile houses of London, Leeds, and Liverpool, praying for a recognition of the independence of the new states of South America.

Meeting at Freemasons'-tavern, to erect a monument to James Watt, as a tribute of national gratitude, the earl of Liverpool in the chair. The king subscribed 500*l*.

18. The head of sir Thomas More, who was executed by Henry 8th, discovered in a box, at St. Dunstan's church, Canterbury.

25. Bank of England resolved to lend money, at 4*l*. per cent. interest, on government securities, or on bank stock; the lowest sums advanced to be 5000*l*.

Parliament prorogued by the king. The session had been popular, and signalized by the abandonment of the duty on law proceedings, the repeal of the combination laws, attempts to consolidate the criminal laws, and improve the condition of the slave-population. It was also remarkable for the absence of party violence, the conciliatory tone of ministers, and the manifestation of a patriotic spirit of national improvement.

Notwithstanding the excellence of the instruments, and the talents of the surveyors, it appears from the recent verification of Dr. Tiarks, that as to all places on the south coast of England, 1'' of longitude for every 4' of longitude westward of Greenwich, requires to be added to the results of the Trigonometrical Survey, in order to obtain its true longitude.

30. Company established at Merton, for washing linen by steam.

WAR WITH THE ASHANTEES.—Disastrous intelligence arrived this month from the British colony at Cape Coast Castle. A war had commenced with the Ashantees, a nation formidable from their ferocious valour, and a certain degree of civilization that placed them almost on a level with Algerines. Hostilities originated in the protection we had afforded to the Fantees, with whom the Ashantees had been at war, and driven for shelter into the British settlement. In the beginning of January sir Charles M'Carthy, the governor of Sierra Leone, set out to penetrate to Coomassie, 250 miles distant, and the capital of Ashantee. Before he had formed a junction with major Chisholm, as he intended, he was attacked with great fierceness by the enemy, his retreat intercepted, himself slain, and the greatest part of his force, amounting to 2000 men, were massacred or taken prisoners. Emboldened by

their success, the Blacks descended to the shore, with a full determination to drive the English and their native auxiliaries into the sea. But here they were checked by the aid of intrenchments, the strength of the castle, and the able dispositions of colonel Sutherland. This, however, was effected with great loss on our part, and in July the colony was reduced to extremity, when sir John Phillimore arrived, with military stores, and a reinforcement. The Ashantees retired into their own country, threatening to renew the war in the spring.

July 1. Thomas Thurtell, brother of the murderer, sentenced to two years' imprisonment, for a fraudulent attempt to obtain insurance-money from the county fire-office.

6. Lord Byron's will proved in Doctors'-commons; John Cam Hobhouse and John Hanson, of Chancery-lane, executors. His personal estate in England sworn under 10,000*l.* The will is dated July 29, 1815, and with the exception of a bequest of 1000*l.* each to his lordship's executors, is made solely in favour of Mrs. Leigh, his lordship's sister, and her children. A codicil, dated November 17, 1818, bequeathed to his executors, in trust, 5000*l.* for the benefit of Allegra Byron, an infant, twenty months old, whom his lordship had protected, to be paid to her at twenty-one years of age, "provided she does not marry a native of Great Britain."

10. Henry Baring, M. P., recovered 1000*l.* damages from captain Webster, in an action of *crim. con.* Defendant had suffered judgment to go by default.

12. Remains of lord Byron conveyed from London, to be deposited in Newstead abbey.

Body of James II. discovered in a leaden box, on digging the foundation of a new church at St. Germain, Paris.

The *Fame*, Indiaman, was lost by fire, when sir Stamford Raffles, late governor of Bencoolen, with his family, narrowly escaped, with the loss of a valuable collection in literature and natural history, intended to illustrate the history of Sumatra.

14. The arrival of the king and queen of the Sandwich islands caused much public interest. It was rumoured that the voyage had been undertaken to obtain the protection of England against the encroachments of Russia in the South seas. The queen unfortunately caught the measles, of which she died, which event was followed by the death of her consort, four days after. The bodies of both were sent to Owhyhee, to be interred.

16. A new and improved scale for victualling the navy: in addition to the usual allowance of meat, vegetables, &c.,

it includes a portion of wine, beer, and coffee; *banyan days* are abolished, and 2*s.* per month added to the pay, in lieu of spirits.

New society of christians formed at Manchester, one of whose tenets is to abstain from animal food, and live entirely on vegetables. Their practice is founded on a literal interpretation of the scriptural injunction, "Thou shalt not kill."

Aug. 3. Will of Napoleon, in French and English, is registered in Doctors'-commons, and a probate granted to count Montholon, one of the executors, his personal effects in England being sworn under the value of 600*l.*

13. Lord Gifford decided, in the court of chancery, that letters written confidentially, cannot be published in this country by the party to whom addressed, without the writer's consent.

Trade of Rochdale has increased so much that of flannels and baizes about 20,000 pieces of 46 yards each, are manufactured weekly. The activity of the Nottingham trade is without precedent; the net lace, bought by French dealers, is immense. This net, in France, is ingeniously worked up with silk or cotton patterns, which, when sent back to England, fetches a high price.

Sept. 1. This was the hottest day of summer; the thermometer in the shade, at two o'clock, was at 89 degrees Fahrenheit. Several horses dropped down in the stages from the heat. In Holland the heat was more intense; at the Hague the thermometer stood at 92½ degrees in the shade.

8. The *Gazette* without a bankrupt.

16. Died, in his 69th year, and the tenth of his reign, Louis XVIII. of France. He was brother of Louis XVI., who was beheaded, of the duke of Berri, who was assassinated, and of Charles X. who succeeded him, and was driven from the throne. The late king possessed most of the qualities which in private life constitute an agreeable companion—an amiable temper—considerable colloquial powers—much acquired information—and a keen relish of social enjoyments, especially those of the table. Though professedly a good catholic, and partial to the ancient system, he evinced, subsequent to his second restoration, more discretion than some of his ultra advisers in his efforts to re-establish it. Louis was the author of several literary trifles, of no great merit, one an account of his journey, or rather flight to Coblenz, which Talleyrand characterized as the "Journey of Harlequin, who is always afraid and always hungry."

23. Died, in his 84th year, at his house, in Burton-crescent, Major CARSWRIGHT, a gentleman who for half a century had la-

boured, with great singleness and honesty of purpose, in the cause of political reformation. So early as 1775 he published a tract, "American Independence the Glory and Interest of Great Britain." He founded, with the aid of Dr. Jebb and Granville Sharpe, the "Society for Constitutional Information." During the last seven years the Major had taken a leading part among the radicals in the advocacy of universal suffrage and annual parliaments. He was a reformer on the basis of prescription, derived from some remote period of Anglo-Saxon history, rather than of the natural rights of man. In his last moments he expressed his confidence in the final triumph of his hopes, but said that it could only be "effected by virtuous instruments, which he hoped time would supply."

29. Charles X. abolished the censorship on the press, which made the commencement of his reign popular.

Mr. Sadler, in descending with his balloon near Blackburn, struck against a chimney, and shortly after fell to the ground, by which he was killed.

Oct. 1. New academy in Edinburgh opened; 400 boys were present. Sir Walter Scott, in an able speech, dilated on the advantages of a good education, and touched upon the leading features of the institution.

2. Club of water-drinkers established in Lancashire; they sit round a table, on which is placed a jug of water, from which the members drink in succession. It seems to have been the beginning of temperance societies.

Town of Wetherby, the property of the duke of Devonshire, has been sold in 174 lots. The English estates of the late marquis of Ormonde were publicly sold, being the largest ever disposed of by auction. They were sold in three lots, and produced 315,800*l.*, exclusive of the timber.

24. New York papers contain accounts of the enthusiastic reception given to Lafayette, on his arrival in that country. The veteran republican paid a visit to Joseph Buonaparte, at his retreat near Trenton.

30. Mr. Fauntleroy, a banker, in partnership with Marsh, Tracey, and Co., tried at the Old Bailey, and found guilty of forging a power of attorney for the transfer of stock. The case excited interest, owing to the enormous extent of the forgeries committed—about a quarter of a million—and the respectability of the delinquent. An attempt was made to arrest judgment on a point of law, but unsuccessfully. At the bar he struck by his high-bred appearance, but failing to obtain pardon his courage forsook him, and at the scaffold he presented a sad spectacle of agony and despair.

Nov. 8. The *Columbus*, an American timber-ship, of gigantic dimensions, arrived in the Thames. It is 300 feet in length, 50 broad, 30 deep in the hold, and measures 3900 tons, being upwards of 1000 tons larger than any ship in the British navy. It is flat-bottomed, and the bottom two feet wider than the deck. This enormous floating-barge brought over 6300 tons of timber, but it was lost on the return voyage.

23. Lord Chancellor refused an injunction to restrain Mr. Fletcher from preaching in Albion-chapel, Moorfields. He had been suspended from his functions by the synod of the secession church of Scotland for a breach of promise of marriage.

Gazette contains a notice of an intended application to parliament for a bill to erect a superb quay along the north shore of the Thames, having a foot and carriage-way from Whitehall to Blackfriars-bridge.

Dec. 20. Mr. Abernethy, having applied for an injunction to restrain the proprietor of *The Lancet* from publishing his lectures in that periodical, it was refused, on the ground of the lecturer not being able to produce the manuscript from which his lectures had been delivered, whereby it might be identified: thus negating a claim to copyright in any extemporary discourse not previously written out.

21. Miss Foote, a favourite actress, obtained 3000*l.* damages against Mr. Hayne, for breach of promise of marriage.

STEAM-GUN.—This invention, by Mr. Perkins, was among the most popular of the mechanical discoveries of the year. It is formed by introducing a barrel into the steam-generator of any engine, and, by the addition of two pipes towards the chamber of the gun, introducing a quantity of balls, which by the action of a handle in the chamber are dropped into the barrel, and fired, one by one, at the rate of from 400 to 500 balls in a minute. The explosive force of the steam is such that a musket-ball fired against an iron plate, at the distance of 100 feet from the gun, is completely flattened.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—On the river Gambia, of the African fever, Thomas Bowdich, 30, author of an interesting account of a mission to the Ashantees. Of apoplexy, while sitting at his desk, Joseph Marryatt, M.P., chairman of the committee at Lloyd's. James earl Cornwallis, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 81. At Florence, Aloisa de Stolberg, 72, relict of James Stuart, grandson of James II., and the subject of Alfieri's amorous idolatry and eulogies. Rev. John Lempriere, author of the "Bibliotheca Classica," &c. Eugene Beauharnois, 43, son-in-law of Napoleon, by his first wife, Josephine, and an able military commander. John Davy, 59, author of "The Bay of

Biscay," "May we ne'er want a Friend," and some operas. Thomas Maurice, 70, author of "Indian Antiquities." Lord Coleraigne, 73, better known in fashionable life as colonel Hanger, and the author of several pamphlets. At Paris, duke of Cambaceres, 70, ex-arch-chancellor of the empire: he was immensely rich, having an income of 400,000 francs; Cambaceres left his auto-biography behind him, which has been published. Richard Payne Knight, an eminent Greek scholar and munificent benefactor to the British Museum. Francis Maseres, M.A., F.A.S., 93, cursor baron of the exchequer, and miscellaneous writer: the baron was never married; he possessed vast stores of information, and spent large sums of money in the publication of his own works, and those of other writers. Capel Lofft, 73, a constitutional lawyer of varied acquirements in mathematics, classics, poetry and criticism: Mr. Lofft was a profuse contributor to the periodical press; in 1815 he appeared before the public as the legal advocate of Napoleon, and endeavoured to prove that his deportation to St. Helena was contrary to law as well as policy. At Chiswick, William Sharp, 73, an eminent engraver, and remarkable for credulity, being a believer in Brothers, Wright, Bryan, Southcott, and other pretended prophets, who appeared in his time. Robert Charles Dallas, 73, miscellaneous writer; his last work, "Recollections of Lord Byron." Sir James Bland Lamb, 73, better known as sir James Burgess, and of considerable contemporary notoriety in politics and literature; he was the founder, in concert with another under-secretary of state, of the *Sun* newspaper, sanctioned by Mr. Pitt. William Lowry, F.R.S., 62, a distinguished artist and man of intelligence. Rev. R. C. Maturin, the eccentric curate of St. Peter's, Dublin, and author of the tragedy of "Bertram." Thomas Russell, 85, admiral of the white, a true and able British seaman. Rev. Dr. Cartwright, brother of major Cartwright, and author of several ingenious mechanical inventions. In the Crimea, the celebrated baroness Valerie de Krudener, 59, the idol of fashion at the court of Berlin, in 1798, but who became a penitent Magdalen, and whose religious enthusiasm prevailed over the reason of Alexander emperor of Russia. She is said to have originated the celebrated compact of the Holy Alliance.

A.D. 1825. FOREIGN LOANS AND JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.—The general prosperity was such that money or credit could be obtained for every enterprise, and the natural consequence of universal confidence was a general tendency to over-trading and speculation. Besides an infinite number

of domestic undertakings, in which the country had embarked, and which enhanced the prices of labour and commodities, a vast field of adventure had opened in South America. This partly arose from the determination of the English ministry to recognise the independence of the transatlantic states, and to appoint *chargés des affaires* to Columbia, Mexico, and Buenos Ayres. Peru, Chili, and Guatemala. it was anticipated, would also be soon similarly treated, and raised to the rank of independent nations. The conduct of government inspired confidence in individuals, who ceased to have any hesitation in advancing loans to the new governments, or in embarking in mining and other ventures. The money sent out of the country, a large portion of which was lost, was immense. The instalments paid on foreign loans, mining shares, and other speculations, in 1825, were estimated to amount to 17,582,773*l.* Those on foreign loans only amounted to 11,304,623*l.*, and were as follow:—

£.		£.
1,000,000	{Brazilian loan of 1824 . . .}	350,000
2,000,000	Ditto, 1825 . . .	1,500,000
3,500,000	Danish do. . .	2,625,000
2,000,000	Greek do. . .	1,130,000
1,428,571	Guatemala do. . .	357,143
400,000	Guadalajara . . .	240,000
3,200,000	Mexican . . .	2,872,000
2,500,000	Neapolitan . . .	1,750,000
616,000	Peruvian . . .	480,000

The mania for JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES was incredible. In 1824 and the beginning of the present year, 276 companies had been projected, of which the aggregate capital, *on paper*, was 174,114,050*l.* Of these companies 33 were for canals and docks; 48 railroads; 42 gas; 6 milk; 8 supply of water; 4 coal-mines; 34 metal-mines; 20 insurances; 23 banking; 12 navigation and packets; 3 fisheries; 2 newspapers; 2 tunnels under the Thames; 3 for the embellishment of London; 2 sea-water baths; the rest miscellaneous. However absurd many of these projects, the shares of several rose to enormous premiums, especially the mining adventures in South America. The madness prevailing, and the sanguine anticipations of inordinate gain, will be manifest from the following statement of the market-prices of the shares in five of the principal mining companies, at two periods, December 10, 1824, and January 11, 1825:—

	Dec. 10.	Jan. 11.
Anglo-Mexican . . .	33 <i>l.</i> pr. . .	158 <i>l.</i>
Brazilian . . .	10 <i>l.</i> dis. . .	66 <i>l.</i>
Colombian . . .	19 <i>l.</i> pr. . .	82 <i>l.</i>
Real del Monte . . .	550 <i>l.</i> . . .	1350 <i>l.</i>
United Mexican . . .	35 <i>l.</i> . . .	1550 <i>l.</i>

On all the shares only 10*l.* had been paid, except the Real del Monte, on which 70*l.* had been paid. The adventurers obviously anticipated as rich a harvest as Pizarro and Cortes, and that without fighting, merely by the power of British capital, skill, and machinery.

Jan. 1. The following is the number of the French clergy:—Archbishops and bishops, 75; vicars-general, 237; titular prebendaries, 725; honorary prebendaries, 1253; curates, 2828; vicars-generals, 22,225; vicars, 5936; priests resident in parishes, or authorised to preach and confess, 1850; priests, being masters and professors in seminaries, 876; pupils, 4044; monks and others, 19,271.

6. Some memoirs, which had circulated as the autobiography of Fouché, the late French minister of police, ascertained in the *Cour Royale*, on the testimony of his sons, to be spurious.

7. On Saturday night, colonel Stanhope, brother of earl Stanhope, was found hanging from a beam in an outhouse, at Caen Wood, the seat of his father-in-law, the earl of Mansfield. The loss of his wife, two years previously, and a painful and incurable wound received at the storming of St. Sebastian, were the alleged causes of suicide. The colonel was in his 39th year, and remarkably pious.

9. The message of the American president arrived in town, containing a flattering picture of the prosperity of the United States. The Americans seem as eager to embark in joint-stock companies as the English. One New York paper contains a list of twenty-eight projected concerns, the capital to be set apart for which is ten millions of dollars.

17. Alderman Cox recovers 800*l.* damages for *crim. con.* against Edmund Kean, the popular tragedian.

Only eleven persons executed last year at the Old Bailey, supposed to be a smaller number than ever known.

24. In the *Times* and *Morning Chronicle* newspapers advertisements appeared of thirty-five new joint-stock companies.

26. Part of the floor of the long room of the Custom-house gave way with a terrible crash: the desks on each side were left standing. Government commenced proceedings against Peto, the contractor; damages laid at 200,000*l.*

Feb. 3. Parliament opened by commission. Contentment and the thriving condition of all classes formed the leading topics of the royal speech. Ireland shared in the general prosperity; but the prevalence of dangerous associations was lamented. Allusion was made to the war in India, which, it was alleged, had been provoked by the aggressions of the Burmese.

Addresses were unanimously voted in both houses.

10. Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill to suppress the Catholic Association of Ireland. After a debate of four days the motion was carried by 278 to 123; and the third reading of the bill, on the 25th, by a majority of 130. Directed by counsellor O'Connell, its proceedings had for some time been a source of annoyance to ministers, by levying large sums under the name of voluntary contributions, and assuming to be the representative and protector of the catholic population. The language used by Mr. O'Connell was such, that the attorney-general held him to bail; but the indictment preferred against him was thrown out by the grand-jury.

The number of petitions this session for private bills amounts to 371; 22 are for railways, and 36 for new companies. During the war and high prices the majority of private bills were for enclosing commons.

28. A fatal pugilistic encounter between two Eton scholars, the hon. F. A. Cooper, a son of the earl of Shaftesbury, and Mr. Wood, a son of colonel Wood, and nephew of the marquis of Londonderry. Cooper, the boy killed, was under fifteen, his opponent near seventeen years of age. Between the rounds their school-fellows plied them with brandy, which doubtless helped to produce the unhappy catastrophe. A coroner's jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter against Wood, and his second, Wellesley; but, no witnesses appearing on the trial, they were acquitted.

The last contract for STATE LOTTERIES was concluded this day with the chancellor of the exchequer. They have existed in this country, as a branch of the public revenue, for upwards of 150 years.

A convention signed at Petersburg between Russia and Britain, settling the limits of their respective possessions on the north-west coast of America.

Mar. 1. *Kent* East Indianan destroyed by fire in the bay of Biscay. It arose from the accidental ignition of a cask of spirits. Out of 642 persons on board, 85 were lost.

Sir F. Burdett's resolutions for the relief of the Irish catholics carried by a majority of 247 to 234. Sir Francis presented a petition, 100 feet in length, praying for catholic emancipation.

2. First stone of a tunnel under the Thames laid at Rotherhithe.

14. Colonel Berkeley assaulted Mr. Judge, editor of the *Cheltenham Journal*, with a hunting-whip, owing to some reflections made by the editor on the conduct

of the colonel in the affair of *Foot v. Hayne*. The editor recovered, at the Hertford assizes, 500*l.* damages for the outrage.

14. Proprietors of India stock, after a discussion of several days, resolved "That there was no ground to impute corrupt motives to the conduct of the late governor-general, the marquis of Hastings."

29. The lord chancellor declared, in the case of the Real del Monte company, that the holders of shares in any of the new companies were liable to the debts of the concern to the full extent of their property.

Apr. 4. Mr. Brougham elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow: his opponent, sir Walter Scott, lost the election by the casting vote of sir J. Mackintosh. The new lord-rector, who had been a citizen of Edinburgh twenty years ago, was honoured with the largest public dinner ever provided in that city.

6. At the sale of a library at Hythe Voltaire's works were purchased by the methodists to be burnt, which was done next day.

9. William Probert, the accomplice of Thurtell, found guilty of horse-stealing: he was sentenced to be hung, and executed at Newgate. (See *Jan.* 5, 1824.)

25. The duke of York, in the house of lords, pointedly declared against the concession of the catholic claims, and expressed his determination always to oppose them. "Twenty-eight years," he said, "had elapsed since the subject was first agitated; that its agitation had been the source of the illness which clouded the last ten years of his father's life; and that, to the last moment of his existence, he would adhere to his protestant principles—So help him God!"

May 9. Mr. Stewart Wortley's bill, for legalising the sale of game, lost in the lords.

13. A grant of 2000*l.* made to Mr. M'Adam for his improvements in road-making.

14. Pressure of business so great in the house of commons that eight committees sat in one room, the smoking-room.

17. Catholic relief bill, which had passed the commons, was rejected in the lords by a majority of 178 against 130. A bill introduced for the disfranchisement of the 40*l.* freeholders was in consequence withdrawn.

31. Mr. John Williams, in an able speech, brought under the notice of the house of commons the abuses of the court of chancery. Several petitions had been presented, complaining of the delay and expense of proceedings in that court.

IRELAND.—A committee of the lords sat this and in the preceding session to inquire

into the general state of Ireland. They made only a meagre report, but collected a valuable mass of evidence, which threw great light on the condition of the rural population. It showed that they lived in the most wretched state, without property, or the means of acquiring property, barely sustaining animal existence by a very insufficient quantity of food of the most wretched kind. In this state of misery they were the absolute slaves of their landlords; and their indigence and degradation were increased still further by the mode of collecting tithes, their abject bondage to their own priests, and a defective administration of justice by the local tribunals.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—Mr. Campbell, the poet, in a letter to Mr. Brougham, proposed to establish a new university in the neighbourhood of London. The idea of such an institution is not founded on any alleged deficiency in the educational courses of the existing universities, but on their distance from the metropolis, and consequent expense of the instruction afforded by them. An establishment in the vicinity of London would offer to a numerous class of students the convenience of residing with their parents, and the advantages of collegiate education. The cost of the undertaking is estimated at 150,000*l.*

SALARIES OF THE JUDGES.—A measure has been introduced by the chancellor of the exchequer for augmenting the salaries of the judges, and prohibiting the sale of offices in courts of justice. In lieu of fees and emoluments, the salaries of the judges have been fixed as follows:—chief-justice of the King's-bench, 10,000*l.*; chief-justice of the Common-pleas, 8000*l.*; master of the Rolls, 7000*l.*; chief-baron of the exchequer, 7000*l.*; vice-chancellor, 6000*l.*; twelve puisne judges, each 5500*l.*

June 15. First stone of the new London-bridge laid by lord-mayor Garratt; John Rennie, F.R.S., architect.

27. A petition to the commons, from a widow, complained that, of 1400*l.* left her by her husband in 1809, 300*l.* had been claimed by his creditors, and the remaining 1100*l.* had been swallowed up in chancery; leaving petitioner a pauper in Greenwich workhouse.

July 6. PARLIAMENT prorogued by commission. The session had been laborious in discussion, but not remarkable for legislation; except by the repeal of the statutes against the combinations of workpeople, relaxation in our colonial policy, the improvement and consolidation of the laws relating to juries and bankrupts, principal and factor.

19. Thermometer, at one o'clock, stood

at 86 degrees at the Royal Exchange, and afterwards reached 91 in the shade. Owing to the oppressive heat several horses died from exhaustion in the streets of the metropolis.

A curious conversation in the court of chancery, in which lord Eldon said, counsel "now take fees with both hands." Differences had arisen between the barristers and solicitors; the latter wishing the better to secure the attendance of counsel, to compel them to make their election either to confine themselves to the court of the vice-chancellor or the lord-chancellor.

26. LION-FIGHTS.—This exhibition took place in the suburbs of Warwick. It was a match between Wombwell's large lion, Nero, and six dogs of the bull-and-mastiff breed, three dogs to be slipped at once. Immense sums were paid to see the combat; but the lovers of brutal sports were disappointed of their banquet: the lion would not fight; he seemed more disposed for play than battle; and only used his paws, never his mouth, though much lacerated by his assailants. A match was next made with a smaller lion, Wallace, more ferocious. The inequality of power in this case deprived the combat of interest: the monarch of the forest caught up his puny antagonists in his huge jaws, as a cat would a mouse or cockchafer, and instantly destroyed or disabled them. Those not so served escaped in a fright from the den; so that the second, like the first experiment, was a failure.

Aug. 3. Riot at Sunderland, occasioned by disputes between the seamen and ship-owners. Five persons killed by the firing of the military.

16. Monument erected, near Carmarthen, to the memory of sir Thomas Picton, who fell at Waterloo.

18. The rage for joint-stock companies has extended to France. At Paris a numerous association has been formed, under the name of *Société commanditaire de l'Industrie*; the object of which is to supply funds for every enterprise, commercial, agricultural, or manufacturing.

19. A meeting of shopkeepers in London determined to close their shops at eight o'clock in winter and nine in summer, in order to afford their clerks and shopmen better opportunity for intellectual improvement.

GYMNASTIC EXERCISES.—The general prosperity turned attention to various modes of improving individual and social life. During the summer professors Elias and Vogel arrived from Berlin, with a view of engraving on English education the German practice of gymnastic exercises. Their aim was not only to promote health and strength, but to give locomotive power and exterior grace to the human form, by giving

instructions in leaping, walking running, and skating. They met with great encouragement; and several establishments were opened in the metropolis and vicinity for morning and evening exercises.

22. Mr. Clark, chemist, who had detected an extensive adulteration of flour with plaster-of-Paris and ground bones, at Hull, produced sugar before the lord-mayor, containing one-half common salt.

31. Trial for the murder of M. Paul-Louis Courier, who was shot in a wood near his country-seat, came on at Tours. Courier was a man of talent, who had distinguished himself by his satirical writings against the noblesse, the ultras, and fanatics of France. He had been twice imprisoned; and his death was at first ascribed to political revenge. At the instigation of his widow (a woman twenty-two years of age) the forest-keeper was apprehended and tried, but acquitted. Disclosures were elicited during the trial, not very creditable to Madame Courier, who had suggested the apprehension of the forest-keeper in retaliation for a suspicion she entertained that he had been placed to watch over her intrigues. The deceased was in his 53rd year.

Sept. 14. At the launch of the princess Charlotte, at Portsmouth, a vast crowd assembled on one of the bridges erected near a floodgate, which giving way, they were precipitated into the water, and sixteen persons drowned.

Oct. 21. The steam-boat, *Comet*, with passengers from Inverness, was run down off Kempoch-point, in the Clyde, by the steam-boat *Ayr*. The vessels came in contact with such force that the *Comet* went down instantly, with eighty passengers on board, of whom only eleven were saved. The *Ayr* had a light on her bow; the *Comet* had not. The master of the *Comet* was subsequently tried for culpable negligence, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

27. The *Baron of Renfrew*, from Quebec, driven on the coast of France, where she went to pieces. She was longer than the *Columbus*, having a cargo of timber amounting to 9515 tons, and measured 309 feet in length, 80 in width, and 57 feet deep externally, 37 feet internally.

Nov. 14. Mr. and Mrs. Graham ascended in a balloon from Plymouth, and fell into the sea, whence they were rescued, and landed at Stonehenge.

Dec. 1. In an action, *Popple v. Stockdale*, for printing the "Memoirs" of a noted courtesan, Harriette Wilson, Mr. justice Best directed the plaintiff to be non-suited, on the ground of the immoral tendency of the work; therefore refusing all claim to compensation for labour so employed. 3 G 2

DEATH OF THE CZAR OF RUSSIA.—The emperor Alexander, who was in the 48th year of his age, and the 25th of his reign, expired, of an attack of erysipelas, on the 1st instant, at Taganrog, on the sea of Azoff. His last moments were serene. Some hours before dying he caused the blinds of his windows to be opened; and exclaimed, while looking on the cloudless sky of the Crimea, "What a lovely day!" Alexander was a noble, an accomplished, and benevolent prince, who sincerely desired the good of his people. Zealous in his efforts to promote the commercial interests of Russia, to emancipate the serfs, and introduce popular education into his vast empire, the chief blot of his reign had been his meddling foreign policy, in which he had sought to prescribe despotic forms of government to the continental states. Napoleon, who had good reasons for his dislike of Alexander, said of him, more spitefully than truly, that he was "Faux, fin et fourbe comme un Grec du bas empire." He was succeeded by his brother Nicholas. The grand duke Constantine, who was next heir to the throne, publicly renounced his right to the succession in favour of his younger brother. This deviation from the strict hereditary line was not agreeable to the military, who were attached to Constantine. A sedition ensued at Petersburg when the oath was administered to the new emperor, and several lives were lost before it was suppressed.

8. A panic in the money-market, caused by the stoppage of the West of England banks, and of the great Yorkshire bank of Wentworth and company.

12. Banking-house of Sir Peter Pole and Co. stopt payment. It was connected with forty-seven country banks, and increased the dismay in the city.

13. Banking firms of Williams and Co., and sir Claude Scott and Co., stop payment. Next day those of Sikes and Co., and Everett and Co.; and, on the 15th, Stirlings and Hodsoll closed. Every species of stock experienced depression; and such was the scarcity of money, that merchants with difficulty obtained the smallest supplies on unexceptionable security. In addition to the London houses, sixty-seven country banks failed or suspended their payments.

14. Meeting of merchants, to the number of 150, at the Mansion-house, resolved that "the unprecedented embarrassments were to be mainly attributed to an unfounded panic; that they had the fullest reliance on the banking establishments of the capital and country, and therefore determined to support them, and public credit, to the utmost of their power." Mr. Baring drew up the resolution.

16. Bank of England began to re-issue

one and two-pound notes for the convenience of the country circulation. Orders were issued to the Mint to expedite an extraordinary coinage of sovereigns; and, for one week, about 150,000 sovereigns were coined per day. Post-chaises were hourly despatched into the country to support the credit, and prevent the failure, of the provincial firms, which still maintained their ground.

21. East India Company granted 1500*l.* to Mr. Arnot, successor of Mr. Buckingham, in the suppressed *Calcutta Journal*, to compensate him for the loss he had sustained by his forcible expulsion from India.

31. Intelligence continued to arrive of additional failures in the country; but the Bank, having been liberal in the assistance it afforded, lessened the alarm.

MISCELLANIES.—Among the popular sights of the metropolis this year was the *living skeleton*, who was much visited, owing to his extremely attenuated person. He was a native of France, 27 years of age, and 5 feet 7 inches high.

The taste for the beauties of architecture was intense: public subscriptions were raised to keep open the view of St. Bride's steeple, Fleet-street, and to re-build the tower of the church of St. Saviour, Southwark.

A volume, containing the scarce editions of eleven of Shakespeare's plays, among which was *Hamlet*, dated 1603, was brought to light. It was purchased by the duke of Devonshire for 200 guineas.

At the meeting of the Society of Arts, Roberts, a miner, received the large silver medal, and fifty guineas, for inventing a hood and mouth-piece, whereby respiration can be carried on with safety amidst the most dense smoke.

The following is the Russian official account of the devastation committed by the wolves in the government of Livonia only, in the year 1823:—They devoured horses, 1841; foals, 1243; horned cattle, 1807; calves, 703; sheep, 15,152; lambs, 726; goats, 2455; kids, 183; swine, 4890; sucking-pigs, 312; dogs, 703; geese, 673.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—In great poverty, Wewitzer, 76, a veteran comedian. Of apoplexy, Ferdinand IV., 74, king of Naples and the Two Sicilies. George Dance, F.A.S., 84, the last survivor of the original forty royal academicians. Alexander Tilloch, LL.D., 66, many years editor of the *Philosophical Magazine*. At Stoke Newington, Mrs. Barbauld, 82, sister of Dr. Aikin, and authoress of many excellent works for the improvement of early domestic education. Henry Fuseli, R.A., 87, an artist of high repute, who produced the "*Milton Gallery*," and was

the author of *Lectures on Painting*. At Paris, Count Denon, 84, author of a splendid work on Egypt, and director of the French museum. Charles Earl Whitworth, 71, diplomatist, and late lord-lieutenant of Ireland. George Chalmers, F.R.S., 82, chief clerk of the office of the Board of Trade and Plantations, and copious writer on politics, finance, and statistics. At Florence, Paulina Borghese, favourite sister of Napoleon Buonaparte: her property, amounting to about two millions of francs, she bequeathed to her brothers, Louis and Jerome. Abraham Rees, D.D., 82, long an active and leading divine among the Dissenters, and editor of the well-known 'Cyclopædia.' At Paris, of an aneurism of the heart, General Foy, 50, a highly-popular and independent member of the chamber of deputies. At Brussels, David, the celebrated French painter: he had retired from Paris after the restoration of the Bourbons, being included in the decree against the regicides. Dr. Samuel Parr, 79, celebrated philologist, and erudite classical scholar. Maximilian Joseph, king of Bavaria, a popular prince, exempt from bigotry, and friendly to improvement: he was succeeded by his son, Charles Louis, who was 39 years of age.

A.D. 1826. THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS.—The mercantile reaction, which appeared at the close of the past year, continued with unabated force during the early part of the present. In November the number of bankrupts gazetted was 188; in December, 220; in January, 321; in February, 380; in March, 315. The number of bankrupts on March 4th was 93, which was the greatest number that had appeared; and from that time the plague may be said to have abated. As this was the most overwhelming revulsion in commerce that had ever happened, the causes in which it had originated were narrowly scrutinized; and the general inference seemed to be, that a wild spirit of speculation, springing, in the first instance, from the temptation of low prices, and fostered by the multiplication of paper-money and transactions on credit, was the primary source of the disorder. That over-trading was the origin, and the means indiscreetly afforded for over-trading accessories to the mischief, were facts clearly established from the returns obtained of the vast increase of imports, of the issues of the banks, and the number of bills of exchange in circulation. An excess of mercantile confidence, which opened the door to thoughtless enterprises, with fictitious capital, originated nine-tenths of the evil. The general prosperity encouraged the country banks, and the Bank of England, freely to make advances for almost every undertaking: they rapidly

increased their issues of notes; but these, though powerful auxiliaries, were insufficient to account for the enormous redundancy of capital that marked the year 1824, and the summer of 1825. This could only be supplied by the vast extension of private credit by bills, promissory-notes, and open account. Such was the general confidence, that real money was hardly needed: credit was the universal currency; and hence was generated that redundancy of means which depressed the rate of interest, and induced individuals to seek profitable employment for their resources in foreign loans, foreign mines, and every imaginable domestic expedient. Alarmed at the speculative spirit abroad, the Bank of England were the first to adopt precautions, by contracting their circulation; and the example was followed by the country banks. This *pulling up* was soon felt by a pressure in the money-market. Some of the banks—that of Elford's, in the west of England, and of Wentworth's, in the north—that had been extremely incautious in their advances to individuals, were unable to meet their engagements; and the fall of these houses involved the London firms with which they corresponded. Commercial confidence was destroyed, and a panic ensued. The bank of England made strenuous efforts to mitigate pecuniary distress; and government pursued a steady and judicious course. With the consequences of the folly and cupidity of individuals it could not properly interfere, but it sought to remedy some of the evils of the banking-system. As a too great facility in the power of creating fictitious money had been a main ingredient in producing the mischief, ministers sought to abridge the power of banks in issuing paper-money. For this purpose the circulation of one-pound notes was prohibited; and corporate bodies, or partnerships of more than six persons, were allowed to carry on the business of banking. Both these measures were improvements on the existing system, but not preventives of mercantile reaction: they afforded no effective guarantee against future panics, nor the over-issue and insolvency of bankers, nor against over-trading on baseless credit. The last are desiderata that can only emanate from individual prudence, and more general knowledge of the principles that govern the periodical vicissitudes of the commercial cycle.

Jan. 1. The Astorga library, recently purchased for the faculty of advocates at Edinburgh, is supposed to be the most curious collection of Spanish books existing anywhere out of Spain. It consists of 3000 volumes, and was sold for 3000*l*. The same body purchased, last year, a very

fine Danish library, entire, at Copenhagen.

18. **Bhurtpore**, in the East Indies, captured by the English, under lord Combermere. It was a town of considerable extent, strongly fortified on every side, being surrounded by a mud-wall of great height and thickness, with a wide and deep ditch. Lord Lake failed in an attempt upon it in 1806, after losing 3000 men. It has been dismantled by the British.

31. French chamber of deputies opened by the king, who announced the final separation of Hayti from France, after a struggle of thirty years. Except the excitement kept up by the efforts of the ecclesiastical party to extend their influence, and the clamours of interested men, who declaimed against the financial measures of ministers, because they had been losers by fluctuation in the funds, everything was prosperous and tranquil in France.

Feb. 2. **PARLIAMENT** opened by commission. The royal speech chiefly referred to the continuance of the Burmese war, to measures in contemplation for the improvement of Ireland, and to the existing pecuniary crisis, which was declared to be unconnected with political causes, and to originate, in great part, in the conduct of individuals, whose sufferings might afford the best security against its recurrence. Addresses passed without serious opposition in both houses, though not without much discussion.

13. Riot at Norwich, owing to one of the manufacturers being detected in sending work out of the city to be executed in the country. Nearly 12,000 persons are unemployed.

23. A two-nights' debate in the house of commons on the silk-trade, on a motion of Mr. Ellice to refer the petition on the subject to a committee. Motion negatived by 222 to 40; the house being resolved to support ministers in their free-trade policy, both as respected manufactures and the shipping interest.

26. **PEACE WITH AVA.**—The war with this power, which had lasted two years, terminated with the treaty of Yandaboo, by which the East India Company obtained an accession of territory, and a crore of rupees. The cautious mode of fighting adopted by the Burmese, and their use of stockades and redoubts, it was at first thought would create hazardous employment for the British arms. These, however, proved unavailing against European engineering and artillery; and the Burmese were found not more advanced in the art of war than other Indian nations. After carrying all their entrenchments,

and beating, in successive engagements, their unconnected columns, sir A. Campbell penetrated to within forty-five miles of the capital of Ava. This brought the monarch of the Golden Foot to terms; not, however, till his majesty had experimented on the diplomacy of the invaders, by attempting some evasive negotiations, and to substitute, in lieu of a payment in money, which he said the country did not produce, a certain quantity of rice, which was abundant.

Mar. 1. Real del Monte mining-shares, which had sold for a premium of 1200*l.*, fell to a discount of 20*l.* per share.

The large elephant at Exeter Change having exhibited dangerous symptoms of restlessness, which were usual with it at certain seasons of the year, Mr. Cross sent for a party of guards to shoot it. One hundred and eighty musket-balls were discharged before the animal fell. It stood thirteen feet high; the body, as it lay on the floor, was of the height of six feet.

2. Lord John Russell made a motion for the prevention of bribery at elections. It was coldly received; neither Mr. Brougham nor Mr. Canning took part in the debate. Mr. William Lamb said there was corruption both on the ministerial and popular side. Motion negatived by 249 to 123.

AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL.—Died at Lisbon, on the 10th instant, aged 59, after a reign of thirty-four years, John VI., king of Portugal and titular emperor of Brazil. During twenty-five years of his reign the king had acted as regent for his mother, who was insane. Upon the queen's death, in 1817, he succeeded her, and was crowned at Rio Janeiro, to which he had retired with his court on the invasion of Portugal by Buonaparte. His character was ordinary, neither marked by eminent virtues nor debasing vices. After his death Portugal became a scene of intrigue and civil war: Don Pedro had to choose between the throne of Portugal and that of Brazil; for the constitution of Brazil, to guard against the misgovernment which had afflicted her when a colony, had provided, in securing her independence, that the two crowns should never be united under one head. Pedro promptly made his election. On the 2nd May he abdicated the Portuguese crown in favour of his eldest daughter, Donna Maria, then seven years of age. Until she arrived of age the government to be vested in the present regent, her aunt, Isabella Maria. At the same time, to guard against any opposition that might proceed from the faction of the queen-dowager and Don Miguel, it was made a condition of the cession of the crown to the infant

princess that, on coming of age, she should marry her uncle, Don Miguel. A representative constitution was sent over from Brazil by Don Pedro, accepted by the Portuguese, and acknowledged by Britain, France, Russia, and Austria. This settlement was, however, displeasing to the *absolutists*, headed by the queen-dowager and the marquis of Chaves, and supported by Ferdinand of Spain. Insurrections were excited, which were only suppressed by the arrival in the Tagus, at the end of the year, of a British force of 5000 men.

13. Budget brought forward by the chancellor of the exchequer, in which he took a view of the financial system, particularly of the reductions made, during successive years, in taxation, and the effect of those reductions on the productiveness of the revenue. The increase of consumption since 1816 had made up the diminution in taxation. In beer, the increase of consumption was 16 per cent.; candles, 36; paper, 55; tea, 20; malt, 50; British spirits, 53; sugar, 19; coffee, 43; wine, 88; tobacco, 13; leather, 29 per cent.

Apr. 11. Royalty theatre burnt.

14. The number of lunatics returned to the commissioners for licensing mad-houses, from 1815 to 1825, both inclusive, and entered into the registers, was—males, 4461; females, 3443.

22. Missolonghi taken by storm by a combined Egyptian and Turkish force, commanded by Ibrahim. It had held out nearly eleven months. The obstinate defence made the assailants furious: the entire of the male population above twelve years of age were destroyed, and between three and four thousand women and children were carried into slavery. It extinguished the hopes of the patriots of western Greece.

23. The sum received for admissions to see the monuments in Westminster Abbey in 1825 was 1585*l.*; the price of admission, each person, 1*s.* 3*d.*

24. Riots in Lancashire, occasioned by the hostility of the weavers to the power-looms.

STEAM TO INDIA.—It is ascertained that the *Enterprise* steam-vessel had reached Bengal. She sailed from Falmouth August 16th, reached the Cape October 13th, and arrived at the mouth of the Hoogley December 9th, after a passage of forty-seven days from the Cape, having consumed all her coals. The whole time spent in the voyage was sixteen weeks and three days, which is nearly the average length of the voyage in sailing-vessels. By having supplies of coals at St. Helena and other intermediate points, it is thought the time might be abridged a month. Captain Johnson, by navigating the *Enterprise*, has earned the prize of 10,000*l.*,

as a reward to the first person who made a steam-voyage from England to India.

May 2. Public meeting at the Mansion-house for the relief of distressed manufacturers; the king subscribed 2000*l.*

3. Riot near Bradford, Yorkshire; two persons killed and several wounded in an attack on a power-loom mill.

4. Mr. Hume made a formal motion on the state of the nation, accompanied by forty-five resolutions, illustrative of the chief points of financial discussion. He combated the idea of the chancellor of the exchequer (*Mar.* 13) that consumption had increased. By taking a longer period for comparison, it would be found that the consumption of beer, wine, tobacco, and other articles, had not kept pace with the increase of population. Motion negatived by 153 to 52.

A package of relics imported at Dublin, consigned to the rev. T. Murphy, of Kilkenny. The declared value is 1*z.*, which subjects it only to a duty of 2*d.*, and it is entered on the custom-house books "One box of bones of martyrs."

5. A resolution carried in the house of commons to vest a discretionary power in ministers, to allow corn, in bond, to be taken out on certain conditions, for home consumption. It was strenuously opposed by the landed interest, as a departure from the corn laws.

6. Mr. Lemon has made some interesting discoveries at the state-paper office. One is an entire translation of "Boethius," by queen Elizabeth: the prose in the handwriting of her secretary, and the poetry in the queen's own autograph. There are also several documents, elucidatory of the reign of Henry 8th, especially of the king's divorces.

12. Mr. Huskisson, in an able speech, laid open the state of the shipping trade, and defended the policy of the relaxation in the navigation laws.

The number of Jews at present is estimated at 3,166,603; of whom there are in the Austrian states, 453,545; Prussia, 134,980; Russia, 426,908; Poland, 232,000; Netherlands, 80,000; France, 60,000; Britain, 12,000; Italy, 36,000; Turkey in Europe, 321,000; Asia, 138,000; Africa (of which 300,000 are in Morocco), 504,000; America, 5,700. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxviii. 82.)

31. Parliament prorogued, and two days after dissolved. It was the sixth session, which had been abridged with a view of getting through the general election at a convenient season. Though the session had been short, it had been full of business, and the parliamentary papers printed occupied 29 folio volumes, exclusive of the journals and votes.

June 15. DESTRUCTION OF THE JANISSARIES.—This once formidable force of the Turkish empire had degenerated into a mutinous and effeminate militia. Sultan Mahmoud, undeterred by the fate of Selim, his predecessor, who was murdered by this haughty corps, in 1807, sought to alter its organization by introducing the European arms, discipline, and mode of warfare. The Janissaries were opposed to innovations; they seditiously assembled in the square of Almeida, and declared they would not submit till the new regulations had been rescinded. The sultan had foreseen and prepared for this revolt by securing the services of the artillery, and even some of the Janissaries themselves. Mahmoud acted with vigour; the sacred standard of Mahomet was unfurled, and all true believers were summoned to the defence of the religion of the Prophet. At the head of several thousand men Hussein Pacha attacked the rebels with impetuosity. They retired towards the Hippodrome of Almeida, and flung themselves into the barracks. Cannon-balls and shells burst upon their strong-holds; the barracks were set on fire, and a terrible slaughter ensued of the Janissaries. Between two and three thousand were killed or perished in the flames: those who escaped were executed or banished from Constantinople, and the very name of Janissary became extinct. The destruction of this corps was followed by an entire new-modelling of the Turkish military, and its discipline assimilated to that of European nations. In every quarter of the city soldiers were to be seen at drill; Egyptian officers were brought as instructors from the army of Ibrahim; the proud Turks, who were wont to treat Egyptians with contempt, now submitted to be their pupils.

28. This was the hottest day in the year. At London the thermometer in the shade stood at 89½. Several sudden deaths were occasioned by the heat, and the excitement of the general election. Among them a son of earl Grey, and Mr. Butterworth, the eminent law-bookseller, a candidate for Dover.

In England, within the last twelve months, 1738 coroners' inquests have been held.

GENERAL ELECTION.—The elections were carried on in many places with great spirit and bitterness. The struggles, however, were not for the predominance of political parties but public questions. The prevailing tests offered to candidates on the hustings were the corn-laws, catholic emancipation, and the slave-trade. In Westminster the sitting members, sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hobhouse, were returned. In Southwark, a strenuous but unsuccess-

ful effort was made to eject sir R. Wilson; and in the city a cry of "No Popery" was raised against alderman Wood. Mr. Brougham once more entered the lists against the Lowthers, in Westmoreland, but was more signally defeated than in his former attempts. The radicals of Preston tried to return Mr. Cobbett; though defeated he polled 1000 votes. In Somersetshire, Mr. Hunt retired from the contest, with the declaration that he "would repeat the experiment till he succeeded." In England and Wales, 133 members were returned, who had never before sat in parliament. In Scotland there were no contests, except for Kirkcudbright, in which Mr. Ferguson ousted his ministerial opponent. In Ireland, there was an unprecedented display of feeling on the catholic question. The catholic priests, for the first time, openly began to take a part in elections, inculcating the doctrine that opposition to an anti-catholic candidate was a christian duty. Influenced by them, and roused by the oratorical energies of Mr. O'Connell, the Beresfords were driven out of Waterford. The forty-shilling freeholders, many of whom had been created for election purposes, now openly voted against their landlords.

July 4. DEATHS OF ADAMS AND JEFFERSON.—It was a remarkable coincidence that the two ex-presidents of the United States both expired on the same day, and that day the fiftieth anniversary of the issuing of the declaration. They heard the sound of the bells and the salutes which ushered in the political festival: both had been compelled, by ill-health, to decline the invitation to attend the celebration at Washington, and before sunset they had both breathed their last, having witnessed their country rising, during half-a-century, to power and wealth, under the government in laying whose foundation they had borne so large a share. Their whole lives had been spent in the public service; they had filled the highest offices in the state at home, and conducted its diplomacy abroad. They were both writers of eminence; in their political views there was a difference, Mr. Adams inclining more than Mr. Jefferson to the aristocratical parts of the American constitution. They formed two of the only three surviving members of the congress who signed the declaration of independence, in 1776.

10. The moors of Yorkshire, about Ilkly, Bingley, and Burley, the scene of extensive fires, which are ascribed to the heat of the weather and long drought.

18. Mr. Green made a nocturnal ascent with his balloon from Vauxhall-gardens and descended near Richmond. During his aerial voyage the aeronaut could dis-

tinguish the white wheat, which was ready for cutting, from the uncultivated land; the former appearing like sheets spread on the ground: the trees and buildings appeared quite black. The gas-lights on the bridges appeared like rows of lamps resting on the water. Battersea and Putney bridges, which were not lighted, appeared like planks across the river.

GREEK LOANS.—One of these had been contracted for in 1824, with Loughnan, Son, and O'Brien, the other early in 1825, with the Ricardos. The last was for 2,000,000*l.*, and realized 1,200,000*l.* for the aid of the Greeks. Certain gentlemen, calling themselves the "Greek committee," watched over the disbursement of the money, with the consent of the Greek deputies, Orlando and Luriotis. The great object was to raise a fleet, to be placed under the command of lord Cochrane, which was to consist of ships of war and steam-boats; the last had not yet been used in the Levant. Owing to some mismanagement, that has never been explained, no fleet was provided; all the naval aid sent to the Greeks was a sixty-gun frigate and a miserable steam-boat, both of which arrived too late to be useful. Yet the money was all spent. There was much mutual recrimination in the newspapers on the causes of the failure, in which the names of Messrs. Hume, Bowring, Killice, Ricardo, Easthope, and Gallo-way, were conspicuous.

Aug. 4. The "stocks" belonging to St. Clement's Danea, in Portugal-street, were removed from their situation and destroyed, for the purpose of local improvements. They were the last remaining stocks in the streets of London.

7. Colonel Purdon defeated the Ashantees. A discharge of Congreve rockets, canister, and grape, was very destructive among the barbarians. Besides ivory and gold-dust, the victors made prize of the head of the late sir Charles M'Carthy, which was considered by the Ashantees as their greatest charm, or fetish. It was enveloped in two folds of paper, covered with Arabic characters, tied up a third time in a silk handkerchief, and lastly sewed up in a leopard's skin.

It appears that 1089 power-looms have been destroyed by the rioters in Lancashire, for which damages, to the amount of 16,383*l.*, have been recovered by actions against the hundred.

Sept. 3. Nicholas I., emperor of Russia, crowned at Moscow. The duke of Devonshire, who attended as the representative of George IV., astonished the Russians by his splendid retinue and sumptuous entertainments.

Oct. 3. The exact position of the Coww-stakes, where Cæsar crossed the Thames,

has been ascertained. In deepening the river, about 200 yards above Walton-bridge, a line of old broken piles was discovered, some five feet below the previous bed of the river. They were about as thick as a man's thigh. Many were drawn, and are in possession of the gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

16. Mr. Canning dined with the king of France, and sir Walter Scott with the king of England.

19. Mr. Buckingham recovered 400*l.* damages from W. J. Banks, M. P., for a libel, charging the plaintiff with having pirated notes and drawings made by Mr. Banks, during his journey in Syria, to publish in Mr. Buckingham's Book of Travels.

Nov. 14. Meeting of the new parliament. Mr. Manners Sutton re-elected speaker. On the 21st it was opened by the king in person. In the royal speech allusion was made to throwing open the ports for the admission of foreign grain, the termination of hostilities with the Burmese, and the distresses that had visited the manufacturing districts. The address was carried in the upper house without a division; in the lower an amendment, moved by Mr. Hume, seconded by Mr. Marshall, the new member for Yorkshire, was negatived by 170 votes against 24.

Dec. 1. The king visited Drury-lane theatre.

5. Alderman Waithman brought forward, in the house of commons, the subject of the numerous joint-stock companies that had been established. Within the last three years, he said, 600 joint-stock companies had been formed, most of them for dishonest purposes. The directors of these fraudulent schemes worked with the market as they pleased, forcing up the prices of shares to sell, and depressing them to buy, pocketing the difference. He dwelt particularly on the Arigna mining company, of which the late chairman of the committee of ways and means, Mr. Brogden, had been a director. The directors of this company, besides an allowance of three guineas per day for the use of their names, had divided a large surplus arising from trafficking in shares. Other members of the house had pocketed by the bubble companies, among them sir William Congreve. He moved for a committee of inquiry with reference to the part taken by members of parliament in the joint-stock mania of 1824-5-6. The inquiry, on the suggestion of Mr. Canning, was restricted to the Arigna company.

8. At a meeting of the Society of Antiquarians, the earl of Aberdeen exhibited the household book of James V. of Scotland, containing an account of his expen-

diture from Sept. 14, 1538, to Sept. 13, 1539. It is a folio volume, of considerable size, legibly written, and contains the names and prices of most articles in use among our ancestors.

18. Letter addressed by the king to the archbishop of Canterbury, authorising subscriptions to be raised in churches for the relief of the manufacturing classes.

26. Mr. Bric, member of the Catholic Association, killed in a duel at Dublin, by Mr. Hayes, a solicitor.

27. The duke of York visited by the king, who remained with him two hours. The royal duke had been some time unwell, and was now in imminent danger.

31. Died, in his 71st year, WILLIAM GIFFORD, a well-known critic and satirist, and long connected with the government literature. He was the editor of the *Anti-jacobin*, in 1799, and in 1809, in conjunction with Messrs. Canning and Frere, established the *Quarterly Review*, of which he was conductor till 1824, when the infirmities of old age obliged him to resign his situation. Mr. Gifford was originally apprenticed to a shoemaker, at Ashburton, his native town. Not liking his occupation, and having a strong taste for letters, which attracted the notice of Mr. Cookesley, a surgeon, he was, through the munificent kindness of that gentleman, removed to Oxford University. He subsequently obtained the patronage of earl Grosvenor, and became paymaster of the band of gentlemen pensioners, and comptroller of the lottery.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Count Rostopchin, the governor who directed the burning of Moscow, in 1812; the governor also set fire to his country-seat, rather than it should be occupied by the French. At Marseilles, marshal Suchet, 54, a distinguished French general in the Peninsular war. Lindley Murray, 80, the popular elementary writer: he was originally an eminent merchant of New York, but losing the use of his limbs, he turned his attention to composing literary works for the benefit of young people, and the profits of which were devoted to charitable uses. At Worcester, the celebrated English vocalist, Charles Incedon. John Pinkerton, F.S.A., 67, author of an "Essay on Medals." Viscount Barrington, 92; he succeeded Dr. Thomas Thurlow, in the see of Durham, in 1791. Rev. John Milner, 74, Roman Catholic bishop of Castabala, and vicar apostolic of the midland district of England. At the house of sir George Smart, M. Carl Von Weber, 40, the celebrated musical composer. William Davies Shipley, dean of St. Asaph, 81: the dean is chiefly remembered from the prosecution instituted against him by William Jones, a

Welsh attorney (afterwards marshal of the king's-bench prison), for a government libel, and which originated Mr. Fox's libel law, settling the powers of juries in libel cases. Samuel March Phillipps, 45, recorder of Grantham, and author of a "Treatise on the Law of Evidence." Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, 45, late governor of Java. Of apoplexy, John Farquhar, 75, owner of Fonthill-abbey, and a person who had amassed immense wealth in India by penurious and industrious habits: dying intestate, it was inherited by seven nephews and nieces. At Paris, Joseph Samson, 60, the man who decapitated Louis XVI., and the public executioner during the French revolution. At Margate, Michael Kelly, the dramatist, 63. In his convent, the famous monk La Trappe, a guerilla chief, who distinguished himself in the Spanish war of 1823. Charles Mills, 38, author of the "History of Chivalry," &c. At Paris, Talma, 60, the celebrated tragedian. F. Boissy d'Anglas, 70, a peer of France, and one who distinguished himself by firmness and patriotism during some trying scenes of the revolution. John Nichols, F.S.A., for nearly fifty years editor of *The Gentleman's Magazine*. John Flaxman, R.A., 72, the eminent sculptor. At Paris, Conrad Malte Brun, 52, celebrated geographer. At Trichinopoli, in the East Indies, Reginald Heber, D. D., bishop of Calcutta, 44, an exemplary divine and popular writer.

A.D. 1827. REVIVAL OF INDUSTRY.—The present year was pregnant with events, and opened with a more cheering aspect than the preceding. Employment was generally to be had by the working classes, and though wages were still low, they enabled them to gain a livelihood. The different monied and manufacturing interests were recovering from the confusion of the last eighteen months by a progress which, though slow, was sure, and which by its slowness, perhaps, justified the belief that it did not proceed from factitious scheming, but was the natural return of mercantile health. The atmosphere had been cleared by the monetary crisis of 1825-6, and an entire decomposition of commercial elements effected. Masses of fictitious property were dispersed, and much of the real capital of the country distributed into new channels. Had this been the only result, the useful lesson over-speculation had taught might have been more instructive than injurious. Unfortunately an immense loss was sustained from the destruction of property, occasioned by the fluctuation in prices, and the sudden change in the employment of capital and industry. A check was thus given to internal improvement; and in consequence

of the blight on mercantile confidence the legitimate movements of commerce long continued to be impeded. It is in the nature of great changes to involve the innocent with the guilty; and this was the worst result of the late revulsion; it not only swept away the delusive projects of the adventurer, but paralysed for a season the operations of real business and commendable enterprise. In domestic politics the prominent topic of interest, in the history of the year, was the termination of the Liverpool ministry, and the efforts to supply the vacancy occasioned by the sudden illness of that nobleman. Abroad the political horizon was auspicious. The arms of Russia and Persia were encountering each other on the banks of the Araxes, but the sound was too distant to disturb the repose of Europe. Our armament in the Tagus had guaranteed the Portuguese constitution against the machinations of the absolutists of Paris and Madrid. Even the interference of the great powers in behalf of the Greeks, which led to the battle of Navarino, failed to disturb the tranquillity of Europe.

Jan. 4. The habit of walking with the hands in the breeches or coat-pockets was now very prevalent in the metropolis. It was ascertained that of the first thirty men who passed on the narrow foot-path in New-street, Covent-garden, eighteen had both hands in their pockets, and five others had one hand so placed. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxi. 6.) The practice may have risen out of the late pecuniary mania, but has been superseded by the general use of gloves.

5. DEATH OF THE DUKE OF YORK.—The demise of his royal highness, who had long laboured under an incurable dropsy, had been for some time expected. He was in the 64th year of his age, and for upwards of thirty-two years had been at the head of the army. His sincerity, affability, attention to the comforts of the soldier, and to the discharge of his official duties, combined with equity in the disposition of the patronage of his office, had made him highly popular among the military. During his administration at the Horse-guards, seconded by the lessons of practical experience which the war in the Peninsula afforded, the British army had not merely been improved, but almost created. The duke was large in person, of a manly appearance. He bore a strong resemblance to George III., and inherited, in some degree, his hasty and rapid mode of speech. He was like his father, too, in thoughts and in affections; but differed from him in his love of pleasure and addiction to gaming. He was a tory in politics, but seldom interfered in them. His anti-catholic declaration, in 1825, was

deemed a rash enunciation of an unchangeable opinion in the presumptive heir to the crown. The duke of Wellington, already master-general of the ordnance, became the new commander-in-chief. The fitness of his appointment was universally acquiesced in, only a constitutional objection was raised against the propriety of his grace continuing to hold, with his new office, his seat in the cabinet.

13. The testimony of Richard Carlile against a servant who had robbed him, the recorder at the Old Bailey refused to receive, on the ground that the prosecutor did not believe in the Scriptures.

Feb. 1. The lord-chancellor gave judgment in *Wellesley v. Duke of Beaufort*. It excited interest from the notoriety of the parties, and the peculiarities of the case. Mr. Wellesley, a nephew of the duke of Wellington, married, in 1812, Miss Tilney Long, with a fortune of 40,000*l.* a-year. Subsequently to the marriage he lived openly in adultery with Mrs. Bligh, and Mrs. Wellesley separated from him, taking along with her their children, that they might not be corrupted by the profligate example of the parent. Mrs. Wellesley dying, Mr. Wellesley claimed possession of his children, but the court interfered to prevent him, on the ground that his openly immoral conduct had disqualified him for the custody of his offspring. The jurisdiction of the court, lord Eldon said, was undoubted, and he had no hesitation in exercising it, where there was property for the maintenance of children, but not otherwise. The prayer of the plaintiff, therefore, was refused, and the children, as wards of chancery, consigned to the care of guardians. The chancellor's decision was subsequently confirmed by the house of lords.

8. Parliament met after the holidays. An additional grant of 9000*l.* to the duke of Clarence, on account of his nearer proximity to the throne, was carried, after sharp opposition.

17. ILLNESS OF THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL.—A stroke of apoplexy terminated the public life of the earl of Liverpool, though his lordship survived till December 4, 1828. He was born in 1770, and, as Mr. Jenkinson and lord Hawkesbury, had been a strenuous supporter of Mr. Pitt. His own premiership commenced June 9, 1812, and owed such lustre as it possessed to fortuitous occurrences rather than energetic statesmanship. The earl's private character was respectable; he was disinterested, and not addicted to political intrigue or partisanship. Inheriting from his father an extensive knowledge of monetary and commercial affairs, combined with the experience of a protracted official career, his

lordship was master of the chief facts and principles bearing on the physical interests of the empire. He was a sound, safe, commonplace leader, but not eminent for eloquence, nor for force and originality of mind. Except by the adoption of a more liberal commercial system, little had been done during the peace towards the reform of domestic abuses, or the reduction of the incumbrances entailed by the war. His ministry had become weak, chiefly from a division on the catholic claims, and was only kept together on the understanding that catholic emancipation should be an open question, each member of the cabinet following his own convictions, without lending to the support of his opinion the patronage of his office. Mr. Canning and his friends were in favour of concession; lords Liverpool, Eldon, and Wellington, and Mr. Peel, against it.

21. Will of Mr. Rundell, the silversmith, proved; personal property amounted to 1,200,000.

The sale of the duke of York's furniture produced 6000*l*.

Mar. 1. Mr. Canning introduced his resolutions on the corn-laws. A bill founded upon them passed the commons, but was thrown out of the lords, chiefly through the opposition of Mr. Canning's late colleagues, headed by the duke of Wellington.

The following extract from a letter, addressed to sir Wm. Knighton, the king's privy purse, exhibits some of the effects of the difficulties which now beset Mr. Canning. It is dated on the 3d instant:—*“My dear Sir,—The only ill effect of my attendance in the house of commons, on Thursday, was a sleepless night; a grievance which I do not remember ever to have experienced to the same degree before. I was not feverish; I was not exhausted; I was not even tired;—and I can generally get to sleep, putting aside whatever is upon my mind, but Thursday night I could not. I felt as if every limb, from top to toe, was alive, like an eel, and I lay all night, not tossing or tumbling, but as broad awake as if it were mid-day. The consequence was that I kept quiet at home (by Holland's advice) all yesterday, and did not go to the house of commons, for which reason I have not written to his majesty; perhaps you will have the kindness to explain why. I am quite well this morning, having (by order) dined more liberally yesterday, and drunk a little more wine, and afterwards slept like a top from eleven to seven.—Ever most sincerely yours, George Canning.”*—(*Memoirs of Sir W. Knighton*, i. 376.)

6. At the Winchester assizes, on the trial of a woman for the murder of her child, the counsel of the prisoner objected

that, inasmuch as the inquisition of the coroner, on which she was tried, appeared to be on the finding of thirteen jurors, the words “upon their oath” were clearly wrong, as thirteen men could not have been sworn by one oath, but by thirteen oaths. Mr. justice Buller immediately pronounced the objection fatal, and the inquisition was quashed.

23. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, William Wakefield, Edward Thevenot, and Francis Wakefield, were tried at Lancaster assizes for the abduction of Miss Ellen Turner, a lady 15 years of age, and the only child and heiress of William Turner, esq., a gentleman, with real estates at Manchester producing 5000*l*. a-year. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty against the two Wakefields and Mrs. Wakefield. Judgment against the two Wakefields was delivered in the court of king's-bench, May 14th, when Edward Gibbon Wakefield was sentenced to be confined in Newgate for three years, and William Wakefield in Lancaster castle, for the same period. Judgment was not prayed against Mrs. Wakefield. An act of parliament was passed to annul the alleged marriage with Miss Turner.

30. Mr. Tierney moved a postponement of the supplies, till a strong, efficient, and united administration had been formed. What was meant by a “united administration” he would not define. Motion negatived by 158 to 80.

April 10. Mr. Hume obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt on mesne process.

16. Talicotton operation, so called from its inventor, for the restoration of a lost nose, performed for the first time, in Scotland, by Mr. Liston, surgeon, in Edinburgh.

30. First stone of the London university laid by the duke of Sussex. It was commemorated by a dinner, at which were present the duke of Norfolk, marquis of Lansdowne, earl of Carnarvon, lord Auckland, sir R. Wilson, Dr. Lushington, Mr. J. Smith, Dr. Maltby, colonel Jones, alderman Venables, &c. &c.

CANNING MINISTRY.—There was an interregnum of near two months before measures were taken to supply the deficiency in the ministry occasioned by the illness of the earl of Liverpool. No hope remaining of his lordship's recovery, the king determined upon the course he should adopt. From the first he had selected Mr. Canning for his confidential adviser; and the favourable disposition of his majesty towards the foreign secretary was in accordance with the general sentiment among the people. Mr. Canning was not implicitly confided in for political consistency, neither

was his public conduct universally approved, but his superiority to his colleagues in experience, eloquence, official ability, and general intelligence, was recognised. He had become popular by the recognition of the independence of the American colonies; by disconnecting the country, in its foreign policy, from the continental despotisms, and by his liberal sentiments on the catholic question. The public press and the talented and liberal-minded were in his favour. The king, therefore, evinced judgment in his choice, and empowered Mr. Canning to form a new ministry, on a prescribed basis. It was to be like its predecessor, divided in opinion on the catholic question; but Mr. Canning, the leader of the pro-catholic party, who refused longer to serve under an anti-catholic premier, should be its head. On this point Mr. Canning was decided, and expressly stipulated with his majesty that he was not "only to have the substantial power of first minister, but be known to have."—(*Stapleton's Life*, iii. 315.) The king's instructions were received on the 10th inst. Mr. Canning forthwith began to make his arrangements, under the impression that his former colleagues would bow to his supremacy; in lieu of which, within forty-eight hours after, seven leading members of the cabinet sent in their resignations. These Mr. Canning, on the 12th, took to St. James's, and, laying them *en masse* before the king, said, "See here, sire, what disables me from executing your majesty's will." The king gave him his hand to kiss, and Mr. Canning was prime-minister. The *strike* at once of seven ministers looked like a conspiracy against the king's choice, and a determination to coerce the royal will. Mr. Peel's intention to resign, however, had been frankly avowed beforehand, but the simultaneous resignation of the rest was unforeseen. The general excuse they offered was difference with the premier on the catholic question; but this plea would not serve all, for lords Melville, Londonderry, and others of the retiring statesmen, agreed on that subject with Mr. Canning. This gave it the semblance of a confederacy either against Mr. Canning personally, or the king's choice. But George IV., in the exercise of his prerogatives, was not to be controlled any more than his predecessor. He differed from Mr. Canning respecting the catholics, but having selected his minister he steadily supported him. Before separating from his late colleagues, Mr. Canning had opened communications with the leading whigs—with Mr. Brougham personally, and with the marquis of Lansdowne through the medium of a common friend, the earl of Carlisle. The mastership of the rolls was mentioned for Mr.

Brougham; he declined the appointment, observing that, if he left the house of commons for the sake of the rolls, he should be without "*post-horses* to carry him the rest of his journey." Ultimately the bulk of the opposition undertook to support Mr. Canning, without stipulating for the immediate possession of places, merely on the ground of approval of his late policy. Under these circumstances the new ministry was constituted as follows:—

Mr. Canning, *Premier*.
 Earl of Harrowby, *Lord President*.
 Duke of Portland, *Lord Privy Seal*.
 Viscount Dudley, *Foreign Secretary*.
 W. S. Bourne, *Home Secretary*.
 Viscount Goderich, *Colonial Secretary*.
 W. Huskisson, *Board of Trade*.
 C. W. Wynn, *Board of Control*.
 Viscount Palmerston, *Secretary at War*.
 Lord Bexley, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*.
 Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor*.
 Sir John Leach, *Master of the Rolls*.
 Sir Anthony Hart, *Vice-Chancellor*.
 Sir James Scarlett, *Attorney-General*.
 Sir N. Tindall, *Solicitor-General*.
 Duke of Clarence, *Lord High Admiral*.
 Marquis of Anglesey, *Master-General of the Ordnance*.
 Duke of Devonshire, *Lord Chamberlain*.
 Duke of Leeds, *Master of the Horse*.
 Hon. W. Lamb, *Secretary for Ireland*.

The first eleven formed the cabinet. Lord Bexley was among the resigned, but recalled his resignation, on the ground of a mistake, and retained the duchy sinecure. Changes were subsequently made, and members of the opposition were introduced into offices. The marquis of Lansdowne accepted the seals of the home department; Mr. Tierney the mastership of the mint; and Mr. Abercrombie became judge-advocate, *vice* sir John Beckett.

THE KING'S HEALTH.—During the suspension of the ministry, and while a new one was being formed, the king's health was very indifferent. In a note to sir W. Knighton, dated April 6th, his majesty says,—“It is true I am jaded and quite worn out, and writing from my bed, where I have laid down for a little rest; but to-morrow will be quite time enough [for sir William's coming to the palace, who was absent from indisposition]. Little or no advance, I regret to say, has as yet been made, amidst, perhaps, almost *unravelable perplexities*.” The following is a melancholy picture, by the king himself, of his infirmities during the summer. It is dated “*Royal Lodge, June 18th, 1827.*—As to myself I am pretty well *bodily*, but I have little or no use of my poor limbs, for I can neither walk up nor down stairs, and am

obliged to be carried, and in general to be wheeled about everywhere; for my powers of walking, and even of crawling about with crutches, or with the aid of a strong stick, are not in the smallest respect improved since you last saw me; at the same time that my knees, legs, ankles, and feet, swell more formidably and terribly than ever."—(*Memoirs of Sir Wm. Knighton*, i. 376.) This sufficiently accounts for the king's reluctance to see strangers, which puzzled the prince Puckler Muskau, on his visit to Windsor-park, in the August following. "Lord H," says he, "was afraid the king might meet us, and feel '*mal à son aise*' at the sight of unexpected strangers—for the monarch's tastes are singular enough. It is unpleasant to him to see a strange face, or indeed a human being of any kind whatsoever, within his domain; and the park is consequently (with the exception of the high-road, which crosses it) a perfect solitude."—(*Tour of a German Prince*, iv. 143.)

May 1. Parliament met, after the Easter recess, and presented a novel aspect, after the coalition of parties. Mr. Tierney, Mr. Brougham, sir F. Burdett, and sir R. Wilson, were ranged on the ministerial side; neither Mr. Huine in the lower, nor earl Grey in the upper house, had changed their seats. The two first days were occupied in explanations, given by the different parties, of the motives that had influenced their conduct, and of which we have availed ourselves in the preceding statement.

6. Lord Cochrane and general Church repulsed in an attempt to raise the siege of the Acropolis. Athens held out for about a month longer, when colonel Fabvier and his brother Philhellenes capitulated on honourable terms to the Turks. The loss of Missolonghi last year, and of Athens this, combined with the dissensions of the Greek chiefs, left slight hopes of Grecian independence. They appointed their countryman, count Capo d'Istria, who had been in the service of Russia, president of congress for seven years, with the same power as the president of the United States.

8. In digging in the Vauxhall-road, to form a common sewer from Westminster to the Thames, a number of human bones, with fragments of timber, old shoes, buckles, and remains of wearing apparel, were exhumed. It appears to have been near the site of "the Pest-house" (since denominated the Five Chimneys) to which victims of the plague fled in 1665, and such as did not recover were buried in the vicinity.

18. Thames tunnel fell in and filled with water. Mr. Bruwell, the engineer, immediately adopted measures for stop-

ping up the breach with bags of clay, and sinking a lighter, loaded with old iron, over them.

June 1. Mr. Canning brought forward the budget. It was without novelty, and the minister referred to a future session for a more minute inquiry into the state of the finances. Ministerial changes, the corn-laws, and the conduct of political parties, formed the engrossing topics of parliamentary discussion.

July 2. Parliament prorogued by commission. The session had been enlivened by the explanations of political leaders, but had been one of little business. The game-laws, debtor-laws, and the state of the court of chancery, were discussed; and Mr. Peel continued the task he had entered upon of bringing forward bills for the consolidation of the criminal statutes. The corruption of the boroughs of Penryn and East Retford was brought forward. Ministers proposed to extend the elective franchise to the adjoining hundreds, the opposition their total disfranchisement; but neither course was adopted during the session.

6. Treaty signed at London, by the ministers of Britain, France, and Russia, for the pacification of Greece. In this treaty they declared the motives of their interference to be the necessity of putting an end to the sanguinary contest between the Porte and its Grecian subjects, and to the piracies to which European commerce was exposed by the continuance of hostilities. England and France justified their interference on the ground that their interposition had been requested by the Greeks. This was the first notice the European powers had vouchsafed of the struggling Greeks; all the aid they had hitherto received proceeded from the voluntary contributions or personal services of enthusiastic individuals.

14. William Sheen, *alias* Beadle, tried at the Old Bailey for the murder of his child, by cutting off its head, and acquitted. He escaped by pleading a former acquittal, which arose from a technical error in the indictment. The name in the indictment was "William Beadle," but in the baptismal register that was produced it was "Charles William Beadle;" consequently, as no identity was proved, Mr. justice Holroyd held the discrepancy to be fatal to the indictment.

16. A ludicrous scene in the king's-bench prison. It was a mock-election for the newly-created borough of Tenterden, as the debtors styled their gaol. The riotous sport was kept up for three days, and was only terminated by the interference of marshal Jones.

In digging the foundations of the new

London-bridge, many ancient pieces of coin, gold, silver, and brass, were discovered. They were mostly Roman, or Saxon. Among them was a leaden figure of a horse, the head of which was so admirably executed as hardly to be inferior to some of the beads on the Elgin marbles. Caution, however, was necessary in the adoption of these antiquities, as attempts were made to circulate spurious fabrications.

Aug. 8. DEATH OF MR. CANNING.—This highly-gifted orator and statesman expired in the 57th year of his age, at Chiswick, a villa of the duke of Devonshire, and the same in which Charles James Fox died. Mr. Canning's death was occasioned by an inflammation of the kidneys; a painful disease, aggravated, probably, by uneasiness of mind and the over-excitement consequent on his elevation to the premiership. He was born in the parish of Marylebone, of a respectable and talented, but straitened family. He enjoyed, however, the advantages of a superior education, and at Eton was not less remarkable for assiduous scholastic application than the display of those shining abilities in rhetoric and literary composition for which he was afterwards distinguished. At this foundation he formed an intimacy with the Jenkinsons, while, through his mother's acquaintance with Mr. Sheridan, he kept up a social intercourse with the whigs. Without fortune or high station, it was necessary, with a view to his future support and distinction, that he should enter himself a cadet of one of the two great political parties. Contrary to anticipation, Mr. Canning's choice fell upon the Tories, and in 1793 he became representative, in the house of commons, of the treasury borough of Newport. His maiden speech, in the following year (*Jan. 31st*) was not relished—it was too ambitious; the speaker had, however, the good sense to profit by the faults of a first attempt, but never entirely mastered them. In 1799 he married Miss Joan Scott, with a fortune of 100,000*l.*, and one of the three daughters of general Scott, whose immense riches had been made by play. By his oratory in the senate, and his pen in the *Anti-jacobin*, he rendered effective support, during the war, to the measures of the Pitt ministry. Mr. Canning had much wit, and a taste for invective and ridicule, which he not unfrequently disfigured by virulence. With these weapons he battered the Addingtons after the peace of Amiens, and "All the Talents," as they were termed, in 1806. He was a clever partisan, but occasionally failed in candour, dignity, and generosity, in his political hostilities. He agreed with the Grenvilles on several of their measures (as the abolition of the slave-trade), though

he bitterly reviled their administration; and he accepted office in the Portland ministry, though he despised the prejudiced alarm upon which it had been established. He thought lightly of the abilities of lord Castlereagh; and that minister, resenting the success of a cabinet intrigue, by which he was sought to be displaced, they fought a duel, then became reconciled, and Mr. Canning accepted a subordinate situation under his lordship. On catholic emancipation the extent of his offending was limited to holding office with those by whom it was opposed, and suffering the question to remain in abeyance; but in truth it could not have been carried, either with the concurrence of the people or the king. In these movements there was a giving way to expediency, but not absolute dereliction of principle. Indeed, the character of Mr. Canning for private honour and public consistency cannot be seriously impugned. That he was arrogant, vain, and assuming, may be allowed, but he had the manliness to avow his sentiments, and did not meanly desert them. Rather than participate in the proceedings against queen Caroline, although allowed by his colleagues to take no part against that unhappy princess, he retired from office. This redeemed, in the estimate of many, his political reputation, which had suffered from apparent truckling for office, his strenuous support of the Six Acts, and his contemptuous revilings of constitutional reform. He was long the efficient representative of Liverpool, and of this distinction no rival candidate, though four times tried, could deprive him. The death of the marquis of Londonderry removed a *checkmate* in his official career, and, in lieu of an honourable exile as governor-general in India, he became secretary for foreign affairs. It was the era of a new course of statesmanship, signalled by a more marked dissent from the Holy Alliance, and an amelioration, which the changes of the times had rendered politic, in our navigation and commercial laws. Upon these points, and also in the conduct adopted towards Portugal, Greece, and the American republics, Mr. Canning coincided more in sentiment with the Opposition than with many of his colleagues. It was this conformity, which the current of circumstances, more than inclination, forced upon him, that won for him the support of a large section of the whigs on his elevation to the premiership. This last prize of political ambition he did not long possess, and never, perhaps, for a moment enjoyed, through failing health and the bitterness of opponents. Had he lived it may be doubted whether he would have long been able to

maintain himself at the head of affairs, opposed as he was by his own party, and dependent mainly on the volunteer aid of the whigs. His declaration against the dissenters was indiscreet: he was too personally susceptible of, as well as obnoxious to, attack, and lacked that gravity of character and intellect essential to the steady government of an empire. Still he was a man of brilliant accomplishments, uniting in an eminent degree the graces of scholarship, of gentlemanly bearing, and high political ability; which, with great personal advantages, elegant manners, forgiving temper, affectionateness, and conciliatory address, rendered him, particularly in the latter years of his life, an object of very general admiration and attachment. His eloquence was singularly felicitous, correct, copious, and classically ornate: it was not, however, of the first order, and won more by beauties of style, and amusing display of ridicule and humour, than depth of reasoning, or energetic appeals to lofty principles. To the philanthropic class of legislators, indeed, Mr. Canning never seemed to aspire. It was with the grandeur of the nation, rather than its happiness, that he sympathised; the renown of its naval and military achievements, its commercial opulence, and the splendour and luxury of its aristocratic orders. Minor domestic innovations, that were harmless or useful, or opposed only by prejudice, he did not oppose, but organic changes he resolutely set his face against, and that often by reasoning of a superficial or selfish import. Under a monarchy he was born, had thriven, and hoped to die, formed the staple of his arguments on parliamentary reform, against which he annually raised his beaver, dealt his gibes, and rounded his periods; and which savoured more of the adventuring politician of the school of Wilkes or Walpole than of the patriot. A trait of Mr. Canning is mentioned by sir Wm. Knighton, that seems hardly reconcilable with the general constitution of his mind. He had no taste for, nor derived any gratification from, contemplating the most finished productions of the pencil. It was only the realities of life, not the creations of sentiment or of the imagination, with which he sympathised. He was a laborious corrector of his speeches, and very fastidious about the phraseology of his orations.

17. **GODERICH MINISTRY.**—Fewer changes than were expected followed the death of Mr. Canning. Lord Goderich became the new premier, as first lord of the treasury, and Mr. Huskisson succeeded his lordship as colonial secretary. A difficulty arose about the new chancellor of the exchequer. Tierney, Huskisson, and

Sturges Bourne declined the office, and it was at last given to Mr. Herries, who had been secretary to the treasury under lord Liverpool, and who had resigned, with his colleagues, on the promotion of Mr. Canning. The whigs of the cabinet were displeased with this appointment, and lord Lansdowne tendered his resignation. They objected to the chancellor of the exchequer, both on political grounds and as a nominee of the king, till it was explained that Mr. Herries was not the choice of the king, but of lord Goderich. Lord Harrowby retired, and was succeeded by the duke of Portland, and the earl of Carlisle became the new privy seal. The duke of Wellington resumed the command of the army, but without a seat in the cabinet. In Ireland, the vacant chancellorship was filled up by sir Anthony Hart, who was succeeded in the vice-chancellorship by Mr. Shadwell. The following is the list of the Goderich ministry,—the third in the space of seven months:—

Lord Goderich, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Mr. Herries, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Dudley and Ward, *Foreign Secretary.*

Marquis of Lansdowne, *Home Secretary.*

Mr. Huskisson, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*

Duke of Portland, *President of the Council.*

Earl of Carlisle, *Privy Seal.*

Lord Palmerston, *Secretary at War.*

Marquis of Anglesey, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

C. Grant, *President of the Board of Trade, and Treasurer of the Navy.*

C. W. Wynn, *President of the Board of Control.*

Lord Hextley, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Mr. Tierney, *Master of the Mint.*

Sturges Bourne, *Surveyor of Woods and Forests.*

Lord Goderich, who was suffering from some domestic bereavement, offered to resign before the end of the year, and it was with difficulty his administration held together till Christmas.

Sept. 8. A steam-carriage, to travel on common roads, made an excursion to Highgate; it proceeded at the rate of thirteen miles per hour, and its motions were easily directed by the conductor.

20. Sale of the great whig club-chair took place at the Crown and Anchor tavern.

29. **NORTHERN EXPEDITIONS.**—Captain Parry returned from an unsuccessful attempt to reach the north-pole over the ice.

Reaching in the *Hecla* the appointed place off the Spitzbergen coast, he took to the sledge-boats, and was out for sixty-one days; one of the boats being under his own care, the other under that of lieutenant Ross. The boats were hauled over the ice by the ship's crew—twelve men to each; and, after undergoing incredible fatigue, they found that for a great part of the time they were on floating icebergs, which carried them southward, while they were straining every nerve to proceed northward. Of course the enterprise was abandoned. They reached lat. $82^{\circ} 45'$; during the last three days of their unavailing efforts the boats had gained only three miles. About the same time captain Franklin and doctor Richardson arrived from their exploratory expedition to the north-west coast of America. After descending Mackenzie river, captains Franklin and Back had coasted westward to the 150^{th} deg. W. long. They met with no considerable indentation on the coast, but it gradually tended northward, almost as far as they penetrated, to lat. $72^{\circ} 30'$, when it seemed to run nearly west.

Oct. 20. BATTLE OF NAVARINO.—Sultan Mahmoud declining the mediation of the combined powers (see July 6th), an action ensued with the Turkish and Egyptian fleet, anchored in the bay of Navarino. Ibrahim Pacha having received a large reinforcement of troops from Egypt, and orders from Constantinople to put down the insurrection on land, he recommenced the war furiously against the Greeks. All found in arms were put to the sword, and the Morea laid waste. It was to arrest his desolating course, and compel him to accede to an armistice, that the combined fleets of England, France, and Russia, entered the harbour. If Ibrahim refused to listen to a pacific overture, his fleet was to be destroyed or captured. With this understanding admiral Codrington entered the bay, followed by the French ships, under De Rigny, and the Russian squadron. They found the Ottoman fleet ranged at the bottom of the bay, in the form of a crescent. The battle began, apparently without plan on either side, by a discharge of musquetry from the Turks. It soon became general. Codrington, in the *Asia*, opened upon the Egyptian admiral, and reduced him to a wreck, as he had previously done the ship of the capitana Bey, on the starboard. All the other ships of the line, and the frigates, were equally well employed in silencing their opponents. The conflict lasted with great fury four hours. At the end the enemy had disappeared, and the bay was strewed with the fragments of his ships. Among the allies the loss of the English was greatest. They

had 75 men killed and 197 wounded. News of the disaster produced a strong feeling of resentment at Constantinople, but no actual outbreak of hostility. The sultan, by the destruction of the Janissaries, had extinguished the elements of popular violence. Under the old system, no christian could have appeared in the streets with safety. Such satisfaction being demanded by the Porte as the allied ambassadors could not grant, they withdrew from the Turkish capital in December.

Nov. 6. In the admiralty court lord Stowell gave sentence in the matter of the slave Grace, who had been to England, and on her return to Antigua had been reclaimed as a slave by her master. The slavery of Grace was confirmed by his lordship, in a very elaborate judgment. Lord Mansfield had, in 1771, overruled the dictum of lord Hardwicke, by declaring that the owners of slaves had no power over them *in England*, nor could they compel them to return to the colonies. Prior to this judgment the personal traffic in slaves resident in England had been as public in London as in the West India islands. They were openly sold on the royal exchange.

9. Annual banquet at Guildhall interrupted by the falling of an anchor in variegated lamps, which had been carelessly affixed to a board, over the heads of the lord-mayor and lady-mayores. The crash spread indescribable alarm: dukes, judges, servants, and trumpeters, were intermixed, and looking with astonishment in each other's faces. After a time the anxiety at the lower part of the hall was relieved, by the toast-master's announcing that "all was safe;" the lady-mayores only having her dress damaged by the oil, and the lord-mayor his head lacerated by the glass.

10. It is ascertained that there are not assets to pay one shilling in the pound of the duke of York's debts.

27. Shop of Grimaldi and Johnson, watchmakers, in the Strand, robbed of property to the amount of 6000*l.*; the thieves are supposed to have entered through an adjoining coffee-house. The property was recovered by negotiation with the burglars.

28. Warwick mail robbed of bank-notes to the amount of 20,000*l.*

Dec. 1. The gothic palace, which had stood unfinished in Kew-gardens for twenty years, having been sold in lots, is in course of being pulled down.

10. Mr. Eneas Macdonnell found guilty of a libel at Dublin, in charging arch-deacon Trench with bigamy, and the guilt of procuring livings for young men in the

church, with a view to induce them to marry his illegitimate daughters.

20. The marquis of Lansdowne directs a daily report of the proceedings at each metropolitan police-office to be drawn up, so that there may be a mutual exchange of information between the several offices, whereby the detection of offenders may be facilitated.

The copyrights of the works of sir Walter Scott, which belonged to the sequestered estate of Constable and Co., were sold by auction. They consisted of the novels and tales, from "Waverley" to "Quentin Durward," together with various shares of his poetical works. They were put up in one lot, and after a keen contest knocked down to Mr. Cadell for 8500*l.*

30. Don Miguel arrived in London.

POPULAR EDUCATION.—A society was established this year for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, consisting chiefly of public characters of eminence, and individuals distinguished by their literary and scientific attainments. The proceedings of the society commenced with *A Discourse of the Objects, Advantages, and Pleasures of Science*, ascribed to Mr. Brougham. In the announcement of the society it is stated, that the object of the association is strictly limited to "the imparting useful information to all classes of the community, particularly to such as are unable to avail themselves of experienced teachers, or may prefer learning by themselves." The plan proposed for the attainment of this end is, the periodical publication, under the superintendence of a committee, of treatises on science, metaphysics, ethics, and political philosophy; to which histories of science, of nations, and of individuals, are to be added.

CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—The inquiries of the Emigration Committee of the house of commons indicated a great deterioration in the circumstances of the people of the United Kingdom, more particularly in agricultural districts, where wages have been so depressed by competition for employment, that the labourer is compelled to live chiefly on bread and potatoes, seldom tasting meat and beer. From the evidence laid before the committee, it felt justified in reporting,—“That there are extensive districts in England and Scotland where the population is at the present moment *redundant*: in other words, where there exists a considerable proportion of *able-bodied* and active labourers beyond the number to which any existing demand for labour can afford employment.” As a remedy, the committee proposed a national system of colonization in the British settlements of North America, the Cape of Good Hope, Australia, and

Van Diemen's Land—countries abounding in extensive tracts of fertile land, capable of supporting any portion of the surplus population of the empire. In the opinion of sir Wilmot Horton, the annual expenditure of about a quarter of a million would be sufficient to carry off the yearly accumulating excess of labour that had been mainly instrumental in the depression of the working classes.

STATE OF FRANCE.—The agriculturists of France, like those of England, complained of low prices; there were likewise complaints of commercial difficulties, and want of employment for the labouring classes. M. St. Cricq, president of the French board of trade, admitted a large portion of the population was badly fed, clothed, and lodged. The contests between the royalists and liberals continued with undiminished bitterness. The court sought to extend the influence of the jesuits, though the existence of the order in the kingdom was illegal; and attempts were made to circumscribe the influence of the press, by oppressive duties and restrictions before publication. During a review of the national guards, April 29th, the king was greeted with vehement cries from the ranks of *à bas les ministres*. Next morning a decree appeared, by which the whole national guard of Paris was disbanded. This was a bold measure. The national guard consisted of 40,000 men, armed and equipped at their own expense; they belonged mostly to the middling classes, whose feelings they represented. It was followed by the re-establishment of the censorship, which the minister had power to do during the adjournment or prorogation of the chambers. The chamber of peers had shown more dignity and independence than the deputies, and had often thwarted or altered the measures of government. To subdue this refractoriness, seventy-six new peers, all slavishly devoted to the cabinet, were created. At the end of the year the chamber of deputies was dissolved, and every device resorted to by the court to influence the elections. Such, however, was the general unpopularity of the administration, that both royalists and liberals combined to defeat the ministerial candidates. In December, M. Villele resigned the premiership. The great defect of his government had been the common one, of being carried on with a view to the retention of power.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Mason Good, M.D., 62, author of several works on science and literature. John Jones, LL.D., author of the "Greek Lexicon," &c. William Mitford, F.S.A., 83, author of a "History of Greece." Philip Rundell, 81, the eminent silversmith of Ludgate-hill, who is sup-

posed to have died worth two millions, though he distributed among his relations, during his life-time, 145,000*l.*, exclusive of 10,000*l.* in donations to strangers in blood. In Switzerland, M. Pestalozzi, 82, author of a system of education that bears his name. At Paris, Caulaincourt duke of Vicenza, 54, a confidential officer of Buonaparte, under the empire. William Kitchener, M. D., 50, an ingenious writer on cookery, optics, and music. Marquis de la Place, 78, a mathematician of the first class, and peer of France: La Place was the son of a husbandman, and minister of the interior during the consulate. Volta, 85, a celebrated Italian philosopher, who died on the same day with La Place. At Chiswick, Ugo Foscolo, 50, a distinguished Italian writer, resident in England, and contributor to the *Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, and *Westminster Reviews*. George Dodd, 44, the original designer of Waterloo-bridge, and a premature victim of perversity of mind and inveterate habits of intemperance. At Naples, cardinal Ruffo, 83: he distinguished himself in the reconquest of Naples from the French, in 1799, and was almost the last churchman who took a personal share in military affairs. At Paris, Helen Maria Williams, 69, a lady of literary celebrity. At Sockattoo, captain Hugh Clapperton, 40, the celebrated African traveller. Sir Thomas Munro, governor of Madras. Henry Salt, British consul-general in Egypt, and author of "A Voyage to Abyssinia."

A.D. 1828. Jan. 5. The sultan issued an order for the banishment of 120 English, 132 French, and 85 Russians, settled in the Turkish empire.

12. Second irruption of water into the Thames-tunnel. Six workmen drowned.

25. WELLINGTON MINISTRY.—The Goderich ministry had been constructed, but never was cemented. Lord Goderich had neither taste nor talent for his situation, and offered to resign almost immediately after his appointment. Differences on the great questions affecting Ireland, the corn-laws, and finance, formed sources of weakness and disunion. The appointment of Mr. Herries to be chancellor of the exchequer appears from the first to have been viewed by the whigs as an unbearable grievance; and during the winter recess there was a manifest design, on the part of this section of the cabinet, either to withhold from Mr. Herries his proper consideration in the government, or eject him from office. This is shown by the arrangement made by Mr. Tierney and Mr. Huskisson, and assented to by lord Goderich, for the nomination, on the meeting of parliament, of a finance committee, of which lord Althorp was to be chairman. Of this arrangement

no communication was made to Mr. Herries; and it was only in consequence of Mr. Tierney dropping into the colonial office, with a list of the committee in his pocket, while Mr. Herries happened to be present, that he became acquainted with a proceeding so intimately connected with the business of his own department. There may have been solid objections to Mr. Herries filling his situation; they may have been such as the inquiries of a finance committee, directed by an unflinching chairman, might have brought to light; but, whatever they were, they have not been publicly stated. One thing only is certain—the chancellor of the exchequer did not possess the confidence of the Lansdowne section of his colleagues. Either piqued by the slight he had received, or objecting on public grounds to the proposed constitution of the finance committee, Mr. Herries signified to lord Goderich that, if the nomination of lord Althorp to the chair was persisted in, he should resign. On the other hand, Mr. Huskisson informed the premier that, if the arrangement about the committee was not carried out, he should resign. Perplexed by the cross fire of his friends, lord Goderich escaped by resigning himself, and terminated an administration which, from its origin, contained the seeds of dissolution. The king, thus abandoned by his ministers, to whom, he said, he would have been true, if they had been true to themselves (*Ann. Reg.*, lxx. 12), sent for the duke of Wellington, and commissioned him to form a new cabinet, with himself at the head. His grace immediately entered into communication with Mr. Peel, and other members of lord Liverpool's ministry, who had seceded on the elevation of Mr. Canning. With the exception of lord Lyndhurst as chancellor, in lieu of lord Eldon, and lord Dudley as foreign secretary, in place of Mr. Canning, the *personale* of the Liverpool ministry remained nearly unchanged. The whig cohort, that had joined Mr. Canning on account of his liberal principles, was alone excluded. Even Mr. Huskisson and Mr. Herries, whose collision had been so fatal, remained portions of the new ministry, Mr. Huskisson continuing to be colonial secretary, and Mr. Herries becoming master of the mint, in place of Mr. Tierney. The junction of Mr. Huskisson and his friends with the politicians from whom they had recently received such spiteful treatment was far from agreeable to the public. It savoured more of a love of place than of the liberal principles they professed to admire. A consciousness of loss of character, which he was wishful to redeem, seems to have influenced Mr. Huskisson's

subsequent conduct, and speedily led to further changes. At Liverpool Mr. Huskisson informed his constituents, in magisterial style, that he had obtained "guarantees" for the future liberal course of the government. The duke fired at the word, and (house of lords, Feb. 11) repelled, with contemptuous contradiction, the imputation that he had bound himself by any security. "Pledges," said his grace, "had neither been asked nor given, and if they had been asked they would have been indignantly refused." Mr. Huskisson explained, in the commons, by "guarantees" to mean only that the fact of he and his friends continuing to hold the offices they did formed a security of the future course of the ministry. This passed till the East Retford affair (May 19th), when Mr. Huskisson, in the redemption of a pledge he had given, dividing against the ministerial leader, Mr. Peel (and he was the only member of the government that did so) voted in favour of the transfer of the franchise of that corrupt borough to Birmingham. This he followed up by a note, the same night, to the premier, informing him that, in consequence of what had happened in the house, he lost no time in "affording him an opportunity of placing his office in other hands." The duke took him at his word. According to the plain import of the note, Mr. Huskisson had resigned, and his grace inferred that he would not continue in office, unless requested by him so to do. This was a condescension to which his grace thought the government, of which he was the head, ought not to submit. Mr. Huskisson and his friends in vain tried to give a different meaning to his hasty communication, to the effect that he had, indeed, by his note, placed his office at the disposal of the duke, but that he had not resigned, nor intended to resign. The duke was inexorable. Upon lord Dudley writing to him with this saving glossary, and to prove that the duke was mistaken, his grace finally replied, "It is no mistake, it can be no mistake, and it shall be no mistake." Thus terminated all hope. Mr. Huskisson had always been in office, and his persevering efforts to propitiate his obdurate master showed that he was unconquerably fond of official life. He was accompanied in his retirement by lord Palmerston, lord Dudley, and Mr. C. Grant. The duke of Wellington's ministry then stood as follows:—

Duke of Wellington, *First Lord of the Treasury.*
 Henry Goulburn, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*
 Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl Bathurst, *President of the Council.*
 Lord Ellenborough, *Lord Privy Seal.*
 Robert Peel, *Home Secretary.*
 Earl of Aberdeen, *Foreign Secretary.*
 Sir George Murray, *Colonial Secretary.*
 John Charles Herries, *Master of the Mint.*
 Viscount Melville, *President of the India Board.*
 W. V. Fitzgerald, *Treasurer of the Navy, and President of the Board of Trade.*
 Duke of Clarence, *Lord High Admiral.*
 Sir Henry Hardinge, *Secretary at War.*
 Viscount Beresford, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*
 Duke of Montrose, *Lord Chamberlain.*
 Marquis of Conyngham, *Lord Steward.*
 Duke of Leeds, *Master of the Horse.*
 Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*
 Charles Arbutnot, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*
 John Calcraft, *Paymaster of the Forces.*
 Viscount Lowther, *First Commissioner of the Land Revenue.*
 Thomas P. Courtenay, *Vice-President of the Board of Trade.*
 Duke of Manchester, *Postmaster-General.*
 Sir Wm. H. Clinton, *Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance.*
 Sir C. Wetherell, *Attorney-General.*
 Sir Nicholas C. Tindal, *Solicitor-General.*
 IN IRELAND—
 Marquis of Anglesey, *Lord Lieutenant.*
 Sir Anthony Hart, *Lord Chancellor.*
 Sir John Byng, *Commander of the Forces.*
 Lord Francis Leveson Gower, *Chief Secretary.*
 Sir G. Fitzgerald Hill, *Vice Treasurer.*
 Henry Joy, *Attorney-General.*
 John O'Doherty, *Solicitor-General.*

The first eleven formed the CABINET. The duke of Wellington, on becoming first lord of the treasury, immediately resigned his office of commander-in-chief of the army, and was succeeded by lord Hill. In the autumn the duke of Clarence resigned the office of lord high admiral, in consequence, it was said, of the minister objecting to the money his royal highness expended in costly and unprofitable tours of naval inspection. Lord Melville again became first lord of the admiralty, and lord Ellenborough succeeded him as president of the India board. Circumstances had thus brought the duke to the head of the government, as unexpectedly to himself as the country. He had in the preceding year (*May 2d*) declared that he would have been "mad" to give up his office of commander-in-chief, for which he was suited, for that of prime-minister, for which he was neither suited nor qualified. (*Parl. Deb. N. S. xvii. 461.*)

29. PARLIAMENT opened by commission. The royal speech chiefly referred to the affairs of the East; the rights of neutral nations were violated by the revolting excesses of the Greeks and Turks; the battle of Navarino, with an "ancient ally," was lamented as an "untoward event," but hopes expressed that it might not lead to further hostilities: increase of exports, and of employment for the people, were dwelt upon as indications of returning prosperity. Addresses passed both houses without a division. The phrase "untoward" was objected to by lords Lansdowne and Goderich, and lord Holland said, our relations with Turkey were only those of amity, not of alliance. The duke of Wellington maintained that the Ottoman empire was an ancient ally of Britain; that it formed an essential part of the balance of power; and that the maintenance of its independent existence was more than ever an object of European policy. Mr. Brougham said, he would judge the new ministry according to their acts; the "soldier" was abroad, so was the "schoolmaster," and he had no fear of the result.

Feb. 1. The grand-master of the university of Paris charged with the superintendence of popular education, formerly under the direction of the minister for ecclesiastical affairs.

7. Rev. Robert Taylor, who had been convicted of a blasphemous libel, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

STATE OF THE LAW.—Mr. Brougham, in a speech, on the 7th, that occupied upwards of six hours in the delivery, directed the attention of the house of commons to the state of the law and courts of law. He dwelt especially on imperfections in the rules of court; on the want of classification of suits, and their appropriation to different courts; the evils of the Welsh judicature; the incompetency of the privy-council, as a court of last resort in colonial matters; evils of the magistracy, and their irresponsible powers; different laws and customs in different parts of England; imperfections in the rules of evidence, by excluding testimony of interested persons; absurdities of the pleadings; debtor laws—oppressive in arrest on mesne process—unequal in exemption of land from seizure, in some cases chattels, in others money and stock; costs exorbitant, often refused between party and party, but allowed between attorney and client; bankrupt laws admit of much improvement. On the suggestion of the solicitor-general, the discussion was adjourned, and resumed on the 28th: the result was the appointment of two commissions one to inquire into the

state of the common law, the other into the laws of real property.

15. Finance committee appointed, on the motion of Mr. Secretary Peel, with a view to a better management of the public revenue.

18. Princess Feodore, daughter of the duchess of Kent by her first marriage, married to the prince Hohenlohe-Laugenberg.

22. Peace between Persia and Russia.

26. Lord John Russell's motion for a repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts carried by a majority of 237 to 193. Opposed by Peel, Huskisson, and Palmerston. A declaration in lieu of the oaths, having been framed by ministers, the repeal bill was adopted by them, and it passed the upper house, and became law, with little opposition.

28. On a launch at Manchester, the vessel, in descending the stocks, heeled and upset. Upwards of 200 persons, who were on board, were thrown into the river, and 51 lost their lives.

29. Fall of the New Brunswick theatre, Wellclose-square, during a rehearsal, by which one of the proprietors, four of the actors, and seven others, lost their lives. It had only been opened on the 25th. The accident was owing to the roof having been loaded with a weight which the walls were unable to bear. The walls were only 22 inches thick; the roof was of cast-iron. The roof itself had not been considered too heavy for the walls; but the proprietors, contrary to the opinion of the architect, had suspended from it the carpenters' shop, and various cumbrous pieces of stage furniture.

Mar. 1. Disturbances in Lisbon: the mob loud in their acclamations of "Long live Miguel, the absolute king!"

4. Court of aldermen, London, rescinded the standing order, made in 1785, that baptized Jews should not be admitted to the freedom of the city. The decision was now come to in the case of Messrs. Saul, who for thirteen years had been petitioning for leave to carry on business in the city.

19. Wreck of the *Fenus* steam-packet, from Waterford to Dublin, occasioned first by the breaking of the engine, and next by the cowardly desertion of the vessel by the captain and part of the crew. Nine persons left behind were drowned.

20. *Gazette* announced the scale of distribution of the Deccan prize-money, among the forces concerned in the Indian campaigns of 1817 and 1818. According to this scale the share of the booty, to the commander-in-chief, was 44,201*l.*; of a captain, 119*l.*; of a private, 19*s.* 10*d.*

29. British armament quitted Portugal, with the exception of two regiments, that remained till the end of the ensuing month. Don Miguel, by dissolving the chambers and restoring the ancient mode of election, was fast re-establishing the old despotism.

Apr. 7. Captain Dillon, of the *Research*, arrived at Calcutta, having ascertained the fate of the unfortunate French navigator, La Perouse. The *Research* brought to Calcutta various articles of the wrecks of the lost vessels.

10. In the court of arches, the marriage of the earl of Portsmouth with Miss Haason, the daughter of his principal trustee, declared null and void, on the ground of the earl's insanity, and that the marriage had been effected by fraud and circumvention.

14. A shower of herring-fry found on the farm of major Mackenzie, of Fodderty, in Ross-shire. They are supposed to have been conveyed thither in a water-spout; the Frith of Dingwall lying only three miles distant, and nothing between the field and sea to obstruct their transit.

17. Committee of Edinburgh professors report favourably on Mr. Gall's books for the blind, and his apparatus for writing letters, &c., which blind persons are capable of reading after they have written them. Mr. Gall proposed to print, by subscription, the gospel of St. John, in relief, as a specimen of the practicability of his art.

18. The French commence the evacuation of Spain, which they had occupied since 1823. A vote passed the chamber of deputies, but was rejected by the peers, for subjecting the deputies to re-election on accepting certain offices under government.

26. Russia declared war against Turkey. The grievances alleged in the declaration are the infraction of treaties, the violation of the Russian flag, and the intrigues of the Porte at the court of Persia. The objects of the war are declared to be the future inviolable liberty of commerce on the Black Sea, and the navigation of the Bosphorus. In reply, the sultan considered the grievances of Russia imaginary, and expressed his indignation at the treaty of July 6th, and at the affair of Navarino.

May 8. CATHOLIC CLAIMS.—Sir F. Burdett moved for a committee of the whole house on this subject, with a view to a conciliatory adjustment. The debate was continued on the 9th and 10th. On a division, the motion for a committee was carried by 272 against 266; in the preceding session it had been lost by a majority of four. On the 16th, sir Francis moved that the resolution be communicated

to the lords in a free conference, and their lordships' concurrence requested. This being agreed to, and the conference held, the resolution was reported to the lords, who took it into consideration June 9th. The debate was opened by the marquis of Lansdowne, and lasted two days. The duke of Wellington opposed the resolution, not on any doctrinal points, but on the ground of expediency, and the church government of the catholics being unconnected with the civil government of the empire. Resolution lost by 181 to 137; but the moderate tone of the prime-minister was supposed to augur favourably.

13. American tariff-bill, imposing duties on the principal articles of English manufacture, amounting almost to prohibition, passed the American senate.

22. First half-quarterly sessions of the Westminster magistrates; the sessions in future to be held eight times a-year, instead of quarterly.

June 15. Accident in the church of Kirkaldy, in Scotland, by the falling of a gallery, during the assembly of about 2000 persons, to hear the rev. Edward Irving. Twenty-eight persons were killed, and 156 injured, chiefly through the rush down the stair-cases and in the door-way, the strong, in their convulsive efforts to escape, trampling to death the weak.

21. Meeting at the Freemasons' tavern, preliminary to the establishment of king's-college, for the education of the youth of the metropolis in the principles of the established church: duke of Wellington in the chair.

23. It having been ascertained by the finance committee that 250,000*l.* had been, by order of the treasury, paid over, without consent of parliament, to the commissioners of woods and forests, by the commissioners for liquidating the claims of British subjects on the French government, and subsequently expended in the repairs of Buckingham-house, Mr. Taylor moved that the application of any sum of unappropriated money to uses not voted by the house, was a misapplication and violation of the privileges of the house. Messrs. Herries, Arbuthnot, Peel, and Huskisson, spoke against the resolution, which was negatived by 181 to 102.

24. New London corn-exchange opened.

ENDURANCE OF HEAT.—An experiment made at Paris, in the presence of Dr. Robertson and others, to ascertain the power of a man to endure heat. He was a Spaniard, and clothed in flannel, was shut in an oven, constructed in the form of a dome. At the first experiment he sang a Spanish song, while a fowl was roasting

by his side. His pulse was 72 at entering, and rose to 130. At the second experiment his pulse rose to 176, and the thermometer indicated a heat of 100 degrees of Reaumur. At the third experiment he was stretched on a plank surrounded with lighted candles, and then put into the oven, the mouth of which was this time closed. He was there five minutes, when all the spectators cried "enough." The Spaniard, whose pulse was 200 at coming out of this gulf of heat, immediately threw himself into a cold bath, and, two or three minutes after, was on his feet quite well.

27. Grimaldi, who had long been the favourite clown at the theatres, took his leave of the stage. He was only in his forty-eighth year, but his professional exertions had left premature signs of old age.

July 3. The Miguelites took possession of Oporto, and the marquis Palmella and other constitutionalists embarked for England.

4. Mr. Montgomery, who had been convicted of forgery, and for whose pardon great interest had been used, committed suicide on the morning appointed for his execution, by swallowing prussic acid.

Lord William Bentinck arrived at Calcutta and assumed the office of governor general.

5. Daniel O'Connell elected M.P. for the county of Clare, in opposition to Vesey Fitzgerald, a cabinet minister. The contest had excited great interest, because Mr. O'Connell was a catholic, who, though eligible to be elected, could not sit without taking the oaths against popery. He, however, told the electors he could sit and vote in the house of commons without taking the oaths, and Mr. Butler, a catholic barrister of eminence, published an elaborate opinion to the same effect. Mr. Fitzgerald was an emancipationist, but objected to on the ground of belonging to an anti-catholic administration, and the election was carried triumphantly against him by the forty-shilling freeholders.

10. Budget opened by the chancellor of the exchequer; it announced the intention of government to adopt the recommendation of the financial committee, and, for the future, to reduce the nominal amount of the sinking fund to that of the actual surplus of the revenue over the expenditure.

21. Died, aged 73, CHARLES MANNERS SUTTON, archbishop of Canterbury. His grace was a grandson of John, third duke of Rutland, and succeeded archbishop Moore in 1805. As a legislator he rarely interfered in secular questions. He was constant in his opposition to the Romanists, but favourable to the Dissenters, and voted

against lord Sidmouth's restrictive bill in 1811. Dr. Howley succeeded to the primacy, and Dr. Blomfield was translated from Chester to the see of London.

JOHN HAMPDEN.—On the 21st the remains of this celebrated parliamentarian were disinterred in Hampden church, Bucks, by lord Nugent and Mr. common sergeant Denman. Different representations by historians had left a doubt by what sort of wound Hampden was killed. The register stated he was interred June 25, 1643. Upon raising the coffin supposed to be his, and unfolding the cloths in which the body had been carefully wrapped, a singular scene presented itself. No regular features were visible, although the face retained a death-like whiteness, and showed the windings of veins beneath the skin. The remains were those of a muscular person, and the colour of the hair a full auburn brown. The bones of the right hand were found apart from the rest and wrapped in a separate cloth. This confirms the account of the patriot's death given by his son-in-law, sir Robert Pye, who says that Hampden's "pistol burst and shattered his hand in a terrible manner;" contrary to the account of Clarendon, Ludlow, and sir Philip Warwick, that he was wounded in the shoulder.

28. Parliament prorogued by commission.

31. French government sent out M. Champollion and other men of letters to investigate the antiquities of Egypt.

Aug. 8. Trial at Bury St. Edmund's of Wm. Corder for the murder, May 18, 1827, of Maria Marten, a young woman with whom he had cohabited and decoyed from her home to a barn near Polstead and there murdered. The prisoner was found guilty, and the night before execution confessed his crime. In the interval between the perpetration and the discovery of the murder, Corder had advertised for a wife. A lady of respectability, who kept a boarding-school near Ealing, answered the advertisement, and they were married.

Sept. 8. In London the Jewish year 5589 ushered in with the preparatory rites observed, on such occasions, by the Israelites. At sunset they assembled at the synagogue, when the usual prayers were read. The congregation remained till between eight and nine o'clock. On their new year's day for the present year (9th inst.) they again assembled at half-past five o'clock in the morning to celebrate the Feast of Trumpets, in commemoration of Abraham offering up his son. At ten o'clock the trumpets were sounded, which announced the commencement of the year, and those who thought proper left the synagogue. They met again at sunset

the same day, when the observance of these rites terminated, No food was allowed till the sounding of the trumpets on either of these days.

13. Proclamation of Bolivar to the Columbians. As minister of the sovereign people, he engaged to obey their legitimate desires, to protect religion, to cause justice to be observed, to discharge the obligations of the republic towards foreign states and individuals, to resign the chief command when the people required its restitution, to convoke the national representation within a year, unless otherwise commanded by the people.

26. York musical festival terminated. It lasted four days and produced 14,623*l*. The expenses were estimated at 12,000*l*. Madame Catalani received 600 guineas, Miss Paton 200, Miss Stephens 200, and Mr. Braham 250.

Oct. 1. London University opened.

6. Queen of Portugal arrived in London.

8. Duke of St. Alban's, hereditary grand falconer of England, gave a grand day of falconry at Redbourne. The birds, eight fine falcons, were each chained to a section of a cone of wood about fifteen inches in height and ten inches in diameter at the base. They were unhooded, but belled, and mostly sat at the top of their posts. Six of them were taken for the sports of the day. A dog having pointed, a hawk was unhooded and loosed; it rose, wheeling over the heads of the party, sweeping to the right and left; now rising into the mid-air in the distance, and now attentive to the hawk's call. The partridge was flushed and flew with the wind towards the company, when the hawk suddenly crossed its line of flight, and, seizing it at a height of thirty or forty yards, bore it in its beak, screaming and bleeding, over the heads of the company, conveying it down to the belt of an adjoining plantation. The hawk was recovered. The other flights were not so successful, and some of the hawks flew off and could not be recovered to the hand of the hawkier.

24. Great meeting of yeomanry and freeholders on Pennenden-heath. A petition agreed to, praying the house of commons to preserve the protestant constitution inviolate. Lords Darnley, Radnor, and Teynham moved, unsuccessfully, an amendment to the effect that the legislature ought to be left unfettered.

25. St. Katherine's docks opened. They occupy a space of 24 acres, of which 11½ acres are devoted to wet docks. In clearing the ground for the undertaking, 1250 houses were pulled down, and 11,300 inhabitants had to seek accommodations elsewhere. The first stone was laid May 3,

1827, and upwards of 2500 men were employed from that time to the opening.

28. Joseph Hunton, draper, aged fifty-eight, and a respectable quaker, tried and convicted at the Old Bailey of forgery on the bank of Curtis and Co. Strong efforts were made to save him, but the law was allowed to take its course.

Nov. 16. Opening of the diet of Sweden. The king's speech noticed the flourishing state of the kingdom, and that a surplus of two millions of dollars remained after defraying the public expenses.

20. Wheat attains a price at which the ports were open to foreign grain at a merely nominal duty.

Dec. 9. The repairs and improvements of the domestic apartments of Windsor Castle having been completed, the king took possession of them. Parliament had granted 450,000*l*. for preserving and restoring this ancient seat of the British monarchy. The whole edifice has been raised one story throughout. Several new towers and a new gateway, called king George the Fourth's, have been erected. The alterations were conducted with great ability, so as to retain the principal features of the original fabric with the conveniences of modern civilisation. Mr. Jeffrey Wyattville, the architect, received the honour of knighthood.

24. BURKE MURDERS.—William Burke and Helen M'Dougal, a woman with whom he cohabited, were tried before the high court of judicary for a series of murders, perpetrated in a lodging-house kept by William Hare, in Tanner's-close, Portsburgh, Edinburgh. It appeared, from the trial and subsequent confession of Burke, that he and Hare had been in the habit of decoying persons into the lodging-house, where they first made them intoxicated, and then suffocated them, by one stopping the nose and mouth, the other throwing himself on the lower part of the person to prevent resistance. The bodies were then sold to Dr. Knox for anatomical purposes; and, no marks of violence appearing upon them, no questions were asked nor suspicion felt (though some were delivered at the doctor's museum before the heat had quite left the bodies) respecting the horrid mode in which they had been procured. Upwards of a dozen persons were so smothered and sold. The sale of the body of a lodger who had died a natural death, to liquidate a debt owing to Hare, seems to have first suggested this dreadful traffic. Burke was found guilty and executed *January* 28th, amidst a vast concourse of exulting spectators. He was an Irishman and a Roman catholic.

CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION.—Ireland was

this year the scene of a novel and extraordinary excitement. During the short ministries of Mr. Canning and lord Goderich, the Irish catholics remained tranquil, relying that these statesmen only waited a favourable opportunity to press forward their claims. But the ministry of the duke of Wellington and Mr. Peel, two known anti-catholics, left them without hope; and immediately it was formed they evinced towards it a decided aversion. The act of 1825, which suppressed both the Orange societies and the Catholic Association, was never executed; and the latter continued up to July last, when the act expired, its operations with little abatement of activity. Under the direction of this body, a spirit of general and unmitigated hostility to the administration was fostered. The general election had taught them to what extent they could control the votes of the freeholders in the county elections. A more signal instance of their power was given in the return, this summer, of Mr. O'Connell for Clare, in defiance of almost all the landed gentry of the county. At the next general election they calculated that, by the aid of the forty-shilling freeholders, they should be able to return seventy members to parliament. Their aim was not only to obtain control over the *forties* as they termed them, but the entire population. The priests seconded the efforts of the politicians, and itinerant orators roused the people to the assertion of their rights. Every altar, in the language of Mr. Shiel, became a tribune at which the wrongs of Ireland were proclaimed. County and parochial clubs were established in connexion with the Association to enlighten and direct the popular sentiment. The faction-fights at fairs and on saints' days, which had been a main source of crimes and murders, were suspended at the command of this "omnipotent" body. All the energies of the community were directed to the attainment of one great national object. While, however, organization was in progress among the catholics of the south, it was not likely the protestants of the north would remain idle. Orange societies were revived, and Brunswick clubs established. Mr. Lawless, who had arrived in the northern counties on a missionary tour from the Association, was opposed, and riots ensued. Meanwhile the imperial government continued apparently an unconcerned spectator of these proceedings. Not a proclamation was issued against the public meetings of the catholics, nor against their organization, nor their assembling in military array, nor against the eloquent denunciations unceasingly poured forth by O'Connell and Shiel against protestant oppression. Ministers

appear to have supinely watched, with folded arms, the growth of this new power till it became too formidable to be resisted. Mr. Dawson, brother-in-law of Mr. secretary Peel, and himself a minister of the crown, was the first to declare himself a convert to the policy of catholic emancipation. This was followed, in December, by a letter from the duke of Wellington to Dr. Curtis, the titular catholic primate of Ireland, in which his grace expressed his anxiety to witness the settlement of the catholic question. A copy of this letter was furnished to Mr. O'Connell, who forthwith carried it to the Association, where it was received with loud plaudits, and ordered to be recorded in their minutes. A few days after, appeared a letter from the marquis of Anglesea to Dr. Curtis, to the effect that the settlement of the catholic question was unavoidable, and recommending the catholics to continue "to agitate," but refrain from violence, and trust to the legislature. The tenour of this letter was so extraordinary that the marquis was forthwith recalled from the government of Ireland.

FRANCE.—The ministry of M. Villele fell last year in consequence of having lent themselves to the designs of the court and the church instead of consulting the spirit and intelligence of the nation. Their successors were men of moderate principles and of moderate abilities. They did not enjoy the confidence of the king, neither were they the representatives of any great political party. It was the temporary junction of the liberals with the extreme ultras that raised them to office and kept them there. The measures of the new ministry were of a popular character. A horror of jesuitism prevailed in France as great as had prevailed in England against popery, and the jesuit establishments were suppressed. Greater liberty was given to the press by allowing the publication of periodicals without the previous consent of government. Stricter economy was introduced into the management of the revenue, and the salaries of state functionaries reduced. In the course of the year the last division of the army of occupation returned from Spain, and thus terminated an aggressive expedition, which had gained for France no conceivable object, but had been to her a source of enormous expense.

USURPATION OF DON MIGUEL.—This faithless prince, while in England, carefully concealed his ulterior designs, and, after his arrival at Lisbon, February 22, he took the oath to the constitution as regent in behalf of his niece and betrothed wife, Donna Maria, the rightful queen of Portugal in virtue of the charter of her father,

Don Pedro, the reigning emperor of Brazil. Don Miguel's plans speedily began to unfold themselves. The queen - mother, whose fanaticism and hatred of liberty were notorious, and whose intrigues had long been the plague of the kingdom, recovered her baneful influence. Though Miguel swore to be faithful to the constitution, he selected a ministry that was notoriously hostile to it. The constitutional governors of the provinces, and officers of the army, were dismissed to make room for absolutists. Chaves and his rebellious legions were recalled from Madrid: addresses were procured from the municipalities praying Miguel to assume the crown, and the rabble were encouraged in their cries for an absolute king. Sir Frederick Lamb, seeing this turn of affairs, countermanded, on his own responsibility, the departure of the British troops from the Tagus; and ordered a loan that had arrived from England for Miguel to be sent back. Orders, however, subsequently arrived from home that the British troops were not to be detained, which threw the constitutionalists into despair. At Oporto, there was a show of resistance, but it was speedily overcome by the followers of the usurper. Miguel dissolved the chamber of deputies, and convoked the *cortés* of Lamego, the ancient three estates of the kingdom, who had not met since 1697. Without a moment's hesitation or debate, this assembly, June 26th, decided by acclamation that Miguel was the only legal sovereign: which the prince confirmed two days after by an ordinance, and formally assumed the title of "Don Miguel, by the grace of God, king of Portugal and the Algarves." Immediately followed a most vindictive persecution of the constitutionalists by beheading and imprisoning them, and confiscating their property. In the beginning of October 1600 persons were confined in the prison of Limoeiro alone for political offences. About 15,000 were imprisoned on similar charges throughout Portugal, or were compelled to fly to avoid the scaffold or the dungeon. The ambassadors of all foreign states quitted Lisbon, except those of Spain and the pope, immediately Miguel took the title of king.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.—The war between these powers had originated in what had been the constant object of Russian policy since the days of Catherine, the extension of the Russian frontier at the expense of Turkey. The destruction of the Turkish fleet at Navarino left admiral Greig undisputed master of the Black Sea. On land 115,000 Russians were assembled in May to open the campaign on the Danube. Their plan was to cross that river at

Brailow after making themselves masters of that fortress, and then advance against the strong positions of Varna and Shumla. These mastered, the passages across the lofty ridge of Mount Hæmus, now called the Balkan, would be opened, and they might pour down into the plains of Adrianople, or repose during the winter in the cities they had conquered. Such was the scheme, but was only in part executed. The Turks fought bravely and with unusual science. Brailow was taken, but Varna with a garrison of 40,000 men was resolutely defended for eleven weeks by Hussein Pacha, and was only at length mastered by treachery. The losses of the Russians were so great that the enterprise against Shumla was abandoned, and they retreated across the Danube with the loss of their baggage. The emperor Nicholas was with the army during part of the campaign, and did not return to Petersburg till October.

LIBERATION OF GREECE.—The war between the oppressor and pretended patron of Greece was favourable to her independence. Ibrahim found himself condemned to inactivity, and in danger of starvation, if he remained in the Morea. The exhausted country could not supply his army; the sultan could spare him no assistance, and his communication with Egypt was prevented by the allied fleets. To escape from his difficulties, he concluded, in concert with his father, the pacha of Egypt, a convention with admiral Codrington for the evacuation of the Peloponnesus. Five fortresses only were excepted from the convention. These were chiefly garrisoned by Turks and Albanians, over whom the Pacha of Egypt could not pretend to have authority. But France, England, and Russia soon determined on measures for their reduction. An expedition was fitted out at Toulon under general Maison, and before the end of November they were all reduced. Greece, after a struggle of eight years, was then emancipated from foreign control, and left to select her own course among independent nations.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Robert Muahet, of the Mint, an industrious writer on subjects of currency. Sir Richard Strachan, 67, admiral of the blue, and a distinguished naval officer. Hon. Caroline Lamb, 42: this clever lady had become deranged; she married, in 1805, the hon. Wm. Lamb, now viscount Melbourne, and was the author of *Glenarvon*, &c. Henry Neele, 30, author of the "Romance of History," &c., committed suicide in a fit of derangement. John Scott, 54, the celebrated engraver of animals. At Rome, Sir William Drummond, an elegant scholar and profound

antiquary, author of the *Academical Questions* and of the "*Œdipus Judaicus*," in which he considered some of the histories of the Bible allegories. John Joshua Proby, first earl of Carysfort, 77: his lordship was postmaster-general in 1806, and a poet and author of several pamphlets in favour of parliamentary reform. Henry White, 69, chiefly known as the proprietor of a late Sunday paper called the "*Independent Whig*." At Abbeville, Peter Moore, 76; he spent his early life in India, where he made an ample fortune; latterly he had been principally known as M. P. for Coventry, and by his connexion with the share-speculations of 1825. At Fulham, at a very advanced age, lieutenant. sir Alan Cameron, col. 79th Highlanders, a brave officer, who had served in the American war, in Holland, Egypt, and the Peninsula. Hon. Anne Seymour Damer, 80, celebrated as an amateur sculptress, and as the legatee of Horace, earl of Orford, at Strawberry-hill. At Toulouse, sir William Congreve, M. P., 56, inventor of the rocket that bears his name, and of the hydro-pneumatic lock, and of certain improvements in the manufacture of bank-note paper. Sir William was connected with the share-speculations of 1825, and who, on the ebbing of the tide, found it necessary, like Mr. Peter Moore and others, to seek an asylum on the continent. Rev. William Coxe, archdeacon of Wilts, 81, author of several books of travels, and biographies of Walpole, Marlborough, &c. Dugald Stewart, 76, late professor of moral philosophy at Edinburgh, and an eminent metaphysical writer. At Naples, the margravine of Brandenburg, and dowager baroness of Craven, 77; this clever but rather eccentric lady of a bygone age, married the old and rich margrave of Anspach six weeks after the death of lord Craven, in 1791; she had been long separated from his lordship, and was the author of several theatrical pieces, and of an autobiography. John Nicol, 88, bookseller to the late king, and member of the Unincreasable Club; and the Anons, of which Porson, James Perry, and Dr. Charles Burney were co-associates. At his seat near Paris, Jean Joseph Gall, 73, the celebrated phrenologist. At Stutgard, Charlotte Augusta Matilda, queen of Wirtemberg; she was eldest daughter of George III., and married in 1797. Richard Wharton, late M. P. for Durham, and author of *Roncesvalles* and "*Remarks on the Jacobinism of the Edinburgh Review*." Luke Hansard, 76, the able printer of the parliamentary papers since 1772, and of some of the chief works of Burke, Harris, and Porson. J. Curwen, esq., 72, an independent member of parliament and

experimental agriculturist. Mr. Curwen was particularly attentive to the principle by which animals and vegetables interchange their products, upon which he founded his "*Soiling System*," that is the reciprocation of food and manure, by confining the animals to the spot where they are fed.

A. D. 1829. Jan. 16. An attempt of about 600 Portuguese emigrant military to land at Terceira defeated, by the interference of captain Walpole, of the *Ranger*. The Miguelites having got possession of Madeira, Terceira was the only port of the dominions of Portugal that still held out for the constitutional sovereign, donna Maria. The expedition had been secretly fitted out at Plymouth, under the pretext that it was destined for Brazil, but earl Aberdeen, suspecting that the real destination was Terceira, captain Walpole was instructed not to suffer the emigrants to land. As the English ministers had determined to take no part in the internal affairs of Portugal, they contended that their system of neutrality would have been departed from, had they suffered a hostile armament to be fitted out, and proceed from a British port. The question, as one of international law and of public policy, was sharply discussed, and the course adopted by the foreign secretary was considered by some to evince a leaning towards the absolutists rather than the constitutional party.

27. French chamber of deputies opened by the king. The pacification of Greece, external peace, general prosperity amongst the people, and the liberty conceded to the press, formed the congratulatory topics of the royal speech.

Feb. 2. York minster set on fire by Jonathan Martin, who had concealed himself in the building for the purpose. He was found to be a lunatic, who had acted under the delusion that the venerable fabric was inimical to real religion. The roof of the choir, and its internal fittings, were destroyed. The damage was repaired by a public subscription, to the amount of 65,000*l.*, of the nobility and gentry of Yorkshire.

4. Mr. secretary Peel, in a letter to the vice-chancellor, resigned his seat for Oxford university, in consequence of the new policy he had, "in concert with all his colleagues in the government," determined on pursuing towards Ireland. He was again proposed a candidate, but sir Robert Inglis, after a contest of three days, during which 1364 voters were polled, was elected, by a majority of 146. As one of the most numerous convocations ever assembled in Oxford had last year voted, by a majority of three to one, against catholic conces-

sion, the result could not have been otherwise, without a sudden and extensive change of opinion.

5. Parliament opened by commission. The chief topics of the royal speech were—regret that diplomatic relations with Portugal were still suspended; continuance of the war between Turkey and Russia; and blockade by the latter of the Dardanelles; improvement of the revenue, especially that branch of it derived from articles of internal consumption; state of Ireland; existence of the catholic association inimical to the public peace; its suppression recommended, as preliminary to the removal of the disabilities of the catholics. The latter part of the speech excited great interest. In both houses addresses were unanimously carried.

10. Bill introduced by Mr. Peel, empowering the lord-lieutenant of Ireland to suppress any meeting that he may deem dangerous, and to delegate such authority to two selected magistrates. It was directed against the catholic association, and was one of three measures intended by ministers for the pacification of Ireland; the other two being the catholic relief bill, and the bill for the disfranchisement of the forty-shilling freeholders. The suppression-bill passed without opposition, and received the royal assent March 5th.

10. Died at Rome, aged 68, Pope Leo XII. He had occupied St. Peter's chair since 1823, and was succeeded by cardinal Castiglioni, who assumed the name of Pius VIII.

12. Catholic association dissolve themselves.

In consequence of a quarrel between the suite of the Russian ambassador at the court of Persia and the populace of Teheran, the whole of the embassy were murdered, with the exception of the secretary and three others.

16. Andrew Jackson declared duly elected president of the United States by congress.

20. Petitions from 60,000 proprietors of vineyards in France to the chambers, complaining of extreme distress, occasioned by the pressure of taxes, and restrictions on the exportation of wines, which, by checking consumption, rendered the prices ruinously low.

24. Cadiz made a free port.

25. The failures of Glasgow, since the last autumn, chiefly in the cotton trade, estimated to amount to 1,000,000*l*.

Mar. 4. Inaugural address of president Jackson, declaring his deference to the laws, and his determination to reduce the public debt, conceiving it to be injurious to public morals.

Petitions to the number of 150, sub-

scribed by great bodies of people, presented to the second chamber of the states-general of the Netherlands, praying for the institution of juries, independence of judges, responsibility of ministers, freedom of public instruction; and a motion to refer these petitions to the government was carried against the ministry by a majority of 56 to 43.

5. CATHOLIC RELIEF BILL.—Mr. Peel introduced this important measure in a speech of four hours' duration. Its general objects were to render catholics eligible to seats in both houses of parliament, to vote at the election of members, and generally to enjoy all civil franchises and offices, without religious test, further than an oath repudiating foreign allegiance, the right of deposing princes excommunicated by the pope, and engaging not to use their privileges to "weaken or disturb the Protestant establishment." To the offices of lord-chancellor, or lord-lieutenant of Ireland, or lord high commissioner of Scotland, they were to continue ineligible; nor were they to advise concerning, or take any part in the disposal of ecclesiastical patronage, nor to enjoy any new immunities in the universities or public schools. On the 18th, the second reading of the bill was carried, by a majority of 353 to 180; and on the 30th, the third reading, by 320 to 142. Ministers and their converted adherents were the chief speakers. The course of government being that which the whigs had long advocated, they were satisfied with approving its policy, and did not take a leading share in the discussion. The chief anti-catholic speakers were Mr. Banks, sir R. Inglis, Mr. Sadler, and sir Charles Wetherell. On the 31st, the bill was read a first time in the lords, and the grand debate on the second reading ensued two days after. It lasted three days, one day longer than in the commons. The archbishop of Canterbury moved to throw out the bill, and was supported by the archbishops of York and Armagh, the bishops of London, Durham, and Salisbury, lords Winchelsea, Tenterden, Bexley, and Eldon. Wellington, Grey, Lansdowne, Plunkett, Goderich, and lord-chancellor Lyndhurst, were the chief defenders of the bill. On a division, the second reading was carried, by 217 against 112. On the 10th of April, the bill was read a third time, and on the 13th it received the royal assent. The unexpected consummation of this long-agitated question may be ascribed in great part to the energy and able conduct of the duke of Wellington. His grace had not only his own repugnance to catholic emancipation to surmount, but that of his chief colleagues, a great majority of the house of lords, and of the king himself. Without

the previous assent of the latter, the undertaking was entirely hopeless. During the summer and autumn, the efforts of the duke to overcome the royal scruples had been incessant, and it was only a few days before parliament met that the consent of the king had been obtained. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxxi. 97.) This accounts for the secrecy with which the relief bill was brought forward, and which was really favourable to its success; for the suddenness with which it was introduced and carried left little time for anti-catholic agitation.

FORTY-SHILLING FREEHOLDERS.—The bill for disfranchising this description of Irish freeholders, and raising the qualification to 10*l.*, went on *pari passu* with the relief bill, but encountered far less opposition. Mr. Brougham said, he consented to it as "the price—almost the extravagant price of the other;" and sir James Mackintosh remarked, that it was one of those "tough morsels" which he had scarcely been able to swallow. It was opposed by Mr. Huskisson, and lords Palmerston and Duncannon, as not requisite, or if so, not calculated to accomplish its purpose. Only seventeen members, however, voted against it. Mr. O'Connell, who had publicly bound himself to reject even emancipation if coupled with disfranchisement, became silent, and acquiescent in the destruction of the "*forties*."

CATHOLIC STATISTICS.—The number of catholics in Britain, at the time of passing the relief bill, was estimated, by themselves, at nearly one million, scattered in various proportions through England, Scotland, and Wales. The catholic population of London was estimated at 200,000. The chief catholic counties in England are Lancashire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Cheshire, Northumberland, Durham, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Kent. In Ireland, the catholic population was estimated at five millions and a half, and the protestant population, including all sectarians, at one million and three quarters. By the removal of the disabilities, eight English catholic peers will be enabled to take their seats, by right, in the house of lords. The catholic baronets in England are sixteen in number. In Ireland there are eight catholic peers; in Scotland two, and one baronet, sir James Gordon. The restrictive code of laws against catholics had subsisted 271 years, from the passing of the acts of supremacy and uniformity, by 1 Eliz. c. 1 and c. 2, in 1558. But the oath of supremacy was not tendered to members of the upper house, and several peers continued catholics. It was not till the year 1677, that by 30 Car. II. stat. 2, both catholic peers and commoners were disabled from sitting in the English parliament.

Mar. 8. A decree passed the senate of Mexico for the expulsion of the Spaniards.

21. Duel between the duke of Wellington and the earl of Winchelsea in Battersea-fields. The earl having received the duke's fire, discharged his own pistol into the air; his second then delivered a written acknowledgment, expressive of the earl's regret for having imputed disgraceful motives to the conduct of the duke, in his pro-catholic exertions.

22. SETTLEMENT OF GREECE.—The ministers of England, France, and Russia, agreed to the settlement of the Greek state. Its continental boundary line to be drawn from the gulf of Volo to the gulf of Arta. All countries south of this line to be included in the Greek state to which the islands of Eubœa and the Cyclades were to belong. The government to approach as nearly as possible to a monarchical form, and to be hereditary in the family of a christian prince, to be chosen for the first time by the three powers, in concert with the Porte. He is not to be a member of any of the reigning families of the three powers. There were also stipulations for the maintenance of the sovereignty of Turkey, and the payment of a tribute, but these were subsequently abandoned, and the nationality of Greece secured. The settlement was made by the allies, without concert with the Porte, or the president and congress at Argos.

April 1. Accident at Hyde, near Manchester. A meeting of trade unionists being assembled in a room at a public-house, the flooring suddenly gave way, and 250 fell with such force as to go through the travellers'-room beneath into the cellar: thirty were killed, and many others greatly wounded.

13. **SILK TRADE.**—A debate began in the house of commons, that lasted two days, on the state of the silk-trade. In 1824 there were 17,000 looms employed in Spitalfields, while at present there were only 9000. Wages averaged at the former period 17*s.*, at present only 9*s.* a-week. By the manufacturers this depression was ascribed to the relaxation of the prohibitory system, and the admission into the home-market of foreign silks. On the other hand, ministers and the advocates of free-trade ascribed the depression to the increase of production, and the rivalry of the provincial towns of Congleton, Macclesfield, and Manchester. That the general trade had increased, was shown by the vast increase in the quantity of raw-silk imported, and in the number of spindles employed in the silk-manufacture. Ministers were firm in their hostility to the prohibitory system, and would not listen to any suggestion for relief other than a reduction in the duties on the importation of

raw-silk, by which the demand for the manufactured article might be augmented. During the discussion of a bill founded on this suggestion, Spitalfields was the scene of incessant riot, and property to a large amount was destroyed.

28. Duke of Norfolk and lords Dormer and Clifford took the oath and their seats in the house of lords, being the first catholic peers under the relief act. Three days after three other catholic peers, lords Stafford, Petre, and Stourton, took their seats.

29. Disturbance among the weavers of Rochdale and Macclesfield, occasioned by the reduction of wages and consequent distress: they formed processions, visited the factories, and much machinery was destroyed.

May 3. Riots at Manchester; a factory burnt; the bakers' and other provision-shops attacked, and a great many of them plundered.

4. Earl of Surrey elected M. P. for Horsham, being the first catholic member returned to the house of commons under the relief act.

8. Chancellor of the exchequer, in bringing forward the budget, congratulated the house on the increasing prosperity of the country, as evinced in the improvement of the excise and customs: he anticipated, however, a falling off in the following year, owing to the deficient harvest, and other causes.

8. Died, in his 72d year, CHARLES ABBOT, first lord Colchester, and speaker of the house of commons from 1802 to 1817. Mr. Abbot originated a great many improvements in parliamentary proceedings; such as laying regularly before the house a list of expiring laws; the communication to magistrates of copies of all new statutes; the establishment of the private bill office; the improvement of the daily return of the votes and proceedings of the commons; and his financial reports in 1799, became the model of all succeeding reports of committees. He was the author of the first act for taking a census of the population of England and Wales, and of the commission for inquiring into the national records. The same spirit of amendment he carried into the house of lords. To him they owe the daily publication of their proceedings, and the establishment of a library, upon the plan of that of the house of commons.

9. Deputations from Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Bristol, and Birmingham, wait on ministers to represent the advantages of a free trade to India and China.

15. Mr. O'Connell, who had been elected member for Clare before the passing of the relief act, claimed to take his seat under it. The legality of his election was admitted,

but his right to the benefit of a posterior law was not allowed. A debate next arose whether he should be heard, in defence of his claim, at the table or at the bar. There were precedents for both modes. It was at length agreed that he should be heard at the bar; and on the 18th he delivered an elaborate argument, but the house divided against him, 190 to 116, and a writ for a new election issued.

16. At a meeting of the subscribers to the erection of king's college, lord Bexley stated that government had given the ground originally intended for the east wing of Somerset-house, for the site of the institution, free of expense, for 1000 years, on condition that the new erection corresponded with the rest of the edifice.

23. Captain Ross departed from Woolwich, in a steam-vessel, to make one more attempt for the discovery of the north-west passage.

27. Oxford-street bazaar burnt; damage estimated at 50,000*l*.

June 3. Marquis of Blandford moved resolutions in the house of commons, declaratory of the necessity of parliamentary reform. It was supported by some of the old reformers, though on very different grounds, from that dislike of free-trade and apprehension of catholic influence which influenced the mover. Resolutions rejected by 401 to 118.

10. The following official changes had now been completed:—Chief-justice Best elevated to the peerage by the title of lord Wynford; he was succeeded in the common pleas by sir Nicholas Tindal, the solicitor-general. Mr. Bugden became the new solicitor-general. Sir James Scarlett, who held the same office under Mr. Canning, became attorney-general, in place of sir Charles Wetherell, dismissed for his anti-catholic opposition to the ministry. The earl of Rosslyn sworn in keeper of the privy seal.

METROPOLIS POLICE.—Mr. secretary Peel's bill on this subject was read on the 10th a third time, and became law. It effected a great improvement in the police of the metropolis by appointing two magistrates or commissioners, exempt from sessions' business, and whose duties were limited to the preservation of the peace, and the detection and committal of offenders. They are exempt from any qualification by estate, and have the entire control of the nightly watch and police within the limits of the metropolitan police district, which district may be extended to any parish (city of London excepted) within twelve miles of Charing-cross. The expense of the new force to be defrayed by a rate, levied on householders. In consequence, the old inefficient parochial watch, with their lantern, watch-

boxes, and hour-calls, speedily began to disappear from the London streets.

20. The English and French ambassadors arrived at Constantinople, and diplomatic relations, which had been interrupted since the battle of Navarino, resumed.

24. Parliament prorogued by commission.

July 10. Resolutions of the society of the inner temple. It was deemed expedient to exclude persons from admission to the bar whose previous education or habits were not such as to afford testimony of the integrity and learning essential to the dignity of a liberal profession; and for these purposes previous examination by a barrister, in classical attainments, and the general subjects of a liberal education, was to be requisite to admission.

14. A man named Stewart and his wife convicted at Glasgow of the murder of Robert Lamont, by administering laudanum in his drink, on board a steam-rocket, and afterwards robbing him: they were subsequently executed, and it was ascertained that they had been repeatedly guilty of similar crimes.

26. Russian army, commanded by marshal Diebitsch, completed the passage of the Balkan mountains.

28. Mr. Gurney's steam-carriage, intended to go on the common roads, attacked by the mob at Melksham: it was on an experimental trip to Bath.

30. Railway-tunnel under Liverpool, a mile and a quarter in length, opened to the public.

Mr. O'Connell re-elected for Clare, without opposition. His expenses were defrayed by a grant of 5000*l.* out of the catholic rent, though the grant was opposed by Mr. Eneas Macdonnell, who had himself been refused a grant in consideration of his services in the catholic cause. Mr. O'Connell delivered some stirring addresses to the electors, informing them they had achieved the glory of "converting Peel and conquering Wellington;" and that their ultimate object ought now to be a repeal of the union.

Aug. 1. Supreme court of Bavaria, after a protracted trial of four years, sentenced to perpetual imprisonment Riembauer, a catholic priest, who had long pursued a course of crime and hypocrisy. Riembauer had been held up as the model of curates; attentive to his duties, eloquent, insinuating, and graceful in person and manners. With these advantages he had succeeded in debauching many women, and then assassinated them and the offspring of his illicit amours. After conviction he admitted his mind had been corrupted by the pernicious maxim of the jesuits,—that the "end sanctifies the means;" and that it is

"allowable to kill another, if there is no other means of saving one's honour or good renown."

DISTRESS AMONG WEAVERS.—In the spring and summer the depression in every branch of trade had greatly reduced the rate of wages. Artisans ascribed this reduction to the avarice of employers, and resorted to the usual expedients of combination and the destruction of property. The example began among the silk-weavers of Spitalfields. They entered the workshops, and cut and mutilated the materials belonging to refractory masters. The webs in thirty or forty looms were sometimes thus destroyed in a single night. The weavers with whom the property was intrusted were suspected of being accessory to its destruction. In the domestic manufacture the masters could have neither protection nor redress against this revengeful proceeding. They were obliged, in self-defence, to comply with the demands of the workmen, who had property at their mercy to the amount of 150,000*l.* The same system was acted on at Macclesfield, Coventry, Nuneaton, and Bedworth. In these towns the power-looms had been introduced, which enabled one man to do the labour of four. The reign of terror extended into Yorkshire, and at Barnsley a list of prices was forced on the masters. The miserable condition of the weavers was not denied. At Huddersfield it was ascertained that there were 13,000 persons, occupied in the fancy-trade, whose average earnings did not exceed 2*d.* per day, out of which they had to find wear and tear for looms, &c.

8. An unpopular change in the French ministry. Polignac, Courvoisier, Bournont, Rigny, Labourdonnaye, Montbel, and Crousol, were the new ministers. They were the representatives of the emigrants and the priests, favourable to irresponsible power in politics, and spiritual domination.

20. Adrianople entered by the Russians.

GEORGE IV.—The king went to Snow-hill, and laid the foundation-stone of an equestrian statue to the memory of his father. He wore a blue coat, with velvet collar, white drill trousers, and light Wellington boots; a round beaver hat, without binding, and banded with a broad ribbon. The hat was worn with a *dégageé* air, and his majesty appeared, as was his wont on such occasions, in high spirits. It was almost the last appearance of the king in public.

Sept. 1. The London public much interested in the performances of M. Chabert, the fire-king. They were of the same kind as those before noticed in Paris (p. 838), with the addition of swallowing large doses of phosphorus and prussic acid.

14. PEACE BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.—The Russians, under count Diebitsch

had advanced within a few easy marches of Constantinople. Considering their successes in the war, the terms imposed on the Porte by the victors were not, upon the face of them, very onerous. Russia obtained hardly any accession of territory by the treaty of Adrianople. The principalities of Moldavia, Wallachia, Bulgaria, and Rumelia, were to be restored. The Turks were to pay the Russians, by ten annual instalments, between five and six millions sterling, to compensate them for the expenses of the war, and the losses of their merchants. Until the last instalment be paid, the principalities not to be evacuated. The free passage of the Dardanelles and the canal of Constantinople; liberty of commerce throughout the whole extent of the Turkish empire, and the exemption of her vessels from the visits of the Ottoman authorities, were guaranteed to Russia. Russian subjects, even in Turkey, are to live under the exclusive jurisdiction and police of the ministers and consuls of Russia. This exemption from the Turkish tribunals, the heavy pecuniary mulct, and ten years' military occupation of part of the Turkish territory, formed the hardest conditions of the treaty.

23. The new post-office opened.

Oct. 5. New regulations respecting the port of London published. The day and night-duty of harbour-masters has been strictly defined. A great many new directions as to the mooring, unmooring, and removing of vessels.

6. Trial of speed between differently-constructed locomotive carriages, on the Liverpool and Manchester railway. Two of them propelled at the rate of upwards of thirty miles an-hour. A prize of 500*l.* awarded by the directors to Mr. Stephenson.

16. The *Dolphin* convict-hulk, with 500 convicts on board, suddenly heeled on one side and sunk; it arose from the vessel not rising with the tide, and her bottom, by suction, adhering to the mud that had accumulated during the late high tides of the Medway. Only three lives were lost.

Nov. 1. The assets of the Equitable Assurance Company, inclusive of cash in hand, and money lent on mortgage, are valued at 10,410,540*l.* There are 8867 policies existing, upon which there will be due, at the deaths of the assurers, 14,849,972*l.* Against these claims, besides the assets, are the annual premiums, amounting to 410,665*l.* The surplus of assets above all claims is estimated at about five millions.

The marquis of Stafford, who in 1820 began to regulate the rents of his English estates according to the average price of wheat, still adheres to his system. The deduction received by his tenants was

highest in 1822, namely, 46 per cent.; and lowest in 1825, 16 per cent. The rents of his Scotch estates his lordship regulates by the average price of wool, wethers, and ewes: his tenants in the north received, in 1823, 40 per cent., and in 1821, 18 per cent.; which were the highest and lowest during the last eight years.

A vein of pure oil was lately struck, in boring for salt water, in Cumberland county, Kentucky. The oil welled out at intervals of from two to five minutes, pouring out at each flow barrels of oil, of a strong, penetrating, disagreeable odour, perceptible at the distance of six miles.

20. New Fleet-market opened. The shops, in general, are let at 15*s.* a-week, or with a parlour, 25*s.* The street, formerly called Fleet-market, is to be called Farringdon-street.

Dec. 8. On opening the American congress, president Jackson announced that the tariff had not answered the expectations of its supporters.

29. The London booksellers have a meeting at the Chapter coffee-house, to consider of the best means of preventing the practice of selling books below the publishers' price, and at less than 25 per cent. profit allowed to the trade. A resolution, signed by 650 persons, is agreed to, that no copyright-work shall be sold at more than ten per cent. under the publishers' price, and that for ready money only, except in a case where the publisher himself had lowered the price at a trade-sale.

30. Welland canal, connecting the lakes Erie and Ontario, opened.

SUBSCRIPTION CLUBS.—The following are the names of the subscription-clubs that have been established in London, and the number of subscribers:—United Service, 1500; Junior United Service, 1500; Royal Naval, 500; Athenæum, 1000; Union, 1000; University, 1000; Verulam, 1000; Oriental, 1000; Alfred's, 500; Travellers', 500; Wyndham's, 500; Literary Union, 500; Arthur's, 800; Brookes's, 500; Boodle's, 500; Randell's, 500; White's, 500; Graham's, 500; Cocoa-Tree, 500; Portland, 500; Guards', 400; Albion, 400; Colonial, 400; St. James's, 400.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Dresden, Fred. Von Schlegel, 57, German writer, and great admirer of the *Romantic*, in contradistinction to the classical school, which his brother favoured: Schlegel was the son of a protestant clergyman, and it is likely that his overwrought impressions of the glories of the middle ages may have influenced his secession from the paternal faith to become a catholic. Sir William Curtis, 77, father of the London corporation, and late M.P. for the city. David Erskine, eleventh earl of Buchan, 86, founder of the Society of Antiquaries of

Scotland. William Stevenson, 57, keeper of the records in the Tower, and author of a "History of Navigation," &c. Elizabeth countess of Derby, 66, formerly Miss Farnen, the actress. George lord Harris, 82, general in the army, and conqueror of Seringapatam, in 1799, when Tippoo Sultan was killed. Edward, second lord Thurlow, 47: his lordship married Miss Bolton, the actress, and was author of several poems and translations. At Paddington, Thomas Fitzgerald, 70, formerly of the victualling-office, and a poet known to his contemporaries. John Reeves, 77, late chief-justice of Newfoundland, and originator, in 1792, of the association against republicans: in 1800 Mr. Reeves was appointed king's printer, in conjunction with Messrs. Eyre and Strahan; he was a copious writer on legal and political subjects. At Aberdeen, Robert Hamilton, 86, forty years a professor in the Marischal-college, and author of an "Inquiry into the National Debt:" the professor was the first to demonstrate the fallacy of the sinking-fund, and the futility of seeking to liquidate public debts by borrowed money. At his seat, in Perth-

shire, general sir David Baird, a meritorious officer, who had seen much service in the East Indies, and lost an arm at the battle of Corunna. James Hamilton, 60, author of the system of teaching languages that bears his name. General Thomas Garth, 85; he served in Germany, in 1762, under prince Ferdinand: the general is said to have had, at an advanced age, a natural son, who bears his name, by an illustrious lady. Eugenius Roche, 43, editor of *The Courier*. W. M. Willett, 63, editor of *The Statesman*. By a fall from a post-chaise, William Wadd, 55, surgeon-extraordinary to the king, and author of several medical and amusing publications. At Paris, count de Barras, 74, member of the directory which Napoleon overthrew in 1799. At Milan, Stephen Dumont, 79, distinguished writer on legislation, and translator of Bentham's writings; a learned and amiable native of Geneva, possessed of great and polished conversational powers, and the intimate friend of the late sir Samuel Romilly and Mr. Brougham. Benjamin Flower, 74, popular political writer. John Mawe, 74, celebrated mineralogist and traveller.

A.D. 1830. *Jan.* SOVEREIGNS IN EUROPE.—The following are the reigning contemporaries of George IV., arranged according to the order of their accession, and their age at the time of accession:—

	<i>Date of Accession.</i>	<i>Age at Accession.</i>
Frederic, duke of Saxe Altenbourg	Sept. 22, 1780	17
Francis, grand duke of Mecklenbourg Schwerin	April 24, 1785	28
George William, prince of Lippe Schaumbourg	Feb. 13, 1787	2
Louis, grand duke of Hesse Darmstadt	April 6, 1790	36
Francis, emperor of Austria	March 2, 1792	24
Gunter, prince of Scharzboung-Sonderhausen	Oct. 14, 1793	33
Alexis, duke of Anhalt-Bernbourg	April 9, 1796	28
Frederic William III., king of Prussia	Nov. 16, 1797	27
Leopold, prince of Lippe-Detmold	April 4, 1802	5
Bernard, duke of Saxe-Meiningen	Dec. 24, 1803	3
John Joseph, prince of Lichtenstein	Mar. 24, 1805	44
Ernest, duke of Saxe-Cobourg-Gotha	Dec. 9, 1806	22
Frederick VI., king of Denmark	Mar. 13, 1808	40
Ferdinand VII., king of Spain	Mar. 19, 1808	23
Mahmoud II., sultan of Turkey	July 28, 1808	24
Frederic, prince of Hohenzollern-Heckingen	Nov. 2, 1810	34
George, prince of Waldeck	Sept. 9, 1813	23
William I., king of the Netherlands	Dec. 3, 1813	41
Maria Louisa, duchess of Parma	May 30, 1814	22
Francis IV., duke of Modena	June 8, 1815	35
William, duke of Brunswick	June 16, 1815	30
William, duke of Nassau	Jan. 9, 1816	23
William, king of Wurtemberg	Oct. 30, 1816	35
George, grand duke of Mecklenbourg-Strelitz	Nov. 6, 1816	37
Henry, prince of Reus-Greiz	Jan. 29, 1817	26
Leopold, duke of Anhalt-Dezau	Aug. 9, 1817	22
Louis, grand duke of Baden	Feb. 5, 1818	54
Charles XIV., king of Sweden	Dec. 8, 1818	55
Ferdinand, duke of Anhalt-Koethen	Dec. 16, 1818	48
William II., elector of Hesse-Cassel	Feb. 27, 1821	43
Felix, king of Sardinia	April 19, 1821	56
Henry, prince of Reuss and Ebersdorf	July 10, 1822	25

	<i>Date of Accession.</i>	<i>Age at Accession.</i>
Charles Louis, duke of Lucca	Mar. 13, 1824	25
Leopold II., grand duke of Tuscany	June 17, 1824	26
Charles X., king of France	Sept. 16, 1824	67
Francis I., king of the Two Sicilies	Jan. 4, 1825	46
Louis, king of Bavaria	Oct. 13, 1825	39
Nicholas I., emperor of Russia	Dec. 1, 1825	29
Maria II., queen of Portugal	May 2, 1826	6
Anthony, king of Saxony	May 5, 1827	72
Charles Frederic, grand duke of Saxe-Weimar	June 14, 1828	45
Pope Pius VIII.	May 31, 1829	67
Louis, Landgrave of Hesse-Hombourg	April 2, 1829	59
Augustus, grand duke of Oldenbourg	May 21, 1829	46

REVENUE, DEBT, POPULATION, &c.—
The following proportions show the relative amount of taxation, debt, military and naval power, and the diffusion of the elective franchise, in different states, at the commencement of the present year:—

Every inhabitant pays in TAXES, in—

	£.	s.	d.
Great Britain	2	12	0
France	1	4	1
Netherlands	1	0	9
Prussia	0	13	7
United States of America	0	9	7
Austria	0	8	11
Russia	0	4	9½

Proportion of DEBT to Population:—

	£.	s.	d.
Great Britain	34	15	2½
Netherlands	25	12	0
France	5	16	0
Austria	1	16	0.
United States	1	7	2½
Prussia	1	3	2½
Russia	0	16	9½

Proportion of ARMY to Population:—

Russia, one soldier to	57	} Inhabitants.
Prussia	80	
Austria	118	
France	138	
Netherlands	142	
Great Britain	229	
United States	1977	

Vessels of the Line and Frigates:—

Great Britain, one to	82,979	} Inhabitants.
Sweden and Norway	154,640	
Netherlands	170,556	
France	290,909	
United States	316,000	
Russia	686,250	
Austria	2,909,091	

Proportion of REPRESENTATION to Population:—

Norway 75 deputies, or 1 to 14,000	} Inhabitants.	
Britain and Ireland, 658 do., or 1 to		39,970
Netherlands, 110 do., or 1 to 55,845		55,845
United States, 187 do., or 1 to		60,129
France, 430 do., or 1 to		74,418

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—M. Charles Dupin has published some interesting comparative statements of the relative industrial force in France and England. He has calculated the amount of animate and inanimate, or the power of men and animals, and the mechanical power in the two kingdoms; and has reduced both to a common measure, expressed in an equivalent number of adult labourers or operatives. First of the *agricultural force* of the two kingdoms. The 31,800,000 inhabitants, which now constitute the population of France, are equivalent to a power of 12,609,057 individuals of the male sex at the age of full vigour. In France about two-thirds of the population are employed in agriculture, and one-third in manufactures and commerce. On the contrary, in Britain, of the 15,000,000 of her inhabitants, about one-third only are employed in agriculture, and two-thirds in manufactures and commerce. The following exhibits the relative amount of human and animal power devoted to agriculture in France and Britain, expressed in an equivalent number of effective labourers:—

	<i>France.</i>	<i>Britain.</i>
Human force	8,406,038	2,132,446
Horses	11,200,000	8,750,000
Oxen and Cows	17,432,000	13,750,000
Asses	240,000	
Total power	37,278,038	24,632,446

This exhibits a remarkable difference in the use made of animal power by the two nations. The agriculturists of England and Scotland, by the use of domestic animals, having created a power twelve times greater than their own personal force, while the additional force obtained through similar means by the French agriculturists does not amount to five times their own. In commerce and manufactures the contrast between the two countries is greater, though not so unexpected, as in rural industry. The following exhibits the *commercial and manufacturing power* of France compared with that of Britain,

expressed, as before, in equivalent men-
power:—

	<i>France.</i>	<i>Britain.</i>
Animate force	6,303,019	7,275,497
Mills and hy- draulic engines	1,500,000	1,200,000
Windmills	253,333	240,000
Wind and navi- gation	3,000,000	12,000,000
Steam-engines	480,000	6,400,000

Total force 11,536,352 27,115,497

Thus the total of the inanimate force applied to the mechanical arts of all descriptions in France scarcely exceeds the fourth of the same force applied to the same purposes in Britain; and the whole animate and inanimate power of Britain, applied to manufactures and commerce, is nearly treble the amount of that so applied in France. The comparison of the agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing powers of the two kingdoms, with their respective populations, also affords data for many curious inferences illustrative of the relative industrial condition of Britain and France.

Jan. 14. Bavaria reduced the interest of her national debt from 5 to 4 per cent.

15. A deputation from the city of London, in a conference with the duke of Wellington, complains of the high price of coals and the combination among the coal-owners of the Tyne.

18. A severe frost; the thermometer on Hampstead-heath 22 degrees below the freezing point. Similar weather experienced in the south of Europe.

24. Venice declared a free port.

25. DEATH OF MR. TIERNEY. — This eminent parliamentary debater was in his 74th year, and died of an enlargement of the heart, a disease that had been some years in progress, and which he bore with fortitude. He was bred to the law, and, for a short time, went the western circuit, but, marrying a lady of property, he left a profession for which he was well qualified to indulge in the less profitable but more ambitious pursuits of statesmanship. He entered the house of commons in 1796, about the time the whigs, in a pettish fit, withdrew from it, under an impression that their efforts to save the country would be unavailing and hopeless; retaining, however, contrary to the example of Grattan and the other contemporary seceders from the Irish parliament, their seats the while. The secession was a piece of effeminacy that would now be laughed at, and certainly not tolerated in any class of public servants intrusted with representative duties. During their absence, Mr. Tierney, who had not been regularly incorporated into the opposition, remained

behind as a kind of rear-guard to watch the enemy and report his movements. He was treasurer of the navy under Mr. Addington, but on the overthrow of that gentleman's ministry, by a coalition, he rejoined his old friends, to whom he ever after faithfully adhered, and of whom he was for many years the leader. He was a shrewd, plain, argumentative, and humorous speaker, without any pretension to oratory or refinement of thought. His analysis of the annual budget was usually his most masterly exhibition. At an early period of life he fought a duel with Mr. Pitt. He had a deep sense of religion, and some qualities have been ascribed to him (*Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvii. 249) that seem almost incompatible with his temperament and strength of intellect. He was timid in council, disposed to dwell on the gloomy side of things, and on all possible contingencies. He was not in truth deeply versed in general principles, not even in those of political economy, and, on one occasion, committed the error of ascribing public distress to large farms and the over-application of capital to land. Mr. Tierney was the author of some clever pamphlets; he also drew up the admirable petition of the Society of the Friends of the People, showing the defects of the representative system, and which, in 1793 (see p. 582), was presented to parliament.

Feb. 4. Mr. Alexander, editor of the *Morning Journal*, sentenced to sundry fines and imprisonment for libels on the duke of Wellington and his ministry. The prosecutions had been instituted by the attorney-general, sir James Scarlett, and were generally disapproved.

POSITION OF THE MINISTRY.—Parliament met on the 4th inst. and found the government in a difficult position. By extraordinary energy it had carried catholic emancipation; but in so doing had lost the support of a powerful section of adherents, who, holding themselves to have been betrayed, had been converted into determined opponents. As a set-off to this defection, ministers had gained the support of the whigs, who were willing to lend them such assistance as would save them from seeking a reconciliation with the offended tories; but this assistance was wavering and not wholly disinterested. They naturally and reasonably sought coalition *in office* as well as in parliament. They had no desire, therefore, to render the ministry independent; their policy was to administer sustenance enough to keep it alive but not to establish it in the robustness of perfect health. The duke of Wellington, on the other hand, sought their aid in the legislature, not their co-operation in power. He would still have

preferred a reconciliation with his old friends, and, to keep the way open for them, stood aloof from an official union with the whigs. The former, however, manifested not the slightest disposition towards peace and forgiveness. The party of which Mr. Canning had been leader, and which, after his death, acknowledged the supremacy of Mr. Huskisson, would have brought both influence and talent; but the expulsion of Huskisson from the cabinet had been too ignominious to leave any hope of his return unless the duke would make submissions which neither his situation nor his unbending character would allow. In the house of commons, therefore, the ministry was weak, the ablest members being mostly lukewarm or hostile. With the exception of Mr. Secretary Peel, who tried to fill the place of leader, there was no one fitted efficiently to fight their battles in debate—no one that held a high place in public opinion for intelligence and oratory. More auxiliaries or fewer enemies, therefore, became indispensable. The desertion of the whigs, and their coalition with his tory opponents, would have at once terminated the duke's ministry. To attach the former to his standard became the obvious policy of the prime minister. The marquis of Cleveland, a great borough-proprietor, under whose patronage Mr. Brougham had long sat in parliament, was the first to lend his aid to the government, and his son, lord Darlington, undertook to move the address (*Ann. Register*, lxxii. 3). Another whig lord, the duke of Devonshire, was conciliated by the appointment of Mr. Abercrombie, his lordship's land-agent, and late of the chancery bar, to be chief baron of the exchequer in Ireland. This could only be considered an instalment, not the full purchase-money, of the entire services of the opposition. Parliament was opened by commission. The royal speech dwelt on our amicable relations with foreign powers, increased amount of exports, deficiency in the revenue of the previous year and intended retrenchments, proposed improvements in the administration of the law, *partial distress* among the agricultural and manufacturing classes owing to unfavourable seasons and other causes not under legislative control. An amendment to the address was moved in the upper and lower house on the ground that the distress was *universal*, not *partial*; in the lords it was negatived by 71 to 9; in the commons by 158 to 105.

9. Public meeting at Sydney, New South Wales, to petition parliament for a legislative assembly and trial by jury.

16. English Opera House and five houses adjoining destroyed by fire. Mr. Arnold, the proprietor, was not insured.

Mar. 2. French chamber of deputies opened by Charles X. The opposition to the ministry of prince Polignac was kept up, both in the chambers and by the liberal journals, with unabated bitterness. The king's speech was threatening, and implied a fixed determination on his part to support the ultra-royalist administration he had formed. In their address, in answer, the deputies openly declared that the government had not their confidence, and that "an unjust distrust of the sentiments and reason of France is now the fundamental idea of the administration." The public discontents were great; in Brittany an association had been formed for refusing payment of taxes, if the charter should be violated; the editors of the *Globe*, the *National*, and other popular journals, were prosecuted for libels and sentenced to fines and imprisonment.

15. In bringing forward the budget, the chancellor of the exchequer announced the total remission of the excise-duties on beer, cider, and leather. The deficiency of revenue occasioned thereby, amounting to five millions, he proposed to meet by assimilating the Irish stamp-duty to that of England, and increasing the duties on spirits. The economical reductions in different departments of government amounted to 1,300,000*l.* Efforts were made to improve the bill for the disfranchisement of East Retford, and the extension of the franchise to the adjoining hundred. Mr. Tennyson moved to transfer the right of returning members to Birmingham. Mr. Hobhouse, on the third reading of the bill, on the 15th, proposed its rejection altogether, and, on failing that, Mr. O'Connell moved that the poll in the borough and hundred should be taken *by ballot*. This was a novel principle in parliamentary election, and rejected by 179 to 21.

19. Session of the Swedish diet closed; the king congratulated the assembly in his speech on the advancing prosperity of the kingdom, stating that the population had increased one-sixth within twenty years, the national debt was nearly extinguished, and the taxes considerably reduced.

19. French chamber of deputies prorogued preparatory to their dissolution and a new election.

25. The king of Spain abolishes the Salic law, which excluded females from succession to the throne.

Apr. 15. First bulletin issued announcing the illness of George IV. On the 12th the king rode in Windsor-park for the last time, and passed some time in the menagerie, a place in which he took great delight. While there he complained of pain and faintness, and inquired of the

keeper if he had any brandy in the house. The man, an old servant of the duke of York, said he had something which he thought his majesty would like better than brandy. "What is it?" said the king. "Cherry gin," was the reply; "it was made by my old woman, sire." His majesty seemed much pleased by this mark of attention, and expressed a wish to taste the "old girl's cordial." On its being handed to him he appeared to relish it exceedingly, and finished the remainder of the bottle.

May 3. Died, in his 80th year, sir ROBERT PEEL, father of the secretary of state for the home department. He was among the first and most successful of the natives of Lancashire who plunged into the golden flood that flowed into the country on the sudden expansion of the cotton-trade. In 1773 he established, in conjunction with Mr. Yates, an extensive manufactory at Bury, which rose into a state of unequalled prosperity. In 1803 they employed 15,000 persons, and paid 40,000*l.* annually to the excise as duty on printed goods. Mr. Peel married, in 1787, the daughter of his partner, then in her seventeenth year, by whom he had six sons and five daughters. About this period he made some large purchases of landed property in the counties of Lancaster, Stafford, and Warwick, and in 1790 was returned member for Tamworth, previously to which he had published a pamphlet with the paradoxical title of "The National Debt productive of National Prosperity." He was a strenuous supporter of Mr. Pitt, and, in the eventful emergencies of 1798, when government made an urgent appeal to the loyalty of the community, the firm of Peel and Yates subscribed 10,000*l.* for the support of the war. Mr. Peel, in 1801, was created a baronet. In his political capacity he seems to have committed the common error of being carried away by present and the local appearances in his own neighbourhood rather than a comprehensive estimate of national and final results. He died possessed of immense riches, the fruits of well-timed enterprise, and not parsimoniously heaped up, but accompanied with much active benevolence and a generous munificence.

14. Sir James Graham moved in the house of commons for a return of the salaries and emoluments of the members of the PRIVY COUNCIL. He said the total number of privy councillors was 169, of whom 113 received public money to the amount of 650,164*l.* There were 47 peers and 21 commoners who were privy councillors; the former received 378,346*l.*, the latter 90,849*l.* per annum. The chancellor of the exchequer moved an amendment for a return of sala-

ries and emoluments above 250*l.* held by all persons in the civil departments of the united kingdom. Amendment carried. Sir James remarked that he "had called for a glass of wine, and Mr. Goulburn had served him with a glass of wine diluted with a bottle of water."

21. Prince Leopold declined the sovereignty of Greece, offered to him by the allied powers.

24. Message from the king to parliament, stating his inability to affix the sign-manual to public instruments. A commission was appointed, and an act passed and received the royal assent on the 29th to legalize the use of a stamp. The bulletins issued had been concocted in such vague, unmeaning language, that this was the first public indication of the dangerous and hopeless condition of his majesty.

The French newspapers contained numerous and distressing accounts of fires in Normandy and Brittany, supposed to be occasioned by incendiaries.

28. Motions by lord John Russell and Mr. O'Connell for parliamentary reform.

June 3. Mr. Sadler moved for the introduction of poor-laws into Ireland: negatived without a division.

7. A musical performance, of a novel description, took place at the Egyptian-hall. The performer was Michael Boasi, and his instrument his *chis*, played upon by the knuckles of his two fists. The tones he produced were something similar to the castanets, and the rapidity and precision of his execution extraordinary.

12. Will of the late sir Robert Peel proved; personal property sworn to exceed 1,200,000*l.*

24. Informations laid by the managers of Drury-lane and Covent-garden theatres against the minor theatres, for alleged infringements of their patent right, by performing the regular drama.

26. DEATH OF GEORGE IV.—For many years the king had been scarcely ever free from gout, but its attacks had been resisted by the uncommon strength of his constitution. His life had in consequence been retired. During the spring of 1829 he resided at St. James's-palace, where he gave a ball to the juvenile branches of the nobility, to which the princess Victoria and the young queen of Portugal were invited. Mostly his time was spent within the limits of the royal domain at Windsor. His out-door amusements consisted of sailing and fishing on the Virginia-water, or a drive in a pony-phaeton, in the magnificent park of the forest. When the weather was unfavourable, the light reading of the day, or the drama, was resorted to. Almost uninterrupted attacks of illness disturbed his seclusion, while they offered

an inducement to its continuance. Pains of the eyes, and defective vision, gout in the feet and hands, and, lastly, the great malady of his family—dropsy, to which the duke of York, and his sister, the queen of Wurtemberg, had fallen victims, by turns befel him. In April his malady assumed a decisive character, and bulletins began to be issued. He had reached his sixty-eighth year, a term rarely allotted to the wearer of a crown. In May, a commission was appointed to affix the royal signature; the king signifying his consent by word of mouth. Before his death it was with difficulty he could whisper his verbal affirmative. About a week before he died the physician delicately announced to him the inevitable catastrophe. "God's will be done!" was the reply. The king's faculties continued unimpaired to the last moment. On administering to him the last sacrament, the bishop of Chichester reminded him of the duke of Sussex; when the king charged the prelate, after his death, to carry a message to the duke, saying all offences were forgotten, and to assure him of fraternal affection. His majesty's sufferings were very great; during the paroxysms of pain his moans were heard even by the sentinels on duty in the quadrangle. On the night of the 25th his cough was unusually painful, and he motioned a page to alter his position on his couch. Towards three o'clock he felt a sudden attack of the bowels, and desired to be removed to his *chaise percée*; a violent discharge of blood ensued, and his majesty appeared to be fainting. At this moment he attempted to raise his hand to his breast, and faintly ejaculated, "Oh God! I am dying;" and two or three seconds after he said, "*This is death.*" The king was removed to his couch, and the physicians called. Before they arrived the glaze of death was over the eyes of the king, and George IV. had ceased to breathe. A post-mortem examination showed diseased organization of the heart. That organ was uncommonly enlarged, and adhered to the neighbouring parts. There was no effusion of water in the thoracic cavity. The liver was not diseased; the lungs were ulcerated, and there were dropsical symptoms of the skin in various parts of the body. The king was an unusually large, and well-proportioned man. At one time he weighed twenty-four stone. His eyes were good, but his features and countenance did not equal his fine form and noble mien.

PUBLIC STATUTES. I. TO XI.
GEORGE IV.

1 Geo. IV., c. 1. Civil list act.

Cap. 9. Granting privileges of British

ships to ships built at Malta, Gibraltar, and Heligoland; and some of them to ships built at Honduras.

Cap. 26. Encouraging coasting-trade of Ireland.

Cap. 87. Enabling landlords more speedily to recover possession of lands and tenements unlawfully held over by tenants. Act extends to the united kingdom, except Scotland.

1 & 2 Geo. IV., c. 18. Repeals Irish act, 28 Eliz., c. 2, which punishes witchcraft and sorcery. Statute against witchcraft in England had been repealed in George the Second's reign.

Cap. 26. For gradual resumption of cash-payments by the bank of England.

Cap. 40. Repeals capital punishment of bankrupt who conceals his effects, and substitutes transportation.

Cap. 41. For abating nuisance from steam-engines, by facilitating prosecution thereof.

Cap. 47. Borough of Grampound disfranchised, and two additional members in lieu given to Yorkshire.

3 Geo. IV., c. 41. Repeals nearly 200 ancient statutes relative to the export and import of various articles; commerce of aliens and denizens; import of popish books; gauging of wine, and other matters. Most of the repealed statutes had become obsolete.

Cap. 53. Regulates the sale of roasted corn, peas, beans, and parsnips.

Cap. 71. Prevents cruelty to cattle.

Cap. 126. For amending the laws relative to the turnpike-roads in England.

4 Geo. IV. c. 52. Abolishes the custom of interring suicides in the highway, with a stake driven through the body; substitutes nocturnal interment, without christian rites of burial.

Cap. 64. Consolidates and amends the laws relative to gaols and houses of correction in England.

Cap. 76. General marriage act.

Cap. 83. Regulates factors and agents, amended by 6 Geo. IV., c. 94.

Cap. 99. For effecting a composition of tithes in Ireland.

5 Geo. IV., c. 74. Establishes uniformity of weights and measures in Britain.

Cap. 83. General vagrant act.

Cap. 96. Consolidates and amends the laws relative to the arbitration of disputes between masters and workmen.

6 Geo. IV., c. 16. Consolidates and amends the bankrupt-laws.

Cap. 50. Consolidates and amends the jury-laws.

Cap. 63. For better preserving the health of children employed in cotton-mills.

Cap. 79. For assimilating Irish to British currency.

Cap. 91. Repeals part of 6 Geo. I., c. 18, which was passed to restrain the extravagance of mercantile speculations, and commonly called the "bubble act."

Cap. 97. For better preserving peace and good order in the English universities.

Cap. 129. Repeals all the statutes from 33 Edw. I., downwards, so far as they relate to combinations of workmen, hours of labour, or rate of wages; but provides punishment for threats, violence, or molesting other workmen.

Caps. 104 to 112. Relate to the management of the customs; navigation and registry of ships; the warehousing of goods, and the prevention of smuggling; forming a new and consolidated body of the numerous statutes relative to these subjects, and relaxing the exclusiveness of the old navigation-laws.

7 Geo. IV., c. 6. Prohibits the circulation of small notes for sums under 5*l.*, after April 5th, 1829.

Cap. 34. Discontinuing bounties on salmon and other fisheries.

Cap. 46. Amending law relative to banking firms, and allowing more than six partners to carry on banking, distant 65 miles from London.

Cap. 57. Consolidates and amends the insolvent debtor laws.

Cap. 64. Improving administration of criminal justice.

7 and 8 Geo. IV., c. 18. Prohibits the use of spring-guns, man-traps, and other engines, calculated to destroy human life, or inflict grievous bodily harm, except in dwelling-houses, between sunset and sunrise.

Caps. 27 to 31. Repeal various ancient statutes relative to benefit of clergy, larceny, and other offences; malicious injuries to property; remedies against the hundred, and consolidates and amends their provisions; being a continuation of Mr. Secretary Peel's criminal law reforms.

Cap. 58. For ascertaining the average prices of British corn, to regulate the duties on importation.

Cap. 71. Abolishes arrest for debt on mesne process, where cause of action is less than twenty pounds.

9 Geo. IV., c. 14. Promises of adults to pay debts contracted in infancy, or representations of the character, credit, or conduct of another, not valid without a memorandum in writing.

Cap. 17. Repeals corporation and test acts.

Cap. 22. Consolidates and amends laws relative to controverted elections of members of parliament.

Cap. 31. Consolidates criminal statutes relative to offences against the person.

Cap. 32. Quakers and Moravians al-

lowed to make their solemn affirmation, in lieu of an oath, in criminal and civil cases.

Cap. 60. General act, fixing the scale of duties on the import of corn, varying with the average prices in the home-market. When wheat is 62*s.*, and under 63*s.* per quarter, duty 1*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*; when at or above 73*s.*, duty 1*s.* per quarter, with intermediates rates of duty. Oats, rye, and flour, maize, or Indian corn, subject to varying rates of duty.

Cap. 61. General act, licensing ale-houses.

Cap. 66. Repeals acts offering rewards for discovery of longitude, or northern passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Cap. 92. Consolidates and amends laws relative to savings-banks.

10 Geo. IV., c. 1. Suppresses catholic associations, and other dangerous assemblies in Ireland.

Cap. 7. Catholic relief bill.

Cap. 8. Disfranchises the forty-shilling freeholders in Ireland, and prohibits any one voting for county members, unless possessed of a freehold estate of ten pounds a-year.

Cap. 44. For improving the police of the metropolis, by abolishing the parochial watch, and placing the entire police of metropolitan district under the control of two commissioners. (Sir Robert Peel's act.)

Cap. 56. Consolidates and amends laws relative to friendly societies.

FINANCE, TAXES, AND LOANS.

THE several measures noticed in the *Chronicle* will have shown that the present reign was fertile in expedients, often more ingenious than solid, for bettering the national finances. Little can be gained by mere dexterity in finance; all attempts at legerdemain are futile, and a nation, like an individual, can only become rich either by an increase of income or reduction of expenditure. The most novel scheme of the period, the conversion, in 1822, of the military and naval half-pay and pensions, and civil superannuations, into a fixed annuity for forty-five years, was perfectly illusive as to absolute gain to the nation. It was nothing more than the continuance, under a new form, of the old system of loans, of anticipating distant resources, and throwing the burden of the present on the next generation. The reduction of the Navy five per cents. to four, and, two years after, the reduction of the four per cents. to three and a half, effected a material saving to the public at the expense of the holders of this description of stock. Important savings were also made by the

abolition of offices, and the reduction of establishments. From the termination of the war up to 1823, the taxes repealed amounted to 25,456,202*l.*, and the new taxes imposed to 3,200,000*l.* In 1824 taxes were repealed to the amount of 1,727,000*l.*, and in 1825 to the amount of 3,146,000*l.* (*Ann. Reg.*, lxx. 117; lxxiii. 70.) This large remission of taxes was, however, more nominal than real, owing to the rise in the value of money, and as a source of relief to the community was more than counterbalanced by the general fall in prices, wages, rents, and profits.

The following statement, continued from p. 754, exhibits the nett income of the United Kingdom during the reign of George IV., from taxes and loans (the last inclusive of exchequer-bills funded, and the excess of issued):—

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
1821	£59,791,078	£13,030,784
1822	59,219,601	15,763,217
1823	57,872,430	6,925,000
1824	59,338,111	9,798,100
1825	57,640,509	4,507,500
1826	55,186,369	12,234,350
1827	55,255,408	7,926,738
1828	56,737,175	3,082,500
1829	55,283,219	3,659,058
1830	54,328,598	2,776,215

COMMERCE, NAVIGATION, SHIPPING.

The present reign is remarkable as the beginning of a new era in commercial legislation; and those principles of unrestricted intercourse among nations, which sir James Steuart and Adam Smith demonstrated to be most conducive to their mutual benefit, at length found their way into the British parliament. The marquis of Lansdowne in the upper house, and Messrs. Huskisson, Robinson, and Poulett Thomson in the lower, were the most persevering advocates of the new policy. It found favour even among practical men, and petitions in favour of FREE TRADE were presented from the leading merchants of London, Glasgow, and Bristol. This concurrence of existing interests with the deductions of science slowly overcame the repugnance of the government to change, and important alterations in mercantile law were made during the administration of the earl of Liverpool. In the first place, some hundreds of obsolete statutes relative to commerce, aliens, and denizens, were wholly repealed; the strictness of the navigation-laws, which required that the transit of goods should be in British bottoms, navigated by British seamen, was relaxed; bounties and other expedients for the encouragement of the fisheries of Britain and the linen manufacture of Ire-

land were abolished; wool was allowed to be exported, and manufactured silks and other foreign products to be imported; greater facilities were granted for warehousing foreign commodities in English ports; and lastly, the colonial trade was partly thrown open to foreigners. The old mercantile notions respecting colonies had been that they were planted and protected solely for the use of the mother country; that they had no right, as lord Chatham said, to make "a nail for a horse-shoe for themselves;" all that they produced ought to be brought to our market, all they consumed ought to be purchased exclusively of ourselves: in short, no alien party ought to interfere either as buyers, sellers, or carriers. Under this system reciprocal injuries were inflicted; both parties were impoverished, for both were often compelled to buy articles dearer and worse of each other than they could obtain from strangers.

The principle of free trade was only entered upon in the reign of George IV., and, having to contend against long-cherished prejudices, old monopolies, and often apparently conflicting interests, it was not vigorously and uniformly carried out in that of his successor. There appears, however, no serious ground of apprehension from its unlimited application. It is chiefly in rural industry that we have to apprehend competition; in most other branches we are paramount; and it is a mistake not less odious than selfish, even of the agriculturists, to cherish the impression that they can permanently have a good *home* market for themselves, while they discourage a good foreign market for our own merchants and manufacturers. For a rich and populous community to be wholly independent of other states for a supply of the staple articles of food, is neither possible nor desirable. By occasionally being the customers of the North of Europe for corn, we promote, under the temptation of this contingency, its cultivation, and Poland thus becomes to England, what Sicily was to the Romans, a granary to which we can resort in the eventual failure of our own crops. The principle of the corn-laws has another evil tendency by operating as a bad example to our neighbours, and affording them a pretext which has been often urged, for levying protecting duties on our manufactures in retaliation for the duties we levy on the produce of their own soil. We thus, by the precedent of a baneful legislation, keep alive the reciprocal jealousies and injuries of a system that ought to be obsolete, and in the entire annihilation of which no people in the world are so deeply interested as the British.

Unequalled in the magnitude of our commerce and navigation, in skill, capital, and enterprise, we suffer proportionately more than other countries by a restrictive policy that fetters the intercourse of nations.

Leaving these economical considerations, we turn to the progress of British commerce since the peace, the period at which we terminated our former notice of this subject. The following statement of the *official value* of exports from and imports into Britain, includes, in the former, the aggregate of British, Irish, colonial, and foreign commodities exported. Exhibiting the aggregate of exports is more convenient for comparison, as the same mode of statement was adopted on a former occasion (p. 724) in showing the progress of commerce during the war. Except during the three years of inordinate speculation in the export of colonial products that immediately followed the overthrow of Napoleon, the average exports of colonial and foreign products has been about ten millions, which, deducted from the total of exports, as given below, will show the amount of British and Irish produce and manufactures sent out of the united kingdom:—

Year.	Exports.	Imports.
1816	£57,420,437	£31,822,053
1817	48,215,186	26,374,921
1818	49,502,738	29,910,502
1819	52,796,300	35,845,340
1820	41,862,925	29,681,640
1821	47,345,319	31,515,222
1822	50,796,771	29,769,122
1823	52,770,216	29,482,376
1824	51,755,035	34,591,264
1825	58,213,548	36,056,551
1826	55,608,327	42,660,954
1827	50,399,357	36,174,330
1828	61,085,445	43,489,340
1829	61,948,383	43,536,187
1830	66,071,164	42,311,649

The barometer which measures commercial prosperity is not a favourable balance of trade or excess of exports, as it was formerly considered to be, but the aggregate of the two—exports and imports. It is these together which indicate the industrial activity and social enjoyments of nations. Referring to this test, we have satisfactory evidence of the unequalled prosperity of the empire since the peace. But the increase in the real or declared value of exports has not kept pace with the increase in the official value, which measures not the market value, but the quantities exported. This will appear more striking from the subjoined comparison of the official and declared value of the exports of British and Irish (excluding

foreign and colonial) produce in the years 1815 and 1830:—

Year.	Official Value.	Declared Value.
1815	£32,200,580	£43,427,373
1830	55,465,723	35,212,873

So that, while, in fifteen years, the quantities had increased in the proportion of 32 to 55, their *money value* had absolutely become less in the proportion of 43 to 35. This singular revolution in the custom-house returns has been before adverted to (p. 755), and is mainly the result of our extraordinary mechanical improvements, especially in the application of steam-power, and which has enabled our merchants and manufacturers to offer, and the spirit of competition left them no other alternative, double the amount of goods for the same price in 1830 that they offered in 1815. Our cheap cottons, linens, hardware, &c., have thus been as serviceable to our neighbours as ourselves, and unaccompanied with loss; for we, doubtless, received what we deemed a profitable equivalent in return.

ENUMERATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

In the last notice of this subject (p. 638) we remarked on the dilatoriness manifested by parliament in not instituting, at an earlier period, an authentic inquiry into the amount of the population, and on the conflicting opinions that had prevailed on the actual number of the people. This omission has been amply supplied by four distinct censuses of Britain, taken in 1801, 1811, 1821, and 1831. These decennary enumerations have led to very important conclusions, and throw great light on the social progress of the nation. First, it appears that since the commencement of the present century population has been increasing with unexampled rapidity, especially in the cities and towns; secondly, that the duration of human life has been greatly extended; and, thirdly, that the industrial character of the community has changed, and manufacturing obtained an ascendancy over agricultural employments.

It was not till 1821 that a complete census was taken of Ireland, and which was repeated in 1831. The population of Ireland has been found to increase considerably faster than in Scotland, but not so fast as in England. As the relative wealth of Scotland has probably increased more rapidly than in England or Ireland, the causes that have counteracted a corresponding increase of population must be sought in the consolidation of farms, extensive emigrations, better education of the people, and greater mortality of the towns, owing probably to spirit-drinking, and the crowded mode of living of the

inhabitants. "In Edinburgh," Mr. McCulloch says, "there are nearly 16 individuals to each house; and at an average there are 8·276 inhabitants to a house in the great towns of Scotland, while in those of England the average is only 6·165."—(*Statistical Account of the British Empire*, i. 428.) In Wales population has increased slower than in any division of the empire. The principality is mountainous and sterile; its predominant occupations agriculture and mining, neither of them favourable to a rapid increase of people, especially if the former has not been accompanied, as in Ireland, by a minute subdivision of landed property.

A remarkable result established by the parliamentary censuses was the *diminished rate of mortality*. In 1780 the annual mortality of England and Wales was 1 in 40; in 1801 it was 1 in 48; and in 1830 it had decreased to 1 in 58. (*Porter's Progress of the Nation*, i. 24.) This improvement in the public health may be ascribed to better food, clothing, lodging, and medical aid; more temperate habits of living; greater cleanliness in our persons and dwellings; the introduction of vaccination, and the greater salubrity of the climate from extensive surface-drainage of stagnant water. The description of prevailing diseases, as well as the duration of life, has undergone remarkable changes. Those sweeping epidemics and contagious maladies that formerly carried off one-third or one-fourth of the entire population, seldom or never visit us. There are fewer births in

a family, but, owing to superior nurture, a larger number attain maturity. At the beginning of the century one-third more children died of convulsions than at present. Small-pox destroyed half as many again, and teething one-third more than it does now. Hooping-cough, asthma, cancer, and apoplexy, may have increased, but leprosy, scurvy, cholera, and rickets, have nearly or entirely disappeared. The decrease in fevers, the stationary number of suicides, and the increasing number of those dying of old age and natural decay, afford strong evidence of the improved condition of society.

The *third* feature of interest disclosed by the censuses is the transposition of the industrial ratios. In 1700 the population of the agricultural counties of England appears to have been double that of the manufacturing counties, and about equal to that of metropolitan counties. These proportions began to alter about the middle of the century, and the manufacturing and metropolitan districts continued to gain on the rural, till in 1801 the proportions were respectively 25, 31, 26. In 1811 the population of the manufacturing counties rather exceeded that of the agricultural. In 1821 and 1831 the numbers of the three descriptions of population were as follow:—

	1821.	1831.
Metropolitan	4,298,317	4,952,661
Manufacturing	3,594,204	4,406,014
Agricultural	3,368,418	3,728,000

Mr. Marshall has given the following table of the increase per cent. of the different kinds of population since 1700:—

ENGLAND:		1801 to 1811	1811 to 1821	1821 to 1831	1700 to 1831
Agricultural		9½	15½	10½	84
Manufacturing		18½	20½	22½	295
Metropolitan		16½	18½	15½	147
Total {	England	14½	17½	16	154
	Wales	13	17½	12	117
	Scotland	13	15	13	87
GREAT BRITAIN		14½	17½	15½	144

In Scotland there has been quite as great a change in the pursuits of the people. There the proportion of non-agriculturists to agriculturists has risen from five to six in 1801, to nine to five in 1821, and in 1831 the proportion was about two to one, as in England. In no other European state is there probably such a division of employments. In Italy, ac-

cording to professor Babbage, the proportion of agriculturists to non-agriculturists is as 100 to 31; in France, as 100 to 50; in Ireland the numbers are about equal.

In four rural districts the increase of population, during the last thirty years, has been only 30 per cent.; in London, 58 per cent.; in ten large manufac-

turing towns 80 per cent.; and in three of the largest manufacturing towns, no less than 100 per cent., or exactly double.

The progress of population has far outstripped the calculations of political arithmeticians. Gregory King, one of the most ingenious and best informed of this class, whose calculations we have formerly quoted (p. 266), estimated that the popu-

lation of England and Wales would in the year 1800 amount to 6,420,000; in 1900 to 7,350,000; in 2000 to 8,280,000! (*D'Avenant's Works*, ii. 177.) So that the population of England, according to King's estimate, would, 170 years hence, only exceed by a trifle the actual population of Ireland at the period of the last census.

The following tables comprise the chief statistics, illustrative of the subject of this section, to the end of the reign of George IV. :—

POPULATION OF THE CHIEF TOWNS.

	1821.	1831.	Increase per Cent.
LONDON	1,274,800	1,476,646	15
Manchester	133,788	182,812	36
Liverpool	118,972	165,175	38
Birmingham	106,722	146,986	37
Leeds	83,796	123,393	47
Coventry	21,242	27,070	27
Bristol	95,788	117,016	22
Plymouth	61,212	75,534	23
Sheffield	42,157	59,011	39
Portsmouth	45,648	50,389	10
Nottingham	40,415	50,650	25
Hull	31,425	46,426	47
Brighton	24,429	40,634	66
Macclesfield	17,746	23,129	30
Bradford	13,064	23,233	77
EDINBURGH	138,235	162,403	17
Glasgow	147,043	202,426	37
Paisley	47,003	57,466	22
Aberdeen	44,796	58,019	29
Dundee	30,575	45,355	48
Greenock	22,088	27,571	24
Perth	19,068	20,016	4
DUBLIN	185,881	204,155	9
Cork	100,658	107,016	6
Limerick	59,045	66,554	12
Belfast	37,277	53,287	42
Galway	27,775	33,120	19
Waterford	28,679	28,821	—
Londonderry	16,971	19,620	15
Kilkenny	23,230	23,741	2

Manchester, Glasgow, and Paisley, show the progress of the cotton-manufacture; Leeds of the woollen; Norwich of the crape; Nottingham of the hosiery; Bradford of stuff; Macclesfield and Coventry of silk; Birmingham and Sheffield of hard-

ware. The chief commercial ports are Liverpool, Bristol, Hull, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Dundee, and Belfast. Portsmouth and Plymouth are the great naval arsenals of the united kingdom.

Progress of the Population of the United Kingdom.

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.
England	8,331,434	9,551,888	11,261,437	13,091,005
Wales	541,546	611,788	717,433	806,182
Scotland	1,599,068	1,805,688	2,093,456	2,365,114
Arm., Nav., &c.	740,598	640,500	319,300	277,017
Ireland . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	6,801,827	7,767,401
Total	10,942,646	12,609,864	21,193,458	24,306,749

General Statement, in Acres, of the cultivated, uncultivated, and unprofitable land of the United Kingdom.—(From Third Report of the Emigration Committee.)

	Cultivated.	Uncultivated wastes capable of improvement.	Unprofitable.	Total.
England	25,632,000	3,454,000	3,256,400	32,342,400
Wales	3,117,000	530,000	1,105,000	4,472,000
Scotland	5,265,000	5,950,000	8,523,930	19,738,930
Ireland	12,125,280	4,900,000	2,416,664	19,441,944
British Islands	383,690	166,000	569,469	1,119,159
	46,522,970	15,000,000	15,871,463	77,394,433

Christenings and Deaths within the London Bills of Mortality, in the years 1790, 1810, and 1830.

	1790.	1810.	1830.
CHRISTENED.			
Males	9,766	10,188	13,229
Females	9,214	9,742	13,444
BURIED.			
Males	9,192	10,411	11,110
Females	8,846	9,492	10,535
DIED.			
Under 2 years of age	5,877	5,853	6,115
Between 2 and 5	1,948	2,430	1,837
10 .. 5	748	850	871
10 .. 20	640	695	818
20 .. 30	1,277	1,218	1,410
30 .. 40	1,733	1,788	1,759
40 .. 50	1,785	2,018	2,026
50 .. 60	1,548	1,648	2,031
60 .. 70	1,233	1,587	2,055
70 .. 80	818	1,262	1,788
80 .. 90	376	473	815
90 .. 100	51	70	119
Age of 101	..	..	2
102	1	..	1
103	1	..	..
105	1	1	..
108	1	..	..

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION.

The peace and prosperity of the present reign were highly favourable to the progress of popular instruction, and this desirable result was effected by the voluntary efforts of the people themselves, unaided by the powers of the government. In the great work of teaching the poor, all parties and persuasions united with the most laudable zeal. The belief that universal education could have any injurious effect upon the character of the community was entirely exploded, and the results of some inquiries that were instituted in 1828, by Mr. Brougham, showed that a great progress had been made since our last notice of this subject (p. 756), and that at the close of George IV.'s reign there were few districts in England where the children of the working classes might not obtain elementary instruction. The information obtained was far from complete, but there were materials sufficient for drawing up

the following comparison of the number of children who attended unendowed Day-schools in 1818 and 1828 in those parishes from which returns were obtained:—

Counties.	1818.	1828.
Bedford	428	745
Berks	660	1,025
Bucks	528	1,011
Cambridge	984	2,642
Chester	268	524
Cornwall	1,508	3,246
Cumberland	1,129	1,468
Devon	2,358	3,920
Dorset	305	1,165
Durham	850	3,379
Essex	735	2,587
Gloucester	640	1,301
Hereford	700	1,156
Hertford	1,163	1,405
Huntingdon	295	727
Kent	2,270	7,186
Lancaster	895	2,124
Leicester	1,088	2,258
Lincoln	2,208	5,218
Norfolk	2,606	5,380
Northampton	596	3,137
Northumberland	2,036	2,891
Nottingham	265	585
Oxford	571	2,424
Rutland	231	573
Salop	2,037	2,963
Somerset	701	3,069
Southampton	3,346	3,998
Stafford	840	1,850
Suffolk	1,695	3,702
Surrey	1,794	5,210
Sussex	2,511	4,164
Warwick	1,475	1,763
Westmoreland	1,659	2,668
Wilts	589	2,377
Worcester	1,276	3,231
York E.	1,755	2,972
York N.	3,549	6,076
York W.	960	3,251
Total	50,034	105,571

CURRENCY, PUBLIC STOCKS, PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

(Continued from p. 725.)

PRICES of three per cent. CONSOLS, Bank of England, and East India stock in Janu-

ary; number of BANKRUPTS in each year: and the average price, per quarter, of WHEAT at the annual Gazette averages:—

Year.	3 Pr. Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wht.
1816	60	240	184	2,731	76
1817	63	222	191	1,980	94
1818	80	290	241	1,256	83
1819	78	270	231	1,499	72
1820	68	221	205	1,353	65
1821	70	226	225	1,286	54
1822	76	237	236	1,094	43
1823	77	242	247	975	51
1824	88	235	270	923	62
1825	93	231	283	1,216	66
1826	77	211	246	2,583	56
1827	82	204	240	1,040	56
1828	83	206	244	1,223	60
1829	86	213	235	1,590	66
1830	91	211	225	1,308	64

sumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follow:—

Year.	Coal, pr. chl.	Coffee, pr. ct.	Flour, pr. sh.	Sugar, pr. ct.	Tea, pr. lb.
1816	36	110	55	52	52
1817	29	103	105	43	32
1818	32	110	80	47	31
1819	33	160	70	45	32
1820	31	160	60	29	22
1821	31	138	55	33	27
1822	39	130	55	27	31
1823	34	134	40	26	29
1824	30	118	60	33	29
1825	27	100	65	31	29
1826	28	102	60	36	25
1827	30	105	53	30	21
1828	29	88	50	32	19
1829	25	88	75	29	24
1830	28	84	60	21	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

PRICES of the following articles of con-

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England; amount of Bullion in the Bank; and coinage of Gold and Silver.

Year.	Circulation.	Bullion.	Gold.	Silver.
1816	£26,886,170	£ 6,101,830	£	£1,806,181
1817	28,470,840	10,674,615	4,268,330	2,437,095
1818	26,986,560	8,209,360	2,862,373	576,299
1819	25,189,695	3,889,990	3,574	1,267,272
1820	23,891,725	6,561,065	949,516	847,717
1821	22,090,110	11,551,745	9,520,758	433,686
1822	18,065,070	10,577,555	5,356,787	31,430
1823	18,811,740	11,551,235	759,748	285,271
1824	19,934,555	12,798,745	4,065,075	282,070
1825	20,076,300	6,206,710	4,580,919	417,555
1826	23,515,735	4,606,870	5,896,461	608,605
1827	22,319,105	10,311,395	2,512,636	33,019
1828	21,669,110	10,423,085	1,008,559	16,288
1829	19,709,115	6,815,275	2,446,754	108,259
1830	20,757,715	10,160,740	2,387,881	151

The act for resuming payments in specie by the Bank passed in 1819; in 1826 the circulation of notes under 5*l*. was restricted, and in 1829 the circulation of them was prohibited in England and Wales. The coinage of gold from 1791 to 1797, both

inclusive, averaged 1,699,021*l*.; from 1797 to 1804 the annual average was 829,929*l*.; and from 1804 to the end of the war in 1815 the average was 356,495*l*. The entire coinage of silver, from 1790 to 1815, inclusive, amounted only to 569*l*.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield Market; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Christenings.
1816	120,439	968,560	20,316	23,581
1817	129,888	1,044,710	19,968	24,129
1818	138,047	963,250	19,705	24,233
1819	136,226	949,900	19,228	24,300
1820	132,933	947,700	19,348	23,158
1821	129,125	1,107,230	18,459	25,229
1822	142,043	1,340,160	18,451	25,232
1823	149,552	1,264,920	20,587	27,679
1824	163,615	1,239,720	20,237	25,758
1825	156,985	1,130,310	21,026	25,624
1826	143,460	1,270,530	20,758	22,244
1827	138,363	1,335,100	22,292	29,925
1828	147,698	1,288,460	21,709	26,545
1829	158,313	1,240,300	23,524	27,028
1830	159,907	1,287,070	21,615	26,743

* Imperial bushel introduced in 1828, the capacity of which exceeds the former in the proportion of 33 to 32.

MEN OF LETTERS.

George Ellis, criticism and poetry, 1745—1815. "Specimens of the Early English Poets," 8vo., 1790; "Specimens of Early English Romances," 3 vols., 8vo. Mr. Ellis was one of the junta of wits concerned in the political satire of "The Rolliad," and wrote a preface and notes to Way's Translation of Le Grand's *Fabliaux*.

William Nicholson, mathematics and chemistry, 1753—1815. "Introduction to Natural Philosophy," 2 vols., 8vo., 1782; "Dictionary of Chemistry," 2 vols., 4to., 1795; "The British Encyclopædia," 6 vols., 8vo., 1807—1809.

Adam Fergusson, moral and political philosophy, 1723—1816. "History of Civil Society," 4to., 1766; "Institutes of Moral Philosophy," 8vo., 1769; "History of the Roman Republic," 3 vols., 4to., 1784; "Principles of Moral and Political Science," the substance of the lectures of the professor, delivered in the university of Edinburgh, 2 vols., 4to., 1792.

R. B. Sheridan, drama and oratory, 1751—1816. "The Rivals," 1775; "Verses to the Memory of Garrick," 4to., 1779; "The Duenna," "School for Scandal;" "Comparative Statement of the two Bills for the Better Government of India," 4to., 1788; "St. Patrick's Day;" "The Critic;" "A Trip to Scarborough," a comedy, altered from Vanbrugh. Mr. Sheridan translated "Pizarro;" and was the author of the pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe."

Miss Austen, novels, 1775—1817. "Sense and Sensibility;" "Pride and Prejudice;" "Mansfield Park;" "Emma."

John Playfair, mathematics and geology, 1749—1819. "Elements of Geometry," 1796; "Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth," 1802; "Complete System of Geography, Ancient and Modern," 5 vols., 4to., 1808—1813; "Outlines of Natural Philosophy," 8vo., 1812. Various papers in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and the *Transactions of the Edinburgh Society*. Professor Playfair also composed the whole of the first part, and had nearly completed the second part, of the able Preliminary Dissertation on the History of the Mathematical Sciences, prefixed to the Supplement to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

Arthur Young, agriculture and travels, 1741—1820. "The Farmer's Letters," 1767; "Six Weeks' Tour in the Southern Counties," 1768; "Tour through the North of England," 1770; "Experimental Agriculture," 2 vols., 4to., 1770; "Tour through the East of England," 4 vols., 8vo., 1771; "Proposals to the Legislature for Numbering the People," 1771; "Tour in Ireland," 4to., 1780; "Travels in France," 2 vols., 4to., 1792—1794; "Farm-

er's Kalendar," 8vo., 1804; "An Inquiry into the Rise of Prices," 8vo., 1815.

Sir Joseph Banks, natural history, 1743—1820. "Short Account of the Diseases in Corn, called Blight, Mildew, and Rust," 4to., 1803. Sir Joseph's other writings consisted of papers in the *Philosophical Transactions*, *Archæologia*, &c.

Thomas Scott, divinity, 1747—1821. "The Force of Truth," a kind of autobiographical tract, 1799; "Defence of Calvinism;" "Commentary on the Bible," 6 vols., 4to.

John Scott, travels and poetry, 1821. "Visit to Paris in 1815," 8vo.; "Paris Revisited in 1815," 8vo., 1816; "The House of Mourning," a poem.

John Keats, poetry, 1796—1820. "Endymion," 1818; "Louisa," "Isabella," and other poems, 1820.

Elizabeth Inchbald, drama and novels, 1756—1821. "A Mogul Tale," a farce, 1784; "A Simple Story," a novel, 4 vols., 12mo., 1791; "Every one has his Fault," a comedy, 1794; "Lovers' Vows," a translation from Kotzebue, 1798; "To Marry and not to Marry," 1805. Mrs. Inchbald edited the "British Theatre," 25 vols., 12mo. 1806—1809; and the "Modern Theatre," 10 vols., 12mo., 1809.

Vicesimus Knox, morals and polite literature, 1752—1821. "Essays, Moral and Literary," 12mo., 1777; "Liberal Education," 1781; "Elegant Extracts, in prose," also in verse; "Winter Evenings," 3 vols., 12mo., 1788; "Antipolemus," a plea against war, translated from Erasmus, 12mo., 1794; "Christian Philosophy," 2 vols., 12mo., 1795. Dr. Knox is also regarded as the author of the "Spirit of Despotism," published anonymously in 1794, and since reprinted.

Sir William Herschel, astronomy, 1738—1822. "Catalogue of Stars," folio, 1798.

Rev. E. D. Clarke, travels, mineralogy, 1823. "Methodical Distribution of the Mineral Kingdom," folio, 1807; "Description of Greek Marbles," 8vo., 1809; "Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa," 1811; "Travels in Russia."

Ann Radcliffe, novels, 1764—1823. "The Mysteries of Udolpho;" "Travels through Holland," 1793.

Robert Bloomfield, poetry, 1766—1823. "The Farmer's Boy," 1800; "Wild Flowers," 1806; "Hazlewood Hall," a village drama.

Percy Bysshe Shelley, poetry, 1792—1822. "Queen Mab;" "Revolt of Islam;" "Alastor;" "Prometheus Unbound;" "The Cenci," a tragedy; and a posthumous volume of poems.

David Ricardo, political economy, 1772—1823. "The High Price of Bullion a

Proof of Depreciation," 1810; "An Essay on Rent;" "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation," 8vo., 1817.

Charles Hutton, mathematics, 1737—1823. "Treatise on Arithmetic," 1764; "Principles of Bridges," 8vo., 1772; "Mathematical Tables," 1785; "Mathematical and Philosophical Dictionary," 2 vols., 4to., 1796; "Course of Mathematics," 2 vols., 8vo., 1798; "Tracts on Mathematical and Philosophical Subjects," 3 vols., 8vo., 1812.

Lord Byron, poetry, 1788—1824. "Hours of Idleness," 8vo., 1807; "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers," 1809; "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," 4to., 1812; "The Giaour," 8vo., 1813; "The Bride of Abydos," 1813; "The Corsair;" "Lara;" "The Siege of Corinth;" "The Prisoner of Chillon;" "Manfred," a tragedy; and the "Lament of Tasso," in 1817; "Beppo," 1818; "Mazeppa," and first cantos of "Don Juan," 1819; "Marino Faliero;" "Sardanapalus;" "The Two Foscari;" "Cain;" "Vision of Judgment;" "Heaven and Earth;" "Werner," a tragedy; "Deformed Transformed," a fragment.

John Aikin, M.D., medical and general literature, 1747—1822. "Thoughts on Hospitals," 1771; "Character of the late John Howard," 1791; "General Biographical Dictionary," 9 vols., 4to., 1799—1813 (assisted by Dr. Kenfield and other writers); "Essays, Literary and Miscellaneous," 1811; "Annals of the Reign of George III.," 2 vols., 8vo., 1816.

Francis Maseres, mathematics and law, 1731—1824. "Dissertation on the Negative Sign in Algebra," 4to., 1759; "The Canadian Freeholder," 3 vols., 8vo., 1779; "Doctrine of Life Annuities," 2 vols., 4to., 1783; "Occasional Essays," 8vo., 1809. Baron Maseres published several other works, either original or compilations, and was the author of several papers in the Philosophical Transactions and the Archæologia.

Mrs. Barbauld, poems and tales, 1743—1825. "Early Lessons," 4to., 1773; "Works of Collins," 1797; "British Novelists," 50 vols., 8vo., 1810; "Eighteen Hundred and Eleven," a poem, 4to., 1812.

Samuel Parr, divinity and criticism, 1747—1825. "Discourse on the late Fast," 4to., 1781; "Education and Charity Schools;" "Bellendenus de Statu," 1787; "Warburton Tracts," 1789; "Address to the Dissenters of Birmingham," 1792; "A Spital Sermon," preached before the lord-mayor, 4to., 1800; "Character of Mr. Fox," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809. In 1819 Dr. Parr reprinted the speeches of Roger Long and John Taylor, of Cambridge, with critical memoirs of the authors; and after his death a pamphlet, written by him, was

published, defending bishop Halifax from the charge of having become a convert to popery in his last sickness.

Peter Elmsley, philology, 1773—1825. "Acharnanes," 1809; "Œdipus Tyrannus," 1811; "Heraclides," 1815; "Medea," 1818; "Bacchus," 1821; "Œdipus Coloneus," 1823; tragedies of Sophocles and Euripides. Professor Elmsley contributed several classical articles to the early numbers of the *Edinburgh Review*; and at a subsequent period wrote occasionally in the *Quarterly Review*.

Reginald Heber, bishop of Calcutta, 1783—1826. "Life of Jeremy Taylor," 1822. Dr. Heber had previously published several prize-poems and sermons; and subsequent to the death of the prelate appeared his "Narrative of a Journey in Upper India," 2 vols., 4to.

Dr. Thomas Young, natural philosophy and hieroglyphics, —1829. "Lectures on Natural Philosophy," 2 vols., 4to., 1807; "Practical Nosology," 1812; "Discoveries in Hieroglyphical Literature and Egyptian Antiquities," 8vo., 1823. Dr. Young contributed many valuable articles to the Supplement to the Encyclopædia Britannica.

Sir Humphrey Davy, chemistry, 1779—1829. "Researches, Chemical and Philosophical, chiefly concerning Nitrous Oxide and its Respiration," 8vo., 1800; "Elements of Agricultural Chemistry," 1813; "Salmonia, or the Days of Fly-fishing," 1828; besides numerous contributions to the scientific journals, communicating sir Humphrey's important discoveries.

William Wollaston, chemistry, 1766—1828. Dr. Wollaston was more eminent for discoveries than his writings, which consisted of papers in the philosophical transactions and periodical journals. Among his discoveries and inventions were the lucernal microscope, the periscopic camera obscura, the reflective goniometer, the scale of chemical equivalents, the new metal called palladium, and the cystic oxide. The doctor is said to have realised 30,000*l.* by his process for procuring platinum in a malleable state.

Miss Benger, biography, 1778—1827. "Memoirs of John Tobin;" "Memoirs of Mary Queen of Scots;" "Life of Anne Boleyn."

Charles Mills, history, 1789—1826. "History of Mahomedanism," 1817; "History of the Crusades," 1819; "History of Chivalry," 1825.

Abraham Rees, miscellanies, 1743—1825. "Economy Illustrated and Recommended," 1800; "Practical Sermons," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809—1813; "Principles of Protestant Dissenters stated and vindicated." The work by which Dr. Rees is

best known is the "Cyclopedia," the publication of which he superintended from the appearance of the first volume, in 1802, to its completion in forty-five volumes.

George Chalmers, statistics, politics, 1742—1825. "Political Annals of the United Colonies to 1763," 4to., 1780; "Estimate of the Comparative Strength of Great Britain," 4to., 1782, often reprinted in 8vo.; "Life of Thomas Ruddiman," 1794; "Caledonia, an Account, Historical and Topographical, of North Britain," 4to., 1807.

William Gifford, satires, translations, 1756—1826. "The Baviad," 8vo., 1794; "The Mœviad," 8vo., 1795; "Satires of Juvenal, with notes," 4to., 1802. Mr. Gifford published editions, with notes, of the plays of Massinger, Ben Jonson, Ford, and Shirley, and was many years editor of the Quarterly Review (see Dec. 31, 1826).

William Mitford, history, philology, 1734—1827. "Essay on the Harmony of Language," 8vo., 1774; "History of Greece," 1784—1810, 4 vols. 4to.; "Treatise on the Military Force of the Kingdom," 8vo.; "Considerations on the Corn Laws," 1791.

Archdeacon Coxe, travels, history, 1747—1828. "Travels in Switzerland," 3 vols. 8vo., 1779; "Travels in Poland, Russia, and Sweden," 5 vols. 8vo., 1784; "Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole," 3 vols. 4to., 1798; "Memoirs of Horatio Lord Walpole," 4to., 1802; "Memoirs of the Bourbon Kings of Spain," 3 vols. 4to., 1813; "Memoirs of the Duke of Marlborough," 3 vols. 4to., 1817—19; "Shrewsbury Correspondence," 4to., 1821; "Memoirs of the Pelham Administration," left unfinished at the death of the archdeacon.

William Belsham, history, politics, 1752—1827. "Historical, Political, and Literary Essays," 2 vols. 8vo., 1789; "History of Great Britain from 1688 to the Treaty of Amiens," 12 vols. 8vo., 1793—1806.

Thomas Belsham, theology, metaphysics, 1749—1829. "Importance of Truth and the Duty of making an open profession of it," 8vo., 1790; "Review of Wilberforce's Practical View," 1798; "Memoirs of the late Theophilus Lindsay," 1812.

Dugald Stewart, metaphysics, ethics, 1753—1828. "Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind," 1st vol., 1792, 2nd vol. 1813, 3rd vol. 1827; "Outlines of Moral Philosophy for the use of Students," 1793. "Dr. Adam Smith's Essays, with a Life of the Author," 1801; "Life and Writings of Dr. Robertson," 1801; "Life and Writings of Dr. Reid," 1803; "Philosophical Essays," 4to., 1810; "Account of a Boy born Blind and Deaf," 4to., 1812. Professor Stewart was also author of the admirable Preliminary Dissertation on Metaphysical, Ethical, and Political

Philosophy, in vol. I. of the Supplement to the Encyclopædia Britannica.

Professor Hamilton, commerce, finance, 1743—1829. "Introduction to Merchandise," 2 vols. 8vo., 1777; "System of Arithmetic and Book-keeping," 12mo., 1788; "Inquiry into the National Debt," 8vo., 1813.

John Rennel, geography, 1740—1830. "Bengal Atlas," folio, 1781; "Mémorial on the Geography of Africa," 4to., 1790; "Geographical System of Herodotus Explained," 4to., 1800; "Observations on the Topography of the Plain of Troy," 4to., 1814.

Robert Nares, theology, philology, criticism, 1754—1829. "Essay on the Division of Socrates," 8vo., 1752; "Elements of Orthoepy," 8vo., 1784; "Chronological View of the Prophecies," 1805; "A Glossary of Words and Phrases used in the Elizabethan age," 4to., 1822. Archdeacon Nares was a contributor to the Classical Journal, and, in conjunction with Mr. Beloe, established, in 1793, the British Critic, which Dr. Nares conducted till the end of the forty-second volume.

Sir William Drummond, antiquity, polite literature —1828. "Review of the Governments of Sparta and Athens," 8vo., 1794; "Academical Questions," 1805; "Remarks on the Origin of Empires," 2 vols. 8vo., 1824.

Henry Neale, poetry, novels, 1798—1828. "Poems," "Dramatic Scenes," and the "Romance of History."

Matthew Doves, jurisprudence, metaphysics, 1829. "Liberty and Toleration," 8vo., 1780; "Crimes and Punishments," 8vo., 1782; "Deformity of the Doctrines of Libel," 8vo., 1785.

Rev. Mark Noble, history, genealogy, —1827. "Memoirs of the Protectorate House of Cromwell," 2 vols. 8vo., 1784; "Lives of the English Regicides," 2 vols. 8vo., 1797; "History of the College of Arms," 4to., 1805.

Helen Maria Williams, history, general literature, 1762—1827. "Edwin and Elfrida," a tale in verse, 4to., 1782; "Letters written in France," in 1790; "Sketch of the Politics of France," 4 vols. 8vo., 1796; "Sketches of Manners and Opinions in France," 2 vols. 8vo., 1800; "A Narrative of Events in France, in 1815;" "Julia," a novel; exclusive of translations.

Francis Plowden, law, history, 1829. "Investigation of the Native Rights of British Subjects," 8vo., 1784; "Jura Anglorum," 8vo., 1792, "Church and State," 4to., 1795; "Historical Review of Ireland from Henry II. to the Union," 3 vols. 4to., 1803; "Principles and Law of Tithing Illustrated," 8vo., 1806.

John Reeves, politics, theology, 1753—

1829. "Inquiry into the Nature of Property as defined by the Law," 8vo., 1779; "History of the English Law," 2 vols. 4to., 1783; "Thoughts on the English Government," 8vo., 1795; "The Holy Bible with notes," 10 vols. 8vo. 1802.

Richard Chenevix, chemistry, poetry—1830. "Remarks on Chemical Nomen-

clature," 1802, 12mo.; "The Mantuan Revels," a comedy; "Henry the Seventh," an historical tragedy. Mr. Chenevix was a native of Ireland, possessed of great versatility of talent, and was the author of an "Essay on National Character," in 2 vols., 8vo., published after his death, which took place at Paris, April 5, 1830.

WILLIAM IV. A.D. 1830 to 1837.

CONSTITUTIONAL agitations on the Continent and in England form a distinguishing feature of the present reign. It is a brief period, but replete with interesting and important events. William IV. had scarcely acceded to the British throne, ere an astounding revolution burst forth from the capital of France, as unexpected by the European nations in the mode of its achievement as in the rapidity of its consummation. A crisis had arrived between conflicting parties, and the government of Charles X. sought, by one audacious blow, to strike down the liberal spirit it was no longer able, successfully, to contend against. It was a tiger-spring, which failing, the assailant fell, the unpitied victim of a wild and deadly aim.

Restored by the foreign powers, in 1814, after being ignominiously expelled by the public voice, the re-union was compulsory, and the Bourbons never assimilated in heart or mind with the French nation. Their history, like that of the Stuarts, offers a sad example of the inveteracy of hereditary habits and associations. Louis XVIII., however, had shown himself more disposed to amalgamate with new interests and ideas than his brother and successor, the Count D'Artois. He was less prejudiced, and better informed, than Charles, but jesuitical—not so direct and sincere—and thought the end justified the means. He was a timid prince, who, having experienced a long term of adversity, did not, for the third time, wish to expose himself to its bitterness, by hazardous experiments on the patience of his subjects. Though too much of a royalist to admit that the throne had been vacant during his absence of twenty-five years, or to accept a constitutional charter from the French, he vouchsafed to bestow one upon them, which contained many provisions, not less liberal and enlightened than those tendered to Louis XVI. by the Constituent Assembly. He often checked the ultra zeal of his emigrant advisers; and was dragged onward, rather than willingly participated in their retrograding schemes. Still his government did not acquire stability. It never won the confidence of the French people. They were internally prosperous; suffered under no physical calamity, but were politically discontented. Their pride was hurt, their fears kept awake. A hostile family had been imposed upon them. All that had been done in its inglorious exile was known to be held as a crime, for which France was bound to repent—to ask pardon. The patriotic principles of 1789 were contemned; the military glories of the Republic and of the empire were not acknowledged; and the multitudinous landed interests, which had grown up on the confiscated domains of the church and noblesse, were felt to be endangered. Hence the disquietudes and collisions that followed the restoration of Louis, and which impelled his government into the adoption of unconstitutional

stretches of authority, hardly less violent than those that marked the course of his successor. Sometimes the press was controlled, by the imposition of a censorship; sometimes the elections for deputies were arbitrarily interfered with; and sometimes the peerage was suddenly augmented, to carry obnoxious measures.*

The death of the king, in 1824, had no tendency to allay apprehensions, or produce greater harmony between the ruler and the ruled. Louis had affected to pursue a middle course; his successor had no such ambition. Charles was a bold, bigoted man; unlike his brother, he was a sincere catholic. He hated the revolution, and all its fruits, and never disguised his hatred. The royalists knew they could depend on his firmness, and were not slow to avail themselves of his support.

In the first year of his reign, the rights of the electors were openly violated by the prefects: the result was an overwhelming ministerial majority, which adopted a measure to extend the duration of the chamber of deputies to seven years, and its renewal in totality, instead of annually, by one-fifth. Next followed a law to indemnify the emigrants. Thirty millions of rentes, in the Three per cents. were assigned for this purpose, representing, at the current price of 75 of that stock, a capital of 30,000,000*l.* An alteration in the law of property, favourable in certain cases, to its entailment, was carried. In 1827 Villèle ventured on the bold measure of disbanding the national guard of Paris, because it had openly expressed satisfaction at the defeat of a restrictive law of the press. He next took the decisive step, apparently without pressing necessity, of dissolving the chamber of deputies. This was fatal to his ministry, by affording an opportunity to all his opponents to display their hostility. Many of the royalists were offended by his plan for the reduction of the interest of the debt, his augmentations of the peerage, and his refusals to support their extreme policy; while, on the other hand, the liberals were alienated by the anti-revolutionary tendency of his government. The two parties coalesced to overthrow his administration; they jointly selected candidates, whom they supported, during the general election, with their united strength, and everywhere the minister's friends were defeated.

M. de Villèle, unable to withstand the coalition, did not wait the assembling of the chambers, but resigned January 5, 1828. The Martignac ministry followed, consisting of many of the colleagues of Villèle, but more inclined than that minister towards constitutional principles. It abolished the discretionary power of re-establishing the censorship of the press, and abrogated the hateful law of tendency as respected the journals. It also fortified the elective rights of the nation, by securing the purity of the electoral lists, against the frauds of the local authorities; and finally issued an ordinance on education, that relieved society from the encroachments of the Jesuits, and the alarm of clerical domination. These advances towards liberalism seem to have alarmed the king, and he dismissed his responsible advisers.

In August, 1829, Charles took a step which his predecessor had never ventured upon, and that was, to appoint a ministry, consisting wholly of royalists. At the head of this ministry was prince de Polignac, a devoted Bourbonite, and bigoted catholic. During the exile of the Bourbons, the

* To carry, in 1818, the law of election, 67 peers were created at once; in 1823—the year of intervention in Spanish affairs—27 peers were made by M. de Villèle; and in 1827, the same minister created 76 more, to recover the royalist majority, which had been lost through the creations of M. Decazes, in 1819

prince had engaged in various wild schemes for their restoration, and was implicated, along with M. D'Haussez—another of the new ministers—in the conspiracy of Georges, for the assassination of Buonaparte. Bourmont, appointed the new minister of war, had been a Vendean chief, and the last that submitted: he had, however, joined Napoleon on his return from Elba, but deserted him on the eve of the battle of Waterloo; and gave the fatal evidence, on the trial of marshal Ney, that determined the fate of that gallant soldier. The other ministers were royalist advocates, or emigrants, who had fought in the army of the prince of Condé.

The appointment of the Polignac ministry left no doubt of the designs of the court, and preparations were made to counteract them. An association was formed in Britany to resist the payment of taxes, and subscriptions were set on foot to indemnify those who might suffer in resisting the levy of imposts. The journals were mostly on the liberal side; they denounced, with almost one accord, the new ministry, and endeavoured, by spirited appeals to the people, and even to the French military, to rouse them to a sense of the threatened danger to the public liberties. The royalists were not idle, and also had recourse to the press, either to allay popular apprehension, or to vindicate their intended policy. In the *Moniteur* appeared a manifesto from prince Polignac, in which he unreservedly disclaimed all the rumoured projects for destroying the Charter; for gaining a majority in the chamber of deputies, by an unconstitutional addition of aristocratic members; for calling in foreign armies to overawe the French people; and for raising forces by royal ordinances. On the other hand, a royalist publication was put forth, describing with great ability the existing crisis, and recommending to the prince almost the precise course he ultimately adopted. It contended that France had no real evil to complain of; all the abuses of her institutions had been swept away by the revolution; notwithstanding she was in a state of constant agitation; that this agitation arose from the political incongruity of a monarchy, unsupported by privileged orders; that nothing like it existed in England, where the aristocracy were predominant through their wealth and parliamentary influence. France was essentially democratic; its peerage existed in name only, and its ecclesiastical hierarchy the same; there was no gradation of classes; hardly any inequality of property; no corps of sinecurists, or well-paid placemen: the monarch was insulated, and without support. In conclusion, the writer recommended the abrogation of the Charter, and the establishment of a dictatorship, in lieu of the constitutional system.*

M. Cottu described the juncture correctly; his premises were true; his conclusions false and pernicious. He reasoned like a one-sided partisan, who had neither learnt nor unlearnt by the events of the last forty years; who thought that the king, not the people, was the state. Most truly he stated that the experience of the last fifteen years had shown that France could not continue in her present state, but her difficulties admitted of a double solution—either the will of the prince or the nation must be paramount. The question at issue was, whether the royal pleasure or the national desires should succumb? whether the prejudices of the Bourbons or the reason of France should triumph? whether Charles should be indulged in his love of a superstitious priesthood, privileged orders, tithes, feudal services, and provincial administrations; or the French, in their preference of representative institutions, as a better guarantee than the

* *De la Nécessité d'une Dictature.* Par M. Cottu. Paris, 1830.

uncertain will of an individual, of civil liberty, equality of rights, social honours, and possessions. M. Cottu was for humouring the monarch; the people were for humouring themselves. Though erroneous in reasoning, and dangerous in application, the advice of the councillor of the Cour Royale found favour in England; and the leading journal of a great political party encouraged the French royalists to persevere in the perilous course on which it appears they had determined to venture.*

The chambers were opened by the king, March 2nd, in a speech of ominous import. "If culpable manœuvres," said Charles, "should raise up against my government obstacles which I do not wish to foresee, I shall find the *power of surmounting them*, in my resolution to maintain the public peace, in my just confidence in Frenchmen, and in the love which they have always shown to their kings." The deputies, in their address, expressed their want of confidence in the government; and Charles replied, that his "intentions were immutable." As a decided majority of the deputies were against the ministry, no alternative remained but their dismissal, or a dissolution of the chamber. The king decided on the latter, trusting that by a vigorous exertion of government influence over the electoral colleges, to obtain a majority in the next chamber. He was disappointed, as might have been anticipated, from the circumstances under which he appealed to the public opinion. He next seems to have taken the resolution of governing without the chambers; and out came, on the 26th July, the famous ordinances, by which the constitution was swept away, and the Charter, as some with more zeal than foresight had recommended, thrown to the winds.

The events of the memorable three days that followed are detailed in the *Chronicle*. On Monday the ordinances appeared in the *Moniteur*; on Tuesday the people murmured; on Wednesday they took up arms—fought, and bled; on Thursday they triumphed over armed oppression; and on Friday the elder branch of the Bourbons had ceased to reign. Europe stood aghast at these marvellous occurrences—at the infatuation of the king, and the matchless heroism of the people. In ten days they had hurled a tyrant from his throne, and elected, in his stead, a constitutional sovereign, bound by conditions fixed by the national representatives. These sudden vicissitudes—this mighty convulsion, shook every throne. Within a month after, Belgium became the scene of a popular revolution hardly less astonishing. The shock was felt throughout Germany, in Italy, and Poland, and even in England, as we shall now proceed to indicate.

William IV., on his accession, found the WELLINGTON MINISTRY in power, and expressed no dissatisfaction with their measures or intention of removing them. But the administration was weak—it was unsupported by the anti-catholic section of the tories, and depended for continuance in

* After an approving notice of M. Cottu's book, the *Quarterly Review*, lxxv. 239, said,—“We, therefore, hope and trust that the king of France and his present ministers may succeed, if such be their object, in establishing a censorship on the press, and likewise in acquiring so decided a preponderance in the chamber of deputies, that its existence as an independent body, capable of bearding the monarchy, as it has recently done, shall be no longer recognised. This, we own, will be a virtual abolition of the Charter.” Further on they say,—“We think it is hardly possible to doubt that, unless the existing government adopts, and succeeds in carrying into effect, some very decisive measures in the course of the *present year*, there will ensue another burst of convulsion, and Napoleon has left no saying of more indisputable truth behind him, than that a revolution in France is a revolution in Europe.” This was in May, two months before the July revolution.

authority, on the voluntary co-operation of the opposition, with whom it was not in hearty accordance on most questions of foreign and domestic policy. The death of George IV. and the occurrences of the parliamentary session that preceded it, increased the divergence between the minister and his auxiliaries, and essentially changed the political landscape. It was evident that the premier was not disposed to advance much further with his whig allies, while the latter pressed upon him the alternative of unpopularity or an unflinching progression in his reformatory course. The country was in difficulties, and sir James Graham truly urged that it was only in moments of distress that useful purposes could be effected. Acting on this principle, the baronet made motions supported by eloquent speeches for returns of the salaries and emoluments of privy councillors,* for the salaries and fees of consuls, and for returns of the expenses of diplomatic missions; all which were negatived by large majorities. Two motions of lord John Russell for parliamentary reform shared a like fate. Sir Robert Peel and sir Harry Inglis contended that legislative reform was not required; Mr. Horace Twiss and sir George Murray, not so sanguine in their optimism, did not hold precisely the same faith, but held that giving representatives to Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, would be a *violent* proceeding. These ministerial negatives evinced that the fund of liberalism in the administration was spent; that further popular concessions were not to be expected, and the whigs availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the commencement of a new reign and consequent dissolution of parliament to dissolve the ducal alliance, and withdraw from the support of a government in which they had never officially participated.

This defection was not the only disadvantage with which the ministry had to grapple. The experience and abilities of its chief were deemed unequal to the task of civil government; and his Catholic Relief Act and some other measures were known to have been compulsory, not voluntary concessions. Hence, it lacked the national confidence, and failed to reap thanks or gratitude for laudable acts. Moreover, all tories were in discredit by the progress of popular information. For twenty years the abuses of public institutions, of public offices, of chartered companies, in charitable foundations, in the management of the public revenue, and crown revenues, had been a constant subject of exposure and animadversion by Mr. Brougham, Mr. Creevy, Lord Cochrane, Sir H. Parnell, Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobbett, and others. It was discovered and demonstrated that the government had failed in its legitimate purposes; that it had been carried on more for the benefit of the administrators than the community; that public services were over or unequally or inadequately remunerated; that public money was squandered in the maintenance of useless sinecures and undeserved pensions; and that peers, and commoners, their relatives, dependents, and connexions alike abetted, as they participated in the general corruption. Even the ministry of the duke of Wellington had been found not free from the opprobrium of his predecessors. Official patronage was abused, and cabinet ministers were found creating offices and putting their sons into them, and then abolishing the offices and retaining the compensation-pensions.†

It was amidst the disgust excited by these exposures, in the legislature

* See May 14, 1830.

† Sir R. Heron's motion, March 26, on the pensions granted to the hon. R. Dundas and the hon. W. L. Bathurst, which was carried against the Wellington ministry by 139 to 121

and out, some old and others recent, that parliament was dissolved July 24. The popular voice throughout the United Kingdom was against the prime minister; by the whigs he was deserted, and the violent of his own party, who alleged they had been betrayed, were bitterly hostile to him. To add to his difficulties, almost before the elections began, came the thunder-clap of the insurrection in Paris; and, shortly after a second peal, hardly less astounding, from Brussels. The nation was intoxicated with joy at these triumphs over oppression. All the horrors left by the first French revolution were effaced by the success and magnanimity of the second; even the property-classes became enamoured of popular commotions, and all who did not share in the gladness inspired by passing events, incurred dislike—almost execration. The minister duke became especially obnoxious, because he was suspected, though unjustly, of having been privy to the plot and elevation of prince Polignac, and the rumour told effectively against him at the elections. His colleagues were generally shunned; in the counties and populous boroughs they had no chance; even the universities turned their backs upon them as apostates to torism; they could hardly find seats even in the nomination boroughs. The state of national feeling is shown by the return of Mr. Brougham for Yorkshire, and Mr. Hume for Middlesex; for it was a saying in the days of Charles James Fox, that “these two counties rule all England.”*

The new parliament met November 2nd, and was opened by an unpopular royal speech. It regretted the state of affairs in the Low Countries; lamented the destruction of machinery, and the recent fires occasioned by incendiaries, and intimated a determination to punish outrage, disorder, and sedition. It said nothing about parliamentary or other reforms, which was generally expected, and public disappointment was aggravated by the declaration of the prime minister. Seisable, from the results of the elections, that the end of his ministerial career was approaching, he seemed disposed to hasten it by his own violence, and, in the discussion on the address, boldly affirmed that reform was unnecessary, and that while he continued at the head of the government no measure of that character should be introduced. In the existing state of political feeling, the effect was electric, and in the metropolis the excitement was such that a complimentary visit, intended to be paid in the city, on lord mayor's-day, by their majesties, was postponed, from an apprehension of popular commotion. All that had been previously surmised of the duke's unfitness for civil government seemed orally confirmed by himself, and, on the 15th, he was formally deposed, in the accustomed way, by a majority of the house of commons voting against him. Next day brought the welcome tidings of his resignation.

The resignation of the Wellington ministry terminated the executive supremacy of the Tories. Divisions among themselves, and reluctant and unavoidable concessions to the popular demands, had portended, during the last thirteen years, the decline of their exclusive authority. With very short intermissions, they had exercised the government of the country since the accession of George the Third; during that long term every branch of administration had become saturated with their maxims and adherents; and nothing, save a concurrence of favourable circumstances, and a necessity palpable and urgent, would have been adequate to dislodge a power so firmly rooted and widely ramified. But public institutions imperiously required the corrective of new principles. The dilapidating effects of time

* Life of William Wilberforce, by his Sons, ii., 132.

and neglect had become apparent in the primary, as well as secondary departments of administration. Inequalities and abuses were not more rife in the church and public offices than in the courts of law and great corporations of the kingdom. Under a pertinacious system of non-inquiry and non-reform, the gangrene had spread through the entire frame, and a new anatomy of parts, not less than new blood, had become essential to a perfect regeneration of the body politic.

The most curious part of the system was unquestionably the representative. Engrossed by the more pressing dangers of popery and arbitrary power, this had been left untouched at the revolution of 1688. Time had augmented its deformities, and shown more glaringly the disseverance of property and intelligence from political power and responsibility, till at length it had degenerated into a mere mockery, obvious to the minds of all men by the ludicrous contrast of Old Sarum and Gatton with representatives—Birmingham and Manchester without a voice. By nomination-boroughs, by close corporations, and by the peculiarities of the county franchise, only one interest was substantially incorporated in the legislature. Land was omnipotent; commerce, manufactures, shipping; all that constituted the pride, distinction, and glory of the realm, were dumb, or only partially and stealthily heard, like something guilty or illegitimate, from a few stray organs, or the less recognised channels of the public press, and popular assemblages in the open air. An oligarchy ruled, and it is needless to say that the laws it made, the measures it supported, and those it frustrated, savoured of the character, the prejudices, and interests of the law-makers.

No problem in Euclid had been better demonstrated than the iniquities of parliamentary elections and representation. They had ceased to be reasoned upon, and their defence had become a mere thesis for wits and rhetoricians to display their ingenious sophistry. Just half a century had elapsed since reform was on the point of being achieved by a national movement, arrested only by the *No Popery* riots of lord George Gordon. It was again postponed till the tempest of the French revolution had swept by, but it was never abandoned; it was only laid aside—its efficacy was known—its value appreciated, but, like something sacred, it was kept back till a period of tranquillity, or till favourable circumstances, like those indicated above, insured for it a triumphant reception. It had always been looked upon, by patriotic and enlightened men, not blinded by selfishness, ambition, or morbid refinement, as the ark, the wholesome corrective of the constitution; and sir George Savile, Wyvile, William Pitt, Charles Grey, sir Francis Burdett, major Cartwright, Brande, Lambton, and lord John Russell, are some of the distinguished names who successively took charge of the state elixir, till it was finally accepted and applied by a beneficent and puissant monarch.

Besides the concurring and favourable circumstances arising from the co-operation of king, ministers, and people, in one direction, animated and impelled in their course by the excitement of the continental revolutions; there were others that helped to weaken opposition to constitutional changes, while, at the same time, they produced a more perfect unanimity and force among those classes who had the wish and the power to effect them. These were the total absence, or at least abeyance, of the wild and impracticable theories of social and political reform, which had agitated the country during the five years subsequent to the peace. Neither property, nor the church, nor the constitution, was felt to be endangered by the progress of reform

under its present auspices. The political effervescence that prevailed from 1816 to 1821 had entirely subsided; the advocates of universal suffrage and annual parliaments had met with so little encouragement that they had ceased to petition the legislature; and the course was now free to the advancement of more moderate and feasible claims, supported by the intelligence and proprietary of the kingdom.*

The ministry of earl Grey was formed in November, 1830. Public opinion imperatively marshalled the way, and fortunately there was no wish, certainly no intention, of diverging into any bye-path. Those members of the cabinet who had not, like the head of the government, always been reformers, were converted, or acquiesced under the pressure of existing circumstances. The king himself consented to the introduction of a measure of reform; on this condition office had been accepted by his majesty's new advisers, who declared, immediately on taking the reins of power, the terms of their intended administration to be peace abroad, reform and retrenchment at home.

These pledges the whigs faithfully redeemed, in a spirit of wisdom, firmness, and patriotism. As respects their first and greatest measure, that of PARLIAMENTARY REFORM, on which the heart of the nation was fixed, they might have tried illusive arts—have sought delay—attempted, and perhaps temporarily succeeded, in palming on the community a much less efficient measure than that they actually introduced and triumphantly consummated. But it would have been no resting-place; this they foresaw, and wisely shunned both delusion and procrastination. They applied themselves directly to the removal of the public malady, which they correctly understood, grappled with it, and like bold and skilful physicians, cut out the cancer that had for ages preyed on the vitals of the constitution, and took all the precautions they could, commensurate with public intelligence and their own power, to guard against its re-production.

Their first aim was to augment popular control, conformably to the altered disposition in society of wealth and knowledge, and by divesting the government of its irresponsible action, render the oligarchical interests, heretofore predominant in the state, subordinate to those of the common weal. In pursuit of this organic change, they proceeded neither wildly, rashly, nor selfishly. No greater disturbance was given to existing institutions; no greater violence committed on existing interests, than was essential to the general security; by which means the alarms of the timid were allayed, and the demands of the moderate and rational satisfied. They sought to reform within, not without, the pale of the constitution. In this spirit the ballot, which was included in the first draft of the reform bill, was rejected as extraneous, and inapplicable to the evils complained of—which were the nomination boroughs—non-representation of the large towns—inequalities in the elective franchise—and the delay, expense, and corruption of elections.†

* So completely out of heart and hope were the ultra-radicals that parliament would reform itself, that of late years they had ceased to petition for it. In the year 1821 nineteen petitions were presented in favour of reform; in the year 1822 the number was reduced to twelve; in the year 1823 the number was twenty-nine; in the year 1824 there was no petition at all in favour of reform. The same was the case in the years 1825, 1826, 1827, and 1829. In the session of 1828 there were fourteen.—(*Mr. Croker's Speech, House of Commons, March 1, 1831.*)

† The preparation of the first draft of the Reform Bill was intrusted by earl Grey to lord Durham, who was assisted by the advice of three of his colleagues, lord John Russell, sir James Graham, and lord Duncannon.—(*Earl Durham's Speech, Gateshead, October 23, 1833.*)

That the scheme of the Reform Ministers was bold and honest, as well as discreet; that it was proportioned to the emergency; or, if defective, that they shared its errors, in common with the people, is shown by the well-known fact, that its first introduction was hailed with one unanimous burst from reformers of all classes, of surprise, gratitude, and thankfulness; and that almost the entire nation seemed ready, at one period of its jeopardy, to peril its existence in the carrying of "the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill;" while on the other hand, the Tories, those whose career of misrule it was intended to arrest, and for ever foreclose, stood aghast at its boldness—its uprooting, subversive reality; and, forgetting their divisions, they at once united, as against a common enemy that threatened now and for ever their extinction in name, authority, and spoliative rapacity.

Under such political aspects was the REFORM BILL introduced and accepted by the community. It was first brought forward in the house of commons, by lord John Russell, March 1st, 1831. So great had been the popular excitement pending the general election of the preceding year, that the second reading was carried by a majority of ONE, in a parliament chosen under the auspices of the Wellington administration. But on the 20th April, general Gascoigne carried his amendment on the clause of the ministerial proposition, reducing the numbers of the house by a majority of eight.

Two days after, the parliament was dissolved in a speech, in which the king stated, that the appeal about to be made to the people had been resolved upon, expressly with the view of ascertaining their sense as to the proposed alteration in the representation. The general election took place in May, and the new parliament met on the 14th June. On the 24th, the second Reform Bill was introduced; and on the 4th of July, after a debate of three nights, the second reading was carried by a majority of 136; the motion having been supported by 367 members, and opposed by 231. At half-past six on the morning of the 8th October, after a debate of five nights, this bill was thrown out, on the second reading in the Lords, by a majority of 199 to 158. On the 20th, parliament was prorogued, and was not again called together till the 6th December. The year, however, which had already been so busy and eventful, did not close till the great measure, in the discussion of which so much of it had been spent, was again before the legislature.

The third Reform Bill was introduced into the Commons on the 12th December, and read a second time by a majority of exactly two to one, on the 17th. Having, however, been detained nearly two months in committee, it did not leave the Commons till the 19th March, 1832, when the third reading was carried by a majority of 355 to 239. At seven o'clock on the morning of the 14th April, after a debate of four days, it was read a second time in the house of lords, and carried by a majority of 9, the numbers being 184 in its favour, and 175 against it. On the 7th May, however, the day on which parliament re-assembled after the Easter recess, the motion proposed by lord Lyndhurst—to postpone the consideration of the disfranchising clauses of the bill till the enfranchising clauses had been discussed—was carried against ministers, by a majority of 151 to 116. As this was considered the first of a series of obstructions, dexterously intended by the learned lord to delay and mutilate, if not destroy the national scheme, the ministers adopted at the instant a firm and resolute course. On the 9th, earl Grey announced in the lords, and viscount Althorp in the commons,

that ministers had resigned. A week of terrific agitation followed; but on this it is unnecessary to dwell, as it must still be fresh in general recollection, and is fully described in the *Chronicle*.*

It may be here proper to observe, that from the first meeting of parliament the general impression had been, that ministers were in possession of the royal assent to an augmentation of the peerage, in case they could not otherwise carry the bill through the upper house. It now appeared such assent had neither been obtained nor sought, and in consequence, the popular disappointment was great, though premature, and in part unreasonable. Ministers had resolved not to transgress the limits of the constitution, nor even to resort to the extreme measure which the constitution allowed, without urgent and unavoidable necessity.

After their resignation, the king sent for lord Lyndhurst, who communicated with the duke of Wellington and sir Robert Peel. Although his majesty sought new councillors, it is due to his memory distinctly to record, that he sought them solely with the view of surmounting, with less violence, the obstacle that had arisen in the way of reform; but with an unflinching determination that "an extensive reform" should be effected. Under this limitation lord Lyndhurst received his commission. The duke of Wellington, from motives of loyalty, as he himself explained them,* and in chivalrous defiance of his recent anti-reform declaration, appeared disposed to lend himself to the royal emergency; but sir Robert Peel was more untractable. He had strenuously opposed the reform bill from its first introduction: he had no hope of modifying the bill to his own satisfaction, so as to meet the approval of the existing majority of the commons against him; therefore, out of regard to his own consistency, he declined, though tempted with the premiership, to co-operate with the duke in any attempt to form a ministry on the basis the king had prescribed. Of course the design of a new administration was given up, and the former ministers recalled.

On the 18th of May, earl Grey intimated that himself and colleagues were again in office. He also intimated that he had returned to power on the condition, and with an assurance from the king, that, so far as it depended on his majesty, his co-operative aid to carry the reform bill should not be wanting. Both the king and his ministers had manifested a laudable reluctance to resort to the extreme measure of a sudden and enormous addition to the peerage; but all other means the constitution pointed out had been tried and found insufficient. The people had been appealed to by a dissolution of parliament; a large majority of their representatives had passed the bill, the king was favourable to it, an attempt to form an anti-reform ministry had miscarried; only one obdurate branch of the legislature withstood the aggregate will: therefore now was the juncture, now was the necessity, in order to carry on the government of the country, when the prerogative of the crown ought and might be legitimately called into action. Without this exercise of the regal power, which, like Goliath's sword ought never to be brought forward, save on great and needful occasion, the constitution would have been in abeyance; the necessary business of the executive impeded; and the internal peace of the empire endangered. In lieu of a government of king, lords, and commons, it would have degenerated into a government of lords alone, in defiance of the two other estates of the realm, and the loudly, and almost unanimously-expressed voice of the people.

* See Resignation of ministers, May 9, 1832.

† House of Lords, May 17, 1832.

The king's resolve having become known, its execution was rendered unnecessary. Rather than have their lustre diminished, and collective power diluted by an addition of about one hundred to their number, the refractory peers, in obedience to the royal wish, conveyed to them in a circular,* absented themselves from the house, and the reform bill was carried, in silence and solitude, through its remaining stages, encountering a merely formal opposition. On the 4th June it was read a third time and passed by a majority of 106 to 22. On the 7th, it received the royal assent. The Scotch and Irish Bills and the Boundaries Bill were, in like manner, soon after enacted into laws. On the 16th August the parliament was prorogued, and did not again meet. It was dissolved on the 3d December; and the remainder of that month was occupied in the first general election under the new system of representation.

As the changes effected by the reform acts, and the character of the first parliament elected under them have been described, in their chronological place,† we shall here only summarily indicate the constitutional progress of the government, and its successive epochs, from the commencement of the present history, and already more fully noticed in our antecedent prefatory discourses, down to the passing of the great parliamentary charter of the Reform Ministry.

The devolution and expansion of political power have been from the king to the people. Diving ourselves of the illusions of antiquity, that would assume a perfection of civil polity incompatible with an untutored age, it is impossible to conceal that the English government, for a long period, was a simple despotism, occasionally and irregularly limited in the exercise, by the interference of the nobility and clergy. The first decided and regular approach to constitutional rule was the regal grant of Magna Charta. It defined the immunities of the crown and aristocracy, and recognized, by a public instrument that could always be appealed to, general principles of equity, before unknown or unpractised; and though limited in the first instance in their application to the privileged orders, by whom they had been sanctioned and obtained, they came to be gradually applied to other classes, and ultimately to the entire community by whom they were claimed.

The civil wars of the commonwealth do not appear to have achieved any abiding result for the people. The commons had risen into affluence and intelligence; they were powerful enough to wage a successful war against the monarch, depose him, and set him aside, along with the church and house of lords; but owing to divisions and theological disputes among themselves, or rather, perhaps, to the political inexperience that rashly led them to make greater changes than could be safely attempted or permanently maintained, they failed to circumscribe the prerogatives against which they had rebelled, by new and stable constitutional barriers. In consequence of this abortive issue the Restoration was dexterously, and almost, under the circumstances, necessarily effected without conditions; the old arbitrary powers of the crown remained, and the exercise of them was only for a time checked through the salutary terror impressed on the executive by a recent and successful example of popular resistance.

By the revolution of 1688, absolutism, and even the pretensions to it, were for ever laid prostrate. William III. was the elected king of the nation; his prerogatives were strictly defined by the Bill of Rights, and

* See *May 9, 1832.*

† See *June 7, 1832; and Jan. 1, 1833.*

the practice of the constitution was more nearly assimilated to the theory. As the aristocratic order, lay and ecclesiastical, had by their vigorous and well-concerted exertions chiefly effected the change of dynasty, they naturally claimed, and certainly appropriated its chief and immediate benefits. In lieu of regal, the government became parliamentary; or, in consequence of the small number among whom parliamentary power was divided, oligarchical. The Middle Classes had continued to increase in social importance, but were still restricted to the exercise of an indirect influence on public affairs through the medium of the Press and their riches, aided by a fragment of representation in the house of commons. The narrow basis of the government gave a narrow direction to the objects of state policy. National interests were disregarded or misunderstood, and the interests of the two factions, into which the Oligarchy was divided, were chiefly considered. Domestic abuses that constituted their strength and profit were allowed to accumulate, or if disturbed it was only for party purposes, which answered, they were again left to increase and multiply. Abroad a policy was pursued hurtful and expensive to the people. Its leading features were the ambition or cupidity of colonial acquisitions that were burdensome or embarrassing to the nation; continental wars and entangling alliances for trifling, contradictory, or reprehensible objects; the perpetuation of national rivalries and antipathies; the maintenance of an imaginary balance of power among the European states; the dictation of the order of succession to foreign thrones, and the form of their internal administration. Questions of closer national interest, of commerce, navigation, and industrial prosperity were only incidentally noticed, and inadequately appreciated. External, not internal, policy was the primary object of statesmen, the grand topic of parliamentary eloquence and intrigue, the pivot upon which the strength or weakness, the permanence or dissolution of a whig or tory administration revolved.*

* The Parliamentary Debates, of which we have now such a copious and authentic record, offer an ample field for culling the political notions—for amidst the animosities and confusion of party they had rarely the constancy or generalization of principles—of the leading statesmen of the Georgian era. In debating the commercial treaty with France in 1786, Mr. Fox argued that "France was the natural political enemy of Great Britain"—(*Foreign Quarterly Review*, xxxvii. 171). The Corinthian politicians were more conversant with the philippics of Demosthenes or the orations of Cicero, than with the writings of Mr. Locke, Stewart, Hume, or Adam Smith. Mr. Pitt's ideas on an important question of domestic polity afford a singular contrast to prevailing sentiments (see Feb. 12, 1796). As parliament, not the court, was the arena on which the prize of government was contended for, ability to shine in debate was chiefly cultivated. It drew forth a brilliant constellation of rhetoricians—cadets of noble families, lawyers, and literary adventurers—whose chief accomplishment in statesmanship was oratory. "From the time" (says the *Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvii. 159) "of Charles II. down to our own days, a different species of talent, parliamentary talent, has been the most valuable of all the qualifications of an English statesman. It has stood in the place of all other acquirements. It has covered ignorance, weakness, rashness, the most fatal mal-administration. A great negotiator is nothing when compared with a great debater, and a minister who can make a successful speech need trouble himself little about an unsuccessful expedition. This is the talent that has made judges without law, and diplomatists without French,—which has sent to the admiralty men who did not know the stern of a ship from her bowsprit, and to the India board men who did not know the difference between a rupee and a pagoda,—which made a foreign secretary of Mr. Pitt, who, as George II. said, had never opened Vattel, and which was very near making a chancellor of the exchequer of Mr. Sheridan, who could not work a sum in long division." It did make a chancellor of the exchequer of Mr. Canning, hardly a less miracle than Sheridan's promotion would have been. But the age of tropes has yielded to the age of utility! Sheridan was the last example in the senate, and Erskine, who was a good specimen in *English*, of Irish eloquence, the last at the bar,

The general Peace gave a new direction to legislation. By the fortunate issue of the struggle against Napoleon's ambition the Tories became so firmly rooted in authority that the Whigs gave up all hope of supplanting them, and, leaving the barren pursuit of power, they directed attention to commercial, educational, financial, legal, and juridical ameliorations. Social questions slowly acquired an interest beyond that of political conflicts. In this new field a knowledge of the principles of science was more important than cleverness in debate. The style of parliamentary oratory necessarily underwent a contemporary change—became less ornamental and figurative—more logical and statistical—and the new direction given to it has received a further impulse from the great but prosaic interests called into legislative existence by the Reform Acts,—the last and most triumphant epoch in the progress of the British constitution.

Statesmen, like philosophers, must be judged by the standard of their own time, not by that of a future age. For the period, and under the circumstances, the Reform Bill was a just, comprehensive, and energetic conception. For names it substituted realities; for prescriptive rights that had become hurtful or dead, it created living interests. All may have not been made partakers of its benefits, but all have been made easily and equally eligible to them: there is no interdict. Its leading feature is a circumscription of aristocratic power, which had become degenerate, by its transfusion into the democracy, which had risen into competence and relative supremacy. Legislative authority is now vested in the nation, and the nation, when it thinks fit, can constitutionally exercise it. The difference in the action of Public Opinion, before and after the Reform Bill, is great and distinctive. It was always potent; it triumphed over the Stuarts; at the Orange revolution of 1688 it was present; it often controlled the factions under the Georges, and even succeeded in returning a reform parliament under a Wellington ministry. But its impulses were irregular; too sudden or dilatory; often violent or even revolutionary; rarely deliberative, and always illegitimate. These defects have been remedied by the parliamentary charter, which has established a safe and recognized channel for the conveyance of the public sentiment. No interest is now—though perhaps not in just proportion—without its representative organ. In tranquil times, in the absence of gross abuse, or misgovernment, these organs may be mute, relaxed, and quiescent: they may be like river-beds in summer, empty, dry, and inert; but let oppression stalk forth, or imbecility be apparent in rulers, and their latent powers become manifest, they are instantly strung, and peal with a warning voice that no minister, however reckless and unprincipled, would dare to disregard.

These different powers of the constitution, under different circumstances, will give an oscillating ascendancy to political parties. In periods of prosperity, when men are disposed to contentment under the established order, the prevailing tendency will be to Conservatism; in periods of distress or misrule to Whiggism, or, according to the intensity of the popular orgasm, to Radicalism. In the absence of any public emergency, the merit as well as the necessity of private sacrifices is diminished; and those not influenced by high principles follow their interests or inclination. It will thus happen that the Tories, in ordinary times, will gather strength in the towns, where the mass of the constituency has become indifferent to the exercise of the elective franchise, as well as in the counties, where their influence must always be great from territorial possessions, local association, and the indisposition to change peculiar to the rural classes. Against

the temporary growth of the authority of their opponents, the Whigs, in framing the Reform Bill, took no selfish precautions. They seem, indeed, to have favoured it; and some of the alterations admitted into the original scheme experience soon showed not to be improvements. The maintenance of the full number of 658 members, and the very considerable increase in the county representation, at the expense of the boroughs, were decidedly in favour of the Tories. The tax and rate-paying clauses operate in the same direction. The last in particular, in the absence of political excitement, effect an extensive disfranchisement of their supporters; while the Conservatives continue undiminished or are augmented by defections from their ranks. Ministers, however, are not to blame for the tenant-at-will clause; they opposed that interpolation, which was carried against them by a section of Radicals, headed by Mr. Hume, joining the Tories.

Notwithstanding the points in favour of the Tories, there is little likelihood of their obtaining a permanent ascendancy. It can only happen when no reforms are needed, or the people are indifferent to them, or the public mind is not agreed or matured on their expediency, that the torpor of conservatism can overpower the nation. In all other cases the progressive principle will be in action; nor is there any power remaining, either in the crown or the house of lords, long to resist its onward movement. Lord Coke said, "that seldom or ever any good measure which had once been entered on the Journals, though it miscarried at first, was wholly lost to the nation." If this were true under the old system, it is much more likely to be realized under the new. But half a century or so, as in the case of the Test and Corporation Acts, African Slave Bill, or the Catholic Relief Bill, is too long to wait for just and sound legislation; and it would certainly now be a hazardous experiment on the national patience for the lords to delay five in lieu of fifty years public measures carried by a large majority of the commons, supported by the population of the metropolis, the municipal towns, and the present enlarged constituency.

The chief excellence of the new representation is that we have tried to explain, namely, its alternate actions, by which rest as well as efficient expression is given to the public sentiment. It is likely future changes will be peaceably as well as deliberately and constitutionally effected. The new machinery telegraphs all the great national impulses, and seems so contrived as safely to bear, without snapping, any strain to which it may be subjected by the outward pressure. One of its greatest and most easily remedied defects is, that its movements are too slow, by which the communication of feeling between the representative and constituent bodies may be too long suspended. Seven years are too protracted a term for the natural duration of parliament. There is less reason for this now that general elections have been rendered so quiet, economical, and expeditious. A shorter period is demanded from the altered state of society—its increased intellectual activity through the agency of the press and popular discussion, by which changes of opinion are constantly being effected with railroad despatch, and requiring to be communicated with corresponding celerity and force to the legislature.

Apart from the danger of disseverance of feeling between the people and parliament, from its septennial duration, the new representation, on its first trial may be pronounced to have been successful. It fully answered the most trying test of social institutions, that of practical usefulness in accordance with the national sentiment. As might be expected, the first Reformed Parliament consisted of a vast majority of those by whom it had been

created, and was composed of two-thirds whigs, and the remainder in about equal portions of tories and radicals.* It began its labours by adopting salutary regulations for improving and facilitating the modes of transacting parliamentary business. A session of splendid legislation followed, unsurpassed in justice, utility, and practical wisdom by that of any representative assembly on record. There was a manifest indisposition to entertain questions involving further organic changes, especially as those under which the commons itself had assembled remained untried; but all the great topics on which public opinion had been expressed and matured were resolutely grappled with, elaborately discussed, and satisfactorily adjusted. As a summary of the important labours of this year has been given in another place, it is sufficient to refer to them.† Ireland, its internal peace and ecclesiastical establishment; the East India Company, the renewal of its charter, the opening of its exclusive trade with China, and the future government of the vast population of Hindostan; the renewal of the charter of the Bank of England, and the connexion of its immunities with the state of banking and the currency; and lastly, the abolition of colonial slavery, with a compensatory grant to the West India proprietary, formed engrossing subjects of parliamentary debate and enactment.

The FOREIGN POLICY of the empire formed an additional subject of interest and discussion. Almost for the first time on record, England and France acted in concert without jealousy or mistrust. Both nations had recently and almost contemporaneously undergone great internal changes; but France, by the election of Louis Philippe, the abolition of the hereditary Peerage, the establishment of popular education, and the doubling of her elective constituency, had outstript England in the race of social improvement and constitutional innovation. In the foreign policy of the two kingdoms there was no divarication; of both the aim was the maintenance of peace among nations; but constitutional themselves, they naturally felt an interest in promoting the establishment of constitutional power in other countries. Acting on this principle the claims of Don Pedro in favour of his daughter were preferred to those of Don Miguel in Portugal; and those of the queen-regent in behalf of her infant by Ferdinand VII. to those of his brother Don Carlos in Spain; but neither government excited the fears of other states by direct interference in behalf of Isabella II. of Spain, or Donna Maria of Portugal.‡ A subject of nearer and deeper interest than the fratricidal contests in the Peninsula was the effecting an amicable divorce between Belgium and Holland, the difficulties of which were augmented by the decided aversion of one of the betrothed parties to a separation. William, Prince of Orange, created by the allied sovereigns in 1815 King of the Netherlands, was naturally and pertinaciously averse to the severance from his crown of the better half of his dominions, and its erection, under prince Leopold, into an independent monarchy. But jealousies and differences of all kinds, religious, political, and civil, coupled with the fact that the Belgic population had actually succeeded in expelling the Dutch authorities from their territory, rendered the compulsory maintenance of the union impolitic and, perhaps, impracticable.§ At first England, France, and Russia jointly interposed their good offices; they succeeded in enforcing a suspension of hostilities, and prescribed the terms of future peace and separation between the belligerents. In these terms the Dutch king refused his concurrence, and Russia

* See *Jan. 1. 1833.*

† See *A.D. 1833, July 28, Sept. 29.*

‡ See *Aug. 29. 1833.*

§ See *A.D. 1830, Aug. 25, Sept. 21.*

declining to act coercively against him, the executive task of enforcing submission by arms devolved on France and England. Novel events followed. The combined English and French fleets, so often hostilely arrayed against each other, peaceably mingled their flags in the Channel; the Scheldt was blockaded, and an embargo laid on Dutch ships in British ports; a French army under Marshal Gerard rapidly penetrated to Antwerp, and, after a brisk bombardment of the citadel, that almost entombed its brave defender, Chassé, in a storm of shells and cannon-balls, they quietly, and without the co-operation of the Belgians, put them in possession of the disputed fortress, which they themselves would perhaps have been unable to conquer, and then again withdrew into the French territory. These form examples of disinterested mediation, of which there are few instances in the history of European diplomacy. Austria, Russia, and Prussia beheld them with watchfulness, and the latter power assembled a large army on the frontier; but neither France nor England being actuated by ambitious impulses, the great object of intervention—the maintenance of the peace of Europe—was secured. The fall of Antwerp, however, did not terminate all differences in the Low Countries; years elapsed before the 24 Articles of separation agreed upon by the London Conference relative to the apportionment of the public debt of Holland and Belgium, and the province of Limburg and the duchy of Luxemburg, which the Belgians coveted, with the concurrence of the population of the disputed territories, as a portion of their new kingdom, were acquiesced in by both parties.

In the same year the aspect of affairs in the East claimed the friendly interference of France and England. A new and crafty power had arisen in that quarter which threatened the entire extinction of the Ottoman empire. The victorious armies of Mehemet Ali, the rebel viceroy of Egypt, commanded by his son Ibrahim, had conquered the whole of Syria, and, after traversing Asia Minor and defeating, in the great battle of Konieh, the Turkish forces under the grand vizier, had almost reached the shores of the Bosphorus. Weakened by internal reforms, which the Turkish aristocracy opposed and the multitude, to whose benefit they tended, did not appreciate, Greece and the Archipelago, Egypt and Algiers, severed from his dominions, and exhausted from the late unsuccessful war with Russia, the Sultan Mahmoud was unable to stand in open field against the Egyptian invaders. In this extremity he applied for assistance to the court of St. Petersburg, the oldest and most dangerous enemy of the Porte. Russia promptly listened to this overture, the leading object of her policy, from the reign of the ambitious Catherine, being to establish her authority in the ancient Byzantium; and, in the first months of 1833, her ships were in motion on the Black Sea, and her armies on the Pruth directed towards the Turkish capital. The European powers became alarmed at these movements; France despatched Admiral Roussin to Constantinople, and the ministers of England and Austria co-operated with the French ambassador in efforts to dissuade the Sultan from his perilous connexion with the emperor Nicholas. They offered to try to stop the march of Ibrahim, and proposed terms of peace to Mehemet Ali, which the pasha rejected, and ordered the advance of his army. Meanwhile a second squadron of Russians anchored in the Bosphorus with numerous troops on board. The Sultan wavered; he was in a dilemma, and had only to choose between accepting the terms demanded by his own vassal, or having his capital garrisoned or, at least, defended by Russian auxiliaries. He adopted the former as the less evil, and Ibrahim retraced his steps towards

the passes of Mount Taurus. The Russians, however, continued to linger in the vicinity of Constantinople till the summer; the combined English and French fleets cruising in the Mediterranean to watch their motions; and it was only after the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi had been concluded with the Porte* that the Czar withdrew his armaments from the Bosphorus. Had it not been for the intervention of Britain and France, it is probable the Russians would have occupied Constantinople by degrees, and, under various pretexts, gradually established an authority there hardly less dictatorial than that exercised in the unfortunate capital of Poland. Such an extension of the sway of an overgrown empire, whose despotic institutions are dangerous to civilization, and afford no guarantee of future policy, and which, for the last century, has shown itself actuated by that restless thirst for territorial aggrandizement peculiar to a semi-barbarous state, would have been an European calamity.

Fortunately, the might of Russia is more defensive than aggressive, and there appears little ground for apprehension from any outbreak of adventurous ambition in her sovereigns. In defence she has always shown herself invincible; in aggressive power she is inferior to neighbouring states. It is only towards the East, to which she first opened a passage across the Balkan in 1829, that she finds a penetrable line of resistance; on the west she is confined by the impassable military barrier presented by Austria, Prussia, and the German states; on the ocean, England is the trusty gaoler of the North, and, holding the keys of the Baltic and the Euxine by her naval superiority, she can, by blockading the Cattigate and the Dardanelles, when the czar evinces signs of restlessness or a disposition to break his bounds, stop all egress, offensive or commercial, from his vast interior.

Reposing on these securities, all fear of Russian intrigue and Russian ambition vanishes. The treaty of Unkiar Skelessi formed a natural subject of jealousy with the European courts, especially the separate article, by which the Porte engaged at the instance of Russia to close the strait of the Dardanelles against "any foreign vessel of war." But the English ministry have not been unmindful of any advantage the emperor Nicholas might have secured by this treaty; and at a period subsequent to that under notice, a convention of commerce and navigation was concluded with the Porte, highly conducive to the mercantile interests of Britain, and which places British subjects and British ships on a footing of equality with the most favoured nation with which the Sultan is in alliance.†

The commencement of the domestic history of 1834 is remarkable for the altered tone assumed by the Reform Ministry, who began to feel inconvenienced by the indefinite continuance of that pressure without which had raised them into and mainly supported them in the exercise of authority. The popular storm had swept away the larger masses of abuse, and it was now desirable that the executive and the legislative should subside into and move with less disturbance in their natural channels. The removal of the more palpable evils had been effected, but it was a nicer and more difficult question to deal with those involving complicated and more

* See July 8, 1833.

† Convention of Balta-Liman, Aug. 16, 1838, inserted in the London Gazette, Dec. 18, 1838. This convention, by which English merchandises will be admitted into Turkey at lower and fixed rates of duty, coupled with the treaty concluded with Austria, July 3, 1838, and by which the navigation of the Danube is opened to British merchants, attest the ability of our foreign diplomacy, and its watchfulness to promote the commercial interests of the empire.

equally-balanced interests, and respecting which the general opinion was not so unanimous. To enter safely upon these, time, caution, and deliberation were requisite; and such essentials could hardly be reckoned upon so long as the government continued to be hurried forward by an external agency more remarkable for force than a just appreciation of the obstacles to be surmounted. Accordingly ministers sought to separate themselves from the impatient and irregular auxiliaries with whom they had heretofore kept up a friendly intercourse, if not actually concluded a defensive alliance. The Tories had been defeated if not humbled, and the Indian war-whoop was no longer requisite to alarm them into further concessions. Downing-street, in consequence, became less accessible to the inroads of the leaders of political unions and parochial deputations; and even the representative organs of the Dissenters were given to understand that though their civil grievances would be listened to and redressed, there existed a firm determination not to countenance any attack, if such were intended, on the established Church.

With these indications the parliamentary session began in February. In May its proceedings were interrupted by divisions in the cabinet. These arose out of the question of the appropriation of the surplus revenues of the Irish church, whether to ecclesiastical or secular purposes. The difficulty was prospective and contingent. There was no surplus to appropriate; nor was it certainly known that there ever would, or to what amount. Government did not seek its agitation; it was unnecessary to the progress of their measures; but a large party in the house of commons, who thought a reform of the Irish church would be incomplete or valueless unless accompanied with a new disposition of its redundant wealth, determined to draw forth an anticipatory parliamentary declaration in its favour. This was the object of the celebrated resolution, moved by Mr. Ward, May 27th. It was supported by a majority of the commons, and a majority of the ministry; but a minority of the cabinet, who dissented from its principle, and held that ecclesiastical property could only be justly applied to ecclesiastical purposes, finding themselves unable to acquiesce in the ministerial basis adopted by their colleagues, withdrew from the administration.

The rupture with Mr. Stanley and sir James Graham, the earl of Ripon and the duke of Richmond, was speedily followed by another, which grew out of the renewal of the Irish Coercion Bill, and involved in its issues the retirement of the noble premier himself. Earl Grey had repeatedly sought to retire in the preceding year, but urged by his colleagues he had been prevailed upon to continue in office. All the pledges he had given at the commencement of his patriotic ministry had been firmly and faithfully, and beyond the public expectation redeemed. Economy in the public expenditure, and improvements in the public offices, had been resolutely promoted. The peace of Europe had been preserved without a compromise of national honour; while at the same time the cause of constitutional liberty had been sought to be advanced in the Peninsula by the conclusion of the Quadruple Alliance with France, Spain, and Portugal. Under his auspices the great question of Parliamentary Reform had been carried; he had commenced life with the advocacy of an amendment of the representation; and this his first wish being realized, and having begun to feel the infirmities of age, it was natural that his lordship should seize the first opportunity to withdraw from the toils and responsibility of government.

Lord Althorp, who had also resigned, having consented to resume the chancellorship of the exchequer, the Reform Ministry was continued, under the premiership of viscount Melbourne, as first lord of the treasury.

Although public business had been delayed by ministerial changes, the second session of the Reformed Parliament, like the first, was distinguished by important legislation. The establishment of the Central Criminal Court, by providing more frequent gaol deliveries, and extending the local jurisdiction of the Old Bailey Court, effected great improvements in the criminal administration of the metropolis and adjoining counties.* An undertaking of still greater difficulty, with which the legislature energetically grappled, was an attempt to amend the administration of the POOR LAWS. In dealing with an old system of domestic polity, parliament evinced no hesitation in departing from established usages and maxims; but how successfully can only be ascertained by a longer term of experience of the moral and social results of the new law than is embraced by the remaining portion of our history.

Numerous errors had been engrafted on the celebrated statute of queen Elizabeth, partly by the legislature itself, and partly by its parochial and magisterial administrators. These had been an anxious subject of inquiry ever since the Peace, and had been sought to be met by the institution of assistant overseers, select vestries, and other remedial enactments. It was not the principle of a compulsory assessment for the relief of the indigence inseparable from society that appeared so objectionable, as its corrupt, wasteful, and injudicious disbursement. In Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, and some of the largest parishes of the metropolis, there had already been strenuous efforts made to reform or avert the deterioration of their pauper administration; and where this vigilance and intelligence had been exercised by individuals, they had been found sufficient, even under the old laws, either to amend or prevent the inroad of glaring abuses.

These, however, were exceptions to the general state of the kingdom, especially in the agricultural districts, and the interference of parliament had become necessary. Wages had come to be partly paid out of the poor-rates; no efficient test was applied to distinguish between real and fictitious distress; the rights of settlement were conflicting and productive of expensive litigation; the size of parishes was unequal, and unsuited to an economical and efficient administration; the powers of magistrates were not correctly defined, and were often injudiciously exercised; the Bastardy Laws were supposed to encourage incontinency in females, and offer an inducement to perjury; owing to the equality of suffrage in the rate-payers, the management of the poor frequently fell into the hands of incompetent or unprincipled persons, who perverted their authority to jobbing and selfish purposes: under the operation of these causes the poor-rates had increased in amount without being proportionately beneficial to the poor, who, it was alleged, had been demoralized, rendered idle, refractory, and discontented, by the mal-administration of laws intended solely for their relief and advantage. As a remedy for these manifold evils a more centralized power was deemed expedient, and a board of three commissioners was appointed for five years, invested with almost unlimited authority to reform and superintend the administration of the poor-laws in England and Wales.

It was not exclusively the consideration of benefiting the poor, but also themselves, that induced the legislature to apply with zeal and extraordinary unanimity to a reform of the poor-laws. It was sought as an effective mode of relieving agricultural distress, the existence of which had been

* This is only one of many judicial improvements introduced of late years. Of sixty legal defects mentioned by Mr. Brougham, in his celebrated speech, Feb. 7, 1828, fifty-five have in whole, or in part, been removed. It has proved the most useful, as it was the most remarkable oration ever delivered in parliament. 3 L 2

unceasingly pressed on the attention of government.* All the property classes suffered by the pressure of the poor-assessment, but the landed interest more than any other. Nearly three-fourths of the entire sum yearly levied as poor-rates are paid by the occupiers and owners of the soil. If, therefore, this burden could be reduced to the amount of two or three millions, by a more vigilant economy, or astringent administration, the territorial proprietary would to that extent be benefited.

The New Poor Law, as well as the Corn Law, are parts of the same system, chiefly directed to the support of the landlord's rent, but the general government, by countenancing partial legislation, suffers both in character and influence. It is possible, therefore, that the Central Board of Commissioners will be suffered to expire at the end of the five years for which it has been appointed, or so soon as its task of purification has been completed. The executive power of the state cannot, without obloquy, and certainly not with discrimination, execute the duties of overseers and churchwardens. Its business is not local but general administration; not the restraint of vice and improvidence, but crime; not charity to any, but justice to all; not to dole out eleemosynary aid for the relief of the indigence inseparable from changes in the seasons, and vicissitudes in commerce and agriculture, but to afford protection, without interference, alike to all the industrious orders of the community.

Before the close of the year the ministry was again disorganized. It arose out of the death of earl Spencer, and consequent removal of the chancellor of the exchequer to the house of lords. This change had been foreseen and provided for, but the acceptance by lord Althorp of an office compatible with his peerage, not his withdrawal from the cabinet, was the contingency calculated upon. His lordship had been represented by earl Grey, and considered by his successor, viscount Melbourne, as the main support of the government in the house of commons. Upon these grounds the king concluded that lord Althorp formed so essential an element of the ministry, that they would, in consequence of his retirement, be unable to carry on the government, and they were abruptly dismissed. Rumour also ascribed to the king a dislike of the ministerial plans of ecclesiastical reform. No other abiding reason has been assigned for the dissolution of the Melbourne cabinet. It was a sudden impulse of the royal mind, and appeared to the public more like one of those unexpected revolutions that occur in the palace of a despot than of a constitutional monarch. The leading Tories had no share in producing it, the duke of Wellington not having had any communication with the court for two or three months previously,† and sir R. Peel was absent on a tour in Italy. The Reform Ministry was still strong, though it had lost several of its original members, in the support of a majority of the house of commons, and in the existence of greater unanimity than ever among themselves, on all great public questions.‡

The public excitement occasioned by the dissolution of the ministry was hardly less than that which prevailed in 1831-2. The Reform Acts, and all they had accomplished for the people, and all they were expected to accomplish, were considered imperilled by the return of the Tories to power. It was a renewal of the old struggle for mastery between the Conservatives and Liberals of all denominations; but as its progress and termination—the return of sir R. Peel from Italy—his acceptance of the premiership—his pledges to reform all proved abuses—his appeal to the people by a general

* Annual Register, lxxvi. 222.

† House of Lords, Feb. 24, 1835

‡ Lord John Russell's speech at Totnes, Dec. 2, 1834.

election—the coalition of the Whigs and Radicals—his defeat by a majority of the new house of commons—and the restoration of the Melbourne ministry, are detailed in the *Chronicle*, it is only necessary to refer to them under that head. The king, in the first instance, offered the premiership to the duke of Wellington, but he declined the appointment in favour of sir R. Peel. Provisionally his grace accepted the offices of first lord of the treasury and secretary for the home department, and, in the latter capacity, also held the seals of the two other secretaryships. Such a plurality of offices was unusual, but not without precedent, as the earl of Liverpool had once been similarly placed.

The principles on which the PEEL MINISTRY sought to establish itself were not avowedly those of Conservatism, or, if that be different, of Toryism. They were those of their predecessors—submission to the national will, as expressed by a majority of the house of commons. Resistance to reform was not attempted on the basis it used to be offered by the party of Mr. Canning, namely, that any the least concession to the popular demands is pregnant with inappreciable danger, which can never be submitted to as an amendment, but only as a diversion from more fundamental changes in the Constitution. Sir R. Peel solicited the confidence of the country on the ground that he was friendly to change, to improvement—had given proofs of it by his currency bill, and reform of the criminal law—and these he tendered in earnest of his future intentions. By the dissolution of parliament the Conservatives obtained an increase of nearly one hundred members, but even this accession of strength left them in a minority of about fifty. The Opposition, however, was in no hurry to remove them by a direct vote of want of confidence. Sir R. Peel was allowed to bring forward his leading measures, which he did with great dispatch and ability. As the ministerial plans for the relief of the Dissenters and the settlement of tithes were liberal and enlightened in their provisions, they met with general favour and concurrence, and all went on harmoniously till Mr. Ward's test came to be applied. This application the Tories could not withstand. Appropriation they deemed unjust, if not sacrilegious; and rather than be partners in the unholy crusade for applying the surplus wealth of the Irish church to the instruction of an indigent population, they resigned their offices.

The battle of the parties having terminated by the restoration in April of the Melbourne ministry, the business of the parliamentary session was seriously entered upon. The judicious bills of sir James Graham for establishing a public registry of merchant-seamen, and for lessening the necessity of impressment, by encouraging voluntary enlistment into the royal navy, were passed into laws. Infringement of patent rights had long been complained of, and an act, framed under the auspices of lord Brougham, was passed, for better securing the interests of patentees in their discoveries and inventions. By another statute the copyright in public lectures was protected. But the most important legislative measure was the bill for the reform of the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales. The Scottish burghs had been regenerated in 1833. In place of self-elected and self-auditing bodies, a local administration was substituted, responsible to the rate-payers, and a provision made for the extension of the system, if desired by the inhabitants, to Birmingham, Manchester, and other unincorporated towns.*

Another effort at improvement in the internal policy of the empire, which the Legislature evinced a disposition to sanction, and to which its attention

* See June 5th, A.D. 1835.

had been called by the vigilance of Mr. Hume, was the extinction of the ORANGE SOCIETIES, that had too long been the bane of Ireland by hindering the action of an enlightened and impartial course of government, justly due to the vast majority of her population. It was discovered that these intolerant associations, which sought to pervert government into the selfish domination of a faction, had extended their ramifications into Britain and the colonies, and that, under the auspices of the duke of Cumberland, who, regardless of the proper duties of his station, had lent himself, in the capacity of grand-master, to their odious practices, Orange lodges had been introduced into the army, contrary to its discipline, and the express order of the commander-in chief. The inquiries of a parliamentary committee, and the condemnatory resolutions passed by the house of commons, arrested the progress, if they did not entirely extirpate, this disturbing and insidious mischief.

Contemporary events abroad possessed considerable interest. France had been the scene of another political revolution. Almost by an accident she had deposed the elder Bourbon in 1830, and almost by an accident the chief fruits of her heroic struggle were wrested from her in 1835. Louis Philippe was thought by some not to have faithfully redeemed his pledges to the people, and his life was repeatedly, but unsuccessfully, sought by defeated royalists, or disappointed republicans. At length a hireling bravo, named Fieschi, undertook the odious office of assassin. He failed—the king escaped—but many of the royal suite fell victims of the Corsican's deadly contrivance. The sympathies of the French nation were roused. The king had saved them from anarchy and foreign war, and they felt indignant at the repeated attempts upon his life. The moment was favourable to despotic encroachments, and the Broglio ministry seized it. A desperate contest had been waged, for the last five years, between the revolutionary and *juste milieu* parties, when the Fieschi atrocity gave a triumphant victory to the *doctrinaires*. Under the alleged necessity of better securing the monarch's person, and guarding against revolutionary projects, laws were passed by the Chambers curtailing the power of juries, and entirely extinguishing the liberty of the journals. The Parisians, hitherto so jealous of arbitrary power, offered no resistance to the new measures, but acquiesced in them as the price of internal peace, and security from those never-ending plots, and sanguinary insurrections of which both Paris and Lyons had been the theatre since the expulsion of Charles X.*

This unfortunate issue of the struggle for freedom is not without consolatory accompaniments. It is better that the French should have been parties to the surrender of their liberties than that they should have been wrested from them by superior power. Louis Philippe only holds them *in trust*; they are not alienated, and the trust can be resumed when the nation is so disposed, and the times favourable. In the constitution of the chambers, in the popular diffusion of knowledge, and in the citizen national guard, there are pledges for the future resumption of political freedom—and civil freedom, which is far more important to social happiness, has not been violated. The prevailing disposition of the French is apparent. They are neither royalist nor revolutionary; neither high tory nor ultra-radical. Enlightened by the past, they seek a liberty compatible with order, to avoid extremes, and move along the diagonal line of politics,

* See A.D. 1835, Aug. 4, Dec. 31.

which is the longest, and by passing through the greatest mass of interests obtains the widest circle of support. This was the system introduced by M. Casimir Perier in 1831, and the experience of the succeeding four years has proved it to be the system most safe and acceptable to the nation.

Besides the political trials and other changes in France, the revolution in the government of Denmark, and the completion of the German Commercial League, form interesting occurrences in the foreign transactions of 1835, and of which notices are given in the *Chronicle* of that year.

Domestic prospects on the opening of 1836 were flattering and auspicious. Agriculture continued to labour under a partial depression, but it was impossible that the unusual prosperity which pervaded manufactures and commerce should not produce a corresponding animation in rural industry. Ireland presented features uncommon in her public history. Agrarian and tithe outrages still occurred, though less frequently and ferociously, but the remarkable fact in her internal progress was the absence of political strife. A conciliatory rule and disposition to do equal justice to all classes were sought to be substituted for factious oppression and exclusion. Catholicism ceased to be a bar practically, as well as legally, to judicial honours and civil trusts. The wise and liberal intentions of the general government were ably seconded by the firm and popular demeanour of the lord lieutenant, and by Mr. O'Connell and other leaders of Ireland, who beheld, in the conduct of ministers, an earnest of progressive amelioration, if not final and conclusive settlement of Irish grievances. Much had already been conceded, and a tranquil confidence existed that the remaining instalments due to a neglected country would be ultimately forthcoming. The successful legislative efforts already made to render the education of the people more liberal, to reform the magistracy, grand juries, constabulary, and police, and to improve internal communications by means of rivers, bridges, and railways, afforded satisfactory evidence of zeal concerning, and watchfulness over, the interests of Ireland.

In England, in the absence of political stimuli, the excitement which had carried the Reform Acts had gradually subsided, and as the abatement of the popular impulse in one direction is usually followed by the generation of it in another, there were now symptoms of the current setting in a contrary or conservative direction. At all events the prevailing disposition appeared to be not to adventure on further organic changes till the great ones already made had been more fully tried; and the reflective portion of the community, and the intelligent of the radicals themselves, felt indisposed, by premature experiments, to endanger institutions which experience had proved indubitably valuable for the sake of others conferring only doubtful or unimportant benefits. Under the influence of these considerations, what was termed the 'movement' had been, at least, temporarily arrested. The course of public legislation too had been of a kind to operate strongly as a popular sedative. Referring to property rather than personal rights, it did not, like universal suffrage or other wild impracticabilities, in which the multitude fancies itself interested, command the attention of the masses. Even the reform of municipal corporations, which had been the most general question, was of limited concernment, not referring either to the agricultural districts or the largest towns in the kingdom. The other leading questions—legal reforms, the African slave-trade, and the renewal of the charters of the Bank and East India Company were more interesting to lawyers, political economists, and the sectaries than to con-

stitutional agitators. A third cause of quietude was the absence of political partizanship. The strength of the ministerialists was not in their numbers but their measures, which occasionally won them auxiliary aid from all sides. All the old beacons of faction had been confused or displaced by the Reform Acts, and those by whom they were sought scarcely knew where to find them. Sir Robert Peel and the duke of Wellington, lord Stanley, sir J. Graham, Hume, Warburton, and Grote offered a favourable contrast to the profligate adventurers of Queen Anne's reign or the Georges, who never, for a moment, sacrificed party interests to the common weal. By this approximation, by the gravitation as to a centre of adjacent bodies, more than inherent strength, the Melbourne administration has been supported and enabled to carry on the government.

The parliamentary session of 1836 was marked by the same characteristics as those of the three preceding years. Important social amendments were made and practical grievances redressed; but constitutional innovations, tending to the further development of democratic power, were coldly received or openly resisted. By the act for the commutation of tithe, and its conversion into a corn rent-charge, payable in money, some of the strongest objections were obviated that science had urged against a fluctuating impost that taxed industry and enterprise, and varied with the cupidity or caprice of tithe-owners. In the Marriage and Registration Acts some of the scruples of the Dissenters were conciliated, and an important national record of the progress of the population sought to be established. The reduction in the stamp-duty on Newspapers was a concession to a demand generally and vehemently urged for the removal of the fiscal obstruction that impeded the diffusion among the industrious classes of political information. Various measures were projected for the reform of the English Church Establishment, in respect of the disposition of the episcopal revenues, patronage, the incomes of the cathedral, and collegiate foundations; discipline, residence, and pluralities of the parochial clergy. These were neither satisfactory nor successful; only one of the four ministerial bills, and that by a kind of surprise, was carried, the rest being laid aside, either as inefficient or too conservative of the interests of the bishops, to whom the concoction of them had mainly been intrusted, and who had, apparently, framed them more with a view to the well-being of the prelatical order than of their subordinate spiritual brethren, or of the community. The Irish tithe and municipal corporation bills were also among the miscarriages of the session; the former failing from the inclusion of the appropriation clause, and the latter from the determination of the Tories to limit municipal reform to the abolition, not the amendment and continuance of corporate government in Ireland.

Transactions abroad were of a diversified but subordinate character. The great powers of the continent were more occupied in watching over the security of their despotic rule at home than in schemes of territorial ambition. Madrid and Lisbon were successively the scenes of fresh revolutions, of a democratic tendency, which seemed to throw still further into the distance the long-wished-for termination of the intestine divisions of the Peninsula. Enraged by the quarrels and jealousies of the constitutionalists in Spain, and disgusted by the savage warfare waged alike by Christians and Carlists, France withheld the aid she had stipulated to give by the terms of the Quadruple Alliance, and disbanded the reinforcements intended for the auxiliary legion she had formed at the foot of the Pyrenees. England, notwithstanding, remained true to her engagements—aided the liberals by

supplies of arms—afforded openly an effective naval co-operation, under lord John Hay—and indirectly, by the suspension of the Foreign Enlistment Act, allowed colonel Evans to organise and take out a British legion, for the support of constitutional liberty. In the course of the year two more attempts were made to assassinate Louis Philippe, showing the miserable tenure of his existence and authority. Embittered in spirit, and made uneasy by these revengeful attacks on his life, the French king, in his turn, manifested a fierce hostility, amounting to an absolute persecution of the supposed agents of revolution. Russia, Austria, and Prussia, having in concert, and in violation of their own treaty, made a forcible inroad into Cracow, to expel the Polish refugees, who had taken shelter in her territory, Louis Philippe, or his minister, M. Thiers, threatened hermetically to seal up Switzerland, by which the unfortunate adventurers in the cause of liberty in Italy, Germany, and Poland would have been deprived of the only asylum they possessed, except on the terms of prisoners, on the European continent.

Only the early portion of 1837 is embraced by the concluding limits of our history, and its chief occurrences, which are detailed in the *Chronicle*, do not appear to require preliminary elucidation. Legislative proceedings were arrested by the demise of the crown, and consequent dissolution of parliament. WILLIAM IV. had attained an advanced age, and expired in June, of natural decay. His loss was generally and sincerely regretted by the nation, as that of a good man and beneficent sovereign, who had committed no wrong, provoked no enmity, and whose memory may safely repose undisturbed by the shafts of envy, vengeance, and malignity. The character of the king is easily delineated. It was sincere, plain, and open; without guile, complexity, or indirectness. The long life he had spent before his accession to the throne was unmarked by any adventure or vicissitude out of the common course of mortality; unsignalised by any gross, great, or memorable accompaniment. He had more of the virtues of private life than the endowments of the regal station; those that gain on men's affections, rather than challenge their admiration. Instead of the disturbing passions and commanding faculties that form the chief historical portraits, king William had the less-pretending and often less-hurtful qualities that contribute to domestic comfort and enjoyment—honesty—love of justice—affection to wife and children, to brothers and sisters—steadiness in his attachments to the friends of his early life, and indefatigability in his efforts to serve them, whether by purse or person. On the throne he manifested the same household and true-hearted attributes of an English gentleman, exercising throughout his reign the most unaffected and liberal hospitality, the most active charity, neighbourly kindness, social cordiality, and cheerfulness.

Although the king was not possessed of superior ability or refinement, he was diligent, even laborious, in his efforts rightly to comprehend, and faithfully execute, the duties of his office. His education had not been equal to the standard of the age in which he survived to act a part, no more than that of his brothers, or of George III. and queen Charlotte.* Notwithstanding defects of early culture and natural talent, his name will ever be associated with a portion of British history over which science and humanity may exult with the least alloy of dissatisfaction. The glories of successful warfare signalised the sway of his immediate prede-

* Sir Herbert Taylor's "Letter."

cessors; the less melancholy triumphs of peace that of William. During the seven eventful years of his reign the United Kingdom has been revolutionised without violence, without spoliation. All that has not been reformed has been investigated. The veil has been rent asunder, and every establishment, whether legal, ecclesiastical, official, or colonial, has been thrown open to general gaze and scrutiny. Public institutions rest on their merits; and all the central but factitious supports government had been wont to derive from parliamentary boroughs, municipal corporations, commercial monopolies, vast and irresponsible patronage, and lavish fiscal expenditure, have been struck from under it. Opinion alone rules, and that opinion wholly free and unfettered. Whoever can sway it, whether by desert, truth, talent, or illusive arts, governs the nation.

The long and wonderful era of George III. is at an end, and by the rapidity of recent changes, seems thrown back almost to a patriarchal age. Two sons having inherited after him, without issue, and the sceptre descending to a female branch, the dynasty of the house of Brunswick seems to pause on the threshold of a new and unknown existence. A young and illustrious princess succeeds to the throne of the noblest empire in the world, when all is new, institutions, maxims of government, and even social, moral, and religious ideas are in the transition state.

EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1830, June 26. ACCESSION OF WILLIAM IV.—His present majesty was the third son of George III, and born Aug. 21, 1765. The biography of the king, previous to his accession to the throne, was marked by few memorable incidents. He entered the navy as a midshipman in 1779, under the especial charge of captain Digby, in the Royal George, a 98-gun ship. After holding the intermediate commissions, as prince William Henry, he was made rear-admiral of the blue, in 1790, by order in council. He had previously been created a peer of parliament as duke of Clarence. The duke saw no more active service afloat after receiving his flag. He sought employment, however, but his wishes were not gratified, and the only instance, in which the public heard of him in his professional capacity, was in 1814, when, as admiral of the fleet, he escorted Louis XVIII. to France. About 1811, he dissolved a connexion, that had subsisted for twenty years, with Mrs. Jordan, a fascinating actress, who had borne him a family of ten children, eight of whom survived. This painful severance of so long a union had become necessary, in consequence of the new plan of life determined upon by the prince, and, so far as a pecuniary settlement could effect it, was made agreeable to his unhappy partner. The duke was married July 11, 1818, to the daughter of the duke of Saxe-Meiningen, Adelaide Louisa, who had been strongly recommended to him by

queen Charlotte, on account of her amiable qualities and domestic virtues. In the end of the following year, the duchess became the mother of a seven months' child, the princess Elizabeth, who died in her infancy. On three other occasions, before the end of 1821, the duchess had the misfortune to be prematurely confined. In 1827, Mr. Canning, then prime minister, revived the office of lord-high-admiral in the person of the duke of Clarence, after it had been, with one exception, in commission since the death of prince George of Denmark, the consort of Queen Anne. In this office, the duke became popular by promoting 124 lieutenants to the rank of commanders. He resigned in the following year, under the Wellington ministry. No other public event occurred till his accession. Although little was known, either of the political predilections or abilities of the "sailor-king," as he was called, he soon gained in popular favor by his affable manners, and mixing familiarly with the people, which last contrasted favourably with the secluded life of his predecessor.

28. Meeting of delegates from the trades' unions, held at Manchester to form a national association for the prevention of a *reduction in wages*. No trade to be admitted a member of this aggregate confederacy that is not regularly organized and united in itself. It is arranged, that so soon as the funds will permit, a newspaper shall be

established. The contributions of each member is limited to one penny per week. If their contributions amount to a million, it is calculated that their funds will speedily amount to 1,683,333*l*.

29. POSITION OF PARTIES.—A message was delivered from the king, recommending the despatch of business, and announcing the intended dissolution of parliament. Next day, on the duke of Wellington moving an address to his majesty declaring their willingness to forward the public business, earl Grey moved an amendment, to adjourn to give time for the consideration of the civil list and the expediency of a regency. Amendment rejected by 100 to 56. An amendment of similar import was moved in the commons, by lord Althorp, and negatived by 185 to 139. These conflicting motions showed that the alliance between the ministers and the whigs had been dissolved. They had served but received no wages; neither was there a likelihood of their being placed on the ministerial establishment, as the duke was more disposed to make peace with his former colleagues than depend on the volunteer support of the opposition. They had supported him on the same ground that they had supported Mr. Canning, from approval of the liberal portion of his policy, and also under an impression that the waywardness of the late king required to be controlled by a firm man. The same reasons no longer existed; and, moreover, an impression was abroad that the experience the duke had yet had in civil affairs, was not such as to qualify him for the permanent government of the country almost in the capacity of dictator.

July 5. CAPTURE OF ALGIERS.—A powerful armament, fitted out by the French to chastise the Algerines, had sailed from Toulon on the 25th May. It consisted of 68 ships of war, besides transports, conveying 30,852 infantry, 534 cavalry, 2,329 artillery, and 1,330 engineers. M. Bourmont, minister-of-war, was commander-in-chief, attended by 25 interpreters of the Moorish, Arabic, and Turkish languages. Impeded by contrary winds, the expedition was unable to effect a landing on the African coast till the 14th June. The disembarkation was effected without opposition on the peninsula of Sidi Ferruch, between which and Algiers the enemy occupied a fortified camp with 40,000 men. Bourmont attacked the camp; the batteries erected were instantly carried; the Turks and Arabs took to flight, abandoning to the French a vast quantity of provisions, several flocks of sheep, and 100 camels. The victors next advanced towards the city of Algiers. It made a feeble resistance, and, July 5th, the dey concluded a treaty for its surrender; stipulating only for his own

personal safety and the security of his private property. Laying aside the royal garments he left the palace, and took up his abode in the city as a private individual, and soon after withdrew with his family into Italy. Within 21 days after landing, and with the loss of less than 500 men, in killed and wounded, the French abated the long-standing nuisance of the piratical regency of Algiers. Except 1500 cannons on the walls, 12 ships of war in the harbour, and the warlike stores in the arsenals, the treasure which was found in the conquered city fell short of the barbaric wealth which had been anticipated by the captors. The expedition had been regarded by Europe as an expedition to chastise an insult; it soon turned out to be a conquest, and marshal Bourmont proceeded to take all the measures necessary to secure Algeria as a French settlement.

15. Remains of George IV. interred at Windsor.

23. Parliament prorogued. The speech delivered by the king to both houses congratulated them on the general tranquillity of Europe. He also expressed his satisfaction at the relief afforded to the people by the repeal of taxes, at the reforms introduced into the judicial establishments of the country, and at the removal of the civil disqualifications which affected numerous classes.

24. PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.—The chief practical measures of the session had been the repeal of the duties on beer and the opening of the beer-trade. Great complaints had existed, first, against the magistrates, as being either partial or corrupt in the exercise of their powers, in the licensing of public-houses; and, secondly, against the monopoly of the large brewers, who, it was alleged, availed themselves of the proprietorship of many of the ale-houses to force upon the consumer inferior or adulterated beer. The object of the new act was to open the trade. It did not interfere with the power of the magistrates in licensing houses, but it allowed any one to retail beer to be consumed on the premises, merely by taking out a license from the excise. An attempt was made to get rid of *death punishment* for forgery, but it was defeated in the house of lords. An act passed for the amendment of the libel law; it repealed the punishment of *banishment* for a second offence, but required additional securities from newspaper proprietors to answer for damages.

26. INSURRECTION IN PARIS.—The appointment of the ministry of prince Polignac, last August, was an open declaration of war against the liberal party. They prepared for the coming storm by forming

an association to resist the payment of taxes, by raising subscriptions to indemnify those who might suffer in resisting the exercise of illegal power, and by spirited appeals to the people through the medium of the journals. To the reflecting, the issue of the approaching struggle could never have appeared doubtful. Direct taxes form almost the entire source of the public revenue of France, and a passive resistance to their payment would have greatly embarrassed, if not arrested, the wild design of subverting the national liberties. Nine-tenths of the community were favourable to a constitutional system. The press and the people were against ministers; the mercantile and trading classes were opposed to them; and to contend against the general hostility, government had not a great and devoted army, like Napoleon, to overawe discontent, nor, like former kings, a numerous nobility, wealthy church establishment, and servile municipal corporations. It stood weak and insulated, morally and physically. The relative strength of the parties was attested by the prevailing sentiments of the newspapers and the result of the elections. Unable to resist the opposition in the chamber of deputies, the king had had recourse to a dissolution. All the means government possessed were called into exertion to influence the elections, but they entirely failed. In Paris, where the electors amounted to 8,845, only 1,500 voted for the ministerial candidates, while 7,314 voted for the opposition members. It followed, that the newly-elected chamber was more inimical to the court than its predecessor; while the public dissatisfaction had been augmented by the unjustifiable means adopted to control the exercise of the elective franchise. The chamber had not yet met, and ministers seemed determined it never should. Having failed in their appeal to public opinion, they determined on the more hazardous experiment of an appeal to force. The plot opened with a report addressed to the king, drawn up by M. Chantelauze, and signed by him and Polignac, D'Haussez, Peyronnet, Montbol, Ranville, and Capelle, recommending the suppression of the periodical press, on account of its seditiousness, which legal prosecutions had been unable to control; and the re-construction of the chamber of deputies, on the ground of its democratic character. This report appeared in the *Moniteur*, on the morning of Monday, July 26. On the same day, and in the same paper, appeared the famous ordinances in conformity with the report, dated the 26th, signed by the king and countersigned by his ministers. By the first ordinance, the liberty of the press is suppressed, and no journal allowed to be published

without the authority of the government. By the second, the chamber of deputies, which was to meet August 3rd is dissolved. By the third, a new scheme of election was introduced, which destroyed the franchises of three-fourths of the electors and reduced the number of deputies from 430 to 258 members. Thus, the constitution was swept away by royal mandates, issued without colour of authority, beyond a manifest perversion of the 14th article of the Charter. Several hours elapsed before the ordinances were generally known, and then the capital began to display symptoms of rising agitation. The editors and proprietors of the journals assembled, and having resolved that the ordinances were illegal, they determined to publish their papers on the following day. A statement of their views, signed by thirty-eight persons, the conductors and proprietors of twelve journals, was published in the *National*. "In the situation in which we are placed," said they, "obedience ceases to be a duty. We are dispensed from obeying. We resist the government in what concerns ourselves. It is for France to determine how far her resistance ought to extend." Government naturally anticipated a formidable resistance. But military precautions had been taken. The most energetic measures had been adopted by Polignac without consulting his colleagues, but in concert with marshal Marmont, duke of Ragusa, for securing the execution of the ordinances by force of arms. On the day the ordinances were signed, the command of the whole garrison of Paris was given to Marmont. It consisted of 4,750 men of the guards, 4,400 troops of the line, 1,100 men belonging to the veteran battalion, and 1,300 gendarmes making in all, 11,500. Conformably to their announcement, the journalists prepared to issue their papers on the 27th when the gendarmerie and other agents of police entered and began scattering the types and breaking the presses, which not being quietly submitted to, crowds speedily collected round the scene of violence. The most resolute stand was made at the offices of the *Temps* and *National*; they refused admission to the police, and no blacksmith could be found who would pick the locks. At last, the services of an artisan, employed to rivet the manacles of galley-slaves, enabled them to enter. The electors of Paris had met in the spacious room where the association "*Aide toi, et le Ciel t'aidera*" held its sittings, and with prompt unanimity had determined to oppose force to force, if the ordinances were not immediately withdrawn. The plan of operations was soon decided on. Deputations were to wait on the manufacturers, printers, builders, and other capitalists, requesting them to dis-

charge their work-people, which was done; and on the 27th, 50,000 unemployed workmen were collected in different parts of the capital, in groups, crying *Vive la Charte!* in presence of the royal guard. In the course of Tuesday, about thirty deputies, who had arrived in Paris preparatory to the opening of the chamber, met at the house of M. Casimir Perier. They were few in number, but determined and resolved to encourage the rising of the people. The square of the Palais Royal, the rue St. Honoré, and other adjacent streets were the places where the assemblages of the people, on the 27th, were the largest, and became the first scenes of the sanguinary strife that was about to commence. The troops were all under arms; on these points they were numerous, and without any provocation from the people except their cries, the military began to use their arms. A charge of mounted gendarmery took place, sabreing every body before them, and the infantry of the guards fired several volleys on the unarmed multitude. The first hostile act on the popular side is said to have been a shot discharged from the Hotel Royal by an Englishman, named Foulkes. The fire was returned and Foulkes killed. Reports were spread of others killed or wounded, and of women among the sufferers. Indignant at the wanton shedding of blood, the citizens prepared to act with energy. It was evident a deadly battle was to be fought, and the black flag, which was raised in various quarters, indicated the nature of the coming struggle. The night of the 27th was spent in preparation. The citizens armed themselves in good earnest; pistols, sabres, bayonets, and offensive weapons of every description, were laid hold of. The shops of the armourers were visited, and they carried off the arms and ammunition deposited in an unoccupied barrack. There were known to be 40,000 equipments of the national guard in Paris, which Charles X. had disbanded. In every street men were employed in digging up the large stones with which Paris is paved; part of these were carried to the tops of the houses, and the rest, together with the omnibuses and fiacres, used in constructing across the streets barricades, at successive distances of about fifty paces. Many of the fine trees on the boulevards were thrown across the road, and the lamps demolished or extinguished. By daybreak, on the 28th, the citizens were nearly ready, and soon after nine o'clock shots began to fly. A bonfire at the end of the rue St. Denis, made of the window shutters of the *Quotidienne*, was the first open symptom of war. Here and there, a national guard began to be seen in uniform, hastening, amidst the cheers of the people, to the Hotel de Ville. Parties

of the cavalry and lancers galloped up and down, and occasionally a man, shot from a window or other retreat, was seen to fall backward in his seat. At ten o'clock, Marmont formed six columns of attack; they were preceded by cannon, and directed to concentrate round the Hotel de Ville. For a moment, the populace yielded to the superiority of the artillery and regular troops. They abandoned the open places and large streets, to take shelter behind the barriers and within the houses. From these points they kept up an incessant fire of musquetry, and poured on the troops a shower of paving stones and other destructive missiles. Notwithstanding, some of the advancing columns succeeded in penetrating to the grand centre of attack, the Hotel de Ville. Here the fight was bravely maintained by the national guards. The fire of the defenders from the upper part of the building was unceasing, while the cannon of the assailants thundered from below. It was taken and retaken several times, the Swiss at last remaining masters, but they were forced to abandon their dear-bought conquest next morning. Amidst the conflicts of the day, Marshal Marmont wrote to Charles X., at the palace of St. Cloud, saying, "It is no longer a riot—it is a revolution. It is urgent your majesty should take the means of pacification." The king returned by an aide-de-camp a verbal message to the marshal, urging him "To be firm, to unite his forces in the Carrousel and on the place Louis XV., and to act with masses." The last words Charles twice repeated. The duchess of Berri and the dauphin were with the king, but did not speak. According to the testimony of M. Arago, the astronomer, Marmont's heart was never in the cause for which he was fighting, but, as a soldier, he felt bound to obedience. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxii. 200.) Count Lobau, general Gerard, and MM. Lafitte Perier, and Mauguin, with the laudable design of stopping the carnage, waited upon Marmont at his head-quarters, at the Tuileries. They proposed to stop the insurrection by a repeal of the ordinances, the dismissal of ministers, and the assembling of the chambers. Prince de Polignac, who, with others of the ministers, was in an apartment adjoining to the marshal's, appeared inclined to listen to these proposals, but hesitated, and finished by declaring that the ordinances could not be withdrawn. It only remained, therefore, to continue the bloody strife. In the course of the day, Marmont had declared Paris in a state of siege, which subjected the inhabitants to martial law, and he issued warrants for the arrest of M. Lafitte and some others, but, after his interview with the deputation, recalled the warrants. The citizens spent

the night of the 29th in strengthening their defences, in removing the slain, and providing for the wounded. Reports of fire-arms continued to be heard till midnight, which, with the noise of the breaking up of pavements and the erection of fresh barricades, showed that the struggle was not over. At half-past three in the morning, the tocsin began to sound, and cries of *Aux armes!* were heard in various quarters. On the third day, two regiments of the line joined the people. At ten o'clock, the citizens of St. Jacques, St. Germain, the Odeon, and Gros Caillon, excited by the sound of the tocsin from almost all the churches, and by shouts of *Vive la Chartre!* came forth in arms, the mass amounting to 5,000. They had to combat the defenders of the Louvre and the Tuileries. The attack began in the Garden of Infants. The royal guard permitted the first assailants to approach, and there the contest ended almost as soon as it was begun, by the slaughter of the front rank. Almost at the same instant, fresh assailants drove back the defenders of this important post. In the midst of a constantly rolling fire, the iron railings were broken down. This manoeuvre, which, in the end, made the citizens masters of the Tuileries, was effected with extraordinary resolution and rapidity. Still resistance was offered, with bloody obstinacy, on other points, particularly the Pavilion of Flora, from which a slaughtering fire had been kept up from seven in the morning on the Pont Royal. As soon as the Pavilion was taken, every article of furniture and thousands of scattered papers, among which were proclamations to the troops, were thrown out of the windows. Twice the palace of the Tuileries was taken and abandoned, but at half-past one the citizens were finally victorious, and two tri-coloured flags were placed on the central pavilion. Marmont, finding all was lost, withdrew his troops, and by three o'clock in the afternoon of the 29th Paris was left entirely at the command of the triumphant population. The national guard was organized, and the veteran of patriotic revolutions, general Lafayette, took the command. In their glorious struggle, the citizens were assisted by some old soldiers of the empire, and the pupils of the Polytechnic School who gallantly led them to the charge, and whose military studies qualified them to direct their operations effectively. The slaughter was great, especially, as might be expected, of the civic combatants, but the prize contended for was worthy the sacrifice. Of the citizens, 390 were killed on the spot, and of 2,500 wounded, 306 died. Of the royal guard, 375 were killed and wounded, and of gendarmes 202. It appeared on the subsequent trial of Polignac and his col-

leagues, that the commanders of corps carried about with them written orders to fire on the people without reserve or waiting for directions from the civil power. The soldiers were encouraged to fight by a lavish distribution of money, 974,291 francs having been issued for the purpose by M. Montbel, the minister of finance. During the memorable three days, the weather was uncommonly fine.

30. Charles X. retires to Rambouillet. 31. The Chamber of Deputies voted that the ordinance for their dissolution being contrary to the charter, they are legally constituted. They, then resolved that, the safety of the state requiring an immediate governor, Louis Philip, duke of Orleans be requested to accept the office of lieutenant-general of the kingdom. The duke, who had arrived in Paris the preceding night, and who was assisted by the councils of prince Talleyrand, declared his acceptance of the office, and issued a proclamation to the Parisians, concluding with the emphatic pledge, "The charter will henceforth be a truth."

Aug. 3. Chambers opened by the lieutenant-general. About 200 deputies were present. The galleries were crowded with peers, general officers of the old army, the diplomatic body, &c. The duke pronounced his speech with an audible voice, and referred, with emphasis, to violations of the charter, and to guarantees against future encroachments. "Attached," said he, "by inclination and conviction to the principle of a free government, I accept, beforehand, all the consequences of it."

5. Mr. Brougham elected member for the county of York. Alluding to the revolution in France, and to the probable policy of the European governments in consequence, he told the electors that "England was bound over in heavy recognizances to keep the peace; a debt of 800 millions was the amount of our recognizances, and he had no fear they would be broken." Up to the present time, the learned gentleman, during his long parliamentary career had sat for one of the nomination boroughs of the whig lords; after his unsuccessful stand for Liverpool, in 1812, he was without a seat for three sessions; but was again brought into the house of commons for lord Darlington's borough of Winchilsea, at the request of earl Grey, and which he continued to represent till returned by the independent constituency of Yorkshire.

NEW FRENCH CHARTER.—In a sitting of the chamber of Deputies it was resolved that on agreeing to certain modifications in the charter of Louis XVIII., the duke of Orleans should be acknowledged sovereign, with right of perpetual succession in his male descendants, in order of primogeniture,

under the title of the king of the *French*, the title of "king of *France*" being abandoned as savouring of feudality; France belonging to Frenchmen, not the king. The preamble and various clauses in the old charter were suppressed; others were altered on important points. No state religion is acknowledged, but the ministers of all sects of christian denominations to be supported at the public expense. The king is the supreme head of the state; he may make regulations necessary to the execution of the laws, but has no suspensive power. The initiation of laws, their enactment by majorities of the two chambers, with the sanction of the king, the contemporaneous session of the two chambers, the election of a speaker or president, and the settlement of the civil list during the whole reign, are assimilated to the English practice. The sittings of the peers are made public; they were private under the old charter. Deputies to be elected for five years, in lieu of a renewal of one-fifth every year. Persons eligible to be elected deputies at 30 years of age in lieu of 40, and electors to vote at 25 in lieu of 30. Lastly, all the peerages created during the reign of Charles, 93 in number, are annulled. The peers took no part in the framing of the new constitution, further than to signify their adhesion to all its articles, with the exception of that which disqualified the members of their own body, leaving it "to the high prudence of the prince lieutenant-general."

9. Louis Philip took the oath faithfully to observe the constitutional charter, in the presence of the chamber of deputies. He then addressed, in a short speech, the assembled peers and deputies, saying, that he "had maturely weighed the important duties imposed upon him, and he was conscious of being able to fulfil them." The hall resounded with acclamations; and the king returned to the Palais Royal, where he gave a grand dinner to the peers, deputies, and others distinguished by talent or social position. At night, Paris was illuminated.

17. Charles X. arrived in England.

Meeting at the London Tavern, at which an address, from the pen of Dr. Bowring, to the citizens of Paris, congratulating them on the July revolution, was unanimously agreed to. Henry Warburton, M.P., in the chair.

25. REVOLUTION IN BELGIUM.—The spirit of resistance, which had been awakened by the events in France, visited Brussels with a revolution, no less unexpected and rapid than that which had occurred in Paris. When Belgium was joined to Holland, in 1815, to form the kingdom of the Netherlands, the union was one of convenience on the part of the

allied sovereigns, by whom it was negotiated, to raise a powerful bulwark on the frontier of France: it was not attended by any congeniality of habits or interests in the communities who were thus joined together. There were differences of national character, of religion, and, in some measure, of language. The Belgians considered the union compulsory, and the terms of it unequal. They complained that the king himself, a Dutchman and stadtholder of Holland, sacrificed his acquired dominions to his hereditary; that Dutchmen were allowed a monopoly of offices; that they were taxed for Dutch debts and Dutch objects; that their religion, and institutions for education connected with it, was discouraged; that their own language even had been banished from their courts of law; that Belgium, in short, was governed as a conquered province, not as an integral portion of an independent national federation! These grievances had formed the topics of complaint in the liberal newspapers, during the past year, and their editors, M. Potter, Tielmons, and Bartels, had been the subject of government prosecutions. The catholic priests were also among the discontented. They complained of the nomination by the king of certain high ecclesiastical dignitaries, and of his interference in the catholic seminaries of education. This was nearly the state of affairs, when on the 25th a riot broke out at Brussels, directed against a local tax, enhancing the price of bread. The vengeance of the populace was chiefly directed against the *National*, a newspaper in the interest of the Dutch party, and against the minister of justice, M. Van Maanen, whose house was attacked, gutted, and burnt to the ground. The rioters broke into the wine and spirit shops, and obtained a supply of arms from the gun-smiths. The troops were called out, they fired and blood was shed. But the rioters, instead of being discouraged, became exasperated. The streets were about to become the scene of terrible conflicts, when the military, taught by the recent lesson in Paris of the risks of street warfare with a furious multitude, withdrew, leaving the insurgents masters of the city. A burgher guard, on the plan of the French national guard, was then formed of the middle classes, for the protection of property, a provisional authority established, and communications opened with the government at the Hague. Insurrectionary speedily followed at Liege, Namur, and other cities, and an unanimous and inveterate spirit of hostility to the union with Holland speedily showed itself through the Netherlands. The prince of Orange repaired to Brussels to receive a representation of grievances; but was not permitted to enter the city accompanied by the troops:

he promised to use his good offices with his father and the States-General.

Sept. 6. Riot at Oxford, in which the military, who were conducting some prisoners to the castle for rioting and trespass on Otmoor, were attacked by the populace and the prisoners rescued.

8. Insurrection at Brunswick, which continued some days, during which the palace was set on fire and destroyed. The reigning duke, who had rendered himself odious by his weakness and tyranny, fled to England; but, at length, prince William, his brother, with the assistance of a burgher guard, succeeded in restoring tranquillity.

9. Political commotion at Dresden; a few days after which, the king of Saxony, Anthony, resigned his authority to his nephew, Frederick, whom he appointed regent. There were also commotions at Berlin, Hamburgh, Hesse Darmstadt, and other places in the northern parts of Europe.

15. DEATH OF MR. HUSKISSON.—Today was fixed for the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway; it had been four years in progress, and up to May 31 the expenditure on the works amounted to 7,391,656*l.* The duke of Wellington, Mr. Huskisson, and other public characters, had been invited to be present at the opening ceremony. A very handsome carriage, prepared for the duke, led the procession from Liverpool. At Parkfield, the engines stopped to renew the feeders and take in a supply of fuel. Here, contrary to the printed directions of the directors, several gentlemen descended from the carriages, among them, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. William Holmes, M. P., thinking the moment favourable for bringing Mr. Huskisson and the duke together, and for producing a renewed good feeling between them, led Mr. Huskisson round to that part of the car where the duke was stationed, who perceiving the advance of the hon. gentleman, immediately held out his hand to him, which was shaken in a very cordial manner. At this moment, the Rocket was perceived to be on the advance, and there was a general cry *Get in! Get in!* Mr. Huskisson hesitating, was knocked down by the steam-carriage, which went over his thigh and lacerated him in so dreadful a manner as to occasion his death the following night. On being raised from the ground, by the Earl of Wilton and Mr. Parkes, Mr. Huskisson said, "This is my death—God, forgive me!" An occasion of very natural exultation was thus converted into one of mourning. Mr. Huskisson was in the 60th year of his age, and, with lord Dudley, headed a small but clever political section, of which the Grants, lord Palmerston, and Mr. William Lamb, were members. He did not stand high, any more than his party, for public disinter-

estedness; nor was he distinguished for eloquence: he had neither the graces of diction, fluency, nor readiness of speech; but was acute, full, and correct in information, and was listened to with deference by the house of commons, especially on commercial subjects, with the principles and statistics of which he was well acquainted. His life had been mostly spent in office, to which he was passionately attached, and at the last unhappy catastrophe seems to have been engaged, in concert with Mr. Holmes, in an amicable overture to the minister by whom he had been haughtily treated.

18. Died in Frith-street, Soho, in his fifty-second year, WILLIAM HAZLITT, a gifted but eccentric writer on general literature. He was a native of Maidstone, and the son of a dissenting minister, and at an early period of life applied himself to painting, which, as a profession, he soon relinquished for the kindred one of letters, though he always retained an intense love for the productions of the pencil, on which he could descant with great taste, fancy, and eloquence. The first acknowledged production of his pen was an "Essay on the Principles of Human Action;" a subject, perhaps, not the most happily chosen for a maiden attempt, nor the best suited to the intellect of Hazlitt, which, though bold and acute, hardly possessed the strength and coherence essential safely to conduct him through the recesses of metaphysical philosophy. His "Characters of Shakspeare's Plays" was a more successful work, attracted much notice and procured great credit for the writer. It was in criticism, poetry, and the fine arts, in sketches of life, manners, and public characters, that Mr. Hazlitt excelled and threw off impressions, not always correct in the drawing, but possessing much general beauty, force, and originality. He was, however, very unequal; much of what he wrote might have been advantageously omitted; and in straining after vulgar effect he fell into exaggerations in style and sentiment. He was an uncompromising liberal in politics, and seemed to carry out his own notion of a true partisan in being "a good hater;" and, on the other hand, he was not deficient in the opposite extreme of being rather indiscriminate in his idolatry, of which his "Life of Napoleon" is an instance. Mr. Hazlitt delivered two or more courses of Lectures on the British poets and writers of the Elizabethan age. He was a profuse contributor of essays and criticisms to the London newspaper and periodical press; and wrote a curious publication, "The Modern Pygmalion," giving an account of his own amours, after the manner of his favourite author Rousseau, in his "Confessions."

Haslitt was partly a Robert Burns *in prose*.

21. **DUTCH ASSAULT ON BRUSSELS.**—The populace who had driven out of the city the Dutch troops (*Aug. 25*), finding their authority superseded by the burgher guard, rose and overpowered them. These divisions, between the middle and working classes, seemed to present a favourable opportunity to the Dutch to recover possession of the city and crush the rebellion in its birth-place. They advanced towards Brussels, but the insurgents, aided by a determined body of 300 men from Liege, prepared to give them a warm reception. Baricades were formed at the gates; the pavement torn up, and the stones carried to the tops of the houses lining the streets through which the troops would have to advance. The assault began on the 21st. The gate was speedily cleared by the artillery, but when the troops came to advance up the streets they were overwhelmed from above with showers of stones, heavy pieces of furniture, hatchets, and every species of missile. At one point they were successful, but could not penetrate farther than the park and upper part of the town. On the two following days the conflict was kept up with unabated spirit on both sides, but the troops gained no advantage, and the insurgents kept their ground. On the night of the 22d, a rumour was spread that the city would be delivered up to plunder for two days if mastered, which induced the richer citizens to join the populace. Hostilities did not entirely cease till the 27th, when prince Frederick, finding to carry and retain the city would be a hopeless attempt, retreated. The loss on the side of the inhabitants was 165 killed and 311 wounded. Civil war had now openly commenced, and Oct. 4th, the provisional government issued a proclamation declaring the independence of Belgium. As yet, Ghent and Antwerp had taken no part in the insurrection; but three weeks after, the inhabitants of the latter rose against the Dutch garrison, and throwing open their gates to the Belgians, compelled general Chassé to take shelter in the citadel, whence he began to cannonade the town with red-hot shells and balls, doing immense damage, the city being set on fire in different parts and many lives lost. It was, at length, agreed to suspend the firing, on condition that the Belgic auxiliaries retired, leaving Antwerp to the care of its inhabitants, and the Dutch remaining in possession of the citadel. So far, the progress of events had been uninterrupted by the interference of foreign powers. The kingdom of the Netherlands, as before stated, had been created by Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and even France had been a party to it. Upon this ground, they assumed a right of mediation

between the belligerents; and on the 4th November a protocol was signed at London, declaring that hostilities should cease, and that the troops of the contending parties should retire within the limits which, previous to May 30, 1814, separated Belgium from the United Provinces.

30. The independence of the South American republics is acknowledged by France.

Oct. 5. Proclamation issued by the president of the United States, declaring the ports of that country open to the British trade, and the repeal of the laws restricting the intercourse with British colonial ports.

9. Intelligence of the loss of eighteen ships engaged in the northern whale fishery: the crews were saved.

11. Grand dinner at Birmingham, to celebrate recent events in France, to which 3700 persons sat down.

14. Several parishes of the metropolis passed resolutions against the New Police. They objected chiefly to the increased expense it imposed on the inhabitants.

17. Tumults at Paris, in consequence of a law having been introduced for abolishing the punishment of death for political offences, which the populace considered an indirect attempt to save the lives of the Polignac ministry. Disturbances quelled by the national guard.

26. **MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.**—The elections had gone strongly against ministers. The chief whig and tory borough proprietors had been opposed to them; events in France had also operated unfavourably. It had been currently represented that prince Polignac had been made minister by the influence of the duke of Wellington, and that the latter, if he had not suggested, had approved of his policy, though he might now dislike the rashness with which its execution had been attempted. There was no truth in this representation, as the prompt acknowledgment of the government of Louis Philip by the duke attested; but it had answered the temporary purpose of declamation and excitement during the elections. So strong was the general feeling against the ministry, that not a single cabinet minister obtained a seat by any thing approaching to an open and popular election. Liverpool had again returned the late Mr. Huskisson and general Gascoyne, both of them hostile, though on different grounds, to the administration. The economical labours of Mr. Hume recommended him to the multitudinous freeholders of Middlesex; and Mr. Brougham, as before noticed, was returned for Yorkshire, though wholly unconnected with that great county. Two brothers of Mr. Secretary Peel and his brother-in-law lost their elections. Mr. Croker was ejected from Dublin university on account of his pro-catholic vote. The general results of the elections were as

follows. Of the 82 members returned by the English counties, only 28 were steady adherents of the ministry; 47 were avowed adherents of the opposition, and 7 were neutral. Of thirteen great cities and boroughs returning 28 members, only three seats were held by decided ministerialists, 24 by decided oppositionists. Of 236 members returned by elections, more or less popular, in England, only 79 were ministerial votes; 141 were in avowed opposition, and 16 of a neutral cast. Ministers, therefore, could only look for a majority among the close boroughs and the Scotch members; and among these, the great families that commanded the largest number of members were among their opponents. The following is a classification of the new parliament, according to the interests and connexions of the members:—

Agricultural Interests . . .	356
East India Interests . . .	62
West India Interests . . .	35
Bankers	33
Officers in the Army . . .	89
Officers in the Navy . . .	24
Lawyers	54
Placemen and Pensioners . .	219
Relations of Peers	256
Miscellaneous	51

Many of the members belonged to several classes or interests, which being enumerated in each swells the nominal number above 658.

28. Their majesties visit; Drury-lane theatre.

30. A public meeting of the magistrates and landowners of Kent, held at Canterbury, to consider the alarming state of that county, at which the necessity of taking measures to alleviate the distresses of the labourers was conceded, as well as active precautions against the destruction of their property by incendiary fires.

Nov. 2. KING'S SPEECH.—The commons having again chosen Mr. Manners Sutton for their speaker, and the members taken the oaths, the first session of the new parliament was opened by a speech from the throne. His majesty informed them of the alteration that had taken place in the reigning family of France; deeply regretted the state of affairs in the Low Countries, and expressed the intention of endeavouring, in concert with his allies, to devise means to restore tranquillity; held out hopes of an amicable arrangement being made with the reigning power of Portugal; recommended a provision for a regency in case of a demise of the Crown; placed the hereditary revenues at the disposal of the commons; lamented the destruction of property by fire and the breaking of machinery; expressed satisfaction at the continuance of peace and commercial prosperity,

and concluded with expressing reliance on the firmness and wisdom of parliament. Addresses in both houses were carried without a division, but not without discussion. Earl Grey took occasion to urge the necessity of an immediate reform of Parliament, which elicited from the duke of Wellington a declaration that the legislature deserved and possessed the confidence of the country; that it *could not be improved*; and that he was determined to oppose any measure for that purpose, if brought forward. This uncalled for and haughty interdiction, both as respected the present and future prospects of reform, excited a strong and indignant feeling among the people. In the commons, Mr. Brougham gave notice that he would that day fortnight submit to the house a proposition on parliamentary reform. Next day, on bringing up the report on the address, Mr. Tennyson and other members took occasion to comment on the declaration of the minister against reform.

3. Change in the French ministry, which is now composed as follows:—M. Lafitte, president of the council and minister of finance; Marshal Maison, minister of foreign affairs; Count Montalivet, minister of the interior M. Dupont de l'Eure, keeper of the seals; Marshal Soult, minister of war; M. Merithon, minister of public instruction; and General Sebastiani, minister of the marine.

7. Intended visit of the king to the city on lord-mayor's day postponed by the advice of his ministers. They had received a great many letters from individuals, apprising them of the unfavourable reception they were likely to receive; among them, one from Mr. Charles Pearson, and another from Mr. John Key, the lord-mayor elect, who suggested to the duke of Wellington that he should come "strongly and sufficiently guarded." During the Saturday and Sunday, industrious attempts had been made by placards to inflame the public mind against the royal speech, the anti-reform declaration of the duke, and the new metropolitan police. It is likely there would have been riot and perhaps bloodshed, and it was to avoid these his grace advised that the king's visit should be postponed. "If firing had begun," said the duke to Sir W. Knighton, "who could tell where it would end? I know what street-firing is: one guilty person would fall, and ten innocent be destroyed. Would this have been wise or humane, for a little bravado, or that the country might not have been alarmed for a day or two?"—(Sir William Knighton's *Memoirs*, II., 182.)

8. Upon the motion of the marquis of Lansdowne, considerable discussion arose on the abandonment of the king's visit to the city. Earl Grey, the duke of Richmond, and other peers, contended that the post-

ponement was uncalled for; that it had excited needless alarm, and produced an extraordinary depression of the funds. The subject was also agitated in the house of commons. Ministers defended themselves on the ground of the numerous communications they had received confirmatory of intended tumult and outrage.

12. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having submitted his resolutions to the house for the settlement of the Civil List, Sir H. Parnell, complaining of its want of economy and the confusion of its details, gave notice of a motion that it be referred to a select committee.

15. According to notice, Sir H. Parnell moved for a select committee, which, after a considerable debate, was carried against ministers by 233 against 204, leaving them in a minority of 29.

16. Ministers resign their places.

22. **KARL GREY'S MINISTRY.**—The withdrawal of the support of the whigs, and the composition of the new parliament, as already described, unaided by the indiscretions of its chief, are sufficient to account for the dissolution of the Wellington cabinet. On the day the new ministry kissed hands on their appointments, lords Grey and Lansdowne took occasion to declare in the Lords the principles upon which they, with other members of the administration, had accepted office. These were peace, retrenchment, and reform. Some hasty expressions of Mr. Brougham led to rumours that he would not form part of the new ministry, and that he intended to follow up the notice he had given by bringing forward the subject of parliamentary reform. These proved premature. The celebrated reform ministry consisted of the following members:—

Earl Grey, *First Lord of the Treasury.*
 Marquis of Lansdowne, *Lord President.*
 Lord Brougham, *Lord Chancellor.*
 Viscount Althorp, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*
 Viscount Melbourne, *Home Secretary.*
 Viscount Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*
 Viscount Goderich, *Colonial Secretary.*
 Lord Durham, *Lord Privy Seal.*
 Lord Auckland, *President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint.*
 Sir James Graham, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*
 Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*
 Charles Grant, *President of the India Board.*
 Earl of Carlisle, *No Office.*

The above formed the Cabinet.

C. W. W. Wynn, *Secretary at War.*
 Sir James Kempt, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

Lord John Russell, *Paymaster General.*
 George Agar Ellis, *First Commissioner of Land Revenue.*

Duke of Richmond, *Postmaster General.*
 Robert Grant, *Judge Advocate General.*
 Sir Robert Spencer, *Surveyor General.*
 Lord Nugent, Robert Vernon Smith, Francis Baring, and Hon. G. Ponsonby, *Lords of the Treasury.*
 Poulett Thomson, *Vice-President of the Board of Trade.*

Duke of Devonshire, *Lord Chamberlain.*
 Marquis Wellesley, *Lord Steward.*
 Earl of Albemarle, *Master of the Horse.*
 Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*

Sir Thomas Denman, *Attorney General.*
 Sir William Horne, *Solicitor General.*

IRELAND:—

Marquis Anglesey, *Lord Lieutenant.*
 Lord Plunkett, *Lord Chancellor.*
 Hon. E. G. S. Stanley, *Chief Secretary.*
 Edward Pennefather, *Attorney General.*
 Philip Crampton, *Solicitor General.*
 Sir John Byng, *Commander of the Forces.*

SCOTLAND:—

Francis Jeffrey, *Lord Advocate.*
 Henry Cockburn, *Solicitor General.*

Mr. Brougham's patent of peerage had not reached the clerk of parliament on the 22nd, so he could only take his place on the woolsack as speaker, in virtue of his office as lord chancellor.

29. **POLISH INSURRECTION.**—The flame of popular insurrection, which had visited France, Belgium, and Germany, spread eastward to Poland. Here, however, the insurrection did not appear to rise immediately from political discontents, but to have been the instantaneous result of an insulting proceeding on the part of the viceroy, the grand duke Constantine, whose savage character had excluded him from popularity wherever his power had been felt. He had taken offence at the young men attending the military school at Warsaw, because at a social banquet they had toasted the memory of Kosciusko. For this he ordered some of the young men to be flogged, and others of them to be sent to prison. To resist this tyrannical proceeding, and exact vengeance for the disgrace of the punishment, their companions rose in arms on the 29th inst. The Russian guards were called out to suppress them, and immediately the Polish regiments, who formed part of the garrison, joined the students. As the contest became hotter, national antipathy roused the townspeople. Assisted by the troops, they forced their way into the arsenal and supplied themselves with arms. This great accession of strength decided the day; the Russian troops, after a bloody contest in the streets of Warsaw, were driven out of the city and compelled to re-

ture to the other side of the Vistula. The grand duke himself narrowly escaped from his palace. The Poles being thus masters of the city, a provisional administration was formed, consisting of the most popular and influential of the nobility. Two commissioners were sent to Petersburg, in order, if possible, to effect an amicable settlement with the emperor. But Nicholas refused to listen to their representations, and issued a proclamation, in which he threatened to inflict on the Poles the most severe punishment for what he described as "their horrid treason." The Poles, undismayed, prepared to meet the terrible conflict that awaited them, and, after the manner of old Rome, made choice of a "Dictator," general Joseph Clopicki.

Dec. 17. DEATH OF SIMON BOLIVAR.—The Liberator expired at San Pedro, a voluntary exile, in the 45th year of his age. He was of noble parentage, born in the city of Caraccas, but educated in Europe. It was by his heroic exertions the republic of Columbia had been established, and he generously lent his aid to establish the independence of Peru. Bolivar was a man of splendid abilities and magnanimous dispositions. Brave, eloquent, energetic, and untiring, he never ceased to struggle, often under the most disheartening reverses, against the yoke of Old Spain, till he finally achieved the deliverance of his country. He seems, however, not to have been so successful in civil government as in his military enterprises. An ardent lover of fame, the Columbians were apprehensive he might tread in the steps of Napoleon, rather than those of Washington. It was to quiet these apprehensions that Bolivar, in the preceding April, had resigned the office of president, and which, he said, he did to remove all suspicion of his ambition, and with a sincere wish to promote the welfare of the republic. The people soon became sensible that they had done their great leader injustice, and his restoration was only prevented by his premature death.

21. Trial of the French ministers. Poulignac, Peyronnet, Chantelauze, and Raville, for high treason, concluded; being found guilty, they were sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. Accusations had also been carried in the chamber of deputies against the other ministers M. M. D'Hauvrez, Capelle, and Montbel, who, more fortunate than their colleagues, had succeeded in their flight. The trial began on the 15th, and the duration of each sitting was from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon. About 160 peers were generally present. The first three days were devoted to examining the accused and to hearing and reading the evidence; the remainder of the time was occupied by the speeches

of the commissioners appointed by the chamber of deputies to conduct the prosecution, and by the defences of the counsel for the several prisoners.

26. General Lafayette resigns the command of the national guard of France.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—The distressed condition of the agricultural population led to a novel species of outrage in the autumn of this year. The rioters did not assume the character of mobs, nor did they profess to seek any political object. Their attacks were directed against private property. Night after night, fires were lighted up by bands of incendiaries; corn-stacks, barns, farm-buildings, and live-stock were indiscriminately consumed. Bolder bands attacked mills and destroyed the machinery; and all threshing machines, in particular, were condemned. Threatening letters were circulated, demanding the raising of wages or the disuse of machinery; and the nightly exploits of the writer, insured attention to their demands. These disorders began in Kent almost before its harvest was over; and during October, November, and December extended into the counties of Hants, Wilts, Bucks, Sussex, and Surrey. Throughout the whole of this district, all protection for property seemed at an end. Bands of rioters pillaged and destroyed during the day; and so soon as night fell, simultaneous conflagrations, starting up in different quarters, spread over the country havoc and dismay. The military force in the disturbed counties was increased; a proclamation was issued offering a reward of 500*l.* for the conviction of any person concerned in fire-raising, and special commissions were appointed to proceed into the shires where the outrages had been committed.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Carlotta Joachima, queen-dowager of Portugal, 53; daughter of Charles IV., of Spain; married in 1790 to the late John VI. In a duel, in Battersea Fields, Oliver Clayton, author of several pamphlets and of "Ten Miles round London." W. Eytton Tooke, B.A., 24, a member of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge: over-exertion in literary pursuits is supposed to have produced a morbid state of the brain, which terminated in madness. Theodosia Beauchamp, wife of Barry O'Meara, medical attendant on Napoleon at St. Helena. She was the only daughter of Sir E. Boughton, and married, for her first husband, in 1777, captain Donellan, who was hung at Warwick, April 4, 1781, for having, in the hope of inheriting the fortune, poisoned his wife's only brother, sir T. E. A. Boughton. This he effected by prussic acid distilled from laurel leaves, which he contrived should be administered, in lieu of medicine, by the

mother of his victim. Inheriting the fortune her first husband had thus procured, her second husband was Sir E. Leigh, (*Ann. Reg.* lxxii., 250.) He died at Bath in 1818, and in 1823, she married Mr. O'Meara. At his lodgings, in Hanover-street, by suicide, lord Graves, 54, commissioner of excise: he had lived separate from lady Graves some time, and some rumour, not creditable to her ladyship, had a fatal termination. At Paris, M. Benjamin Constant, 63, celebrated political writer and member of the chamber of deputies. Nathaniel Brassey Halhed, 79, eminent orientalist and author of several learned works, illustrative of Hindoo history and literature. Mr. Halhed obtained a seat in the house of commons, and exhibited a melancholy instance of mental delusion in his persevering patronage of the prophet Brothers, whose confinement in Bedlam he denounced as tyrannical, and, at the same time, wrote a book to vindicate the reveries of the crazy enthusiast. At Paris, Marshal Gouvion St. Cyr, 66, author of "Memoirs of the Italian Wars." Lady Augusta de Ameland, fourth daughter to the earl of Dunmore; married at Rome, in 1793, to the duke of Sussex, which ceremony was repeated in England, but void by the Royal Marriage Act. A son, Augustus D'Este, and a daughter by his royal highness, survived her ladyship. At Perugia, in Italy, Hippolyto Bendo, 124; abstemious in eating, but drank regularly six bottles of wine per day. At Paris, F. A. Winsor, 67, founder of the gas-light and coke company in London and of the first gas company established in Paris. At Camberwell, Samuel Favell, 70, many years an active and useful member of the common council of London. At St. Leu, Louis Henry de Bourbon, prince of Condé, 75; the prince terminated his existence by hanging himself, under the excitement produced by the July revolution. He bequeathed property to the amount of fifteen millions of francs to the baroness of Feucheres an Englishwoman, with whom he lived. The rest of his immense wealth was left to the duke d'Aumale, third son of the king of the French. In Finsbury, John Milward, 95, many years an active magistrate of Middlesex. He left 75,000*l.* to various charities of the metropolis, and the residue of his property to the London Hospital. James Humphrey, eminent lawyer and judicial writer; author of "Observations on the English Law of Real Property," a work that drew much attention. John Crowder, 74, alderman of London and part proprietor of the Public Ledger, newspaper. Lord Henley, 78, diplomatist. At Paris, countess de Genlis, 84, a French lady of great literary celebrity. She was governess to the children of the duke de Chartres, with whom

a *liason* is reported to have subsisted. The duke was father to Louis Philip. Sir Thomas Lawrence, 71, celebrated portrait painter. The professional income of this popular artist was estimated at from 10,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* a-year, notwithstanding which, he died in embarrassed circumstances, chiefly from his profuse expenditure in the purchase of scarce and valuable works of art. John Mitford, Baron Redesdale, 82, late lord chancellor of Ireland; an able lawyer and legal writer.

A. D. 1831. Jan. SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.

—The two special commissions appointed at the close of the past year to try the rioters and incendiaries, completed in the present month their painful duty. On the 9th, judgment of death was recorded against 23 prisoners for the destruction of a paper-machine in Buckinghamshire; in Dorset, on the 11th, against 3 for extorting money and two for robbery; at Norwich, 45 persons were convicted of machine-breaking and rioting; at Ipswich, 3 for extorting money; at Petworth, 26 for machine-breaking and rioting; at Gloucester, upwards of 30; at Oxford, 29; and at Winchester, out of 40 convicted, six were left for execution, of whom, however, only two were executed. At Salisbury, 44 prisoners were convicted, of whom two were executed on the 25th. Altogether, upwards of 800 offenders were tried; and all of those convicted were, with the exception of the four executed, sentenced to various terms of transportation and imprisonment. The prosecutions were firmly but discreetly conducted; and they checked the outrages against property, especially in the southern counties.

10. Trial and conviction of Richard Carlile for a libel, tending to excite the agricultural labourers to riot and the destruction of property. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Compter, to pay a fine of 200*l.*, and to find sureties to keep the peace for ten years.

12. The *cholera Morbus*, which had been fatally prevalent at Moscow, extended to St. Petersburg.

Feb. 1. At the anniversary meeting of the Birmingham political union, Mr. Attwood stated that the union had now on its books 9000 individuals paying from 4*s.* to 2*l.* 2*s.* each.

3. Parliament re-assembled. Earl Grey, in the lords, and Viscount Althorp, in the commons, announced that a plan of parliamentary reform had been agreed upon by ministers, which would be introduced by lord John Russell.

Duke of Nemours elected king of Belgium. The French king refusing his consent, lest the jealousy of other powers might be excited, the election became void.

7. The New Testament presented to the king, at Brighton, printed in gold, on porcelain paper, and, for the first time, successfully executed on both sides.

9. A meeting of the subscribers to a fund to erect a monument to the memory of the celebrated John Locke. The subscription had been open since 1806, and amounted only to 846*l.*; which being insufficient to defray the expense of a monument in St. Paul's or Westminster Abbey, it was resolved to erect one in the London University.

11. Lord Althorp brought forward the BUDGET. It was proposed to abolish 210 places. The taxes on tobacco, newspapers, and advertisements to be reduced; those on coals, candles, printed cottons, and other articles, abolished. Reductions estimated at 4,080,000*l.*; the new duties to be imposed at 2,740,000*l.* It was proposed to tax the transfer of funded property and passengers by steam-boats, but these propositions were abandoned.

12. Messrs. O'Connell, Steele, and Barrett pleaded guilty to fourteen counts of an indictment, charging them with holding political meetings contrary to the proclamation of the lord lieutenant. The act under which they were convicted expired, pending the general election of this year, before they were called up for judgment, so that they escaped punishment.

19. St. John Long, against whom a verdict of manslaughter had been returned by a coroner's jury in the case of Mrs. Lloyd, whose death was alleged to have been caused by his medical practice, was tried and acquitted at the Old Bailey. His mode of treatment was by rubbing and unction.

20. Battle of Grochow, near Warsaw, between the Poles and Russians. The conflict was most obstinate; the Russians losing 7000, the Poles 2000 men.

22. New election law introduced into the French chamber of deputies. By this law the elective qualification is reduced from 300 to 240 francs, paid in direct taxes, and that of eligibility to the rank of deputy, from 1000 to 500 francs. This alteration, it is calculated, will augment the number of electors to 210,000.

Mar. 1. INTRODUCTION OF THE REFORM BILL.—This important measure was looked forward to with intense interest. It was introduced by lord John Russell in a speech remarkable for accuracy and research. He said the grievances in parliamentary representation, of which the people chiefly complained, were three: first, the nomination of members by individuals; secondly, elections by close corporations; and thirdly, the expenses of elections. It was proposed to meet the first grievance by the disfranchisement of boroughs; 60 bo-

roughs, not having a population of 2000 were to be totally disfranchised; and 47 boroughs, with a population of only 4000, the members returned by each to be reduced to one. Weymouth, which sent four members, was to send two. This would reduce the number of members 168; part of which vacancies were to be supplied by giving representatives to large towns, and by increasing the number of county members. In boroughs, the elective franchise to be extended to householders paying a 10*l.* rent; in counties, to copyholders of 10*l.* a-year, and leaseholders of 50*l.* per annum. Persons already in possession of the right of voting not to be deprived, if actually resident. For lessening the expenses of elections, non-resident electors to be disfranchised, and the duration of elections to be shortened by increasing the facilities for taking the poll. No compensation to be given to the proprietors of the disfranchised boroughs; which was justified under the precedent of the forty-shilling freeholders of Ireland, who had received no compensation for the loss of their votes. As to the duration of parliaments, his lordship seemed favourable to shortening them, but reserved that branch of reform to a future and separate occasion. He expressed doubts of the expediency of voting by ballot, and concluded with moving for leave to bring in a bill for amending the representation in England and Wales. The bill was read a first time without a division, after an animated discussion that lasted seven days. The second reading was carried on the 22nd, after a debate of two days, by a majority of one; the numbers being 302 to 301. The chief objections against the bill were, that it reduced the number of the house of commons; that it was founded on the basis of *population*, without reference to property or the payment of taxes; and that it was a robbery of corporations, revolutionary and subversive of the constitution. On the commitment, April 18th, general Gascoyne moved that the number of members ought not to be diminished. For the motion 299, against it 291. Majority against ministers 8. Three days after, ministers were again defeated by 164 to 142, upon a question of adjournment, by which the voting of supplies was postponed. Ministers then tendered the resignation of their offices to the king, which he declined to accept. They next recommended that parliament should be dissolved, to which his majesty assented and promptly executed. In the two protracted discussions on the Reform Bill, the chief speakers for the measure were,—lord Althorp, Hume, Macaulay, Shiel, lord Morpeth, Gisborne, E. G. S. Stanley, Wyse, sir James Graham, D. O'Connell, Dr. Lushington, lord Ebrington, Hobhouse, lord

Tavistock, lord Palmerston, Tennyson, lord Howick, E. Grant, Harvey, J. Wood, lord Stanley, alderman Wainman, T. Duncombe, H. L. Bulwer, C. Grant, W. Cavendish, Rice, J. Campbell, C. Fergusson, sir T. Denman, and sir W. Home; *against*,—sir R. Inglis, H. Twiss, lord Gower, sir Charles Wetherell, viscount Mahon, Baring, lord Darlington, C. Wynne, H. Davies, sir R. Peel, col. Sibthorpe, sir G. Clerk, Tyrrell, North, W. Y. Peel, Bethell, Praed, M. Attwood, sir J. Yorke, Goulburn, Courtenay, Croker, Calcraft, G. Bankes, K. Douglas, serg. Lefroy, sir G. Warrender, Cartwright, sir R. Vyvyan, V. Stuart, sir E. Sugden, lord Vallerst, sir J. Shelley, Shaw, sir James Scarlett, sir T. Acland, general Gascoyne, Sadler, lord Stormont, sir R. Wilson, and S. G. Price.

10. Entry of the Austrian troops into Modena for the purpose of suppressing the insurrection there. They subsequently took possession of other revolted places, and succeeded in restoring the authorities that had been deposed.

13. M. Lafitte and most of his colleagues resigned: the former succeeded by M. Casimir Perier. Sebastiani and Soult retained their places at the head of the foreign and war departments. A more firm resistance to the movement party was the anticipated policy of the new ministry.

31. The Russians defeated at Wawrz, with the loss of 14,000 men, after a battle of two days, by the Poles under general Skrzynecki. Loss of the Poles inconsiderable.

April 7. Revolution in Brazil. The emperor, Don Pedro, abdicated in favour of his son, Don Pedro II., a child five years old, and embarked with the rest of his family on board a British ship of war. A regency was appointed to act in the name of the young emperor. Jealousy of the constitutionalists, whom the emperor had patronised, and who had arrived in great number in Brazil, after the triumph of his brother Miguel over the emperor's daughter, Donna Maria, queen of Portugal, was the chief cause of the discontents of the Brazilians. The military joined the natives in their defection.

7. Miss Fozte, the popular actress, married to the earl of Harrington.

22. Parliament prorogued by the king, and the next day dissolved. His majesty said he had determined on this step, to take the sense of the people on a change in the representation. The anti-reformers deprecated dissolution, and a tumultuous altercation between them and their opponents was only interrupted by the sudden arrival of the king. London and most other towns were illuminated in consequence, and the windows of the lords Wellington and Lon-

donderry, sir R. Peel, sir Robert Wilson, and others opposed to the reform bill, were broken by the populace. During the six months' duration of the Wellington parliament, the chief measures that had been completed were the repeal of taxes and the settlement of the civil list. The last was fixed at 510,000*l.*, which reduction was effected by transferring the charges unconnected with the royal maintenance and dignity to the other departments of the public expenditure. The civil list pensions were limited to 75,000*l.* An addition of 7,680 men was made to the army, and 3,000 to the navy. These augmentations were rendered necessary by the disturbed state of the agricultural districts, and the agitation in Ireland.

23. Duke William of Brunswick assumes the sovereignty, with the consent of the king of England and the German Diet, owing to the incapacity of his brother.

30. A Polish corps, under Dwernicki, being hard pressed by the Russians, retreated into Austrian Galicia, and, surrendering to the Austrian authorities, were treated as prisoners and sent into Hungary.

May 4. A British fleet appearing in the Tagus obtains the redress of certain grievances, which, before its arrival, had been refused by the Portuguese government.

6. At a review of the second regiment of life guards in Windsor Park, the king presented them with a pair of silver kettle-drums, weighing 1900 ounces. It is the first royal donation of the kind since George III. presented, in 1789, kettle-drums of silver to the Blues.

10. Certain districts of the counties of Clare, Galway, Roscommon, and Tipperary proclaimed in a state of disturbance. Large bodies had for some time assembled to *turn-up* pasture land for the alleged purpose of creating employment.

13. Ikey Solomons, a notorious thief and receiver of stolen goods, sentenced at the Old Bailey to 14 years' transportation.

26. The subscriptions raised in England to relieve distress in Ireland amount to 60,000*l.*, independent of the assistance afforded by government.

28. A coroner's inquest which had been sitting for some days on the bodies of several persons who had been killed in an affray with the police, at Castlepollard, in Ireland, returned a verdict against the chief constable, and 18 of the police, of having caused the death of the said persons, by firing at them. The grand jury subsequently ignored the bills preferred against them for murder, and the relations refusing to proceed against them for manslaughter, the prosecution was abandoned.

GENERAL ELECTION.—An appeal having been made to the people, the greatest excitement prevailed during the elections.

The reform bill was considered the king's measure as well as that of his ministers, and for the time the country was divided into two parties; those in favour of the bill and those against it: the former constituted an overwhelming majority of the nation, comprising a union of all the different classes of parliamentary reformers, who joined, during the elections, in one common rallying cry of "The bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill." In Ireland, two pledged supporters of the bill were elected for Dublin. Scotland became unusually agitated, and Mr. Jeffrey, the lord advocate, was returned amidst much tumult for Edinburgh. In England, the anti-billmen were signally defeated. Mr. Bankes was rejected in Dorsetshire; Sir R. Vyvyan in Cornwall; sir E. Knatchbull in Kent; sir T. Acland in Devonshire. In the city of London, all the four members were pledged to support the bill. Out of the eighty-two county members for England, all were pledged to the bill, with the exception of about half-a-dozen returned by the counties of Westmoreland, Bucks, Salop, Huntingdon, and Monmouth. The opponents to the ministerial measure stood nowhere with vigour, except in the universities, where the church authority predominates; and popular enthusiasm proved more than a match for the anti-bill proprietors of boroughs, even in the existing defective state of parliamentary representation.

June 3. Paganini, the celebrated violin-player, gave his first concert at the Opera House with great success.

4. Prince Leopold elected king of Belgium by the congress at Brussels.

Disturbances among the workmen employed in the iron works at Merthyr Tydvil, owing to low wages and the high price of provisions. The riot act being read, instead of dispersing, they made an attack on the military, who firing, several of the rioters were killed and wounded.

6. Duncan M'Craig, a minister of the Scottish church, convicted at Edinburgh of stealing books, and sentenced to be transported for 14 years.

7. The Old Boar's Head, in Great East Cheap, the scene of many of Shakespeare's stories, removed, to make way for the approaches to the New London Bridge.

8. Upwards of 3,000 men assembled to destroy the enclosures in the forest of Dean, under a mistaken notion that every 21 years they had a right to level them; the rioters succeeded in destroying fifty miles of wall and fences, and throwing open 10,000 acres of plantation.

10. Proclamation in the *Gazette* requiring all vessels coming from the Baltic to perform quarantine, owing to the prevalence

of the *cholera morbus* in Russia and adjacent parts.

13. Sailed from the London Docks for Canada, with their wives and families, 300 Chelsea pensioners; they had received four years' pay and grants of land from the British government. There were, also, along with them, several passengers going out at the expense of their parishes, and mechanics and tradesmen paying their own passage.

14. NEW PARLIAMENT met and re-elected C. M. Sutton, speaker. It was opened by the king, in person, on the 21st. He recommended to their consideration the expediency of a reform in the representation; announced the continuance of amicable relations with foreign powers; the settlement of the affairs of Belgium; and adverted to disturbances in Ireland, and the *cholera morbus* in Russia. Addresses were agreed to in both houses without a division.

18. At Newtonbarry in Ireland, in a seizure for tithes, thirty-five persons killed or severely wounded by the yeomanry, who began firing on the multitude without orders. A coroner's jury, which sat on the dead, was discharged without giving a verdict.

22. Two young men found drowned in the Serpentine. One was a gentleman, the other a pickpocket, in whose pockets were found a coral necklace, 26 handkerchiefs, a pocket book, and 26 pawnbrokers' duplicates. The pickpocket fell a victim to his humanity—so inconsistent is human nature—by diving after the other sufferer, with a view to save him.

24. REFORM BILL.—Lord John Russell a second time obtained leave to introduce this measure, and adverted to the opinions of Chatham, Pitt, and Fox, in favour of improving the representative system. To afford time to bring forward the reform bills for Scotland and Ireland, the second reading was deferred to July 4th, when an elaborate debate ensued, in which sir James Macintosh, Macaulay, sir R. Peel, the Bulwers, lord Althorp, Wm. Brougham, and sir F. Burdett shone conspicuous. It continued three nights, ending on the third, and the house dividing, 367 for the second reading, 231 against it; majority, 136 in favour of the bill. It was next committed and underwent a long, severe, but beneficial scrutiny; every clause was carefully discussed as it arose; imperfections were discovered, acknowledged and remedied: these occupied the house almost uninterruptedly till the 19th September, when on the third reading there was another eloquent display of three nights, in which sir James Scarlett, Macaulay, Croker, J.

Williams, C. Wynn, Crampton, and Pemberton mingled. The house divided—for the bill, 345; against it, 236; majority, 109. The bill then passed the commons amid loud cheers, and next day was taken up to the lords by upwards of 100 members, headed by lords Althorp and Russell.

29. Commou council of London withdrew their objection to the admission of Jews to the freedom of the city.

July 4. Robert Taylor found guilty of blasphemy after a twelve hours' trial. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the county gaol of Surrey, and to pay a fine of 200*l*.

7. Mr. Cobbett tried for a libel in his *Political Register*, the tendency of which, it was alleged, was to excite the peasantry to the destruction of property. After the jury had been locked up fifteen hours they were discharged by the judge, as there was no likelihood of agreeing in their verdict.

11. Portuguese government having refused satisfaction for injuries committed on French subjects by the Portuguese authorities, the passage of the Tagus was forced by admiral Roussin, and the Portuguese fleet, lying off Lisbon, taken possession of. This compelled the court of Lisbon to submit to the terms dictated by the French, which included the dismissal of some Portuguese functionaries, an indemnity for expenses incurred by the expedition, the reversal of all sentences pronounced against Frenchmen for political opinions, and the publication of these humiliating terms in the Lisbon Gazette.

14. At Winchester, Mr. Deacle recovers 50*l*. damages against Messrs. Bingham Baring and Francis Baring, magistrates, for false imprisonment.

16. Hon. W. L. Wellesley committed by the Lord Chancellor for contempt of court, in having withdrawn his daughter from the custody of the persons appointed by the Court of Chancery.—(See p. 827.) Mr. Wellesley, after having remained several days in confinement, submitted to the court, and, having restored his daughter, was discharged.

19. After the erection of major Cartwright's statue in Burton Crescent, nearly 600 of his admirers dined at the White Conduit House. Sir F. Burdett and Mr. O'Connell were present, and Mr. Hume in the chair.

Aug. 1. Opening of New London Bridge; the king and queen attended the ceremony, going by water in state. An elegant pavilion was erected on the bridge, in which a splendid banquet was prepared for their majesties and other guests. The time occupied in the erection of this masterly structure, from the driving of the first pile,

had been seven years, five months, and thirteen days. The fall of water at the ebbing of the tide, which was formerly so dangerous, has been completely remedied by the increased waterway afforded by the removal of the cumbrous piers of the old bridge.

2. Awful fire at Pera, a suburb of Constantinople, in which the hotels of the foreign embassies, with a number of churches and 5000 houses, fell a prey to the flames.

12. The Dutch recommenced hostilities against the Belgians, and, attacking them at Louvaine, compelled them, under the command of king Leopold, to retreat. The advance of a French army towards Brussels deterred the Hollanders from pursuing their victory.

17. Rothsay Castle, steam-boat, plying between Liverpool and Beanmaris, wrecked in the night with nearly 200 passengers and crew on board, of whom only 22 were saved. The captain and mate seem to have been intoxicated and the vessel not seaworthy.

19. A bronze statue erected in Hanover-square to the memory of the late Mr. Pitt, on a pedestal of granite: the statue is ten feet high and weighs four tons. Mr. Chantrey is the sculptor.

Sept. 7. After two days' hard fighting, Warsaw capitulated and was taken possession of by the Russians.

8. Coronation of their majesties. There was a royal procession from St. James's palace to Westminster Abbey, but there was no banquet in Westminster Hall. A grand dinner given at St. James's. In the evening the illuminations in the metropolis were splendid and general; the theatres, Vauxhall Gardens, and many places of public entertainment were open free of expense, and a display of fireworks took place in Hyde Park, which attracted an immense concourse of spectators.

21. The copyright of sir Walter Scott's miscellaneous prose-works, which comprise six volumes 8vo., sold by auction for 240*l*. The manuscripts of the Waverley novels had been previously sold at Evans's. The Monastery, bound in green morocco, brought 13*l*.; the Antiquary, 42*l*.; Rob Roy, 50*l*.

Oct. 7. REFORM BILL REJECTED BY THE LORDS.—Earl Grey moved the second reading of the bill on the 3rd. In opening the measure to their lordships, he appeared deeply affected by the weight of personal responsibility it imposed upon him. He said the great object of his political life had been parliamentary reform; but if the present measure had the revolutionary tendency some imputed to it, he would not defend, much less propose it. He next

traced the growth of the spirit of reform; its present irresistible power; affirmed that the representative franchise was not a property but a trust which had been perverted; expressed his attachment to the church and its ministers; and, after describing and defending the leading points of the bill, concluded with declaring that ministers were resolved to stand or fall by the present measure. Loud cheers followed the close of his lordship's address. After which lord Wharnclyffe rose. He did not defend the nomination boroughs, but described portions of the bill as hurtful to the agricultural interest and subversive of the power of the crown and the lords. He concluded by moving an amendment, "That this bill be rejected;" which, being considered unnecessarily offensive, it was altered,—“That it be read this day six months.” The amendment having been seconded and put from the woolsack, one of the most memorable discussions in parliamentary history followed. For skill, force, and variety of argument; for historical, constitutional, and scholastic illustration, it was never surpassed. That some reform was necessary appeared to be generally conceded, and both sides of the noble assembly maintained their opinions with the dignified consciousness of rectitude of intention, and the most laudable patience and temper. Besides Grey and Wharnclyffe, the chief speakers for the bill were,—Brougham, Lansdowne, Melbourne, Holland, Mulgrave, Plunkett, Richmond, Roseberry, Radnor, Goderich, and the duke of Sussex; *against*,—Harrowby, Wellington, Dudley, Carnarvon, Eldon, Buckingham, Mansfield, Bute, Winchelsea, Haddington, Londonderry, Tenterden, Falmouth, Lyndhurst, Wynford, Harewood, the duke of Gloucester, and the archbishop of Canterbury. The debate, which began on Monday, was continued for five nights, and only closed about five o'clock on Saturday morning; when the house divided—contents 158; non-contents 199; majority against the bill 41. Of this majority, 21 were contributed by the bench of bishops. The bill being thus thrown out, the question—*what will the lords do?*—which had been earnestly and anxiously asked during the preceding months, was answered. It produced a strong and indignant feeling through the country. Some of the London newspapers were arrayed in mourning, and several noble lords who had opposed the bill were assailed by the populace. At Derby they broke open the town gaol, and demolished the property of the anti-reformers of the place. At Nottingham there was considerable rioting, which ended in the destruction, by fire, of the ancient castle there, the property of the duke of

Newcastle. His grace had become unpopular, and unintentionally given a great impulse to reform by his hasty declaration, in respect of his dependant voters, at Newark, that he had “a right to do what he pleased with his own.” These excesses and a few burnings in effigy were the first outbreaks of popular rage; but, in general, there was confidence in the ultimate success of the bill, and a disposition on the part of the people and the political societies, now in action, to support the government and preserve the peace.

9. ASSASSINATION OF CAPO D'ISTRIA. —This outrage was committed as the president of Greece was entering the church of Napoli di Romania, by two sons of the old Greek bey Mavromichali, in revenge for the humiliation of their family by the arbitrary assumption of power by Capo D'Istria. The president had been in authority since 1827, and his first measures had been popular, tending to the peace and improvement of the country. Latterly he had manifested a disposition to establish a perpetual dictatorship, under the auspices of Russia. He abolished the popular form of government, and established a council called the Panhellenium, which was wholly under his control. All the constitutionalists, who had risked life and property in the protracted struggle with the Turks, were excluded from his confidence. When the deputies waited upon him to propose calling a national assembly, in order to establish a free government, he told them they were not fit for liberty. Of this last, the Greeks had unhappily given too many proofs, but, though unfit for liberal institutions, they merited a better form of rule than a naked despotism, supported by foreign influence, and for the sole benefit of the count and his own servile adherents.

10. FRENCH HEREDITARY PEERAGE. —A reform of the chamber of peers by the abrogation of hereditary peerages, and the appointment of a senate for life, the members of which should possess, from their personal characters, a solid claim to the public confidence, was a leading object with the French nation. A measure for this purpose was carried in the chamber of deputies on the 10th, by a majority of 324 to 86; and, to facilitate its progress in the upper chamber, upwards of thirty new peerages were created. In the following January the peerage law was promulgated with the royal sanction. In it was contained a classification of the persons to whom the king's choice was to be restricted in the future creating of peers, accompanied by a provision that no allowance or pension shall be attached to the dignity, as formerly was too frequent, for its support.

All future peers must, therefore, have distinguished themselves in a military, legal, administrative, or commercial career, to entitle them to such honour; from which the needy favourites of the court and disgraced ministers are excluded.

16. Disturbance in the chapel of the Rev. E. Irving, near Gray's Inn-lane, occasioned by a Miss Hall holding forth in what was denominated an "unknown tongue." She was removed to the vestry. In the afternoon, Mr. Irving regretted that he had not suffered her to proceed in her mystic prophecies in the body of the temple. On this a schoolmaster rose, and commenced, in the same unknown gibberish, soothsaying. A scene of confusion ensued, the whole congregation rising from their seats in affright, while Mr. Irving listened with great composure to these unintelligible outpourings of the spirit.

20. Parliament prorogued by the king, who intimated the necessity of resuming in the ensuing session the subject of a constitutional reform in the house of commons. Besides the discussion of this vital question, bills had been passed for legalising the sale of corn by weight, in lieu of measure; for allowing the sale of game; and lord chancellor Brougham's important act, establishing the Bankruptcy Court, was passed.

21. The Asiatic cholera having extended its ravages from Moscow to Hamburg, the London *Gazette* contained precautions to be adopted against the spread of this dreadful pestilence. The establishment of a Board of Health in every town, to correspond with the board in London, and to consist of magistrates, clergy, and two or three of the faculty of medicine; large towns to be divided into districts, with committees of inspection. Cleanliness and free ventilation were strongly recommended; the immediate burning of old rags, paper, cordage, clothes, hangings, &c.; copious use of soap and water to furniture, clothes, and person; chloride of lime and water to drains and sinks, &c.; hot lime-wash to the walls and roofs; and every particle of filth to be carefully removed.

29. RIOTS IN BRISTOL.—This city suddenly became the scene of dreadful excesses on the public entrance of sir Charles Wetherell, the recorder. Sir Charles had been a strenuous opponent, in the house of commons, of the reform bill. The riots began on Saturday, continued through the whole of Sunday, and were only got under on Monday morning, when the corporation, the military, and the citizens awoke from the stupor into which they appear to have been thrown by this unexpected outbreak of popular fury. The

whole of Bristol was on the verge of destruction; the mansion-house, custom-house, excise-office, and bishop's palace, were plundered and set on fire; the toll-gates pulled down; the prisons burst open with sledge hammers, and their inmates, criminals and debtors, set at liberty amidst the exulting shouts of the populace. During the whole of Sunday the mob were the unresisted masters of the city. Forty-two offices, dwelling-houses, and warehouses were completely destroyed, exclusive of public buildings. The loss of property was estimated at half a million. The number of rioters killed, wounded or injured, was about 110. Of about 14 or 16 who lost their lives, three died from the shots or sword-cuts of the military; the rest were mostly the victims of excessive drinking, in the rifled cellars and warehouses, which produced either apoplexy upon the spot, or disabled them from escaping from the flames that they had themselves kindled.

31. Meeting of the London Political Union at the Crown and Anchor, and, by adjournment, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, Sir F. Burdett in the chair. It was agreed to form a national union with branch societies, each having a delegate at the central council. At a subsequent meeting, some discord arose on a proposal that part of the council should consist of representatives from the working-classes. The chairman opposed this, because it assumed a distinction of classes to exist, having separate interests. The proposal, however, was adopted; after this, and on the alleged ground of an appearance of permanency in the union, sir Francis withdrew his name from the association. A resolution was proposed in favour of universal suffrage, which not being supported by the middle class, the work-people formed a political union among themselves.

Nov. 2. Numerous incendiary fires between this and the 9th, in Cheshire, Yorkshire, and Somersetshire.

4. Several cases of the spasmodic cholera at Sunderland: this was the first appearance of the disease in this country, and is supposed to have been brought from Hamburg by persons who had been permitted to evade the quarantine establishment at Sunderland.

7. Meeting of the political union of the working-classes at White Conduit House, Thomas Wakley, chairman, postponed. The notice convening this assembly, besides demanding universal suffrage, vote by ballot, and annual parliaments, declared, "That all property, *honestly acquired*, is sacred and inviolable; that all men are born equally free and have certain natural and inalienable rights; that all *hereditary distinctions of birth* are unnatural and op-

posed to the equal rights of man, and ought to be abolished;" and they further declared that they would never be satisfied with any law that stopped short of these principles. An intimation from the police magistrates and from lord Melbourne, that a meeting for these objects was not only illegal and seditious, but, perhaps, treasonable, led to its abandonment.

21. Proclamation issued declaring certain affiliated political unions unlawful, and cautioning persons against entering into such combinations.

DISTURBANCES AT LYONS.—This great seat of the French silk manufacture became the scene of a terrible commotion. It arose in a dispute on wages; the work-people demanding higher wages than their employers, in the existing depression of the trade, thought they could afford. On the morning of the 21st, the weavers rose in arms, and defeated and disarmed the national guards, and troops of the line marched against them. The workmen in all parts of the town co-operated in the insurrectionary movement by un paving the streets, raising barricades, and firing on the military from the windows. Overpowering all resistance, the soldiery were entirely driven out of the city, and compelled, under general Roguet, to retire to the heights of Montessuy. Here they waited the arrival of the duke of Orleans and marshal Soult, the minister of war, with reinforcements. The insurgents, sensible that their triumph must be short, conducted themselves with moderation and prudence; took precautions for the protection of property, and invited the deposed civic authorities to return to the city; denying all political motives, and simply demanding such regulations as would secure their bread. A subscription was opened, and the municipal council voted 150,000 francs for the immediate relief of the distressed workmen, and the succour of the wounded. The killed, on both sides, during the bloody conflicts in the streets, was estimated at 500 or 600. Marshal Soult entered Lyons at the head of 26,000 men, disgraced some of the military who had misbehaved, disbanded the national guard, and abolished the tariff of wages, leaving the weavers and their employers to settle the price of labour, without the intervention of the civil power, by free competition.

22. The Birmingham association abandon their intended plan of organization in consequence of the royal proclamation.

Dec. 2. Trial and conviction of Bishop, Williams, and May, at the Old Bailey, for the murder of an Italian boy; May's sentence was commuted for transportation for life, the other wretches were executed. They had long been resurrectionists but had

left the practice of exhuming the dead for the purpose of decoying the living into Bishop's house, where they first administered laudanum to them in rum, and then, in a state of insensibility, suspended their victim by the heels in a well of water, till life was extinct. The bodies were sold to the hospitals for anatomical purposes.

4. Executed at Malaga, with forty-two companions, with whom he had landed there, hoping from the treacherous promises of the governor, Moreno, to effect a successful insurrection against Ferdinand, general Torrijos, the Spanish constitutional leader. Mr. Boyd, an English merchant, was among the sufferers. Subscriptions were subsequently raised for the widow of Torrijos both in this and other countries.

6. **PARLIAMENT** opened by the king. The royal speech recommended the settlement of the reform question; referred to the opposition made to the payment of tithes in Ireland; announced the conclusion of a convention with France for the suppression of the African slave-trade; alluded to the existence of political combinations in England; deplored the excesses at Bristol, and recommended improvements in the municipal police of the kingdom. Addresses in both houses were agreed to without a division.

A suit, to nullify the will of the duke of Bourbon, (see p. 901,) has been instituted in Paris by the princes de Rohan, the heirs of the deceased; it being alleged that the will, which went to bequeath immense wealth to the family of the French king and the baroness de Feuchères, mistress of the superannuated duke, had been procured by improper means, and that the duke had come unfairly by his death. The trial was long, and excited great interest, pending the discussion on the civil list of Louis Philip, but terminated on the 6th in the confirmation of the disputed testament.

12. **THIRD INTRODUCTION OF THE REFORM BILL.**—Lord John Russell, in introducing for the *third* time the parliamentary reform bill, said that government was pledged not to propose a bill less efficient than the former. He then noticed the alterations introduced into the new measure. The censuses of 1821 and 1831 had been objected to, as the basis of borough disfranchisement; instead of population, the number of houses, combined with their value, as rated to the assessed taxes, had been substituted as a better criterion of their importance. The right of voting in boroughs to be determined, not by a 10% poor-rate, which was an uncertain test, but by the occupying a rated tenement of the annual value of 10%. The effect of these and other alterations was to lessen the number of the boroughs to be disfran-

chised, and the full complement of 658 members would be maintained. Sir Robert Peel considered these concessions as improvements: the bill was read a first time, and on the 10th a second, after a two days' debate, protracted to one o'clock on Sunday morning. For the second reading, 324; against it, 162; majority 162. House adjourned till after Christmas.

17. Earl of Mar sentenced to two months' imprisonment, at Edinburgh, for shooting at Mr. Oldham, a clergyman. Dispute arose in sporting.

22. Insurrection among the Blacks in Jamaica; martial law proclaimed.

SUICIDES IN PARIS.—A writer in the *Annales d'Hygiène*, who has examined about 9,000 judicial inquests in Paris, from 1796 to 1830, thinks himself warranted in assuming,—1. That philosophical or premeditated suicide takes place in the night, or a little before day-break. 2. That accidental or unpremeditated suicide takes place during the day; because it is then that the occasional causes occur, such as quarrels, bad news, losses at play, intemperance, &c. At every age, man chooses a particular mode of committing suicide. In youth, he has recourse to hanging, which he soon abandons for fire-arms: in proportion as his vigour declines, he returns to his former mode; and it is most commonly by hanging that the old man perishes, who puts an end to his existence.

IRELAND.—The removal of catholic disabilities has failed to produce tranquillity, or alleviate the miseries of the population. Tithe-conflicts between the peasantry and police have become unusually murderous this year, and armed bands traversed the country waging war against oppressive landlords and low-priced labour. Popular discontents were augmented by the partial failure of the potato crop, which left thousands without food or the means of obtaining it. While such elements of exasperation existed, it was vain to expect political agitation to cease, and it was kept up with more ardour than ever, by the Dublin orators. "If the Union," said Mr. Sheil, "is not repealed within two years, I am determined that I will pay neither rent, tithes, nor taxes. They may distrain my goods, but who'll buy?" (*Ann. Reg.* lxxiii. 310.) Between Mr. O'Connell and the lord lieutenant there were unceasing hostilities, one fulminating his proclamations against political meetings, the other seeking to evade them by new forms of agitation. Defeated in his scheme of a procession of the Trades, he summoned his assemblies under new names—a public breakfast, or a district or parish meeting; all of which were successively prohibited by the viceroy. Unable to elude the 'Algerine act,' as Mr. O'Con-

nell termed the law under which he was pursued, abstinence from taxed articles, and a partial run on the banks were attempted; but neither proved effective, a scarcity of money being not less inconvenient than non-consumption to the farmers who had produce to sell in the Irish markets. After many contrivances, the wily agitator was caught in the toils of the law, which, however, he escaped, as already mentioned, though he pleaded guilty to the indictment found against him.

FRANCE.—The violent convulsion of the past year continued its heaving. Louis Philip acted with judgment and firmness, and by a tour through the provinces and other conciliatory acts, sought to establish himself in the confidence of the nation. The new election law, the reduction of the king's civil list to one-third the amount of that of his predecessor, and the abolition of the hereditary peerage, however, failed to satisfy the popular demands. France was divided into three parties. *First*, the adherents of a constitutional monarchy and advocates of peace; among whom were the citizen king, his ministry, a majority of the legislature, and the intelligent and moderate of the community. The *second* was the movement party, consisting of extreme republicans, eager for war, for the emancipation of Poland and Italy, and the annexation of Belgium to France, in defiance of the existing treaties, and reckless of the consequences of such hazardous foreign interventions. The last and smallest party was that of the Carlists or friends of the ex-king, consisting of some of the old nobility, the priests, and those under their influence. The strength of the government was in the middle class, embodied in the national guard. As a precaution against the Buonapartists and Bourbonists, a law was passed, banishing from France the families of Napoleon and Charles X.

POLAND.—This year saw the insurrection of Poland against the domination of Russia brought to a close. The heads of the insurrection had not at first declared any intention of throwing off all subjection to the Russian autocrat; they had demanded only the preservation of the national rights, and the independence of the separate constitution under the sovereignty of the emperor, which had been guaranteed to them by the Congress of Vienna. But the emperor refused to treat with them, unless they would first unconditionally submit to his authority. As more humiliating terms could not be dictated to them after being defeated in battle, the Poles resolved to try the fortunes of war. The struggle was nobly maintained, and they were bravely and skilfully commanded by

their successive leaders, Chlopicki, Radziwill and Skrzynecki. But the locality of the insurrection was too circumscribed; it did not spread with enthusiasm in the provinces, and the heroic Poles were overpowered by the superior numbers and resources of their enemies, directed by the ablest of the Russian generals, Diebitsch, Paskewitsch, and Gneisenau. After a series of bloody conflicts, Warsaw capitulated to the Russians, and the Polish corps, no longer able to keep the field against their opponents, withdrew into the adjoining territories of Prussia and Austria.

BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.—The plenipotentiaries of the five powers of Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, assembled in London, since the preceding December, determined irrevocably on the basis of separation between the two countries. The perplexing point, in this negotiation, had been the disposition of Limburg and the duchy of Luxemburg; the inhabitants, being catholics, were favourable to an union with Belgium, and the Belgians coveted these acquisitions; but the duchy was held by a different title by the house of Nassau, and formed part of the Germanic confederation. At length matters seemed arranged by Holland ceding a portion of the duchy, and Belgium a part of the territory of Limburg. Thus settled, the territorial limits of Holland were determined to be those which formed the republic of the United Provinces in the year 1790. Belgium to consist of the kingdom of the Netherlands, as settled in 1815, including South Brabant, Liege, Namur, Hainault, Western Flanders, Eastern Flanders, Antwerp, and parts of Limburg and Luxemburg. The national debt to be divided in the proportion of about two-thirds to Holland, and one-third to Belgium. Perpetual neutrality of Belgium guaranteed by the five powers, and certain fortresses erected at the expense of the four powers in 1815, as a bulwark against France, to be dismantled. The acceptance of these terms was made compulsory on the belligerents.

HANOVER.—There having been symptoms of disaffection in this kingdom in January, the king of England tendered to the States-General a new constitution. The representation to consist of two chambers. The first chamber to consist of the elder princes of the royal family, certain of the hereditary nobility, and persons chosen for life by the king, without reference to rank, birth, or fortune. The second chamber to consist of deputies from the religious houses, from the class of esquires, from cities and towns, and from the classes of landlords, freemen, and peasants, in various boroughs. The members of both chambers,

except the royal princes, to be thirty years of age. Deliberations of the chambers to be open to the public.

HESSÉ CASSEL.—The tumults in this electorate, in 1830, led to the establishment of a new constitution. Restrictions on the press were removed; no one to be persecuted for the expression of mere opinion; the secrecy of letters to be inviolate; no exclusive privileges to be granted to commerce or manufactures; no appointments to any office in the state to be confirmed till the occupant has proved himself competent, and no office to be granted in reversion.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Bonn, M. Niebuhr, 53, eminent Roman historian. Rev. Robert Hall, 68, an eloquent dissenting preacher and writer. Henry, earl Mulgrave, 77, a general in the army, and who had held office in the Pitt, Perceval, and Liverpool ministries. At Sydney, in Australia, rev. L. H. Halloran, D.D., 65, a poet and schoolmaster, who had been convicted of forging a frank. Thomas Payne, 79, eminent bookseller, and much respected in the literary world. John Quick, 83, celebrated comedian. John Abernethy, 66, surgeon; popular lecturer and writer on medical subjects, especially the digestive organs. Mrs. Siddons, 75, celebrated tragedian. At his head-quarters, near Pultusk, of cholera, marshal count Diebitsch, 46, distinguished officer in the service of Russia. At Witepsk, of cholera, the archduke Constantine, 52, late viceroy of Poland, and elder brother of the emperor. William Roscoe, 80, late banker of Liverpool, author of the "Life of Lorenzo de Medicis," &c. Mr. Roscoe was among the distinguished men of his time; the friend of humanity, advocate of law reform, the enemy of jobs; "by all the wise admired,—beloved by all the good."—(*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, i. 471.) At New York, James Munro, 72, late president of the United States. Robert William Elliston, 57, popular comedian. Mr. Elliston excelled in Wildair, Archer, Walter, and Aranza; and carrying the seriousness of Aranza a little further, he was the best Mortimer and the best Macbeth of any comic actor. In comedy, after the death of Lewis, he was without a rival. "He had (says the *Annual Biography*) three distinguished excellencies: dry humour, gentlemanly mirth, and fervid gallantry." At Dublin, John Toler, earl of Norbury, 85. He took an active part in the prosecution of the rebels of 1798, but after the subsidence of civil commotion was famous for wit and drollery, and, besides his own jokes, had also the credit of many of his contemporaries "Lord Norbury's last joke" being a common introduction to a witticism in the

newspapers. His lordship, after a protracted sitting there, only retired from the chief justiceship of the Irish common pleas, in 1827. Sir Benjamin Hobhouse, 74, late first commissioner for investigating the debts of the nabob of the Carnatic. John Calcraft, 65, M.P. for the county of Dorset. Mr. Calcraft was paymaster of the forces under the Wellington ministry, but gave the casting vote in favour of the Reform Bill on its first introduction. He had for some months suffered under depression of spirits and committed suicide. James Northcote, 85, celebrated portrait and historical painter. At Exeter, Colonel John Macdonald, 72, writer on military subjects, and the only son of the celebrated Flora Macdonald, who assisted the Pretender in escaping from the English soldiery in 1746. Archibald Cochrane, earl of Dundonald, 82, an ingenious experimentalist in chemistry and agriculture, who made several useful discoveries, not very profitable to himself, being at one period reduced to absolute penury and obliged to receive pecuniary aid from the Literary Fund. At Coburg, the duchess-dowager of Saxe Coburg, 73, mother of the king of Belgium and the duchess of Kent. At Paris, Pamela, widow of the unfortunate lord Edward Fitzgerald, and daughter of madame de Genlis. Sir A. Hart, 72, late lord chancellor of Ireland. In St. Giles's workhouse, *Jack Mitford*, an eccentric author and irreclaimable drunkard. He had received a classical education; was originally in the navy, and fought under Hood and Nelson. Though formerly a nautical fop, the last few years of his life had been ragged and loathsome. He never thought but of the necessities of the moment, and often slept in the fields, when his finances would not admit of his paying for a two-penny lodging in St. Giles's. His largest work was the history of "Johnny Newcome in the Navy," the publisher of which gave him a shilling a day till he finished it. He edited the "Scourge," "Bon Ton Magazine," and "Quizzical Gazette," and was the author of the popular sea-song, "The king is a true British sailor." He was occasionally be-friended—if such an act be possible to such a character—by the late lord Redesdale, on whom he is reported to have had a natural claim.

A.D. 1832. PREROGATIVE COPYRIGHTS.

—The enquiries of a parliamentary committee during the session of 1831, elicited some curious facts relative to the copyrights vested in the crown. In England, the exclusive right of printing bibles is enjoyed by the king's printer, concurrently with the two universities; in Ireland, the monopoly of the king's printer is shared with Trinity

College; in Scotland, the whole was in the hands of the king's printer. The late Scotch patent expired in 1838; the Irish will expire in 1851; the English not till 1860. Exclusive of the sale by the universities, the king's printer for England sold in the ten years, from 1821 to 1830 inclusive,—bibles, 569,164; testaments, 637,890; prayer-books, 182,811; psalms, 189,544. The Bible Society and the Naval and Military Bible Society, are the chief purchasers. In 1829, of 51,500 bibles and 75,691 testaments sold by the English patentees, no less a proportion than 45,541 of the former and 68,025 of the latter were bought by these two societies, both of whom are supported by voluntary subscriptions. Several instances of typographical errors were adduced to the committee, in the current edition of the scriptures.

Jan. 2. Chief Justice Tindal opened the commission for the trial of the Bristol rioters. Of 180 rioters taken into custody, 4 were executed and 22 transported.

13. Lieutenant-Colonel Brereton committed suicide pending an inquiry into his conduct by a court-martial. The charges against him were, that he had not displayed, during the Bristol riots, that firmness and decision required in a British officer. A bad state of health, and absence of experience in actual service, seem to have been the leading causes of the colonel's errors. He was fifty-two years old.

17. Parliament met after the holidays.

28. Died at Cheltenham, in his 80th year, Dr. Bell, the introducer into England of the Madras system of education. Shortly before his death, this meritorious divine had transferred very large sums to different bodies for the improvement and diffusion of education. Among the sums so appropriated, were upwards of 100,000*l.* for the establishment of schools in the town of St. Andrew's, where he was born, and 10,000*l.* to the lately erected British Naval School.

31. A General Cemetery, comprising nearly fifty acres, opened on the Harrow Road. It is the first imitation in England of the burial-ground of *Père la Chaise*, so long the admiration of foreigners visiting Paris.

Feb. 13. CHOLERA MORBUS.—A notice issued from the council office, Whitehall, announcing that fatal cases of the Asiatic spasmodic cholera had occurred at Rotherhithe, spread indescribable alarm through the metropolis. Hitherto, this dreadful malady had only made its appearance in the country towns and villages, especially in the north of England. In the dense and luxurious population of the capital, the most frightful mortality was anticipated, and all the horrors which Defoe had de-

picted of the Great Plague rose before the imagination. A bill was hurried through parliament, empowering the Privy Council to make regulations in towns or districts affected or threatened with the pestilence, and that the expenses thereby incurred should be defrayed out of the poor-rates. Parochial and district boards were forthwith organized; temporary hospitals got ready for the reception of the sick; medical persons kept in constant attendance to minister to the afflicted, and the interment of persons dying of the disease was hastened. These demonstrations put the public on the alert, and individuals sought safety by timely precautions. Surgeons and apothecaries, previously unemployed, were overwhelmed with patients, real or imaginary, and the shops of the chymists and druggists were rapidly cleared of their principal contents, especially camphor and other reputed disinfecting agents. Cleanliness and increased attention to the general health may have checked the progress of the malady, or if the precautions adopted were disproportioned to the occasion, it was an excess on the safe side. The physicians were divided in opinion, some contending that no new disease existed, and that it was not contagious. However this may have been, that a virulent cholera existed is unquestionable: its ravages were great in the present and two following months of March and April: it then abated, but again burst forth at the end of summer with more violence than ever. It is probable, that during this second attack, when, from prudential motives, the weekly reports of cases and deaths for London were discontinued, that the disease was most destructive. In the whole year, the deaths from cholera, within the limits of the Bills of Mortality, amounted to 3,200; in the past year of 1831 to only 48. On September 2d, the amount of cases reported by the Central Board, exclusive of London, was 68,855, and the total of deaths, 24,180. Little was heard of the cholera at the close of November. It next appeared in the Canadas and United States; having thus made the tour of the globe, beginning in Asia, and after devastating Moscow and the northern parts of Europe, visiting the British isles and France, and next crossing the Atlantic may have been lost in the great West country, or absorbed in the monsoon of the Pacific Ocean, or returned to the supposed place of its origin, Hindostan.

23. A French expedition landed at Ancona. Disputes had arisen between the Pope and his liberal subjects, and to render unnecessary any pretext for Austrian intervention, by which papal tyranny would have been augmented, the French, without

giving umbrage to that power, took possession of the citadel. His Holiness protested loudly against the "invasion" of the legations, and both Austria and England manifested symptoms of jealousy at the presence of the French in Italy, which they did not finally evacuate till six years after, when the Austrians withdrew from the papal territories.

26. An ukase of the emperor Nicholas decrees that Poland shall henceforth be incorporated with Russia, but have its separate administration, and its own civil and criminal code of laws. Other measures were adopted in the course of the year for discouraging the use of the French and Polish languages; the university of Warsaw was dissolved, with the exception of the faculties of medicine and theology, and 5,000 families of Polish gentlemen transplanted from the province of Podolia to the line of the Caucasus.

28. The king held a levee, at which an address was presented by the earl of Roden from the protestants of Ireland, against the Irish Reform Bill. It was signed by 230,000 persons, and was of such magnitude, that it required two men to bear it to the royal presence.

Mar. 1. The first carriage for the conveyance of passengers on a railway in France commenced running from St. Etienne to the Loire.

3. Incendiary fires in the neighbourhood of Dunstable, and property to the amount of 5,000*l.* destroyed.

21. A general fast-day. Much disorder was occasioned by persons assembling in Finsbury Square, supping that meat and bread were to be distributed. Their majesties heard prayers in the grand music room of Windsor Castle. The commons attended at St. Margaret's church and the lords walked in procession to Westminster Abbey, which attracted great numbers of spectators, no such procession having taken place for many years!

27. The cholera broke out with alarming virulence in Paris: 1000 deaths occurred in the first week. It was much more fatal in the French than in the British capital. Of 45,675 deaths in Paris in 1832, the enormous number of 19,000 was occasioned by cholera. The mortality was greatest in the most unhealthy quarters, where the streets are narrow and the houses very lofty. As the pestilence appeared in the capital without previous manifestation in the sea-ports or frontier towns, it strengthened the opinion that the disease was not contagious, but atmospheric or epidemic.

Apr. 1. Riot at Paris, occasioned by the *chiffonniers* refusing to submit to the municipal regulations made for preventing

the spread of the cholera. This class of persons gained a miserable pittance by raking among the sweepings, which the Parisians heaped outside their doors to be removed by the scavengers in the night. As a sanitary precaution, the nuisance was sought to be removed by light carts with more than ordinary dispatch, which the chiffonniers considered as an invasion of their rights. A disturbance ensued, to which the Republicans and Carlists, generally on the watch for an *émeute*, promptly lent their aid. It continued two days, and a printer and several others were wounded in the conflicts with the police and military.

14. **REFORM BILL IN THE LORDS.**—After an arduous debate, continued through four nights, the second reading of this popular bill was carried at seven o'clock in the morning by a majority of nine, the numbers being, for the bill 184, against it, 175. An accession of fifty votes had been obtained since the rejection of the bill last October. Several bishops had, in the interim, joined the ministers, and a new party, denominated "waverers," had sprung up in the lords, who contributed to carry the second reading, but on whom little dependence could be placed for carrying the bill unmutilated through its ulterior stages. Of the peers actually present only a majority of two voted for the bill, and as proxies are not admitted in committee, the prospect of ministers being able to carry their measure undamaged through this ordeal appeared very precarious. Parliament adjourned on the 18th to May 7, for the Easter holidays.

May 2. A bronze statue of the late Mr. Canning, by Westmacott, placed on its pedestal in Palace-yard. The figure is colossal, and measures twelve feet high; the face considered an admirable likeness, but the loose robe thrown over his shoulders too heavy, and the pedestal too small for the figure it supports.

The Rev. E. Irving excluded from the Scotch Church. He was expelled for heresy concerning the human nature of Jesus Christ, and for allowing the exercise of alleged supernatural gifts in his chapel.

7. Ministers defeated in the lords by a majority of 35, on the motion of lord Lyndhurst that the disfranchising clause should be postponed, and the enfranchising clause first considered: the numbers were 151 to 115. Upon which, earl Grey moved the adjournment of the committee to the 10th.

Great meeting at Birmingham to petition government to pass the Reform Bill unmutilated. The London Political Union met, when 1200 new members enrolled their names. A resolution agreed to, that

no taxes should be paid till the reform bill had been passed.

9. **RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.**—The inability of ministers to carry such an efficient measure of reform as they deemed advisable was the avowed ground of their resignation. Previous to this, the popular opinion had been that earl Grey had received ample powers, in case of need, for the creation of peers; but it now appeared that the king's assent so to exercise the royal prerogative had neither been given nor asked, and it was only after the defeat of the 7th that ministers tendered to the crown the alternative of their resignation or an increase of the peerage. To the latter expedient the king was reluctant to resort, and the resignation of the reform ministers was accepted. His majesty then sent for lord Lyndhurst to advise as to what means existed for forming an administration that would carry an "extensive measure of reform," without obliging the king to have recourse to his prerogative of creating peers. On this basis, a communication was opened by the learned lord with the duke of Wellington and sir Robert Peel. Without being minister himself, the duke offered his services to support the administration of sir R. Peel, and, though still disapproving of all reform, take as much of the reform bill as his grace could carry through the upper house of parliament. Further than this, the duke could not consistently nor even decently lend his aid, his own recent declaration still sounding in the public ear that "no reform was required, and that while he was minister none should be attempted." The clear understanding, however, imposed by the terms of the royal commission was that if sir Robert Peel accepted the premiership, he must support an extensive reform. To this official condition the baronet's objections were insuperable. "He had," he said, "never ceased to be opposed to the bill, and had argued against its revolutionary character. He would not consent to pass it as it was; and with the majority against him he had no hope of being able to modify it."—(*House of Commons, May 18th.*) The overture to sir Robert having wholly failed, and the impossibility of forming an administration that was at all likely to endure being self-evident, the duke of Wellington recommended to the king to recall his former servants. The conditions on which the Whigs resumed office on the 18th were honourable to their firmness and integrity. They were, that the bill should be carried into effect "unimpaired in all its principles, and uninjured in all its essential provisions;" and the royal assurance was obtained that so far as it depended upon the king, the "means

of conducting the bill to a successful issue should not be wanting."—(*Earl Grey, House of Lords, May 17 and 18.*) After this declaration, and the receipt of a private message from the king, the anti-bill peers professed to consider their deliberative wisdom controlled by an irresistible power, and rather than have their house "swamped" by new creations withdrew their opposition to the further progress of the bill. Other causes contributed essentially to the successful issue of this great legislative struggle. Pending the ministerial interregnum of nine days, lord Ebrington's motion was carried by a large majority of the commons, expressive of confidence in the ministers and regret at their resignation. Out of doors, the country was in a very alarming state of unanimity. The tide set all in one direction. Against the bill there was neither moral nor physical force. About its ultimate success no one affected to doubt; that was deemed certain because the nation had willed it. The newspapers were almost entirely on the popular side, and kept up a raking fire against the "Oligarchy" and "usurping Borough-mongers." At London, Birmingham, Manchester, and other large towns simultaneous meetings were held to petition the house of commons to stop the supplies. In the metropolis, placards were everywhere exhibited, enjoining the union of all friends to the cause—an enforcement of the public rights at all hazards—and a general resistance to the payment of taxes, rates, and tithes. The political societies were in active communication, and at their meetings and in the leading daily journals projects for organizing and arming the people were openly discussed and recommended. In case of need, the population of the large towns was ready to be precipitated on the metropolis. But this extremity was rendered unnecessary. The firm and generous devotion of William IV. to "an extensive reform," whether carried by Whigs or Tories, deprived the hostile section of the aristocracy of the sole fulcrum, by which, with the least chance of success, it could hope to resist the universal sentiment. The date of the subjoined regal circular, which has been alluded to above, addressed to the peers by the king's private secretary, sir Herbert Taylor, will show the time when the great state screw, in possession of the crown, was applied to the upper chamber:—

"*St. James's Palace, May 17, 1832.*

"MY DEAR LORD,—I am honoured with his Majesty's commands to acquaint your Lordship, that all difficulties to the arrangements in progress will be obviated by a declaration in the House to-night from a

sufficient number of peers, that, in consequence of the present state of affairs, they have come to the resolution of dropping their further opposition to the Reform Bill, so that it may pass without delay, and as nearly as possible in its present shape.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your's sincerely,

"HERBERT TAYLOR."

The triumph of the Reform Bill was now assured: its clauses passed rapidly through the committee of the lords with merely verbal and elucidatory amendments, and on the 4th June, on earl Grey moving that it be read a third time, the question was carried by 106 to 22.

May 15. Died at Paris, of cholera, aged 54, M. CASIMIR PERIER, the able prime minister of France. M. Perier was a banker and extensive proprietor of manufactories, out of which he had realized immense riches. He had taken a resolute and intrepid part in the overthrow of the government of Charles X., and was the firm friend of regulated freedom. As a minister of Louis Philip he deprecated anarchy and foreign war; and in an eloquent address to the chamber of deputies, March 7, vindicated the pacific and conservative policy of his administration. He was succeeded in office and in political principles by marshal Soult, the minister-of-war.

On the same day died of paralysis at Paris, aged 63, BARON CUVIER, the great comparative anatomist.

30. DEATH OF SIR JAMES MACINTOSH.—The health of this amiable man and eloquent writer and statesman, which was never robust, had suffered by his residence in India. His death, however, which took place at his house in Langham Place, London, was hastened by the feverish excitement produced by the small bone of a fowl lodging in his throat. He was born in 1765, at Aldourie on the banks of Loch Ness within seven miles of Inverness. His father was a military captain, and from him he inherited a small estate, which for two centuries had been in the family. He was not fortunate in his early teachers, they were careless and unmethodical. At the Edinburgh university he took the degree of M. D., after which he repaired to London to practise as a physician. On this arena he appears to have attained notoriety with less delay and struggling than commonly awaits the insulated adventurer. His first literary attempt, however, was unsuccessful—it was a pamphlet that nobody read, written in support of the unlimited succession to the regency by the prince of Wales, and was the side of the question Mr. Fox and other

personal friends of his royal highness had espoused, regardless of the parliamentary constitution of the government as settled by the whigs at the revolution. This failure was redeemed by the extraordinary success of his *Vindica Gallica* in 1791; which, among its other merits, had that of correcting the errors of Mr. Burke relative to the French economists. It raised him at once to a high rank in politics and literature, and made him acquainted with the principal leaders of the opposition. It is, indeed, a masterly performance, written in a style different from that which characterised his subsequent productions, and more in the manner of his gifted opponent; being diffuse, vehement, and metaphorical. About this time he left medicine to devote himself to law, and, in 1795, was qualified to join the home circuit. In the following year he became personally known to Burke, having formed a less flattering estimate of the bearing of the French revolution since writing the *Vindica Gallica*. "Since that time," he says in a letter to the orator, "a melancholy experience has undeceived me on many subjects in which I was then the dupe of my own enthusiasm." There was nothing remarkable in this transition of sentiment in a young man, nor even in an old one, after the political lessons afforded by the intervening five years; but Mackintosh has been accused of turning sharply on his co-disciples in error, and of having formed an exaggerated estimate both of the duration and magnitude of the calamities produced in France, by an excess of confidence in popular intelligence. His first wife was now living. She was the sister of Peter and Daniel Stuart, the respective proprietors of the *Oracle* and *Morning Post*, the former a Pittite, and the latter a Foxite paper. Dr. Parr used to relate that Mackintosh wrote leading articles for each of those journals, suited to their respective politics.—(*Law Magazine*, xvii. 166.) He also wrote in the *Monthly Review*; which literary exertions were necessary to the support of himself and family, his practice at the bar being inconsiderable and little productive. An introductory lecture delivered by him on the Law of Nature and of Nations obtained the marked approval of Mr. Pitt; while his late associate in the cause of liberty, Mr. Godwin, withdrew in astonishment from Lincoln's Inn Hall, on hearing his friend wind up an eloquent period against "the idle theorists who built their expectations upon such absurd chimeras as a golden mountain or a perfect man." This reaction seems to have continued, without any public intimation of abatement, until he returned, in 1812, to England, from the recordership of Bombay,

which appointment he held for eight years, and had obtained from lord Sidmouth through the intervention of Mr. Pitt. He now resumed his connexion with the whigs, having declined a political overture made to him by Mr. Perceval: for, says he, "it had long been my fixed determination not to go into public life on any terms inconsistent with the principles of liberty, which are now higher in my mind than they were twenty years ago."—(*Memoirs by his Son*, ii. 246.) Sir James continued steadfastly to act with this party to the end of the war, and during fifteen years of peace; when, on the formation of earl Grey's ministry, he received a subordinate place at the India Board! He had refused the same appointment eighteen years before, and it was generally considered immeasurably below his deserts, especially in contrast with others who were included in the cabinet. For this neglect various reasons have been assigned. One of the strongest is that sir James was unfit to be placed at the head of any department; in matters of business he was negligent and remiss in the extreme; though splendidly eloquent on set occasions, he was not a ready debater; while, as a practical man, in all that related to the details of measures and the conducting of them through the house of commons, he was singularly helpless and incompetent. Moreover he was not a decided partisan of any denomination. The whigs had the largest share of his affections, but he felt no marked dislike towards the tories. In politics he inclined to universal toleration; balanced and too often indulged the over-refining cautiousness,

"——— the craven scruple,
Of thinking too precisely of the event;"

belonging to the class whom Bacon impugns because they "object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, and seldom drive business home." Right or wrong, this was his settled principle, no less than his practice. In his beautiful "Life of Sir Thomas More," he says, "All men, in the fierce contests of contending factions, should, from such an example, learn the wisdom to fear, lest in their most hated antagonist they may strike down a sir Thomas More; for assuredly virtue is not so narrowed as to be confined to any party; and we have, in the case of More, a signal example that the nearest approach to perfect excellence does not exempt men from mistakes which we may justly deem mischievous. It is a pregnant proof that we should beware of *having men for their opinions*, or of adopting their doctrines because we love and venerate their virtues." A philosophical creed, not usually admitted

in party warfare, which requires that animosities should be kept up at the full theological heat, and no virtue in action or motive be conceded to an opponent. A like velvet softness pervaded the moral and metaphysical philosophy of sir James. He inclined to an equitable adjustment of opinions. His mind was amply stored with the collective wisdom of ages; and he loved to hold the scales, and by a constant shifting and sorting of quantities prevent the preponderance of either. In his religious opinions he indulged in a similar seesaw; and, from the description of his latter moments, it is difficult to discern whether he expired an unbeliever or a Christian. His proneness to stand on the *linière* elicited from Madame de Staël the name of Mr. Harmony; and though his varied knowledge and great colloquial powers were much admired by that erudite lady, she always complained that Mackintosh wanted genius. He was, in truth, not an original producer of intellect any more than a retailer of it to the common people; but he was a great capitalist, who dealt largely with the aristocratic orders. His eloquence was of the exhibitivè kind; neither concentrated nor argumentative. It was the eloquence of the chair or the bench, rather than of the bar or the tribune. His written style is neat, elegant, and correct; but partakes of his constitutional languor, and is deficient in movement and force. His most celebrated forensic effort was his oration, in 1803, for Peltier, prosecuted for a libel on Napoleon. The accumulated stores of a richly cultivated mind were lavishly poured forth in depicting the progress of the French revolution and its giant child. It failed, however, in obtaining the acquittal of his client, and was considered injudicious as a defence, though a brilliant display of historical knowledge and philosophical acumen. His early speeches on parliament are said to have disappointed expectation; but on the occasion of the escape of Buonaparte from Elba he delivered one of the finest harangues ever heard in the house of commons. He was also distinguished by his speeches in the affair of Naples; the congress of Laybach; the oppression suffered by the Greeks; the introduction of the jury-law into Scotland; the government of Australia, and the amendment of the criminal code. To be a star in the senate, in the forum, in literature, and society, attests varied and extraordinary abilities. Notwithstanding, sir James does not appear to have belonged to the highest order of merit, either in decision of character, firmness of principle, or originality of mind. He was a lover of letters and philosophy; more prone to investigate than decide; of

no confirmed opinions, though eminently acute, learned, and disquisitive; not remarkable for active benevolence, but affable, kind, even-tempered, affectionate, and disinterested: in short, he would have made a very good French abbé before the revolution, and he described himself with tolerable correctness in a letter to his friend, Robert Hall, when he said, "My nature would have been better consulted if I had been placed in a quieter station, where speculation might have been my business, and visions of the fair and good my chief recreation."

June 3. FUNERAL OF GENERAL LAMARQUE.—The inveterate hostility of the Carlists and Republicans continued to endanger the government of Louis Philip. La Vendée and three other departments, containing a population of 2,000,000, were on the point of insurrection, and by a royal ordinance the 4th were placed under martial law. The capital had been a scene of almost uninterrupted tumults since the beginning of the year, and plots were constantly being formed, suspected persons arrested, and ministers, by prosecutions sought to curb the violence of the opposition journals. At this juncture, the public funeral of general Lamarque offered a favourable opportunity for bringing into a focus all the elements of political discontent; and, as the throne of the king had been established by one daring outbreak of popular resistance, it might be overturned by another. The general himself had been one of the movement party,—a popular deputy and distinguished soldier of the republic and the empire. He was generally beloved; and an immense procession was formed to do honour to his remains, consisting of deputies and peers, national guards, the artillery of the city, and the exiled patriots of Poland, Germany, Spain, and Belgium. Spirited orations were delivered from a platform by M. Mangin, Lafayette, marshal Clausel, and the Portuguese general Saldanha. The refusal of the duke of Fitzjames to pay respect to the deceased, or a quarrel between the *Amis du Peuple* and a regiment of dragoons, was the beginning of the disturbance. Cries were raised of "Aux armes," "A bas Louis Philippe," "Vive la république." Barricades were formed, the lamps broken, and attempts made to unpave the streets. The rioters, aided by some of the pupils of the Polytechnic school, displayed all the spirit of the days of July; but the population not being so unanimous, and the king and his minister-of-war acting with firmness, order was ultimately restored. This, however, was not accomplished without an immense sacrifice of life: in the terrible conflicts in the streets between the populace

and the military 1,000 persons were killed or wounded. In the course of the night of the 5th, seals were placed on the presses of the *Tribune*, *Quotidienne*, and the *Courier de l'Europe*, by order of the police. Next day, the king issued three ordinances declaring Paris in a state of siege, dissolving the company of the artillery of the national guard, and disbanding the pupils of the Polytechnic School. This was almost as great a stretch of power as Charles X. had been dethroned for attempting, and, if constitutional, demonstrated that the liberties of the French were still held by uncertain guarantees. But the arbitrariness of the king was corrected by the tribunals. On the 30th, the Court of Cassation decided that the ordinance declaring Paris in a state of siege was illegal; and annulled the sentences pronounced by courts-martial on the prisoners convicted of rioting and rebellion.

6. DEATH OF JEREMY BENTHAM.—This celebrated jurist and law reformer expired in Westminster, in the 85th year of his age, of an attack of bronchitis. He survived to hear of the success of the Reform Bill, an event he hailed with satisfaction, and during the last quarter of a century had witnessed the gradual spread in the New and Old World of those principles of legislation, that had formed the staple occupation of his life to inculcate. His earliest literary labours are dated so far back that they have not inaptly been considered antediluvian;—he was a young man with the Scotts, and at Lansdowne-house mingled in the society of Dunning, Pratt, Wedderburn, and other lawyers and orators of the first American war. But more disinterested than some of his contemporaries, he did not seek to profit by, but to reform public abuses; and his father's death leaving him in possession of competence, he was enabled to choose his own atmosphere, and, at once, abandoned a promising career he had commenced at the Chancery bar, to devote himself singly and in seclusion to pursuits he esteemed likely to be more useful to mankind and consonant to his own notions of moral rectitude. This was about fifty-six years since, when he published a Fragment on Government, in answer to what Mr. Blackstone had said on the subject in his Commentaries. He was the first to rebel against prescription—against the authority of the sages of the Year Books and Reports. No one before him thought of seriously impugning the principles of English jurisprudence. The business of the legal student was to master its jargon, its technical and artificial rules, and bow implicitly to its dicta. Mr. Bentham dissented from this passive

homage, and boldly questioned the fitness of a system established in a rude for a refined age. He was well qualified to enter on this unbeaten field. A lawyer himself, he was eligible to sit in judgment on the forms, mysteries, and usages of his profession. Moreover, he was a learned man, well versed in ancient languages, philosophy, and history; he was a travelled man, had visited and observed most European countries; he was a man of the world, too, though mostly living out of it—saw and communed with its chief luminaries—and no one kept a more watchful look-out, from the panopticon of his retreat, on every occurrence, political, forensic, or social, than the philosopher of Queen-square Place. He also naturally possessed rare intellectual endowments; was eminently acute, shrewd, and investigative; fearless and uncompromising in his researches after truth; and at an early period, few could more clearly and forcibly illustrate their ideas, or convey them in language more simple, terse, and eloquent. It is not, therefore, wonderful that an individual so highly gifted should have made an impression on his age, and succeeded in planting his own authority in place of the antiquity he perseveringly assailed. This is so far the case, that Bentham's name is frequently heard in legislative assemblies; it has even been respectfully adduced in the court of Chancery, and few now think of defending institutions because they exist, apart from their adaptation to living interests. The old idols have been so far destroyed that danger has arisen, lest, in the enthusiasm of victory, a new idolatry should be established on their ruins, not less autocratical and without appeal. There can, however, be no finality in intellect, however great, any more than in social institutions, however perfect. The world is still too young, has afforded too few lessons of political experience, for any one to affirm by what principles mankind can be best governed, and we must be content some time longer to go on experimenting and collecting new facts before legislation can be reduced to a science. It was a premature attempt to apply maxims for which the nations were unfit, that has mainly delayed the constitutional settlement of the Peninsula, and kept alive the sanguinary divisions of the South American republics. A kindred error appears to appertain to the Benthamite theories. They aspire to be universal without regard to time, place, or circumstance. They take in only one element of Man, his reason, leaving out his passions, which constitute the chief motive part of his existence, whether as an individual or member of society. They provide for the rational,

for which there hardly needs provision, leaving out the irrational, that constitute the vast majority, and for whose guidance restraint, law, and government are alone requisite. It is only by collating the abstractions of philosophy with history that practical government can be perfected. The utility of this is evinced by observing the working of the universal suffrage principle, which Mr. Bentham, in his later years, advocated as the necessary guarantee of good government. But in England we appear to have had already too much of universal suffrage government, and it is to this species of dictatorship over the sway of the intelligent that may be ascribed the chief public calamities. It was the subserviency of universal suffrage to the purposes of misrule, not by votes but by popular clamour, that precipitated the country into the first war with the American colonies; that delayed the emancipation of the Roman Catholics; and that hurried on hostilities with France in 1793. Had the general voice—the shout of a numerical majority—prevailed, we should not have had a Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century. It was its transitory predominance that paved the way for the anarchical butcheries of Robespierre, and the military usurpations of Cromwell and Buonaparte. Metaphysical ideas are useful for general guidance; they are the goal to aim at, but cannot be unexceptionably applied in actual life. They are to the legislator what the stars are to the mariner; they direct his path in the open sea, but history is the terrestrial chart that shows where the rocks and quicksands lie in the onward course of his navigation. The government of an age will always be a problem for the age, which cannot be solved by an established formula, however ingeniously constructed. It is an equation into which few constant quantities enter; not only their number but value varies from the fluctuations of social interests, the prevalence of ignorance or knowledge, virtue or vice, patriotism or faction, piety or superstition, riches or poverty. At different times and in different places, under these shifting impulses, nations are constantly being carried away, and a Solon or Lycurgus, in framing institutions for a people, can no more overlook them than an engineer can overlook the resistance of the air in directing the flight of a shell or cannon-ball. The mind of Mr. Bentham was more mechanical than philosophical; more quick than profound; more subtle than comprehensive; more fertile in devising expedients for obviating specific evils, than in framing organic changes in harmony with the general action of human passions, habits, and opinions. Thus the

ballot was his specific for sinister influence in elections; "single-seated justice," or the judgment of one for judicial irresponsibility. He had the same faith in maxims that our ancestors had in proverbs. Though sagacious and well-informed, his judgment on the adaptation of means to ends was eccentric and unequal. What misapplied labours were his Parliamentary Reform Catechism and his Church of Englandism! How contradictory to leave his body for the interests of science and not his fortune; to bequeath the *redaction* of his posthumous works to a poet in lieu of a philosopher, and to project rules for giving precision to the language of legislators, while his own was all but incomprehensible! A habit of self-communion had the effect commonly observed in secluded men, of producing an over-weening love of his own conceptions. Bewildered or weary through interminable musings in the pursuit of truth, heat length, it is said, came to relish a joke or an anecdote better than a reason. (*Speeches of Lord Brougham*, ii. 296.) The temperament of Mr. Bentham was peculiar; it was arid, and without soul, like his philosophy. Eloquence had no charm for him: what is more remarkable, the wonderful discoveries of physical science excited in him no admiration; nor did he value them beyond their power to minister to the common uses of life; for works of imagination he had no taste, and used to rejoice that the world would never again see an epic poem. His oldest friends died unregretted and without sympathy; and of one we are told (*Ibid.* 298) he always spoke disrespectfully, because he disappointed some extravagant hopes which he had formed that the bulk of a large fortune, acquired by industry, would be expended in furthering political improvements. These, however, are only spots in the disk of the most shining and useful light of modern times, and much may be said *per contra*. There was no guile or hypocrisy in Bentham's nature. If he did not like a man or an opinion he did not conceal or disguise his aversion. His morals were unblemished; his honesty incorruptible; his word inviolate. There was nothing low or sordid in his aspirations. To serve mankind he threw away ambition, power, and riches. His writings are a well of important truths at which Romilly, Mackintosh, and Brougham filled their vessels, and gratefully acknowledged their obligations, especially the last, with a noble oblivion of his own transcendent claims. Posterity will appreciate and do justice to Jeremy Bentham, and they cannot build too high a monument for him who first rivetted attention on the great truth, that the sole end of morals, laws,

and institutions is the happiness of the human race.

June 7. ROYAL ASSENT TO THE REFORM BILLS.—This was given to the English bill on the 7th by commission, and an end put to the political suspense and excitement which had existed in an intense degree ever since the dissolution of the Wellington ministry at the close of 1830. The public joy was evinced by congratulatory addresses, partial illuminations, the projection of almshouses for the deserving indigent, dinners to the poor, exhibition of flags, the ringing of church bells, and other peaceful demonstrations. The disfranchisement of the decayed boroughs, and the enfranchisement in their stead of great and populous towns, effected a momentous change by substituting *real* in place of the *nominal* representation that previously existed. An entire new constituency of ten pound householders was created in cities and boroughs, which, though a fixed amount, was a variable standard, in different parts of the kingdom, so as to include in the burgess order a portion of every class of householders or occupants. The *county representation* was cast entirely anew. Six representatives were given to Yorkshire, two for each riding; Lincolnshire, Devon, Kent, Lancashire, and twenty-two other large counties were divided, and two knights given to each division; Berkshire and six other counties were to return three instead of two members each; Carmarthen, Denbigh, and Glamorgan two instead of one member. The county constituency was greatly extended. Heretofore, it had been restricted to forty-shilling freeholders. It was extended to copyholders of 10*l.* per annum; to lessees of 10*l.*, if for not less than sixty years, or of 50*l.*, if not less than twenty years; and to *tenants-at-will*, if occupying at a yearly rent of not less than 50*l.* The last clause was carried against ministers; it was objected to as bringing in a class of electors too dependent on their landlords; but was supported by Mr. Hume and other strenuous reformers, who declared that the sole principle for which they had contended, and the basis of the Reform Bill itself was the enfranchisement, not disqualification of any class. The reform bills for Scotland and Ireland, and the bills for dividing the counties and for fixing the boundaries of cities and boroughs, followed close on the heels of the English Reform Act, and were completed before the close of the legislative session. The reform bill for Scotland received the royal assent July 17; that of Ireland August 7. An addition of eight members was made to the representation of Scotland, and five to Ireland, making, with the five added to Wales, a

deduction of eighteen from the representation of England. There was no popular representation in Scotland prior to the reform act. The burgess representatives were returned by the decayed corporations of the royal burghs. The county representatives by freeholders, whose title consisted in holding of the crown a mere right of superiority over lands, being themselves crown vassals, while the real proprietors of the land were vassals under them, paying feu-duties trifling in themselves, and of no value unconnected with the political privilege. It followed that the elective franchise was wholly dis severed from property. A man might have an estate of 2,000*l.* and no right to the superiority. If so, he had no vote. On the other hand, of all the voters in a county not one might possess a foot of land there. By the new act existing franchises are preserved; all persons lawfully on the roll of freeholders in any shire, continue eligible to vote; but the franchise is extended to the owner of any land, house, feu-duties or other heritable subject of the yearly value of 10*l.* In cities and towns the right of voting has been taken from the town councils and delegates, and extended to every person occupying a tenement of 10*l.* a year. The *Irish Reform Act* proceeded on the same liberal principle of enfranchisement, but preserving existing rights. To Limerick, Waterford, Belfast, Galway, and the university of Dublin, one additional member to each was given. Right of voting in boroughs extended to 10*l.* tenants; in counties to copyholders and leaseholders, same as England, with the exception of the alteration of fourteen for twenty years, and 20*l.* for 50*l.* in respect of lessees. An effort was made by Mr. O'Connell to obtain the restoration of the franchise to the forty-shilling freeholders, but this was successfully resisted on the ground that the '*forties*' in Ireland were not a description of freeholders qualified, by independence or intelligence, to exercise the franchise, either with benefit to themselves or others. The following exhibits the relative state of the representation in counties and boroughs, before and after the reform acts:—

	1830	1832
<i>English</i> County Members . . .	82	143
Cities and Boroughs . . .	403	324
Universities	4	4
<i>Welsh</i> County Members . . .	12	15
Cities and Boroughs . . .	12	14
<i>Scotch</i> County Members . . .	30	30
Cities and Boroughs . . .	15	23
<i>Irish</i> County Members . . .	64	64
Cities and Boroughs . . .	35	39
University	1	2

The loss of England on the popular side has been a transfer of 18 of her representatives to the other divisions of the empire, and the increase, relative to the cities and boroughs, in the number of county members. Her chief gain has been an increase in the number, and improvement in the intelligence and independence of the constituency. Scotland has benefited the most, and Ireland, probably, in the smallest degree by the reform acts.

18. The Duke of Wellington returning from the Tower assaulted by the populace in Fenchurch-street, and nearly dismounted.

19. A stone thrown at his Majesty while on the grand stand at Ascot races, which hit him on the forehead. The offender was a discharged Greenwich pensioner, with only one leg, who acknowledged he committed the outrage in revenge that no notice had been taken of a petition which he had sent. He was tried and convicted of intending some bodily harm to the king, and sentenced to be beheaded, but respited.

26. Hon. G. Spencer, brother of viscount Althorp, ordained a roman catholic priest at the hands of Cardinal Zaria in the church of St. Gregory at Rome.

28. Diet at Frankfort issued their manifesto of measures adopted to preserve order and tranquillity in Germany. It excited great agitation, being mainly directed against the freedom of the press, and alleged seditious assemblages, and bound each member of the German Confederacy to mutual assistance in case of political disturbances. About a fortnight after it was followed by a second decree, interdicting the circulation of the journals. The mandates of the diet were enforced in Hanover, by the duke of Cambridge, the representative of the king of England.

30. Chantrey's statue of the late James Watt placed on its pedestal, in George-square, Greenock. The face is fine and said to be a good likeness. Mr. Watt sat to Chantrey some time before his death, and it is from the bust then made that the statue in white marble, in Westminster Abbey, and another of the same material in the British Museum, have been modelled.

July 2. St. Jean d'Acrc surrendered to Ibrahim, son of Mehemet Ali, pasha of Egypt. Ibrahim soon after defeated, in a great battle near Damascus, the army of the Sultan, and threatened to penetrate into Asia Minor. The Turks were eager to avail themselves of European tactics and discipline, but the Egyptians had anticipated them.

3. Lord Durham and suite sailed on an embassy extraordinary to Russia.

8. Don Pedro, ex-emperor of Brasil,

arrived at Oporto, having sailed from St. Michael's, in the Azores, on the 28th ult. His fleet consisted of 80 vessels, and his army of 7,500 men, of whom the best and bravest portion were 1000 English and French adventurers. The object of Don Pedro's enterprise was the establishment of his daughter Donna Maria on the throne of Portugal, usurped by her uncle Don Miguel. Oporto was promptly abandoned to the invader, and obstinate conflicts ensued in the neighbourhood between the two brothers, but the year closed without either side obtaining a decided advantage.

8. Mr. Jeremie, a zealous advocate of negro emancipation, having been nominated by government to act as attorney-general in the colony of Mauritius, arrived there agreeably to his appointment. No sooner had he landed, than a great part of the white population assembled to resist his admission to office; and a deputation represented to the governor, sir Charles Colville, the impossibility of maintaining the public peace, if Mr. Jeremie was not dismissed. Sir Charles was induced to comply with their demands, and Mr. Jeremie returned to England in the same vessel that carried him out.

12. The cholera commits great ravages in the Canadas, especially Montreal and Quebec.

20. Mr. Osbaldiston, for a wager, trotted the celebrated American horse Rattler thirty-four miles in two hours, eighteen minutes, and fifty-six seconds; the horse was injured by the exertion and died next day.

23. Parliament granted 15,000*l.* to erect a national picture gallery and record office.

27. The conduct of Major Wyndham in causing a soldier, named Alexander Somerville, to be flogged under the plea of disobedience of orders, though, it was alleged, in reality, for having expressed certain political opinions, having been subjected to a military court of inquiry, the major was acquitted of any such conduct, but censured for informality in having reproved him for those opinions after his punishment, in presence of the regiment. Somerville shortly after obtained his discharge, and a subscription of 300*l.* was raised for him.

Aug. 7. Duchess of Kent and the princess Victoria visit the lake and pass of Llanberis. The royal party embarked at the northern extremity of the lake, a few hundred yards from the ruins of the Hall of Llewellyn, where Edward I. embarked to attack the Welsh when they made their last stand. Here her royal highness entered the boat of T. R. Smith, Esq., at the stern of which floated the royal standard

of Britain, for the first time since the days of Edward.

11. Marriage of Leopold, king of Belgium, with a daughter of the king of the French, celebrated at Compeigne.

13. John Williams, aged 32, a waterman of Waterloo Bridge, performed the laborious task of rowing 99 miles within 12 hours. No man ever before achieved the undertaking. Two skilful rowers once performed the distance in thirteen hours.

29. A public discussion took place at Birmingham, between Mr. Thomas Attwood, the banker, and Mr. William Cobbett, on the best mode of relieving the distress of the country. Mr. Attwood's plan was, the issuing of an unlimited number of one-pound notes: Mr. Cobbett's, what he termed an equitable adjustment of the taxes, public and private debts, &c. The audience decided in favour of Mr. Attwood.

GREEK TREATY.—The long-pending negotiations between Russia, England, and France, having for their object the erection of Greece into an independent monarchy, concluded with a treaty, of which the following is the substance:—1. Prince Otho, of Bavaria, to bear the title of king of Greece, with right of succession in order of primogeniture. 2. Three Bavarian councillors to govern during the minority of the prince, appointed by the king of Bavaria; Otho to be of age in June, 1835. 3. The three powers guarantee a loan to Otho, not exceeding 60,000,000 of francs, to be raised by three equal instalments. 4. Indemnity out of the loan to be paid to the Porte for any territorial cessions to complete the Grecian frontier. 5. Bavaria to furnish 3,500 troops for the service of Greece, to be equipped and maintained by the Greek state. 6. Bavarian officers to organise a national army in Greece. About the same period, a protocol was signed at Constantinople, by which the Porte assented to the extension of the Greek frontier as required by the London Conference, from the Gulf of Arta to that of Vola, and recognised the independence of the Greek state. An indemnity of 40 millions of piastres to be paid to the Porte out of the proceeds of the loan guaranteed by the powers. It was not till December 6 that Otho left Munich for Nauplia, to take possession of the new sovereignty, that had long gone a begging among European princes.

Sept. 15. Duke Charles of Brunswick, who had been deposed in 1831, in consequence of his unpopular measures and personal incapacity for governing, banished from Paris, where he had been plotting to raise an expedition to unseat his brother Duke William, whom the Brunswickers had raised to the sovereignty in his stead.

18. Charles X. of France left Holyrood House for the Continent.

21. **DEATH OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.**—This highly popular author expired of paralysis, of which decided symptoms had appeared in the preceding winter, and was the same disease of which his father had died a few years older. A rapid tour in Italy had not retarded the progress of the fatal malady, and sir Walter, on his return passed through London in July, in a state of hopeless debility, on his way to his much-loved abode of Abbotsford. Though his death had been expected for some months its announcement drew forth a general expression of regret and commiseration, heightened by its lingering approach, and the painful circumstances of pecuniary difficulty by which it had been preceded and hastened. He was buried at Dryburgh Abbey on the 26th, among the ruins of which his family possess a small piece of sepulchral ground, given them by the earl of Buchan. The public testified their respect to his memory by opening a munificent subscription for the erection of a suitable testimonial, and which ultimately amounted to 17,200*l.*, the whole, or a portion of which, it is intended to apply to the redemption of Abbotsford for the use of his descendants. The illustrious deceased was born at Edinburgh, August 15, 1771. His father, Mr. Walter Scott, was a respectable writer to the signet, a branch of the law profession in Scotland corresponding to that of attorney or solicitor in England. Sir Walter was the third child of a family of six sons and one daughter, all of whom he survived. His boyhood was sickly, and he mostly resided with his grandfather at Sandy Know, a farmhouse, occupying an elevated site near the old border fortlet called Smalholm Tower, overlooking the vale of the Tweed and other romantic scenery famous in Scottish story. It was here, surrounded by reminiscences of Flodden Field, the Northumbrian marches, moss-trooper forays, the ruins of Melrose, Dryburgh, and the storied streams of Teviot, Ettrick, Yarrow, and Gala-water, aided by nursery ballads and traditional legends, that Scott imbibed that enthusiastic passion for minstrelsy, clanship, and Rob Roy life, which formed the dominant feature of his mind. At the age of sixteen, his health experienced a sudden and decisive improvement. It became robust, and he grew up into a strong muscular man, upwards of six feet high. He never, however, recovered the use of his right limb, which was shrunk, and required to be supported by a staff that he carried close to his toes, the heel turning a little inwards. Had it not been for his lameness, it is likely he would

have been a soldier, instead of a poet and novelist, and for which he was naturally suited by his border gifts and martial sympathies. He was not a forward scholar; nor as an advocate at the Scottish bar did he acquire or anxiously seek eminence; nor was he conspicuous at the debating societies, where the candidates for forensic honours usually train themselves, and where moral and metaphysical subtleties generally form the staple topics of discussion. He was, however, a frequenter of the theatres, an inveterate story-teller, studious, and a great reader, especially of books of fiction, biography, general and local history, voyages, and travels. It was a peculiarity in sir Walter, who was mirthful and convivial, that he had no ear for music; and though he was wont on festive occasions, when pressed, to contribute his vocal quota, he was incapable of producing two notes consecutively in time or tune. In 1797 he married Miss Carpenter, the daughter of a French royalist, of considerable personal attractions, with whom he had become acquainted at the watering place of Gilsland in Cumberland, and who possessed an annuity of 400*l.* per annum. In the preceding year, he had published a translation of two ballads, 'William and Helen' and the 'Wild Huntsman,' written by the German poet Burger, which had attracted much attention, and of which several versions by different persons had already been printed. This was his first acknowledged literary effort, and its success was not flattering. Without allowing himself to be discouraged by this adventure, he continued the culture of German literature, and, in 1799, published a translation of Goethe's tragedy of 'Goetz of Berlichingen.' A year or two previously, he had been appointed quartermaster to the Edinburgh light horse, for whom he composed a spirited war-song. After his marriage, he spent several summers in a delightful cottage at Lasswade, on the banks of the Esk, whence he was accustomed to make 'raids' into Liddesdale for the purpose of collecting the ballad poetry of that romantic and primitive district. This collection, joined to various contributions from reciters in other parts of the country, formed the basis of 'The Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border,' which established his reputation as a poetical antiquary, and writer of considerable power and promise in prose and verse. In 1803 he left the bar, entirely to devote himself to the more congenial pursuit of letters. "There had been no great love between them at the beginning, and it had not increased by further acquaintance." He was in circumstances to follow his inclination without imprudence. By his appointment

of sheriff, which he had obtained, and his wife's annuity, he had a certain income of 700*l.* independent of the property left him by his father. He further guaranteed his pecuniary independence by obtaining three years after the reversion of the lucrative office of principal clerk in the court of session. The publication of the 'Lay of the Last Minstrel,' in 1805, was the beginning of his poetical renown. It was his first original work, produced him 769*l.* and a world of fame. 'Marmion,' his second poem of magnitude, and, in the opinion of the author and some others, his best metrical production, followed, and promptly obtained from the publisher 1,000*l.* It provoked, however, a sharp dissection from Mr. Jeffrey (*Edinburgh Review*, April, 1808), who could not implicitly acquiesce in the new taste awakened by the genius of the bard, and rabidly patronised by the caprice of fashion. The prince of critics, who exercised a fearful sway over the irritable tribe, contended that the building of an abbey or a castle would be as germane to the age as the revival of the obsolete rhyming and grotesque usages of our forefathers. His strictures were doubtless felt, though the minstrel was too wary a foeman openly to avow displeasure at his friend's criticism, further than by some retaliatory proceedings, one of which was the starting of the *Quarterly Review* on the alleged ground of the noxious politics of the northern periodical, which Scott represented to Ellis, Gifford, and other Tories, as corrupting the public mind by its large sale of 9,000 copies and the dexterous talent with which it was conducted. Having been a colleague in the *Edinburgh Review*, Scott was enabled to give some shrewd advice, which he did, to Mr. Gifford, about the most skilful mode of conducting the rival journal. His own literary occupations were various and voluminous; besides poems and reviews, and articles in a *New Annual Register*—another, but abortive bomb, directed against the Whigs—he edited new editions of Dryden and Swift, Sadler's State Papers, and Somers's Tracts. That a writer of original powers should occupy himself in such tedious and inglorious tasks puzzled his literary contemporaries, but the mystery has been since unravelled. It appears that about the time when sir Walter withdrew from professional life, he, with the view of increasing an income already considerable, entered into a secret partnership with an old schoolfellow and friend, James Ballantyne, in the printing business, to which was afterwards added the bookselling business carried on by John Ballantyne. To this firm he advanced money and stipulated for one-third

share of the profits of the printing business, which he expected greatly to increase by his influence among booksellers and law-agents. All the works he afterwards wrote, edited, or compiled, he stipulated with the purchasers of the copyrights that they should be printed at the Ballantyne press. It is a rule both in Scotland and England, that no barrister shall be a trader, and doubtless considerations of professional etiquette entered into the motives that induced sir Walter carefully to conceal his mercantile connexion. This secrecy was fraught with evil, and appears to have been mainly instrumental, by the over-speculation it induced, in involving all parties in the pecuniary embarrassments that marked the sequel. For obvious reasons an author is not the safest judge of commercial results; and had sir Walter's publishers been aware that he acted, not only under the ordinary influence of a desire to appear before the public, and the seductions of a congenial occupation, but that he had also a direct interest in keeping the presses of his partners employed, they would have considered more deliberately than they often did the various literary schemes into which his lively imagination and sanguine temperament tempted them to embark. As it was, they judged in the dark, concluded upon testimony that ought to have been suspiciously received, unconsciously that the Ballantynes were a kind of *battue* to sir Walter, who shared largely in all the venison he could drive into it. It forms quite a novelty in literary biography. Publishers are supposed to have the advantage of authors, but sir Walter by his system of double depletion, first, in his contract for literary aid and superintendence with Constable and Co., and then, by his share in the sub-drain at the printing-office, was a match for them. Nearly contemporary with these mercantile connexions, and probably in part the result of them, was the manifestation of another passion, namely, that of becoming a great landowner. The eagerness of the poet for territorial domains and a baronial residence, that might vie with the heritage of the hereditary lords of the soil seems to have kept alive, if it did not originate, his speculative avidity. The building, planting, embellishing, and laying out of Abbotsford in Gothic style; and the storing it with matchlocks, halberds, battle-axes, and other remains of ancient armour, not only absorbed the present gains of the author—great as they were—but drove him on all the common mercantile expedients by which future resources are anticipated. It was, however, at a later period of life that this gulf of ruin opened under him. For many years he enjoyed an unequalled popularity, and

which no other writer, probably, during his lifetime, ever enjoyed to the same delirious extent. He was not only the wonder of his own, but of every civilized, community. The 'great Unknown,' the 'mighty magician,' the 'wizard of the North,' are a few of the bombastic titles conferred upon him, and which his extraordinary merit and success elicited from contemporary reviewers. The publication of the 'Lady of the Lake' in 1810, carried to its meridian height his poetical celebrity. It was followed by others which met with a decidedly unfavourable reception, partly from the public having become satiated with his peculiar style, which had lost the charm of novelty; partly, also, from some inferiority, in interest or execution of the poems; but principally to the circumstance of a rival having entered the lists of such prowess as to eclipse even the minstrel knight of Flodden Field and Bannockburn. This was lord Byron, who published the first two cantos of *Childe Harold* in 1812, and followed up these by a rapid succession of brilliant productions, which for a time cast every thing else in the shape of verse into the shade. Leaving the field of poetry, Scott entered a new arena, in which he won fresh laurels, and a more dazzling renown than in metrical romance. 'Waverley' made its appearance in 1814. It was published without the name of the author, and in consequence, at first, was little noticed, but in a few months it started into a surprising popularity. 'Guy Mannering,' and the 'Antiquary' followed in the next two years, the fame of the author and the appetite of the public increasing with every fresh venture. The Scotch novels proved a richer vein than poetry, and sir Walter having discovered the secret where his strength lay, exerted it with his accustomed judgment and industry. Year after year he poured forth the rich creations of his fertile brain till the prose fictions he had 'twined off' (to use his own phrase) amounted to seventy-four volumes, sold at half-a-guinea per volume. Great as were the merits of these productions, they were not left to depend for success on desert alone; but all the adventitious arts of trade and authorship were dexterously combined into action, to aid and maintain their popularity. The annual profits of his novels, Mr. Lockhart says, (*Memoirs*, iv. 145) for several years amounted to 10,000*l.*; that is, in Messrs. Constable and Co.'s paper money. The composition of them did not occupy the whole of his time; in addition to reviews, he furnished the articles 'Chivalry,' 'Romance,' and the 'Drama,' to the sixth edition of the *Edinburgh Encyclopedia*; he was also the author of several fresh poems, histories, letters, and communica-

tions to newspapers, besides either editing or assisting in the compilation of numerous works of antiquities, topography, and provincial history. Amidst his various labours he found leisure, not only for his official avocations, but for social enjoyment and rural recreation. When George IV. visited Scotland, he acted as master of the ceremonies; he had been previously honoured with several interviews by that prince, who made him a baronet, and a still higher titular distinction, even that of 'baron,' was aspired to by the poet. At this period, and for some years after, sir Walter considered himself and was considered by the world as a person in very prosperous and enviable circumstances. By an extraordinary union of genius and industry, regulated by a practised judgment, which enabled him to adapt his works to the popular taste, he seemed to have 'fixed a spoke in the wheel of Fortune.' His aristocratic ambition, too, to keep himself as he expresses it 'abreast of society,' had been eminently successful. During the greater part of the summer and autumn he kept house at Abbotsford, like a wealthy country gentleman, receiving with a cordial, yet courtly, hospitality the many distinguished visitors, both from England and the Continent, who found means to obtain an introduction to his 'enchanted castle.' All this apparent security, happiness, and ostentation, however, was destined speedily to crumble into dust. The disasters of sir Walter, like those of Napoleon, were more sudden and overwhelming than his successes. In January, 1826, the great book-selling house of Constable and Co. became bankrupt, involving in its failure, to an extent utterly ruinous, the author of *Waverley*. By a system of mutual accommodation, by bills and guarantees, which had been long carried on between sir Walter and the insolvent firm, who were his chief publishers, the former had become responsible for debts to the amount of 120,000*l*. The causes of this pecuniary entanglement, so far as sir Walter was concerned, have been already alluded to. The realization of his romantic associations in the Abbotsford mansion, had absorbed from fifty to one hundred thousand pounds. It was only his works of imagination that had been remarkably profitable; and these lighter barks, or to use a more novel and expressive metaphor, these little steam-tugs, powerful as they were, proved unequal to the task of towing along the heavier literary merchandise, with which their talented author had freighted them. The calamity which, to the surprise and grief of the public, thus fell upon sir Walter, he met with a manliness, fortitude, and integrity of principle unparalleled. On

meeting the creditors he refused to accept any compromise, and he declared his determination, if life was spared to him, to pay off the last shilling; the only indulgence he asked was time. The divulgement of the *Waverley* secret became, by the exposure of Constable's concerns, unavoidable; it had, in fact, ceased to be, if it ever were a secret, and was only part of the mystification employed in the Scotch novel manufactory. A series of literary enterprises was vigorously entered upon, the most profitable of which were the "*Life of Napoleon*" and a new and complete edition of the *Waverley* novels. The last were illustrated by notes explanatory of the circumstances under which they had been composed; and was equivalent to selling the patent, after the author had long traded with the secret of his inventions. Before the close of 1829, eight volumes had been published and the monthly sale had reached as high as 35,000 copies.—(*Lockhart's Memoirs*, vii. 196.) The profits of these and other works, which the public naturally inclined to patronise, from the laudable motives under which they had been undertaken, were so considerable, that, towards the end of 1830, 54,000*l*. of liabilities had been paid off; all of which except about 6,000*l*. had been produced by the sale of his publications. It was in this year, as already mentioned, that sir Walter was attacked by the malady which proved fatal. He was able, however, to attend a county meeting at Jedburgh in March, 1831, to oppose the reform bill. Here he was hissed, which repulse touched him acutely, and coupled with the deep mortification he felt at the ascendancy of the whigs, more than any thing, probably accelerated his death. Two daughters, since dead, and two sons, one in the foreign office and the other a major of hussars, survived him. Lady Scott died May 15, 1826. The great contemporary interest excited by the writings of sir Walter has imperceptibly protracted this biographical notice beyond the limits due to its relative importance, or than is perhaps necessary to elucidate the structure of a mind not remarkable for variety or complication. The qualities in which Scott excelled other men were his fertile imagination, retentive memory, and tasteful judgment. These supplied the materials and the artist skill successfully to use them. His genius was more stimulative than reflective; exhibited the power of the ventriloquist, in giving voices to his impersonations, while that of the enchanter remained concealed; and was unlike that of lord Byron, who infused into his characters his own feelings and convictions. His Quixotic admiration of the *Waverley* age was a poetical fascination, that had

been fostered by early impressions and fictitious reading; but even his master passion did not overpower his natural sagacity, so as to render him insensible to the benefits of civilization, or careless of the means of procuring them. His writings are not of a high order of desert; they have no tendency to correct, but cherish human error—to put back, in lieu of advancing the age; and their chief aim appears to have been to profit the author by ministering to the amusement of women and those who read for pastime. In this he was eminently successful, without offensive or noxious accompaniment. He never assails a prejudice, or hurts any feeling, moral or religious. He is generally amusing, sometimes instructs, never corrupts. This is the great excellence of his tales and romantic histories, whose graphic and picturesque descriptions of local scenery—fascinating visions of beauty and loveliness—tumultuous and animated presentment of battles, conflicts, and altercations—coupled with a humour, generous, racy, and spontaneous—delineations of character, droll, varied, lively, and original—have the effect of a play or a pantomime, in agreeably transporting from the realities of life to the regions of fancy, without leaving behind any leprous distilment that may taint the heart or derange the judgment. There are some votaries who prefer his metrical to his prose romances. In the former, he is like his own panoplied knights in armour, stately, imposing, and magnificent, but stiff, vacant, and artificial; while in the latter, whether in hall, court, glen, or bower—on heath, mountain, lake, or stream—he was natural, free, graceful, and energetic, like his own Rob Roy. Apart from his fictions, he was not a very successful author. He is too careless, incorrect, prejudiced, and superficial for authentic history, biography, or general literature. His chivalry was limited to his writings: in actual life no man appears to have been more keen, provident, shrewd, and self-seeking. His eagerness to amass was so excessive as to over-shoot its mark; for it was his avidity for gain at all points that ruined him. Had he been more moderate—and surely a certain income of 2,000*l.* a-year was inducement enough to be so—how much more amiable would have been his biography! What a contrast between the author of *Waverley* and his gifted countryman, Burns—between the scheming aspirant to aristocratic rank and the noble independence of the peasant bard! Leaving out the fatal propensity to accumulate for the “romantic idealization of Scottish aristocracy”—for the glory of founding a new race of “Scotts of Abbotsford,” which are the excuses adduced for him—the private cha-

acter of sir Walter was gracious and estimable. In domestic life he was cheerful, hearty, and virtuous; manly and simple in his tastes; free, easy, jocular, and unassuming in his intercourse with all classes and degrees.

29. Report of the sanatory commission of Paris published, stating the number of deaths in that city arising from cholera, between March 26 and August 30, to have been 18,000.

Oct. 1. A subscription raised in the city of London for the erection of almshouses, in lieu of an illumination to celebrate the passing of the Reform Bill.

10. The new formation of the French ministry announced in the *Moniteur*:— Marshal Soult, president of the council and minister-of-war, *vice* M. Perier; duke de Broglie, minister of foreign affairs, *vice* Sebastiani; M. Humann, minister of finance, *vice* M. Montalivet; M. Thiers, minister of the interior, *vice* Baron Louis; M. Guizot, minister of public instruction, *vice* M. Girod de l’Ain; M. Barthe, keeper of the seals and administrator of ecclesiastical affairs. Admiral de Rigny to remain minister of the marine, and M. d’Argout of commerce and public works. Baron Louis and M. Girod de l’Ain were created peers; and a royal ordinance followed, containing a list of the names of sixty-one other individuals created peers.

25. Queen of Spain appointed regent during the indisposition of the king; her majesty granted a general amnesty, and declared in favour of liberal measures.

30. A French squadron arrives at Spithead to co-operate with the English in compelling the Dutch to evacuate Antwerp, in conformity with the settlement of the great powers.

Nov. 1. Charles Pinney, mayor of Bristol during the riots, acquitted of the charge of misdemeanour in neglecting his duty, after a trial of six days before the court of king’s bench. It appeared the accused had exerted himself, but had not been zealously supported by the inhabitants, from the unpopularity of the political opinions of their recorder, and, next, from dislike of their close corporation.

4. Died at his house, Russell-square, in his 71st year, CHARLES ABBOTT, baron Ten-terden, lord chief justice of the court of king’s bench. His health had been declining for some years; and on the commencement of the trial of the Bristol mayor, on the 27th ult., he was taken so ill that he was unable again to appear in court. The ruling passion seems to have been strongly evinced in the last moments of this eminent public functionary. His family were standing round his bed, watching his closing struggles, when he was observed

feebly to move his hand along the pillow, as if in the act of writing, and immediately afterwards he was heard to exclaim, almost in his usual tone, "Gentlemen of the Jury, you may retire:" he then closed his eyes and expired. He was born at Canterbury of humble parentage, but received a classic education. At Oxford, where he obtained both a fellowship and tutorship, he was a persevering and successful student, and distinguished by his quiet demeanour. He owed his easy success in life to the patronage of powerful individuals. Mr. Justice Buller, observing his peculiar talents, recommended to him the legal profession; and his excellent treatise on the Shipping Laws obtained for him the favour of lords Eldon and Ellenborough,—under the concurring recommendation of whom he was advanced to the bench; and in 1818 he succeeded the latter as chief justice of England. Lord Tenterden was not an orator, but remarkable for a well-governed temper, learning, judgment, and excellent sense. He was not an advocate calculated to impress a jury, but he was a safe counsellor; and his business at the bar was so considerable that it yielded an average income of 10,000*l*. His court he contrived to keep in admirable order; and the most arrogant spirits were subdued by his grave and well-timed rebuke. As a legislator he had few claims. He was a conservative in church and state; and the last speech he delivered in the house of lords, where he seldom spoke, was against the Reform Bill.

6. A deputation, consisting of forty gentlemen, headed by sir John Key, the lord mayor, waited upon earl Grey, lord Althorp, and lord John Russell, to present their lordships with gold cups, the produce of a penny subscription, to which 300,000 persons had contributed. The cups weigh eighty-five ounces, and contain five pints each. A similar cup was presented to lord chancellor Brougham.

An embargo laid on Dutch vessels by the English and French governments in their respective ports. The king of Holland refused to follow the example; alleging that it "would be unjust to entail on private individuals the consequences of state quarrels."

7. **Duchess of Berry.**—This adventurous Bourbon, who had been for some time previously using her endeavours to excite insurrection in the western provinces in favour of her son, was arrested on the 7th at Nantes. She was discovered, with three of her companions, hid in an oven or small closet behind the chimney, the heat of which greatly incommoded them, especially the duchess, who was pressed against the back of it, and compelled them to cry out to surrender. The princess said

her pursuers "had made war upon her à la St. Laurent." She was confined in the castle of Blaye,—where, much to the astonishment of Europe, and the great confusion of the royalists, she gave birth to a daughter, May 10. It was not known she had forsaken her widowhood: but after her accouchement she signed a declaration that she had been privately married in Italy to Count Hector Luchesi Palli, gentleman of the chamber to her brother the king of Naples, and then residing as envoy from that court at the Hague. This lapse having deprived the princess of her influence over the Bourbonites, and of the power of exciting disturbance, the French government gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to set her at liberty. Immediately she recovered, she was put on board a French frigate, along with her infant and attendants, and conveyed to Sicily.

18. The king of the French, whilst on horseback proceeding to the chambers to open the session, was fired at by an unknown person, who immediately escaped by mixing in the crowd. His majesty was unhurt, and proceeded to deliver the royal speech, which chiefly related to the siege of Antwerp, and some important laws to be introduced during the session. M. Dupin, the ministerial candidate, was chosen president by a large majority.

24. The legislative assembly of South Carolina resolved to resist the tariff imposed by the general congress of the United States. They empowered the governor of the state, general Hamilton, to declare its independence of and separation from the federal union, on the first appearance of any military force for its coercion; but they also stated what modifications in the duties on foreign manufactures would satisfy them. President Jackson replied in firm but argumentative and conciliatory addresses. Early in the ensuing year this threatening commotion in the Union was compromised by alterations in the tariff, which provided that duties on imports should be gradually reduced to 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Dec. 3. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

4. President Jackson delivered his message to congress. He congratulated them on the near prospect of the liquidation of the residue of the public debt, and deprecated the policy of the tariff which prevented a mutual commerce between their own and other countries.

5. An Irish youth, aged nineteen, killed at Farsley, near Leeds. He had given offence to the trade unionists. The perpetrators of the foul act were not detected.

15. During the second day's polling at Sheffield an unfortunate disturbance took

place, which occasioned the deaths of five persons.

21. **Battle of Konieh** (the ancient *Icosium*) between Ibrahim Pasha and Redschid Pasha, the grand vizier. The victories of Ibrahim in the preceding year had opened to him the way across the Taurus, and, descending into the plains of Caramania, he took up a strong position behind the town of Konieh, where the enemy could reach him only through dangerous defiles. His army was inferior in number to that of the Turks, but hardened to war, accustomed to victory, and led by skilful officers. The vizier, apprehensive that Ibrahim might receive reinforcements, attacked the centre of the Egyptian position; which Ibrahim foreseeing, he fell suddenly on the Turkish flanks, broke them, surrounded the vizier and made him prisoner. This signal defeat caused the utmost alarm at Constantinople, there being now no obstacle between Ibrahim and the shores of the Bosphorus.

24. **SURRENDER OF ANTWERP.**—The French army, amounting to near 60,000 men, commanded by marshal Gerard, entered Belgium on the 13th ult., and on the 30th the marshal summoned general Chassé, in the name of the two coercing powers, England and France, to surrender the citadel. General Chassé refused, and declared his intention to hold out to the last extremity. After some negotiation, it was settled that the city of Antwerp should be considered neutral by both sides. On the 4th inst., the French having dug their entrenchments and prepared their artillery, opened a fire in volleys with about 100 pieces. The Dutch returned it with spirit, and many of the French were killed and wounded. The operations were carried on with vigour on both sides till the 23rd, when the besiegers having laid the interior of the fort in ruins and effected a breach with the intention of carrying it by storm, general Chassé surrendered on the following day. By the terms of the capitulation the garrison were held prisoners of war, till the surrender of Lillo and Liefkenshoek, two other Belgic fortresses on the Scheldt, in the possession of the Dutch. The king of Holland, however, refused to allow of the surrender of these forts; upon which the garrison was marched into France and the French army evacuated Belgium.

31. Ferdinand of Spain rescinds and protests against a decree extorted from him while he lay dangerously ill, by which the Salic law had been renewed, and his brother, Don Carlos, declared his successor, to the exclusion of his own daughter.

MARRIAGES.—A German periodical, the *Hesperus*, contains the results of some

curious inquiries on this subject. It appears that to 1,000 marriages there were born in the Two Sicilies 5,546 children; in France, 4,118; in England, 3,565; in Zealand, 3,439. So that the Two Sicilies and Zealand being the extremes, marriages are less prolific as the country lies nearer the north. The writer also shows what might have been foreseen, that there has been a growing excess of males over females since the peace.

CRIMES IN FRANCE.—Out of every 100 persons accused, 61 are regularly condemned. Out of the whole population, one in every 4,460 inhabitants is accused. In every 100 crimes, 25 are against the person, 75 against property. Experience shows, that the number of murders is annually nearly the same; and, that the instruments or means employed are always in the same proportion. The inclination to commit crime is at its greatest in *man* about the age of twenty-five; in *woman*, five years later. The proportion of men and women accused is four to one. In summer more crimes are committed against the person, fewer against property; the reverse is the case in winter.

STEAM CARRIAGES.—A parliamentary committee appointed to inquire into steam carriages, concluded their report with the following summary:—1. That carriages can be propelled by steam on *common roads* at an average rate of ten miles per hour. 2. That at this rate they have conveyed upwards of fourteen passengers. 3. That their weight, including engine, fuel, water, and attendants, may be under three tons. 4. That they can ascend and descend hills of considerable inclination with facility and ease. 5. That they are perfectly safe for passengers. 6. That they need not be nuisances to the public. 7. That they will become a speedier and cheaper mode of conveyance than carriages drawn by horses. 8. That, as they admit of greater breadth of tire than other carriages, and as the roads are not acted on so injuriously as by the feet of horses in common draught, such carriages will cause less wear of roads than coaches drawn by horses.

SOCIAL ECONOMY.—The inquiries of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the operation of the Poor Laws have disclosed some extraordinary features in the condition of different classes of society. It appears that, in many gaols, criminals have a greater allowance of food than that given to paupers, and that paupers in their turn are better fed than independent labourers. The following results have been arrived at by Mr. Chadwick, which, if correctly deduced, show that the scale of allowance is proportioned to the demerit rather than the desert of the receivers. Of *solid food*

weekly, the independent agricultural labourer receives 122 ounces; the soldier, 168; the able-bodied pauper, 151; the suspected thief, 181; the convicted thief, 239; the transported thief, 330 ounces.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Dublin, Alex. Nimmo, 49, eminent civil engineer; upwards of 30 piers or harbours on the Irish coast were built under his superintendence. At Paris, Admiral sir Alexander Cochrane, 73, experienced naval officer, and ninth son of Thomas, earl of Dundonald. At Liason Grove, by his own hand, James Fletcher, 21, author of a "History of Poland," a young man of promising talent, who had become dependent on the uncertain gains of literature. Joseph Munden, 73, popular comic actor. Joseph Brasbridge, 90, a retired silversmith of Fleet-street and author of an autobiography. At Weimar, the celebrated Goethe, 82, author of Werther, and patriarch of the mystical writers of Germany. At his cottage in the vale of Evesham, Musio Clementi, 81, celebrated pianist, and according to Dr. Crotch, father of pianoforte music. At Fontainebleau, the Rev. Charles Colton, author of Lacon, &c., and an eccentric character, who committed suicide rather than submit to a surgical operation rendered unavoidable by disease. Sir Richard Birnie, 72, chief magistrate of the police office, Bow-street. Sir Richard was a native of Scotland, and at one period of life a journeyman saddler in London. After an advantageous marriage, the successful pursuit of business, and filling almost every parochial office, he was, at the instance of the duke of Northumberland, placed in the commission of the peace. He obtained the flattering notice of the prince of Wales, while in his original employment; and distinguished himself as a magistrate at the Queen's funeral, and in the apprehension of the Cato-street conspirators. At Paris, M. Champollion, 42, celebrated Egyptian scholar. At Dawlish, sir William Grant, 77, late master of the rolls. John Taylor, 76, formerly editor of the *Sun* newspaper and author of "Monsieur Tanson." Charles Butler, 83, eminent juriconsult, and author of "Horn Bibles," &c. At Montpellier, near Bristol, Miss Anna Maria Porter, the accomplished and popular novelist. John Heley Hutchinson, earl of Donoughmore, 75, a distinguished military officer, who, on the death of general Abercrombie, succeeded that gallant officer in the command of the British army in Egypt. Sir John Carr, 60, late popular tourist and author of books of Travels. At the palace of Schoenbrun, near Vienna, of consumption, the duke of Reichstadt, 21, the only legitimate child of Napoleon Buonaparte. Near Chelmsford, sir John

Tyrell, 70, lineally descended from sir Walter Tyrell, who accidentally slew king William Rufus, and whose descendants for fifteen generations uniformly received the grade of knighthood. Viscount Dillon, 54, author of "The Tactics of Ælian," &c. George Bridgman, 80, court newsmen in the latter part of George III.'s reign. Rev. Adam Clarke, 72, Wesleyan preacher and biblical scholar. At Chelsea College, sir Everard Home, 76, surgeon to that hospital, and distinguished medical writer. Priscilla Wakefield, 82, author of many popular tracts for young persons. At Bath, James Stephens, 73, late master in chancery, and fellow labourer with Clarkson and Wilberforce, whose sister he married, in the struggle for the abolition of the African slave trade. Mr. Stephens was an able writer and speaker, and author of the celebrated Orders in Council, framed to meet the anti-commercial Milan and Berlin decrees of Napoleon. Sir John Leslie, 56, professor of natural philosophy in the university of Edinburgh, and distinguished writer on mathematical and physical science. At Vienna, Andrew Count O'Reilly, 92, general of cavalry in the Austrian army, and considered the last of the class of Irish officers, the contemporaries or *élèves* of the Dauns, Lacys, Loudons, and Browns, so renowned in the wars of Frederick II. and Maria Theresa. At Boston, in America, Dr. Spurzheim, 56, the disciple of Dr. Gall, and zealous teacher of phrenology. At Pimlico, Thomas Hardy, 82, formerly secretary to the London Corresponding Society and the subject of an unsuccessful government prosecution (p. 590.) It being considered by the friends of Mr. Hardy that the justice of his political views had been confirmed by the Reform Act, his interment in Bunhill Fields was made the occasion of a funeral oration, after the fashion of the French. At Paris, Jean Baptiste Say, a writer who had zealously laboured to spread the economical principles of Dr. Adam Smith among his countrymen.

A.D. 1833. ELECTION AND COMPOSITION OF THE FIRST REFORM PARLIAMENT.—The elections in the last month of the past year were all over in less than three weeks after the dissolution of parliament. The quietness and dispatch with which this national business was transacted contrasted favourably with the fifteen days' riot, licentiousness and immorality, which prevailed under the former system. Even the opponents of the Reform Acts were constrained to admit the superiority of their practical working in elections. By excluding non-resident voters, by limiting the duration of the poll to two days, and increasing the number of polling places, the expenses

to candidates were diminished, and increased facilities afforded to electors. As might be expected, the elections ran strongly in favour of the ministers, to whom the people were under such especial obligations. The numerical strength of the different parties in the new house of commons was supposed to be—Ministerial members, 400; Tories or Conservatives, 150; Radicals, Ultra Liberals, Independent, Irish Repealers, &c., about 100. Considering the latter division reformers, the subjoined statement exhibits, under the heads of Reformers and Conservatives, the number of each class returned by the counties, cities, boroughs, and universities of the United Kingdom:—

	Ref.	Cons.
<i>England</i> , County Members . . .	102	42
Cities and Boroughs . . .	264	59
Universities . . .		4
<i>Wales</i> , County Members . . .	8	7
Cities and Boroughs . . .	11	3
<i>Scotland</i> , County Members . . .	22	8
Cities and Boroughs . . .	22	1
<i>Ireland</i> , County Members . . .	48	16
Cities and Boroughs . . .	32	7
Dublin University . . .		2
Total Members . . .	509	149

Of the whole 658 members, about 280 had not sat in the preceding parliament, and few of the 280 in any parliament. Of the 380 members who had been in the last parliament and were also returned for this, most of them sat for new places. Of the 80 Irish reformers, 38 were pledged *repealers*. The universities appear to have been most deeply *conservative*, the Scotch burghs the least so. The English counties were more conservative than the boroughs, but not so conservative as the Welsh counties, which exceeded the conservatism of the Irish counties. The subjoined statement exhibits the number of counties and boroughs, the number of registered electors, and the number of members returned in the general election of 1832:—

	Electors.	Mem.
40 <i>English</i> Counties . . .	344,504	144
185 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	274,649	337
12 <i>Welsh</i> Counties . . .	25,815	15
14 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	11,369	14
30 <i>Scotch</i> Counties . . .	33,114	30
76 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	31,332	76
33 <i>Irish</i> Counties . . .	60,607	64
34 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	31,545	41

Of the 114 counties and divisions in the United Kingdom, 60 were contested; in 54, no contest. Of the 254 cities, boroughs, and towns, 190 were contested; in 64 no contest. In the first session of the new parliament there were 64 members hold-

ing commissions in the army, 19 in the navy, and 45 in the militia and yeomanry; 68 holding civil or judicial offices, or having pensions, grants, or emoluments, to the amount of 101,288*l.*—(*Parl. Pap. No. 671, Sess. 1833.*) The number of members connected by blood or marriage with peers was 186. Those possessing church patronage were 79; merchants and traders, 33; manufacturers, 16; bankers, 33; barristers, 64; law students, 2; solicitors, 5; literary and political writers, 6; and persons of no profession, 416.

Jan. 1. A destructive conflagration at Liverpool, in which from fifteen to twenty warehouses were destroyed, with property to the value of 300,000*l.*

2. POPULAR EDUCATION IN FRANCE.—

M. Guizot introduced into the French chamber of deputies, in a speech of great ability, his scheme of popular instruction, which passed into a law in the course of the session. It establishes three descriptions of schools; Elementary schools, of which every commune or parish is bound to maintain one, except when two or more small communes join to maintain the same school; Middle schools, for the higher branches of education, of which there is to be one in every departmental town, and in every parish having more than 6000 inhabitants; and Normal schools, for the training of teachers, of which there is also to be one for each department. The elementary education is to consist of reading, writing, French grammar, and arithmetic, together with moral and religious instruction. The masters in all these schools are to have small salaries, paid by the parish or department, but are to derive the chief part of their emoluments from fees. Each parish school is to be under the immediate management of a communal committee, of which the *curé* of the parish is to be *ex officio* a member, and which is also to contain one minister of each of the other religious persuasions that may exist in the commune. The whole system is placed under the direction of the member of the cabinet known in France as the minister of public instruction. The plan, in its leading principles and details, is borrowed from that which has been for some years in operation in Prussia, to which country M. Cousin was sent by the government to examine and report on it.

6. Crown of France claimed by Joseph Buonaparte, ex-king of Spain, as having become the representative of the imperial dynasty, by the death of young Napoleon.

10. Death of Joshua Brookes, F.R.S., aged seventy-two. This celebrated anatomist, during the forty years in which he taught anatomy, educated not less than 7000 pupils, many of whom attained emi-

nence in their profession. His museum, which was only inferior to that of Hunter in the number and variety of specimens, was, unhappily, in his declining years, dispersed by the hammer of the auctioneer.

15. A difference between the French chambers of peers and deputies, in consequence of the determination of the latter to allow no amendment to a bill they had passed, by which the observance of the anniversary of the death of Louis XVI., as a day of national mourning, is abolished.

20. The Hungarian diet opened by the emperor in person. One of the earliest proceedings of this assembly was the adoption of a resolution recommending the publicity of discussion in the diet, and the establishment of the liberty of the press.

21. Seven persons killed by the explosion of six powder-mills at Dartford, in Kent. 2500 lbs. of powder exploded. The shock was felt at Greenwich, a distance of ten miles.

29. MEETING OF THE REFORMED PARLIAMENT.—The new parliament was opened by commission, and the commons proceeded to the election of their speaker. Mr. Manners Sutton was proposed by lord Morpeth and sir F. Burdett; Mr. Littleton by Mr. Hume and Mr. O'Connell. After a debate of three hours, a division took place, which terminated in favour of Mr. Sutton by a majority of 241 to 31. Mr. Sutton's election was opposed because he was an anti-reformer; he was supported by ministers on the ground of his ability and experience, and also of economy, as, by his re-election to the office of speaker, the retiring pension to which he had become entitled would be saved. On February 5th the king delivered his speech in person. It lamented the continuance of civil war in Portugal, and the necessity of coercive interference, in concert with France, to effect a definitive arrangement between Belgium and Holland. It announced that the approaching termination of the charters of the Bank of England and East India Company would render necessary a revision of these establishments. It called attention to the state of the churches in England and Ireland, especially in reference to the evils of tithes and the distribution of their revenues; but suggested that the reforms in the two churches would require separate consideration. Lastly, the increasing spirit of insubordination and violence in Ireland was emphatically dwelt upon, and the necessity suggested of intrusting the crown with additional powers for punishing the disturbers of the public peace, and for strengthening the legislative union between the two kingdoms. In the lords the address was agreed to, but in the commons amendments were moved, having for their objects to

couple inquiry with coercion in the treatment of Ireland, and which gave rise to a discussion that occupied the house five nights. Amendments negatived by large majorities.

31. In *Murray v. Heath* the lord chancellor disallowed the customary right claimed by the defendant to retain a certain number of copies of all engravings executed by him for the plaintiff.

Several incendiary fires occurred during this month.

Feb. 5. The *Hibernia*, capt. Bred, from Liverpool to New South Wales, with 232 persons on board, of whom 208 were passengers going out as settlers, destroyed at sea by fire, kindled through the negligence of the second mate, in W. long. 27°, and S. lat. 4°. 150 lives lost, through the inefficiency of the boats to contain more than a third of the people on board.

6. Death of Admiral lord EXMOUTH, aged seventy-six. His father, Samuel Pellew, was a Cornish gentleman, and in that county he finished his education. He entered the navy in his fourteenth year, and attained the rank of captain in 1782. In 1796 he was raised to a baronetcy for the personal humanity and bravery he exhibited in saving the crew of an East Indian man, which, in a heavy gale, had been driven upon the rocks near Plymouth Citadel. In 1816 he concluded a treaty with the Algerines, being then the admiral on the Mediterranean station; but the treaty being almost immediately after violated, the result was the bombardment of Algiers, in which the admiral was slightly wounded, and his coat cut in pieces by grape and musket shot. For this action he was created a viscount; the city of London presented him with a magnificent sword; and the powers whose subjects (1200 Christians) had been liberated severally sent him their orders of knighthood. The admiral expired at his house at Teignmouth, after a long and severe illness.

7. T. H. Goldsmid, of the Hebrew persuasion, called to the bar by the society of Lincoln's Inn: he was the first of that creed who entered the profession.

Alderman WAITHMAN died in his seventieth year. He was a native of Wales. After being supported at school by an uncle, he came to London, where he entered into the service of a linen-draper. When of age he commenced business at the south end of Fleet-street, where his monument now stands. Under the excitement of the French revolution he became a politician, advocating at that early period parliamentary reform, which he just lived to see accomplished. In 1813 he supplanted sir William Curtis in the representation of the city; was she-

riff in 1820, and in 1823 was chosen lord mayor.

12. Lord Althorp obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relative to the Irish church establishment. He estimated the revenues of the church at about 800,000*l.*; proposed the abolition of first-fruits and of church-cess (rates); the taxation of benefices above 200*l.* and of bishops' incomes; the consolidation of sees, and the grant of episcopal leases in perpetuity.—(See *Aug.* 29.)

14. **QUAKERS' AFFIRMATION.**—Joseph Pease, a Quaker, returned for the southern division of the county of Durham, having claimed on the 7th to be admitted to take his seat on his affirmation, a committee was appointed to inquire into his right, so to do. Upon the committee's report, the commons resolved that Mr. Pease was entitled to take his seat upon making his affirmation and declaration, instead of taking the usual oaths. It appeared there was only one case on the Journals, in which a similar question of a Quaker on his affirmation had occurred; that of John Archdale, returned for Chipping Wycombe in 1699. Quakers of late have in several instances been admitted barristers on making their affirmation in lieu of taking the usual oaths. A Quaker, since the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, has served the office of sheriff of York on his affirmation. By statutes of the last and present reign their affirmation is admitted in all cases, criminal, civil, and official.

15. **IRISH DISTURBANCES BILL.**—Earl Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill for the suppression of local disturbances and dangerous associations in Ireland. His lordship stated that between 1st January and the end of December, 1832, the number of homicides was 242; of robberies, 1179; of burglaries, 401; of burnings, 568; of houghing cattle, 290; of serious assaults, 161; of riots, 203; of illegal rescues, 353; of illegal notices, 2094; of illegal meetings, 427; of injuries to property, 796; of attacks on houses, 723; of firing with intent to kill, 328; of robbery of arms, 117; of administering unlawful oaths, 163; of resistance to legal process, 8; of turning up land, 20; of resistance to tithes, 50; of taking forcible possession, 2; making altogether a total of 9002 crimes committed in one year; and all of these crimes of a description connected with, and growing out of, the disturbed state of the country. The bill passed rapidly through its several stages in the lords, but it was pertinaciously resisted in the commons, especially by the Irish members. Ultimately, the third reading was carried March 29th, by 345 to 86. Its provisions were similar to those of for-

mer insurrection acts; empowering the lord lieutenant to prohibit public meetings considered dangerous; subjecting the inhabitants of proclaimed districts to martial law; prohibiting them from leaving their houses between sunset and sunrise; suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, and authorizing domiciliary visits by magistrates. Amendments were carried in the commons restricting the jurisdiction of courts-martial to offences accompanied by violence or threats, and excluding the collection of tithes from the operation of the act. The act to continue in force till August 1, 1834.

20. **ATTENDANCE AND PETITIONS.**—On the motion of lord Althorp the commons agreed to meet every day except Saturday, at twelve o'clock, for private business and petitions, and to sit till three, unless the business should be sooner disposed of. At this early meeting twenty members instead of forty to form a house; and a quarter past five o'clock, instead of four, was fixed for the house assembling in the evening. It was also resolved that a select committee should, in future, be appointed at the commencement of each session to classify all petitions presented to the house, and to order the printing of such of them at length, or in abstract, as appeared to them to require it. These regulations were intended to lessen the evil of nocturnal legislation, and for bringing more readily under the notice of the house the mass of petitions requiring attention, and which had enormously increased. In the five years ending in 1789 the public petitions presented amounted only to 880; in 1805 they had increased to 1026; in 1815 to 4498; in 1831 to 24,492.

Mar. 1. General Jackson became a second time president of the United States of America.

5. Died, in his 52nd year, the earl of DUDLEY, a man who acquired distinction in the house of commons as Mr. Ward, and who filled the office of foreign secretary during the short ministry of Mr. Canning. His lordship expressed himself much alarmed at the republican tendency of the Reform Bill, and delivered his last, perhaps his ablest, speech against that measure in 1831. He possessed powerful talents, varied accomplishments, and a generous disposition, but his manners had always been so much marked by absence of mind, irresolution and infirmity of purpose, that few were astonished at the melancholy circumstances under which he was withdrawn from society. He experienced a succession of paralytic attacks, and had latterly sunk into that state of imbecility which Dean Swift long apprehended, and in the end fell into, as the

most dismal of human visitations. The earl's titles have expired with him, except the barony of Ward, which has devolved to a clergyman.

16. At the sale of the chattels of the late lord Eldin at Edinburgh, the drawing-room, in which the bidders had assembled, to the number of 200, fell in. Mr. Smith a banker, was killed, and several others seriously injured.

22. New York papers of this date announce the termination of the differences between the general government and South Carolina, in consequence of the passing of the new Tariff, by which the present duties are to be gradually reduced till they reach 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

29. Died, in his 68th year, SAMUEL DREW, M.A., a well-known metaphysical writer. He was the son of a common labourer at St. Austell, in Cornwall, and at the early age of six he was taken from school and sent to work at a mill, where tinners refined their ore, and earned twopence a day. He subsequently became a book-binder, and, while so occupied in business on his own account, he prepared and published his "Essay on the Human Soul," which first brought him into public notice, and which, notwithstanding the dryness of the subject, has gone through five editions in this country and four in America, and has been translated into French. This work and some other metaphysical treatises procured him the honour of M.A. from Aberdeen. In the beginning of 1819 Mr. Drew removed to Liverpool, and thence to London to edit the *Imperial Magazine*, and to exercise a general superintendence over the works of the Caxton press; duties, which he continued to discharge until the beginning of the month in which he died.

In the last week of March London witnessed two occurrences seldom seen together,—a deep fall of snow and a glut of mackerel.

Several meetings have been held to obtain a repeal of the assessed taxes; also relative to the Factory Bill.

During the month, in consequence of lord Durham's resignation, on account of illness, the earl of Ripon became lord privy seal; Mr. Stanley, colonial secretary; sir John Hobhouse, secretary for Ireland; and Mr. Ellice, secretary-at-war.

April 3. A serious riot at Frankfort, in the course of which the people, headed by the students, took the guard-house, and liberated the persons confined for political offences. Several lives were lost, and many persons wounded, in the struggle between the students and the military.

11. Died, in his 88th year, the rev. ROWLAND HILL, the celebrated minister of Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars Road. Mr.

Hill was the sixth son of sir Rowland Hill, and uncle to lord Hill, the present commander-in-chief. He was brought up for the church, in which he received deacon's orders; and, although he afterwards separated from it, he was always tenacious of his clerical character as an episcopal minister, and wished rather to be considered a non-conformist than a dissenter. His familiar anecdotal style of oratory was addressed to the common people, among whom he was an eminently popular preacher. As a writer he is chiefly known by the "Village Dialogues," a religious work characterized by the same qualities as his preaching, and which has been surpassed by few books in popularity.

14. Day of thanksgiving for the cessation of the cholera morbus.

16. Mr. Hawes, the member for Lambeth, in presenting a petition to the commons in favour of the removal of the disabilities of the Jews, repelled the charge that they did not employ themselves in useful pursuits, by showing that there were in France 1232 Jewish landed proprietors, 796 engaged in the military profession, 7960 artisans, and 220 manufacturers.

19. Died admiral lord GAMBIER, in his 76th year, at Iver. He was the grandson of a French protestant whom the revocation of the edict of Nantes drove from his country. While a lord of the admiralty, he compiled a code of signals that superseded those introduced by James II., when duke of York. In 1807 admiral Gambier was sent to demand possession of the Danish fleet, for the successful performance of which service he was raised to the peerage and offered a pension of 2000*l.*, which he declined. In his latter years he had been much occupied with the various religious societies over which he presided, and to which he was a liberal patron.

23. The fleet of Don Pedro being in a state of mutiny for want of pay, and on account of the dismissal of admiral Sartorius for demanding it, sir J. M. Doyle and captain Crosbie were despatched on board the *Raisa*, the former to arrest Sartorius and the latter to supersede him. But sir John was himself arrested and detained, and captain Crosbie threatened with a court-martial. The differences were afterwards adjusted by a partial compliance with the demands of the fleet, and the continuance of Sartorius in the command.

29. On the motion for the repeal of the house and window taxes in the commons, lord Althorp moved a counter-resolution, declaring it inexpediency, as also of that for the reduction of the duty on malt, which had been carried against ministers, asserting that it would become necessary

to supply the deficiency in the revenue by an income tax. The counter-resolution was carried.

29. Sir John Hobhouse resigns his office and his seat for Westminster, in consequence of being unwilling to embarrass the ministry by voting for the repeal of the assessed taxes, to which he had pledged himself to his constituents. Mr. Littleton was appointed secretary for Ireland, in the room of sir John.

Influenza was very prevalent this month. According to the *Medical Gazette* of May 4th, it has been a hundred-fold more prevalent than the cholera was, and more fatal in London within the last 14 days than that disease within an equal period.

May 7. Gross outrage on the person of the president of the United States, by a man named Randolph, who, after charging general Jackson with wanton persecution, tweaked his nose.

10. Election for Westminster terminated: for colonel De Lacy Evans, radical, 2927; for sir John Hobhouse, ministerialist, 2775; for Mr. Escott, tory, 738. Sir John for 15 years had been one of the popular representatives of Westminster.

Duel at Exeter, between sir John Jeffcott, chief judge of the vice-admiralty court at Sierra Leone, and Dr. Hennis, in which the latter was mortally wounded. The coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder* against all the parties concerned.

11. Lord Teynham, and a tailor named Donlan, tried in the court of king's bench, on a charge of swindling one Didymus Longford out of 1,400*l.*, under the pretence of procuring him a place under government. Both the defendants found guilty.

13. A public meeting having been called in Coldbath Fields to adopt measures for choosing a National Convention, about 1,000 persons assembled with banners, &c., in dispersing whom, much violence was committed on both sides, and one policeman, named Robert Culley, was mortally wounded with a dagger. After four days' investigation, a coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *Justifiable Homicide*; which verdict was quashed on the 30th, in the court of king's bench, on the motion of the solicitor-general.

14. London and Birmingham railway began.

Mr. secretary Stanley, in an able address, introduced resolutions for the abolishing of colonial slavery.—(See Aug. 29.)

15. Died EDMUND KEAN, the celebrated tragedian, in his 46th year. He was the son of a tailor, and, after struggling through great difficulties and distresses in the early part of his career, he made his *début* on the London boards in 1814, in the character of *Shylock*, his performance of which

immediately established him in that rank as an actor which he ever after maintained. His great success supplied him with the means of vicious indulgence, which he had not fortitude to resist, and by which his faculties were impaired, his health ruined, and his property dissipated. He is said to have received since 1814, in England and America, 176,000*l.*, averaging 9,000*l.* a-year.

16. Mr. Cobbett, in the commons, moved a long resolution condemnatory of Peel's currency bill of 1819. To this bill he attributed the subsequent distresses of the country in not having been accompanied with a reduction of the public debt, and an equitable adjustment of all contracts; and he called for an address, praying the king to dismiss sir R. Peel from the Privy Council. After sir R. Peel had spoken in defence, the motion was negatived by 298 to 4; and a motion by lord Althorp, that the proceedings on the resolution be expunged from the minutes, was carried by a like majority.

18. A large meeting on Newhall-hill, near Birmingham, to petition the king to dismiss his ministers; Mr. Attwood and Mr. O'Connell addressed the multitude in favour of the petition.

21. A treaty signed in London by the plenipotentiaries of Britain, France, and Holland, in which the latter cedes to Belgium the free navigation of the Scheidt and the Meuse, and a free passage through Maestricht. Other points in dispute between the two kingdoms remain unsettled.

An affray between the soldiery and the inhabitants of Neustadt, in Rhenish Bavaria, while attempting to celebrate, a second time, the "festival of Hambach." Upwards of 100 persons killed, and one cavalry regiment refused to fire on the people.

25. Trial in the court of king's bench, *Rez v. Phillips*, arising out of the revival of the calumnious libel on the duke of Cumberland, relative to the death of his valet, Sellis. The duke appeared as a witness; he detailed to the jury the circumstances of the affair as before mentioned (May 31, 1810), and exhibited the marks on his head of the blows inflicted by the assassin; which left no doubt of Sellis being his own destroyer, and the correctness of the coroner's verdict to that effect. The jury immediately found the defendant guilty.

27. A busy week commenced at court. The king's birth-day celebrated by a splendid drawing room and a grand dinner. The next day, a levee, and a dinner to the Jockey Club. Prince George of Cumberland's birth-day celebrated at Kew. A juvenile ball at St. James's in honour of the birth-day of Princess Victo-

ria. A dinner given by his Majesty to the *Nullo Secundus* club. The queen visits the Zoological Gardens.

31. Death of major-general sir JOHN MALCOLM. This distinguished soldier, statesman, and author, was born on the farm of Burnfoot, near Langholm, in 1769. He was scarcely fourteen when he was sent out to India, and rapidly made those acquirements which formed the basis of his future distinction. Having highly distinguished himself at the fall of Seringapatam in 1799, and on other occasions, he was appointed by lord Wellesley ambassador to Persia, which had never been visited by an English ambassador since the time of Queen Elizabeth. This and his subsequent missions to that country, which were chiefly designed to counteract French influence, he discharged with ability and success. In 1827, he was prevailed upon to accept the government of Bombay, and, after effecting very important services, finally returned to this country in 1831. Sir John was the author of several literary works on the East, enumerated among the "Men of Letters" of this reign. To a subscription to a monument to his memory the pasha of Egypt subscribed 100*l*.

31. Lord Althorp, in the commons, proposed a series of resolutions as the basis of the renewal of the charter of the Bank of England.—(See *Aug.* 29.)

June 4. Died, in his fifty-eighth year, Peter, lord KING, who obtained much notoriety upwards of twenty years ago, by his attempts to enforce the payment of his rents *in gold*, in lieu of paper; latterly, he had been distinguished by his sharp attacks on the episcopal bench, and on all questions relating to the temporalities of the church. He was a man of great shrewdness, and the author of several works, of which the most important is a "Life of John Locke." The materials for this work were in his own possession, the great moral philosopher having been uncle to lord King's great-grandfather, Peter, first lord King, the lord-chancellor.

13. Mr. C. Grant, in the commons, brought forward the resolutions on the renewal of the charter of the East India company, and the future government of India.—(See *Aug.* 29.)

21. The recorder of London resigned his office on account of the feeling excited by the narrow escape of a criminal named Cox from being hanged, through his inadvertence.

July 2. Hungerford market opened.

8. DECLINE OF TURKEY.—A secret treaty, bearing this date, negotiated at Constantinople, between Russia and the Porte. Russia engaged to furnish Turkey with such forces as her exigencies may at

any time require; and the Porte engaged, at the demand of Russia, to close the Dardanelles against any foreign vessels of war. This auspicious alliance acquired the title of the treaty of "*Unkiar Skelessi*," from the name of the place where the united forces of Turkey and Russia had encamped. Such a treaty between a strong and weak state threatened to make the latter a dependancy of the former, and naturally excited jealousy among the European governments of the ulterior designs of the emperor Nicholas. But, however dangerous the connexion, it was rendered almost necessary to the existence of the Turkish power by the humiliating disasters of the preceding year. The army of a rebel vassal, that had advanced from Egypt and Syria, had conquered a great part of her Asiatic dominions, and was within a few days' march of the capital. The victory of Konieh (see *Dec.* 21, 1832) had laid at the foot of the conqueror the whole of Asia Minor, where there no longer remained any means of defence, and where the mass of the population was indifferent to the contest, or prepossessed in favour of the invader. Smyrna and Magnesia, both great cities, surrendered at the first summons of an Egyptian officer, accompanied by a handful of men. Meanwhile Ibrahim marched forward to Kutaiah, whence he menaced Bursa and Constantinople itself. At this crisis, the sultan Mahmoud applied for the immediate aid of his late enemy, the emperor of Russia. The latter readily listened to the application; and in the month of February an auxiliary naval force had anchored in the Bosphorus, within nine miles of Constantinople. Previously to this arrival, the other great powers had become apprehensive, and France sent admiral Rousin to Constantinople, to try to conclude peace between Mehemet Ali and the Sultan, without the intervention of the Russian arms. Terms were proposed to the Egyptian pasha, who insisted on the cession of Tarsus and Adana; the sultan hesitated—consented,—then refused. In the interim, a second Russian squadron had anchored in the Bosphorus with 5,000 troops on board, while others had crossed the Pruth and were advancing towards the Turkish frontier. The diplomacy of all Europe beset the Divan—their united voices warned Mahmoud against his dangerous ally,—and at last, on the 4th May, he consented to cede all the territories demanded by Mehemet Ali. The Egyptians immediately after began to retire from Asia Minor. But the Russians remained in the neighbourhood of Constantinople till July and did not sail from the Bosphorus till the 11th, three days after the signature of the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi; the com-

bined English and French fleets continuing to cruise off the Turkish coast till the Czar's forces had departed. By the treaty concluded with Mehemet Ali, the pasha has become incomparably a more powerful sovereign than his old master, the Sultan. He is now left in undisputed possession of Egypt, the fine island of Candia (Crete), the territories of Damascus, Tripoli in Syria, Seyd, and Safed; the districts of Adana, Jerusalem, and Naplous are also ceded to him, with the privilege of conducting pilgrims to the holy places; and his son Ibrahim is invested with the title and power of Sheikh-al-harem of Mecca and of Djidda. Mehemet Ali has now an excellent frontier, easily defended against the Turks; is master of some of the finest seaports in the world; and with the district of Adana, which he has ostensibly undertaken to *farm* for the sultan, he will have an invaluable supply of timber for the growing Egyptian navy. Both the pasha and the sultan have been great reformers on the European model, equal in zeal, but unequal in success, and perhaps in ability, and the favourableness of their position. Sultan Mahmoud has had more intractable interests to deal with: his destruction of the Janissaries was ably effected, but his precipitate attacks on the immunities of the privileged classes—the Ayns, or feudal lords, the municipal corporations, and oulemas, or doctors of law and religion, weakened his executive power, by rendering these powerful orders discontented; while his loss of authority with the Turkish aristocracy was not compensated to him by conciliating the masses, who were too ignorant to appreciate the risks he was incurring, and the sacrifices he was making for their benefit. It follows, that the Turkish empire—if such it can be considered, after the severance of Egypt, Greece, Algiers, Moldavia, and Wallachia—is disorganised and without strength; and only exists because it cannot be easily, nor perhaps, without a general war, partitioned among the great powers who hold it in trust, and with mutual jealousy watch over its preservation.

28. DON PEDRO ENTERS LISBON.—After the elapse of a year, and a succession of desperate conflicts between the beleaguered Pedroites in Oporto, and the Miguelites, the war took an unexpected turn in favour of Donna Maria. This was chiefly owing to the gallantry of captain Charles Napier, who had succeeded Sartorius in the command of the Pedroite squadron, and the enterprise of the brave constitutionalist count Villa Flor. On the 21st ult., Napier took on board his ships, at Oporto, 3500 troops, commanded by Villa Flor and the marquis of Palmella,

and landed them at Villa Real, after dislodging the Miguelite garrison by the fire from his squadron. The inhabitants of the Algarves seemed more favourably disposed towards the cause of the young queen than in other parts of Portugal, and Villa Flor, dividing his troops into two columns, advanced towards Lisbon. Meanwhile, captain, now admiral Napier, sailed along the coast, destroying the batteries and gun-boats of the enemy, till, July 2, he came in sight of the Miguelite fleet near Cape St. Vincent. His force was 278 guns and 2,500 men; that of the Miguelites, 360 guns and 3,250 men. Notwithstanding the disparity of force, Napier bore gallantly up to the attack, being favoured by a fresh breeze which had sprung up after the steam-vessels, attached to his squadron, had refused to expose themselves by towing his ships into action, unless paid 2,000*l.* each. The Miguelites discharged their broadsides into the Pedroites, but not a gun was fired by Napier, until he had brought his own ship alongside the Rainha, 74, which he boarded, sword in hand, in the dress of a common sailor, accompanied by a chosen band. Almost at the instant, his son, in another frigate, ran on the lee-quarter of the Rainha and also boarded her. The Rainha mustered 750 men, and the conflict of cutlasses, daggers, and crow-bars was terrific; but in less than ten minutes, in the midst of the shouts of the victors and the groans of the dying, the constitutional flag was hoisted over that of Miguel. The rest of Miguel's ships were panic-struck. The Miguelite admiral did not do his duty; he kept his huge ship out of action as long as he could, and surrendered after receiving one broadside. The whole of the Miguelite squadron was captured, except a corvette and two brigs, and carried into Lagos bay. Events followed on land hardly less brilliant. Villa Flor attacked the Miguelites in the vicinity of Lisbon, and defeated them, though double in number to his own troops, and killed their ablest general, Telles Jordao. The night after this defeat, the Miguelite governor evacuated Lisbon, and Villa Flor entered the capital. The citizens opened the prisons of 5,000 persons confined for political offences, and proclaimed Donna Maria. While these advantages were gaining in the south, the Miguelites, directed by marshal Bourmont, were making desperate but unsuccessful efforts to carry Oporto by storm. News arriving of the capture of Lisbon, Don Pedro left Oporto for the capital, into which he made his triumphal entrance on the 28th. This now became the centre of military operations, and the year closed, leaving Don Miguel still with

large forces, and the country, except in Oporto and Lisbon, generally devoted to his cause.

29. A strong sensation in London from its having been found that sir John Key, one of the city members, was interested in government contracts for paper, and that a son of his, a minor, had been appointed to a responsible situation in the stationery office, at the solicitation, and on the representation of his father that he was of full age. After this business, sir John resigned his seat in parliament for the city, and was called upon to resign his gown as alderman of Langbourne ward, which he declined to comply with.

DEATH OF WILLIAM WILBERFORCE.—This popular religious writer, philanthropist, and parliamentarian, terminated a long public life, in the 74th year of his age, at Cadogan-place, Chelsea. He descended from an old and opulent mercantile family of Hull, in Yorkshire, of which town his grandfather was twice mayor. It was for this borough Mr. Wilberforce was first returned to parliament, and for which he sat till chosen in 1784 for Yorkshire, a county he represented up to 1812, when he exchanged its laborious duties for the less irksome ones of Bramber, and finally relinquished all senatorial functions, in 1825, by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds. Humanity and pious enthusiasm were the leading traits in the character of this amiable person. His father dying while he was very young, the care of his education devolved upon his mother, who placed him under the tuition of the rev. Joseph Milner, an evangelical clergyman, from whom he imbibed those doctrinal impressions, which, after a brief flutter of natural but harmless gaiety, influenced his subsequent life. Constitutionally kind, lively, benevolent and virtuous, Wilberforce had precisely those qualities which calvinistic methodism has no tendency to ameliorate. It was to religion, however, that he chiefly owed his vast influence; and none of his contemporaries, not in official power, exercised greater, both in parliament and the country. His speech against lord Melville is said to have carried along with it forty members; an extraordinary achievement, and quite in contradiction to the common opinion, that the best parliamentary oratory never converts a single vote. He was indeed an effective and very persuasive speaker; mild, yet earnest and pathetic; a diction, pure, copious, elegant, and impressive, was aided by a voice of unequalled power and sweetness. It was not by enlarged and liberal views, nor accuracy and extent of information, that he succeeded, but by the unquestioned sincerity and integrity of his motives. Car-

ried away by the intensity of his convictions, he was frequently unjust to adversaries; was led unconsciously into exaggerations that were untrue, and into unworthy imputations against those whose aims were not less laudable than his own, though sought to be differently realised. There was in this, the intolerant zeal as well as the narrow-minded bigotry that would measure everything by its own standard. His self-denial was great, almost ostentatious; his pleasure was in bestowing rather than in receiving; he might have accumulated riches, honours, and offices on himself, but preferred dispensing them to others. He was vain, fond of power; but, like Madame Maintenon with Louis XIV., loved to pull the wires softly and unseen. It was no mean ambition to seek to lead the great county of York; to be at the head of the religious world; the confidant of the inner cabinet of Pitt, Dundas, Jenkinson, and Scott, in the most eventful times of our history, and, on trying and critical emergencies, to turn the balance of legislative wisdom. Mr. Wilberforce did not surrender this flattering prominence without regret, and which he had made great sacrifices of purse and person to maintain, in keeping open house for politicians—holding levees for all applicants—submitting to have his moral sensibilities wounded by the profane and licentious—loitering at the saloons of the great and fashionable—laborious and costly elections and canvassings—tedious waitings at the Treasury and at Lambeth, for livings, contracts, and appointments, for his constituents—and, lastly, keeping up with everybody and everywhere that eternal "chatteration," which he considered the great vice of godly people. In retiring from the representation of Yorkshire, he observes, "I cannot deny that I feel very deeply the loss of my high situation and being out of the dramatic persons, whilst all my friends are acting their parts."—(*Life by his Sons*, iii., 536.) Mr. Wilberforce was not a party man, though he generally voted on one side; which arose probably from the principle he held, that we ought generally to incline to the support of men in power, and which might have led him to give his aid to the whigs, as uniformly as he did to the tories, had they been in authority. He was opposed to the commencement of the war of 1793, but by a stratagem of Mr. Pitt—for he appears, on this and other occasions, to have been the half-willing dupe of political jockeyship—he was kept from a public declaration of his sentiments; and, after 1797, he was favourable to the continuance of hostilities, as necessary to national security. In person, which was meagre and

diminutive, he had a strong resemblance to the portraits given of Voltaire, and, though the very opposite of the infidel philosopher in sentiment, he had much of his subtle wit, quick perception of the ludicrous, sagacity, and satirical pleasantry. He foresaw clearly that catholic emancipation would not satisfy the Irish; that the still greater grievances of heretic teachers, and the usurpation of the honours and emoluments of the catholic church, would remain.—(*Ibid.* iii. 362.) “There is nothing,” says he, “too foolish for men to believe.” “Consult the topic ‘*Aristocratism*,’ and you will find all great men hate public meetings.” “The good are not so good as they seem;” and the vicious, he might have added, are not without some redeeming virtues. “The first manifest effect of party is that half the talents, not to say all the talents of the country, are employed in thwarting and opposing, instead of promoting, public measures.”—(*Vol.* ii. 456.) “Parties divide on law and arithmetic as well as politics.”—(*Ibid.*) Against too much brevity in popular writing, he said “Do not curtail too much; portable soup must be diluted before it can be used.” The great work of the abolition of the African slave-trade—which the example of Granville Sharpe and the indefatigable Thomas Clarkson set him upon, and Stephens and Macanley aided him in carrying forward, constitutes his most enduring monument; and he pursued it with a singleness of purpose that admitted only glancing views at nearer and not less flagrant injustice. There was, indeed, a loftiness in the aspirations of Wilberforce, that delighted to concentrate its gaze on the remote and elevated points of the circle of humanity. His “*Practical View of Christianity*” referred chiefly to the higher and middle classes, among whom theological tenets are generally more acceptable than the practical precepts of the gospel. He did not, like Howard, “gauge the miseries of jails,” and was too regardless of the enormous social evils arising from indigence and popular ignorance. As a lawgiver he was neither gifted nor well-placed. The business of modern legislation refers to the present life, but Mr. Wilberforce viewed everything in relation to the future; which would have been more appropriate in a convocation of divines than among the worldlings of the house of commons. Through an unfortunate farming speculation of one of his sons he suffered, at an advanced age, a great loss of property. Those painful doubts, too, almost inseparable from his peculiar faith, and which nothing save his constitutional vivacity could have enabled him to sustain, weighed heavy upon him in his latter

moments. “I am,” says he, “in a very distressed state.”—“Yes,” was the reply, “but you have your feet on the rock.” To which he rejoined, “I do not venture to speak so positively, but I hope I have.”—(*Life by his Sons*, v. 373.) A career of virtue, like that of William Wilberforce, ought to have won for him a more firm and tranquil assurance. His life had been spent in doing good. Out of an income of 8000*l.* a-year, he disbursed upwards of 2000*l.* in acts of charity and beneficence. It shows how highly he was esteemed by his Yorkshire constituents, who subscribed 64,445*l.* to defray his expenses in the great election struggle for the county between Milton and Lascelles, in 1809.

Aug. 1. Mr. R. Grant’s bill for the removal of the civil disabilities of the Jews lost in the lords by a majority of 104 to 54.

3. The remains of the late Mr. Wilberforce interred in Westminster Abbey, at the request of the most distinguished members of both houses of parliament; 30 peers and 130 commoners attended the funeral of the deceased.

9. Part of the Dublin custom-house warehouses destroyed by fire, with property to the amount of 400,000*l.*

15. Donna Maria acknowledged queen of Portugal at Lisbon, by the government, through Lord William Bentinck, who at the same time presented his credentials as English minister. France, Sweden, and Spain also acknowledged the young queen.

29. CLOSE OF THE FIRST REFORM SESSION.—The king came in person to prorogue parliament. The session had been unusually protracted and laborious. The house of commons had sat 142 days, or 1270 hours. The average number of hours each day used to be four and a half or five hours; but during the whole of this session the house had been occupied on an average nine hours daily, and, since Easter, very considerably more than 12 hours. The subjects legislated upon were of great national importance, referring to the state of Ireland, the renewal of the charters of the Bank of England and East India Company, and the abolition of colonial slavery. Of the statutes on these matters that received the royal assent, it will be suitable to give an outline.

Church and Tithes of Ireland.—The chief statute on these subjects is the 3 and 4 Wm. 4, c. 37, relative to the temporalities of the Irish church. By it the number of bishops is reduced from twenty-two to twelve, by the union of sees, as the present incumbents die off. After the death of the present incumbents, also, the income of the archbishopric of Armagh is to be reduced

from its present amount of 14,500*l.*, to 10,000*l.*, and that of all the other sees which may be worth more than 4000*l.* a year, to that sum, with the exception of the bishopric of Derry, the value of which is at present about 12,000*l.*, and which is to be reduced immediately to 8000*l.*, and eventually to 6000*l.* The leases of the bishops' lands are to be converted into perpetuities, by which it is supposed that a sum of about 1,000,000*l.* sterling (it was originally calculated at three times that amount) will be realized. The exaction of vestry-cess is abolished. So is also that of first-fruits; in the stead of which there is to be imposed upon all livings above the actual yearly value of 300*l.* an annual tax, varying in its rate according to the value of the living. The money arising from these different sources is to be paid to a board of commissioners, and is, under their direction, to be applied to the augmentation of small benefices, the meeting of those expenses hitherto defrayed by the church-rates, and other purely ecclesiastical objects. The board is also to have the power of suspending the appointment of ministers to parishes in the gift of the king, or of any ecclesiastical corporation, in which no service has been performed for the space of three years. Another act, the 3 and 4 Wm. 4. c. 100, empowers the government to make advances, to the amount of ONE MILLION, to such of the clergy as had not been able to recover the tithes due to them, to be repaid by five annual instalments. Such of the clergy as accept this aid are to give up their claim to all unpaid tithes for 1830 and preceding years; and also to submit to a deduction of 25 per cent. on those of 1831 and 1832, and of 15 per cent. on those of 1833. By an act passed the preceding session, 2 and 3 Wm. 4. c. 119, it had already been enacted that, after the 1st of November, 1833, the tenants of land should no longer be liable to the payment of tithes, but that that burden should, in all cases, fall upon the landlord. Proceeding upon the principle of this salutary change, the present act provides for the repayment of the advance to be now made to the clergy, by extending the liability of the landlords back to the year 1831, inclusive, and making them the parties from whom the five instalments are to be demanded. Of course they have, in turn, their remedy against the occupiers of the soil. The effect of these arrangements is to place the clergy, in respect of their incomes, altogether out of the way of collision with the mass of the population. The church may still be objectionable, as not being national, or as being kept up at too great an expense for the

good it does, but it has ceased to be a catholic grievance, and the burden of its maintenance is thrown almost entirely on the protestant landlords. Acts were also passed for the reform of grand and petty juries, the former exercising far greater powers in Ireland than in England, and more analogous to those of a provincial parliament. The provisions of the Irish Coercion Act have been already stated, Feb. 15.

With less noise and discussion than had accompanied the passing of the Irish bills, Scotland benefited largely by the legislative toils of the year. Without the preliminary of a commission to inquire into abuses that had long been notorious, the lord advocate, seconded by the lord chancellor in the upper house, brought in and carried two bills to reform the election of magistrates and councils in the *royal and parliamentary burghs of Scotland*. The reform of these corporations had been loudly demanded by the public voice for nearly half a century. Delegates had been appointed so early as 1787, to proceed to London, to manage an application to parliament, and a committee of the commons made a report on the subject in 1793. The war broke out, reform of every description was dropped, and the public heard nothing further on the Scotch burghs till lord Archibald Hamilton, May 6, 1819, moved for a committee of inquiry, which was carried despite of Mr. Canning, who opposed the motion on the ground that a reform of the burghs would be a reform of parliament. Nothing, however, was done, except imposing some restrictions on the powers hitherto exercised by the magistrates in the expenditure of the burgh funds; but not touching the existing system in other respects. This was reserved for the reformed parliament, and the passing of the two bills, and of a third statute for the improvement of the police of the burghs, has almost perfected the municipal government of Scotland.

One of the most generous acts of legislation ever recorded, perhaps, of any assembly is that for the *Abolition of Colonial Slavery*. The African slave-trade had been abolished in 1807; but the act of the present session abolished slavery itself in the West Indies. All children under six years of age, or born after Aug. 1, 1834, are declared free; all registered slaves above six years become, from the same date, apprenticed labourers, divided into two principal classes, prædial, or those employed in agriculture, and the non-prædial; the apprenticeships of the former to expire Aug. 1, 1838, of the latter, Aug. 1, 1840. The hours of labour of the prædial apprentice not to exceed forty-five in any one week, and for which they are to be paid

either by being boarded and lodged, or by receiving a sum in money weekly. By the transition into the apprentice state, the slave immediately entered into the chief immunities of a freeman; he could not be arbitrarily punished by his master, and became eligible to give evidence in criminal and civil courts, to serve on juries, and in the militia. One of the chief difficulties to settle was in determining the compensation to be given to the owners of slaves for the loss of their compulsory services. A very small party in the commons was in favour of the immediate and entire emancipation of the negroes, and that without any compensation whatever: ministers at first proposed advancing a loan of fifteen millions to the West India proprietors; subsequently this loan was transmuted into a gift of 20,000,000*l.*, by which liberal donation, Mr. Secretary Stanley said, the whole plan would ensure the cordial co-operation of the planters and colonial legislatures. On this basis it was settled, and an end put to a question which had formed almost the exclusive subject of public interest and agitation by the religious portion of the community during the last half-century.

The Government of Hindostan formed a more important subject of legislation than the preceding, affecting a population of 100 millions, whereas the slavery bill applied only to 800,000 blacks. But the welfare of the Hindoos excited much less interest both among members of Parliament and their constituents, and may be partly ascribed to the West India question involving a great moral principle, while the state of our Oriental empire was either a legislative subject of which few were competent to form an opinion, or interesting only to a limited class of commercialists, whom ministers had conciliated by at once conceding a free trade to China, and the other points for which they had petitioned and agitated. The new legislation for India was comprised in three statutes, numbered chapters 85, 93, and 101 of the session; the first applied to the renewal of the charter of the East India Company, and the future government of India; the second regulates the trade to China and India; and the third refers to the collection and management of the duties on tea. The charter of the Company is renewed for the term of twenty years, from April 30, 1834, under certain restrictions:—1. The Chinese trade is thrown open; 2. That on the company transferring to the crown all their effects and claims, the latter is to take upon itself the Company's obligations, and to pay them a certain sum annually from the Indian revenue; and 3. The political go-

vernment of India is continued to the Company for twenty years, the Company abandoning their commercial pursuits. These were the outlines of the new Indian administration. Subordinate provisions were made for the landing, residence, and settlement of British subjects in India; for the creation of two new bishopricks in India, in addition to that of Calcutta; for the mitigation and gradual abolition of slavery in the East; and for the appointment of a law commission to inquire into and improve the existing laws, police, and courts of justice of Hindostan.

Charter of the Bank of England.—There was an elaborate inquiry in the session of 1832, by a parliamentary committee, of which Lord Althorp was chairman, into the expediency of renewing the charter of the Bank, and, in the course of the present session, there were protracted discussions both on the bank charter and the general state of the currency. The three questions on which the legislature were divided were, first, as to the expediency of continuing the exclusive privileges of the Bank, and maintaining it in the position it had long held, of being the principal and governing monetary association of the empire; to this policy ministers were favourable, and, also, as it appeared, a large majority of the parliament. There were, however, two classes of economists, one of whom advocated the scheme of a national bank, to be managed by the government, and its profits accrue to the public; while another was against any monopoly, and would have had the trade of issuing notes left perfectly free, like any other branch of private business. There was, also, a fourth party, but their notions were not restricted to banking—they extended to the general state of the currency, and aimed at its depreciation by a copious issue of paper, in order to counteract the alleged effect of Peel's bill. To the expedient of altering the standard of value there was a salutary repugnance, and government succeeded in defeating this and other suggestions in opposition to their own propositions for the renewal of the Bank charter. The Bank, however, was deprived of two of its privileges: first, the restriction which prohibited other banks from drawing bills on London for less than 50*l.* is abolished; and banks beyond the distance of 65 miles may now issue notes, and make them payable in London, for any sum not under 5*l.* Secondly, banks of deposit may now be established in London, or within 65 miles of it, having more than six partners: in truth, the bank had never any privilege in this respect, and it was a popular error to suppose that banking firms of more than six could not legally

exist in the metropolis prior to the act of 1833. Another concession obtained from the Bank is a reduction, to the amount of 120,000*l.*, in a charge of about 280,000*l.* the directors annually made for the management of the public debt, &c. Further, the Bank is required to publish monthly, in the *London Gazette*, a statement of its assets, and amount of notes in circulation. A like obligation of making periodical returns of their issues of notes was imposed, during the session, on the country banks. The Bank obtained one important privilege, its paper is made a *legal tender* for all sums above 5*l.*, except by the Bank itself, or its branches; so that a bank-note is made equivalent to gold if offered in acquittance of a debt or other obligation exceeding 5*l.* This clause parliament left open to be rescinded, if it thought fit, before the termination of the new charter. There is another enactment of general interest, namely, that by which bills of exchange drawn for not exceeding three months are exempt from the usury laws. The charter is renewed under these limitations till August, 1855, with this reservation, however, that it might be put an end to, should parliament choose, in 1845, by a year's previous notice being given.

In addition to these great legislative measures, elaborately discussed and settled, various taxes were repealed, the public estimates reduced, and financial and judicial amendments adopted. The following is a title of the subordinate matters effected during the session:—

- Total repeal of the duty on tiles.
- Repeal of 2*s.* stamp-duty on advertisements.
- Reduction of duty on marine insurances.
- Reduction of assessed taxes on shops, &c.
- Repeal of stamp-duty on receipts under 5*l.*
- Repeal of additional duty (1821) on raw cotton.
- Reduction of half the duty on soap.
- Protection of dramatic copyrights.
- Improvement of London police act.
- General watching and lighting act for England.
- Limitation of actions relative to real property.
- Improving judicial administration.
- Offices abolished and reformed in the Court of Chancery.
- Copyhold estates made assets for payment of simple contract equally with specialty debts.
- Laws of dower and inheritance amended.
- Punishment of death abolished for burglary.
- Fines and recoveries abolished.

Laws amended relative to sewers, factories, insane persons, high roads in Scotland, and sale of beer in Ireland, &c.

About 166 private bills were introduced, discussed, passed, and received the royal assent. An account appeared of the number of *times* each member of the commons spoke during this memorable working session, and how many columns in the "*Mirror of Parliament*" his speeches occupied. Upwards of 11,000 speeches were delivered, and the six most frequent speakers were:—

	Times.	Cols.	Lines.
Lord Althorp . . .	1026	387	22
Mr. O'Connell . . .	647	388	88
Mr. Hume	601	253	73
Mr. E. G. Stanley . . .	292	192	2
Mr. Cobbett	261	151	88
Sir Robert Peel . . .	106	132	26

Aug. 30. A great fire at Constantinople, by which one-fourth of the city is destroyed. It is attributed to incendiaries and the result of public discontents.

31. The ship *Amphitrite*, conveying convicts to New South Wales, and having on board 103 female convicts, 12 children, and a crew of 16 men, was driven on the Boulogne sands, in the heavy gale which commenced on the 29th. Those on board might, probably, have been saved before the return of the tide, but, apparently through the captain's doubt as to his authority to allow the convicts to escape to the shore, as well as through the sanitary regulations of the French, all, except three of the crew, were drowned.

A regular daily mail, Sunday excepted, established between England and France.

Sept. 7. Died, aged 88, Mrs. HANNAH MORE. This distinguished lady was one of five daughters of the schoolmaster of a charity-school, and afterwards of a private school, at Bristol. Mrs. More's moral and religious works are very numerous, and established for her a very considerable literary reputation; while the circumstance that she had numbered Garrick, Johnson, Burke, Reynolds, and Wilberforce, among her friends and correspondents, attached a powerful interest to her person. It was at one time contemplated to intrust her with the education of the Princess Charlotte: but, as she would not accept a limited control, the design was abandoned. She is said to have realized 30,000*l.* by her writings; and, by her will, 10,000*l.* is distributed among various religious and charitable institutions.

11. At this date 20,000 persons had perished from cholera since the 5th of August.

22. The young Queen of Portugal arrived at Lisbon, and was well received by the inhabitants.

24. The Corporation of Leicester refused to deliver up to his Majesty's commissioners, for the purpose of inquiring into the state of Municipal Corporations, certain documents and accounts required by them, as well as to submit to a personal and public examination before them. The corporations of Norwich, Maidstone, and the Merchant Tailors' Company of London, subsequently followed the example.

29. DEATH OF FERDINAND VII.—The King of Spain was in his fiftieth year, and his demise, which was reported to have taken place almost a twelvemonth before, was an event that had long been expected. His life had been one of painful vicissitudes, and of more trouble than experienced by many of his subjects. Ever since the embroilment with his father in 1808, which afforded a pretext for the interference of Napoleon in Spanish affairs, his name had been conspicuous in Europe, but mostly associated with acts of weakness and tyranny. His death became the signal for the breaking out of fresh political dissensions, the origin of which it will be proper to explain. Ferdinand was four times married; by his first three wives he had no surviving issue, but by his fourth and last wife, Maria Christina, daughter of Francis I. King of the Two Sicilies, whom he had espoused Dec. 11, 1829, he left two daughters, the eldest, Isabella, born Oct. 10, 1830; and the younger born Jan. 30, 1832. The king, fond of his young spouse, naturally wished to secure the royal succession to their progeny, and there was nothing in the ancient or existing laws of Spain to frustrate his desire. The crown of Spain had followed the example of almost every other European country except France, and descended to the next inheritor, whether male or female, either by right of primogeniture, or the testamentary grant of the reigning sovereign. It was only in 1714 that Philip V. violated the established usage, by adopting the Salic law of the French, which excludes females from the throne, and abrogated the ancient law of succession in the Spanish monarchy. The act was considered despotic, and in the absence of female claimants was practically inoperative. Philip V. was succeeded in 1746 by his son Ferdinand VI., who, dying in 1759, left the throne to his brother Charles III. The latter in 1788 was succeeded by his son Charles IV. the father of Ferdinand VII. But, though inoperative, the law of Philip V. was in force till repealed. This had been done some time previously to the late king's death. In 1830, before the

birth of his daughter, Ferdinand by a royal ordinance formally restored the ancient law of succession, which permitted females to inherit the throne. The Salic law was thus abolished by an authority equal to that by which it had been introduced. Still further to fortify the right of his daughter, Ferdinand exercised in her behalf another prerogative, and named her his successor in his will; and by the same instrument he appointed the queen regent till the infanta Isabella attained the age of eighteen years. Notwithstanding this two-fold settlement, Ferdinand's brother, Charles Maria Isidore, commonly called Don Carlos, claimed the throne in virtue of the Salic law, which had been repealed, had only temporarily existed in Spain; and was never practically in force. The conflicting claims of the uncle and niece are nationally important, chiefly as involving the triumph of one or the other of the two political parties into which Spain is divided. The rights of Isabella II. are supported by the liberals, the pretensions of Don Carlos by the absolutists. Before the king's death the queen manifested a favourable disposition towards the constitutionalists; it was manifest that, guided by the councils of M. Zea, the chief minister, she depended upon their support for securing the succession to her infant daughter. Ferdinand was no sooner dead than the Carlists were in motion, headed by monks, monopolists, and a few conservative grandees. Their strength lies chiefly in Navarre, Catalonia, and the Biscayan provinces; they have also adherents in Old Castile, and Estremadura. The chief strength of the constitutionalists is in Madrid, and in the provinces of Andalusia, Murcia, Valencia, and other districts bordering the Mediterranean. The queen regent was not slow in adopting vigorous and popular measures to counteract the Carlists. With the aid of the provincial militia and volunteers, she disbanded in October, after some resistance and bloodshed, the royalist volunteers of the capital, and in Toledo. In the same month decrees were issued attacking the pervading system of privileges and monopolies; and commissions were appointed to remodel the laws respecting the post-office, the censorship of the press, and public education. At the same time a prudence was observed in not unnecessarily disturbing existing interests and prejudices, and the error in which the Spanish patriots had formerly lost themselves, by playing at the game of constitution-making, was especially shunned. Towards the end of the year, General Saarsfield had succeeded in driving the Carlist bands into their fastnesses, and the

civil war appeared nearly at an end. Unfortunately the successes of the Queenites were accompanied with the exercise of great cruelties on their opponents, which was both criminal and impolitic.

Oct. 25. Numerous meetings held about this time to pass resolutions against the payment of the assessed taxes. This day the populace rescued the property of Mr. Savage of Marylebone, which had been seized for arrears of taxes.

26. Harmer and Wilson, sheriffs, proceeded in person to make a levy on the goods of householders who had refused to pay the assessed taxes. It was only requisite to enforce the seizure in the case of one person, the others either paying the demand or allowing others to pay for them.

Nov. 4. The missionaries of a new French sect called *St. Simonians* appear in London. They inveigh against the corruption, chicanery, and slavery of society, but do not propound any intelligible scheme by which they can be obviated. They profess to seek or worship a mystical personage, designated the "Mother," whom they describe to be "the first woman of superior intelligence, who shall perceive the path which reason points out, and possesses sufficient moral courage to act upon the principle she has discovered." They wear a tunic coat, the neck uncovered, and a red waistcoat.

18. Sir John Herschel embarks for the Cape of Good Hope, for the purpose of making observations on the stars of the southern hemisphere.

19. Instructions issued from the Colonial Office, describing the measures necessary to be taken by the local authorities in the West Indies, in carrying into effect the Slavery Abolition Bill.

28. On a criminal trial in the Old Bailey, two witnesses appeared who refused to be sworn in the usual way, avowing themselves *atheists*. Counsel refused to interrogate them, and they withdrew from the court amidst strong expressions of disgust.

Numerous incendiary fires of barns and agricultural produce, in this and the preceding months. The counties in which these outrages chiefly occurred, were Norfolk, Suffolk, Northampton, Wiltshire, and Hampshire.

Dec. 2. Trial in the court of king's bench of W. J. Bankes, M.P., and a soldier, for sodomy. The Jury brought in a verdict of *not guilty*, and the foreman declared that the defendants would leave the court without a stain upon their characters.

2. The Anatomy Schools at Cambridge fired by the mob, the windows broken, and some of the skeletons and preparations

destroyed, in consequence of the discovery that the body of a pauper, instead of being interred, had been removed to the schools.

7. John Statlan, a noted incendiary, executed in front of Cambridge gaol. By a confession which he made, it appears that he destroyed eleven extensive barns successively, by the following plan: he rolled some combustible matter in a quantity of linen, which, at a favourable opportunity, he inserted in the stack. The property which he had been the means of destroying is calculated at the value of 60,000*l.*, and his sole motive was the paltry consideration of 6*s.* 6*d.*, which he was accustomed to receive for giving notice to the fire-office of the commencement of the calamity.

23. After several days' hearing, an important case, as affects religious trusts, was decided in the Vice-Chancellor's Court. The object of it was to take out of the hands of the trustees, members of a Unitarian chapel, certain funds known by the name of Dame Sarah Hewley's Charity, and left for the purpose of inculcating Trinitarian doctrines. The Vice was of opinion that the defendants, holding Unitarian opinions, were not objects of Lady Hewley's charity; and the Court, therefore, could not allow the charity any longer to be administered by trustees who denied the divinity of Christ and the doctrine of original sin.

23. The French Chambers opened by the King in person. The royal speech gave a flattering description of the state of France, both at home and abroad.

MISCELLANEA.—The present year, which has been unusually stormy, proved very disastrous to the shipping interest. The maritime losses recorded to the 15th inst. amounted to 20,000 tons of shipping.

Mr. Schmalz of Dresden has published a table of the number of deaf and dumb persons dispersed over the leading countries of Europe in the year 1830. It shows that in all the proportion is nearly the same, namely, one deaf and dumb in every 1539 of the general mass of the population.

It is computed that there are 13,000 blind persons in England and Wales.

It appears from the reports of the Commissioners of Excise Inquiry, that the number of *auctioneers* in England is 3040; Scotland, 378; Ireland, 278; total, 3686.

As a means of moral and architectural improvement in London, Mr. Smirke has offered some useful suggestions. He proposes to open handsome streets through St. Giles's and other central parts of the metropolis, now chiefly the resort of vice and wretchedness, and locate their inhabitants

in more commodious and economical dwellings erected on the unoccupied wastes and ground-plots in the environs of the capital.

STATISTICS OF POLAND.—According to returns made in 1833, the kingdom of Poland contains 453 towns, of which 212½ belong to the Crown, and 240½ are private property; 22,545 villages, of which 5296 belong to the Crown, and 17,249 are private property. The kingdom is divided into 2081 parishes and 5607 communes, which contain 485,176 houses, of which 401,257 are in the country and 83,919 in the towns. The male population amounts to 1,933,390; the female population to 1,981,275; total, 3,914,665. The population of the towns is 838,875; the rural population, 3,075,790. The number of Roman Catholics is 3,237,448; belonging to the Greek church, 106,936; Lutherans, 177,806; Reformed Calvinists, 3815; Jews, 383,102; Mahometans, &c., 5558.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—On his return from South America, Captain Lyon, the traveller; he commanded two of the expeditions sent out to explore the Arctic regions. William Bray, 97, antiquary, and editor of the "Memoirs of Evelyn." General Sir Banastre Tarleton, 78, an officer distinguished in the American war of independence, and twenty-two years M.P. for Liverpool. At Southampton, O'Keefe, 86, a popular dramatist. At St. Albans, Sir William Donville, 91, formerly a bookseller, and lord mayor on the occasion of the grand entertainment given in 1813 in Guildhall to the allied sovereigns. Earl Fitzwilliam, 86, a popular and patriotic Yorkshire nobleman of Whig principles. J. I. Smith, 67, keeper of the prints in the British Museum, and author of several works on the antiquities of London. Sir Christopher Robinson, 67, judge of the High Court of Admiralty. Dr. Babington, 76, father of the London physicians, and agreeable associate of the chief philosophers of the last half-century, from Priestley to Davy: a subscription amounting to 1300*l.* was raised for the erection of a monument to his memory in St. Paul's cathedral. Admiral Sir H. Blackwood, late commander at the Nore and groom of the bedchamber to the King. William Morgan, 56 years actuary to the Equitable Assurance Company, during which he had seen the rise of that association from a capital of a few thousands to one of several millions. At Paris, of an inveterate cancer in the throat, Savary, Duke of Rovigo, a faithful but servile instrument of Napoleon's despotism: since the accession of the Orleans family the Duke had been recalled from obscurity and made governor of Algiers. Agar Ellis, Lord

Dover, 36, a literary nobleman and patron of the arts, who was also the author of several historical works, and of some able articles both in the *Quarterly* and *Edinburgh Reviews*. George Granville Leveson Gower, first Duke of Sutherland, 75; for many years he was a Pittite, but voted in favour of the Reform Bill: he was a munificent patron of the arts, which he was well enabled to be by his vast income of 300,000*l.* per annum, formed by the union of the Stafford, Bridgewater, and Sutherland possessions. Godfrey Higgins, 62, a magistrate of Yorkshire, of a strong and original mind, who was the author of *Horæ Sabbaticæ*, in which he endeavoured to show that the Christian Sunday was a human and secular institution for the purpose of festivity, not worship. At Chelsea, of cholera, H. H. Haworth, an eminent botanist and entomologist. John Gordon Smith, M. D., 41, professor of medical jurisprudence in the London University, and author of some valuable works on that important subject. At Stapleton Park, near Bristol, Rajah Rammohun Roy, a learned Hindoo of the Brahminical caste, who sought to reform the idolatrous worship of his countrymen: he had resided three years in England, partly on a mission connected with the renewal of the charter of the East India Company, and evinced much curiosity respecting Christianity, but died in the Hindoo faith. Richard Heber, 60, formerly M. P. for Oxford, and celebrated bibliomaniac, which pursuit he enthusiastically followed with the advantages of celibacy and a large fortune. Mr. Heber's accumulation of books was immense: his houses in London, at Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent, were converted into vast depôts of literary stores. Notwithstanding all these pains, and occasionally of energy, Heber's life realized no object save that of merely collecting, and he died deserted by society, in seclusion, melancholy, and self-abandonment. He was passionately fond of letters, without becoming an author; a devoted admirer of parliamentary oratory, without once venturing, in the house of commons, to become a speaker. His will, after a long search, was found on a book-shelf, where it had been apparently carelessly thrown, and his vast collection of books, many of them in parcels that had never been opened, was dispersed by public auction. At Lewes, John Elman, 78, a practical agriculturist of nearly sixty years' experience, who contributed to improve the breed of Southdown sheep. In London, of apoplexy, Andrew Picken, 45, a Scotchman, who, after sustaining serious commercial reverses, produced several novels, tales, and compilations of consi-

derable merit and originality. At Paris, Marshal Jourdan, 71, almost the last representative of the military glories of the republic. Jourdan was among the first who discovered the ambitious views of Buonaparte, which lost him the confidence along with the favourable opinion of that dazzling adventurer. "Jourdan is a poor general," said Napoleon at St. Helena, "but he possessed the virtues rare among his competitors of honour, integrity, and humanity." At Calais, General Edward Stacken, after a changeful and adventurous career. He was an Irish Catholic, and in his youth was one of the aides-de-camp of Louis XV.; went to America with Lafayette; was on board Paul Jones's ship *Le Bon Homme Richard*, when she took the *Seraphis*; served in the East Indies under the Marquis de Bouillé; was at Coblenz with the emigrant French princes; was one of Napoleon's *détachés* on the rupture of the peace of Amiens; was a fellow-prisoner of the Duke d'Enghien, and died at a very advanced age a major-general in the British service. Henry George Herbert, second Earl of Carnarvon, 60; though his lordship started in political life as the friend of Mr. Fox, and was strongly attached to the Whig party, he gave a determined opposition to the Reform Bill. The neglect he experienced on the formation of the Grey ministry, and which arose from his bodily infirmities, was the imputed cause of this dereliction. William Sotheby, 77, the distinguished translator of Homer and of Wieland's Oberon.

A.D. 1834. TRADES' UNIONS.—In addition to ministerial changes, both in England and France, the final expulsion of Don Miguel from Portugal, and the passing of the poor law amendment act, the occurrences of the present year are diversified with the proceedings of the trade societies. These unions of operatives were not less active at Paris, Lyons, and Brussels, than in London, Dublin, Manchester, and Leeds. As workmen can only form effective combinations against their employers when their services are in urgent request, the existence of the numerous associations to keep up the price of labour are evidence of the industrial activity now pervading Europe. Up to the year 1824 the law of England made it a crime for workmen to combine, even in the most peaceable manner, for the purpose of obtaining a rise, or preventing a fall, of their wages. But in that year parliament abolished this invidious restriction, and workmen were allowed the same liberty in fixing the price of their labour that capitalists exercised in fixing the prices of their commodities. The old

law was inefficient as well as inequitable. It did not, in fact, prevent the offence it prohibited. Trades' unions were formed and maintained in the face of it. They existed in the metropolis and all the chief towns; and its chief tendency was to render proceedings, that would have been open, secret and stealthy. Besides keeping up the price of labour by the only just mode of sustaining its value, that of refusing to sell it, the unionists adopted regulations that infringed the liberty to others they sought to exercise themselves. The number of apprentices to be taken by masters and the time of their servitude was to be regulated by the union; the employment of any but regularly associated workmen was, if possible, to be prevented. They even claimed to regulate wages by the *rate of profit* derived from capital and from mechanical improvements. It is impossible to say how far these interferences with the liberty of others would have proceeded had they met no resistance, or not been defeated by their own inherent unreasonableness. In the course of the present year it will be seen that there was a succession of "*strikes*" among the most numerous and useful classes of workpeople both in London and the country. Consumers of products of all kinds, and of all ranks and degrees, appeared in danger of being reduced to their natural resources. The gasmen in London would not afford light; the tailors, shoemakers, builders, and shipwrights refused their aid; and the weavers and spinners of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Glasgow, in quick succession, became refractory. But the different crafts were all reduced to submission, either by the superior tact or greater means of their employers. Masters were determined to be masters, and having, in some instances, a show of reason on their side, their efforts at resistance were seconded by the public press, the magistrates, and the government. At Dorchester assizes advantage was taken of some statutes, little known or understood, to convict, and sentence to transportation, for belonging to illegal societies, and administering illegal oaths, six agricultural labourers. This conviction, which was unexpected, and thought to be severe, if not unjust, produced strenuous efforts to obtain a remission of punishment.

Jan. 1. During the last three months the storms have been almost perpetual, and the loss of shipping and human life unexampled. At Boulogne, 300 children have lost their fathers since the commencement of the herring season.

2. Died, aged 49, the Hon. G. Lamb, brother of Lord Melbourne, and author of an elegant translation of *Catullus*. In

1819, Mr. Lamb was put forward by the whigs, to contest the representation of Westminster, against the radicals, who had started Mr. Hobhouse. The contest lasted fifteen days, and terminated in favour of the whig candidate.

12. Death of Lord GRENVILLE, at Dropmore, in the 74th year of his age. He was third son of William Grenville, prime minister from 1763 to 1765. Mr. Grenville was private secretary to his brother, earl Temple, lord-lieutenant of Ireland in 1782; succeeded Mr. Burke as paymaster of the army in 1783; became speaker of the House of Commons in 1789; received a patent of peerage in 1790; and, thenceforward, became the representative, both in style and sentiment, of his relative, premier Pitt, in the upper house. In the following year he exchanged the seals of the home for the foreign department; the latter he retained till the resignation of Mr. Pitt in 1801. He was a statesman of considerable natural abilities, possessed of a sound judgment, correct memory, and an eloquence chaste, masculine, and commanding. He had studied the principles of political economy, the importance of which he appreciated; was versed in modern languages, international law, and the detail of European politics; could endure fatigue, and, like Mr. Pitt, had hardly any pursuit apart from his official duties. Business was not merely his ambition but amusement. Lord Grenville shared with Mr. Pitt in the intimations held out to the Catholics to facilitate the Irish union, and was more consistent and firm than his colleague in his efforts to redeem their joint engagements. During the thirteen months' administration of "All the Talents," in 1806-7, he rendered himself very unpopular by holding, with the office of first lord of the treasury, the profitable sinecure of auditor of the exchequer, which had been conferred upon him in 1795, and which he held till his death. His haughty diplomacy in 1793 hastened and exasperated the commencement of hostilities, in the pertinacious countenance of which he was foremost among the war-party. He supported the renewal of the war for the deposition of Napoleon in 1815; from which period he seldom took part in parliamentary discussion, except on the catholic question, when he steadily seconded the efforts of lords Grey, Lansdowne, and Holland, for emancipation. His lordship furnished some valuable annotations to an edition of Homer, privately printed, and was the author of several pamphlets; in one of which, published shortly before his death, he admitted the fallacious principle on which Mr. Pitt's sinking fund had been established.

15. A change of ministry took place in Spain, and M. Zea Bermudez was replaced as prime minister by Martinez de la Rosa; a literary character, and more decided liberal. This change was made by the queen-regent at the earnest request of the captains-general of Catalonia and Old Castile, Llander and Quesada.

20. At an interview between the deputation of the Nottingham meeting of Dissenters and earl Grey, his lordship declared the disposition of himself and colleagues to relieve the dissenters from the disabilities connected with marriage, burial, and registration; but that he would give his strenuous opposition to every attempt to remove the establishment, considering it the duty of every government to maintain an establishment of religion.

25. Lord Althorp declined to receive the Westminster deputation for the repeal of the assessed taxes, having already received deputations on the subject from every part of the metropolis; and he said ministers had already determined on their course in regard to these taxes.

29. Duke of Wellington unanimously elected chancellor of the university of Oxford, in the room of the late Lord Grenville. The ceremony of installation took place at Apsley House.

31. Baron Bayley retired from the bench at an advanced age. He had successively sat in the courts of common pleas, king's bench, and the exchequer. Sir W. Horne was first appointed to the vacancy, and resigned the office of attorney-general to fill it; but, changing his mind, Mr. John Williams succeeded Sir J. Bayley; sir John Campbell became attorney-general, and Mr. Peypys solicitor-general.

Incendiary fires in Forfarshire; supposed to be the first known in Scotland.

A law at Frankfort, which limited the marriages of Jews in that city to thirteen in the year, repealed.

FOREIGN TREATIES.—In this month a treaty was concluded between Austria, Russia, and Prussia, by which these powers mutually agreed to deliver up, on the demand of the aggrieved state, all persons accused of rebellion or treason, or of being engaged in any plot against the throne or the government. These stipulations were not to have a retrospective operation. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvi. 456.) A convention, concluded about the same period between Belgium and France, forms a contrast to the alliance of the despots. By this agreement it is stipulated that fugitives for crimes and offences, *not political*, shall be reciprocally delivered up by each country.

Feb. 1. Captain Wathen, of the 15th Hussars, charged, at the instance of his

Lieut.-Colonel, Lord Brudenell, with insubordination and unofficer-like conduct, after a trial at Cork, which lasted for 18 days, was honourably acquitted. His Majesty approved the finding of the court-martial, and directed the removal of Lord Brudenell.

2. General Romarino, at the head of 400 Italians and Poles, made an irruption into Savoy for the purpose of effecting a revolution; finding no support, they fell back on Geneva, where they made an unsuccessful attempt to excite insurrection, and were finally disarmed, and ordered to quit Switzerland.

4. Second session of the REFORMED PARLIAMENT opened by the king in person. His majesty congratulated them on the manner in which the bill for the abolition of slavery had been received in the Colonies; called their attention to the reports of the municipal corporations, ecclesiastical, and poor law commissions; and expressed his satisfaction at the good understanding which prevailed between the governments of Britain and France; mentioned the recognition of the young queen of Spain; and, in allusion to Turkey, declared that it would be his object to maintain the independence of that empire. He lamented the distress which prevailed among the occupiers of land; recommended the adjustment of tithes in Ireland; and expressed his determination to maintain inviolate the legislative union. The address in the lords was moved by the Duke of Sutherland, and seconded by Lord Howard of Effingham; in the commons by Mr. Shaw Lefevre and Mr. Morrison. They were agreed to in both houses without alteration.

5. Lord Althorp and Mr. Shiel ordered into the custody of the sergeant-at-arms. A report had been circulated, that some of the Irish members had privately declared themselves in favour of the Coercion Bill of last session, though they had voted against it. To the question,—“Who is the traitor?” an answer of Lord Althorp's implied that Mr. Shiel was one of them. An inquiry by a parliamentary committee showed that his lordship had been misinformed.

13. A strong feeling prevailed in the legislative assembly of Lower Canada against the governor, lord Aylmer, and the secretary for the colonies, Mr. Stanley, on account of their refusal to re-model the legislative council. Articles of impeachment were carried against lord Aylmer. The language of Mr. Stanley was described as “inconsiderate and insulting.”

14. The chancellor of the exchequer made his financial statement, and informed the house that the surplus revenue was 1,500,000*l.*, which, with a reduction of

500,000*l.* on the estimates, and 600,000*l.*, which he expected from an increase in the tea duty, in consequence of the opening of the China trade, would leave a surplus of 2,600,000*l.* This surplus would enable him to remit the house duty, and pay the 800,000*l.* interest on the grant of 20 millions to the West India proprietors, leaving the remainder for future consideration.

The Turkish government has determined on the establishment of a post for the regular conveyance of letters throughout the empire, and as a means of revenue.

Lord TEIGNMOUTH died at the advanced age of 83. His lordship was formerly governor-general of India, and president of the British and Foreign Bible Society from the period of its institution. As an author, his principal work is a “Life of Sir William Jones,” with whom he was intimately acquainted.

15. Business suspended at Lyons, in consequence of a general strike of the workmen for higher wages.

Many of the public-houses having become mere gin-shops, the home office has issued a paper, directing one of the magistrates at each of the metropolitan police-offices to examine them personally, in order to ascertain whether they have the necessary convenience for a working man to cook his dinner.

17. Died at Bath, aged 68, JOHN THELWALL, the public lecturer, and, during the excitement of the French revolution, popular agitator. He was born in London; was first a student at the Royal Academy, next an attorney's clerk, afterwards a student of medicine, then some other occupation; but his favourite pursuit was the political debating societies. He was the last survivor of the twelve who were sought to be victimized under a charge of constructive treason, in the state trials of 1794, (see Oct. 29.) Having escaped this danger, Mr. Thelwall tried farming, and at last settled down into a teacher of elocution, unmingled with politics. In this engagement he was successful, and after an itinerant course in the country, fixed his abode in London; taking pupils afflicted with impediments of speech, in the treatment of which he became celebrated. He was himself a striking instance of the success of his own powers in overcoming the imperfections of nature by art. His voice was originally feeble and husky, yet by perseverance he acquired an extraordinary distinctness of articulation, and even in the open air could make himself heard at a great distance.

26. Mr. Richardson, steward at Mr. Perkins, of Bletchingly, was murdered on Epsom Downs. A reward of 300*l.* was

offered for the apprehension of the murderer.

March 1. Corporation inquiry in the city of London closed. The city companies remain to be investigated by the commissioners, of which the only announced recusant is the Merchant Tailors.

After two nights' debate, the motion of Mr. Hume for substituting, instead of the present graduated scale of duties, a fixed and moderate duty on import, and a bounty on the export, with the ultimate view of establishing a free trade in corn, was rejected by 312 to 155. The president of the Board of Trade supported the motion; lord Althorp was theoretically in its favour, but did not think any urgent necessity existed for a change in the present system.

8. A general "strike" for higher wages took place among the persons employed by the London gas companies. Some inconvenience for a few nights was felt in consequence, but the masters having been apprised of the strike beforehand, in a short time the places of the men engaged in the combination were filled up by workmen from the country. They required that their wages should be advanced from 28s. a week to 35s., with an allowance besides of two pots of porter each per day.

11. A rencontre took place between some Jersey fishing-boats, which had in the night trespassed within the restricted limits of eight miles off the French coast, and a French armed cutter. One boat was taken, and the master of another shot. The coroner's inquest, held at Jersey, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against those who shot him.

13. Returns were published, from which it appears that the number of floggings in the army had, in the years 1830-31-32-33, been respectively 665, 646, 483, and 370. In the navy the number of corporal punishments were, in 1830, 2,022; 1831, 1,727; 1832, 1,762; 1833, 1,502.

Mr. C. Rippon's motion for the ejection of the bishops from the house of lords was lost, in the commons, by a majority of 125 to 58. It excited no discussion, ministers, without expressing their sentiments, simply voting against it.

14. A return published of the net expenses of the Penitentiary, Millbank, for the last year, from which it appeared that the number of prisoners was 566, and the expense of maintenance little short of 30*l.* a head.

Major Fancourt's motion for the abolition of military flogging was rejected by a majority of 227 to 94.

15. A numerous meeting of scientific and literary gentlemen and others was held at the rooms of the Horticultural

Society, for the purpose of forming a Statistical Society, for the collection and classification of facts relating to the present condition and prospects of mankind, and especially of the British empire. Lord Lansdowne in the chair; the resolutions were supported by Spring Rice, M.P., James Abercrombie, M.P., Professor Jones, and Messrs. Babbage, Hallam, and Drinkwater.

A branch of the Bank of England is about to be opened at Plymouth. This will be the fourteenth establishment in connection with the Bank.

17. At Dorchester assizes, six agricultural labourers convicted of a felony, in being members of an illegal society, and administering illegal oaths. It appeared that the system of many of the trades' unions had been adopted by these persons. The oaths were administered with a good deal of mummery, the persons taking them being blindfolded, and then shown the picture of a skeleton, death's head, &c. The prisoners were sentenced to seven years' transportation. Large meetings were held in London, Birmingham, and other parts of the country, to petition the crown in their favour. The subject was noticed in parliament, April 18, when Lord Howick denied that the convicts were ignorant men, since two of them were methodist preachers; and the documents found upon them showed that government had been enabled to deal with the ringleaders of a body, that, if not checked in its career, would have proceeded to a mischievous extent.

18. 3,000 workmen in the woollen manufacture struck at Leeds, in consequence of the determination of their employers only to employ those who would relinquish the trades' union.

21. A royal proclamation issued, by which an alteration is made in the distribution of naval prize-money; the most important parts of which are, that the flag officers are to have 1-16th, the captains and commanders 1-6th of the remainder, and the rest to be distributed among the subalterns and men, according to a fixed scale.

26. Lord Chancellor introduced a bill for the establishment of a central criminal court in the metropolis (See Aug. 15).

The widow of Burus, the poet, died of paralysis at her house in Dumfries. She was in the 72d year of her age, and had survived her husband 38 years.

27. The chamber of deputies, by a vote of 176 to 168, annulled a treaty concluded in 1831 by the Duke de Broglie and General Sebastiani, and refused to grant about 1,000,000*l.* which the ministry were pledged to pay to the United States

as an indemnity for the injuries inflicted during the last war, by the French, upon American ships and commerce. In consequence Broglio and Sebastiani resigned their places, and the ministry underwent almost a complete reconstruction; but Marshal Soult remained at the head.

29. The editor of the Tribune newspaper condemned to a fine of 24,000 francs (960*l.*), and five years' imprisonment, for a libel on the subject of political associations, and for encouraging the trade unionists of Lyons. The Tribune had been seized by the Government 95 times.

During this month the United States were much agitated by the declared determination of President Jackson to suppress the United States bank, and by the consequent withdrawal of the government deposits from the bank. The failure of 96 banks in the States about this time was attributed to this determination, in which the President was zealously opposed by the senate, and warmly supported by the house of representatives.

April 4. Sir Richard G. Keats, governor of Greenwich Hospital, died in his 84th year, and was succeeded by Sir Thomas Hardy. He was shipmate of the king at the commencement of his naval career; had charge of his instruction, and was with him in the engagement between Rodney and Langara, in 1780.

9. RIOTS IN FRANCE.— Serious riots broke out at Lyons, arising from the attempts of trades' unionists to interfere with the trial of some of their associates. Fighting between the work-people and the troops continued for several days, accompanied with a dreadful loss of life. The troops finally prevailed, and a telegraphic despatch of the 12th announced that "Lyons is free, and the suburbs are in possession of the troops." On the following day (the 13th) an insurrection broke out at Paris, which was speedily suppressed by the troops and the national guards. The insurrection was chiefly the work of republicans. The deputies, to the number of 288, presented a congratulatory address to the king on the occasion. The number killed was 51, of whom 12 belonged to the army. The number of persons killed at Lyons, during six days' fighting, was estimated at 5,000, of whom 1,700 were troops. The public buildings, and many hotels and dwelling-houses, were ruined or seriously injured in the struggle, which was the more protracted in consequence of General Aymar's unwillingness to expose his men in the narrow streets of the city.

10. The York column completed, and a statue of the Duke, by Westmacott, placed on the summit. Mr. B. Wyatt was the architect. Independent of the bronze

statue it cost 15,760*l.*, raised by subscription. The total height is 137 feet.

10. RAJAH of COORG.—The peace of India had been disturbed by hostilities with the rajah of Coorg, an independent prince with whom we were in alliance. After a skirmishing but sharp warfare of upwards of a week, between the British forces under colonel Lindsay, and those of the rajah, the latter were defeated on all points, and the prince himself surrendered unconditionally. He is to be deposed, and his dominions annexed to the company's territories. The following is the total loss of the British in killed and wounded:— Europeans, 14 commissioned officers; 139 non-commissioned, rank, and file. Natives—2 commissioned officers; 144 non-commissioned, rank and file, and dressers. Total, Europeans and natives—16 commissioned officers, 233 non-commissioned, rank and file, and dressers.

15. A serious riot at Oldham in consequence of the apprehension of two men belonging to the trades' union of that place. One factory was nearly destroyed, and one person killed. Eight of the rioters were afterwards convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from 6 to 18 months.

17. Lord Althorp introduced the ministerial propositions for the amendment of the poor laws.—(See Aug. 15.)

21. A meeting of trades unionists, held in Copenhagen-fields, for appointing a deputation to wait on the home-secretary and present a petition for the remission of the sentence on the Dorchester convicts. The deputation proceeded to the home-office, accompanied with a vast procession through the streets, and was received by Mr. Phillips, who stated that lord Melbourne declined receiving the petition under such circumstances of intimidation, but if it were presented in a proper manner he would lay it before the king. The procession next proceeded to Kennington common and quietly dispersed. The petition was afterwards presented. The numbers assembled were estimated at 25,000, of whom—tailors, 5000; carpenters, 3194; bricklayers, 1845; plumbers, 930; bricklayers' labourers, 2500.

21. The chancellor of the exchequer moved resolutions for the abolition of church rates, and substituting in their place a grant out of the land tax amounting to 250,000*l.* a year. The resolutions were agreed to by a majority of 256 to 140. The bill, founded upon them, was afterwards dropped, from the mutual dissatisfaction of dissenters and churchmen.

22. QUADRUPLE TREATY.—A treaty of this date, concluded in London, by Britain France, Spain, and Portugal, having for

its object the pacification of the two peninsular kingdoms. 1. Spain and Portugal mutually engage to assist each other in the expulsion from their respective territories of Don Carlos and Don Miguel. 2. Britain engages to co-operate by employing a *naval force*. 3. France engages to do all that the contracting parties in common accord shall determine upon. Some of the chief objects of this alliance it will be seen (*May 9*) were soon after accomplished.

Mr. O'Connell brought forward his motion, tending to the repeal of the union. He spoke for six hours. Mr. Spring Rice spoke for six hours next night in reply, and the discussion lasted for six nights. On a division, the numbers for repeal were 38, and against it 523. Mr. Kennedy was the only English member who voted in the minority. An address to the throne was afterwards agreed to, which was unanimously adopted by the lords, and presented to his majesty by deputations from both houses.

25. A royal mandate of this date abolishes the exclusive privilege of sergeants-at-law to plead in the court of common-pleas, and throws open the court to the entire bar.

28. A general "strike" of the journey-men tailors in London, by which 13,000 men are thrown out of employment. The tailors in several other towns struck in imitation of those of the metropolis. At a meeting of the master-tailors in London on the 29th, it was decided by a very large majority, that only those journeymen should be re-employed who would sign a declaration that they had ceased to be connected with any trade's union. After holding out several weeks, the men returned to their work on the terms of the masters.

May 7. Don Pedro issues a decree equalizing the amount of duties on imported goods, and thus annuls the exclusive privilege enjoyed by England in the trade with Portugal. The difference in our favour was, in some instances, 15 per cent.; but we had ourselves set the example of removing invidious distinctions between nations. In 1831 the duties on foreign wines were equalised, and the wines of France admitted at the same rate as those from our old ally, Portugal.

9. The chancellor of the exchequer moved resolutions for the reduction of the Four per Cent. Annuities. The amount of that stock was 11,000,000*l.* and the saving to the public would be about 53,000*l.* a-year.

The poor law bill was read a second time in the commons, by a majority of 319 to 20.

2. A decisive battle gained by the troops of

Don Pedro, on the heights of Thomar, over those of Don Miguel. Two days after they entered Santarem, which had been evacuated by Don Miguel. Don Miguel and Don Carlos finally embarked in British vessels, the former for Italy and the latter for England. A convention was entered into with Don Miguel, by which he is to receive from Portugal an income of 12,000*l.* a-year, and enjoy the rank of prince of the blood, and in return engages to give up the crown jewels, never to return to any part of the peninsula, or any way concur in disturbing its tranquillity. A protest appeared in the course of the year, in Don Miguel's name, against some parts of the treaty, of which the cortes of Portugal availed themselves to annul the treaty altogether, and to discontinue the pension of the prince. He was in consequence reduced to great poverty, and he ultimately became a pensioner of the Pope.

10. Birmingham political union dissolves itself.

15. A motion of Mr. Tennyson, for shortening the duration of parliament, rejected by a majority of 235 to 185.

18. Mr. Jeffrey created a judge of session; Mr. Murray, member for Leith, succeeds him as lord advocate.

20. Died at Paris, aged 76, general the marquis de LAFAYETTE, a popular and distinguished name of modern history. His father was slain at Minden. At 16 he married the daughter of the duke d'Ayen, still younger than himself. Weary of the frivolities of the capital, he joined the Americans in their struggle for independence. He fought by the side of Washington, and decided the freedom of the new world by the alliance of France. When philosophy, which had been but a pastime for nobis idlers, demanded sacrifices from them, Lafayette was the first to set an example, contributing powerfully in the states-general to the junction of the orders; and, by way of recompense, was appointed commander of the national guard. Apprehensive of anarchy, he denounced, in 1792, the Jacobin club to the national assembly. The majority, which at first supported the general, gradually fell away, and no resource was left to him, but either a dishonourable recantation, a death inglorious and unavailing, or the chances of a retreat into some neutral territory. He was made prisoner by the Austrians, who, during four years, kept him in close confinement. The treatment he received from the allies, showed that they were not disposed to tolerate even a moderate reformer; for Lafayette had tried to arrest the progress of the revolution under a constitutional monarchy. He visited the United States in 1824, and

was enthusiastically received by the citizens. After the events of 1830 he might have been head of the French republic, but contented himself with his old appointment of chief of the civic guard; a distinction which, in a few months, he abandoned in disgust. Prince Talleyrand said he had extinguished himself by his resignation and nothing remained "but the *smuff*." His character was precisely a contrast to that of this diplomatic trickster. The prominent trait of Lafayette was a noble disinterestedness. This was almost in extreme; for it left an opening to men less able and deserving, and both lessened his usefulness and reputation for ability. It has been said of him—(*Foreign Quarterly Review*)—that "he had the moderation of Washington without his wisdom; his simplicity but not his strength; his amiability disjoined from his activity and foresight. He was therefore always respected and always forgotten." The Parisians showed their respect to his memory by attending his funeral in immense numbers; 200,000 are supposed to have been present. His simple monumental designation—*Requiescat in pace*—in the private cemetery of Piepsa cannot be gainsaid by friends or detractors.

21. **SMUGGLING.**—An interesting French report has been published, of the extent to which smuggling is carried on between France and England. It is calculated that, in 1826, not less than about 45,000 cwt. of English manufactures were smuggled into France through the Netherlands by means of dogs. Dogs had been taken by the custom-house officers with burdens valued at 3*l.* to 4*8*s.** each. It appears that between 1820 and 1830, 40,278 of these smuggling dogs had been destroyed, and 4,833*s.* had been paid as premiums for their destruction, but the trade is nevertheless on the increase. The amount of duties evaded by the smuggling of French goods to England in 1831 was calculated at 800,000*l.* This is exclusive of tobacco, of which great quantities are imported without paying duty.

22. A motion for the repeal of the stamp duty on newspapers is rejected in the commons by a majority of 90 to 58. A motion for the appointment of authentic reporters had the same fate.

24. Session of the French chambers closed.

27. **MINISTERIAL RESIGNATIONS.**—Mr. Ward made his motion relative to the Irish church. In an able speech he described the unsettled state of Ireland; said that since 1819 it had been necessary to maintain an army there of 22,000 men, which cost a million per annum, exclusive of a police force that cost 300,000*l.* more, both of which he ascribed chiefly to the main-

tenance of a religious establishment not in unison with popular opinion. He concluded by moving, "That the protestant episcopal establishment in Ireland exceeds the spiritual wants of the protestant population; and that it being the right of the state to regulate the distribution of church property in such manner as parliament may determine, it is the opinion of this house, that the temporal possessions of the church of Ireland, as now established by law, ought to be reduced." Mr. Grote seconded the motion. After the mover and seconder had concluded, lord Althorp announced that he had just received communications which induced him to move that the house should adjourn till June 2, which was agreed to. It appeared that there existed a difference of opinion in the cabinet as to the mode in which Mr. Ward's motion should be met, a majority being in its favour, while the rest could not assent to its principle. It was in the end determined to issue a commission, with ample instructions to inquire into the actual condition of the Irish church, both with regard to its ministers and members. But the dissentient minority of the cabinet could neither assent to a commission of inquiry, nor to Mr. Ward's motion; inferring, that if the commission reported, as was anticipated, that the temporal possessions of the church exceeded its spiritual wants, then there would be a surplus, that, agreeably to Mr. Ward's motion, would be at parliamentary disposal, to be applied either to lay or ecclesiastical purposes. To the appropriation of church property to other than ecclesiastical uses, Mr. Stanley, Sir James Graham, the earl of Ripon, and the duke of Richmond, could not assent, and resigned their places in the ministry. The following appointments took place in consequence:—colonial secretary, Mr. Spring Rice; first lord of the admiralty, lord Auckland; lord privy seal, earl of Carlisle; master of the mint, Mr. Abercrombie; post-master general, marquis of Conyngham; president of the board of trade, Mr. Poulett Thomson; secretary of the treasury, Mr. Francis Baring; and Mr. Ellice, the secretary at war, was introduced into the cabinet. On resuming the adjourned debate, lord Althorp announced the ministerial changes, and the appointment of the church commission; but Mr. Ward, notwithstanding, pressed his motion to a division, which was negatived by 396 to 120.

27. By a decision of the general assembly of the church of Scotland, an important change has been effected in the exercise of church patronage in that country. Lord Moncrieff, a judge of session, moved that no person shall be appointed to a living

who is disapproved of by a majority of the heads of families in communion with the church, and the motion was carried by a majority of 184 to 138.

23. Being the anniversary of the king's birth-day, the Irish prelates, headed by the archbishop of Armagh, presented an address to his majesty, in which they strongly deprecated ecclesiastical innovations. The king did not satisfy himself with the common formal answer, but delivered an extempore address of considerable length, in which he warmly expressed his attachment to the church. He said (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvi. 44) that he had always been friendly to toleration in its utmost altitude, but opposed to licentiousness, and that he was fully sensible how much both the protestant church and his own family were indebted to the revolution of 1688. "The words," said he, "which you hear from me, are spoken from my mouth, but they proceed from my heart."

Don Pedro issued a decree abolishing all convents and monasteries in Portugal; and shortly after another decree abolishing the privileges of the Oporto wine company.

June 3. On the motion of Mr. Buckingham, in the commons, a select committee is appointed to inquire into the causes, extent, and remedies of drunkenness. On the motion of Mr. C. Grant, a committee appointed to inquire into the means of promoting communication with India by steam. In place of Mr. Roebuck's motion, for inquiring into the means of establishing national education, an amendment, moved by lord Morpeth, was substituted, for inquiring into the application of a grant of last session, for erecting school houses.

An inquest held on the bodies of Matilda Archer, aged 19, and Mary Ann Perry, aged 18; the jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*. It appeared that the two young women, on the previous night, had tied their wrists tightly together with a silk handkerchief, and thrown themselves into the Thames, where they were found drowned next morning.

FRENCH COMMERCE.—An ordinance appeared in the *Moniteur*, making considerable alterations in the commercial intercourse between England and France. The prohibition on the import and export of certain articles removed; the tonnage of English vessels admitted into French ports reduced; and cotton yarns, chain cables, and other articles, are to be admitted on payment of a fixed duty. This is the commencement of a more liberal system; and it appears, from the Reports of Messrs. Bowring and Villiers, that the French are becoming more alive to the advantages of

free-trade. Owing to restrictions and monopolies, the foreign commerce of France has made much less progress within the last half century, than either her agriculture or her manufactures. The value of her imports and exports together amounted, in 1787, to 25,000,000*l.* sterling; in 1830, they amounted to no more than 25,500,000*l.*, notwithstanding an increase in the population of the country from twenty-four to thirty-three millions. The small share she possesses of the immense export trade of England places in a strong light the oppressive operation of the anti-commercial regulations to which she has subjected herself. In 1830, while our exports to all Europe amounted to 34,275,387*l.*, those to France amounted only to 659,057*l.*, or about a fifty-second part of the whole. Among the European countries to which shipments of British goods were made, France ranked only the *ninth* in importance. In 1831, she ranked as an eighth, and received a thirty-eighth part of the exports from England to the whole of Europe.

4. The Antigua legislature dispensed with the apprenticeship clause in the Slavery Abolition Bill, and declared that the slaves in that colony should be entirely free from August 1st.

10. The installation of the duke of Wellington as chancellor of Oxford university takes place with much pomp, and a strong display of conservative feeling.

13. About this period the greater part of the Leeds trades' unionists, who had been long out of employment in consequence of a strike, returned to their work at the mills. About 45 mills and dressing-shops had been standing for many weeks.

17. The census of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land taken in September, 1833, was published. In the former the number of males was 44,643, and of females, 16,151. The population of Sydney was 16,232.

18. Don Carlos landed at Portsmouth with his family and suite. Three weeks after he left England, and suddenly appeared among his adherents in Spain.

Mr. Robert Grant is appointed Governor of Bombay, and has been succeeded by Mr. C. Fergusson as judge-advocate.

24. The grand musical festival, given in Westminster Abbey, for the benefit of the various musical societies, commenced. Their majesties attended it in state for four days. The number of performers amounted to 625, and the proceeds amounted to 22,000*l.*, the clear profits to 9,000*l.*

Messrs. Raphael and Illidge elected sheriffs of London and Middlesex. The former is the first catholic who has held

the office since the expulsion of the Stuarts.

A sanguinary battle was fought at the fair of Ballyheagh, by the clans of Coleen and Lawlor. About 1,000 men, independent of women, were engaged in the bloody affray. Many were killed, and about 18 drowned in the river.

25. Admiral Napier arrived at Portsmouth in the Braganza frigate, and was welcomed with great enthusiasm by the inhabitants. His share of the prize-money for the capture of the Miguelite fleet, (valued at 120,000*l.*) was stated to be 16,000*l.*

28. Strike of the shoemakers of Derby. Colocotroni and Colliopul were convicted of treason at Nauplia, and sentenced to death. The sentence was afterwards commuted to 20 years imprisonment.

30. The editor of the *Morning Post* committed to custody by the lords, for a libel on the lord chancellor, charging his lordship with making a false entry of a decision of the house. Two days after he was discharged on acknowledging his error, and payment of fees.

The government prosecutions for libel since the king's accession have been six. In these causes the defendants were;—William Cobbett, William Alcock Haley, Richard Carlile, John Ager, Patrick Grant, John Bell, Henry Hetherington, and Thomas Stevens.

July 1. Earl Grey proposed in the house of lords the renewal of the Irish Coercion Bill, with the exception of the court-martial clauses, which were omitted.

3. A warm altercation in the commons between Mr. Littleton and Mr. O'Connell, on the Irish Coercion Bill. It appeared that Mr. Littleton had confidentially communicated to Mr. O'Connell, that the clauses in the bill prohibitory of meetings were not demanded by the Irish government and would not be pressed; nevertheless the obnoxious clauses appeared in the bill, and Mr. O'Connell considered that a deception had been practised, and that the communication had secured advantages over him which would not have been possessed, and which dissolved the obligation of secrecy, under which the communication had been made. On the 7th, Lord Althorp stated that Mr. Littleton had sufficient ground for the hope he had intimated to Mr. O'Connell, that the obnoxious clauses would be omitted; but feeling the unpleasant position in which he stood in having acted on that anticipation, Mr. Littleton had tendered his resignation; but had been prevailed upon to remain in office. A stormy debate then ensued on a motion of Mr. O'Connell

for copies of the correspondence between the lord lieutenant of Ireland and ministers, which was negatived by 159 to 54.

5. The queen embarked at Woolwich for the continent, to visit her relatives at Meinengen. Her majesty travels incognito, under the title of the countess of Lancaster.

9. RESIGNATION OF EARL GREY.—The resignation of Earl Grey had been preceded by that of lord Althorp, who found himself unable to carry the Irish Coercion Bill through the commons, with the clauses against public meetings, after it had become known that the lord lieutenant had advised the dispensing with these clauses, and that there was a difference of opinion in the cabinet on the necessity of their retention. Without the assistance of lord Althorp as ministerial leader in the commons, Earl Grey considered himself unable to carry on the government, and resigned. His lordship had passed his seventieth year; and, from declining health, the infirmities of age, and weariness of official life, had wished to retire at the close of last session, but had been prevailed upon by his colleagues to continue in office. The main objects with which his administration commenced had been effected:—Parliamentary reform, the great object of his public exertions, had been accomplished; peace had been maintained, without national dishonour; and taxes repealed to the amount of four and a half millions. The explanations of the seceding ministers were given on the 9th. Earl Grey was listened to with profound attention, and at one moment was so overpowered by his feelings, that he was compelled to sit down, which interval the duke of Wellington filled up by presenting some petitions. His lordship had held office, as premier, three years, seven months, and twenty-two days, which exceeded the term of his predecessor, the duke of Wellington, by nearly one year and a half. Since 1754, only four premiers have held office for a longer period, namely, the duke of Newcastle eight years, lord North twelve, Mr. Pitt upwards of seventeen, and lord Liverpool nearly fifteen years.

15. Marshal Soult quitted the French ministry, and was succeeded as president of the council and minister at war by marshal Gerard.

16. A riot took place at Madrid, in consequence of some misapprehensions relative to the cholera; the populace imagined the fountains had been poisoned, and about seventy persons were killed, chiefly monks. The number of persons who died of cholera in that capital from

this period to the 21st of August was calculated at 5,000.

17. Died M. A. Taylor, M. P. aged 77. He was an old friend of Mr. Fox, and distinguished for his persevering exposition of chancery abuses. Since the retirement of Mr. Coke, he had been the father of the commons, having been a member of that assembly for fifty years.

MELBOURNE CABINET.—The completion of the ministry was announced in the commons by lord Althorp. His lordship had consented to resume his office. The following is the list of the new cabinet:—

Viscount Melbourne, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Viscount Althorp, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Brougham, *Lord High Chancellor.*
Marquis of Lansdowne, *Lord President of the Council.*

Earl of Mulgrave, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Viscount Duncannon, *Home Secretary.*

Viscount Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*

Spring Rice, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Auckland, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Charles Grant, *President of India Board.*
Marquis of Conyngham, *Postmaster General.*

Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster.*

Lord John Russell, *Paymaster of the Forces.*

E. J. Littleton, *Secretary for Ireland.*

21. The lord chancellor expatiated at considerable length on the principles which should regulate the administration of relief to the poor, and concluded with moving in the lords, the second reading of the poor laws amendment bill. The motion was supported by the duke of Wellington, and other opposition peers, and agreed to by a majority of 76 to 13.

23. The circulation of paper money abolished by Don Pedro in Portugal, and a metallic currency established.

25. The amount of legacies, donations, &c., made to different charities in France, during the year 1833, was stated to be 160,000l.

Died at Highgate, aged 62, SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE, the celebrated poet and metaphysician. This respected literator had long suffered under acute illness, and for the last thirteen months, as he told a friend, had walked seventeen hours in his chamber each day. He was the son of the vicar of St. Mary Ottery in Devonshire; was educated at Christ's Hospital, and went to Cambridge on one of the exhibitions belonging to that foundation. Like other ingenuous minds, he was smitten

with the opening buds of the French revolution, and while under their influence projected, in conjunction with Southey and Lovell, who had married three sisters, the establishment of a community in America upon more elementary principles than those predominant in Europe. Mr. Coleridge possessed great conversational powers; and William Hazlitt, who heard him preach at the Unitarian chapel at Taunton, has left a graphic description of his impressive appearance and pulpit oratory. As traveller, public lecturer, and general writer for the press, Mr. Coleridge had opportunities for extensive observation on the diversities of human life and character; but the variety appears to have perplexed rather than simplified his intellectual deductions. His later writings partook of the vague obscurities of German idealism, in which the realities of life are lost amidst mystic and impracticable contemplations. The English Goëthe, like his prototype, combining with religious feeling a poet's fancy and temperament, the uncongenial pursuit of a metaphysician's analysis appears to have wrought out few definite and tangible conclusions in the perplexities of moral and political philosophy.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward a second budget, and announced that the surplus for the year was 2,177,030l. and that it was his intention to take off the house tax and other taxes to the amount of a million and a half.

27. Earl Bathurst died, aged 72. He was colonial secretary for 16 years, and president of the council during the Wellington administration. His lordship was a feeble, embarrassed speaker, and of little ability. The order of the Garter he held was given to the Duke of Norfolk.

31. French chamber of deputies opened with a pacific speech from the King. The government had acquired strength by the late elections.

Aug. 1. A public dinner given at the Freemasons' Tavern, to celebrate the termination of West Indian slavery. The Earl of Mulgrave, the late governor of Jamaica, was in the chair, and the most active public supporters of emancipation were present, as were also several gentlemen of colour from the West Indies. The dissenters generally throughout the country celebrated the same event in their chapels. At Hull, the first stone of the Wilberforce testimonial was raised.

REMARKABLE AFFAIR.—Three persons, Edwards, Weedon, and Lacossayne, tried at the Middlesex sessions for attempting to obtain by force certain title-deeds, and a check for 800l. from Mr. Gee, a solicitor of Bishop-Stortford, on the 12th of last

May. The trial lasted thirteen hours, and the two former were found guilty of conspiring to imprison Mr. Gee, and the latter of a common assault: they were respectively sentenced to two years, one year, and six months' imprisonment. The case had excited great interest, owing to its novel circumstances. Mr. Gee was professionally employed by a person who stated herself to be a widow, of the name of Canning, to invest the sum of 2,000*l.* for her benefit. He invested 1,200*l.* of this sum, and placed the remaining 800*l.* in the hands of his banker. Mr. Gee, having been by specious pretences seduced to a house in York Street, Commercial Road, was there seized by three men, and forced through the back kitchen into a recess walled with strong boards, and plastered with mud and soil. He was there fastened by chains and cords to a board which served for a seat, and to two pieces of wood, so that he could scarcely move. The men then extorted from him an order for the title-deeds of the invested property of Mrs. Canning, and a check for the 800*l.* This was stated to be the price of his release, and was yielded by him in the fear of being murdered. One of the men, who was *blind*, and seemed the leader of the party, then went away with the order and the check, leaving the other men in charge of their prisoner. When Mr. Gee was left by himself, he contrived by extreme exertion to force up the chain across his breast, and to make his escape. Information having been given of these facts at the Lambeth-street Police-office, the three men were apprehended the next day. The blind man, Edwards, was a teacher of music, and had hired the house but a few days previously, and had the den constructed according to his directions, for the special purpose to which it was applied. He did not deny his part in the business, but justified it as a means of obtaining for Mrs. Canning that justice which had been quietly sought in vain. The transaction was elucidated by the fact, that Mrs. Canning had been married, under a false name, to Edwards, and that she had only a life interest in the property in question, which she was to retain while she remained a widow, and no longer.

Earl Radnor's bill for the admission of dissenters into the universities, thrown out of the lords by 102 to 85.

Leghorn opened as an entirely free port, by the cessation of the duty of one per cent. upon merchandize by sea.

5. Great inundations from heavy rains in the midland and northern counties, particularly in the vicinity of Birmingham and Manchester. Some lives were lost, and the destruction of property considerable.

At the Chester assizes, two men, named

Garside and Mosley, were indicted for the murder of Mr. Thomas Ashton, on the 3d of January, 1831. The murdered person was manager of a mill at the period when there was a dispute between the masters and *turn-outs* at Werneth. He was killed by a shot while passing through a lane on his way to the mill. The principal witness against the prisoners was the brother of Mosley, who was himself a party in the murder, but was admitted king's evidence against the others. It transpired on the trial that the prisoners had no personal ill-will to Mr. Ashton, but had undertaken the assassination in consideration of receiving 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* each, from the trades' union, to which Mr. Ashton had become obnoxious. The prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to death; but the execution was delayed in consequence of a dispute between the sheriffs of the county and those of the city of Chester, each party contending that the duty devolved on the other of seeing the sentence carried into effect. They were finally executed at Horsemonger-lane, pursuant to an award of the court of King's Bench, made on the motion of the attorney-general, Nov. 6, who cited several cases to justify the interference of the court; among them that of the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh. Subsequently an act was passed (1 Wm. 4. c. 1.) settling the duties of the sheriffs.

Admiral Sir Richard King, commander-in-chief in the Medway, died, aged 61, and was succeeded by Admiral Fleming. He was one of Nelson's captains at the battle of Trafalgar, and had the command on the East India station from 1816 to 1820.

8. General Sir John Doyle, died in his 78th year. He served in the four quarters of the globe, was present at twenty-three general engagements, and received public thanks on nine different occasions.

10. The Glasgow turn-out calico printers, after a nine months' struggle, have been compelled to yield to their employers. This strike has cost the employed 12,000*l.* to support the refractory.

11. The Irish Tithe Bill was rejected in the Lords by a majority of 189 to 122.

14. A great Protestant meeting, consisting chiefly of nobility and gentry, held at Dublin, and resolutions passed in support of the established church.

15. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—The king in person prorogued parliament. After adverting to the principal labours of the session, he intimated that the important subjects of jurisprudence and municipal corporations would be introduced next session. The legislative business of the year had fallen short of that transacted in 1833, partly from ministerial disagree-

ments and changes, and partly from the refusal of the lords to concur in measures sent up to them from the commons. Among the bills which passed the commons, and which were either rejected or so altered by the lords as to preclude the concurrence of the commons, were those relative to Jewish disabilities,—admission of dissenters into the universities—prevention of parliamentary corruption in Warwick—the Bribery Bill and the Coroners' Court Bill—which last was lost by the lords rejecting a clause declaring coroners' courts open courts. The two principal measures that became law were the Central Criminal Court Act and the Poor Law Amendment Act. The first of these measures was intended to improve the administration of the criminal law in the metropolis. It extends the jurisdiction of the Old Bailey Court over a population of about 1,700,000, not only in Middlesex, but in parts of Surrey, Kent, and Essex; leaving to the Middlesex sessions, at Clerkenwell, the trial of offences punishable with not more than seven years' transportation. The Old Bailey sessions to be held twelve times a year at the least, and oftener if necessary, in the city of London or the suburbs. This measure effected a great improvement in the judicial administration of the metropolis; and the outlines of it are said to have been given to the lord chancellor by an eminent barrister.

The most important measure of the session was the *Poor Law Amendment Act*. It was founded on inquiries and suggestions made by itinerant commissioners, who had been appointed to investigate the abuses of the poor-law administration and suggest remedies. Their suggestions were adopted by large majorities of both houses of parliament, consisting of all political parties, and excited little popular opposition, though effecting a great change in the mode of treating the indigent classes. The chief reasons upon which the new legislation was founded were the burdensome amount of the poor-rates—the temptations to improvident habits they held out—the superior condition of the pauper to an independent labourer—mal-administration of the laws through the interference of magistrates, and equality of voting—the payment of wages out of the rates—the granting of out-door allowances to able-bodied labourers—encouragement afforded to incontinence, by the allowances granted to mothers for the maintenance of illegitimate children—litigation, in consequence of the settlement-laws, &c. For the remedy of these evils, the relief of the poor was placed under the control of three commissioners appointed by the crown, who are authorised to make rules for the manage-

ment of the poor, the government of work-houses, the conduct of guardians, vestries, and officers, the keeping of accounts, and making of contracts. They are also empowered to appoint assistant commissioners with similar powers, to form unions of parishes, and, in short, to direct and control every matter connected with the relief of the poor in England and Wales.

A third act for amending the statute of 1830 (see p. 891), allowing the retail of beer by an *excise licence*, effected important changes in the original measure. Complaints had been made of the ill-management of the beer-houses, and the new act prohibits persons selling beer to be drunk on the premises, unless expressly licensed to do so. Persons desiring to be so licensed must annually produce to, and deposit with the commissioners of excise, a certificate of good character from six inhabitants of the parish, rated at six pounds a-year each; and that they are so rated must be attested by the certificate of the overseer. Alterations were also made in the licence duties.

The session began with a formidable array of business. At the close of the preceding session there were standing in the order-book 134 notices of motions; to this number 61 more notices were added on the first day of the session; and it is supposed 200 more notices were given in the course of the session: making a total of about 400 projects of reform and change to be discussed during the six months' sitting of parliament. It is needless to say that many of these unborn legislative schemes never saw the light. Among them were projects for the occasional sitting of parliament in Dublin—that the commons should rise before dinner—for a tax on Irish absentees—for the repeal of the Royal Marriage act—for securing open spaces in towns for public walks—for the abolition of the hereditary peerage—for taking elections by ballot—for the abolition of subscription to the 39 Articles in the universities—for giving publicity to lists of divisions in the house—for amending the laws against drunkenness, &c. Among measures, salutary or popular, perfected in this second session of the reformed parliament, the following may be enumerated:—

Repeal of the house-tax, amounting to 1,200,000*l.*

Abolition of the duty on almanacs.

Reduction of the interest of the 4 per Cents. of 1826, by which a saving of 50,000*l.* per annum was effected.

A second grant of 20,000*l.* for building schools in England.

A grant, for the first time, for building schools, of 10,000*l.* for Scotland.

Abolition of penalties on marriages celebrated in Scotland by catholic priests.

Reform of the exchequer, by which 30,000*l.* a-year will be saved.

Abolition of sinecure offices in the house of commons, and limitation of salaries. Facilities granted for the admission and circulation through the post-office of foreign newspapers.

Colonization of South Australia on an improved principle.

The royal assent was given to 143 private bills, of which the following is a classification:—agriculture, 18; companies, 7; improvements of towns and districts, 54; internal communications, 34; navigation, 9; private regulation, 21.

In reckoning up the parliamentary work of the year, that done by select committees of the two houses ought not to be forgotten. Among the committees appointed by the house of commons, and most of which made reports, while all diligently investigated to a greater or less extent the subjects with the examination of which they were charged, may be mentioned those on sinecure offices; on the law of libel; on the grievances complained of by certain of the inhabitants of Lower Canada; on the cases of Mr. Harvey, Mr. Buckingham, the Baron de Bode, and Mr. Gurney; on steam-navigation to India; on medical education; on the tea duties; and on the general state of the education of the poor in England and Wales.

Aug. 18. The working builders in London, to the number of 10,000, struck, in consequence of a declaration of the masters requiring them to renounce trades' unions.

A general strike among the artisans employed by government. All of them were offered employment if they would sign a declaration that they did not belong to any union. Only a very small number signed, and the rest relinquished their work.

22. Mr. Frankland Lewis, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, and Mr. Nicholls, appointed Poor Law Commissioners under the new act. Mr. Chadwick appointed secretary to the board.

27. The *Cameleon* revenue cutter run down by the *Castor* frigate, in the daytime, off Dover; and out of 19 only five of the crew were saved. The officer of the watch on board the frigate was afterwards dismissed the service in pursuance of the sentence of a court-martial.

30. Don Carlos and his heirs excluded from the throne of Spain by a decision of the Cortes.

There is this year a great diminution of Irish labourers employed in getting in the

harvest. It augurs well for the state of home labour in Ireland, while it restores to the English labourer an advantage of which he has for many years past been deprived.

The old ship, the *Discovery*, in which Captain Cook sailed round the world, has been removed from Woolwich, and is now moored off Deptford as a receiving-ship for convicts.

At the great annual sheep-fair held at Britford, near Salisbury, upwards of 80,000 sheep and lambs were sold; lambs fetching 30*s.*, ewes, 34*s.*, and wethers 35*s.* each.

Sept. 2. Mr. Telford, the celebrated civil engineer, died at his house, Abingdon-street, aged 77, and eight days afterwards his remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey. His great works are the Caledonian Canal, the Cunway-bridge, the Holyhead Road, and the Menai-bridge. He was a native of the parish of Westerkirk, Dumfriesshire. By his will he left Mr. Southey, the poet, 500 guineas, which sum by a codicil he doubled.

Admiral Sir Benjamin Hallowell Carew died at Beddington Park, aged 74. He was a native of Canada, and took the name of Carew on succeeding to a large fortune. He fought under Rodney in 1782; under Nelson at the sieges of Bastia and Calvi, and commanded the *Swiftsure* at the battle of the Nile; and at the time of his death was one of the three surviving captains who commanded ships of the line on that memorable day.

3. A struggle at Manchester against a halfpenny church-rate terminated in the refusal of the rate, by a majority of 7019 to 5897.

Trial of the great will cause at Lancaster before Baron Gurney, which lasted 10 days, terminated in a verdict for the defendant, Mr. Wright, whose claim to the property, amounting to 7000*l.* a-year, bequeathed by the late Mr. Marsden, was disputed by admiral Tatham, the heir-at-law, on the ground of the mental imbecility of the testator.

8. The British Association held its fourth annual meeting at Edinburgh.

9. A respectable man named Steinberg, a native of Germany, residing in Southampton-street, Pentonville, destroyed in the course of the night the woman with whom he cohabited, and their four children, and then committed suicide. Embarrassed circumstances were the supposed cause. The unhappy man was buried two nights afterwards, at 11 o'clock at night, in the poor-ground of Clerkenwell parish, amidst the execrations of a vast crowd.

14. Death of Sir JOHN LEACH, master of the rolls, aged 74. His father was a tradesman of Bedford, at the grammar-

school of which town sir John was educated. He was first in the office of an architect, and did not enter the Middle Temple till his twenty-fifth year. His success was rapid at the bar. By his zealous defence in the house of commons of the duke of York, when implicated in the practices of Mrs. Clarke, he became a particular favourite with the royal family. He was at the head of the Milan commission appointed to collect evidence of the irregularities of the princess of Wales, in Italy. In 1817 he became vice-chancellor, and in 1827 master of the rolls. He possessed considerable capabilities as a judge; could seize the strong points of a case, and was able to deliver his opinion immediately, in a manner clear, precise, and conclusive. He has been accused of suppleteness towards the rich and powerful, and had the foible of seeking to vie, in their frivolities, with people of fashion.

15. **DINNER TO EARL GREY.**—A grand entertainment was given at Edinburgh to this veteran statesman in testimony of respect for his consistency and public conduct while premier. Probably no minister in the zenith of his power ever before received so gratifying a tribute of national respect as was paid on this occasion to one who had not only retired from office, but retired from it for ever. The popular enthusiasm both in the capital and other parts of Scotland was extreme, which the noble earl sensibly felt and gratefully acknowledged as among the proudest circumstances of his life. The dinner took place in a large pavilion erected for the occasion in the area of the High School, and was provided for upwards of 1500 persons, besides more than 600 who were admitted after the removal of the cloth. The principal speakers were earl Grey, the lord chancellor, and the earl of Durham. Earl Grey and the lord chancellor in their speeches considered that the reform in parliament afforded the means by which all useful improvements may be obtained without violence. Both advocated a deliberate and careful, but steady course of amelioration and reform, and both derided the idea of a reaction in favour of Tory principles of government. The Earl of Durham avowed his opinions in favour of the ballot and household suffrage, and declared that he should regret every hour which left ancient and recognised abuses unreformed.

24. **DEATH OF DON PEDRO.**—The prince had resigned the regency on the 18th, owing to illness, and expired at the palace of Queluz, near Lisbon, in the 37th year of his age. He was elected emperor of Brazil in 1821, abdicated in 1831, and had only survived four months

the expulsion of his brother Miguel from the throne of Portugal. Don Pedro was a man of energy, and of considerable but uncultivated talents; and, owing to his violent temper, that often precipitated him into arbitrary acts, was unfit for steady government. On the resignation of the regency by her father, Donna Maria, then in her sixteenth year, was declared by the Cortes to be of age, and fully competent to take upon herself the administration of public affairs. A change of ministry followed, and the queen appointed the duke of Palmella prime minister, with Vasconcellas, Carvalho, Terceira, Villa Real, and Agostinho Freire, for a cabinet.

25. **SLAVE EMANCIPATION.**—Subsequently to August 1st a strong anxiety was felt in this country for intelligence as to the manner in which the boon of freedom had been received by the slaves in the different colonies. Information up to the day of emancipation has now been received from most of the West India colonies, and is highly satisfactory. There had been thanksgivings and jubilees in most of the islands at the termination of personal servitude. In Jamaica there had been misapprehension as to the apprentice state, but the judicious proclamation of the Marquis of Sligo, the governor, speedily removed it. In Antigua, where the slaves had been set entirely free, most of the negroes had begun to work at the rate of 1s. a-day for able labourers, and 9d. a-day for the second class of labourers. Everywhere the colonial legislatures exhibited a willingness to give full effect to the enactment of the mother-country.

Oct. 1. The failure of Mr. Raikes, governor of the bank of England, caused some alarm in the city, lest he might have used his influence as governor to involve the bank in the speculations of the firm, to which he belonged, but the apprehension proved groundless. Another firm Bentley, Dear, and Co., doing business to the amount of 400,000*l.* yearly, were rendered bankrupt by the forgeries and subsequent disappearance of Bentley, the principal partner.

11. Lord Napier, chief superintendent of the British merchants at Canton, died suddenly at Macao. His lordship had become embroiled with the authorities by a breach of Chinese etiquette, which led to a stoppage of the tea-trade. Napier brought up two ships of war to overawe the arrogant but timid natives; they were fired upon by the forts, and, the fire being returned by the ships, some lives were lost. The interdict on the trade was removed a few days after and commercial intercourse resumed.

15. A petition presented to Mr. Secretary Rice signed by upwards of 32,000 persons praying for the release of Mr. Webb from the remainder of his confinement in York Castle. Webb had been convicted of manslaughter, caused by administering Morison's pills.

16. HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BURNT.—About six o'clock in the evening a fire broke out in some buildings near the lower end of the house of lords, which continued to rage throughout the night, and was not completely extinguished for several days. The entire mass of buildings in that quarter was, at first, thought to be endangered, and great anxiety was felt for the safety of Westminster-Hall and even the Abbey, but none of these buildings sustained material damage. The libraries and state papers in the lords and commons and speaker's residence were preserved, but the Painted Chamber and two houses of parliament were entirely destroyed, with the exception, in the lords, of the library and adjoining rooms; and, in the commons, of four committee-rooms. The speaker's house was much damaged, and that of the chief-clerk destroyed. Lords Melbourne, Althorp, Hill, and Munster, sir J. C. Hobhouse, and Mr. Hume, M.P., who were on the spot, zealously assisted in arresting the progress of the flames. The privy council instituted an inquiry into the cause of the fire, and after hearing much evidence, and protracting their sittings for several days, reported to the king that the fire was caused by negligence, in burning the exchequer tallies in a building adjoining the house of lords. A singular instance of mental delusion occurred during the investigation. A Mr. Cooper swore positively to his having heard of the fire within two or three hours after it broke out (and when it was raging most fiercely) at Dudley, 120 miles from London. But no other person confirmed the extraordinary circumstance, though Mr. Cooper seemed to have no doubt whatever of the fact. The conflagration naturally caused great momentary excitement, and by it the historical and personal associations connected with an ancient place of legislative enactment, eloquence, and discussion, were destroyed.

21. The earl of Derby died at Knowsley Park, in his 82d year. He was the founder of the Derby Stakes, and had been lord lieutenant of Lancashire for 60 years.

23. A decree of Otho king of Greece was issued, by which Athens is declared the capital of the kingdom and the seat of government.

Parliament further prorogued by the lord chancellor in the library of the late house of lords. The room was temporarily fitted

up for the occasion, with a mimic representation of the throne, woolsock, benches, and cross-benches, and the official persons present were wigged and robed in the usual manner.

29. A public dinner given to the earl of Durham at Glasgow. During the previous part of the day he was presented with the freedom of the city, and received a great number of addresses from various bodies. The number in the green or public park of Glasgow was calculated at 100,000.

Nov. 1. The New Central Criminal Court opened at the Old Bailey.

Incendiary fires occurred with alarming frequency in various parts of England. In most of the cases the owners were insured.

4. Marshal Gerard having previously resigned, the rest of the French ministers, De Rigny, Duchatel, Thiers, Guizot, Humann, and Persil, tendered their resignations, which were accepted, and, in a few days after, the duke of Bassano was appointed prime minister, with a new cabinet. This new ministry resigned in three days, and the former ministry, excepting Gerard, resumed office, the duke of Treviso being premier.

10. Earl Spencer died at his seat; Althorp Park, aged 76. He was first lord of the admiralty under Mr. Pitt's administration from 1794 to 1801, the period of the great naval victories of Camperdown, Cape St. Vincent, and the Nile. He retired when Mr. Addington became premier.

15. MELBOURNE MINISTRY DISSOLVED.—An extraordinary sensation produced this morning, by the announcement that the king had dismissed the ministry. It appeared that lord Melbourne had waited upon his majesty at Brighton on the 14th to take his commands on the appointment of a chancellor of the exchequer, in the room of lord Althorp, removed, by the death of his father, to the house of peers, when his lordship mentioned lord John Russell as the new leader of the house of commons. The king said he considered the government dissolved by the removal of lord Althorp; did not approve of the intended construction of the cabinet; said that lord Brougham could not continue to be chancellor; expressed his dissatisfaction with the men appointed to frame the Irish church bill; and concluded with informing lord Melbourne that he would not impose upon him the task of completing his ministerial arrangements, but would send for the duke of Wellington. In the evening, his lordship returned to town, bringing with him a letter for the duke of Wellington, who waited upon the king on the 16th (Sunday), and advised his majesty to place sir Robert Peel at the head of the administration. Sir Robert had left

England, in October, for Italy. A courier was despatched, who, on the 25th, ten days after leaving Brighton, reached Rome, where he found sir Robert. Next morning the baronet started for England, arrived in London on December 9; on the same day he had an audience of the king, when he accepted the situation of premier. In the interim, the chief offices of government had been provisionally filled by the duke of Wellington. Lord Lyndhurst accepted the seals, but did not resign his office of chief baron of the exchequer till the administration was completed. The latter office lord Brougham offered to fill without salary, merely retaining his retiring pension as ex-chancellor.

15. Lord Stanley elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow. He had 298 votes; his opponent, lord Durham, 163.

17. A public dinner was given to Mr. Cobbett in Dublin. Sir George Cockburn presided, and two or three Irish members of parliament were present.

Mr. Green, the aéronaut, having rashly ascended from North Shields without car, grappling-irons, or ballast, narrowly escaped being drowned by his balloon rapidly falling into a deep part of the Tyne with such velocity that Mr. Green was forced to the bottom (about nine feet and a half), and stuck in the mud. He had presence of mind, however, to retain his hold of the cord to which he was slung, when he was extricated by the re-ascend of the balloon, and dragged along the water for about fifteen minutes, until he was picked up in a boat.

27. An action was brought against the rev. Robert Taylor, the public lecturer, for breach of promise of marriage, and a verdict given of 250*l.* damages.

30. The duke of Gloucester died at Bagshot Park, aged 58. He was born at Rome; his father was third son of Frederick Lewis prince of Wales. The duke married, in 1816, his first cousin the princess Mary, sister to the king.

A baronetcy has been conferred on Mr. Felix Booth, the gentleman by whose munificent assistance captain Ross was enabled to undertake his expedition to the Polar seas.

Dec. In the beginning of the month, public meetings were held in Westminster, Lambeth, Finsbury, and Marylebone, to pass resolutions expressive of a determination not to be deprived of the fruits of the reform bill by a tory ministry.

6. Died at Glasgow, in his 43rd year, the Rev. EDWARD IRVING, a minister of the Scottish church, who experienced the common fate of men resorting to factitious artifices, in rising into a sudden but transitory notoriety. His sermons, or, as he

called them, "orations," affected originality of ideas, and the style of Milton, Jeremy Taylor, and the old writers. These novelties, combined with a remarkable personal appearance and gesticulation, thronged his chapel in London with persons of rank and fashion, who were admitted by tickets. His popularity became such, that his admirers projected a handsome chapel for his accommodation, but, before it was completed, the nine days' wonder had ceased. A revival of the public interest was attempted, by means of prophesyings in an "unknown tongue;" which imposture was detected, mixed up with disordered intellects, and some portion, perhaps, of mistaken enthusiasm.

10. SIR ROBERT PEEL'S MINISTRY.—Immediately sir Robert had accepted the office of first minister, he proposed to lord Stanley and sir James Graham to form part of the new administration, but both declined to pledge themselves to the extent they might be considered bound by accepting office. In consequence, the minister was left entirely to his tory connexions who had opposed the reform bill, or had adopted conservative principles. The following is a list of the Peel ministry:—

Sir R. Peel, *First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer.*
 Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*
 Earl of Rosalyn, *President of the Council.*
 Lord Wharncliffe, *Lord Privy Seal.*
 Henry Goulburn, *Home Secretary.*
 Duke of Wellington, *Foreign Secretary.*
 Earl of Aberdeen, *Colonial Secretary.*
 Lord de Grey, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*
 Sir H. Hardinge, *Secretary for Ireland.*
 Lord Ellenborough, *President of the India Board.*
 Alexander Baring, *Master of the Mint, and President of Board of Trade.*
 Sir Edward Knatchbull, *Paymaster of the Forces.*
 John Charles Herries, *Secretary of War.*
 Sir George Murray, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

The above formed the CABINET:—
 Lord Maryborough, *Postmaster-General.*
 Earl of Jersey, *Lord Chamberlain.*
 Earl of Wilton, *Lord Steward.*
 Duke of Dorset, *Master of the Horse.*
 Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*
 Viscount Lowther, *Vice-President of Board of Trade and Treasurer of the Navy.*
 Lord G. Somerset, *First Commissioner of Land Revenues.*
 C. W. W. Wynn, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*
 Sir F. Pollock, *Attorney-General.*
 Sir W. W. Follett, *Solicitor-General.*

IRELAND:—

Earl of Haddington, *Lord Lieutenant*

Sir Edward Sugden, *Lord Chancellor*.
 Sir R. H. Vivian, *Commander of the Forces*.
 Edward Pennefather, *Attorney-General*.
 Joseph Jackson, *Solicitor-General*.

13. After six days' polling, the parishioners of Birmingham refused to assess themselves to a church-rate; the number for the rate being only 1723, against them 6699. There had been no church-rates paid for three years, the incidental expenses of churches and chapels having been paid by voluntary subscription.

16. M. Rouen, the editor of the *National*, was tried by the chamber of peers for a libel on that assembly, in having declared it incompetent to try the men concerned in the riots at Lyons. After a powerful speech from his counsel. M. Carrel, he was convicted, and sentenced to be imprisoned for two years, and pay a fine of 10,000 francs. The sentence was deemed severe, and public feeling was strongly excited in consequence against the peers.

18. Sir Robert Peel, in an address to the electors of Tamworth, announced the principles on which the new ministry intended to act. They may be summed up in these words:—the maintenance of the reform bill as a final and irrevocable settlement—the correction of proved abuses and real grievances—the preservation of peace—resistance to the secularization of church property in any part of the United Kingdom—the fulfilment of existing engagements with foreign powers—strict economy—and a just and impartial consideration of what is due to all interests, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial.

23. A tumultuous meeting took place at the City of London Tavern. The avowed object of the meeting was to vote an address to the King expressive of approbation of his conduct, in the dismissal of the late ministry; but that object was defeated by a strong muster of reformers headed by Mr. Grote, and, after a scene of extraordinary confusion, the meeting broke up without passing any resolution. On the same evening the lord mayor gave at the Mansion House a dinner to sir R. Peel, and others of the new ministry, with a select party of friends. Sir Robert, on his health being drank, gave a brief exposition of the principles on which the new ministry intended to act, and expressed a hope that it would be supported.

24. The Liverpool market was never better stored than it was on Christmas-eve. One steamer from Ireland brought no less than fifteen tons of plucked geese, which were sold at from 18*d.* to 3*s.* each. It is estimated that there were not less than eight thousand turkeys in the market.

29. Died at Bath in his 69th year, the

Rev. THOMAS ROBERT MALTHUS, the celebrated author on population. He was born at the Rookery, near Dorking, and was the younger son of a private gentleman of independent fortune. His "Essay on Population" was first presented to the public in 1798, chiefly intended as a refutation of the notions of Condorcet and Godwin on human perfectibility, to the realization of which Mr. Malthus held that the tendency of mankind to multiply beyond the means of subsistence would always present an insurmountable obstacle. Finding that his subject required a further and more careful investigation, he, in 1800, visited every country in Europe accessible to English travellers, observing attentively every fact likely to elucidate, confirm, or disprove his conclusions. The fruits of these researches he carefully digested and arranged, and, having embodied with them his first Essay, he published them in a quarto volume. In 1804 he was appointed to the chair of History and Political Economy in the East India Company's college in Hertfordshire, a situation which he filled till his death. He was a man of great amiability of disposition, and the highest virtue,—his life being devoted to inquiries into the causes and remedies of human misery. Observing that the insufficiency of food, arising out of an excess of consumers, was everywhere the primary source of crime and want; the great difficulty to surmount in the progress to social virtue and enjoyment is the co-adequation of population to subsistence; and, as this must be mainly effected by the poor themselves, they are the chief architects of their own happiness. Had this doctrine been promulgated less with an air of discovery, and more as axioms which Wallace, Young, Franklin, and preceding writers, had unhesitatingly admitted, it would probably have encountered less hostility from the religious and natural feelings of mankind. It was welcomed, however, by the rich, who gladly seized the excuse as a solace for indolence; and, hastily concluding that all the ameliorating services which they could render the poor being merely as dust in the balance compared to those which the poor could render themselves, there was not any utility in, nor obligation imposed upon them, to interfere for the amendment of their condition. So far, the tendency of the new principles was pernicious; they hardened the hearts and damped the active benevolence of the intelligent affluent. But the evil must be temporary; for it is plain that the obligations of humanity are as imperative as ever, only they require to be differently answered by fixing attention on the hitherto neglected sources of national suffering.

30. First reformed parliament dissolved by proclamation. It had existed one year and eleven months.

An address to the king in support of the ministry, from the merchants, bankers, ship-owners, traders, and others connected with the city of London, bearing 5730 signatures, delivered to Sir R. Peel, by a deputation consisting of Messrs. Ward, Lyall, Lucas, Wilson, and Brown. The list of names and residences occupied 27 columns of *The Times*, and 240 guineas was charged for its insertion in that newspaper.

In Dublin an association was formed, shortly after the dissolution of the late ministry, which has been termed the "anti-tory association," and which includes nearly forty members of parliament. The political meetings in England and Scotland have been very numerous.

This year has been remarkable for the high temperature of the weather. In the course of the summer the thermometer often ranged between 75 and 83 of Fahrenheit, and on the 30th instant it stood at 53 in the shade at noon. It is also remarkable for the progressive rise which has taken place in most public securities, both British and foreign.

RELIEF OF AGRICULTURE.—It has lately formed an especial object of the legislature to afford relief to this branch of industry, by a diminution in poor-rates, tithes, church-rates, and county-rates. Upon the last, both houses of parliament made inquiries during the last session. In the report of the lords' committee it is stated that, upon a comparison of the county expenditure taken at decenary periods from 1792 to 1832, the increase has been both progressive and considerable. The county-rates in 1792 in England and Wales amounted to 315,805*l.*, and in 1832 to 783,441*l.*, being an increase of 148 per cent. The items that have increased most enormously are the expenses of constables and prosecutions. In a second report, a more uniform and efficient system of prison discipline, as well as a more effective parochial constabulary, are recommended.

RUSSIA.—Little more than half a century has sufficed to extend the sway of Russia from the Gulf of Bothnia to the banks of the Pruth, and from the Araxes to the Vistula; whilst she has added, within that interval, an amount of population to her native resources which is nearly equal to that of the United Kingdom. The following is an enumeration of her territorial acquisitions, and the number of inhabitants they contain:—

1770, Bessarabia	500,000
1771, The Crimea (incorporated 1783)	460,000

1785, Georgia (incorporated 1831)	400,000
1793, Little Poland and the Ukraine	6,500,000
1794, Western Russia, including Lithuania, Podolia, &c.	8,500,000
1795, Courland	400,000
1803, The Lesghis and other Caucasian tribes	300,000
1813, Schirwan	140,000
1809, Finland	1,400,000
1815, Kingdom of Poland (in- corporated 1832)	4,000,000
1827, Erivan and districts ad- jacent	150,000
1829, Turkish Armenia, and other cessions by Tur- key	500,000
	23,350,000

NEW COLONY IN AUSTRALIA.—Government has resolved to form a new settlement on the southern coast of Australia, near Spencer's Gulf, which contains a fine harbour named Port Lincoln. Five millions of acres of rich land approximate on St. Vincent's Gulf, and about on the Murray River, which is navigable for large craft, for one thousand miles in an easterly direction. Kangaroo Island lies off the entrance of these two gulfs, and abounds in salt, fish, seals, kangaroos, and possesses a good soil. The whole lies in latitude from 34° to 36° S., and in E. longitude from 136° to 140°. An interesting feature in this establishment is, that all the land is to be sold, and the produce to be expended in the encouragement of agricultural families to emigrate. Another feature consists in avoiding the error committed in the Swan River settlement, from the dispersion of the settlers, by keeping them locally concentrated for the benefit of mutual intercourse and co-operation.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Rev. Daniel Lyons, author of the *Environs of London*, and, in conjunction with his brother, of *Magna Britannia*. William Mellish, esq., who left property nearly amounting to three millions, acquired chiefly by contracts for provisioning the navy during the war; he had also an extensive business as ship-owner: his wealth devolved on two daughters, one married to lord Edward Thynne, the other to the earl of Glengall. At Fernando, Richard Lander, 30, the enterprising African traveller. William Thwaites, about 90, tea-dealer of Fenchurch-street, who died worth upwards of 700,000*l.* personal property, of which 500,000*l.* and upwards was left to his widow, the rest in legacies to relatives, the cloth-workers' company, and to charities.

His real estate, owing to his will not being witnessed, went to his nephew, the heir-at-law. At Caen, M. de Bourienne, 64, a schoolfellow of Napoleon at Brienne, and author of a valuable history of that extraordinary man. The July revolution, combined with the loss of his property, is supposed to have deprived him of reason, and he died in a lunatic asylum. At Cheshunt, Herts, Mrs. Susan Cromwell, 90, great-great-granddaughter of the protector, Oliver Cromwell, and the last of that name. At Hampstead, suddenly, Julian Hibbert, 42, a gentleman of fortune, who had lately attracted notice by the open avowal of atheism in a court of justice; he made a will, apparently in contemplation of approaching death, bequeathing his body to the interests of science, and his personal property in legacies to those who had evinced zeal in what he conceived to be the cause of truth and human freedom. At Serampore, in the East Indies, rev. William Carey, 73, the eminent Christian missionary, and distinguished Oriental scholar. At his lodging in the Danish Hong at Canton, rev. Robert Morrison, D.D., 53, eminent Chinese scholar, who in 1811 printed in that language at Canton, from wooden blocks, the Acts of the Apostles: on the arrival of lord Napier at Macao, Dr. Morrison had been appointed secretary to the commission for superintending British affairs in China. Within the rules of the King's Bench prison, Mrs. Olivia Serres, 63, the self-styled princess Olive of Cumberland, and very notorious impostor (see p. 794). In Throgmorton-street, Alexander Chalmers, 76, a native of Aberdeen, and well-known editor and compiler of many voluminous publications. Mr. Chalmers commenced his literary career about the same time as the late James Perry, proprietor of the Morning Chronicle; the latter as a writer in the General Advertiser, and the former as editor of the Public Ledger. Henry Bankes, esq., 77, long M.P. for his family borough of Corfe Castle, and an active supporter of Mr. Pitt and his successors in the same line of policy. At Edmonton, Charles Lamb, 60: this very amiable man and popular Essayist was a native of Lincolnshire; educated at Christ's Hospital, and from 1789 till 1825 a clerk in the India House, when he retired with a handsome annuity for life. A list of his literary works is given among the "Men of Letters," of this reign; but, as he himself used pleasantly to remark, his chief works remain in M.S. deposited in the archives of the East India Company. Rudolph Ackerman, 70, eminent printseller, who first introduced the art of lithography, and the "Annuals" into this country. At an

advanced age, James Biddles, long known as the rich money-lending shoe-contractor of Bishopsgate-street, and who, by penurious habits, accumulated property to the amount of 200,000*l.* and upwards. At Putney, William Jones, 84, marshal of the King's Bench prison. John Fuller, 77, formerly M.P. for Sussex, and a liberal patron of the British Institution. Thomas Stothard, R.A., 78, librarian to the Royal Academy, and distinguished artist. At Carlow, Rev. James Doyle, eminent catholic prelate and polemical divine. Dr. Doyle was the first to propagate in this country the Hohenloe miracles, in the reality of which he appears to have believed. Sir Gilbert Blane, M.D., 85, physician to the king, and author of several medical tracts. Edward Pidgeon, 54, a gentleman of literary acquirements, and one of the translators of Cuvier's Natural History. Thomas C. W. Mahew, 28, a miscellaneous writer, who having become embarrassed in pecuniary matters, put an end to his existence by prussic acid. At Dublin, A. Hamilton Rowan, 83, formerly convicted of treason. Rowland Detrouzier, a public lecturer of promising talents. At Florence, Gwyllym Lloyd Wardle, 72, formerly M.P. for Oakhampton, and who obtained great ephemeral popularity by bringing forward his charges against the duke of York. At Brighton, Prince Hoare, 80, secretary to the Royal Academy.

A. D. 1835. *JAN. STATE OF PARTIES.*—The difficulties which had beset the late Whig ministry were of two kinds. There was the pressure without and resistance within the government. If the measures they brought forward were not of a popular character, they were compromised with the people, on whose support they mainly depended; while, on the other hand, if too radical, there was no chance of forcing them through the strait gate of the upper house of parliament. During the past year the king manifested symptoms of reviving conservatism, and is supposed to have intended to break up the ministry on the resignation of earl Grey (*Speeches of Lord Brougham*, iv., 90, 248); but the prompt declaration of lord Brougham and others, that they had no intention of following that statesman's example by resigning, induced him, contrary to his wish, to continue them longer in office. The warm protestant address, either delivered by or ascribed to his majesty, to the Irish prelates, was trumpeted through the country, and dwelt upon as a proof of the king's dislike to the ministerial plan of church inquiry and reform. This appears to have been the main cause of the dismissal of the ministry; and the removal from the commons of lord Althorp,

and the oratorical tour of the lord chancellor in the North, only secondary pretexts. Moreover, the loss of popularity by the Melbourne cabinet, and the impression which had gained ground that it was weak and incompetent, offered a favourable opportunity for their dismissal. It was looked upon as only the residuum of the original Grey ministry; and the losses it had sustained, by the withdrawal of the earl of Durham, the Stanley section, and the noble premier himself, had not been supplied by the strength and quality of the new infusions. Lord Durham was looked upon as a man of energy, and popular principles, who had felt compelled so often to dissent from the feebleness of his colleagues that he acquired among them the name of the 'dissenting minister.' In Mr. Stanley and Sir James Graham the administration sustained a loss of firmness of principle, parliamentary talent, and official ability; but the dogma they had taken up on the non-secularization of church property formed a serious obstacle to the progress of the ecclesiastical reforms to which public opinion was imperatively directed. The retirement of earl Grey, as before mentioned, was mainly on private grounds, accelerated perhaps by the death of lord Spencer, and the perplexities that grew out of the renewal of the Irish coercion bill. By these defections the main supports of the ministry were gone; what remained was held forth as merely 'lath and plaster,' whose sudden removal by the king excited the surprise, but not in an intense degree the regret, of the nation. After the close of the parliamentary session it had been assailed by Mr. O'Connell, with his wonted tact and power of vituperation, in a series of letters addressed to lord Duncannon. The press attacked it for dilatoriness in its reform movements, and the incapacity of its members; dwelling with particular force on the inconsistencies of lord Brougham in the autumn, in the alternate championship of radicalism and conservatism, and, especially, his lordship's alleged declaration at Inverness, that 'if little had been done in the last session less would be done in the next.' The shopkeepers were dissatisfied with the continuance of the window-duties; the agriculturists with the malt-duty; the political economists with the corn-laws; the friends of popular intelligence with the retention of the newspaper-stamp; and the speculative radicals with a refractory peerage, and the resistance that it had offered to further organic changes. Amidst these discontents the debris of the great reform ministry of 1830 disappeared. No sooner, however, was the arena cleared, and the new performers announced, than

an instantaneous revulsion ensued in the general sentiment. With the advent of torism was associated recollections of former misrule. Between men who had given substantial proofs of their zeal in the cause of reform, and those by whom its vital changes had been pertinaciously resisted, there seemed no ground for a moment's hesitation. So well convinced was Sir Robert Peel of the predominant state of the national feeling, and of the utter impracticability of a reactive movement, sufficient to sustain him in power, that he never once attempted to base his administration on the legitimate and often-avowed maxims of his party. The constitution had been fundamentally changed, and it was no longer possible for any minister to carry on the government in opposition to the settled and declared sense of the nation. Conforming himself to this altered and irrevocable settlement, his first act was to solicit the co-operation of men who had themselves been the able and eloquent supporters of representative reform. Failing in his overture to Mr. Stanley and his friends, he took the earliest opportunity to make a public declaration of the principles according to which he proposed to administer state affairs. They were strictly those of a whig reformer. He appealed to his past life, to his currency bill, the jury act, and his acts for the amendment and consolidation of the criminal law, as proofs that he was not opposed to the redress of real grievances, and the removal of all recognised abuses. He was not unfriendly to extending some relief to the dissenters, nor to judicial, municipal, economical, and ecclesiastical reform; but on the last he carefully guarded himself against sanctioning the secular appropriation of church property. With all these concessions to popular opinion, which were explicitly and manfully made, it was impossible not to discern an essential difference between the claims to public confidence of the new and the old ministry. The joy felt at the repentance of one prodigal son was naturally great and heartfelt, but in the estimation of right-minded men a preference was due, a deeper debt of gratitude owing, to those who had actually practised, than to those who only promised to be righteous. Among the colleagues of Sir R. Peel were recognised the old opponents of popular rights, whose biographies were associated with oppression, whose hands were yet unclean. Few or none could bring characters untainted by intolerance or jobbing to the new master into whose service they were eager to enter. It was impossible that those who had opposed the Reform Act could, if they had been sincere, faithfully watch over

and mature its natural fruits. These differences determined the current of national opinion in the urgent crisis that marked the commencement of the present year. A common danger threatened the reformers, and minor disagreements were forgotten or laid aside. In Ireland the agitation of repeal was suspended; in England the ballot, extension of suffrage, the triennial act, and a reform of the house of lords. Scotland remained grateful to the men who had first given her political existence. Whigs and radicals everywhere coalesced, and the electors of the United Kingdom became consolidated into the two great parties, of those friendly, and those opposed, to the Peel ministry. The new parliament exhibited a similar political division, save the Stanley section, which professed to be neutral; neither would Sir F. Burdett, nor Mr. Cobbett, identify himself with the opposition.

Jan. 5. Mr. D. W. Harvey and Mr. Humphreys returned without opposition for Southwark; and were the first members returned to the new parliament.

9. The arrival of president Jackson's message in France produces great excitement by its threatening import. The cause of dispute has been noticed, (*Mar. 27, 1834*), and arose out of certain claims of indemnification by America on France, for property destroyed during Buonaparte's wars, and which had been repeatedly admitted by successive French administrations, and promised to be liquidated, not having been paid. After some negotiation, during which the French ambassador was about to be recalled from Washington, and the American minister at Paris had demanded his passports, the French government concluded that it was better to be just than valiant, and agreed that the money should be forthcoming.

26. At the sitting of the *Tribunal de Premier Instance* at Paris, a process was instituted by the duke of Cambridge, against Charles, ex-duke of Brunswick, for the purpose of having all the property of the latter placed in his hands, according to arrangements which were represented to have been made between William IV., the reigning duke of Brunswick, the duke of Cambridge, and other members of the family; and by which the duke of Brunswick was placed under the guardianship of the duke of Cambridge, who now sought to obtain possession of the duke's property in France. Duke Charles appeared in person to plead his cause. The Tribunal decided that it had no power to interfere as prayed for, and condemned the duke of Cambridge to pay the costs of the suit.

GENERAL ELECTION.—By the dissolution, the Peel ministry obtained a greater

accession of strength than was expected, but it was not sufficiently reinforced to enable it to carry on the government. In the counties and boroughs the whigs and radicals lost about a hundred seats. These victories, however, still left the conservatives a minority, in the proportion of 302 to 356. There were 184 new members returned. The contests were unusually numerous and severe, but, owing to the great improvements effected by the Reform Acts, there was little rioting, and none of a serious description. A remarkable feature of the elections was the closeness of the poll. In several cases the successful candidate had only a majority of about half a dozen, and in one or two instances a single vote turned the scale. The Liverpool election was keenly contested. The last hour was critical. In every direction were seen vans, gigs, and flies in rapid motion, and the price of a vote rose from 15*l.* to 25*l.* All the metropolitan boroughs were spiritedly struggled for, but not a single ministerialist could obtain a seat; and even conservative whigs were rejected, as in Marylebone and Finsbury, to make way for radicals. The sixteen city and suburban members were in general men of the ballot, of an extended suffrage, of short parliaments, voluntary churches, and an elective house of lords, or no lords at all. On the other hand, the towns of Bristol, Exeter, Newcastle, Hull, Warrington, Halifax, York, and Leeds, dismissed each of them a whig, to return a tory. So far as England was concerned, ministers had a majority, chiefly through the county representatives. In Scotland the balance of parties remained nearly the same. Whigs were ousted from five counties; they succeeded in three where they had formerly failed, and in one of these, Sir George Murray, the new master general of the ordnance, was rejected. Nothing could be more conservative than the elective peerage of Scotland. In the late parliament it contained only one nobleman, lord Eiphistone, of whiggish propensities; he was left out, and lord Reay substituted. It was Ireland that mainly gave the opposition their preponderance, but even here the retinue of Mr. O'Connell was rather diminished. His energy and vast influence, however, made him generally successful. Radicalism, with the addition of repeal, formed the creed of his candidates. On the Dublin hustings he said, "Sink or swim, live or die, I am for repeal." Exclusive trading, and other threats of intimidation were employed. "Every one," declared the agitator, "who votes for the orange knight of Kerry, shall have a death's head and cross bones painted on his door." The knight of Kerry was

thrown out. Mr. O'Connell was returned for Dublin, by a majority of only 217, and his colleague, Mr. Ruthven, had still fewer, and the returns of the successful candidates were disputed.

Feb. 3. In the *Gazette* appears the names of the royal commissioners appointed to consider the several dioceses in England and Wales, with reference to their revenues and duties; the prevention of attaching by *commendam* benefices with cure of souls to bishoprics; also for considering the state of the cathedral and collegiate churches, with a view to the suggestion of remedies conducive to the efficiency of the church, and the prevention of non-residence.

7. Joseph Ady, a well-known quaker, who endeavoured to earn a subsistence by writing letters to individuals informing them that, on receiving a fee, he would inform them of something to their advantage, was tried in the Central Criminal Court, for obtaining money on false pretences. He was found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

9. Mr. O'Gorman Mahon, late M.P. for Clare, indicted Mr. Wigley, an attorney, for perjury, in the court of king's bench. Mr. Wigley was acquitted, and on the parties leaving the court a quarrel ensued, when Mr. Mahon struck Wigley a severe blow on the face. He was brought back in custody, and was committed for three days for contempt of court. On giving bail to meet the charge of assault, he was released.

9. NEW PARLIAMENT opened by commission. It met in temporary chambers that had been erected for the accommodation of the legislature on the site of those that had been destroyed by the fire of last year. The commons occupied the site of what was the house of lords—the lords that of the painted chamber. A sharp struggle for the speakership was anticipated, as it was known both parties intended to propose a candidate, and the issue was looked forward to as a trial of strength. Accordingly, on the first day of the session there was a larger assemblage of members than had ever before been collected. The re-election of Sir C. M. Sutton was proposed by lord F. Egerton, and the motion was seconded by Sir C. Burrell; after which, Mr. W. J. Denison proposed Mr. Abercromby, and Mr. W. Ord seconded the motion. A debate of some length followed, in which the principal speakers, besides Sir C. M. Sutton and Mr. Abercromby, were, for the motion of Lord F. Egerton, Lord Stanley and Sir Robert Peel; and for that of Mr. Denison, lord John Russell. About six o'clock the house divided, when the numbers were 306

for Sutton, and 316 for Abercromby; a result hailed with loud cheering by the majority.

11. Death of earl Darnley at his seat, Cobham Hall, from the effects of an accident. He had been giving directions to some workmen, and took up a woodman's hooked bill to lop off a branch, but unfortunately separated two of his toes. His lordship was in his 40th year.

15. Died at Alresford, Hampshire, HENRY HUNT, late M.P. for Preston, a gentleman who, since his first appearance at the Spa-fields meeting in 1816, had taken a leading part in the proceedings of the radical workpeople. He was born at Widdington Farm, on Salisbury plain, and for many years regularly attended Devizes market. After his father's death he was elected chairman of the table in the large dining-room of the farmers at the Bear inn; the daughter of the landlord of which inn, Miss Halcomb, he married. After a connubial union of many years, he separated from this lady, owing to an unfortunate, and, according to his own account of the matter in his "Memoirs," written by himself in Ilchester Gaol, an uncontrollable attachment he had conceived at Brighton for the wife of colonel Vince, with whom he afterwards lived. As private character is essential to public confidence, this dereliction in moral conduct operated greatly to his disadvantage in his subsequent aims at political notoriety. Though fond of pleasure, no man attended more strictly to his farming business, and no farms in the kingdom were managed better, or in higher condition, than his. He had the best flock of Southdown sheep in the county, the wool of which sold for the highest prices. In 1801, when the apprehension of an invasion was so great that circulars were addressed to the churchwardens, requiring from every parish a return of live and dead stock; in Mr. Hunt's schedule was an enumeration of possessions hardly inferior to those of Job prior to his desolation,—namely, of wheat, 1600 sacks; barley, 1500 quarters; oats, 4500 quarters; hay, 250 tons; cart-horses, 30, value from 30 to 70 guineas each; working oxen, 10; cows, 20; sheep, 4200: all which he offered to place at the disposal of government, in the event of an invasion. A violent altercation with lord Bruce, commander of the Marlborough troop of yeomanry, of which Mr. Hunt was a member, involved him in a criminal prosecution, that terminated in sentence of imprisonment for six weeks for a breach of the peace. An impression of lordly wrong, or the fact of meeting with Waddington and some other radicals in prison, seems to have determined his subsequent political course, the chief incidents in which have been noticed

among the domestic occurrences of the time. A seat in parliament was long an object of Mr. Hunt's ambition; he contested the representation of Bristol in 1812; stood once for Westminster, and twice for the county of Somerset, but was unable to succeed till the excitement of the Reform Bill in 1830 enabled him to defeat Mr. Stanley for Preston. He was re-elected in 1831, but in the following year the Derby interest resumed its sway in that borough. Mr. Hunt had left London on a journey of business to the West of England, where he had considerable connexion, for the sale of shoe-blackening and annatto, or cheese colouring, and was in the act of stepping from his phaeton, when he was seized with a violent fit of paralysis that proved fatal. He was a man of considerable natural shrewdness and readiness at reply, without literary cultivation; perverse in disposition, greedy and vain of vulgar applause; and was little scrupulous about the weapons he used to combat his adversaries. His favourite element was the conflicts of popular assemblages, and he was such a determined bidder for mob favour, reckless whether the price could be paid or not, that he always set competition at defiance. Thus, when one of his opponents had proposed to extend the elective suffrage to every male person 21 years old, Hunt boldly offered to extend it to every male 18 years of age. Against such a rival there was no standing, it being impossible by any plunge ever to reach the nethermost abyss by which he kept alive his loved vocation of popular excitement and leadership. In person he was a fine man, and in this respect it was a common boast of Mr. Cobbett, in his *Weekly Register*, that the London newspaper press could not produce two individuals to match them.

24. The king opened the business of the first session of the SECOND REFORMED PARLIAMENT. After advertising to the state of foreign relations, which did not offer any points of interest, his majesty informed the commons that the estimates were framed with the strictest regard to economy; admitted the state of commerce and trade to be satisfactory, but suggested the relief of agriculture by the transfer of some of its burdens to property of another description. Attention was called to a final and equitable settlement of the tithe question in Ireland. Measures would be proposed for the commutation of tithe in England, for the improvement of judicial administration, of church discipline, and the relief of dissenters in the marriage ceremony. Attention was directed to the church of Scotland, and to the means by which the opportunities for religious instruction might be increased to the poorer classes; and the

speech concluded with assurances of reliance on the caution which would be exercised in altering laws that affected complicated interests, and were interwoven with ancient usages. In the lords, an amendment to the ministerial address was moved by viscount Melbourne, expressive of a hope that the king's councils would be directed in a spirit of well-considered and effective reform, and lamenting the late dissolution of Parliament. After an acrimonious debate, it was negatived without a division. In the commons a similar amendment was proposed by lord Morpeth, which, after a debate of three nights, was carried by 309 to 302, leaving the ministers in a minority.

28. Died, in his 78th year, earl Nelson, brother of the celebrated admiral. The heir to the titles, a nephew of the naval hero, after enjoying the honour for a few months, died, 31st Oct. He is succeeded by his son, a boy ten years of age.

March 2. Died, in the 67th year of his age, and the 43d of his reign, the Emperor FRANCIS. He was the last elective emperor of Germany, having resigned the title on the formation of Napoleon's confederation of the Rhine, and he was the first emperor of Austria. He had witnessed wonderful changes of fortune. His capital twice entered by the victorious French, and his most valuable provinces severed from his sway, he was compelled to purchase the retention of a diminutive sovereignty by yielding up his daughter to the embraces of a military adventurer. All these wounds were healed, and he lived to see his conqueror perish an exile on a rock. By a surprising course of events, in the production of the principal of which Nature more than man was instrumental, his lost dominions were restored to him, and he left his empire as powerful as he had found it. Buonaparte considered the Austrian monarchy almost indestructible. After many beatings he said of it, "Cette vieille maison d'Autriche ne meurt jamais!" It was English subsidies, which brought to its aid the serf-population of Hungary and Bohemia, that preserved its vitality. Francis was a simple, upright man, without shining abilities. Bred to despotism, he had no idea of anything better, and thought it the best regimen both for himself and subjects. His death made no change in Austrian politics: prince Metternich had long had the direction of the government, whose system was adopted by his son and successor the emperor Ferdinand. 3. Sir Charles Manners Sutton, late speaker of the house of commons, created viscount Canterbury. He had filled the chair during eighteen years. His command of temper, dignity of manner, and

powerful voice, admirably fitted him for the office. Though a conservative, he had been chosen with the approval of ministers to preside over the first reform parliament.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Thames tunnel, held at the City of London tavern, it was announced that government had placed in the hands of the directors a sum which the engineer thought would be sufficient to complete the work. This sum was 247,000*l.* in exchequer bills, advanced on the security of the property.

10. Marquis of Chandos, in the commons, moved a resolution for the repeal of the malt-tax. It was strenuously opposed by Sir R. Peel, who was supported by most of the opposition, with the exception of Mr. Hume. When the house divided, the numbers for the resolution were 192 against 350. Several members voted for its continuance in violation or evasion of pledges given to their constituents.

12. The attorney-general brought in bills for the reform of the ecclesiastical courts, and for the maintenance of church discipline. Mr. Hume said ministers had crept into the nest of their predecessors, and were hatching their eggs.

14. The *Moniteur* announced the reconstruction of the French ministry, after a tedious interregnum. The only change was in the prime minister, the duke de Broglie replacing marshal Mortier, and M.M. Thiers, Guizot, and the rest, resuming their offices. The difficulties in forming an efficient ministry were ascribed to the unwillingness of independent men to become members of a cabinet entirely governed by the will of the king himself. Within about eight months three premiers had resigned; three different cabinets had been dissolved, and the series of changes had terminated by restoring to their offices the men with whom the cycle of resignations had begun.

17. Sir R. Peel explained in the commons the nature of his measure for affording relief to dissenters, relative to the marriage ceremony. It met with general approval in the house and from the sectaries.

19. Mr. O'Brien moved that a provision be made, by an assessment on property, for the relief of the aged, infirm, and helpless poor in Ireland. It was opposed by Mr. O'Connell, and also by Mr. Sheil. The necessity of some provision was generally admitted. Motion withdrawn.

20. Sir H. Hardinge brought forward the ministerial plan for the settlement of the *Irish tithe question*. By this scheme it was proposed that tithe in future should be recoverable only from the chief landlord; that the owner should be entitled to demand only 75 per cent. on the amount to which he has at present a right; that

the tithe should be redeemable by the landlord at twenty years' purchase, calculated upon the diminished rate; that the proceeds thus arising should be invested in land or otherwise, for the benefit of the tithe-owners; that the tithe arrears of 1834 should be paid out of the residue of the million advanced out of the consolidated fund for the relief of the clergy, and repayments on the advances already made under the million act should be remitted. Lord John Russell contended that the present bill was, in principle, identical with that brought in last session by the late ministers, and which had been thrown out by the present government and their friends. Mr. O'Connell, on the contrary, endeavoured to show that the two measures were dissimilar. The main distinctions between the two appeared to be, that the bill of last session made the landlords a present of two-fifths of the whole tithes, or 40*l.* in every 100*l.*—secured the clergyman 77½ per cent. of his present legal income—and devolved an annual charge, equal to 17½ per cent. of the whole tithes, upon the consolidated fund; whereas it was now proposed to give the landlords only one-fourth of the whole tithes—to secure to the clergyman only 75 per cent. of his present legal income—and to devolve no charge upon the consolidated fund whatever. The present measure much more nearly resembled the shape in which the bill of the late ministers was originally brought in than that into which it was eventually transformed, on the application of the Irish landlords, and in which it was thrown out by the lords. Ministerial resolution passed by 213 to 198.

23. Lord Brougham presented a petition, numerously signed by inhabitants of the city of London, in favour of the abolition of the stamp-duty on newspapers; and in doing so, took occasion to address their lordships at considerable length, in support of the views of the petitioners. No observations upon the subject, however, were made by any of the ministers.

24. Sir R. Peel brought forward his plan for effecting a commutation of tithes in England, by *voluntary* agreement between the owner and payer of tithes; the payment in money in lieu of tithe to be subject to variation at stated periods, according to the prices of corn. A resolution embodying the leading principle of the plan was agreed to.

Duke of Richmond's motion for a select committee to consider the subject of prison discipline in England, agreed to.

28. Court of common council of London passed a resolution, declaring that aldermen ought to be elected for seven years only instead of for life as at present.

A dinner given to lord John Russell at the Freemasons' Tavern, London. Nearly 300 members of parliament were present. Lord Morpeth, chairman; Mr. Fox Maule, lord Ebrington, the earl of Kerry, Mr. Grote, and lord Dalmeny, among the speakers.

Prince Augustus of Portugal, after being for little more than a month the husband of the young queen Donna Maria, died of a sore throat. He was only 24 years old, and was the son of Eugene Beauharnois, formerly viceroy of Italy, and step-son of Napoleon by the empress Josephine.

30. Lord John Russell, after the house had been called over, brought forward his resolution on the IRISH CHURCH.—“That the house should resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to consider of the temporalities of the Church of Ireland.” The motion was met by sir Edward Knatchhull with a direct negative; and a debate ensued, which was continued by adjournments over the three following nights. The speakers in favour of the resolution were, Mr. Ward, lord Howick, Mr. Shiel, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Poulter, Mr. Feargus O'Connor, sir John Hobhouse, Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, Dr. Lushington, Mr. Littleton, Mr. Spring Rice, sir John Campbell, Mr. Sergeant Wilde, Mr. Fowell Buxton, lord Clements, and Mr. O'Connell. Those on the other side were, sir James Graham, Dr. Lefroy, colonel Damer, sir Robert Inglis, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, sir William Follett, Mr. Praed, Mr. Bielby Thompson, sir Henry Hardinge, lord Stanley, Mr. Richards, Mr. Goulbourn, Mr. Horace Twiss, Mr. Borthwick, and sir Robert Peel. At length, after lord John Russell had shortly replied, the house divided at nearly three o'clock on the morning of April 4, when the numbers were found to be, for the motion, 322; against it, 289.

Lord Elliot and Colonel Garwood were this month sent on a mission to Spain, by the duke of Wellington, to endeavour to put a stop to the cruelties practised by the belligerents, and render the war between the Carlists and constitutionalists less bloody and revengeful. Examples of the reciprocal massacre of prisoners when the fight was over had occurred last year, and in this had occurred instances of like atrocities, both on the part of Mina and Zumalacarraguy. The Christians hesitated at first to enter into any terms with the Carlists, whom they deemed rebels, but at length it was mutually agreed upon, between General Valdez and Don Carlos, that the prisoners taken on either side were to be treated as prisoners taken in ordinary war. The stipulations were only observed a few months, when the former barbarities were again practised.

Apr. 4. Lord John Russell, in a committee on the Irish Church bill, moved,—“That it is the opinion of this committee, that any surplus which may remain after fully providing for the spiritual wants of the members of the established church of Ireland ought to be applied to the *general education* of all classes of Christians.” Debate adjourned.

6. Debate resumed, and the resolution carried by 262 against 237.

7. Report of the committee being brought up, lord John Russell moved,—“That it is the opinion of this house that no measure upon the subject of tithes in Ireland can lead to a satisfactory and final adjustment which does not embody the principle contained in the foregoing resolution.” Another long debate followed, which terminated at one o'clock in the morning, when there appeared, *aves* 285, *noes* 258; majority against ministers, 27.

8. DISSOLUTION OF THE PARLIAMENT.—To-day the duke of Wellington in the upper house, and sir Robert Peel in the lower, announced their resignations in consequence of the resolution passed the preceding night. Sir Robert took his leave in a well-conceived speech, that elicited the praise of lord John Russell, and the consensaneous cheers of all parties. Though thwarted by the commons, he parted with them on good terms, and declared that, as the whole of his political life had been spent among them, the remainder of it should be spent there, and that he should always wish to stand well with the house, whether in a majority or minority. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii. 231.) His premiership had been brief, but characterised by ability, directness, and liberality. It showed that toriyism might exist in name, but that in practice it had disappeared. Abuses had ceased to be defended: economy was cultivated; inquiry into and information on all branches of the public service were readily conceded. All the ministerial plans had been framed to meet the public wants, and conciliate the public suffrages. They were mostly judicious, and satisfactory to the nation. The marriage bill satisfied the scruples of the sectaries; the Irish tithe bill was copied from that of their predecessors with amendments; and the chief defect of the bill for the commutation of English tithes was in its being voluntary in lieu of compulsory.

It was not in respect of the new practices of the torics, but their old, and as many believed innate propensities, that the commons turned round upon them. Their conversion was deemed suspicious, and suspected to be a hollow conformity to perpetuate official existence. Hence it was determined to try them, by bringing

into the battle-field Mr. Ward's appropriation clause (see *May 27, 1834*); it was not necessary to the progress of the Irish tithe bill, and it was used merely as a test to ascertain their progress in sound doctrine. This touchstone they could not withstand; ancient sympathies revived, and they recoiled from the idea of assenting even in words to the contingency, that if the wealth of the church was found redundant, it should be applied to any other purpose, not even to the laudable one of making the superfluity of the rich subservient to the education of the poor. Finding that this alternative would be pressed upon them, and their refusal to adopt it would be made the ground of an address to the king, expressive of a want of confidence in his ministers, they resigned their places. The parliamentary session up to the present had been comparatively lost. It was evident from the majorities against them at the commencement, that the ministry could not stand, but the opposition allowed them to describe their plans, and seemed disposed to despatch them by the established parliamentary routine, not by violence to hasten their dissolution.

9. The coffee-dealers of the metropolis represent to the Treasury the advantages of a further reduction in the duty on coffee, by tending to the increase of the revenue, to the benefit of consumers, and the prevention of adulteration with chicory and other deleterious articles.

10. *Gazette* announced the elevation of Alexander Baring, M. P., to the peerage, by the title of baron Ashburton.

A woman named Mary Ann Burdock was tried at Bristol for poisoning an old lady who lived with her. The trial lasted two days, and excited unusual interest. It appeared that the lady who was poisoned was possessed of a considerable sum of money, which excited the cupidity of the prisoner, who destroyed her by mixing arsenic in some gruel. This was on the 23d Oct., 1833. Circumstances having subsequently excited suspicion, the body was, fourteen months afterwards, taken out of the grave and examined, when the appearances presented led to the apprehension of the prisoner. She was executed on the 15th, and the crowd assembled on the occasion was immense.

During the administration of sir R. Peel, the following pensions were granted:—Professor Airy, 300*l.*; Mr. Southey, 300*l.*; Mrs. Somerville, 200*l.*; James Montgomery, 150*l.*; Sharon Turner, 200*l.*

14. The colonial office has determined on an issue of silver coins to pass current in the West Indies at 3*d.* and 1½*d.*, as well as of shillings and sixpences, to pro-

mote the success of the apprenticeship system.

18. MELBOURNE MINISTRY RESTORED.—On the resignation of sir R. Peel the king sent for earl Grey, who, whatever advice he might tender, declined the task of forming a new administration. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii. 235). The business therefore devolved on viscount Melbourne, who promptly completed his ministry out of his former materials; the chief alterations were the incorporation of lord Howick, the eldest son of earl Grey, in the cabinet, and the omission of lords Brougham and Althorp, now earl Spencer. On the premier mentioning the completion of his undertaking in the lords on the 18th, lord Alvanley asked him if he had secured the assistance of Mr. O'Connell and his friends, and, if so, on what terms? Lord Brougham protested against this interrogatory as disorderly; and lord Melbourne replied that he did not know whether or not he should have the support of Mr. O'Connell, but he had taken no measures to secure it. The following formed the new cabinet:—

Viscount Melbourne, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Marquis of Lansdowne, *President of the Council.*

Lord Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*

Lord John Russell, *Home Secretary.*

Rt. Hon. Charles Grant, *Colonial Secretary.*

Rt. Hon. Spring Rice, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Viscount Duncannon, *Lord Privy Seal, and Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests.*

Lord Auckland, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Sir John Hobhouse, *President of the India Board.*

Rt. Hon. C. Poulett Thomson, *President of Board of Trade.*

Lord Howick, *Secretary at War.*

Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

The appointments not Cabinet were:—

Sir Henry Parnell, *Paymaster of the Forces and Treasurer of the Navy.*

Lord Morpeth, *Irish Secretary.*

Marquis of Conyngham, *Postmaster-General.*

Charles Wood, esq., *Secretary to the Admiralty.*

Lord Dalmeny, Admiral Adam, Admiral Sir W. Parker, and Captain Elliott, *Junior Lords of the Admiralty.*

Lord Seymour, W. H. Ord, and Robert Stewart, esqrs., *Lords of the Treasury.*

T. Baring, and E. J. Stanley, esqrs. *Joint Secretaries of the Treasury.*

Robert Gordon and Vernon Smith, *esqrs.*
Joint Secretaries to the Board of Control.

Sir Rufane Donkin, *Surveyor-General of the Ordnance.*

Colonel Leith Hay, *Clerk of the Ordnance.*

Colonel Anson, *Storekeeper of the Ordnance.*

Sir George Grey, *Under Secretary of the Colonies.*

Lord Fordwich, *Under Foreign Secretary.*

Earl of Mulgrave, *Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Hon. Fox Maule, *Under Secretary for the Home Department.*

H. Labouchere, *esq., Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint.*

Appointments in the household:—

Marquis Wellesley, *Lord Chamberlain.*

Lord Albert Conyngham, *Vice-Chamberlain.*

Duke of Argyll, *Lord Steward.*

Earl of Albemarle, *Master of the Horse.*

Earl of Errol, *Master of the Buckhounds.*

Earl of Gosford, *Captain of the Yeoman Guard.*

Legal appointments:—

Sir John Campbell, *Attorney-General.*

R. M. Rolfe, *esq., Solicitor-General.*

Cutlar Fergusson, *esq., Judge-Advocate.*

J. A. Murray, *esq., Lord Advocate for Scotland.*

Mr. Cunningham, *Solicitor-General for Scotland.*

Lord Plunket, *Lord Chancellor of Ireland.*

Serjeant Perrin, *Attorney-General for Ireland.*

Michael O'Loughlin, *esq., Solicitor-General for Ireland.*

The Great Seal was reserved, and for the present put in commission. The commissioners were sir Charles Pepys, master of the rolls; sir Lancelot Shadwell, vice-chancellor; and Mr. justice Bosanquet. The change of ministers and some peerage creations caused several elections. Mr. Littleton being raised to the upper house by the title of lord Hatherton, a vacancy occurred in the county of Stafford. A conservative took the field and was returned. Mr. Charles Grant was created baron Glenelg, and the Scotch county of Inverness, which he had represented, returned a conservative. Lord John Russell was unexpectedly defeated in his re-election for South Devon. His lordship became member without opposition for Stroud, a vacancy having been made for him by the retirement of colonel Fox, who

became secretary to the ordnances. By a similar negotiat on, Mr. Kennedy, member for Tiverton, made room for lord Palmerston, who had lost his seat for Hampshire at the general election. In Yorkshire lord Morpeth was opposed, but carried his election by a large majority. Other ministers were re-elected without opposition. It is curious to remark, in respect of the restored ministry, the caprice of popular opinion. They were the same men, with one or two exceptions, that had become unpopular in the autumn, from the supposed want of general ability and zeal in the cause of reform. The nation now gladly witnessed their return to power as a happy escape from tory government; and they actually acquired strength, either from the increasing favour of the people, or the temporary indifference to political questions that usually follows a previous state of high excitement.

20. Commons adjourned to May 12.

At the end of the month the French chamber of deputies decided against the emancipation of the negroes, by a majority of 240 to 51! This decision is not honourable to the practical philanthropy of France. Deputies seemed willing enough to emancipate at the expense of the slaveholders, and to enjoy the honours of a vicarious generosity; but when it was suggested that a compensation, after the example of England, must be made to the planters out of the French purse, they clapped their hands on their pockets and at once refused to entertain the question.

May 4. Duel between lord Alvauxley and Morgan O'Connell, M.P., which terminated without injury to either party after firing several pistols. It originated in Mr. O'Connell taking up the dispute of his father with his lordship.

5. FRENCH POLITICAL TRIALS.—These trials originated in the insurrectionary riots (see April 9, 1834) of the republicans at Paris and Lyons, and which the government had suppressed by the bayonet and grape-shot, and the apprehension of 1000 persons. The question that had latterly agitated France, had been the mode of dealing with this mass of prisoners, whether by a general amnesty or by bringing them to trial. By the French charter the king has power to transfer the trial of political offences from the ordinary tribunals by a jury to the chamber of peers. Before the peers it was determined to bring the accused, and before this tribunal the entire body had been arraigned in the past year, and 164 selected for trial, the rest being discharged. The trials commenced on the 5th inst., preparatory to which a vast military force had been silently collected in Paris and the environs.

A temporary hall of wood, which cost 14,000*l.*, had been erected, the peers' chamber being too small for the purpose. The group of prisoners when brought to the bar presented a strange appearance. Many wore cocked hats, all moustachios, several had long beards, and one was shaved, combed, and dressed, so as to present a likeness of Robespierre. They were mostly weavers, newspaper-writers, and half-pay officers. Some days elapsed before the proceedings could be seriously entered upon. The accused insisted on an unlimited right in the choice of counsel, either from the French bar or elsewhere. This overruled, they objected to the jurisdiction of the court—refused to answer interrogatories—and denied the legality of the proceedings. Many were tried in their absence, and it was not till August 17 the peers were able to give judgment against the Lyonnese section of the accused, fifty-two in number, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life, or for a term of years. While the Lyons prisoners were being disposed of, most of those of Paris, who were really the most dangerous of the two classes, had contrived, by a subterraneous passage, to escape from the prison of St. Pelagie. Further proceedings in this state prosecution, or, as the Parisians termed it, the *procès-monstre*, were adjourned.

8. A deputation, headed by Dr. Birkbeck, waited upon the chancellor of the exchequer in order to lay before him statements relative to the repeal of the stamp-duty on newspapers. A long conversation ensued, chiefly upon the financial difficulties connected with the removal of the stamp-duty. The conference lasted two hours.

11. Lord Mulgrave, the new lord lieutenant of Ireland, landed at Kingstown and was escorted into Dublin by a vast assemblage of the people, who went in procession to meet him.

A dinner given to sir Robert Peel at the Merchant Tailors' Hall, at which the duke of Wellington and other public characters were present. Sir Robert Peel spoke at considerable length, and urged upon those around him the necessity of exertion in order to obtain effective influence in the house of commons, as the only check to those evils which he apprehended from the present state of things. In the forenoon a man had been brought before the lord mayor, charged with sticking up in the city the following placard:—"Poor men—take notice! A dinner to Peel will be given by the rump of the Pitt and plunder faction, assisted by the self-elected and corrupt courts of assistants of the grocers, tailors, goldsmiths, and skippers, 7 city aldermen, 7 poverty-stricken peers, 29 defeated candidates, 5 bishops, a bloated buffoon, the

idiot, and a mayor, on Monday next, May 11th. The expenses to be defrayed out of the funds left for charitable purposes." The bill-sticker was ordered to find bail.

12. GERMAN COMMERCIAL LEAGUE.—Prussia, strong without, and enjoying prosperity and peace within, has almost completed her great scheme of uniting the German states in one body, so far as concerns the duties on exports and imports. The grand-duchy of Baden, whose position in regard to France rendered its accession to the system an object of much importance, had long resisted; but all difficulties were overcome, and Baden on the 12th inst. signed the mutual treaty as a member of the league. Hitherto the custom-duties had varied in each state, being higher in some and lower in others. A necessary consequence was, that each state was surrounded by its own line of custom-houses, and guarded by its own peculiar system of protective or prohibitory duties. To each of them all the neighbouring states were foreign countries; trade was hampered, and manufactures were depressed by innumerable obstructions; and the expense of maintaining so many fiscal establishments was a heavy drawback on the revenues which they collected. Prussia had laboured for several years to unite the different members of the confederation in a treaty, which would establish one tariff for all the states, the duties to be collected on the frontier only of what would then form one commercial union, and thus relieve the industry and intercourse of the interior from interminable lines of custom-houses. One after another, Bavaria, Hesse Cassel, Wurtemberg, Hesse Darmstadt, the small states of Thuringia and Baden joined the association. Hamburgh and Frankfort next entered the union; the latter city had been kept back till it had procured the revocation of a treaty it had concluded a short time previously with England. The entire confederacy now consists of four kingdoms, three grand dukedoms, and more than twenty smaller states; the whole comprising 8654 German square miles, with 27,728,000 inhabitants. (*Foreign Quarterly Review*, xiv. 306.) As the inhabitants are generally industrious, and their industry being chiefly connected with agriculture, there is no natural tendency among them to vie with English manufactures; and nothing save a mistaken policy can thwart the continuance and even extension of a commercial intercourse, attended with reciprocal benefits. That this has been the result is shown by the exports of British and Irish commodities to Germany having increased since the first commencement of the league, Jan. 1, 1834. In the four preceding years

the average exports amounted to 4,576,144l.; in the four years from 1834 to 1837 inclusive to 4,782,207l.

14. At the annual meeting of the London Missionary Society, at Exeter Hall, a dexterous theft was committed. Amongst the sums collected on the occasion were a quantity of bank-notes and slips of paper, technically termed I O U's, amounting to nearly 600l., which were put apart in a bag, and placed on a table behind the chairman. While the assembly were singing a doxology, the bag was stolen.

18. A corporal of the marines executed at Maidstone for the murder of a woman, whom, in a fit of drunken fury, he had stabbed with his bayonet. The jury on the trial expressed themselves in strong terms on the inexpediency of allowing soldiers not on duty to wear their side-arms.

20. At a convocation held at Oxford, it was proposed to substitute at matriculation a subscription to the following declaration instead of the usual subscription to the 39 Articles:—"I, A. B., declare that I do, so far as my knowledge extends, assent to the doctrines of the United Church of England and Ireland, as set forth in her thirty-nine articles; that I will conform to her liturgy and discipline; and that I am ready and willing to be instructed in her articles of religion, as required by the statutes of this University." On a division the numbers in favour of the alteration were 57, and against it 459.

A meeting held at the British Coffee-house, Westminster, T. W. Coke, esq., in the chair, at which it was resolved to establish a reform association, to ensure the registration of the electors of Britain, and to protect them in the independent exercise of the elective franchise. A large number of names of noblemen and gentlemen appear in the published list of the committee; and G. Grote, M.P., is appointed treasurer of the association. A similar union, the Carlton Club, had been set on foot by the conservatives.

21. At a meeting of the Pitt club, held in Edinburgh, it was, on the motion of lord Meadowbank, resolved to appropriate 1000l. sterling for the establishment, in the university of Edinburgh, of a prize to be given annually to the most deserving of the students attending the Divinity Hall, and which should be termed and known by the name of the Pitt prize.

In the upper house, lord Brougham, after entering into the subject of education generally, proposed fourteen resolutions, embodying the leading principles of his plan for the improvement of national education. He expressed himself opposed to the government undertaking the establishment of a general system of schools, on the

ground that such an interference would in all probability check the exertions of private individuals, by means of which he contended that the want of common schools was already in the course of being supplied. He admitted, however, the inferior quality of the education dispensed at such schools, and, to remedy that evil, proposed that normal schools, or schools for the education of teachers, should be instituted and supported from the public funds. Lord Melbourne undertook, on the part of ministers, that the subject should receive the closest and most anxious consideration.

The commons early adjourned, owing to a singular mistake—the name of a member of the house, which had been twice called and supposed to have been answered by the individual as being present, having been inserted in a ballot on an election petition, when the fact was that he had not been present at all. This informality caused an adjournment.

27. At the close of the contested election for South Staffordshire, arising out of the elevation of Mr. Littleton to the peerage, and said to be the only contested election which has occurred there for the last 85 years, a disturbance took place at Wolverhampton, which led to the reading of the riot act and the intervention of the military.

June 1. King Otho having attained his majority, the regency placed the reins of government in his hands. Prior to the landing of the prince at the Piræus, the seat of the Greek government had been transferred from Nauplia to Athens.

4. Anniversary of the charitable schools of the metropolis in St. Paul's cathedral. Among the audience was prince Jamshed-deen, a son of Tippoo Saib, and one of the hostages given to lord Cornwallis in 1792, who is at present on a visit to this country.

5. REFORM OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.—To-day lord John Russell introduced the important subject of a reform of the municipalities of England and Wales, and which had been looked forward to with great interest and a considerable degree of impatience by the community. The abuses existing in municipal corporations had for more than two centuries been a matter of constant and nearly universal complaint. Any general remedy, however, was impracticable, while abuses in the representation of the people in parliament were to be maintained. The venal boroughs, of which the franchise was abolished or amended by the Reform Act, were the chief seats of corporation abuse; and the correction of the local evil would have been the virtual destruction of the system by which the aristocracy retained its political ascendancy. Every borough having

the privilege of returning a member to parliament, was indispensable either to the whig or tory party; and in these boroughs the greatest abuses naturally prevailed, because impunity in the neglect of duty, and in the misapplication of the municipal funds, was the cheapest bribe by which the suffrages of the corporators could be purchased. Impunity being thus secured in the parliamentary boroughs, it would have been too trying an experiment on the patience of the people to have undertaken to reform the comparatively insignificant abuses of the non-parliamentary boroughs. The greater abuse thus served to shelter the less; but its chief value was destroyed by parliamentary reform; and moreover, having extended to the people the right of choosing the members of the legislature, the inferior right of choosing their own local authorities could not consistently be withheld. The boroughs of Scotland had, as already stated, (p. 938,) undergone a system of purification by vesting the election of the magistrates and town-councils in the ten-pound householders. In England it was thought advisable to proceed by issuing, in 1833, a commission under the great seal, consisting of twenty gentlemen, to inquire into the state of municipal corporations, their modes of administering justice, their revenues and funds, and the privileges of freemen and other members thereof. The number of places in which the inquiries under the commission were carried on was 237, having a population of 2,028,513. In twenty-five places the number of corporators not ascertained; in the others (212) they amount to 88,509. The governing body is self-elected in 186 boroughs. This body elects the mayor in 131 boroughs, appoints the recorder in 136, and the town clerk in 135. The number of corporators exercising magisterial functions is 1086 in 188 boroughs. In 112 boroughs the corporation has exclusive criminal jurisdiction extending to the trial of various descriptions of offences; and in forty-two their jurisdiction is not exclusive. Seventeen boroughs do not enjoy any income whatever; in eight the precise amount could not be obtained. The total income of 212 boroughs amounts to 366,948*l.*; their expenditure to 377,027*l.*: 103 are involved in debts amounting to 1,855,371*l.*, and are besides burked with annuities amounting to 4463*l.* In twenty-eight boroughs only are the accounts published; in fifteen the annual income is under 20*l.*; in eleven it is between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.*; in five, 3000*l.* and under 4000*l.*; in one, 4000*l.* and under 5000*l.*; in four, 5000*l.* and under 7500*l.*; in five, 10,000*l.* and under 12,500*l.*; in one, 12,500*l.* and under

15,000*l.*; in one, 15,000*l.* and under 20,000*l.*; in one, 33,000*l.*, and in one, 91,000*l.* In closing their general report on the corporations, the commissioners say:—“Even where these institutions exist in their least imperfect form, and are most rightfully administered, they are inadequate to the wants of the present state of society. In their actual condition, where not productive of positive evil, they exist, in the great majority of instances, for no purpose of general utility. The perversion of municipal institutions to political ends has occasioned the sacrifice of local interests to party purposes, which have been frequently pursued through the corruption and demoralization of the electoral bodies.

“In conclusion, we report to your Majesty that there prevails amongst the inhabitants of a great majority of the incorporated towns a general, and, in our opinion, a just dissatisfaction with their municipal institutions; a distrust of the self-elected municipal councils, whose powers are subject to no popular control, and whose acts and proceedings being secret, are unchecked by the influence of public opinion; a distrust of the municipal magistracy, tainted with suspicion the local administration of justice, and often accompanied with contempt of the persons by whom the law is administered; a discontent under the burdens of local taxation, while revenues that ought to be applied for the public advantage are diverted from their legitimate use, and are sometimes wastefully bestowed for the benefit of individuals, sometimes squandered for purposes injurious to the character and morals of the people. We therefore feel it to be our duty to represent to your Majesty that the existing municipal corporations of England and Wales neither possess nor deserve the confidence or respect of your Majesty's subjects, and that a thorough reform must be effected before they can become what we humbly submit to your Majesty they ought to be, useful and efficient instruments of local government.” Upon these representations, and the mass of evils disclosed by the commissioners in their voluminous returns, lord John Russell founded his bill of municipal regulation. It was elaborately discussed in both houses, and did not pass through its several stages until the end of the session. In the lords it was sharply scrutinized; various amendments were there introduced, which a majority of the commons did not consider improvements. In some of these amendments they refused to concur; on others conferences were held with the upper house; and in others, where agreement or compromise was unattainable, the noble mover recommended that

the commons should acquiesce rather than lose the bill altogether; for, "though deprived of much of its original excellence, it was still an effective reform of municipal institutions." As first introduced, the bill extended to 183 boroughs, including a population of about two millions. Five boroughs were cut off from its operation. To 128 of the more important boroughs a commission of the peace is assigned, while to the remaining 50 a commission will only be granted on application to the crown. Many boroughs, on account of their insignificance, are excluded from the act. London, with its numerous and wealthy incorporated guilds, is reserved for future legislation. The grand feature of the municipal bill is that it vests the local government of a town in the rated and permanently resident inhabitants. "Every male person of full age who, on the last day of August in any year, shall have occupied premises within the borough continuously for the *three previous years*, and shall for that time have been an inhabitant householder within seven miles of the borough, provided that he shall have been rated to the poor-rates, and shall have paid them and all borough rates during the time of his occupation," is qualified to vote for the town-council. In the council is vested the entire deliberative and administrative functions of the corporation. They appoint the town-clerk and treasurer, and from them the mayor and aldermen are chosen. They have the control of the police, watching, and lighting; they may make bye-laws, and impose fines for their non-observance, for the prevention of nuisances, and the due government of the borough. They have the control of the burghess fund: if there be a surplus, after defraying all necessary expenses, they may apply it to local improvements or any object beneficial to the inhabitants; or, if the fund be insufficient, they may order rates, of the nature of a county rate, to be levied. They have also a power, if they think it requisite that one or more salaried *police magistrates* should be appointed, to fix the amount of such magistrates' salaries, and, upon their application, the crown is empowered to appoint the number of magistrates required. To prevent fraud, jobbing, and waste in the management of the burghess revenue, provision is made for the periodical auditing of accounts, and their subsequent publication. The burghesses yearly appoint the auditors, who must be persons qualified to be councillors, but not actually of that body, lest identity of interest might lead to partiality in the exercise of their function. The *qualification of a councillor* is a property qualification, varying with the amount of population. In

boroughs divided into four or more wards, a real or personal estate of 1000*l.*, or being rated to the poor upon the annual value of at least 30*l.*; in other boroughs a moiety of this qualification suffices. The qualification clause was one of the questionable amendments introduced by the lords, as well as that appointing *aldermen*, an order having precedence merely and no duties distinct from those of councillors; and who appear to have been created either out of a veneration for ancient names and degrees, or from a desire to preserve in the new municipalities a miniature representation of the imperial government of three estates—king, lords, and commons. All the existing rights of freedom, or citizenship, or burghess-ship, in the old corporations, are preserved to the *present possessors*. This was just; as many of these immunities consisted of an interest in charities, lands, or exemption from tolls, which had been purchased by money or services, or acquired by lawful inheritance. But all exclusive privileges of trading, or of exercising any calling or handicraft, in corporate towns are abolished. As the act was framed for the reform of *existing* municipal corporations, it does not apply to the unincorporated towns. But on the petition of the inhabitant householders of any town not corporate, the crown is empowered to extend the provisions of this important statute by the grant of charters of incorporation.

June 5. A bill for establishing a metropolitan water company, which was to obtain supplies of soft water by means of Artesian wells, was rejected in the commons, by 134 to 60.

At the Kent special sessions, the grand jury found a true bill against 18 persons, most of whom were labourers, for being concerned in riots which took place on the introduction of the new poor law bill into that district, and the consequent change of system. On their trials they were all found guilty, but were recommended to mercy.

9. An order in council appeared in the *Gazette*, suspending the Foreign Enlistment Bill in favour of the queen of Spain, and permitting recruits and supplies to be raised in this country for her service. Colonel De Lacy Evans, one of the members for Westminster, was appointed by the Spanish authorities to the command of a British auxiliary legion, raised for that purpose. When a battalion of these troops had landed at St. Sebastian, July 10, Don Carlos issued a proclamation, threatening to shoot all "strangers" taken prisoners.

16. Zumalacarreguy, the commander-in-chief of the troops of Don Carlos, and

a brave and active officer, mortally wounded near Bilbao. He was the modern Montrose of Spain, and the chief support of the Carlist cause. Almost immediately after his death the Carlists raised the siege of Bilbao, and retired dispirited. He was succeeded in command by Moreno, a well-known but inferior man, who presided at the execution of General Torrijos and Mr. Boyd.

17. The forty-seventh anniversary of the Literary Fund celebrated at the Freemasons' Hall. On the health of Azmi Bey, the patron of the Lancasterian system in Persia, being drunk, the compliment was acknowledged by him through his interpreter, who stated that full 10,000 children were receiving instruction under the Lancasterian system in Persia.

18. An explosion took place at one of Mr. Russell's mines at Wallsend, about four miles from Newcastle. Upwards of an hundred individuals, most of them young men and boys, lost their lives by this melancholy occurrence.

18. DEATH OF WILLIAM COBBETT, M. P.—This remarkable public character, after a bustling and varied life, expired on Normandy Farm, seven miles from Farnham, his native place. The late hours of the house of commons, and the change of habits imposed upon him by his entrance at an advanced age into parliament, may have hastened his death a few years. He survived, however, beyond the average term of human existence. According to his own reckoning he was born in 1766; according to his baptismal register, which is the safer authority, he was born in 1762. He was the third of four sons of a small farmer and publican at Farnham, who occupied a house still standing beside the river Wey, which has been known for eighty years past as "The Jolly Farmer." His father was a just man, who, to the extent of his means and ability, did his duty to his children. On the winter evenings he taught his boys to read, write, and cipher; grammar he did not understand, but he made them get the rules by heart, which, though of little advantage unaccompanied with a verbal elucidation of principles, is usually as much as is done for pupils in the ordinary routine of school instruction. William Cobbett had thus the benefit of a good parental example, and, furnished with the chief instruments of knowledge, his future acquirements depended on native talent, inclination, and industry, in none of which he was deficient. Arrived at manhood and desirous of another occupation than husbandry, he became clerk to a London attorney, from the secluded drudgery of whose employment he speedily escaped by enlisting for a soldier. He

was eight years in the army, and, by his correct conduct and superior merit, rapidly passed through every rank from that of private to sergeant-major. He devoted the leisure afforded by a soldier's life to reading and intellectual improvement. After obtaining his discharge, he accused some of his late officers of embezzlement in the regimental accounts; a court-martial was granted at his earnest solicitation: he allowed the court to assemble, and the witnesses on both sides, but, instead of appearing to substantiate his charges, he privately, along with his newly-married wife, withdrew to France. (*Westminster Review*, lvi. 455.) Here he spent six months, the happiest, he used to say, he ever spent in his life. He next went over to New York, and sought, through the means of Mr. Jefferson, employment under the American government. Failing in this application, he commenced giving lessons in the English and French languages, and, in addition, became an author and bookseller. This was about the year 1794.

As public writer Cobbett found his congenial element, and, under the *nom de guerre* he had assumed of "Peter Porcupine," shot his quills in all directions. The French revolutionists, the founders of American independence, the English reformers, and the friends of liberty of every clime, became the unsparing objects of his literary vengeance. His boldness, sagacity, violent abuse, and powers of ridicule and argument, soon attracted notice. But his popularity was short-lived. Exaggeration and audacious virulence, which were his favourite weapons, may conduce to transitory notoriety, but can never long sustain an author in public estimation. He returned to England in 1800; a step hastened, if not rendered unavoidable, by loss of reputation, and the results of several prosecutions for libel instituted against him in the American courts. The fame of his writings had preceded him, and his arrival was welcomed by John Reeves, Mr. Gifford, the police-justice, and other active anti-jacobins, with whom he had corresponded while in the United States. On consulting Mr. Reeves about the state of opinion in London, Reeves told him, as Cobbett used to relate, that there were only two ways of proceeding in this country, either "To kiss or kick," and he must make his election. The eccentric Mr. Windham was one of his warmest admirers; declaring in parliament that the anti-revolutionary writings of Cobbett in America had been so meritorious, that the author deserved "a statue of gold." Under the auspices of these gentlemen, he started a daily paper. During the war, government often lent its aid for the support and

establishment of journals in its interest, and Mr. Cobbett is understood to have received 3000 guineas from the Treasury, to assist in carrying on his *Porcupine Gazette*. His speculation, however, failed, chiefly from mismanagement, the proprietor begrudging the expense necessary to procure the ordinary articles of newspaper intelligence. The paper, which for these reasons had declined in sale, received its death-blow, when, at the peace of Amiens, to which Cobbett was opposed, on his refusing to illuminate his office, the populace broke his windows. In retaliation, he published no paper next day, and when he was again pleased to publish the public would not buy. He was not more successful in the bookselling business, which he also attempted in Pall Mall, under the orthodox emblem of the "Bible and Crown." Mr. Cobbett was never successful in *journalism*, the chief reason of which appears to have been that he was more of a commentator on, than a promulgator of, news and occurrences. Hence, the "Weekly Register," which he established after the abandonment of his daily paper, was the sort of publication best suited to his political dissertations. This remarkable depository of the politics of the day, and of the editor's party sentiments, he carried on with untiring energy and singular versatility of talent up to the period of his death. No occurrence interrupted its publication; neither his business as a large farmer in Hampshire, nor his tours in England and Scotland: his "long arm," as he told his readers, even reached across the Atlantic, and the Register, for almost forty years, was punctual in its hebdomadal appearance, dated from Botley, Barn Elms, New York, or Rhode Island. Contemporary with the Register, he was occupied in various other works, the History and Debates of Parliament, and at a later period in the composition of grammars, histories, travels, and books on gardening and rural affairs. He was very industrious, and, his habits being temperate and regular, he was always fit for his daily task without waste of time. The early volumes of the Register, especially those from about 1803 to 1809, appear to have been carefully conducted; are distinguished by their admirable English composition, cogent reasoning, great novelty of remark and illustration, and are less virulent in style, and more correct in the detail of facts than his earlier or later writings. The sale of the Register, December 31st, 1803, amounted to 4000, which was a great number for the period; and it was circulated at a high price, chiefly among official people and the rich, whose

aristocracy he fiercely and uncompromisingly represented. He was, however, quite a *girouette* in politics, blowing his coach at intervals from every point of the political compass. From 1794 to 1803 he was an intolerant anti-Jacobin, and the panegyrist of Mr. Pitt. In the short interval from 1803 to 1805 he inclined towards the opposition; denounced the Addington ministry because of its pacific policy, and its consisting of men not belonging to the great families; and exerted himself, in conjunction with Mr. Perry, to bring the whigs into power to accomplish a moderate reform in the house of commons. Disgusted with the whigs, when in office, who, he thought, were no better than the Tories, from 1805 to 1817 he sided with Sir F. Burdett and the Westminster electors, who repudiated both the aristocratical parties. About 1818 he sank into a lower deep; became a republican and a universal suffrage man, and the reviler of all his former principles and associates. From this extreme depression he seemed to be recovering before his death; manifested a favourable disposition towards Sir Robert Peel and the Tories: but such transitions of sentiment had rendered his co-operation of little value to any party. There were, however, two subjects on which he was generally consistent—he always opposed the funding system and the moneyed interest connected with it; and he was also steadily inimical to the education of the people above the practical knowledge appertaining to their probable condition in life. Although it was in writing that Mr. Cobbett chiefly excelled, he attained to considerable proficiency as a public speaker; and this, like his other acquisitions, was the result of his own efforts. His first attempt, however, was a failure. Lord Brougham, who appears to have been present, thus describes his two appearances, in 1810 and 1820, in a court of justice, in trials for libels:—"He defused himself, and, appearing there, for the first time, before a public audience, exhibited a new but by no means a rare example of the difference between writing and speaking; for nothing could be more dull and unimpressive than his speech, nothing less clear and distinct than its reasoning, more feeble than its style, or more embarrassed and inefficient than its delivery. But he afterwards defended himself, in 1820, against actions brought by private parties whom he had slandered, and then, having by practice in the interval acquired considerable ease in speaking, his appearance was more than respectable—it was very effective. His style was also abundantly characteristic and racy, it had great originality, it suited the man, it possessed

nearly all the merit of his written productions, and was set off by a kind of good, easy, comic delivery, with no little archness of both look and face, that made it clear he was calculated to tell with a popular assembly."—(*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, i. 6.) He became an amusing public lecturer too: the writer remembers being present at one of his exhibitions in the late Surrey Institution, when he gave imitations of lord John Russell, Mr. Brougham, lords Holland and Lansdowne, and other public men, mimicking their tones and gestures, and the supposed evasive arguments they would resort to in the approaching parliamentary session (1830) for postponing reform, which kept his auditors very merry, eliciting roars of laughter.

Although Mr. Cobbett did not enter the house of commons till after the reform bill, he did not fail in that arduous theatre; he was neither obtrusive nor diffident; a frequent and rarely an unsuccessful speaker. Taking him in the two relations of life—active and speculative—owing everything to his own spontaneous exertions, the late M.P. for Oldham was unquestionably one of the most remarkable men of his time. He never became a learned man, he was not deeply versed in any branch of knowledge, not even political economy, though a science intimately connected with the subjects of his weekly lucubrations; he neither treated nor understood questions scientifically, and always affected great contempt for "feelosophy;" but his superficiality was, perhaps, more available to his purpose, and certainly had a more marketable value than deep abstractions. In the politics and common affairs of life he was a proficient; possessed an unerring sagacity in detecting the real from the apparent in both men and measures; and his squandering glances at current impostures were often as serviceable to the community as mortifying to those who sought to profit by them. At the same time, he could himself act as well as detect the *Scapin* tricks of others: he could fill the trough as dexterously as any of his contemporaries, to attract either the herd of democracy or aristocracy. His bringing over from America, (whither he had been driven, as he told his readers, to escape the dungeons of Castlereagh and Sidmouth, but, according to another version, to escape from his creditors,) the bones of Thomas Paine, as relics, upon which to raise money; his scheme for destroying the credit of the Bank of England by the nocturnal sowing of the streets with forged notes; and his various devices for getting into parliament by public subscriptions, are instances of his audacious *raids* on public credulity. He was uncommonly clever it must be al-

lowed, but mere cleverness, unaccompanied with the steady pursuit of noble and virtuous ends, can never constitute a great character. Ability without service to mankind is no more valid a passport to the Pantheon than to the Newgate Calendar. By his strange inconsistencies, Mr. Cobbett and the world were quits at parting; for his utterings on both sides having been nearly equal in zeal and quantity, they did not turn the scale either way, gave to neither a preponderance. His mind had little depth, and no powers of generalization: it was of a legal cast, and his pleadings on public questions were like those of a lawyer who feels bound to utter for his client whatsoever may serve him, without regard to right or wrong, truth or falsehood. The manner, rather than the matter, of his writings, constituted their attraction. He promulgated no new truths, made no new discoveries. But his lucid diction, logical arrangement, graphic stories, jocularly, heartiness of abuse, and semblance of honesty, zeal, and independence, fascinated his readers. Divested of the dross which his violence, dogmatism, and devouring egotism encumbered them, they possess rare and almost unequalled merits. He is always spirited, never vapid or desponding; his humour is rich, glowing, and risible in the extreme: his descriptions of scenes in which he took a part, especially those at public meetings, and of natural scenery, are the best in the language. In spite of his vacillations and imprudences, he always kept a strong hold on public opinion, and continued during almost half a century to interest a numerous class of readers, which, more than anything, proves his extraordinary and versatile powers as a writer. Some allowances must be made for the disadvantages of his personal history. His instincts were probably good, but perverted by unfavourable circumstances. The country alehouse, the attorney's office, the barrack room, and unceasing strife of politics, were better schools for sharpening the intellect than ethical discipline. Owing everything to himself; having trampled by steady perseverance over the drawbacks of humble parentage and education, it is not surprising, though much to be regretted, that his success was alloyed by arrogance, vanity, changeableness, and self-will. He had, however, extenuating excellences. He was independent in his course—too much so perhaps—and seldom truckled to any man or party. He was not selfish, at least, in a sordid sense. His love of money was always subordinate to his love of notoriety. His aims too were superior. He was no trifler, who dawdled away existence in low and frivolous pursuits. Reforms

in public institutions, or improvements in agriculture, were the staple objects to which he was devoted. He always reverted to the scenes of infancy with delight. This and his attachment to a country life showed that a long communion with the world had failed to alienate his affections from the simplicity of nature.

30. **RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN TURKEY.**—Both England and France were made practically to feel the influence Russia had acquired over the Porte, by the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi, (see July 8. 1833). By the treaty concluded between Turkey and Britain in 1809, English ships of war were to be allowed to pass the Hellespont only on condition of landing their guns at the Dardanelles. But in the same treaty it was stipulated that England should enjoy every right and privilege allowed "to the most favoured nations in amity with the Porte." By the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi, the Porte agreed to allow to Russian ships free egress from, and ingress into, the Black Sea. It followed, that England could claim the same right of access to the Black Sea, without a new convention to that effect. The case of France stood precisely on the same ground, and both parties determined to ascertain whether Russia, by her secret treaty, had acquired privileges to which they were not admissible. Accordingly the French Government in the month of June applied to the Porte for a passage for a sloop of war to convey M. Texier, who was desirous of pursuing his archaeological researches along the shores of the Black Sea. The reis effendi replied that it was impossible to comply with the request, the Porte being bound by treaty to refuse entrance into the Black Sea to the ships of every nation, excepting those of her ally Russia. England applying about the same time for the passage of a government steamer to convey Mr. Ellis, the new ambassador, to Persia, and his suite, to proceed through the Dardanelles to Trebizond, Russia interfered because the vessel was armed, and permission was refused on the same pretext on which it had been refused to France. Shortly afterwards the earl of Durham proceeded from England as ambassador to St. Petersburg. He took the routs of Constantinople and Odessa. He arrived in the Dardanelles in the *Barham*, but was transferred with his suite from the *Barham* into an unarmed vessel.

27. The late Mr. Cobbett buried in the churchyard of Farnham, in Surrey, his native town. The funeral was attended by Messrs. O'Connell, Wakley, Fielden, and a number of other gentlemen. The mortal remains of this extraordinary man, after his long and busy life, rest with

those of his humble ancestors. Many thousand persons witnessed the ceremony.

28. Charles Mathews, so justly celebrated in the theatrical world, for the exquisite life and humour of his delineations of character and manners, died at Devonport in his 60th year, after a lingering illness. He was the son of a respectable bookseller in the Strand, a Wesleyan Methodist, who, discovering the irresistible propensity of young Mathews, thus addressed him:—"Charles, there are your indentures, and also 20 guineas; I do not approve of the stage, but I will not oppose your wishes. At any time hereafter, should you feel inclined to turn to an honest calling, there are 20 guineas more, if you send for them, and your father's house is open to you." The second 20 guineas Mathews never claimed. His mono-dramatic entertainments, his "Mail Coach Adventures," his "At Home," and "Trip to America," were a source of infinite amusement during many seasons.

29. Serious disturbances occurred at Great Bircham, in Norfolk, owing to the execution of that part of the poor law amendment bill, which enacts that relief shall be given in kind instead of in money. The peasantry rose in a body against the parish officers, refused to work for the farmers, and assaulted two men who were willing to work. The house of the principal farmer of the parish was attacked and set on fire; but, on the military being called out, the riot was suppressed without bloodshed.

July 1. The sale of a large portion of monastic and other ecclesiastical property ordered to be sold by the Portuguese government began. An apprehension was felt that there might be a difficulty in finding purchasers, but the property sold readily enough. Many foreigners were among the buyers.

8. At a levee, sir F. Shuckburgh, chairman of a committee of Baronets, presented to his majesty two petitions from certain of the baronets of England, of Scotland, of Ireland, and of the United Kingdom, and their eldest sons, praying a restoration of various privileges originally belonging to the order, but stated to have been in abeyance since the Restoration.

9. The eighth vessel which has been taken up by government, under the management of the Emigration Committee, for the conveyance of females to New South Wales, sailed from the Thames. The number sent out in this instance was 160 single females, and about 40 other persons, chiefly agriculturists, and their families.

21. In going into committee on the Irish Church Bill, sir R. Peel moved, that it be divided into two portions, forming separate bills of the tithe adjustment and

appropriation clauses. The proposal was debated three nights, when there appeared for preserving the bill entire, 319; for air Robert's motion, 282.

21. The duke of Palmella intimated to the British ambassador, that the Portuguese government had determined, under the powers reserved in the treaty of 1810, to declare the Methuen treaty at an end after Jan., 1836. This treaty, altered in some particulars, but continued in its principal provisions, had long regulated the commercial intercourse between Britain and Portugal, and gave, or was supposed to give, peculiar advantages to this country. We had, however, set the first example of departing from its exclusive and in fact impolitic principles, by equalizing the duties on foreign wines, and admitting the wines of France on the same terms as those of Portugal.

24. The "Earl Grey" steam-packet from Rothesay to Glasgow, having stopped at Greenock to disembark passengers and receive others, just as she was about to depart the boiler exploded. Thirty-six persons and upwards were killed and injured.

28. ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF LOUIS PHILIP.—During the festivities of the annual commemoration of the revolution of 1830, the French king narrowly escaped assassination. It was the second day of the rejoicings, and appointed for a military review. As Louis Philip was riding along the line of the national guard, on the boulevard du Temple, accompanied by his three sons and a splendid suite, an explosion, like a discharge of musquetry, took place from the window of an adjoining house. The effect was terrific. Marshal Mortier, general de Virigny, several grenadiers, beside lookers-on, among whom was a child, were shot dead upon the spot, some of them having received two or three bullets. Upwards of forty were killed and wounded, of whom fourteen were killed. Yet the object of this indiscriminate slaughter escaped—the king was unhurt. The police, guided by the smoke, rushed into the house whence the explosion proceeded. They seized the assassin, covered with blood, in the act of letting himself down by a rope from the back window of the apartment. He was himself severely wounded, by the bursting of some of the barrels of his "infernal machine;" and his wounds had delayed his escape. The machine consisted of 25 barrels, arranged horizontally side by side, upon a frame, the back part of which could be raised or lowered according to the angle requisite to reach and sweep the space below. Each barrel was loaded with deadly missiles; the touchholes communicated by

means of a train of gunpowder, and the lighting of one simultaneously discharged them all. The window, at a little distance from which the machine was placed, stood open, but the machine itself had been screened from observation by Persian blinds, which were not withdrawn till the instant of explosion. It was conjectured that the time required to open the blinds had not been calculated, which omission saved the king, for the discharge took place immediately behind him, one of the bullets wounding his horse. The assassin turned out to be a Corsican named Fieschi, who had gone through many disreputable vicissitudes,—had been a soldier—stood in the pillory for forgery—suffered two years' imprisonment for theft—and had been a spy of the police. He made no attempt to deny his guilt; he acknowledged no motive except dislike of the king. His trial showed that two persons as obscure as himself had been privy to his enterprise, but not the slightest thread of connexion could be traced between the desperado and any formidable conspiracy or political party. A momentary stupor followed the explosion, but, as soon as it was known that neither the king nor the princes were hurt, it gave place to tumultuous expressions of joy, mingled with rage against the author of the crime. The forms of the review were gone through by the king, but the rejoicings of the revolutionary anniversary were suspended; the tri-coloured flag was veiled in crape; the victims of the massacre were buried with the honours of a public funeral, which the king and his family attended, and pensions were voted by the chambers to the poor persons who had been wounded, and the relatives of those who had been killed.

30. Sir Charles Wetherell addressed the house of lords for three hours, objecting to the principle and provisions of the Corporation Reform Bill, and also to the report of the commissioners on which the bill was founded. He resumed his address on the following day, and was seconded by a two days' speech from Mr. Knight. After they had concluded, lord Melbourne, in answer to the duke of Newcastle, intimated that he would object to hear evidence in support of the arguments of counsel. The duke then remonstrated, threatening to impeach the prime minister; upon which he was reminded that an impeachment could only originate in the commons. Ultimately the lords determined to hear evidence, but the witnesses being chiefly interested parties, town-clerks, and others connected with corporations, the house, Aug. 8, came to an arrangement by which their examinations were concluded.

Aug. 4. A warm debate in the commons on Mr. Hume moving eleven resolutions condemnatory of the introduction of Orange lodges into the army, and of the alleged conduct of the duke of Cumberland in having, on various occasions, in his capacity of grand-master, issued warrants for the formation of such lodges. Discussion resumed on the 11th, and a committee appointed to inquire into the Orange lodges of England.

VIOLATIONS OF THE FRENCH CHARTER.—The French ministry seized the opportunity afforded by the crime of Fieschi to strengthen the executive power. Although it was soon ascertained that the assassin was unconnected with any political confederacy, the alarm and horror his atrocious attempt occasioned afforded, like the treasonable attack on the person of George III. in 1796, a convenient and plausible pretext for destroying the valuable safeguards of popular liberty. On the 4th the subject was introduced to the chamber of deputies by the president of the council, the duke de Broglie. He said that France, during the last five years, had enjoyed the utmost prosperity in a state of constant alarm and disquietude. Factions, though subdued, still existed in secret; each day disclosed the evil worked by them and the disastrous traces of their passage. An inveterate hatred of the existing order, a determination to overthrow it at any sacrifice, were still to be found in the ranks of a minority which, though vanquished, was not submissive. Respect for the laws was undermined, the character of the sovereign of their choice was unceasingly assailed, his life was hourly threatened, and society since 1830, in the entire absence of all foreign danger and menace, had exhibited nothing more than a protracted revolutionary crisis. For meeting these calamities the minister proposed a series of severe and arbitrary laws for the prevention and punishment of state crimes and attempts at revolution. The first of these laws was directed wholly against the press, of the dangerous fanaticism and profound immorality of which the duke complained in strong terms, though he did not expressly identify any part of the press with Fieschi's attempt. M. Persil, the minister of justice, went farther than the duke and frankly avowed that the government was resolved that neither a republican nor Carlist press should exist, for the existence of such a press was incompatible with the very principle of the government. Three bills were introduced, and the following are the important clauses of that directed against the press, and which at once annihilates all free printing:—Art. 1. Any

one found guilty of an offence against the person of the king, by any *mode of publication* whatever, to be punished with imprisonment and fine of from 400*l.* to 2000*l.* 2. For ridiculing the person or authority of the king, from six months to five years in prison—fine 20*l.* to 400*l.* The offender moreover to be deprived of the whole or part of the civil rights mentioned in article 42 of the penal code, for the entire duration of his penalty, and for a term equal to that of the imprisonment to which he may have been condemned. The rights hereby suspended are the rights of electing or being elected, the right of holding any public or administrative office, of serving as a jurymen, of giving evidence in a court of justice, of acting as tutor or curator to minors. 3. For mentioning or even *alluding to the name of the king* in any disquisition upon the acts of government, imprisonment from one month to a year, and a fine of from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 4. To reflect in writing upon the form and principle of the king's government, or to put forth any direct or indirect provocation to change them, is high treason, to be punished by detention (unlimited) and fine of from 400*l.* to 2000*l.* 5. Whosoever shall publicly *avow himself a republican, or suggest a wish, hope, or threat*, that the government ought to assume that form, to be imprisoned from six months to five years, and fined from 20*l.* to 400*l.* 6. Similar denunciations against all who profess themselves Carlists. 7. A journal convicted twice to be fined doubly, and even four times the amount for every succeeding offence. 8. Any editor *opening subscriptions to pay off a fine*, to be imprisoned for that offence from one month to one year, and fined from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 9. Forbids publishing the names of jurors, either before or after political trials. 10. Every *gerant*, or responsible editor, must sign each number of his paper. 11. Refusing to insert government contradictions of statements (being previously paid)—imprisonment one month to a year, and fine from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 12. Refusing to disclose the name of the author of any inculpated article, imprisonment for that offence alone, from a month to a year, and fine from 40*l.* to 200*l.* 14. No *engraving, drawing, lithographic print, or emblem of any description*, to be published, exposed, or sold, without the licence, in Paris, of the minister of the interior, and in the departments of the prefect—fine from 4*l.* to 40*l.* and imprisonment. 15th and 16th Articles prohibit, under like punishments, the establishment of a theatre, or the performance of any theatrical piece, without licence from the same authorities. Such are the main enactments of this French *gagging*

bill. There are 21 more articles, chiefly of a technical nature, but some of them are devised to give the law-officers of the crown an advantage over the defendant, and narrow the right of appeal to the Court of Cassation. The *second* bill attacks trial by jury. By the existing law, a verdict of guilty could not be returned, unless two-thirds of the jury, eight out of twelve, concurred in it. The new bill provides that an absolute majority, seven to five, is sufficient, and, to protect the jurors from popular influence, allows them to vote *by ballot*. The same bill gives an arbitrary power of imprisonment in any place not in the continental territory of the kingdom; under which a Parisian editor might be punished with incarceration in a French West India island, or in a dungeon on the coast of Africa. The *third* bill makes alterations in the proceedings of the courts of assize. It empowers the minister of justice to form as many of them as may be necessary for proceeding simultaneously against accused parties, and is equivalent to our special commission issued in public emergencies. It also prescribes the course to be adopted by the tribunals in the treatment of contumacious prisoners who refuse to plead, misconduct themselves, or insult the court, as in the recent political trials (*May 5*). These tremendous bills met with a warm, but not successful, opposition in either chamber. The first bill, carried by a majority, in the deputies, of 224 to 129, was that relating to jury-trial. Its chief opponent was M. Arago, the mathematician, who tried to demonstrate arithmetically that there was less liability of error when unanimity or a large majority was essential to a criminal verdict. He argued thus:—"The judgment of man is but a probability, and probabilities are determined by number. If a verdict is resolved upon by ten men out of twelve, there is a greater probability that it will be a just verdict than if it had been pronounced by seven in twelve. The degree of certainty in a judgment is in direct proportion to the number of judges who have delivered it." The mode of secret voting was left to be regulated by a royal ordinance. The assize bill was carried by a still larger majority than the jury bill. The bill against the liberty of the press was most pertinaciously resisted, and MM. Dupin and Royer Collard—the last, considered the father of the doctrinaire ministry, by whom it had been introduced—tenuously condemned some of its clauses. That rendering offences of the press, like offences against the state, cognizable by the chamber of peers—itsself, a one-sided political tribunal—was eloquent-

ly, but unavailingly, denounced. In one respect, the press bill was made more severe. Under the existing law, the cautionary deposit from a daily newspaper, published in Paris, is 2000*l.* This was raised to 4000*l.*, with reductions to the provincial journals proportioned to their distance from the capital; and an amount of security was required, to meet costs and damages in prosecutions, not easily obtained by literary or political speculators in France. All the new laws had passed through their different stages early in September. The press bill was carried in the peers on the 9th, as brought from the deputies, by a majority of 191 to 20. On the 11th the chambers were prorogued, and, as a suitable auxiliary to their proceedings, there appeared at the same time a royal ordinance, creating thirty new peers, all of them, with hardly an exception, dependant on the government. The destruction of the constitutional charter, which Charles X. was hurled from the throne for attempting, Louis Philip, under more favourable circumstances, triumphantly consummated, almost without eliciting a single popular expression of disapproval. Some petitions were got up in the departments against the press law, but, generally speaking, the French evinced either total indifference or lukewarm zeal against this arbitrary inroad on their lately conquered liberties. In Paris this apathy was decidedly more obvious than in the country, and the citizens, shrugging up their shoulders, sought amusement in their political humiliation, by giving a name to the new code of laws derived from the criminal in whom they ostensibly originated, calling them *les lois Fieschi!*

Aug. 11. Belgium chambers met. By the new elections of one half the deputies, which took place in June, the liberals had rather gained on the ministerialists. Their deliberations were chiefly directed to the protecting the country from becoming the uncontrolled receptacle of political agitators from France and Germany, by an alien act, and the cotton manufactures, by means of higher prohibitory duties. The latter was opposed, as being likely to call forth retaliatory measures from France, Switzerland, and Prussia. But the scheme of imposing higher duties, as well as that for establishing a control over foreigners, were both adopted by the legislature.

14. Mr. Spring Rice made his annual financial statement. Having given an account of the receipts and expenditure of the past year, he calculated that, after paying the interest of the West India loan, no greater surplus than from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.* could be safely counted upon for the year for which provision had been

made. He, therefore, could not venture to propose any further repeal of taxation than a reduction of certain of the duties on glass and on spirit licences.

19. Colonel Fairman, secretary to the Orange society, being brought to the bar of the commons, was informed by the speaker that he was bound to produce to a committee of the house the correspondence-book in his possession, which the committee had required of him. The subject was resumed on the 20th, and, the colonel persisting in his refusal, the speaker issued a warrant for his apprehension, the execution of which the colonel defeated by absconding. Long discussions ensued on the right of the commons to search for papers in the possession of private individuals.

Sept. 5. A dinner given to lord Auckland, at the Albion tavern, by the directors of the East India Company, previously to his lordship setting out for India as governor-general.

8. A musical festival commenced at York, which was continued for several successive days. Among the most distinguished of the visitors on this occasion were the duchess of Kent, princess Victoria, duke and duchess of Northumberland, earls Cawdor, Fitzwilliam, lords Milton and Morpeth.

10. Captain Back and his companions arrived at Liverpool, from their perilous Arctic land expedition. The gallant officer and his companions visited the Great Fish river, and examined its source to the Polar Seas.

A dinner given to captain Hindmarsh at the Albion Tavern, as the governor of the newly-founded colony of South Australia. Colonel Torrens in the chair.

10. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—The king came in person to prorogue parliament after a toilsome and unusually protracted session. The great legislative performance of the year was the reform of the English municipal corporations, of which a notice has been already given. There were other statutes passed, effecting salutary amendments and of great national importance. Among these, were the acts framed by sir James Graham for the improvement of the naval code, and thereby increasing our naval power; first, by an act for amending and consolidating the laws relative to merchant-seamen, and for establishing a *registry* of all the men engaged in the merchant service; and secondly by an act, the object of which is to encourage the *voluntary enlistment* of seamen into the royal navy, by limiting the period of service to five years; unless in case of special emergency, when they may be detained six months longer, with one-fourth increase

of pay. Seamen are allowed to provide substitutes, and are entitled to certificates of protection for two years, at the expiration of their terms of service. While it was thought a hazardous experiment to abolish the prerogative right of naval impressment, it is expected that the exercise of this power will seldom be requisite except on sudden and pressing occasions, under the inducements offered voluntarily to enter the king's service.

Our antiquated *patent laws* had long been a subject of complaint, and an obstacle to the promulgation of useful discoveries and inventions. An act was framed and passed, under the auspices of lord Brougham, for removing some of their more obvious and glaring defects. One grievance of the old system was the destruction of all right to a patent, which resulted from an inadvertent claim put in to any part of an invention that might not actually be new, although that circumstance should be unknown to the inventor; and even although the part claimed should be a small and unessential portion of the new invention. This defect is obviated, and a patentee who finds he has been anticipated in some portion of his invention may disclaim that portion, and still retain his exclusive privilege in the remainder. If a patentee have reproduced some old invention, believing himself to be the inventor, a power is vested in the crown to continue the patent to the patentee, when it appears that the invention had not been publicly and generally used. A patentee is protected from vexatious actions questioning the validity of his patent, the certificate of the judge who tried one action operating as a bar to future suits. Lastly an important advantage is given by the power vested in the crown, of extending, on the recommendation of the privy council, the term of a patent from fourteen to twenty-one years. Under the old law a valuable patent often expired just about the time the difficulties attending its first introduction had been surmounted, and it was beginning to be profitable to the inventor. This was the case with the improvements of Watt on the steam-engine, which, from prejudice and other causes, were hardly in general use when his exclusive privilege had ceased.

Other legislative measures carried during the session were the following:—

Limitation of the duration of the poll to one day, in borough elections, in England and Scotland.

Establishing a copyright in lectures.

Abolishing in Scotland imprisonment for debt for small sums.

Consolidating offices of receiver-general and comptroller in the stamp-duties, with the like offices in the land and assessed taxes.

Amending the highway laws.

Empowering the substitution of declarations in lieu of oaths, in the Treasury, in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and in the bank of England.

Facilitates intercourse with foreign parts by regulating the postage of letters.

Regulates the conveyance of colonial passengers.

Death-punishment abolished for letter-stealing and sacrilege.

Linen and hempen manufacture of Ireland regulated.

Prevents vexatious removal of indictments into the court of King's Bench, and extends provisions for taking bail in cases of felony.

Inspectors of prisons appointed, and greater uniformity of practice introduced in the prison regulations of England and Wales.

Statutes for the enforcement of uniformity in weights and measures consolidated and improved.

The number of private bills that received the royal assent was 160, namely, 4 agriculture; 3 companies; 42 improvements of towns and districts; 33 roads; 18 railways; 4 canals; 1 river; 10 navigation; 44 private regulation. The private bills passed exceeded those of 1834 by eighteen.

REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—

The alterations made by the lords in the municipal corporations bill, their refusal to pass the Irish church bill with the appropriation clause, their rejection of the Dublin police and other bills that had passed the commons, rendered them an object of pointed attack by the radical or movement party. Experience during the last two years, it was contended, had amply shown the necessity of reform, and of assimilating the upper to the lower house in spirit, practice, and constitution. The subject was agitated by the public press, discussed at public meetings, and, towards the close of the parliamentary session, even in the house of commons. On the occasion of presenting one of several petitions that had been got up for a reform of the lords' house, Mr. Roebuck intimated his intention next session of moving to bring in a bill for taking away the *veto* possessed by the lords on all measures of legislation, and substituting for it a suspensive power; so that, if a bill rejected by the lords should pass the commons a second time, and

receive the royal assent, it might become law without the concurrence of the peers. Mr. Rippon gave notice of a motion to remove the bishops from the legislature, and Mr. Hume indignantly denounced the ceremonial observances which prevailed between the two houses. At a conference the members of the commons are obliged to stand with their hats off, while the peers are covered and seated. The whole proceeding on such occasions is seldom more than the exchange of two pieces of paper, oral discussion not being permitted. It was, he said, a perfect mockery, like everything else connected with the other house. On the rising of parliament, Mr. O'Connell set forth on a mission to probagate reform doctrines among the presbyterians of Scotland. He received dinners at Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and in eloquent and vehement harangues denounced the hereditary legislators as the great obstructives of wholesome legislation. He carefully guarded himself, however, against being considered the advocate of one chamber of legislation: he contended for the reform, not the abolition, of the lords. His popularity, and the fascinations of his oratory, attracted everywhere a numerous audience; but generally the middle classes kept aloof, and seemed not prepared to countenance his project for converting the peerage into an elective assembly.

Sept. 14. M. Mendizabal authorised by the queen-regent of Spain to form a cabinet. Much was anticipated from the appointment of the new prime minister, who enjoyed a reputation in Spain and Portugal for great energy and firmness amidst difficulties and dangers; and to him Spain looked to put a stop to the progress of anarchy. Mendizabal was well known in London, where he had latterly resided, as the financial agent of Portugal, and had essentially contributed to the establishment of the constitutional government of Donna Maria in that kingdom. He proposed to give a more liberal character to the regent's government, and to interest the masses in its support by a new electoral law, and giving greater liberty to the press.

Oct. 1. NEW CONSTITUTION OF DENMARK.—An unexpected change has taken place in the government of this kingdom. From the middle of the 17th century Denmark had been governed by a system of absolute power, voluntarily established by the population itself. She had possessed her estates, like the other communities of the north, and her commons formed a constituent part of these estates. Irritated by the insolence, and desirous to ensure protection against the oppressions, of the

nobility, the commons joined the crown in 1660, and formally abrogated the estates, placing all power in the hands of the king. Since that time the Danes had been governed by an absolute monarch, and so governed that they had evinced no desire for any change in their institutions. In the course of the present year the king voluntarily created a representative body, under the name of the royal council, which assembled for the first time at Copenhagen on the 1st inst. The royal commissioner, in his opening address, commented on the new constitution that had been granted. His majesty had ordained that certain men, freely chosen by their fellow-subjects, should assemble at stated periods in order to deliberate on the interests of the country, preparatory to the framing of the royal decrees relative to those interests. The propriety of calling in such deliberations none but men independent in circumstances, and whose interests attach them to the principle of public order, induced the king to make landed property the basis of eligibility. The electoral system is alleged to rest on a broader basis than in some other countries reckoned constitutional. Leaseholders are qualified to vote for members of the council, and are even qualified to be chosen representatives. The object of the landed qualification is to produce a rural representation that may counterbalance that of the cities. The deputies are chosen by direct election, contrary to the practice of France and Spain, where the primitive electors name other electors, who ultimately elect the representatives. The representative chamber freely elects its president or speaker. Such are the leading points in the *magna charta* that the Danish monarch has vouchsafed to his subjects, and which is declared to have been an unsolicited and spontaneous emanation of the royal will. Denmark has thus passed without a struggle from an arbitrary to a constitutional monarchy, and exhibited in her history the singular spectacle of a voluntary surrender of her liberties to the sovereign, who, after holding them 175 years, with the entire satisfaction of all parties, again restored unasked the boon to the people.

4. This day, though Sunday, was pretty generally celebrated over the country, in the different churches and chapels, as a centenary of the Reformation, the printing of the first English Bible (that of bishop Coverdale) having, as appears from the colophon, been finished on October 4, 1535.

11. Their majesties, attended by a party, visited Greenwich, being the anniversary of the battle of Camperdown. A monument by Chantrey, erected under the orders

of the king, to the memory of sir R. G. Keats, formerly governor of Greenwich Hospital, was exposed to public view for the first time.

21. The first stone of the city of London school, Cheapside, on the site of Honey-lane market, was laid by lord Brougham, in the presence of the committee appointed by the common-council to superintend the institution, and the officers of the corporation.

27. Earl Gosford, appointed governor-in-chief of Canada, and head of the commission sent out by the British government to investigate and redress the grievances complained of by the Canadians, opened the parliament of Lower Canada with a speech, in which he assured the members of his anxiety to compose, if possible, the differences by which the colony had been for some time agitated. Upon those that belonged merely to the administrative practice of the Government such assurances were given as would probably, if the controversy had been confined to these, be entirely satisfactory. In regard to the constitutional changes demanded by the popular party, the language employed by his excellency was not so definite.

The Irish government, in answer to many applications, have decided that the military or police shall not be permitted to aid in the collection of tithes; nor be called out in any case of the enforcement of civil rights by distress, unless their presence be rendered necessary by actual riot.

31. There appeared in the *Times* of to-day a correspondence that had taken place between Mr. sheriff Raphael and Mr. O'Connell, relative to the terms of a pecuniary engagement, by which the former, through the influence of the latter, had been returned to parliament for the county of Carlow, but had been unseated upon a petition.

The grand review at Kalisch this month, on which point troops had been so long concentrating, and which, according to some, was to lead to an almost general continental war, has passed over as a splendid pageantry; and so has the conference of the emperors of Russia and Austria and the king of Prussia at Toplitz.

REGISTRATION COURTS.—The public attention during the month has been chiefly occupied with the proceedings of these courts, which have been held throughout the country for the annual revision of the registration lists of electors. This year the contest of parties has been waged on this arena with much more zealous effort and more systematic tactics than on any former occasion. The objections that have been made to names in the overseers' lists

have been unusually numerous, and the decisions of the barristers have accordingly been watched in all quarters, as furnishing important indications in regard to the results of the ultimate struggle at the polling-booths, whenever that may come. As usual, in their public organs, both the friends of the ministry and their opponents profess to have been the gainers—each party being led to that conclusion as much by their wishes and hopes as by anything else, and at all events holding it good policy to keep up the spirits of their adherents by such representations. The prorogation of parliament, and the dispersion of public men over the country after their seven months' close application in the metropolis, have also been taken advantage of, for the getting up of numerous provincial displays in the way of *dinner-eating* and *speech-making*. The tone which this kind of convivial agitation has taken indicates anything rather than an approximation of the two great contending parties in the state.

Nov. 10. A public dinner given to lord John Russell, at Bristol, on which occasion a piece of plate, which had been purchased by subscriptions of a sixpence from each person was presented. Lords Seagrave and Ebrington, and Mr. Moore, the poet, were present, and addressed the meeting.

11. The new commissioners of charities appointed under 5 and 6 Wm. 4. c. 71, held their first meeting in Great George-street, lord Brougham (chief commissioner) in the chair. It is expected that this commission will terminate an inquiry which has been in progress since 1818, and has produced upwards of thirty folio volumes of reports. The total annual income of the public charities already investigated appears, from a parliamentary return of this year, to amount to 748,178*l.* exclusive of the charities under the chartered companies of London applicable to education and other purposes.

13. Donna Maria, queen of Portugal, has achieved something new in politics. She has dismissed and recalled a ministry all in one day! Unable to form a new administration, she was compelled to accept the services of her former advisers, with Saldanha at their head. In a week after, Saldanha was a second time dismissed, and marquis Loulé appointed prime minister. The change was satisfactory to the populace and the national guard. Both in Portugal and Spain the ultra-liberal party is on the advance.

16. Isabella, queen-regent of Spain, opened the cortes in a speech, in which she alluded to her choice of M. Mendizabal as prime minister, and expressed her

confident expectation that, by the exertions and policy of the new government, the civil war of Spain would be put an end to and peace restored to that distracted country. There is a persuasion abroad that this expectation will be realized; the armies under Miua and other Queenite generals have been reinforced. In the choice of a president, however, in the lower house, the Mendizabal ministry was defeated, which indicates jealousy or want of confidence in the new premier.

27. Hatfield House, the seat of the marquis of Salisbury, nearly destroyed by fire. The dowager marchioness of Salisbury, in whose room the fire originated, perished in the flames. She was upwards of 84 years old, and her head-dress is supposed to have caught fire while reading or writing.

INDEPENDENCE OF TEXAS.—The inhabitants of Texas, aided by adventurers from New Orleans, have declared themselves independent of the government of Mexico. In their declaration they accuse general Santa Anna and other military chiefs of having overthrown, by force of arms, the federal institutions of Mexico, and dissolved the social compact which existed between Texas and the other members of the Mexican confederacy.

Dec. 2. A meeting of the proprietors of the London University was held, lord Brougham in the chair, to consider the propositions of government respecting the grant of a charter. The plan proposed is, to incorporate the university as a college, to grant similar charters of incorporation to such other educational bodies as may hereafter be established in the metropolis, and to establish, by charter, a board of men eminent in literature and science to perform the functions of examiners, and who will be empowered to grant degrees (except degrees in divinity) to candidates educated at such chartered colleges; the board to be termed "The University of London." After a debate of some length, resolutions were unanimously passed approving of the government propositions.

3. A meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern for the purpose of raising funds for the support of such clergymen of the established church in Ireland as are distressed by the non-payment of their tithes. The archbishop of Canterbury was in the chair. The king sent a donation of 500*l.*, and nearly 12,000*l.* were stated by the bishop of London to have been subscribed up to the close of the meeting.

6. Marshal Clausel, governor of Algeria, accompanied by the duke of Orleans, mastered the town of Mascara, which they burned and razed to the ground. Before

effecting this entrance, they had twice to give battle to Abd el Kader and his Arabs, who fought with determined bravery, and were routed only through the superiority of the French artillery.

16. Great fire in New York. The number of buildings destroyed is 674, comprising public edifices and ranges of spacious and valuable warehouses. An immense number of mercantile firms have been dislodged, and 2000 persons thrown out of employment. The property destroyed is valued at 20 millions of dollars. The fire burned over an area of 52 acres, densely built upon, and exclusively devoted to commercial pursuits. Active measures have been adopted by congress and the banks, by loans, and an extension of the private credit of the merchants, to alleviate the calamity.

17. The London court of aldermen having refused to admit sheriff Solomons of their number, as alderman of Aldgate, on the ground that he had refused to subscribe the usual declaration "on the true faith of a Christian" his election was set aside, and Mr. Humphreys, M.P., was chosen. Mr. Solomons is of the Hebrew persuasion.

25. First election of the town-councils under the municipal corporations act. The result has been a general ejection of the old boroughmonger voters, and the substitution of members of the liberal party. In a few of the smaller boroughs a majority of conservatives has been chosen; but in all the great towns, with scarcely an exception, the reformers have obtained an ascendancy, which places the management of affairs entirely in their hands. On the declaration, next day, of the election of the new councillors, the existing common councils, mayors, and aldermen, who for two centuries had exercised local power and patronage, went out of office, and their duties and functions for ever ceased.

29. French parliament opened by the king. Regret was expressed that the dispute relative to the American claim (see p. 947) had not yet been settled; but Britain had offered to mediate between France and the United States. M. Dupin was re-elected president of the chamber. The address on the king's speech was carried in the deputies by a majority of 246 against 67.

LIGHTHOUSES. — The management of lighthouses, and the dues levied on British shipping for their maintenance, were reported upon last session by a committee of the house of commons. It appears that there are in all 219 lights in the United Kingdom, namely 195 public general lights on land, and 17 floating lights; 93 local or

harbour lights on land, and 4 floating lights. Of 134 public general lighthouses, 55 are held by the Trinity House, 14 by private individuals, 25 by commissioners of northern lighthouses, and 40 by commissioners of the ballast board, Ireland. The gross dues collected on these 134 lighthouses amount to 240,304*l.*, charges of collection to 22,135*l.*, expense of maintenance to 74,832*l.*, leaving a surplus revenue of 142,436*l.*

IRISH CHURCH.—The following distribution of the population of Ireland in 1834, in respect of religion, is derived, by Mr. Hamilton (one of the commissioners), from the first report of the Commissioners of Ecclesiastical Inquiry:—

Members of the Established Church	852,064
Roman Catholics	6,427,712
Presbyterians	642,356
Other Protestant Dissenters	21,808

Total population in parishes 7,943,940

STATE OF FRANCE.—Events in this country, the principal of which have been mentioned, possessed, in the present year, unusual interest. After five years of perturbation, amounting almost to anarchy—after a vain struggle to establish a liberty incompatible with human passions or existing intelligence—France has again been compelled to seek tranquillity, if not contentment, under the ascendancy of despotic powers. Arbitrary punishments, secret and arbitrary tribunals without appeal, have been substituted in place of a fixed, open, and impartial judicial administration. The liberty of the press, by the able exercise of which the throne of the elder Bourbon had been overturned, and the authority of Louis Philip and his doctrinaire supporters established, has been extinguished by the statesmen who most profited by its powerful agency, as inconsistent with civil peace and the stability of the new government. The problem of governing mankind by uniform and just principles seems solved, and its impracticability admitted. For theory, French statesmen have substituted the convictions of experience. Enlightened by the past, they no longer appeal to an abstract justice, or to its coherence with a preconceived system for the vindication of their policy, but to its practical effects on the public welfare. At the commencement of the session of 1835 ministers told the chambers to look for their system in the consequences it had evolved,—prosperity at home, and peace, respect, and influence abroad. "If any man," said M. Thiers, the minister of the interior, "had predicted, in July, 1830, a revolution will take

place—it will subvert a throne—and yet for four years not a scaffold will be erected—for four years afterwards the country will be in security, and not only in the enjoyment of peace, but surrounded with a cordon of constitutional states—tranquillity will prevail throughout Europe—the national prosperity superior to anything known under the Restoration, after fifteen years of peace—instead of national bankruptcy, the deficiency in the revenue caused by the Restoration gradually reduced;—had such language been held, would it have been credited? And yet these results were not imaginary; they were real and admitted of incontestable proof. In Switzerland, aristocratic government had been replaced by popular government. The hostile kingdom of the Netherlands had been dissolved. The monkish government of Ferdinand of Spain had been replaced by a constitutional monarchy. Don Miguel had been replaced on the throne of Portugal by Donna Maria. How had these results been accomplished without a war, and with the consent of Europe?—by the wisdom of the *seministerial system*?—which, as the minister might have been told, was no system at all, but a course of expediency guided by shifting circumstances. The internal prosperity of France, which, in the midst of all her political changes and conflicts, had never paused since the general peace of 1815, was an undoubted fact. The annual deficiency in her revenue, which in 1829 amounted to 53,000,000 of francs, had been reduced to 21,000,000, and in 1838 was expected to disappear altogether. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii. 389.) Notwithstanding this result, she still failed to present a high example of industrial intelligence or legislative wisdom. She was still a country of anomalies, of monopolies and civil inequalities. Her repugnance to a free and unrestricted commercial intercourse with foreigners was hardly less narrow and bigoted than that of the Chinese. All attempts effectually to reform her custom-house tariff, by which her native products might be freely exchanged for those of other nations on terms of mutual benefit, had been defeated, either from the predominance of class interests, or the limited information of her merchants. The government itself, like the rapacious pasha of Egypt, set the example, and was the chief monopolist of the community. It was the sole and exclusive salesman of tobacco to the people. All the tobacco grown in France is bought exclusively and without competition by the government, at its own remunerative price, and sold at its own arbitrary price to the consumer. This monopoly was introduced by Napo-

leon, who, in his wild crusade against British commerce, sought to render France independent of external products. It has been repeatedly assailed by the opposition, but the exclusive privilege is too profitable to be hastily abandoned. Under the existing law the monopoly would have expired, Jan. 1, 1837, had not ministers in 1835 introduced a bill to continue it five years longer. The finance minister, who had been its enemy when not in office, defended the proposal, principally on the ground that the monopoly yields a yearly revenue of 2,000,000*l.*, which could not be replaced without other imposts that would fall heavily on the country. Several ministerial deputies opposed the measure, which was only carried by a small majority. The representative, no less than the commercial system of France, is unjust and exclusive, and a cry has been raised, that must ultimately command attention, for *parliamentary reform*. Compared with the wealth and population of the kingdom, the electoral body is too limited in numbers to embody, and proportionately sustain in the legislature, all interests. Previous to the revolution of 1830 the elective franchise was confined to individuals paying an annual amount of contribution of 300 francs. (12*l.*) This qualification, applied to a population of 32 millions, yielded a number of electors which never fell below 80,000, and never exceeded 100,000. In modifying the charter after the expulsion of Charles X., the qualification was reduced to 200 francs, or 8*l.* In consequence of this reduction, the number of electors rose to 280,000. Even this number appears an inadequate guarantee of elective independence, in so populous, rich, and flourishing a community; but it has been since reduced to 180,000, by the operation of the law of inheritance—a cause of diminution that operates simultaneously with human mortality. By this law, which renders compulsory the equal partition of a man's landed estate among his children, the division of property is incessantly going on. The land-tax averages 7½ per cent. An estate of about 2600 francs a-year giving a qualification for the land-tax amounts to 200 francs. On the death of the proprietor, however, unless he leaves only one child, the qualification is at an end, for, when divided even among two, each pays only 100 francs. Thus individuals are constantly being thrown, as it were, out of the pale of the constitution. Some idea may be formed of the effect of this process, when it is considered that no fewer than 10,200,000 distinct properties in land were registered as paying land-tax. Of the whole number there were not 1000 that paid 5000 francs,

affording decisive evidence of the absence of great territorial accumulation. The diminutive number of electors has affected the independence of the representative chamber. With only 180,000 electors the electoral colleges have become, like the nomination boroughs of England before the passing of the *REFORM ACT*, select bodies extremely susceptible of private, and still more of government influence. The existing chamber, elected in 1834, contained 200 members who were government functionaries, two-thirds of them being removable at pleasure; while the remaining third served not indeed under the fear of dismissal, but the hope of promotion. It is impossible this restriction of the franchise can pass unchallenged in a country still enamoured with republican institutions, and especially under a dynasty deriving its elevation from the popular suffrages. Accordingly in the late session numerous petitions were presented praying for reform, but they were not agreed in the objects of their prayers; and, moreover, seemed to speak the sentiments of a party, whose views went further than a fair and efficient representation. Some of them prayed for direct election and universal suffrage; others for indirect election, but universal suffrage, in the primary electors; others for the abolition of the money qualification of the members; and others for the payment of wages to the deputies. The committee, to whom the petitions had been referred, unanimously proposed to the chamber to put them aside by passing to the order of the day, on the ground that France possessed too many elements of discord to allow of the electoral system being modified without danger. In this conclusion they are supported by the acquiescence of the middle ranks, who, embodied in the national guard, constitute the strength and safeguard of the community. Even the arbitrary laws of last summer (see *Aug. 4*) were so opportunely introduced, and so plausibly justified, that they passed without rousing any manifestation of general dislike. The industrious and profit-loving *Bourgeois* have certainly had changes enough—they want peace at home and abroad, and to be allowed to earn and eat their bread in tranquillity. Alarmed and wearied by the never-ending *Émeutes*, and often sanguinary broils of Paris and Lyons, they are willing to purchase quiet and security at the expense of a democratic liberty, which, if not nominal and anarchical, is transitory, as the successive tyrannies of Robespierre and Buonaparte, based on popular ignorance and extravagance, have too painfully attested. The closing year, however, though

disastrous, has not been all loss and no gain to constitutional freedom. A bill passed during the session to fix and regulate *ministerial responsibility*. It provides that no act emanating from the king in his royal capacity can be executed except under the responsibility of a minister, and whoever puts such an act in execution when not countersigned by a minister, is personally responsible. Each minister is made personally responsible for the acts countersigned by him, and all of them are made collectively responsible for the general measures of government in which they have taken a part. Thus a guarantee of official conduct is secured, that only vaguely or constructively exists in the British constitution.

GERMANY.—In this country has risen a new school of reformers in politics, literature, and morals. They are poets and novelists, no less than publicists. Under the appellation of “Young Germany,” or “Young Literature,” they advocate the supremacy of reason to custom, of talent to hereditary privileges. The chief promulgators of these opinions have already become the victims of persecution, and compelled to seek refuge in France and Belgium. Their writings were denounced by a decree of the diet, which declared, that their manifest tendency was “to destroy in the most audacious manner the Christian religion, degrade the actual relations of society, and extinguish all education and morality.” All the governments, therefore, engaged to enforce in their full rigour the laws of the different states against the authors and publishers of such works, and to prevent their circulation by sale, circulating libraries, or otherwise. The decree set forth by name the leading authors of the obnoxious doctrines, namely, Heine, Gutzkow, Laube, Mundt, and Wienburg.

LITERATURE—RUSSIA.—According to a report from the board of censors for foreign publications, 300,000 volumes of books in foreign languages were imported into the Russian dominions during the year 1834; this is nearly 29,000 more than in the year preceding. There appeared under the cognizance of the board of censors for the home department 728 original works, and 116 translations, which give a total of 844 new publications in the Russian language. The same board sanctioned the appearance of 48 newspapers. Last year the ministry of public instruction sanctioned the printing of 113,200 copies of school-books of various descriptions; and in the same interval 94 additional public schools, including the university of St. Vladimir, at Kief, were opened.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—After repeat-

ed legislative attempts, the arduous undertaking of establishing an invariable and uniform standard of weights and measures throughout the United Kingdom, appeared in the present year to be accomplished. In 1824 an imperial standard yard, pound, gallon, and bushel were fixed, and the principle laid down on which they might be renewed if lost or destroyed. The old wine-gallon of 231 cubic inches; the ale and beer-gallon, 282 inches; the old corn-gallon, 268½ inches, are abolished; and the imperial gallon, of rather more than 277½ cubic inches, and holding ten pounds avoirdupois weight of distilled water weighed in air at 62 degrees of Fahrenheit, the barometer being at 30 inches, is substituted. The act commenced Jan. 1, 1826, but, though useful in gradually accustoming the public to a new system, it failed, during the nine years of its operation, to effect general uniformity in practice. This has been enforced by the statutes of 1834 and 1835, and all local weights and measures, other than that of the imperial standard, are prohibited. The custom of selling goods by *heaped measure*; that is, by heaping them up in the form of a cone above the brim, is prohibited; and they must now be sold by the bushel filled to the level of the brim, or by weight; coals must be sold by weight only. The previously uncertain quantity of a *stone*, is fixed at 14 pounds, and eight stone the hundred weight. All articles must be sold by the imperial pound except gold, silver, platinum, or precious stones, which may be sold by troy weight. Weights must be made of brass or iron; the use of lead, pewter, or other soft metal, being prohibited, because of the facility they afford for fraud, and the diminution they speedily undergo from abrasion. One omission has been pointed out in the present measure, in its not having fixed the ratio between the diameter and depth of the bushel. A shallow bushel, of equal cubic capacity with a deeper, holds less corn or other article that lies more or less close towards the bottom, according to the pressure of the column above.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Paris, M. Dupuytren, 57, the eloquent professor of surgery at the Hôtel Dieu. He left his daughter a fortune of nearly 7,000,000 of francs; 1,200,000 francs to found a professorship of medico-chirurgical pathology, and 300,000 francs for an asylum for twelve superannuated medical men. In the Regent's Park, Henry David Inglis, 40, author of several books of travels in Sweden, the Tyrol, Spain, and Ireland. Mr. Inglis was a native of Scotland, the only son of a barrister, and his maternal grandmother was the daughter of the cele-

brated colonel Gardiner, who fell at Preston Pans. At Dorchester, Richard Sharp, F.R.S., 76, a gentleman well known in the literary world as "Conversation Sharp." Though extensively engaged in commerce, in which he accumulated a large fortune, Mr. Sharp possessed a very correct taste in literature, and a small volume of *Essays* he left behind him are remarkable for sense and judgment. In St. George's fields, William Henry Ireland, better known as "Shakespeare Ireland," who was the author of several novels and a history of Napoleon, but the works that will longest preserve his memory are the celebrated forgeries of the bard of Avon. (See p. 597.) Captain Kater, 58, an able mathematician, who assisted colonel Lambton in his trigonometrical survey of India, and who co-operated in establishing the imperial standard of weights and measures. John Pitt, earl of Chatham, 80; son of the first and brother of the second William Pitt: the title and pension are extinct. Thomas Pringle, 46, secretary to the Anti-Slavery Society, and editor of *Blackwood's Magazine* during the first six months of its existence. At Clapham, Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, 94, widow of the celebrated circumnavigator. At his seat, Isle of Wight, John Nash, 83, architect of the pavilion at Brighton and of Buckingham Palace, and the planner of Regent-street and Regent's Park. In the last he had recourse to the system originated by Wood of Bath, of uniting several separate dwellings in a single façade, and is a favourable specimen of his abilities. At Dublin, Mrs. Hemans, a much-admired poetess, who first began to be generally known by her scattered lyrics, which appeared in the *New Monthly Magazine*, then under the direction of Campbell. William Smith, late M. P. for Norwich, 79, forty-six years in parliament, and the leading advocate of the dissenters. Dr. Pughe, 76, Welsh lexicographer, who translated Milton's "Paradise Lost" into the ancient British language. James Denison, 75, founder of the commercial travellers' society. Joseph Todd, late of Fore-street, 68; he commenced business as a haberdasher in 1793 with very small means, and retired in 1822 with a fortune of nearly a million sterling. In Fleet-street, Edward Troughton, 81, discoverer of an ingenious mode of graduating mathematical instruments, for which in 1809 he received the Copley medal. Henry O'Brien, 27, author of an ingenious dissertation on the Round Towers of Ireland. Michael Thomas Sadler, 58, a merchant of Leeds, who, in 1829, on the Newcastle interest in Newark, was returned to parliament, where he distinguished himself by

an eloquent oration against the catholic claims. Mr Sadler was educated at Rome, and intended for a learned profession. He was the author of a work on Ireland, and another, in which he tried to impugn the Malthusian principle of population. Dr. Brinkley, Bishop of Cloyne, 72, an able mathematician, who is supposed in 1814 to have discovered the parallax of the fixed stars. At Paris, signor Bellini, 29, composer of *I Puritani*, &c. At Paris, Don Telesforo de Trueba, 30, author of several dramas in French, Spanish, and English; and among them the popular farce of "Call again to-morrow." Trueba was also a contributor to the *Metropolitan Magazine* and other periodicals. At Edinburgh, Sir John Sinclair, 82, late cashier of the excise, and a voluminous writer on statistics and agriculture.

A.D. 1836. PROSPEROUS STATE OF THE KINGDOM.—At the close of the past and commencement of the present year, the United Kingdom exhibited unusual signs of internal contentment and general prosperity. With the exception of partial depression in agriculture, all the great branches of national industry were unusually prosperous. In the great clothing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire the times were never known to be more favourable. In spite of the great development of the cotton-trade, it still continued to expand, and its utmost bounds seemed illimitable. It was the same with the woollen manufacture of Leeds and Huddersfield, the stuff manufacture of Bradford and Halifax, the linen manufacture of Barnsley and Knaresborough, the blanket and flannel manufactures of Dewsbury and Rochdale, they were all thriving. Even in the silk trade of Macclesfield, Coventry, and Spitalfields, there were no complaints; no more than in the hosiery and lace trades of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester. The potteries of Staffordshire continued prosperous, and the iron trade, in all its branches, was unusually flourishing. While manufacturing industry was in a state of energetic activity in the interior of the kingdom, it is almost superfluous to remark, that the shipowners in the outports of London, Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow, and Hull, were not quiescent. One fact testifies to the prosperousness of commerce and existence of mercantile confidence, namely, the low rate of interest. Although there had been during the last twelvemonth several demands on the resources of monied men, the funds maintained a steady buoyancy; and the numerous projects on foot for improving the great lines of travelling and conveyance, at once attested abundance of pecuniary means and a lively spirit of im-

provement. That the general prosperity rested on stable grounds, there were solid reasons for concluding. A spirit of enterprise was abroad, but not of wild speculation. Except the mania for railways, which raged in England in common with other nations, there was no ether abroad; and the avidity with which shares were bought up in these undertakings, was justified by the actual success which had attended those of Liverpool and Manchester, Stockton and Darlington, Leeds and Selby. In 1824 the case was different; it was then pure castle-building; credit afforded unlimited means, and no project was too extravagant for support. At present, there was no want of commercial confidence, but it was a confidence indulged under a salutary reminiscence of former disasters. If anything could tend to its undue development, it was the state of the monetary system, which continued the most defective branch of industrial polity, and required unceasing watchfulness. It is as much a function of state to provide a safe and uniform currency, as a uniform standard of weights and measures, or a uniform and impartial course of judicial administration. None of the numerous provincial joint-stock banks of issue that had been established under an act of the last reign, (7 Geo. 4. c. 46,) appear to have a subscribed capital exceeding two millions, with a paid-up capital of half a million. For one bank with so large a capital, there were many who did not possess a capital of a quarter of that amount, and as they frequently extended into branches in various parts of the country, the liabilities and consequent danger of the parent bank were increased. One bank with a capital of 600,000*l.*, had nearly 40 branches in Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, and other places. In some banks, neither the amount of subscribed or paid-up capital was known, which carried on, nevertheless, extensive business and had numerous branches. The subject, in the ensuing session, drew the attention of parliament, and, at the instance of Mr. Clay, a committee of inquiry was appointed: Its investigations were not completed during the session, but enough was discovered to show the great irregularities and inconsistencies in the management of joint-stock banks; that they were not conducted on uniform and systematic principles; that the functions of the managing directors were not sufficiently defined and often irresponsibly exercised; and that, partly, from this cause and partly from the vague provisions of the partnership deeds, neither the interests of the shareholders nor of the public were adequately protected. In this

state of things, there was obviously cause for circumspection, though none, perhaps, for general alarm. One ground of confidence—at least, in the old banking firms of the kingdom,—is the better knowledge, which the disastrous experience of former years had afforded, of the principles which ought to regulate banking associations in their advances to individuals, and in their issues of paper money. The withdrawal of the small notes, too, is a guarantee against a popular, if not a commercial panic; and, as the obligation imposed on private bankers compels them to make periodical returns of their average circulation, timely notice is thereby afforded of the approach of the plague of over-issue, which the bank of England would be culpably remiss in not checking on the first symptom of a redundant currency. Upon the whole, much of the machinery, as well as the material of commercial and manufacturing prosperity, seemed safe and sound, and the natural result of lengthened peace at-home and abroad, conjoined with a succession of the most favourable seasons. On the other hand there was, as before observed, complaints of AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS. Farmers and landlords looked at their diminished incomes, not *outrage*; they thought of the great sums they received during the war, not of the great sums they paid. That there was general distress among them, it was difficult to believe. Relative distress will always subsist in agriculture; it is a condition inseparable from the cultivation of the soil. Farming will always be a poor trade. The inducements to invest capital in land are such, that the profits of husbandry will generally be depressed below the average profits of commerce and manufactures. This is not the only cause of depression. In England, where two-thirds of the land occupied are held by tenants-at-will, if a farmer's profits increase, his rent will be proportionably increased. So that, pressed on one side by the greater competition of capital in his business; and on the other, by the increasing exactions of his landlord, he can never enjoy for a lengthened period an exuberant state of prosperity. The partial distress of landlords, though it originates in different causes, is almost as inevitable as that of their tenants. In every European community (France only excepted), the landed interest is in a state of pecuniary involvement. Everywhere estates are incumbered with debts, mortgages, and settlements. This, however, is not because the revenues they yield are small, but because they are inordinate. It is men of moderate, not of large incomes that live within them. The former are compelled to practise economy,

to look after their affairs and live according to rule; the latter are regardless of these precautions. There are other peculiarities. Advances can always be obtained on real, not on chattel security. Hence landowners are under great temptations to become *borrowers*:—add to this, the tenacity with which they seek to maintain the status of their order, by keeping up expenditure, and a key is afforded to their dilatoriness in adjusting themselves to altered circumstances. Time will probably alleviate most of the difficulties under which agriculture suffers. That they have not been generally ruinous the testimony of Mr. Charles Shaw Lefebvre, the chairman of the Agricultural Committee, which was appointed in the ensuing parliamentary session, satisfactorily established, and his opinion was corroborated by that of Messrs. Houghton, Scott, and other intelligent witnesses. That even rural industry has declined, is disproved by the broad fact that with a population annually increasing at the rate of a quarter of a million, the native produce of the country has been nearly adequate to the consumption of its inhabitants. The home produce has increased faster than the population; so that from the beginning of the century we have been becoming less dependent on foreign supplies. In the ten years from 1801 to 1810 the annual average import of wheat was 600,946 quarters; from 1811 to 1820, 458,578; from 1821 to 1830, 534,992; and in the five years from 1831 to 1835 inclusive the average import was only 398,509 quarters (*Porter's Progress of the Nation*, i. 146). During the last three years there has been hardly any importation of wheat from abroad, the markets have been supplied by wheat of English growth. The import of wheat from Ireland has increased, but not to such an extent as to affect the English grower. On an average of the three years ending January, 1833, the wheat imported from Ireland amounted to 553,274 quarters, and, on an average of the three years ending January, 1836, to 761,827 quarters; making an increase in the average supply of the last three years of only 208,553 quarters. In England the depression of agriculture has been chiefly caused by the low price of wheat; other produce has fetched good prices, and the remedy is a change of crops, the abandonment of the heavy soils, on which it cannot be raised at a remunerative price: this, aided by rural improvements, a commutation of tithe, a reduction in county and highway rates, an economical administration of the poor laws, and, above all, an adjustment of terms between landlord and farmer, holds out the best prospective remedies for agri-

culture. In these views many of the agriculturists begin to concur. Some of them have even lost faith in their favourite specific of corn-laws, and have discovered that agriculture cannot permanently thrive at the cost of manufactures, and that they must "wax and wane together." The currency *savans* have also begun to be discontinued. A depreciation of money would not benefit the renting-farmer; it would only benefit those whose estates are charged with mortgages, and whose incumbrances concern only themselves. The days of partial legislation for the encouragement of industry, or rather monopoly, are past. All that any class can expect, or a wise legislature concede, is equality of public imposts—security—and an open market all over the world. Some of the landed interest espoused the notion, that the establishment of a *trade-union* might be favourable to their interests; but the scheme appears not to have been carried out. Like the trade-unions of humbler individuals, it would, probably, have proved a rope of sand and unproductive of beneficial results. Meanwhile, the low price of provisions, and abundance of employment, both in manufacturing and rural industry, have been extremely favourable to the industrious orders. With the exception of the hand-loom weavers, whose occupation has been superseded by the general introduction of the power-loom, the condition of those who live on wages was never, perhaps, more favourable; they never enjoyed in greater profusion the comforts and necessities of life in food, lodging, and clothing. That such is their general state, is evidenced by a diminution in crime, of poor-rates, and emigration, and an increase in those branches of the public revenue principally falling on articles of ordinary consumption. From the industrial, a short advertence may be made to the POLITICAL ASPECTS of 1836. In these the signs were not less auspicious. There had perhaps never been a period more opportune for social ameliorations. Not a plot, nor a cannonade—not a single disturbance within or without the kingdom. There seemed a growing confidence in the individuals composing the administration. They were mostly considered persons of plain, but steady purposes, exempted from the *égarements* of genius; the mercurial talent that had oppressed or embarrassed them, was either stranded or cast overboard, and had drifted to leeward; what remained, consisted of men of patriotic intentions, of useful but not splendid gifts; circumspect and anxious to proceed on the best information. Although versed in the general principles of political science, they felt the necessity of

shaping their measures to existing circumstances and clashing interests, and, moreover, were not so fettered by prejudices, as to reject amendments because they encroached on old associations and connexions. These were looked upon as the qualities chiefly needed. The pickaxe of reform having been struck into all the great fabrics of abuse,—what was most requisite, were steady and unflinching operatives to wheel away the rubbish. It followed that the changes in the original Whig Ministry, which at the time were considered to menace its efficiency and usefulness, had apparently, on trial, turned out improvements in its composition. Earl Grey had seemingly begun to feel alarm at the giant spirit he had evoked. He acted as though Democracy had done its work and ought to be stayed—hesitated—did nothing—and then took to flight. Lord Stanley and his party were bound up in an abstract proposition, when the country demanded a practical remedy for a practical grievance. The residue were considered better, for being more flexible and less self-dependent; they had to seek the co-operation of divers parties, and were ready to follow any onward impulse they might receive from a sufficiently audible and powerfully expressed public opinion. The most arduous of changes is a change in public sentiment. This difficulty had been overcome. The once ruling party that refused to admit the smallest amendment, on the pretext, that they could not trammel up its issues, had acknowledged the necessity of removing "proved abuses." With this concession, the Tories had abandoned the citadel of their strength. They had no longer ground on which an unflinching stand could be made; having admitted the principle, the limits of its application could not be prescribed.

Jan. 1. Queen of Portugal married by proxy to Prince Ferdinand Augustus, nephew of the reigning duke of Saxe-Cobourg, and of the king of the Belgians. By the marriage treaty, it is settled that the prince shall resign all his rights in Germany to his brothers and sisters; that he shall not assume the title of duke of Braganza till there is an heir to the throne, when he is to act as king of Portugal along with the queen; that, in the event of the queen's decease before the heir come of age, he shall be chosen king, as guardian to his successor, with an income of 35,000*l.* a-year.

Sir Charles Pepys, master of the rolls, created a peer by the title of lord Cottenham, and receives the seals of office as lord chancellor. Henry Bickersteth, esq., the Chancery barrister, has succeeded to the rolls, and been called to the house of lords

with the title of baron Langdale. The great seal had been in commission since the resignation of sir R. Peel's ministry, and an impression was abroad that it had been reserved for lord Brougham as soon as certain objections to his re-appointment could be overcome.

Pensions granted by lord Melbourne to Mr. Hanim, author of "Tales of the O'Hara Family," of 150*l.* a-year; and to Mr. B. Thorpe, the translator of Raak's Anglo-Saxon Grammar, of 100*l.* a-year. Lord Melbourne has directed 150*l.* to be paid out of the royal bounty fund to the widow of Mr. Hogg, the Kittrick Shepherd.

4. Riots at Barcelona, during which upwards of 100 Carlists were brutally murdered by the populace. Among the victims was the young colonel O'Donnell, whose corpse was shockingly mutilated.

5. Meeting of bankers, merchants, and shipowners of London, at the Mansion House, to consider the best means of promoting the success of the Arctic expedition sent out under captain J. C. Ross to the relief of the ice-bound whale-ships. Captain Ross sailed from Hull on the 6th. Since the expedition has been fitting out several of the whalers have reached this country; but the crews were in an exhausted condition, owing to their provisions having fallen short.

18. Trials of the Paris republicans (see p. 970) concluded. No single sentence of capital punishment was passed. Two of the prisoners only were acquitted, and some nineteen or twenty were condemned to transportation for life, or to different terms of imprisonment. The prisoners who escaped from prison were condemned *en contumace*.

29. DEATH OF LORD STOWEL.—This eminent civilian, better known as sir William Scott, expired at Early Court, near Reading, in the 91st year of his age. He was a privy councillor and master of the faculties, though he survived the loss of his own, and died without pain or consciousness after a few days' illness. He had only retired from the judgeship of the high court of Admiralty in 1828, an office he had filled with lustrous ability for thirty years. His will is dated April 30, 1830. The personalty was sworn to be under 230,000*l.*, and the real estates at his lordship's death produced 18,000*l.* a-year. His only surviving child, lady Sidmouth, takes a life interest in the whole property, both real and personal; after which the landed estates descend to his great nephew, lord Encombe, the grandson of his brother, lord Eldon. The great lawyers, as before remarked in the case of lord Thurlow (p. 673), rarely succeed in striking their roots deep into the soil by a direct off-

shoot, and the vast amassings of professional life have been mostly lost among collateral or remote inheritors. The name of Stowel has had a fleeting place in the peerage, the bearer only being ennobled in 1821, and his only son, the hon. Wm. Scott, died unmarried two months before him, when the father from the loss of reason was happily insensible that no one survived to transmit his title. In other respects the two Scotts, William and John, were the most prosperous men of their time. Their father was a shrewd painstaking tradesman, who at Newcastle carried on the business of a fitter, that is a shipper of coals. Both the boys excelled at the grammar-school of the town, and were favourites of the master for quick perception, assiduity, and docility. When asked to give an account of the Sunday sermon, their father's weekly custom, the eldest, William, would repeat a sort of digest of the argument; John, on the other hand, recapitulated all the minutiae of the discourse, even the phrases of the preacher; he showed a memory complete and exact, but failed to give the scope and bearing of the sermon embodied in half the number of words by William. In after-life the brothers advanced *pari passu*, keeping abreast in the pursuit of riches and honours. They were knighted on attaining official rank within two months of each other; the advocate-general, sir William Scott, and the solicitor-general, sir John Scott, repaired for the first time to the same levee; they almost contemporaneously succeeded to the high legal offices they so long filled, John as lord chancellor, and William as admiralty judge; and the long war, which they jointly supported, was almost equally profitable; augmenting the income of John to an average of about 18,000*l.* per annum, and that of William to about 10,000*l.* It is also a remarkable coincidence in the biographies of these veteran Tories, that each can only be charged with one *égarement* likely to endanger their future prospects. John eloped to Gretna with the daughter of Mr. Surtees, the banker of Newcastle, before completing his legal studies, but never repeated his indiscretion in any analogous shape. The waywardness of William, too, was of a feminine kind, committed, however, not in the heyday of reckless adolescence, but when he had attained the mature age of 69, and presided over the highest tribunal of civil law. During the trial of the marquis of Sligo for prevarication, and for which he was sentenced to pay a fine of 5000*l.*, and be imprisoned four months in Newgate, the grave civilian became enamoured of the young peer's mother, who attended

the court pending her son's trial; and, regardless of the warning example of Addison, who ambitiously united his fortunes to those of a lady of quality (countess of Warwick), he married her. The union was an unhappy one. The oracle of Doctors' Commons in affairs matrimonial was unable to reconcile the perplexities of his own case. It is supposed that his known love of sight-seeing, of the Fives Court, Punch and Judy, and prize-battles, and his frequently communing in the Temple, were connected with the irksomeness of his own mansion, where the marchioness of Sligo presided. Bating this infelicity, the course of sir William appears to have been more fortunate and flowery than that of the lord chancellor; it was less in the thorny walk of politics. The whole of his youth, and the early prime of manhood, were spent among the literary and the learned, in the class and the lecture-room,—in the midst of libraries, and gardens, and academic groves; enjoying occasionally the quiet luxuries of "the ride to Abingdon, the walk in Christ Church meadows, the stroll in Magdalen walks, the society of the common room;"—scenes and recollections which, we are told, sir William always prized with such fond remembrance, that an old Oxford calendar, by the associations it awakened, was to him as "a volume of poetry" (*Law Magazine*, xxxiii. 31). He was eighteen years a college tutor, occupied in training the intellect of the aristocracy in classical and historical knowledge. During the next fifteen years he shone in the literary circles of London, the "Dr. Scott of the Commons," the friend of Johnson, lord Spencer, sir Joseph Bankes, Reynolds, Burke, and Windham,—the favourite of the *Turk's Head Club*. The next thirty were spent in the Admiralty chair, in accumulating riches from naval prizes, and in forming a system of international law from the ill-fashioned toils of his predecessors. The manners of lord Stowel are described as attaching in the highest degree. "They were at once graceful, courtier-like, and dignified, totally free from pride and affectation, but slightly formal. He had lived in an age of hoops and minuets, when full dress was as much cultivated beyond the verge of a court as it is now sought to be abolished within it; before the remembrance of Beau Nash and his despotic sway had entirely faded; when the appellations of Sir and Madam in society were as rigidly exacted as they are of late dispensed with; and the sir Charles Grandisons of the day loved to bow low on their ladies' hands." (*Ibid.* 84.) He had also the other adjuncts of the old school—he was a *bon-vivant*—a lover of good dinners, good wine,

and good stories. Of good dinners, lord Eldon used to say, "he would answer for it, that his brother had never fewer than 365 in any one year." The refectory of the Temple-hall he would often take by way of a whet for the eight o'clock banquet. As a judge, his lordship was celebrated for learned, acute, and sententious reasoning, in choice and elevated diction, arranged in nicely-balanced periods, studded with the rarest gems of classical allusions and quotations. The admiralty chair formed his task and his toy, in which he loved to expatiate before a select, and little more than drawing-room, audience. His *bons mots* are sometimes quoted, but, as they seem to have little pith, they must have owed their fame to his *saïtes* and graceful execution. The following is mentioned as one of his chivalrous delicacies. When a late celebrated duchess bantered the consistory judge, and inquired, "How his court would manage if he himself should be guilty of a *faux-pas*?" he answered, with a gallantry becoming the question, "That the idea of such an embarrassing situation had only occurred to him since he had become acquainted with her grace." Upon the whole, the late lord was among the most fortunate of his contemporaries. His benevolence was limited to self and kin; and, undisturbed in his course by any cosmopolitan sympathies, he reached the goal, and, with few mortifying delays, happily dropt into the sphere suited to his taste, education, and talents.

30. Trial of Fieschi, who fired the infernal machine (see p. 979), and his accomplices, Morey, Pepin, Boireau, and Bescher, began before the French chamber of peers. During the first two days of the trial Fieschi laboured to make it appear that he had aimed at the king's life from no private or political motive, but merely because Pepin and Morey had hired him to do it. His revelations, however, were little to be relied upon, as his excessive vanity seemed nearly allied to insanity. The manner in which he absorbed the attention of the press gave him great satisfaction. He was evidently a dissolute ruffian, carried away by no mistaken enthusiasm, religious or republican, but actuated by a mere desire of making so many francs by a reckless assassination. The proceedings lasted a fortnight. On February 15th the court sentenced Fieschi to be put to death as a parricide—that is, to be conducted to the scaffold barefooted, and covered with a shroud, and Pepin and Morey to be guillotined in the usual way. Boireau was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, and Bescher was acquitted. The three executions took place on the 19th, in the presence of a vast multitude

of speculators, but without any disturbance. No discoveries of any general importance were obtained in the course of the trial. It appears, however, that Morey, who was a staunch republican, was the contriver of the whole plot, and that Fieschi was engaged in it, on account of his mechanical ingenuity and knowledge of the use of fire-arms.

Feb. 3. A new silver coin of the value of four-pence issued.

4. PARLIAMENT opened by the king in person. The royal speech was remarkable for the number, variety, and importance of its announcements, and seemed to prognosticate a session of unusual legislative activity. After the usual assurances of the maintenance of friendly relations abroad; regrets at the continuance of the civil contest in the northern provinces of Spain, and the expression of a hope of a successful result to our mediation between France and the United States, the king adverted to the domestic condition of the empire. The state of commerce and manufactures was admitted to be highly satisfactory, but difficulties continued to press on agriculture which deserved consideration. Attention was directed to measures that would be submitted for increasing the efficiency of the church, for the commutation of tithes, and for alleviating the grievances of dissenters. The necessity of maintaining the maritime strength of the country, and of giving adequate protection to commerce, had occasioned an increase in the naval estimates. Improvements in the administration of justice were recommended, especially in the court of chancery; a just settlement of tithes in Ireland; a remedy to defects in the municipal corporations of Ireland, founded on the same principles as the municipal acts passed for England and Scotland. Finally, the condition of the poor of Ireland was alluded to, and an intimation thrown out that the experience afforded of the "salutary effect" of the poor-law amendment act in England, might guide them in their approaches to this difficult subject. In both houses amendments were moved to the ministerial address, by the duke of Wellington and sir R. Peel, with a view of avoiding a specific pledge to reform the corporations of Ireland on the same principles as those of Britain had been reformed. In the upper house, where opposition by ministers would have been unavailing, the amendment was agreed to without a division, after some remarks from lords Melbourne and Lansdowne. In the commons the house divided, when the original address was carried by 284 against 243. Lord Stanley voted with sir R. Peel in this division.

8. The paragraph relating to agricultural distress in the king's speech having been read, lord John Russell moved for a select committee to inquire into the causes of the depression of that interest. His lordship, however, confessed that he did not anticipate any satisfactory result from the investigation. It appears that the principal problem to be solved is, why the price of wheat is at present so much lower than it used to be, in relation to the price of barley; but, if this be an evil, it is one that is likely to puzzle parliament to cure. The landed interest was left to solve the difficulty in their own way, for the proportion of county to town members in the committee was nearly four to one. The committee sat four months, but was unable to agree to a report, and merely laid before the house the evidence they had taken.

9. Lord John Russell brought forward the cabinet plan for the commutation of tithes in England. It became an act of parliament, of which an outline is given at the end of the session, *Aug. 20.*

11. A deputation waited upon lord Melbourne to ask for the entire abolition of the newspaper-stamp. Dr. Birkbeck, Mr. Hume, Colonel Thompson, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Grote, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Buckingham spoke in favour of the measure, and lord Melbourne, after alluding to the importance of the question as it affected the pursuits and opinions of the people, said that the reasons adduced in favour of abolition should meet with serious attention.

A war had been for some time vigorously carried on against the stamp, by the open sale in the streets and elsewhere of unstamped newspapers. Hetherington, Cleave, and other London vendors had been convicted in repeated penalties for the sale of unstamped newspapers. The vendors of unstamped newspapers in the large provincial towns had also been subjected to prosecutions, and many were convicted and imprisoned.

12. Lord John Russell submitted to the house of commons two measures of great importance, and which were anxiously expected by the country; the first, a bill for a general registration of marriages, births and deaths; the second, a bill for the amendment of the marriage laws. They both became statutes, and a notice of them is given, *Aug. 20.*

16. Mutual and disgusting atrocities continue to disgrace the civil war in Spain. A Carlist partisan, named Cabrera, had taken prisoners and shot two constitutional alcaldes, or magistrates, and committed other acts of vengeance of the same kind. Unable to catch this insurgent, the brigadier commandant general of Lower

Arragon ordered the execution of his mother, and the arrest of his three sisters, who were living quietly in the town of Tortosa. The governor of Tortosa, revolting at the idea of shooting a defenceless old woman to expiate atrocities committed by her son, delayed the execution, until positive orders came from Mina, the captain-general for the queen in Catalonia, that the deed should be done. Accordingly at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 16th inst. the señora Cabrera was shot! Her three daughters, with their husbands, and many near relations, were detained in close confinement.

The case of Mr. O'Connell, and his alleged engagement to procure a seat in the house for Mr. Raphael, as one of the representatives of the county of Carlow, for the sum of 2000*l.*, was brought before the commons by Mr. Hardy, and a select committee appointed to investigate the transaction. The report of the committee was a complete acquittal of Mr. O'Connell.

17. The claims of the maritime officers of the East India Company, who, not having been on actual service within five years prior to August, 1833, were excluded from compensation by the board of directors,—were this day negatived in a court of proprietors by a majority of 25. About 500 proprietors voted.

18. Lord Morpeth introduced the ministerial bill for the establishment of a constabulary force in Ireland, being nearly the same measure which was last session thrown out by the lords. The bill proposes to take the appointment of petty constables out of the hands of the local magistracy, and to place it in those of the lord-lieutenant; a change which sir R. Peel, in the peculiar state of Ireland, thought expedient. After this a committee was appointed, on the motion of Mr. C. Buller, to inquire into the conduct of the commissioners of public records, and into the state of these records. Resolutions were next moved by Mr. Ward, and agreed to, for taking down the names of members on divisions, and obtaining an authentic record of the votes of the house. An animated discussion ensued on the subject of tithes, to which a motion by Mr. Sheil, for a return of the number of tithe-processes issued by the court of exchequer in Ireland, in 1835-6, gave rise. Mr. sergeant Jackson moved that the return should also include the number of orders issued by the government to the police to assist in the collection of tithes, which was agreed to.

19. The chancellor of the exchequer announced in the commons that lord Sidmouth, who had been in possession of a pension of 3000*l.* a-year, secured to him

by act of parliament for public services, had voluntarily resigned his title. His lordship had obtained a large increase of income by the recent death of his father-in-law, lord Stowel.

Lord Dudley Stuart moved for the production of a copy of the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi. (See July 8, 1833.) The object of his lordship was to impress upon the house a sense of the danger to be apprehended from the encroaching spirit of Russian policy; among the past achievements of which he reckoned the formation of the German commercial league; and whose ultimate designs he considered as comprehending not only the conquest of Turkey, of Persia, and of India, but the acquisition also of further influence and dominion towards the west, by the gradual envelopment of Austria, of Prussia, and of Italy. Lord Palmerston and Mr. Poulett Thomson, who replied to his lordship, treated these apprehensions as visionary, and expressed their convictions that there was nothing in the conduct or intentions of the czar to excite either hostility or alarm on the part of this country. The German commercial league they spoke of as more likely to be beneficial than injurious to our commerce and manufactures. It may be also noticed that Mr. Thomson, in the course of his speech, took occasion to characterize the alleged Russian state papers, that had recently been published under the title of the "Portfolio," as absurd impositions. Motion agreed to.

20. Rev. Doctor Hampden gazetted as *regius professor* of divinity at Oxford, in the room of Dr. Burton, deceased. His appointment produced considerable excitement at Oxford for some time, his theological opinions having been affirmed by his opponents not to be orthodox. The professor's inaugural address, March 17, contained satisfactory proof of the fallacy of this notion.

22. The *Moniteur* contains the list of the new French ministry, of which M. Thiers is the head. In alluding to the change in the chambers, the premier said no alteration would be made in the policy which the French cabinet had followed since the death of Casimir Perier, and which policy accords with that pursued by the reform ministry in England.

23. House of lords occupied this evening by a debate on the subject of the late appointments of borough magistrates by lord John Russell, on the recommendation of the new town-councils, to which the attention of the house was called by lord Wharnclyffe. As was to be expected, and as, indeed, may be considered to have been unavoidable in the circumstances, the names submitted to government by the

town-councils for appointments to the magistracy have in general been exclusively those of persons belonging to the party of the majority of the council: there have been a few cases of exception, in which the majority has not exercised its powers to the full extent, but there can be no doubt that for the most part the opposite course has been taken. In various instances, it appears that the controlling authority of the home secretary has been applied to correct this rigorous partisanship, by the substitution of other names for those in the lists. Usually, however, in conformity with the pledge he gave publicly last session in parliament, he has adopted, without any alteration, the names submitted by the council. Time it is hoped will remedy this defect, and it is desirable that it should, as it is the very essence of the representative principle in politics, that a due representation of the minority as well as the majority should be secured.

23. Mr. Buckingham's compensation bill for losses sustained in India was thrown out of the commons by a majority of 118 against 46.

29. Mr. Sergeant O'Loughlin moved in the commons the second reading of the Irish municipal reform bill. It was intended to give to the seven large towns of Dublin, Limerick, Belfast, Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork, and Galway, a constituency for electing the town-council, comprising the occupiers of all houses of the value of 10*l.*; and in all the other boroughs of those occupying houses of the value of 5*l.* Sir Robert Peel said he would not support the maintenance of the present corporations, but he would not consent to the substitution of other corporations.

AFFAIR OF CRACOW.—This ancient Polish city, with a strip of surrounding territory, was erected into an independent state by the congress of Vienna in 1815; all the allied powers, England among them, guaranteeing its rights and independence. As such a small state was insufficient to support a king and court, Cracow was allowed to govern itself according to republican forms, and in this posture matters continued till the Polish insurrection of 1830 and its unfortunate results, one of which was the wholesale proscription of the Poles of the duchy of Warsaw by the emperor Nicholas. As an independent state, many of the Polish exiles thought they might safely take up their residence in Cracow. The three great partitioners of Poland, however, felt uneasy at the concentration of so many Poles in the centre of their spoils. Russia, Austria, and Prussia, jointly complained of the protection afforded to the Poles; accused them of conspiring to re-

establish the Polish kingdom, and of being guilty of disorder in Cracow itself. They demanded their expulsion from the republic, or, if not promptly complied with, threatened to march troops into its territories. Accordingly, in February, Russian and Austrian troops were marched into a state which had a formal guarantee from the Vienna congress that no foreign armament should ever violate its territory.

March 4. The navy estimates, being laid before the commons, exhibited an increase of expenditure compared with those of last year of 287,000*l.*, occasioned by the employment of 5000 additional seamen. Ministers defended the augmentation as necessary to the protection of commerce, and allusions were made by different members to the menacing or ambiguous attitude of Russia.

11. Lord Howick, in bringing forward the army estimates, in which there was a reduction of charge, moved that the number of men to be maintained, exclusive of those in the East Indies, do not exceed 81,319. Mr. Hume moved a reduction of 5000 men, which was negatived by 136 to 43. Sir W. Molesworth next moved that the foot guards be put, in respect of pay, on the same scale as infantry of the line, which would effect a saving of 9000*l.* a-year, but the amendment was rejected by 217 against 43.

15. **NEWSPAPER STAMP DUTY.**—Chancellor of the exchequer announced the intentions of the government in respect of the stamp-duties, especially of the stamp on newspapers, which last had for some time excited a strong interest in the public mind. It was proposed, he stated, to revise the whole of the present law respecting stamp-duties; first by consolidating into one statute the 150 acts of parliament over which the law was at present distributed; secondly, by the apportionment of the various rates on a new principle—namely, by the simple and uniform rule of making the price of the stamp in every case correspond to the pecuniary value involved in the transaction for which it is required. The effect of this change would be to reduce the stamp-duty upon indentures of apprenticeship, bills of lading, and many others of the more common instruments, and to increase it somewhat upon mortgages and conveyances of large amounts of property; but it was not expected that it would make much difference upon the entire produce of the duties. The consolidation act which was in preparation, it was intimated, would contain no fewer than 330 sections; but it was suggested by some members that it might probably be a more convenient plan to divide all this matter into a short series of acts, one

for each class of stamp-duties. With regard to the stamp on newspapers, Mr. Rice stated that it was proposed to reduce it from its present amount of 4*d.* with the discount to 1*d.* without discount. This would be a reduction of exactly 2½*d.* on all newspapers sold for 7*d.* or less, and of 2¾*d.*, or rather more than 2½*d.* on all sold for more than 7*d.* A portion varying between two-thirds and three-fourths of the whole tax would thus be remitted. To this remission parliament assented, by which the illicit circulation of unstamped newspapers, which had long been followed, was at once rendered so profitless as to be entirely abandoned. Some members were opposed to the retention of the penny stamp, considering it the duty of government to remove every obstacle to the diffusion of political information. But this would have made a postage necessary, to which the newspaper proprietors were opposed as practically inconvenient; and which, moreover, would have been virtually a tax on the country reader of a London newspaper, from which the town reader would have been exempt. The transmission of papers at the public expense, without either stamp or postage, appeared an inadmissible proposition. It would have evinced a desire to spread political intelligence to the exclusion of literature and science. Some were in favour of the repeal of the duties on paper, in lieu of the stamp-duty on newspapers. The reduction of the newspaper-tax was the only proposition of Mr. Rice on the stamp-duties that was carried.

23. Lord John Hay, commander of the British naval squadron stationed off the northern coast of Spain, intimated to general Cordova that he had received orders from the British government to co-operate with the queen's army on that part of the coast.

28. Third reading of the Irish municipal bill carried in the commons by 260 against 199. The debate was protracted, in which the chief speakers were Mr. Ward, sir R. Inglis, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Shiel, and sir. R. Peel.

April 7. DEATH OF WILLIAM GODWIN. —This eminent writer was in the 81st year of his age. He was born at Wisbeach, and was neither the eldest nor youngest of a large family. Both his father and grandfather were dissenting ministers, and William himself became a preacher at Stowmarket, after attending five years, under the tuition of doctors Rees and Kippis, the Dissenting College, Hoxton. In 1783 he laid aside the clerical character and removed to London, determined to apply himself to literature as a profession. His first work was a

volume of sermons, called "Sketches of History," published in 1784. He next was engaged on the "New Annual Register," from which he derived a small but certain income. The political convulsions of France soon after followed, and into this vortex Godwin was carried, and from which he never entirely escaped. His "Inquiry into Political Justice," which was hastily written in sixteen months, appeared in 1793, and attracted much popular attention from the boldness and novelty of its doctrines. It is a transcript of the opinions which the stormy period of its birth had revealed, and offers the singular anomaly of seeking to establish the empire of reason by the abrogation of those social guarantees which reason has slowly elaborated from the waste of barbarism: its tendency is to exalt the natural above the civilized man. In a second edition the author corrected some of his extravagances, but left sufficient to show that his mind was not of the inductive cast. He is eloquent and impassioned, but superficial, and evidently without the powers of intellectual analysis and combination essential to the successful investigation of ethical and political philosophy. This he appears to have discovered, and he subsequently applied himself to biography, history, and the composition of works of imagination. In 1797 he married Mary Wollstonecraft, one of the most remarkable characters of her time; and who, to a mind of masculine strength and independence, united a kind and affectionate heart. The union, which was happy and congenial in sentiment, was of short duration, Mrs. Godwin dying within a few months after giving birth to the present Mrs. Shelley, the authoress of "Frankenstein." In 1801 Mr. Godwin again married an accomplished widow lady, who survived him. For some years he was occupied in business as a bookseller, and under the name of Edward Baldwin issued various little works for the entertainment and instruction of young persons. But it will be seen, from the date of his publications among the "Men of Letters" of the present reign, that his more serious literary labours were never long suspended. During his life he had the gratification of associating with some of the most distinguished of his contemporaries. Fox, Sheridan, Macintosh, Holcroft, Grattan, Walter Scott, and Curran, the last his particular friend, whom, in 1800, he visited in Ireland. Mr. Godwin says of himself that he was "constitutionally meditative;" but his bland courtesy and placid aspect only imperfectly indicated the fire and animation of his intellect. His biographies and History of the Commonwealth have the

great merits of fidelity, accuracy, and careful research. His novels are among the best in the language, and fully reach one of the chief ends of such compositions, in keeping up excitement and unrelaxed interest. The incidents, however, are sometimes repulsive, and some of the characters, though nobly and chivalrously conceived, border on the extravagant. His style is rapid, transparent, and spirited; his descriptive scenes graphic, vivid, and glowing, especially those of domestic love, and feminine grace or beauty. It is high testimony to the wisdom and benevolence of Mr. Godwin's character, that he always cherished lofty sentiments on the virtues and destiny of his species. The sum he received for his "Political Justice" was 700*l.*; for "Caleb Williams," 84*l.*; "St. Leon," 400 guineas. A few of his last years were made comfortable by an appointment which he received, during the administration of earl Grey, to the sinecure of yeoman usher of the exchequer. The apartments he occupied in New Palace Yard, and where he died, have been lately pulled down to make way for local improvements.

8. A little after midnight the equestrian statue of king William the Third, on College-green, Dublin, was blown up by gunpowder. The statue stood on a pedestal eighteen feet in height, surrounded by an enclosure of iron railing, the summit of the statue being about thirty feet from the level of the street. The figure was of lead, and, though weighing several tons, was blown up some distance in the air, and fell a few paces distant from the pedestal. The authors of the plot have not been discovered, and the Orangemen are much disconcerted by this abrupt ejection of the idol of faction.

16. Duel between señors Isturitz and Mendizabal at Madrid, in consequence of an altercation in the chamber of deputies. No harm was done, and Isturitz retracted the expression deemed offensive by his opponent.

19. Mr. D. W. Harvey's motion for a revision of the pension-list negatived by 268 against 146.

25. Ministerial plan for the settlement of tithes in Ireland brought forward by lord Morpeth. His lordship stated that the present measure differed from that introduced last year, principally in an arrangement being now made, by which no parochial benefice would be altogether suppressed. In all parishes where the number of resident protestants was below 50, the incumbent should have an income of 100*l.*; the income would rise with the number of protestants, but no parochial living would be above 500*l.* in annual

value. According to this scheme, the annual remuneration to the clergy would amount to 361,938*l.* This sum was of course to be obtained from the tithes, which it was proposed to commute into a perpetual rent-charge, payable by the owner of the first estate of inheritance, a deduction being made from the present amount of the burden to the extent of 30 per cent. This, it was calculated, would afford a revenue of 459,550*l.*; so that the difference between the receipt and expenditure would be 97,612*l.* His lordship observed that the government felt they could not abandon the engagements they had made on entering office, and that therefore they still adhered to the principle of what was called the appropriation clause in the bill of last year, and should propose that if, in the future disposition of the revenues of the Irish church, any portion of them should appear to be superfluous for the uses of the members of her community, it should, after the satisfaction of all existing interests, be applied to the religious and moral instruction of the whole Irish people. Preliminary resolution agreed to.

26. The lords assembled in great force to do execution, as threatened, upon the Irish municipal bill. On the order of the day being moved for the house to resolve itself into a committee on the bill, lord Fitzgerald, in a long speech, moved "That it be an instruction to the committee to make provision for the abolition of the corporations, and for such arrangements as may be necessary, on their abolition, for securing the efficient and impartial execution of justice, and the peace and good government of cities and towns in Ireland." The principal speakers in the debate that followed were, in support of the motion, lords Abinger and Lyndhurst; and, in opposition to it, the lord chancellor and lords Holland and Melbourne. Their lordships divided at near one o'clock in the morning, when the numbers were found to be—for lord Fitzgerald's motion, 203 (including 70 proxies); against it, 119 (including 47 proxies). After this triumph, lord Lansdowne intimated that the bill was abandoned by ministers to the nursing of lord Lyndhurst.

In the commons Mr. Rippon moved, and Mr. Gillon seconded, a resolution, "That the attendance of the bishops in parliament is prejudicial to the cause of religion." Ayes, 53; noes, 180.

27. The great strength of the landed interest in the commons was shown on the motion of the marquis of Chandos:—"That in the application of any surplus revenue towards the relief of the burdens of the country, either by remission of taxation or

otherwise, due regard should be had to the necessity of a portion thereof being applied to the relief of the agricultural interest." Lord John Russell, in opposing the motion, pointed out the various ways in which the burdens of the proprietors and cultivators of the soil had been of late years diminished, and dwelt especially upon the important relief which it was unanimously agreed they had obtained through the new poor-law. The result, however, of this first side-blow aimed at the proposed reductions of the newspaper stamp and the paper duty, was calculated to give rise to some apprehension as to the fate of these propositions of enlightened policy; for Lord Chandos's motion was only negatived by a majority of 208 to 172. Thus, in a house of 380 members, the exertion of all the strength of government appeared to be able to beat the combination of the landlords by no greater a majority than 36; and on this occasion both sir Robert Peel, lord Stanley, and sir James Graham deserted the opposition, and voted with ministers against the motion.

28. In the lords, the lord chancellor explained his plan for the regulation of his own office, as contained in two bills which he presented, the one to provide for the better administration of justice in the court of chancery, the other respecting the appellate jurisdiction of their lordships. Both bills were thrown out on the second reading.

During the months of February, March, and April, the sees of Durham, Ely, Lichfield and Coventry, Killaloe, and Clonfert, became vacant by the deaths of their respective bishops.

May 3. Mr. Grantley Berkeley moved in the commons, that *ladies* be admitted to hear the debates. Ayes, 132; noes, 90. However, when the chancellor of the exchequer moved for a grant of 400*l.* to carry this chivalrous vote into effect, it was refused by 42 to 28, chiefly from the opposition of the speaker. In the old house of commons, ladies used to be admitted to hear the debates over the ventilator.

5. Fortified works, which had cost the Carlists three or four months to erect, and through the centre of which ran the high road to Hernani, were gallantly carried by the English auxiliary legion under general Evans. Two armed steamers, commanded by lord John Hay, which by a well-directed fire opened a passage through the enemy's works, lent very opportune aid to the victors. The loss of the British in killed and wounded amounted to 800, among whom were 70 or 80 officers. The Carlist general was killed.

6. The chancellor of the exchequer

brought forward the budget, and entered into a detail on the prosperous state of the country. He said that the income of the current financial year was 46,980,000*l.*, and the expenditure 46,318,000*l.*, leaving a surplus of 662,000*l.* With this surplus he proposed to reduce the duty on first-class paper, from 3*d.* to 1*d.*, and to abolish altogether the duty on stained paper; to remit the South Sea duties, amounting to 10,000*l.*; to reduce the duties on insurances of farming stock, on taxed carts, and on newspapers. The total amount of the repeals which he proposed he estimated at 351,000*l.* for the present year, and 520,000*l.* when they should all come into operation.

9. The lords went into committee on the Irish municipal bill, when an amendment, moved by lord Lyndhurst on the second clause, which raised the whole question between the plan of the reform of the corporations, as proposed by ministers, and that simply of abolition brought forward by the opposition, was, after an animated debate, carried on a division, by a majority of 107 to 53. All the rest of the clauses to the 21st inclusive were then struck out, on the motion of lord Lyndhurst, except the 3d and 10th, which were agreed to.

12. Mr. Clay in an able speech moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the act permitting the establishment of joint-stock banks. The chancellor of the exchequer expressed his concurrence in the motion, and stated that the government would take upon itself the appointment of the committee.

16. Committee appointed to try the validity of the return of Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Ruthven for Dublin reported that they had not been duly elected. Mr. O'Connell, foreseeing the issue of this inquiry, had provided himself with another seat, by one of his friends accepting the Chiltern Hundreds, and he appeared during the remainder of the session as member for Kilkenny.

Mendizabal, the Spanish prime minister, from whose abilities much had been anticipated, resigned in consequence of the queen's refusal that generals Quesada, Espeleta, and San Roman should be superseded in the commands they held in Madrid. He had not been zealously supported by the cortes. M. Isturiz succeeded him.

28. Sir Francis Head, the new governor of Upper Canada, dissolved the house of assembly. In April the house had stopped the supplies as a means of obtaining redress for the alleged grievances of the province. Sir Francis had declared at

the outset of his government, that his instructions were such, that an elective legislative council could not be granted, and what were called the crown reserves would not be abandoned, except on condition of an adequate and permanent civil list being voted. The result of the dissolution apparently afforded a triumph to the governor; out of 64 members returned, only 18 belonged to the radical party, the remaining 44 disapproving of their proceedings.

June 1. On the second reading of the Irish tithe bill, lord Stanley moved an amendment, the object of which was to get rid of the appropriation clause, and preserve to the church undiminished its revenues. The discussion lasted three nights, during which all the leading members on both sides addressed the house. Lord Stanley intimated that the adoption of his amendment would obtain for the ministerial bill the support of those whose co-operation never could nor would be otherwise obtained. Lord John Russell, in reply, contended that, in legislating for Ireland, it was necessary to consult the interests and feelings of the great body of the people. The real question in controversy, both in regard to the church and corporations, in the future government of Ireland, was, whether the old protestant ascendancy, or the national interests, shall be consulted. On the other hand, it was urged, by a third class of reasoners, that the ministers' bill was weak and remote from a final settlement. If, for example, according to their own position, the church of Ireland were in future to be regulated according to the prevailing taste of a majority of its inhabitants, the mere abstraction, as proposed, of 90,000*l.* from its present revenues would not attain that object. It can only be viewed as the first instalment of a much larger debt of justice due to the catholic population. At a quarter past three o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the house divided:—for lord Stanley's amendment, 261, against it, 300. Lord John Russell's bill was then read a second time.

1. A numerous meeting of the friends of Mr. O'Connell held at the Crown and Anchor, for the purpose of commencing a subscription to indemnify him for the expenses to which he had been put in defending his seat for Dublin. Nearly 3000*l.* was subscribed at the meeting, and the subscription ultimately reached near 9000*l.*

6. Died at Pilitz, in his 82nd year, ANTHONY CLEMENT THEODORE, king of Saxony. He succeeded his brother Frederick Augustus in 1827, and he is now in his turn succeeded by a nephew, who

since 1830 had been associated with him in the government, under the title of co-regent. This interesting but limited state has had but little influence in the affairs of Germany since the congress of Vienna, when, in punishment for Frederick Augustus having been the last to quit Napoleon and join the allies, a million of the Saxon people, who had all along disapproved of his tergiversations and devotion to the French, were given over to Prussia, and the territories they occupied (about half of the kingdom) incorporated with the Prussian dominions. Since then the king of Prussia has exercised an influence over the whole, and recently Saxony has been induced to become a party to the German trade-league. Thus the people have paid dearly for the fault of their ruler, and yet, according to M. de Talleyrand, the only fault to be attributed to the old king, in not seceding from Buonaparte quite so soon as some other allies of the French, was his having allowed his clock to be a quarter of an hour slower than his neighbours.

13. IRISH MUNICIPAL BILL.—The greater part of the clauses in the Irish municipal bill, which had been struck out by the lords, were restored in the commons with merely verbal alterations. A conference next took place, without satisfactory result. On the 30th the subject was resumed in the commons, and several members strongly animadverted on the constitution of the house of lords, in reference to the exercise of its legislative power. In a discussion in the lords on the 27th, earl Grey threw out a novel suggestion for effecting a compromise between the supporters and opponents of the bill. His lordship's suggestion was, that every voter should be restricted to voting for only a half or five-eighths, or other fixed proportion of the whole number of town councillors, so that no party could be established to the *entire* exclusion of the rest,—but a minority, of whatever persuasion it might be, would always retain a proportionate share of influence in municipal government. The idea was only imperfectly understood. It failed to reconcile differences between the houses, and the bill fell to the ground.

20. DEATH OF ABBE SIEYES.—This venerable *artiste* of political constitutions died at Paris in his 88th year. At the commencement of the great revolution he was grand-vicar to the bishop of Chartres, and acquired celebrity by his writings. In a book which gave a powerful impulse to the public mind, he asked this question: "What is the *tiers-état*?" And he answered, "Nothing."—"What ought it to be?"—"Everything." M. Dumont, who

knew the Abbé at this time, describes him as a shy, absent, dreaming man, who lived much in solitude, and thought he had completely mastered the science of government. He was successively a member of the national assembly, the national convention, a director, and consul, and, on the fall of the republic, became a count and peer of the empire. On the return of the Bourbons, he was proscribed for having voted for "*la mort sans phrase*" of Louis XVI. His proscription, as well as that of others, was removed under Louis Philip, on which Sieyès returned to France. He was one of those men who, in ages of enthusiasm, found a sect, and, in an age of intelligence, exercise the ascendant of a powerful understanding. The progress and composition of civil society formed his favourite subjects of contemplation. Although cool and deliberate, he had the ardour which inspires the investigation of truth, and the fearlessness to insist on its promulgation. The leading characteristic of his mind was concatenation, that is to say, the strict connexion of his own ideas. Like Jeremy Bentham, he was on the best understanding with himself; but he neither harmonized with existing realities, nor with minds different from his own. Hence it was not wonderful that, though this able Frenchman made fifty constitutions, he never hit upon the practicable and right one. His patterns were cut to his own cogitations, irrespective of living interests, opinions, and usages. He thought the British constitution of three estates mere *charlatanerie*, which was the natural conclusion of a philosopher who conceived society ought to be uniform without distinction of classes. Notwithstanding his proneness to abstraction, he had the energy in particular emergencies of practical conceptions, as was instanced in the overthrow of the directory in 1799, which was planned by him and executed by Napoleon. Sieyès was avaricious, but just. He lost the favour of the first revolutionists by resisting the confiscation of church tithe without compensation to the present owners.

22. Trial in the Court of Common Pleas, in which lord Melbourne, first lord of the treasury, was defendant, and Mr. Norton, one of the police justices of the metropolis, was plaintiff. The trial related to alleged criminalities between his lordship and Mrs. Norton, grand-daughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan. The jury found a verdict for the defendant.

23. Died at Kensington, in his 63rd year, JAMES MILL, the historian of British India. He was a native of Kincardineshire, and studied at Edinburgh. He was licensed as a preacher in the Scotch church,

and came to London as a tutor in the family of sir John Stuart, one of the barons of the exchequer in Scotland, on whose estate his father occupied a farm. He did not return to Scotland, but remained in the metropolis, where he devoted himself to literary and philosophical pursuits. The work by which he first became known to the public is the *History of British India*, published in 1818. It is not distinguished by beauties of style or narration, which the philosophic turn of the author might deem secondary objects in his undertaking; but abounds with enlarged and liberal views in politics, political economy, and legislation; and, by its high estimation with individuals exercising authority over that vast empire, has beneficially influenced the course of oriental administration. Of Mr. Mill it has been said, "he was a man of extensive and profound learning, thoroughly imbued with the doctrines of ethical and metaphysical science, conversant above most men with the writings of the ancient philosophers, whose language he familiarly knew, and gifted with extraordinary powers of application, which had made quite natural to him a life of severe and unremitting study." (*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, ii. 394.) He was not remarkable for originality of mind, but possessed a talent for giving a mathematical form, if not mathematical certainty, to the generalities of Bentham and other writers. It is thus that he has arrived at an apparent demonstration of the verity of some of Mr. Ricardo's fallacies in his "*Elements of Political Economy*;" and in his celebrated article on Government, inserted in the Supplement to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, he assumes that self-interest is the chief, if not the sole, actuating motive of mankind. It is only by attaching a meaning to the word remote from the ordinary, that this repulsive proposition is wrought out, and the conclusion, after all, seems mixed up with error; for it is folly and ignorance, rather than selfishness, that have done so much mischief in the world. Man is the most disinterested of all animals; most intent on the pursuit of objects foreign to his well-being; and the most pressing end of philosophy and legislation seems to be, to draw him from the "shadows vain," on which he is and always has been occupied, to matters really essential to his happiness. Mr. Mill sustained a high character among his contemporaries, and was eminently independent in sentiment and conduct. By his death society has lost one of its most useful instructors. He fell a victim of consumption, after nearly a year of lingering illness, during which he was disabled from

attending the duties of his office of chief examiner to the East India Company.

25. A young man, named Louis Alibaud, fired at the French king with a walking-stick gun, as the king was passing in his carriage from the Tuileries. No injury was done, the ball lodging in the roof of the carriage. When Louis Philip was congratulated on his escape, he is reported to have said, "Henry IV. escaped twenty-two attempts of the kind, and was murdered by the twenty-third!" Alibaud was an enthusiastic republican in poverty. He had no accomplice, and was tried by the court of peers, July 8, and guillotined on the 11th.

30. Death of James Madison, one of the leading men of the United States in the infancy of the republic. He succeeded Mr. Jefferson in the presidency.

July 6. In a letter inserted in the *Dublin Pilot*, Mr. O'Connell developed the plan for "The General Association of Ireland." Its objects were—1. To procure by law a complete municipal reform in Ireland, on as large and effectual a basis as that originally proposed by the ministry. 2. To secure by law such a settlement of the tithe question as shall be fully satisfactory to the people of Ireland. In a second letter, he strongly urged the people to rally round the Melbourne ministry, and the government of lord Mulgrave in Ireland.

8. ENGLISH CHURCH REFORM.—Lord John Russell explained in the commons the government measures for the reform of the English church, and which were founded on four reports that had been made by the ecclesiastical commission, consisting of the principal bishops and ministers of state, and who had been first appointed under the ministry of sir R. Peel, but continued by his successors. These measures in their full scope went to a new arrangement of dioceses and their revenues; to the creation of two new bishoprics; to the appropriation of the redundant revenues of the deans and chapters to the improvement of poor livings, and to the diminution of non-residence and pluralities. Only one of the four bills intended was brought forward, namely, that respecting the sees. The house seems to have been taken by surprise, and the bill was read a second time without opposition or special notice. At this stage, the radicals evinced such a determined hostility to the ministers' scheme of church reform, that they were only able to carry the established church bill (see *Aug. 20th*) during the short remainder of the session. The lords eagerly adopted it, and in the commons it was supported by sir R. Peel and Mr. O'Connell.

15. Mr. Warburton moved for a select

committee to consider the case of Catherine Robson and Isabella Ainslie, claiming to be the heirs of Samuel Troutbeck, a merchant of Madras, who died in 1785, and whose property, which, in 1814, amounted to upwards of 140,000*l.*, had been taken possession of by the crown. Mr. Troutbeck had bequeathed his property to charitable uses in Wapping, but, owing to some defect in his testamentary disposition, the will was declared invalid by lord Eldon. Motion negatived.

DANISH CLAIMS.—Mr. Clay moved in the commons for a select committee to inquire into these claims still remaining unsatisfied. It was opposed by the chancellor of the exchequer on the authority of the law officers of the crown, and negatived. What are called the Danish claims are the claims made by British subjects on account of losses sustained by them through the measures resorted to by the Danish government, in retaliation for our sudden attack upon Copenhagen in 1807, when, without any declaration of war, we seized the Danish fleet, having previously also laid an embargo on all the Danish vessels in the Thames, which, to the number of three hundred, were afterwards sold by us with their cargoes, and produced to the Treasury a sum of nearly 1,200,000*l.* sterling. This proceeding was sought to be justified by the ministers of that period on the ground that the Danish fleet would otherwise have been delivered over to, or fallen into the hands of, the French. The Danes endeavoured to avenge the attack on their capital, by the seizure of British property wherever they could find it. This seizure was not limited, as usual in the case of war between nations, to property *afloat*, but extended to all goods belonging to British subjects on the soil of Denmark, and even to the confiscation of book-debts owing to British creditors, and for which the Danish government gave discharges to their merchants. Our unprovoked attack on Copenhagen was alleged to be a justification of these violations of international law. The whole property of which British subjects were deprived, in these several ways, amounted to about 546,000*l.*, belonging to some hundreds of individuals. Their losses did not arise from negligence or want of prudence on their part, or in the ordinary practice of war, but solely from the irregular proceedings of the belligerents. Upon this was grounded their claims to compensation, and, after an interval of twenty or thirty years, their justice has been partially admitted. The claims for book-debts confiscated have been satisfied, and also the second class of claimants—those who claim for goods seized on shore—are expected to be liquidated. The third class, who claim

on account of ships and cargoes taken at sea, government appears inclined to resist as not of equal validity with the others. The entire amount of this last description of claims does not exceed 150,000*l*.

18. At the sale of the effects of the late Barry O'Meara, surgeon to Napoleon at St. Helena, some remains of the emperor fetched high prices. A few lines in cipher sold for eleven guineas; a lock of his hair, 2*l*. 10*s*.; one of his teeth, extracted by O'Meara, 7½ guineas.

25. After a long debate, the lords rejected the appropriation clause in the Irish church bill by a majority of 138 to 47. See *Aug.* 20.

26. Armand Carrel, editor of the *National*, and one of the political writers who distinguished himself by the part he took in the revolution of 1830, died of a wound he had received in a duel with the editor of *La Presse*. His remains received a public funeral, at which men of such opposite sentiments as Chateaubriand, Arago, Lafitte, and Beranger, were present. Orations and eulogies were delivered over his grave by M.M. Thibaudeau, Scheffer, and Maillefer.

28. By a vote of the commons government is authorized to guarantee one-third portion of the last instalment of the Greek loan without the consent of Russia, that power having taken advantage of an informality to withdraw from the engagement in regard to this matter she had made in conjunction with England and France. Mr. Robinson moved an amendment, declaring the inexpediency of the proposed guarantee, on the ground that the treaty of 1832 had not been fulfilled on the part of Greece, which was supported by Mr. Hume, Lord Dudley Stuart, and Dr. Bowring; but on a division the original resolution was carried by a majority of 81 to 40. The interest on the sum to be guaranteed amounts only to 12,000*l*.

Died at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, in his 60th year, NATHAN MAYER ROTHSCHILD, the greatest millionaire of the present or probably any other age. The founder of the house of Rothschild, Mayer Anselm, was born at Frankfort in the Jews' alley. He was brought up with the view of making him a priest, but his occupation ultimately became commercial. He died in 1812, leaving to five sons a considerable fortune and unbounded credit. The five brothers have taken part in all the great loan transactions of England, France, Austria, and almost every country. Nathan Mayer, of London, was considered the chief of the family, though he was not the eldest. He came to England in 1800, where he acted as agent for his father in the purchase of Manchester goods for the continent. Shortly afterwards he had, through the

agency of his father for the elector of Hesse Cassel and other German princes, large sums placed at his disposal, which he invested with judgment, and his means rapidly accumulated. Mr. Rothschild married, in 1806, a third daughter of Mr. Cohen, by whom he had four sons and three daughters. It was the marriage of his eldest son, Lionel, to a daughter of baron Rothschild, that called the deceased to Frankfort: he was there attacked with illness and died. The corpse of Mr. Rothschild was brought to this country, and was buried in the cemetery belonging to the great German synagogue in Duke's place.

31. ADMISSION TO THE COMMONS' GALLERY.—For a long time past the public have obtained admission as spectators to the proceedings of the houses of parliament, only by written orders of peers for the lords, and for the commons by the speaker's order to a seat below the gallery, and either by a member's order, or by the payment of half-a-crown, to the gallery. By a regulation promulgated a few weeks since, the privilege of admission to the commons' gallery by the half-crown payment is abolished, and the written order of a member is made the only passport. The chief plea for this innovation is, that it is expedient to put an end, in all cases, to the receipt of fees or gratuities by the officers of the house; a laudable aim, but in practice it seems it has had the effect of restricting (though not to the inconvenience of those who do attend) the public accommodation. The gallery has been less frequented under the new than the old system; showing that a majority of people found it easier to pay their half-crowns for admission than to procure members' orders.

PARIS.—According to the newspapers, the increase of assassinations and street-robberies in Paris is quite dreadful. These crimes, until lately, used not to be included to any great extent in the delinquencies of the French capital. The agents of the police were never so numerous as now; but it seems they are so engaged in pursuit of political offenders as to have little leisure to attend to common felons. Among the recent victims is one Mr. Nagle, an Irish gentleman, who was murdered by night, as he was returning to his residence in the Faubourg St. Germain, by two ruffians armed with large knives.

Aug. 1. Mr. Walter moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the new poor law, particularly in regard to out-door relief and the separation of husbands from wives, and children from their parents. Lord John Russell showed that on a comparison of the years 1834 and 1836, there was a saving in expense in the latter year amounting to 1,794,990*l*. This was thought satisfactory, and the

house rejected the motion by a majority of 82 against 46.

2. On the order of the day having been read for taking into consideration the lords' amendments to the Irish tithe bill, lord J. Russell rose, and, in an address which was loudly cheered throughout by the ministerial side of the house, moved that the further consideration of the amendments should be postponed to that day three months. The principle of appropriation, which had been rejected by the other house, his lordship described as that which gave its chief value to the bill. As for himself and his colleagues, "We are prepared," he said, "to stand upon that principle. We maintained that that principle was essential to a final settlement of the tithe question when we were out of office; and if, while we are in office, the house of commons think proper to affirm an opposite principle, amounting to a denial of that which we asserted, of course it will be our duty to resign, and to pretend no longer to govern the councils of this country." Lord John Russell was replied to by sir R. Peel, who concluded his speech by moving "that the lords' amendments be taken into consideration now." A long and animated debate followed, in which lord J. Russell's motion was supported by Mr. E. Denison, Mr. Hume, Mr. O'Loughlin, Mr. Sheil, and Mr. D. W. Harvey; and the amendment of Sir Robert Peel, by lord Sandon, sir James Graham, and lord Stanley. At half-past one o'clock the house divided, when the numbers for the original motion were 260; for Sir R. Peel's amendment, 231.

10. FREE CONFERENCE.—The houses of parliament being unable to agree on the amendments made by the lords in the Charitable trusts bill, a free conference was demanded by the commons. No free conference having been held since 1740 or 1757, the proceeding excited considerable interest. At a common conference there is no debate or verbal discussion of the points of difference: it is a mere ceremony ending in the delivery of a written paper by the messengers of the one house to those of the other. For any purpose that is answered by the meeting, the paper might be sent, as bills are, directly from the one house to the other. But at a free conference the parties, if so disposed, may discuss *visa voce* the points at issue. On this occasion, when lord John Russell, Mr. Hume, and some other members, met a deputation of the upper house, the conference passed off without debate; his lordship briefly stating from a paper, that the commons adhered to their dissent from the amendments of the lords, and the earl of Ripon having as briefly answered that they

would receive the serious consideration of the lords, the interview terminated. Mr. Hume, who had expected a debate, waxed wroth at this mode of proceeding, and viscount Melbourne was equally dissatisfied with the reserve of lord Ripon and his associates. A second free conference ensued on the following day, when there was a regular debate, which lasted upwards of an hour, but ended with the opinions of each party remaining unchanged. No agreement having been come to, the lords left the disputed bill with the commons.

17. Lord John Russell announced in the commons that the whole of the 246 convicts from Hampshire who had been transported for rioting in 1831 (see p. 90) had been pardoned, with the exception only of ten, who were undergoing punishment for offences committed in the colonies.

18. Lord Lyndhurst, in moving for a return stating what had been the fate of each of the bills introduced into either house of parliament in the course of the session, took an opportunity of entering at great length into the defence of the conduct which had been pursued by himself and his friends, and also of delivering a parting philippic against the general policy of the administration. The oration of the learned lord gave rise, of course, to some debate, in which lord Holland, lord Melbourne, and the lord chancellor took part on the one side, and the duke of Wellington on the other. The motion was agreed to.

A royal order of this date has been issued from the court at Windsor, for the moral discipline of the army. It takes effect in respect of soldiers enlisted on or after Sept. 1, 1836, and provides that soldiers who have completed seven years service shall be entitled to *1*s.** per day extra, and to wear a ring of lace round the right arm, if their names have not been entered in the Regimental Defaulters' Book for at least two years preceding. Further additional pay and more rings, under similar terms, at the end of 14 and 21 years' service.

20. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Hume was in the middle of some inculpatory observations on the obstructive proceedings of the lords during the session, when he was interrupted by the entrance of the usher of the black rod to summon the members to the upper house to hear the prorogation speech of the king. His majesty congratulated parliament on the important measures of legislation that had been completed during the session. The diminution of crime in Ireland was adverted to, and confidence expressed that perseverance in a just and impartial government would tend to preserve tranquility,

and to develop her great natural resources. The flourishing state of commerce and manufactures was admitted to be gratifying, provided it was accompanied with that prudence and caution essential to its permanence. Parliament was then prorogued in the usual form by the lord chancellor.

At the close of the session, complaints arose that it had not been so remarkable for effective legislation as in preceding years under the reform ministry. The Irish tithe and municipal bills, and the bill for governing charitable trusts in England by popular election, were lost through the inability of the commons to agree in the amendments of the lords. Among minor failures, was the loss or abandonment of bills for amending the English municipal act, for improving the court of chancery, for disfranchising the borough of Stafford, for removing the civil disabilities of the Jews, and for shortening the duration of county elections. Notwithstanding these miscarriages, important measures were matured, very creditable to parliamentary industry, and of which a brief outline may be given.

By the act for the *Commutation of Tithes* in England and Wales, provision is made for the final extinction within two years of the vexatious right of exacting tithes in kind, and for commuting them into a corn rent-charge, payable in money, according to the value of a fixed quantity of corn, as yearly ascertained by the average of the preceding seven years. If the parties cannot, under certain regulations, agree among themselves upon a permanent commutation before Oct. 1, 1838, commissioners are to proceed to make an award, founded upon the ascertained value of the tithe for the seven years preceding Christmas, 1835, which shall be binding for ever after. Thus the chief practical objection to tithe—namely, that it is a tax upon the application of capital to the improvement of the soil, is removed, the right hitherto enjoyed by the tithe-owner, of increasing his demands according to the augmented value or produce of the land, being taken away.

Next after this measure is another, which was less popular, called the *Established Church Act*, by which the heads of the church and certain ministers of state are incorporated for effecting a new distribution of episcopal dioceses and incomes. Under this statute the bishopric of Bristol is to be united to that of Gloucester, that of St. Asaph to that of Bangor; and that of Sodor and Man to that of Chester, and two new bishoprics are to be erected, one at Manchester and the other at Ripon. The income of the archbishop of Canterbury is to be reduced to

15,000*l.*; that of the archbishop of York to 10,000*l.*; that of the bishop of London to 10,000*l.*; that of the bishop of Durham to 8000*l.*; that of the bishop of Winchester to 7000*l.*; that of the bishop of Ely to 5500*l.*; that of the bishop of St. Asaph and Bangor to 5200*l.*; and that of the bishop of Worcester to 5000*l.* These reductions amount altogether to a sum of about 28,500*l.* per annum. The other bishops are to have incomes varying from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.* No ecclesiastical dignity or benefice is to be in future granted to any bishop to be held in *commendam*. These regulations, it is expected, will lessen translations by leaving only three or four sees objects of temptation. Acts were also passed for separating the palatine jurisdiction of Durham from the diocese for extinguishing the secular jurisdiction of the archbishop of York and the bishop of Ely in certain districts, and for imposing restrictions on the renewal of ecclesiastical leases. Finally, on the abandonment of the other church bills relative to residence and pluralities, and a new appropriation of the revenues of cathedral and collegiate churches, a bill was introduced for suspending for one year appointments to dignities in these establishments, and to sinecure rectories.

The *Marriage Act* was partly a measure of church reform. It puts an end to what has long been, of all the grievances of the dissenters, the one of which they have the most loudly complained. Instead of all persons, of whatever persuasion, being forced, as heretofore, in order to be legally married, to comply with the ritual of the established church, every person may now be married with whatever ceremonies he prefers, or if he pleases, without any religious ceremony at all, or any other form except that of making a declaration of the act before a public officer. Marriages may be simply a civil contract or religious ceremony, or both, and there are now four distinct modes by which they may be legally solemnised—the first three by licence, banns, or certificate, according to the rites of the church of England. In the fourth mode, they may be contracted in any registered place of religious worship, or in the office of the superintendent registrar.

The act for the celebrating of marriages was accompanied by another for *Registering Births, Deaths, and Marriages*, which both removes another of the complaints of the dissenters, and establishes a greatly-improved machinery for a matter of high interest and social importance to the community. The complete registry thus provided will be of great value as a statistical document, and an authentic record of facts not only precious to science, but of much

utility in the practical work of government and legislation. It is proposed that the object of this statute shall be partly effected through the agency of the guardians of unions appointed under the poor law amendment act, the registrars and superintendent registrars being nominated, and their districts determined by the several boards of guardians.

An inconsistency in judicial administration, which allowed counsel in civil actions, in misdemeanor, and in high treason, but not in *felony*, was removed, and all persons tried for felonies are allowed to make their defence by counsel. Even in cases of summary conviction, the accused may make their defence, and examine witnesses, by counsel or attorney. Another alteration in criminal justice repeals those parts of the existing law relating to persons convicted of the crime of murder, which directs that every such person shall be condemned to be executed on the day next but one after that on which the sentence is passed, and that he shall after judgment be fed with bread and water only; and enacts that, in future, "sentences of death may be pronounced after conviction for murder in the same manner, and the judge shall have the same power in all respects, as after convictions for other capital offences." This amendment of the law is declared in the preamble to be made "for the ends of justice, and especially more effectually to preserve from an irrevocable punishment any person who may hereafter be convicted upon erroneous or perjured evidence."

Of the purport of the other statutes of the session, the following is a brief enumeration:—

- Aliens permitted to reside by a mere registration of their passports.
- Lighthouses of the United Kingdom placed under the exclusive control of the Trinity House.
- Provisions of the London act for the sale of bread extended to the country.
- Period of granting ecclesiastical leases limited.
- Encouragement given to building societies on the principle of friendly societies.
- Postage of newspapers regulated.
- Duties on newspapers, on certain classes of paper, and on East India sugar, reduced.
- Fees allowed to medical witnesses attending coroners' inquests.
- Poor law commissioners may require all assessments for the relief of the poor to be made on the net annual value of the property assessed.
- Number of copies of every new book to

be presented to the universities reduced.

The number of *public general acts* passed in 1836 was 117; in 1835, 84; in 1834, 95, in 1833, 106. The total number of private bills which received the royal assent in 1836 was 193, exceeding by 33 the number in 1835.

The number of *railway bills* introduced in the past session was 55, of which 33 were passed. In 1835 the railway bills passed was 18; in 1834, 14; in 1833, 11. The total number of railway bills passed in the ten years ending in 1836 was 127.

22. The annual meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science commenced at Bristol. The marquis of Lansdowne, who was to have presided, was prevented by the illness and untimely death of his eldest son, the earl of Kerry. The chair was filled by the marquis of Northampton, and a great number of literary and scientific characters were present during the week's proceedings.

25. From an official return made up to this day, it appears that the number of English residing in France, exclusive of continental tourists who pass annually through it, is as follows:—Paris, Versailles, and St. Cloud, 22,500; Boulogne, 11,000; Calais, 6,000; other parts of France, 11,000.

31. **REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.**—During the past and present months Spain has been the scene of fresh tumults and insurrections. At Malaga, Cadix, Seville, and Cordova, the Cadix constitution of 1812 has been proclaimed and provincial juntas established, wholly independent of the queen's authority. On the 3rd a movement commenced in Madrid; but it was put down and the capital declared in a state of siege. But on the 12th the insurrection became more serious, and a regiment of provincial militia doing duty at St. Ildefonso demanded the constitution of 1812. They forced themselves into the apartments of the queen-regent in spite of the remonstrances of the French and English ambassadors, and obtained from her a promise of the acceptance of the constitution. This produced a revolution in the metropolis. Isuritz, the prime minister, made his escape, reached Lisbon, and from thence proceeded to England. General Quesada, the military governor of Madrid, was not so fortunate, being taken by the populace about three miles from the capital and savagely put to death. Ultimately, the constitution was proclaimed by the queen-regent, subject to the revision of the cortes, and a new ministry of decided liberals formed, comprising the following indi-

viduals :—Calatrava, president of the council and minister of foreign affairs; Gil de la Cuadra, minister of marine; J. M. Lopez, minister of the interior; Rodil, minister of war; Landeró, minister of justice; Mendizabal, minister of finance. Arguelles refused to take office, but promised to support the ministry. The new government commenced with vigour. A forced loan to the amount of 2,000,000*l.* was sought to be raised; a conscription of 50,000 men was called for, to send against the Carlists; the property of emigrant Carlists was confiscated, and the example of France and Portugal was proposed to be followed, by the extinction of the remaining moiety of tithe, leaving the clergy stipendiaries of the state or dependant on voluntary contributions. Early in the ensuing year (see Feb. 24) some modifications in the constitution of 1812 were proposed and adopted by the cortes.

Sept. 7. RESIGNATION OF FRENCH MINISTERS.—The revolutionary movement in Spain, introduced great confusion into the French cabinet, already embarrassed by the question of intervention or non-intervention. M. Thiers and his colleagues were urgently pressing for an effective co-operation against don Carlos, and the king was averse to the sending of a French army in his own name into Spain, when the news arrived at Paris of the re-establishment of the constitution of 1812, which threw everything into greater embarrassment than ever. The order of things and the form of government which France had recognised, and which she bound herself to support as a part of the Quadruple Alliance, no longer existed in Spain, where the queen-regent, with whom the treaty was made, was coerced, and a captive in the hands of an armed force. To reinstate the queen in the position she held when the alliance was formed, and to interfere with arms between the constitutionalists and liberals of different shades was never contemplated, and ministers easily obtained a public declaration from the king, that he would not interfere "against any part or section of the liberals in Spain." But when he was pressed to reinforce the French legion already serving as auxiliaries in Spain, and to adopt other and extensive measures against the Carlists, as the only mode of hindering the queen's government from being carried away by the torrent of revolution and anarchy, he gave a decided refusal, upon which M. Thiers and five of his colleagues resigned. The king's refusal excited considerable discussion in France and England as to his motives and intentions. Nearly a fortnight elapsed before the difficulties could be overcome in the appoint-

ment of a new ministry. On the 7th the formation of a *doctrinaire* cabinet was announced in the *Moniteur* as follows :—M. Molé, president of the council and minister for foreign affairs; M. de Gasparin, minister of the interior; M. Guizot, minister of public instruction; M. Duchatel, minister of finance; M. Persil, minister of justice; vice-admiral Rosamel, minister of marine. The ministry of M. Thiers had lasted about nine months.

9. REVOLUTION AT LISBON.—A revolution in Spain is usually a prelude to a revolution in Portugal. But serious disagreements had arisen between the court and the cortes in August, owing to the appointment of prince Ferdinand, the husband of the queen, to the chief command of the army. This appointment had been incautiously made one of the marriage articles, and the prince was unwise enough to demand its fulfilment, notwithstanding its obvious unpopularity with the people and the military. The cortes were about voting an address against the army being under the command of a foreigner, when they were abruptly dissolved after sitting a week and before the supplies had been voted. The elections were unfavourable to the government; and popular discontents were aggravated by the high price of provisions, and the alleged encouragement given to foreign manufactures. At the height of these discontents happened the revolution at Madrid. On the 4th a conference of ministers was held at the residence of the duke of Terceira, at Belem, to take into consideration the critical circumstances in which the country was placed by the changes in Spain. It was determined to defer the opening of the cortes, which had been fixed for the 11th, and to make some important changes in the military commands, substituting officers contented with the present order of things for such as were known to desire the democratic constitution of 1812, which was established that year, in imitation of Spain, by a military revolt at Oporto. These measures, however, with several others adopted by ministers, proved to be altogether inefficient, and at their very first demonstration the liberals carried everything before them. The arrival of a steamboat from Oporto, loaded with opposition deputies to the cortes from the northern provinces, appears to have been the signal for the movement. The steamer was welcomed by a prodigious discharge of rockets and paterarros, in defiance of the prohibition of such displays by the government. On the 9th, about an hour after sun-set, the clubs had arranged the proceedings, and a motley band of troops of the line, *caçadores*, and national guards, proclaimed the

constitution adopted by John VI. They then sang the constitutional hymn and appointed a deputation, headed by viscount Sa da Bandeira, to wait upon the queen. Donna Maria at first contemplated resistance, and ordered some of the regular troops to march against the insurgents, but the non-commissioned officers, exercising, as in Spain, the chief authority of their generals, refused to act, and also called for a change of government. Under such circumstances, the queen had no resource, save acquiescence. At five o'clock on the morning of the 10th, the national guards and their confederates, who had kept possession of the Rocio-square all night, were informed that her majesty had complied with all their wishes, and appointed the following ministry:—viscount Sa da Bandeira, minister of finance; count de Lumières, president of council and minister of war; Vasconcellos, marine; Silva Possos, interior; Veira de Castro, justice and ecclesiastical affairs. The duke of Terceira, the ex-minister Carvalho, and other individuals, who were apprehensive of popular vengeance, took refuge on board the British squadron lying in the Tagus. On the 18th, the peers addressed a formal protest to the queen against the revolution. It had the signatures of 27 out of 41, the total number of Portuguese peers. The duke of Palmella, the first in influence as ability, headed the protest. But the provinces expressed, by deputations, their approval of the proceedings in the capital.

15. **NEWSPAPER PRESS.**—This day, the reduction of the newspaper stamp-duty came into operation, when the price of the principal London daily newspapers was reduced from 7*d.* to 5*d.*, which last is also the price of several of the weekly papers, though some have undergone an enlargement, and in price are only reduced 1*d.* Several newspapers are charged four-pence and four-pence halfpenny. The latter is the general price of the provincial papers, though a few are published at four-pence, and some, including the Liverpool papers, are charged five-pence. At Liverpool, a paper has been started, which is published three times a-week, and the *Manchester Guardian* which was previously published only once a-week, is now issued twice a-week. There was not a single provincial paper in England issued oftener than once a-week previous to the reduction of the stamp-duty. The old duty was 4*d.* with a discount of 20 per cent, which being 4-5ths of a penny on each sheet, made the net duty only 3*d.* and 1-5th of a penny. The new duty, on which there is no discount is 1*d.*, and the actual reduction, therefore, is 2*d.* and 1-5th of a penny. The regular charge of a London paper is

now estimated at 3*d.*, namely, a stamp-duty of 1*d.*; an allowance to the news-vender of 1*d.* and 1-9th of a penny; and the cost of the paper which, for a sheet similar to the one on which *The Morning Chronicle* is printed, costs about 8-9ths of a penny. Total 3*d.*; leaving 2*d.* (exclusive of the profits from advertisements) to defray the expenses of printing, editorial and literary aid, reporters, foreign correspondents and a number of other charges.

20. Government advanced the interest on exchequer-bills to 2*d.* per cent per day.

22. Session of the provincial parliament of Lower Canada opened by the earl of Gosford, governor-in-chief. It was shortly afterwards dissolved in consequence of the spirited opposition manifested by the members. The grievances and disputes were of the same kind as those which have been noticed in the upper province (*May 23*). The House of Assembly demanded an elective legislative council; and that they should have a control over the crown property as well as the taxes. By way of enforcing their demands, they had refused to vote a civil list; and all the public servants, even the judges, had remained unpaid till the executive applied the funds at its disposal to the payment of official salaries.

26. **FOREIGN REFUGEES IN SWITZERLAND.**—This generally peaceful country is seriously embroiled with the government of the French king. The Swiss as a free and republican people, have naturally sympathised in the unsuccessful efforts that have been made for liberty by several nations on the continent, especially since 1830, when France, that now seems inclined to persecute the authors of all such attempts, set an example to them all, and was the main cause of hurrying many men into rash plots and ill-calculated insurrections. When these men were scattered and driven from their homes by the hand of power, they took refuge in considerable numbers in Switzerland, which became the general asylum of Savoyard, Italian, German and Polish refugees. With very few exceptions, these men were entirely destitute; such of them as possessed any mechanical art readily found employment, but the support of the vast majority fell heavily on the cantons, where they fixed their abode. The Swiss mostly behaved with honourable liberality to these emigrants, especially the democratic party, who for some short time had been gaining ground in several of the cantons. When a series of little revolutions, which began in 1831, ensued, and the Swiss of the same canton fought against each other as Aristocrats and Liberals, many of the Polish and Italian refugees joined the people, and, as military men, directed their movements in the field;

but it is likely that, but for the impulse of the Paris revolution, which gave Louis Philip a throne, these insurrections would not have happened; while there are proofs that French emissaries encouraged the animosity against the aristocratic party, who were suspected of inclining to the Holy Alliance. These divisions and contests in the cantons continued up to the present year, while the mass of exiles from Italy, Poland, and Germany, already disturbing and burdensome enough to the honest Swiss, had been augmented by fresh arrivals from France of disappointed republicans and St. Simonians. It was hardly possible that such a gathering of the malcontents of all nations should continue long congregated without attempting some revolutionary enterprise. In 1834, a correspondence had been opened with secret societies in Savoy and Piedmont, and in the spring of that year a corps of refugees assembled suddenly on the northern side of the lake of Geneva, and, crossing that water, invaded Savoy, with arms in their hands, thus exposing the country that had granted them hospitality to the chances of a severe reprisal. Their wild expedition, as already noticed in the events of that year, was driven back with loss and shame to the very gates of Geneva, where they attempted to provoke a rising of the people against the government in that city. Notwithstanding this seditious outrage, the Swiss did not withdraw their protection, though some of the Cantons very properly took measures to prevent the recurrence of such outbreaks, and kept the refugees from the frontiers of States with which the Swiss were living at peace. All these States had taken the alarm long before; but soon after this adventure, they began to make strong military demonstrations and to threaten Switzerland with a blockade. In March, 1835, nearly the whole of the line which Switzerland presents to the Rhine was watched by the troops of Baden, Wurtemberg and Bavaria; strong cantonnments of Piedmontese troops guarded the issues from the Valais, the Pays de Vaud, and Geneva, while the Austrians kept a jealous eye on the Italian Swiss Canton of Tesino, on the Grisons, on the country in the rear of St. Gall, and all other points where Switzerland touches their possessions in Italy. Before this precautionary cordon was formed, the majority of the Swiss Cantons voted what they considered a security to their neighbours for the future. They decreed that all foreigners settled in Switzerland, detected in establishing political associations, should be expelled; that all such as had participated in the disturbance of tranquillity in the neighbouring States should be

delivered over to the Swiss courts, and tried and sentenced. But this did not satisfy their neighbours, who would have had every refugee delivered up to them, or, at least driven out of Switzerland. In the latter case, as the only country through which they could withdraw was France, and as Louis Philip would allow them no resting-places there, all these exiles must have flocked to England, whither the king of the French had already sent some scores in a starving condition, escorted by his gendarmes to the straits of Dover. The Swiss replied to this high and threatening language in terms of national pride and defiance. Louis Philip, who by this time was as apprehensive of the refugees and conspiracies as any of his neighbours, joined the general cry, at first moderately and in a tone of advice and remonstrance. For this, it is only just to admit that he had some cause; since it is known, that a connexion existed, by means of secret societies, between the malcontents of his own dominion and the Polish and other foreign exiles in Switzerland, who were not strangers to the concerted insurrections which deluged Paris and Lyons with blood, and after their defeat some of the French conspirators found protection across the Swiss frontier. It was to sever these affiliations that the late prime minister, M. Thiers, threatened Switzerland with a "hermetic blockade," which roused the ire of the democratic cantons; but the general diet of the cantons gave assurances that they would adopt such precautions as were consistent with national independence, for preventing future machinations against the French ruler by the exiles they sheltered; accompanying, however, this assurance with the stinging accusation, that some of the conspiracies complained of had been hatched by an agent of the French ambassador. This charge was founded on the confessions of the spy himself, who had been arrested, and found while going about Switzerland, with a passport signed by the duke of Montebello's chief secretary. The French court took fire at the imputation; their ambassador on the 25th delivered to the federal Diet an official note, intimating that all relations, diplomatic and commercial, were suspended, until satisfaction was made to France for the alleged affront. The British government offered its mediation through its ambassador. On the 17th October following there was an extraordinary meeting of the Diet, and after a lengthened sitting conciliatory measures were adopted. These were readily listened to by France, as the manufacturers of Lyons and the French wine-growers had already begun to feel the effects of an interruption of commercial

intercourse with Geneva, St. Gall, and Zurich.

Oct. 1. A vigorous assault is made on the lines of general Evans at St. Sebastian by the Carlists, who made an unsuccessful attempt to carry them. Both parties fought bravely. The Carlists charging down-hill, frequently sallied from their works in force, but each time were driven back at the point of the bayonet. The Westminster Grenadiers distinguished themselves, and a small corps of Lancers, under colonel Wakefield, made several brilliant charges; but a much more effective arm was the well-appointed artillery under the direction of colonel Colquhoun. Balls, grape-shot, shells, Congreve rockets, and grapple, were thrown with a precision that confounded the Carlists, and struck their recruits with panic. The conflict lasted twelve hours, and was not quite over till after dark. General Evans lost 376 men and 37 officers killed and wounded, and was slightly wounded himself. The loss of the Carlists was estimated at 1000 killed and wounded.

8. Louis Philip issued an ordinance remitting the sentences against political offenders, sixty-two in number. (See 993.) In most instances, however, this is rather a diminution of punishment than a free pardon.

17. Dutch states-general opened. In his speech from the throne the king regretted that, though he had devoted his exertions to bring about a final settlement of the Belgian question, no arrangement on that subject had yet been come to. The tone of the speech, however, was pacific. On the 20th the minister of finance brought forward the budget in the second chamber. He congratulated the house that, notwithstanding the "many cares and difficulties which were the inevitable consequences of the undesired Belgian insurrection," the country in its domestic circumstances was still continually advancing in prosperity and moral strength. Some reductions of taxation were announced, and the expenditure for 1837 was fixed at 44,617,013 florins.

19. A commission gazetted, by which Thomas Drummond, under secretary of state in Ireland, colonel John Fox Burgoyne, Peter Barlow, professor of mathematics at the military academy, Woolwich, and Richard Griffith, esq., are appointed his majesty's commissioners for considering and reporting upon a general system of railways in Ireland. Another commission gazetted, appointing C. S. Lefevre, lieutenant-colonel Rowan, and Edwin Chadwick, commissioners for inquiring and reporting upon the best means of establishing a constabulary or rural police for England and Wales.

A meeting held in London, Charles Lushington, M.P., in the chair, for the purpose of forming a church-rate abolition society. The meeting was attended by Mr. Hume, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Ewart, Mr. D. W. Harvey, and other members of parliament. The object of the society is to effect the entire abolition of church-rates, without any charge upon the consolidated fund or land-tax; and to introduce the principle of upholding the edifices of the church and the expenses of worship either by pew-rents or voluntary contributions.

20. Norwegian storting opened. The king described the finances of the country as in a flourishing state, the surplus of revenue being considerable, notwithstanding the reduction of one half of the land-tax. In a general exposition of the condition of the kingdom, which was, at the same time, submitted to the house, a hope is expressed, that, although the negotiations which had long been carrying on with the English government, to prevail upon it to change its policy in regard to the timber-trade, had hitherto been fruitless, the local interests by which such a change had been opposed would soon be obliged to give way. The population of Norway seems to have increased since 1815 from 900,000 to 1,200,000.

A numerous meeting at the Mansion House, at which it was resolved to erect by subscription a statue to the duke of Wellington, in the vicinity of London bridge, in testimony of the gratitude of the citizens for the zeal manifested by his grace in the erection of that structure, and in the adjoining local improvements in the city and Southwark.

29. A foolish attempt at insurrection at Strasburgh, by Louis Napoleon Buonaparte, nephew of the deceased emperor, aided by two officers and some privates, hired to cry "*Vive l'empereur!*" It was instantly suppressed, and the young prince shipped off to America by the French government. On the following day an attempt, almost as absurd, was made by a party of hussars at Vendôme.

30. A vacancy in the Irish court of exchequer filled up by the appointment of the attorney-general, Michael O'Loghlin. He is the first catholic that has sat on the bench since the revolution of 1688.

A great number of meetings have been held during this month, chiefly for the purpose of constituencies giving a public reception to their representatives. This species of political audit seems to have grown almost into an annual usage since the reform act. A deputation waited on lord Brougham, to invite him to dine with the citizens of Edinburgh. This invitation he declined. His lordship had been ab-

sent during the late parliamentary session owing to indisposition. In reply to the deputation, he said, "My health, which has been broken by the labours of the session in 1835, when the legislative proceedings of the year were crowded into six weeks, has now been restored. But I have resolved to avoid all risk of a relapse."

Nov. 1. The municipal elections seem to have gone nearly in the same direction as last year, namely, in favour of the liberal party. In some places, as, for instance, in Bristol, where the conservatives last year had a majority, they have been beaten in the late election. On the other hand, even in many of the larger towns, the conservatives have this year approached nearer to an equality with their opponents; and, in a considerable number of the smaller boroughs, they have returned a majority of the new councillors. On the whole, the returns, as was to be expected and desired, present some appearance of the domination of mere party gradually giving way to other influences better fitted to secure the benefits of good municipal government. The accounts of the annual parliamentary registration are conflicting, but in this, too, the general result appears to be in favour of the ministerial party.

3. Queen of Portugal, in concert with the foreign ambassadors, and the late ministers, Palmella, Saldanha, and Carvalho, attempted to effect a counter-revolution. They mistakingly thought it was sufficient to announce a desire of change, to call forth a general demonstration in their favour. Nobody came to Belcm to their assistance; the national guard, the populace, the regular troops, and the royal guard, all turned out in defence of the order of things which it had been attempted to overturn. Thus unsupported, Donna Maria confessed her error, and was pardoned, and Sa da Bandeira and his colleagues re-instated.

4. DEATH OF CHARLES X.—The late king of France expired at Goritz in Illyria, in the 80th year of his age. He was the fifth son of dauphin Louis, son of Louis XV. The title of comte d'Artois was given him in infancy, which he retained during his wanderings in Europe, and until the accession of his brother, Louis XVIII. The story of the princes is the story of our Charles II. and his brother James II. over again. In both cases we have the same catastrophe—the expulsion from the throne of the reigning family; but still a compromise with the hereditary principle, in the substitution of the nearest collateral branch which circumstances would allow to be selected. The duke of Orleans has been the French prince of Orange. Even in the character

of the Bourbons and Stuarts there is a singular coincidence. Charles II. and Louis XVIII. licentious wits; James II. and Charles X. licentious too, but honest bigots, and no wits. The parallel might have commenced earlier—between Charles I. and Louis XVI.—both beheaded, and their fate provoked by a similar train of incidents. The convocation of the legislatures forced upon the crowns by their pecuniary necessities, after government by royal prerogative had become to all appearance the settled constitution of the kingdoms—the immediate assumption of supremacy by the popular representatives—the long parliament in England—the national assembly in France—the extinction of the aristocracy—abolition of the church—trial and execution of the kings—establishment of republics—subjugation of the state to the power of the sword—sway of great military chiefs—and after all, the restoration, for a brief period, of the old order of things, and the old line of monarchs, completed the cycle of corresponding vicissitudes through which both countries respectively passed in the seventeenth and the nineteenth centuries. The late Charles X. was extravagant, as well as dissipated and fanatical. During his first residence in England the British government fixed upon Holyrood-house, which is a privileged place, for his abode, that he might be safe from his creditors. He had, like his predecessors, many mistresses. The gloomy moroseness that marked some parts of his conduct is supposed to have been occasioned by a vow made to one of them, Madame de Polastron, on her death-bed, that he would never after her decease have another mistress. He was only 45 years of age when he was so enchained, and he is said to have kept his engagement. After his expulsion from France in 1830, he was received in England, and allowed to pass without payment of customs; but, unable or unwilling to pay an old debt demanded, he again took sanctuary in Holyrood-house, whence he removed to the dominions of Austria. His death brings Louis Philip, in the estimation of some of his brother sovereigns, a little nearer to the rank of a legitimate monarch. Supposing the renunciation of the throne by the duke of Angoulême to be valid, there is only the young duke of Bourdeaux to withhold the allegiance of the royalists from the Orleans dynasty. It is, however, still a problem for the future to solve, whether the French king will be as successful in perpetuating his settlement as our William III. The throne of William of Nassau was not like that of Louis Philip—a throne of the barricades. It was not

by republican pledges reached over the heads of a generous and confiding people. Moreover, the Orange sceptro had the support of a powerful aristocracy, which was then the nation, and had not to conciliate a public opinion, which did not exist, but is now omnipotent, intelligent, and ever watchful to prevent the consolidation of injustice.

7. **BALLOON EXCURSION.**—An aërial excursion from Vauxhall Gardens across the Channel excited great interest. The balloon was of unusually large dimensions. In the car was upwards of a ton of ballast, exclusive of brandy, wine, and other refreshments. Passports had also been provided for the continent. At 26 minutes past one in the afternoon the balloon rose, having in the car Mr. Green, Mr. Monck Mason, and Mr. Holland. At a quarter after 4 the sea was seen; 12 minutes before 5 they left England one mile east of Dover Castle; and 10 minutes before 6 they were over France two miles east of Calais. The aëronauts continued their course during the night, observing the starry firmament above, and the lights from the various towns they passed over below. At 5 o'clock there was a slight appearance of day-break; ten minutes after five they were at their highest altitude, the barometer being at 20 inches. At a quarter after 6 daybreak was indescribably magnificent. The balloon landed in perfect safety at a village called Weilburgh, in Nassau, at half-past 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning, after a prosperous voyage of 17 hours, having traversed a space equal to about 480 English miles.

8. Session of the Belgian chambers opened. In his speech king Leopold congratulated the members in warm terms on the general prospects of the country. Among other important reforms which had been effected or were in progress, particular mention was made of the re-organization of the state universities, and the project of law on the primary and intermediate schools. The government, it was added, in conformity with the intentions which the chambers had more than once manifested, had directed its particular attention to the fine arts. The revenue was spoken of as in a highly satisfactory condition. In reference to Holland, "I have well-founded hopes," said his majesty, "that peace will not be interrupted; yet prudence makes it our duty to remember that the army of a neighbouring state is maintained on our frontier in a menacing attitude."

15. The agricultural and commercial bank of Ireland stopped payment. For several days previously there had been a general run on many of the Irish banks.

The number of registered partners in the agricultural bank exceeded 5000, but the amount of paid-up capital did not amount to 400,000*l.*, while the number of its notes out after the stoppage amounted to 800,000*l.*

16. Sir Robert Peel elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow by a majority of 95. The numbers were, for sir Robert Peel, 316; for sir John Campbell, 221.

18. The Carlisle bank of Foster and Co. stopped payment.

The Gazette contained forty-six pages of advertisements of intended applications to parliament for bills for railroads.

23. Prince Polignac, who was prime minister at the revolution of 1830, and who, along with MM. Peyronnet, Chantelauze, and Guernon de Ranville, had been condemned to perpetual imprisonment, released and sent out of France. His colleagues had been previously set free.

24. The average price of wheat, which, at the commencement of the year was 36*s.* per quarter, appears by the official returns to be 60*s.* 4*d.* per quarter. The prices of provisions, and of coal and other articles, have been raised.

Dec. 5. The twenty-fourth congress of the United States opened. The questions of banking and the currency occupied a large portion of the message. President Jackson alluded to his speedy retirement from office.

21. Mr. O'Connell has met with a formidable opponent in the National Association, in the Rev. Mr. O'Mally, a catholic curate of Dublin, who repudiates the "instalment" system of the agitator in the redress of Irish grievances. Mr. O'Mally objects to the ministerial plan of converting tithe into a rent-charge, and, as the price of that conversion, giving thirty per cent. of the tithe to the landlords. Considering the poor the next claimants to the clergy themselves, he proposes that the whole tithe shall be converted into a provision for their relief, and the protestant clergy supported by the state. His resolutions to this effect were supported with ability, and only got rid of on the 21st by Mr. O'Connell moving that they be referred to a committee of the association.

Gomez, the enterprising partisan general of the Carlists, after traversing Spain in various directions with surprising rapidity, and reaching on the 21st ult. the Spanish lines near Gibraltar, has succeeded in eluding all his pursuers, and on the 21st had regained the fastnesses of Navarre, where he again sets at defiance the queen's troops.

24. Died at Narbonne, aged 55, gene-

ral Mina, a distinguished Spanish constitutional commander, who first commenced his military career in Navarre against the French in 1810. The partisan laurels he won over Napoleon's troops had been tarnished by his late sanguinary proceedings against the Carlists, especially ordering the mother of Cabrera to be shot (p. 995). His health had long been bad, which, with the protraction of the civil war, may have helped to inflame the revengeful ferocity common to the natives of the Peninsula.

Bilboa, which had been invested by the Carlists, under Villa Real, and the siege pressed with great vigour, was delivered by the defeat of the besiegers by Espartero, assisted by British naval co-operation. The Carlists had been aided in their attacks on the city by the Polish, Italian, and other refugees, belonging to the French legion, lately disbanded by Louis Philip. Espartero entered Bilboa next day in triumph.

27. French chambers opened. A shot was fired at the royal carriage on its way, the ball passing through the back of the vehicle and narrowly missing the king. Meunier, the person who fired, was apprehended, with one or two other persons. The king proceeded to the chambers, and delivered a speech of considerable length, in which he alluded to the attempt upon his life. Meunier was afterwards tried, and condemned to the guillotine, but his sentence was changed into banishment for ten years.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—J. Davidson, the enterprising African Traveller; he was murdered by the El Hareb tribe, in the district of Egueda, in Africa. Lieut.-col. James Tod, 52, annalist of Rajpootana, and successful collector of Indo-Grecian antiquities. At Brussels, of pulmonary apoplexy, Thomas Walker, 50, magistrate of Lambeth-street police-office, and author of a periodical called "The Original." Mr. Walker was a native of Manchester, and the son of an extensive manufacturer in that town, who was tried for high treason at Lancaster early in the French revolution. Richard Valpy, 82, head master of Reading grammar-school. At Knaresborough, Edward Day, 101, one of the constables who arrested Eugene Aram, who was executed at York in 1758. (See Aug. 3.) Captain Felix M'Donough, author of the "Hermit in London." R. Seymour, who for five years supplied the clever caricatures in "Figaro in London." Mr. Seymour was subject to fits of despondency, in one of which he committed suicide. James Wood, 80, a banker and draper of Gloucester, as his father and grandfather had been. Mr. Wood was a bachelor, and, his habits being very penu-

rious, he accumulated great wealth; the personal property of the deceased amounted to about 900,000*l.* the testamentary disposition of which became a subject of litigation, and has been recently annulled. James Horsburgh, 74, hydrographer to the East India Company. Barry O'Meara, author of a "Voice from St. Helena." Sir Francis Freeling, 73, secretary to the general post-office, a situation he had filled for nearly half a century. William Thomas, earl of Kerry, 25, M.P. for Calne, and eldest son of the marquis of Lansdowne. Sir William Cusack Smith, 73, second baron of the Irish court of exchequer, and the author of an able volume entitled "Metaphysic Rambles." At Paris, Thomas Reynolds, formerly a mercer of Dublin, and the United Irishman who betrayed to the government the plans of that formidable society, and which led to the arrest in 1798 of the leaders, at the house of Mr. Bond, and the frustration of the rebellion. Hon. H. A. B. Craven, 60, a retired major-general, and uncle to the earl of Craven. The deceased had been a considerable loser at Epsom races, and he terminated his existence by shooting himself through the head. Charles Henry, M.D., 60, one of the greatest scientific ornaments of Manchester, and a chemist of the highest reputation. Dr. Henry was found in the private chapel attached to his house, quite dead, having shot himself with a pistol. Suddenly at Manchester, supposed from the fatigue of travelling and over-excitement, Madame Malibran de Beriot, 28, the celebrated vocal actress: this admirable performer had rapidly risen into great popularity, and was considered unrivalled in "action and in song." She was twice married; first, at New York, to an old merchant, who almost immediately after was declared insolvent; and, second, to De Beriot, the eminent violinist. Charles Day, the wealthy blacking manufacturer: his property, exclusive of an estate near Croydon, is said to amount to 450,000*l.* Near New York, colonel Aarou Burr, 80, notorious for his fatal duel with general Hamilton in 1804, which drove him from the United States, and his Mexican expedition, which involved him in a trial for high treason. John Bannister, 76, the famous comedian: he took leave of the stage in 1815, after thirty-seven years of almost unequalled popularity. At Moffatt, John Loudon M'Adam, 80, the introducer of the system of road-making known by his name. Hon. George Augustus Lamb, 29, only son of viscount Melbourne. Matthias Attwood, 91, father of Matthias Attwood, M.P. for Whitehaven. and of Thomas Attwood, M.P. for Birmingham. Near Donegal,

Mrs. Charles Gallagher, 109; at the age of 59 Mrs. Gallagher gave birth to three children, two of whom survived her. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxviii. 222.) John Richardson, 70, the itinerant dramatic showman: though his first recollection of himself was that of a little urchin in the workhouse of Great Marlow, he died worth 20,000*l.*, most of which he left to two nephews and a niece. The earl of Rosslyn, 75, a general in the army; his lordship, like his uncle, the first lord Loughborough, (p. 664,) was something of a whig, though he took office under the Wellington ministry; he voted in favour of the catholic claims, but was active in his opposition to the reform bill.

A.D. 1837, Jan.—SPECULATION AND OVERTRADING.—The state of general prosperity which was noticed at the beginning of the past year was followed in the summer by those symptoms of mercantile reaction that have been usually observed periodically to succeed periods of great industrial activity and commercial adventure. The present revulsion had a similar origin, and was marked by similar characteristics, as those previously assigned to 1825-6; but its effects were more limited in this country, and less enduring, than the ruinous pecuniary desolation which signaled the former period. The chief distinction between the elemental causes of the two was the more limited agency of private credit and the greater share banking and overtrading had in producing the crisis of 1836-7. In the existing difficulties banking and speculation, especially of the American houses and of the Americans themselves, seem to have been the chief, if not the exclusive, sources of embarrassment. The recent partiality for joint-stock banks in England and Ireland grew out of the disasters which befel the banking firms in 1825; their destruction in that and former periods of commercial difficulty was considered to have arisen from the narrow basis on which they had been established, and that, by increasing their capital and the number of persons interested in their stability, their strength would be augmented. It was with the view of carrying out these views that the government prevailed upon the bank of England to surrender some of their immunities. Joint-stock banks were no longer restricted to six, but were allowed, like the banks of Scotland, to have any number of partners with direct agencies in London. Either from the absence of enterprise, however, or the torpor that naturally followed the convulsion of 1825, these encouragements produced little immediate effect; and from that year to 1833 only thirty joint-stock banks had been established. But in 1833,

the charter of the bank being renewed, divested of most of its exclusive privileges, either from this cause or more probably the revival of commercial enterprise, joint-stock banks rapidly multiplied. In 1833 there was an addition of ten; in 1834 of eleven; in 1835 of nine; and in the first ten months of 1836 there was the enormous increase of forty-five joint-stock banks. In Ireland, from 1834 to the end of 1836, ten joint-stock banks had been established, making an aggregate of eighty-two, exclusive of their branches, which are equivalent to so many banks, in all the chief towns of the two kingdoms. The connexion between these banking associations and the commercial difficulties of the present year formed a subject of controversy between Mr. Horsley Palmer, the leading advocate of the bank of England, and Messrs. Loyd, Salomons, and Ricardo, who leaned to the side of the country banks. In considering their respective statements, there seems to have been little more than the old degree of *particeps criminis* that distinguished former periods of pecuniary pressure. The crisis of the present year was the counterpart, as before remarked, in its leading features, of that which ten years had preceded it: in both the coming storm was preluded by a wild spirit of mercantile venture; but the embarrassments created were neither so generally diffused in, nor exclusively limited to England—they extended to Ireland and the United States, where a scene of monetary disorder presented itself wholly unexampled; bankers, importers, merchants, traders, and the government, being commingled in one mass of temporary insolvency. On both sides of the Atlantic difficulties, however, had a common origin—an *inordinate thirst of gain*; in America sought to be realized by land-jobs and overtrading in British produce; in England from excess of exports, railway projects, joint-stock companies for insurance, distilleries, cemeteries, newspapers, sperm-oil, cotton-twist, and zoological gardens. The mania for these share-undertakings was not limited to London, but was equally rife in Liverpool, Manchester, and Leeds. The banks fed the flame, though they did not kindle it. The first *light*, as Mr. Tooke has shown, always comes from the temptation of low prices and a tendency to higher, which, generating increasing consumption and demand, rouse into action the mercantile classes. No sooner are these symptoms abroad than the banks let go their paper, and instantly the commercial world is in a blaze. With the example of greater confidence in the banks, of readiness to afford advances to individuals, the sphere of private credit by bills

and open account is instantly distended to an enormous size. The scene is changed as if by magic. Mistrust, stagnation, and inertness, are converted into boundless confidence, mercantile activity, and speculative enterprise. Money, or what passes for money, is everywhere abundant; a community of sellers becomes one of buyers, and the wits of speculators and adventurers of every denomination set to work to absorb the seeming capital that overflows in every channel. That this was the cycle of the last, as of former mercantile revolutions, is established by the state of prices and the issues of the banks. From 1834 to the summer of 1836 prices were on the advance, and speculation active. During the same period the provincial banks, both of England and Ireland, augmented their issues; and, though the bank of England did not contemporaneously increase its circulation of notes, it was enabled to aid individual enterprise by the vast amount of private deposits at its disposal, and of which of late years it has become the great reservoir. It is private balances, not an increase of its issues, that has, since 1826, constituted the active trading resources of the bank. In the use of their circulating capital, the directors have been accused of either undue eagerness to profit by its employment, or indiscreet precipitancy in their banking operations; of having afforded too much accommodation to individuals from August, 1835, to April, 1836, in order to facilitate the working of the West India loan of 1835; and then, when their own turn in that speculation had been served, of suddenly narrowing their discounts either to stop the efflux of gold to Ireland and the United States, or to enable them better to support the northern and central bank to which they were committed, and the American houses. In the interval mentioned, advances could be readily obtained on stock and other approved securities; but, as the summer advanced, discounts were abruptly refused to the largest and hitherto most respectable houses of Liverpool and London: trade in consequence became paralysed; prices suddenly dropped from 30 to 40 per cent., and the various share bubbles floated on the tide of the previous pecuniary redundancy rapidly collapsed from want of dupes or instalments. This is one view that has been taken of the monetary pressure. But it is just to observe that there is always a period in the movements of commerce when it is incumbent on the banks to interfere for their own safety and that of the community; and that this point is, when commerce has obviously degenerated into unprincipled adventures, not founded on the regular demands of

trade either present or future, but solely on the command of unstinted resources. It is often only by withholding the means that the speculative furor can be arrested; that traffic can be prevented degenerating into mere gambling and monopoly, by which all pecuniary bargains and contracts are deranged and prices forced up to an extravagant height, destructive of internal consumption and foreign commerce. At the same time, the exercise of this wholesome check is sure to be inconvenient to some, and will assuredly incur the censure of those parties whose miscalculations or mercantile avidity have tempted them into undertakings beyond their available resources. In the production of present difficulties PRIVATE CREDIT participated conjointly with the issues and advances of the banks, both in town and the country. These quicken into life, but, after that is done, private credit, by the multiplication of bills of exchange and the extension of current accounts, forms the great machinery of commercial operations. Of the expansive power of these agents and the mighty fulcrum they afford for speculation, the disclosures made by the great American houses of London—"the three W's" as they were termed—are a demonstration. The following account of these firms, published in June, 1837, presents features in the history of commerce deserving to be recorded. They are the amount of bills payable from June to December:—

Wilson and Co.	£936,300
Wiggin and Co.	674,700
Wildes and Co.	505,000

Total of acceptances £2,116,000

An aggregate of acceptances to the amount of 2,116,000*l.* is upwards of one-sixth part of the aggregate circulation of the private and joint-stock banks of England and Wales, and about one-eighth part of the average circulation of the bank of England. Bills of exchange are not cash, but, when accepted by houses of undoubted credit, possess almost equal active force in the commercial world. The following are the amount of their shipments to America, which attest a not less speculative avidity in the United States than had prevailed in England:—

Wiggin and Co.	£1,118,900
Wildes and Co.	623,000
Wilson and Co. (dry goods account)	364,900

If this is not overtrading, it is certainly audacious enterprise. It shows that there is in British and American merchants, as

well as in the seamen of the two countries, a spirit of hardy adventure that can be matched in no other nations. The above instances have been chronicled as examples of the commercial spirit of the age and of the magnitude of individual transactions, aided by the resources of private credit. In conclusion, it is satisfactory to mention that, within two years after, almost the entire of the pecuniary difficulties of 1836-7 had passed away, commerce had resumed its wonted channels and activity, and that the great houses mentioned above were in a condition to meet all demands against them, chiefly in consequence of the banks of the United States, the whole of which had stopped payment, having again resumed payments in specie and the regular transaction of banking business with their customers.

11. Sir Robert Peel delivered an inaugural address on his installation as lord rector of the university of Glasgow, and on the 13th he was entertained at a grand banquet given by the conservatives, at which nearly 3500 citizens were present.

23. Banquet in Drury-lane theatre to Messrs. Byng and Hume, the members for Middlesex. The pit was boarded over, and it was the first instance of a political dinner given in one of the large theatres. About 1500 persons were present, exclusive of a splendid galaxy of ladies, who occupied the boxes, and spectators in the galleries. Lord William Russell presided. In the course of his address to the electors, on his health being drunk, Mr. Byng remarked that he had represented them and their fathers for fifty years. He said that he was against the French war in 1793, both from "principle and policy; but that *necessity* of the country were in favour of it." This is important, as the testimony of a whig, and confirms what has been previously advanced on the popular auspices (p. 571) under which that great contest began.

31. PARLIAMENT opened by commission; the lord-chancellor read the king's speech. It announced the continuance of friendly relations with foreign powers; alluded to the successful naval co-operation afforded to Spain, to the late change in Portugal, and to the state of Lower Canada, to which last the attention of parliament was directed. A renewal of the inquiry into the operation of joint-stock banks was recommended; as, also, measures for the improvement of civil and criminal justice, and for giving increased stability to the established church, by promoting concord and good-will. Special attention was directed to the state of Ireland, involving a consideration of municipal corporations, the collection of tithes, and a legal

provision for the poor, which last was described as "a difficult, but pressing question." Addresses were agreed to in both houses almost without discussion. The duke of Wellington said he had seldom heard a speech less liable to objection. In the commons the chief novelty was a speech of Mr. Roebuck, accusing Mr. O'Connell of selfishness, and the whigs of pandering to the popular passions on one side, and to patrician feelings on the other. Before reading a copy of the speech, the speaker read two letters, one from the lord-chancellor, intimating that he had issued his warrant for the apprehension of a member of the house, Mr. Charlton, for a contempt of court, and another from Mr. Charlton, claiming his parliamentary privilege. A committee was appointed to inquire, which reported that there had been no interference with the privileges of the house, and Mr. Charlton was afterwards liberated from the Fleet, on expressing, by petition to the lord chancellor, contrition for his offence, which was an improper interference in a suit in chancery.

The following division of parties in the house of commons appeared just before the meeting of parliament:—

Radicals	80
Liberals	100
Whigs	152
<hr/>	
Total ministerialists	332
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Conservatives	80
Tories	139
Ultra-tories	100
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	319

The speaker and six vacant seats made up the remaining seven votes.

Feb. 2. A numerous meeting at the Crown and Anchor, to petition parliament for the total abolition of church-rates. Next day 400 delegates from dissenting congregations and anti-church-rate associations from all parts of England walked in procession from the tavern to Downing-street, to have an interview with viscount Melbourne.

The parochial authorities of the city of London met and passed resolutions deprecating the introduction of the new poor law into the city.

6. Petition from Messrs. Hansard, printers of the house of commons, presented, complaining that an action for libel had been brought against them, in consequence of a passage in a printed report of a committee of the house on the state of prisons, in which it was stated that disgusting books had been found in

Newgate, printed by a bookseller, whose name was mentioned. It gave rise to a long conversation on parliamentary privileges. Next day the action *Stockdale v. Hansard* was tried in the court of king's bench. Lord Denman said that he was not aware the authority of the commons could justify the publication of a libel; an opinion which led to the institution of an inquiry into the extent of the privileges of the commons, in the printing and publishing their reports, votes, and proceedings; and, May 30, lord Howick moved resolutions to the following effect:—That, the power of publishing the proceedings of the house is essential to its functions; that it is the sole judge of the extent of its own privileges; and that, therefore, it was a breach of privilege to bring any action upon them before any court or tribunal; and that it was a contempt of parliament for any such court or tribunal to assume to decide such matter of privilege. These resolutions were passed by 126 to 26. Lord Denman gave notice of a motion respecting the resolutions, in the upper house, which he afterwards withdrew, the action in the court of law was suffered to proceed, and the judges have not yet given judgment. As the parliamentary papers are now openly sold, with the permission of the house of commons, and to the great convenience of many persons, this wider diffusion of their contents will probably render the commons more careful in future in giving circulation to any statements that may be detrimental to the character or interests of individuals.

7. Died at St. Gall, in Switzerland, in his 58th year, GUSTAVUS II., who, since his deposition from the throne of Sweden, had privately visited England and other countries under the name of colonel Gustavson. The ex-king had much of the wilfulness of his predecessor, Charles XII., and his ill-timed resistance to the power of Napoleon and strange treatment of sir John Moore showed that he was unfit to reign. The latter years of his life had been spent in great poverty, pertinaciously refusing any pecuniary aid, beyond his annuity of 96*l.* He had several children, one, a son, educated in the university of Edinburgh, and now a general in the Austrian service. He was succeeded on the Swedish throne by his uncle, the duke of Sudermania, who was succeeded by marshal Bernadotte, the reigning sovereign.

7. Lord John Russell introduced the bill for the amendment of the municipal corporations of Ireland. It differed little from the bill thrown out last session, the chief provisions of which have been described.

10. Lord de Roos, premier baron of England, is found guilty, by the verdict of

a jury, of cheating at cards, after a trial, which lasted during this and the whole of the preceding day.

13. Lord John Russell detailed in a committee of the whole house the government plan for introducing poor-laws into Ireland. He stated that the support of mendicants in that country fell almost solely on the humbler classes, and that the farmers and cottiers contributed in food from 700,000*l.* to 1,000,000*l.* annually. The chief feature of the ministerial bill is, that it contemplates a legal relief to all classes of the destitute, as well able-bodied as infirm; but there is to be no *out-door relief*; nor any relief except in workhouses. When the plan comes into full operation, it is calculated that Ireland will be divided into 100 unions, with a workhouse and board of guardians for each. The English poor-law commissioners, with the prospective addition of one to their number, are to introduce and control the scheme. It was favourably received by the house, though strenuously opposed by Mr. O'Connell on the second reading, as an inadequate measure. The progress of the bill was interrupted by the dissolution of parliament.

13. A trial, that commenced on the 10th, terminated, in which Dr. Morrison, the vender of a universal medicine-pill, obtained 200*l.* damages against the *Weekly Dispatch*, for a libel relating to a charge of insolvency; but the verdict was for the defendants on the issue relating to the dangerous nature of the pill.

14. Motion by sir William Molesworth, to repeal the statutes requiring a property qualification in members of parliament, rejected by 133 to 104.

16. Motion of Mr. C. Lushington, for the exclusion of bishops from parliament, lost by 197 to 92.

18. Six new steamers have been launched by the Austrian government, for the navigation of the Danube.

19. Champion, a mechanic, having been arrested on a charge of constructing a new infernal machine to destroy Louis Philip, hangs himself in prison.

20. Meeting at the Crown and Anchor, for commencing a subscription to erect monuments in London and Edinburgh to the memory of Muir, Palmer, Skirving, Gersd, and Margarot, who, forty-four years before, (see p. 584.) had suffered in the cause of parliamentary reform. Mr. Hume was in the chair. Colonel Thompson, Mr. D. W. Harvey, and fifteen other members of parliament, were present.

22. After three nights' debate, lord F. Egerton's motion for the abolition, instead of the amendment, of the Irish municipal corporations, rejected by 322 to 242.

23. Second reading of the Wills Bill moved by lord Langdale, who stated the changes which subsequently became law. Lords Brougham and Abinger expressed high approbation of the intended improvements. The new measure abolishes all wills by *parole*, or otherwise than in writing, excepting the cases of soldiers or seamen. Wills of personal estate must now be attested by two or more witnesses, in the same manner as wills of real estate; and all descriptions of property, real, personal, freehold, or copyhold, are placed on the same footing in the mode of devising them.

24. Mr. Walter moves for a committee to inquire into the operation of the poor-law act. An amendment is proposed by lord John Russell, for a committee to inquire into the administration of the relief of the poor, under the orders and regulations of the poor-law commissioners. Debate adjourned, and resumed on the 27th, when the minister's amendment for a committee, having power for a full inquiry, short of calling in question the principle of the bill, was agreed to.

24. SPANISH CONSTITUTION.—This instrument, which was first proclaimed at Cadix in 1812, again by Riego in 1820, was for the third time introduced, and a draught of it presented to the general cortes, assembled for the purpose on the 24th, by a special committee appointed last year to revise its provisions. The following are some of the articles of the constitution, which the cortes has sanctioned and decreed to be that of the Spanish monarchy:—1. All Spaniards may print and publish freely their opinions, without submitting them to any previous censorship, by merely conforming to the laws: the trial of offences of the press belongs exclusively to a jury. 2. The same code of laws shall be enforced in the whole monarchy, and there shall be only one common law in ordinary civil and criminal prosecutions. 3. All Spaniards are admissible to all offices and public functions according to their merit and capacity. 4. Penalty of confiscation of property prohibited. 5. The nation engages to provide for the maintenance of religion, and the ministers of the Catholic faith professed by the Spanish nation. An amendment to this article was proposed, but failed, to the effect that "no Spaniard shall in future be prosecuted or tried for his religious opinions:" contrary to expectation, it was opposed by M. Arguelles. 6. The power of making laws resides in the cortes and the king. The cortes consist of two legislative assemblies equal in rights and power—a senate and a congress of deputies. The number of senators to be equal to three-fifths of the deputies.

The senators to be chosen by the king out of a list of three candidates, presented by the electors of each province qualified to return deputies to the cortes. The number of senators chosen to be proportioned to the population of each province. They must be 40 years old, possessed of an independent fortune, and are chosen for life. To the congress of deputies each province to return one deputy, at least, for every 50,000 souls of its population. To be entitled to sit as a deputy, it is necessary to be a layman, 25 years of age, and possessed of the other qualifications required by the electoral law. The deputies are elected for three years. Any deputy accepting a pension, office, or commission, salaried by the government, is subjected to re-election. 7. The cortes to meet every year, the king having the power to convoke, adjourn, prorogue, and dissolve the congress; but, in the latter case, must assemble another cortes within three months. 8. The deputies to appoint their president, vice-president, and secretaries. 9. One of the legislative bodies not to meet without the other, unless it be to sit in judgment on the ministers. 10. The legislative bodies cannot deliberate in one assembly, nor in the presence of the king. 11. The sittings of both chambers to be public. 12. The person of the king sacred and inviolate, and not responsible. The ministers to be held responsible. The powers of the crown are analogous to those of the British sovereign: but he cannot, unless empowered by a special law, alienate or exchange any portion of the Spanish territory, nor admit foreign troops into the kingdom; nor ratify treaties of an aggressive nature or those of a special commercial nature, or which stipulate the affording of subsidies to foreign powers; nor can he contract marriage or permit it to be contracted by those in the line of the succession. 13. The civil list of the king and royal family to be fixed at the commencement of each reign. 14. The succession to the crown to be in the order of primogeniture, preferring, in the same degree, the older to the younger, and the male to the female branch. 15. If a queen regnant marries, her husband cannot take any part in the government of the kingdom. 16. The cortes may exclude from the succession persons they deem incapable to govern, or who have been guilty of any act for which they ought to lose their right to the crown. 17. Whatever the king may order to be done must be signed by the minister to whose department it appertains, and no public functionary shall execute any decree deficient in this authentication. 18. Ministers may be senators or deputies, and take part in the discussions of both cham-

bers, but can only vote in that to which they belong. 15. Independence of the judges and judicial administration are secured. The remaining articles relate to the election of deputations for the provinces, and municipalities for the towns, the constitution of the military force, and taxation. In the revised constitution no alteration has been made in the qualifications of the deputies, nor of the elective constituency, which continues regulated by the electoral law. A bill passed during this session of the cortes, providing that the orphans of all those who died "martyrs to the cause of liberty" since 1823 shall be adopted by the nation, and that the names of Riego, Empeñnado, Torrijos, Mina, and some others, shall be inscribed in the churches.

March 3. The chancellor of the exchequer explained the principle of his measure for the abolition of church-rates. The management of church lands to be vested in eleven commissioners, five clerical and six lay, of whom three are to be paid commissioners. The lands of the bishops, and of the deans and chapters, to be vested in the commissioners; and by a better system of management, by getting rid of the present system of letting on fines, suffering the leases to run out and re-letting the lands on better terms, it is calculated 250,000*l.* per annum may be saved. This sum, aided by pew-rents, it is supposed will be sufficient for the purposes to which church-rates are now applied. In certain cases, the church tenants will be allowed to purchase the fee-simple of their holdings, subject to a fixed rent payable to the commissioners. A resolution embodying the principle of the scheme was submitted to the house. It was opposed by sir R. Inglis, sir W. Follett, and others, on the ground that it was making the church support itself, and, indirectly, a recognition of the "voluntary principle" in religion, and, therefore, subversive of the national church. The debate was adjourned, and resumed on the 13th and 14th, when the resolution was carried by 273 to 250. At a subsequent stage, a motion for introducing a bill founded on the ministerial plan was only carried by 287 to 282; and lord John Russell shortly after intimated that the bill, for the present, was abandoned, with the view of appointing a committee to inquire into the mode of leasing and managing the real estates of the church.

4. Martin Van Buren installed president of the United States. He succeeded general Jackson.

6. AFFAIRS OF CANADA. — Lord John Russell submitted to parliament a series of resolutions respecting Lower Canada, rendered necessary by the discontented

and agitated state of the province, and the refusal of the colonial legislature to vote the supplies of money requisite to the administration of justice and the carrying on the government. The resolutions stated in substance, that no supplies had been voted since Oct. 31, 1832; that the supplies up to the current year amounted to 142,160*l.*; that the house of assembly demanded an elective legislative council and the repeal of an act passed by the imperial parliament in favour of the North American land company; that in the present state of the province the granting of these demands is inexpedient; that it is advisable to repeal certain acts affecting trade and tenures, provided the colonial legislature would pass a law for the discharge of lands therein from feudal dues and services; that, for defraying the arrears due and the customary charges of the government, the governor be empowered to apply to these objects the hereditary, territorial, and casual revenues of the crown; that the crown revenues be placed under the control of the colonial legislature after supplies have been voted for defraying the charges of government; lastly, that the colonial legislatures of both the Canadas be empowered to remove the obstacles which impede the trade and commercial intercourse of the two provinces. Mr. Roebuck, and some other members, opposed the resolutions as an infringement of the Canadian constitution, and a coercing of the people. But, the violent proceedings of the colonial parliament calling for strong measures, they met with the general support of political parties. The debate was adjourned, and each resolution separately, and the entire series, agreed to, April 24.

7. Mr. Grote brought forward his annual motion for the adoption of the ballot in parliamentary elections, which was rejected by 265 to 153. In 1833 the motion was rejected by 211 to 106; in 1835 by 317 to 144; in 1836 by 139 to 51 votes.

8. Independence of the Texas country recognised by the United States of America. It drew forth a protest from the Mexican government.

9. The archbishop of Canterbury presents petitions against the ministerial plan for the abolition of church-rates, and expresses, on the part of 15 bishops, their decided opposition to the measure. A discussion takes place between the archbishop, the prime minister, and other lords; the petitions are ordered to lie on the table.

10. On the vote for the navy estimates, lord Mahon calls the attention of the house to the state of Spain, when lord Palmerston, in a long and able speech, defends the course of policy adopted by

his majesty's government. Mr. O'Connell disclaims any alliance between don Carlos and catholicism, and inveighs against the conduct of the king of the French.

11. Meeting at the Mansion-house in the city, to set on foot a subscription for the relief of the tenantry of the landowners in the north of Scotland, alleged to be in great distress. The lord-mayor presided. A large sum of money was subscribed.

Several bankers at Tours are convicted of having tampered with the persons in charge of the telegraph at that place, with a view to obtain early and secret information for stock-jobbing purposes.

16. Mr. Clay's motion for admitting corn at a fixed duty lost in the commons by 223 to 89.

23. Prior to the Easter recess, lord John Russell obtained leave to introduce a series of bills, which were passed into statutes, for the amendment of the criminal law. Among the objects embraced by these measures were a further diminution of capital punishments, the limitation of transportation, and the judicial power of awarding solitary imprisonment. The extreme penalty of the law has now been removed from all offences except seven, namely, treason, murder, rape, sodomy, burglary, robbery with violence, and arson with intent to commit murder. Death punishment is abolished in all cases of forgery.

27. Above 30,000 persons go from London to Greenwich, by the railroad, to the Easter fair.

28. Died at Brighton, in her 80th year, Mrs. Fitzherbert, who first married, in 1775, Edward Weld, esq., of Lulworth Castle, uncle to the late cardinal Weld. Her second marriage was with Mr. Fitzherbert, who died in 1781. She had no children by either husband. Her beauty, fascinating manners, and domestic virtues, next attracted the attentions of the prince of Wales, to whom, as already mentioned, (p. 776) she was married. Her disposition was frank, generous, indulgent, and hospitable. It is supposed that an annuity of 8000*l.* a-year reverts to the royal family by her death.

Apr. 5. Upwards of 8,000 looms unemployed in Spitalfields. Her majesty began a subscription for the distressed weavers by a donation of 100*l.*

7. Bishop of Exeter, on presenting petitions against the Poor Law Act, made a speech attacking that measure. It was defended by lords Brougham, Melbourne, and others. The duke of Wellington said,—“I avow at once that I supported the bill at the time his majesty's ministers proposed it; and I do not repent of what I did on that occasion in supporting it,

but on the contrary, I rejoice, in the part I then took, and I now congratulate his majesty's ministers on its success.”

11. The earl of Radnor's bill, for the revision of the statutes of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, thrown out without a division, on the second reading.

Trial of James Greenacre and Sarah Gale, which commenced the preceding day, at the central criminal court, for the murder of Hannah Brown, terminated. Greenacre was sentenced to be executed, and Gale, a woman with whom he co-habited, who was convicted, not of the murder, but of being accessory after the fact, to be transported for life. This case was productive of great excitement on the part of the public, from the singular atrocity of its circumstances. In the early part of the year, the head, trunk, and lower members of a female, having been found in three separate and distinct parts of the metropolis, great efforts were made, for some time without success, to discover the supposed murderer. The mutilated remains were at length identified as those of a female, whom Greenacre, tempted by some trifling savings she had accumulated as a laundress, had promised to marry; and on his apprehension, he confessed that he had killed her, by what he termed an accidental blow, given in passion, and had disposed of the body in fragments to conceal the murder. This happened at Walworth, in a small cottage of which Greenacre was the owner, and to which he had invited Mrs. Brown. On the night he was taken he tried to strangle himself, and was found in his cell by the gaoler, in a state of insensibility. He expressed regret that his life had been saved, and that he had not been permitted, as he said, “to go off.” A more artful and cold-blooded villain never suffered at the Old Bailey. He met death with unshrinking nerve, and neither during his trial, nor at the place of execution, did a single expression escape him, of pity for his victim, or remorse for his crime.

12. Mr. Hume's bill, to vest the assessment and control of the county rates, in a board of 12 or 20, elected by the rate-payers, instead of the county magistrates, as at present, was rejected on the second reading in the commons, by 177 to 84. The county rates had increased, partly from lavish expenditure, and many members expressed themselves in favour of the principle of the bill, but opposed to its details.

13. Mr. Roebuck's motion, the object of which was to repeal the penny stamp on newspapers, rejected by 81 to 42. It was opposed by the chancellor of the exchequer, who, repudiated the idea

that government wished by the continuance of the tax to retain a control over the public press. The reduction of the duty to a penny (the amount levied in queen Anne's reign) had been completely successful, by greatly increasing the circulation of newspapers, and entirely crushing the illicit traffic in unstamped journals.

In this month died lady de Lisle, the eldest, and favourite daughter of the king, by Mrs. Jordan; also, the duchess dowager of Saxe Meiningen, mother of the queen.

May 1. Lord Morpeth brought forward a resolution for the settlement of the Irish tithe question. He reminded the house that he rose for the third time to explain the provisions of the fifth bill that within the last three years had been brought into parliament for the settlement of Irish tithes. This measure had no better success in the present than in the preceding session.

4. Mr. Pryme withdrew his motion in the commons, the object of which was an inquiry, by a royal commission, into the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, on receiving an intimation from Mr. Rice that inquiry was necessary, and that the crown, when it thought fit, had ample power to institute it. The subject was mentioned in the lords on the 8th, when the duke of Wellington said that the heads of the universities were considering the subject, with a view to alteration.

5. On lord Melbourne moving that the house go into committee on the Irish municipal bill, the duke of Wellington said, that the bill had a tendency to injure that church establishment, which it had been the policy of England for 300 years to uphold; and that as there were several other measures in the commons affecting the interests of the church, the house should wait till they had all the bills together. He therefore moved to postpone the bill to the 9th June, which was carried by 192 to 115. On June 9th lord Lyndhurst moved a further postponement to the 3rd July, and in the interval the king died, Parliament was soon after dissolved.

8. Louis Philip publishes an ordinance, granting, with certain exceptions, pardon to all persons convicted of political offences, and commuting the sentence of death pronounced by the court of peers on Meunier into one of banishment for 10 years. The amnesty gave much satisfaction to the French people.

9. Lord Brougham enters his protest on the journals of the house of lords against the ministerial resolutions respecting Canada. (See March 6.)

11. Sir Francis Burdett re-elected for Westminster. A large portion of the constituency of this city having become dissatisfied with the political conduct of their representative, in the abandonment of radical, and the adoption of conservative principles, called upon him to resign his seat, by resolutions passed at a public meeting. This call the baronet answered by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds, and again presenting himself as a candidate for Westminster. J. T. Leader, M.P. for Bridgewater, having been previously invited to stand, resigned in like manner, and opposed sir Francis Burdett. The result was looked to with interest, as a trial of political strength. On the close of the poll the numbers were, Burdett, 3460; Leader, 2874; majority, 586.

15. Brilliant successes were obtained about this period over the Carlists. On the 15th Espartero drove them from Hernani. On the 17th the British legion under general Evans carried Irun by assault, after a desperate resistance. Next day the fortress of Fuentarabia surrendered to the British troops.

16. Great Yorkshire meeting, held on Hartshead-moor, near Huddersfield, a requisition having been presented to the lord-lieutenant of the county, signed by upwards of 4000 householders, to consider the principles and operation of the New Poor Law. Most of the townships of the West Riding attended, accompanied with bands of music and flags, inscribed with mottoes; such as, "To smite the poor, is treason against God." "Can the christian man bastille the poor?" "Those whom God has joined, let no man put asunder." "He that oppresseth the poor to increase his wealth, shall surely come to want." "The poor have a right to a subsistence from the land." The number assembled was estimated at near 100,000. Mr. Oastler, the Rev. J. R. Stephens, and Mr. Robert Owen, were the chief speakers. Resolutions were passed condemning the poor-law, and in accordance with the scriptural mottoes inscribed on the banners.

24. Being the eighteenth anniversary of the birth-day of the Princess Victoria, and also the day on which by act of parliament she attained her majority in the event of the king's death, a great number of congratulatory addresses were presented to her, and the day was kept as a holiday. There was an illumination in the evening, and a state-ball given at St. James's palace. Indisposition, and recent deaths in the families of the king and queen prevented the attendance of their majesties.

27. Three burglars are brought before the court of king's bench, on a writ of error, and claim their discharge on the

ground that they had been sentenced to be transported by an inferior court, when they ought to have been sentenced to be hanged. The court allows the validity of the objection, and the prisoners are liberated.

30. A meeting is held at Birmingham, to take into consideration a memorial signed by 12,000 or 13,000 workmen of that town, complaining of distress in consequence of the American failures.

The duke of Orleans, eldest son of the king of the French, is married at Fontainebleau to the princess Helena of Mecklenburg. During the rejoicings in consequence of this marriage a fortnight after, 24 persons were suffocated by the pressure of the crowd, in passing through the gates of the Champ de Mars.

31. A fancy fair is held in the Hanover-square Rooms, under the patronage of several ladies of the Romish persuasion, for the purpose of raising funds for the completion of a new Romish chapel at Brentwood.

The Prussian government has lately issued an order, that every functionary who shall be convicted of having been drunk, shall be instantly dismissed from the public service.

June 1. A ball at the king's theatre for the relief of the Spitalfields weavers.

7. Explosion of the boilers of a Hull steam-packet, with about 150 passengers on board, many of whom are killed or wounded.

9. A bulletin is published, announcing that his majesty has suffered for some time from an affection of the chest, which had produced considerable weakness.

10. The New York banks, and subsequently all banks throughout the United States, suspend payments in specie.

16. The revised constitution of the Spanish monarchy proclaimed. (See Feb. 24.) On the 19th the queen-regent published a general amnesty.

20. General Evans arrived in London from Spain, having retired from the command of the British auxiliary legion.

DEATH OF WILLIAM IV.—The tolling of the great bell at the Castle awakened the inhabitants of Windsor at 4 o'clock this morning, to the melancholy knowledge that their excellent sovereign was no more. At the usual hour the royal standard was hoisted on the Round Tower, but only to half its usual height, and shortly afterwards the streets were filled with groups of persons discussing the merits, and lamenting the loss of the good old king, of whom they were suddenly, though not unexpectedly, bereaved. His majesty expired at 12 minutes past 2 o'clock, on Tuesday morning, the twentieth instant, in the presence of

the archbishop of Canterbury, the dean of Hereford, &c. On Sunday he received the sacrament from the archbishop. He had expressed a wish to survive the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo on the 18th, and so far was gratified. But a distressing cough, extreme oppression in breathing, and very languid circulation, left little hope of recovery. He was lethargic, but conscious to the last of the presence of those on whom his affections were fixed. He was fervent in his expressions of religious hope, and just before breathing his last, faintly articulated, "Thy will be done." The queen had been unremitting in her attentions; was scarcely ever absent from the sick chamber, and for twelve days did not take off her clothes. The humblest person in the realm could not have exceeded her in condescension, and in the kind offices she rendered to her afflicted consort. A *post mortem* examination showed the nature of the disease; exhibiting a general tendency to ossification and decay about the heart, the lungs, and other vital organs. His majesty was in the 73rd year of his age, and had completed within a few days the seventh year of his reign. By his death, and consequent accession to the throne of his royal niece, the princess Victoria, the crowns of the United Kingdom and of Hanover are dissevered through the operation of the salic law excluding females from the Hanoverian kingdom, and which descends to the next heir, the duke of Cumberland. A parliamentary provision was made for queen Adelaide, now queen-dowager, in 1831, under which 100,000*l.* per annum is settled upon her for life, with Marlborough house and Bushy-house for residences. The king left by will 20000*l.* to each of his sons and daughters. A sum of 40,000*l.* to be reserved in virtue of a life-poilcy is vested in trustees.

PUBLIC STATUTES. I. TO VII.
WILLIAM IV.

1 Wm. 4. c. 36. Alters and amends the law regarding commitments by courts of equity for contempt, and taking bills *pro confesso*.

Cap. 40. Provides that the undisposed residue of testators' estates shall go to the executors, as trustees, for the next of kin, unless executors were intended to take beneficially.

Cap. 47. Consolidates and amends the law for facilitating the payment of debts out of real estate.

Cap. 51. Repeals the beer duties.

Cap. 58. Regulates fees in superior courts.

Cap. 64. Regulates the sale of beer; allows beer to be sold by taking out a license from the excise; before, it was necessary to have a license from magistrates in session. (See p. 891, 955.)

Cap. 66. Consolidates the forgery laws; abolishes capital punishment, except in cases of forging wills, or powers of attorney to transfer stock. (By a later statute, death punishment is entirely abolished for forgery.)

Cap. 68. Limits liability of mail-contractors, stage-coach proprietors, and carriers for the loss or injury to packages delivered to them for conveyance, and the value or contents of which is not declared to them by the owners.

Cap. 70. For the more effectual administration of justice in England and Wales; empowers the king to appoint an additional judge in the courts of king's bench, common pleas, and exchequer; regulates the commencement and end of terms, namely, that Hilary term shall begin Jan. 11, and end Jan. 31; Easter term April 15, and end May 8; Trinity term, May 22nd, and end June 12; and Michaelmas term shall begin on the 2nd, and end on the 25th of November. The act regulates the holding of general quarter sessions of the peace; by providing that they shall be held in the first weeks after October 11, December 28, March 31, and June 24. (By a later statute, justices may alter time of holding the April sessions to between March 7, and April 22, to prevent their interference with the spring assizes.) The jurisdiction of the superior courts at Westminster is extended to the county palatine of Chester, and the county of the city of Chester, and to the principality of Wales, and these separate provincial jurisdictions abolished.

Cap. 73. Repeals so much of 60 Geo. 3, c. 8. as inflicts the punishment of *baniishment* for the publication of a blasphemous or seditious libel a second time; but requires greater securities from the publishers of newspapers and political pamphlets.

1 Wm. 4, c. 8, sess. 2. Office of post-master-general of Ireland abolished, and united to that of Great Britain.

Cap. 22. Extends powers of 13 Geo. 3, c. 63. relative to the examination of witnesses by interrogatories in India, to all British colonies, and to the judges of the several courts therein, and the courts at Westminster.

Cap. 25. Civil list act; the disbursements of the civil list divided into five classes, for which the allowances are as follow:—Their majesties' privy purse, 110,000*l.*; salaries of his majesty's household, 130,300*l.*; expenses of his majesty's

household, 171,500*l.*; special and secret service money, 23,200*l.*; pensions, 75,500*l.*; total, 510,000*l.*

1 & 2 Wm. 4, c. 11. Makes a provision for the queen in case she survive the king, by granting her majesty a life annuity of 100,000*l.*; with Marlborough house, and the rangership of Bushy Park.

Cap. 13. Prohibits the growth and culture of tobacco in Ireland.

Cap. 17. For the better government of Ireland, lord lieutenant may appoint lieutenants of counties; who, with their deputies, shall have the same powers as governors or deputies had heretofore. Deputy lieutenants to possess a freehold qualification of 200*l.* per annum.

Cap. 19. Duties on candles repealed, and the makers put on the same footing as melters of tallow.

Cap. 30. Equalizes the wine duties; for the produce of the Cape of Good Hope, 2*s.* 9*d.* per gallon; all other wines, 5*s.* 6*d.*

Cap. 32. Makes important alterations in the game laws. Defines "game" to include hares, pheasants, partridges, grouse, heath or moor game, black game, or bustards. Dispenses with qualifications, and allows every certificated person to kill game, liable to the ordinary proceedings in case of trespass. Certificated persons may *sell* game, (game was not before saleable,) and take out licenses to deal in game.

Cap. 33. Authorizes the advance of 500,000*l.*, in exchequer bills, for the promotion of public works in Ireland.

Cap. 37. Abolishes the truck system, and prohibits the payment in certain trades of wages in goods, or otherwise than in the current coin of the realm.

Cap. 56. Establishes the "court of bankruptcy."

Cap. 60. Regulates parish vestries.

2 Wm. 4. c. 9. For the establishment of fever hospitals, and the prevention of contagious fevers in Ireland.

Cap. 10. For the prevention of the spasmodic or Indian cholera in England (see p. 911).

Cap. 17. For amending the law relative to the sub-letting of land in Ireland. Lesses sub-letting, without the consent of their landlords, not to have any remedy for the rent or occupation of the land. On failure of the payment of the rent by the lessee, the landlord may give notice to sub-tenants to pay their rents to him, which payment on receipt will discharge all parties.

Cap. 34. Consolidates the coin laws.

Cap. 41. For the relief of the Irish clergy who are distressed, owing to the combination against the payment of tithes; lord lieutenant, empowered, on petition, to

make advances to clergy not exceeding two-thirds of the amount of tithes in arrears, nor exceeding 500*l.* to one individual.

Cap. 45. Parliamentary reform act (see p. 919).

2 & 3 Wm. c. 62. Abolishes punishment of death for stealing in a dwelling-house and for cattle-stealing. Persons transported, not to have a *ticket of leave*, or receive remission of punishment, unless, if transported for seven years, they shall have served four; if transported for fourteen years, till they shall have served six; or if for life, have served eight years. Convicts not eligible to hold property till pardoned.

Cap. 71. Shortens the term of prescriptive rights, and makes alteration in the old rule of law as to "time immemorial." No right of common shall be defeated after thirty years' enjoyment; in claims of right of way, use thereof for twenty or forty years sufficient; the use of light to any house or building enjoyed for twenty years, becomes indefeasible, unless shown to have been by consent.

Cap. 75. Regulates schools of anatomy and the supply of anatomical subjects; inspectors to be appointed; bodies of murderers prohibited to be dissected, such to be ignominiously buried within the precincts of the prison.

Cap. 111. Abolishes certain sinecures in the court of chancery; in lieu of such patronage the retiring pension of the lord chancellor, augmented from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.* per annum.

Cap. 116. Fixes the salaries of the judges as follows:—to the chief justice of king's bench (since reduced) 10,000*l.*; of the common pleas, 8000*l.*; to the chief baron, 7000*l.*; to each puisne judge, 5000*l.*; to the lord chancellor of Ireland, 8000*l.*; to the chief justice of king's bench, Ireland, 5074*l.*; of the common pleas, 4612*l.*; of the chief baron, 4612*l.*; and to each of the Irish puisne judges, 3688*l.*, to be in lieu of all fees. Salary of lord lieutenant of Ireland to be 20,000*l.*

3 Wm. 4. c. 15. Gives to the author, or his assign, of any tragedy, comedy, farce, or other dramatic entertainment, the sole right of representing, or causing the same to be represented, in any part of the United Kingdom, for the term of twenty-eight years absolutely, or during his life, if he survive that period.

3 & 4 Wm. 4. c. 23. Repeals duty on receipts for sums under 5*l.*, and reduces duty on advertisements in newspapers from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*

Cap. 27. Limits actions and suits relative to real property; abolishes all real actions except writs of dower, *quare impedit* and ejectment; and limits period for

recovery of land or rent to twenty years.

Cap. 37. Relates to Irish church (see p. 937).

Cap. 41. Improves administration of justice in privy council, by the appointment of a "judicial committee," consisting of the lord-chancellor, chief-justices, and other judges; and also transfers appeals from vice-admiralty court to privy council.

Cap. 42. Effects improvements in judicial administration; empowers judges to alter mode of pleading in superior courts; limits actions of debt on specialties; abolishes wager of law; empowers jury to allow interest on debts; extends the power of arbitrators under submissions which are rules of court; abolishes all holidays in courts of justice except Sundays, Christmas-day and the three following days, and Monday and Tuesday in Easter week.

Cap. 44. Abolishes capital punishment for breaking into a dwelling-house and stealing therein; substituting transportation.

Cap. 73. Abolishes slavery in the British colonies, and provides compensation for the slave-owners (see p. 938).

Cap. 83. Requires banks issuing notes payable to bearer on demand to make quarterly returns of the amount of their notes in circulation.

Cap. 85. Renews charter of East India company for effecting an arrangement with the East India company and the better government of India (see p. 939).

Cap. 98. Renews charter of the bank of England (see p. 939).

Cap. 103. Regulates labour of children in the mills and factories of the United Kingdom. No person under eighteen years of age to work in the night, that is between half-past eight o'clock in the evening and half-past five o'clock in the morning; nor to work more than twelve hours in one day, or sixty-nine hours in one week; and one hour and a half per day to be allowed for meals. Employment of children under nine years old prohibited except in silk mills. Holidays to be allowed. Inspectors of factories appointed. Children not to be employed without certificate from medical man of health and fitness. Children to attend schools, to pay for which there may be a deduction from their weekly wages not exceeding 1*d.* in the shilling. Inspectors to make annual reports to secretary of state.

Cap. 104. Makes freehold and copyhold estates, in all cases, assets for payment of simple contract as well as speciality debts.

Cap. 105. Amends law of dower

Cap. 106. Amends law of inheritance.

4 Wm. 4. c. 15. Reforms the king's exchequer; offices of auditor, tellers, and

clerk of the pells, abolished, and new officers, consisting of comptroller-general with a salary of 2000*l.*, an assistant-comptroller, chief clerk, and other clerks and assistants, substituted under the appointment of the treasury. All public monies hitherto payable into the exchequer to be paid into the bank of England; and bills of exchange drawn on any public officer or department, and accepted, payable at the bank. Treasury may establish rules for keeping accounts of public departments.

Cap. 19. Repeals inhabited house duty.

Cap. 24. Reduces in future the amount of pensions granted under 57 Geo. 3. c. 65; pensions to the first lord of the treasury, secretaries of state, chancellor of the exchequer, first lord of the admiralty, president of the India board, president of the board of trade, not to exceed 2000*l.*; nor shall such pension be granted unless office has been held for not less than two years and not more than four, such pensions to be payable at the same time; pensions to chief secretary for Ireland and secretary-at-war not to exceed 1400*l.* each, and offices must be held not less than five years; joint secretaries of the treasury, first secretary of the admiralty, vice-president of board of trade, pensions not to exceed 1000*l.*, and offices must be held five years; under secretaries of state, clerk of the ordinance, second secretary of the admiralty, secretaries of the India board, not to exceed 1000*l.* for ten years' service. All such pensions only to be granted on application, accompanied with a declaration to the effect that the *private fortune* of the applicant is otherwise insufficient to maintain his station in life. No superannuation allowance to be granted to any officer or clerk under sixty-five years of age, unless upon certificate from the head of his department and from two medical practitioners, that he is unable from infirmity of body or mind to discharge the duties of his office. Act not to give an absolute right to these allowances, or to prevent dismissal of persons for misconduct without compensation.

Cap. 29. Facilitates the loan of money upon landed securities in Ireland, where the preamble states capital is less abundant, and interest higher, than in England, and landed property has become more secure than heretofore; by empowering persons who under any direction, trust, or power, are authorized to lend money in Britain, to lend the same in Ireland. Consent of persons interested, however, must be first obtained.

Cap. 30. Facilitates the exchange of lands lying in common fields.

Cap. 31. Reduces four per cent. stock

to three and a half; such new 3*l.* 10*s.* stock not to be liable to redemption till Jan. 5, 1840.

Cap. 32. Reduces the tonnage duties payable in the port of London.

Cap. 34. Abolishes the sixpence per month deducted from the wages of seamen for the support of Greenwich Hospital, and in lieu grants 22,000*l.* annually, payable out of the consolidated fund.

Cap. 35. For the regulation of chimney-sweepers and their apprentices, and for the safer construction of chimneys and flues.

Cap. 36. Establishes the central criminal court (see p. 955).

4 & 5 Wm. 4, c. 48. All business relating to the assessment and application of the county-rates shall be transacted in *open court*; of which notice shall be given two weeks before.

Cap. 59. Repeals duty on almanacs.

Cap. 67. Abolishes capital punishment for returning from transportation; substituting transportation for life.

Cap. 76. Poor laws amendment act (see p. 955).

Cap. 94. Empowers the crown by letters patent to invest trading and other companies, though not incorporated by royal charter, with authority to maintain and defend actions at law, in the name of one of their officers. List of members' names, with places of their abode, to be filed with clerk of patents, and be open for inspection.

Cap. 95. Empowers the crown to erect that part of South Australia which lies between the 132nd and 141st degrees of east longitude, and between the Southern Ocean and 26 degrees of south latitude, into a British province for the purpose of colonization. Persons resident in the colony to make laws, appoint officers, and levy rates and taxes; such laws to be laid before the king in council. Commissioners may be appointed for the purposes of the act. Lands to be open to purchase by British subjects, at not less than 12*s.* per acre; purchase-money to form a fund for conducting the emigration of poor persons from Britain or Ireland; emigrants, as far as possible, to be adult persons of the two sexes in equal proportion, and not above thirty years old; no emigrant to be allowed a free passage unless his family be also conveyed. Constitution to be established by the crown, when the inhabitants amount to 50,000. Money may be borrowed for conveying emigrants, and for defraying expenses of colony. *Convicts* not to be transported to the South Australian colony.

5 & 6 Wm. 4, c. 19. Amends and

consolidates the laws relating to merchant

seamen. No seaman to be employed in any registered ship of the burthen of 80 tons and upwards without a written agreement, specifying the wages he is to receive, the capacity in which he is to act, and the nature of the voyage. Ships going abroad to have a supply of medicines, and seamen hurt in the service to have advice and medical aid gratis. Register-office to be established at the custom-house, under the direction of the Admiralty, of all the seafaring men of the United Kingdom. Ships to have apprentices proportioned to their tonnage. Parish boys of the age of thirteen, and of sufficient health and strength (of which the justices are to judge), may, with their consent, be bound apprentices in the sea service.

Cap. 23. Establishes loan societies for the benefit of the labouring classes; property of society vested in trustees; loan advanced to any individual not to exceed 15*l*., and no second loan to be advanced until the previous one has been repaid.

Cap. 25. Encourages voluntary enlistment into the royal navy, by limiting the period of service to *five years*, unless in case of special emergency, when they may be detained six months longer, with one-fourth increase of pay.

Cap. 36. The time of taking the poll in boroughs in parliamentary elections, in England and Wales, limited to *one day*, commencing at eight o'clock in the forenoon, and closing at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Cap. 78. Duration of the poll in elections in Scotland is similarly limited to one day. Under the Reform Acts two days were the appointed time.

Cap. 38. Effects greater uniformity of practice in the government of prisons in England and Wales; copies of prison rules to be transmitted to secretary of state, who may alter the same; inspectors, not exceeding five in number, to be appointed by secretary of state, with power to visit any prison, gaol, and house of correction in Great Britain.

Cap. 50. Consolidates and amends laws relative to highways, and directs that surveyors be annually elected by the parishioners, at their first vestry meeting for the nomination of overseers of the poor. Salaried surveyor may be appointed. Parishes may be formed into districts, and a district surveyor be chosen. When any railway crosses the highway, gates to be erected. Penalties as to nuisances, for not painting the names of owners of waggons, carts, &c., thereon.

Cap. 59. Persons wantonly and cruelly beating or otherwise ill-treating any cattle, (dogs included) or domestic animal, or improperly driving the same, whereby any

mischief is done, shall, exclusive of the damage, pay a fine not exceeding 40*s*. Keeping a place for baiting bulls, dogs, bears, or other animals, or for cock-fighting, subjects to a penalty. Cattle impounded must be fed; to prevent the re-sale of old and diseased horses sold to knackers or slaughtermen, they are required to kill them within three days after purchase, and in the meanwhile provide them with food.

Cap. 62. Empowers the lords of the treasury to substitute a declaration for the oaths taken in their department. Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and other corporate bodies may substitute a declaration in lieu of oaths. Churchwardens' and sidesmen's oath abolished, and oaths and affidavits of persons acting in turnpike trusts. Declarations substituted for oaths and affidavits required on taking out a patent; by acts as to pawnbrokers; but the penalties of such acts apply to declarations. Declaration substituted for oaths and affidavits required by Bank of England on the transfer of stock; and in suits in the colonies. Declaration in writing sufficient to prove the execution of any will, codicil, deed, &c. The practice of magistrates receiving voluntary oaths relative to matters not the subject of judicial inquiry is prohibited. Making a false declaration is a misdemeanor.

Cap. 65. Author of a lecture secured in the sole right of printing or publishing the same; printers of newspapers publishing lectures without leave subject to penalty. Act does not extend to lectures, of the delivering of which notice has not been given to two justices, living within five miles from the place, two days at least before the delivery of the same.

Cap. 76. Reform of Municipal Corporations (see p. 972).

Cap. 83. Amends patent laws (see p. 982).

6 & 7. Wm. 4. c. 30. Abolishes the law requiring that murderers shall be executed on the day next but one after that on which sentence has been passed, and directs that the judge shall proceed on conviction of murder as in all other capital offences.

Cap. 37. Regulates the sale of bread; imposes penalties for adulteration, fraudulent weights, and baking on Sundays.

Cap. 71. For commutation of tithes see p. 1006.

Cap. 76. Reduces stamp-duty on newspapers (see p. 997, 1008).

Cap. 85. Marriages in England (see p. 1006).

Cap. 89. Empowers coroners to summon medical witnesses, and to direct a *post mortem* examination; and the jury may require the coroner to summon additional evidence, if they think necessary.

Cap. 102. For facilitating the poll at

county elections, additional polling-places may be appointed upon petition from justices assembled in quarter sessions; sheriff to provide one polling-booth for every 450 electors.

Cap. 110. By 54 Geo. 3, c. 156, eleven copies of every published book are required to be gratuitously delivered to eleven public libraries. So much of this act is repealed as requires copies to be presented to Sion College, the four universities of Scotland, and the King's Inns library at Dublin.

Cap. 114. The anomaly in jurisprudence which allowed counsel in civil actions, in misdemeanors, and high treason, but not in felony, is removed, and all persons tried for felonies are allowed to make their defence *by counsel*, or attorney in courts where attorneys practise as counsel. In cases of summary conviction accused may make their defence and examine and cross-examine witness by counsel or attorney. Copies of depositions to be allowed the accused on payment of a sum not exceeding three half-pence for each folio of ninety words; application for such depositions to be made prior to the day appointed for the commencement of the sessions or assize.

7 Wm. 4, c. 5. Enacts that leasing-making, sedition, and blasphemy shall be punished in Scotland, as in England, and abolishes the punishment of banishment, to which any person convicted a second time of such crimes was liable.

FINANCE, TAXES, RETRENCHMENTS.

The policy of lightening the fiscal burdens of the people, which commenced in the last reign, was pursued in the present with augmented energy. The remission of the beer duties and the intire opening of the trade therein, were a popular beginning of king William's government. The inhabited house-duty, which was alleged to be partially assessed, and which pressed heavily on the middle ranks living in towns, was abolished. The repeal of taxes that bore chiefly on the agricultural classes had formed an object of especial attention ever since the peace. The agricultural taxes repealed from 1815 to the end of 1835 amounted to 985,824*l.* per annum, and the amount of savings to the agriculturists by these reductions during this period were calculated to amount to 12,929,577*l.* But the most effective relief afforded to this interest accrued from the reduction in the poor-rate assessment under the operation of the new poor law act. Several duties that were either unequal in their operation, or impolitic in their tendency, were reduced. Of the former description was the duty upon coals carried coastwise, which acted in aggravation of the

natural disadvantage experienced by the inhabitants of those parts of the country where fuel is scarce; and of impolitic duties rescinded may be mentioned those on printed cottons, and the discriminating duties upon sugar and coffee, the produce of British India, together with a host of petty duties, of excise or customs, which were either repealed or reduced; as those on candles, starch, stone bottles, sweets, soap, tiles, hemp, cotton-wool, drugs, oil, and imported books. The abolition of the duty on almanacs and pamphlets, and its reduction on newspapers, were popular concessions to public opinion.

The alterations made in the tariff can only be deemed the commencement of a new and better system. Although England has been forward to advocate a *free trade* among nations, and is more deeply interested than any state in its universal adoption, she has only offered a tardy example to her neighbours. Her statesmen have harangued on the justice and utility of unrestricted intercourse, but have been slow to enforce its practical application. The corn-laws offer a prominent exception to the general theory of an unfettered exchange with neighbouring states. Not only is agriculture, but manufactures are protected, and the custom-house accounts exhibit a long array of articles on which duties are levied for the supposed encouragement of domestic industry. That these imports are levied as protective duties, not as sources of public revenue, is attested by the fact that, in 1836, in a list of 190 articles and upwards, there were only eight—tea, sugar, tobacco, foreign spirits, wine, timber, coffee, and cotton-wool—that essentially contributed to the national income.

The *economical reductions* effected in this short reign were very extensive. At one sweep the expenditure of the navy was reduced 1,220,000*l.* The salaries of the king's ministers, ambassadors and consuls, the chief justices, the attorney and solicitor-general, and, in general, all salaries above 1000*l.*, were cut down. The charge for salaries in the various public departments, exclusive of army and navy, &c., since the peace, had been reduced nearly a million; it being 3,763,100*l.* in 1815, and 2,786,378*l.* in 1835. The reductions made in the eight years from 1827 to 1835 amounted to 2101 persons and 563,290*l.* of annual charge; or eight per cent. in number and nearly 17 per cent. in amount. Various savings were effected by the consolidation of offices and boards, as those of stamps and taxes. Previous to the settlement of the king's civil list, the royal expenditure underwent a searching investigation, and though no great saving was effected, its details were simplified by the transfer of

various charges unconnected with the regal dignity to the consolidated fund.

The progress of reduction in taxation since the war will appear from the subjoined statement, collected from the tables of Mr. Porter, of the yearly amount of the taxes imposed and reduced from 1815 to 1836 :—

Year.	Imposed.	Reduced.
1815 . .	£176,772 . .	£222,749
1816 . .	375,058 . .	17,547,365
1817 . .	7,991 . .	36,495
1818 . .	1,356 . .	9,504
1819 . .	3,102,302 . .	269,484
1820 . .	119,602 . .	4,000
1821 . .	44,842 . .	471,309
1822 . .	. .	2,139,101
1823 . .	18,596 . .	4,183,735
1824 . .	49,605 . .	1,801,333
1825 . .	48,100 . .	3,676,239
1826 . .	188,725 . .	1,967,215
1827 . .	21,402 . .	84,038
1828 . .	1,966 . .	51,998
1829 . .	. .	126,406
1830 . .	696,024 . .	4,070,742
1831 . .	627,586 . .	1,588,052
1832 . .	44,526 . .	747,264
1833 . .	. .	1,532,128
1834 . .	198,394 . .	2,064,516
1835 . .	5,575 . .	162,877
1836 . .	3,721 . .	1,021,786

Mr. Porter shows that the amount of taxes repealed since 1814 exceeds the amount of those imposed since 1801 by more than 6½ millions (*Progress of the Nation*, ii. 306). This is so far satisfactory: but it appears that the share of taxed articles obtained by each member of the community has only increased in a trifling degree, not exceeding one-seventh; which is extraordinary, considering the vast increase in riches and in the means of purchasing during the last 35 years. The

stamp-duties and assessed taxes, which indicate the increase of property, have increased faster than the customs and excise, which indicate the increase of consumption. Wealth has accumulated, unaccompanied with a proportionate increase in the national disposition to expenditure.

The following is the income and expenditure of the United Kingdom during the present reign :—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
1830 . .	£50,056,616 . .	£49,078,108
1831 . .	46,424,440 . .	49,797,156
1832 . .	47,322,744 . .	46,379,692
1833 . .	46,271,326 . .	45,782,026
1834 . .	46,425,263 . .	46,678,079
1835 . .	45,893,369 . .	45,669,309
1836 . .	48,591,180 . .	48,093,196
1837 . .	47,240,000 . .	46,631,415

It is calculated that the customs and excise contribute 72 per cent. of the whole revenue; the stamps 14 per cent.; the assessed and land taxes 9 per cent.; and the post-office 5 per cent. The rate per cent. for which the gross revenue was collected in 1835 in Britain was 6*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.*: namely, customs 5*l.* 5*s.*; excise 6*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.*; stamps 2*l.* 10*s.* 11½*d.*; taxes 5*l.* 7*s.* 9½*d.*; post-office 27*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*; tax on pensions and salaries 2*l.* 2*s.* 0½*d.*; crown-lands 10*l.* 2*s.* 11½*d.*. The rate per cent. at which the gross receipts for revenue were collected in Ireland, in 1835, amounted to 11*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.*: namely, customs 12*l.* 5*s.* 2½*d.*; excise 9*l.* 11*s.* 6½*d.*; stamps 5*l.* 3*s.* 3½*d.*; post-office 39*l.* 4*s.* 2½*d.*.

NATIONAL DEBT.

An account of the amount of the FUNDED and UNFUNDED DEBT, and the annual charge thereof, from January 5, 1815, to January 5, 1834 :—

Year.	Funded Debt.	Charge of Funded Debt.	Unfunded Debt.	Charge of Unfunded Debt.	Total charge, Funded & Unfunded.
1816	£816,311,940	£30,458,207	£41,441,900	£3,014,003	£33,472,210
1817	796,200,191	29,842,014	44,650,300	2,196,177	32,038,191
1818	776,742,403	29,310,454	56,729,400	1,710,119	31,020,673
1819	791,867,313	29,934,294	43,655,400	2,143,476	32,077,770
1820	794,980,481	29,739,658	36,900,200	687,027	30,476,683
1821	801,565,310	30,149,920	30,965,900	1,769,219	31,719,139
1822	795,312,767	29,985,216	31,566,550	2,159,602	32,144,818
1823	796,530,144	28,596,866	36,281,150	1,385,424	29,982,290
1824	791,701,614	29,078,570	34,741,750	1,131,121	30,209,691
1825	781,123,222	28,372,206	32,398,450	1,087,284	29,459,490
1826	778,128,267	28,267,272	27,994,200	829,498	29,096,770
1827	783,801,739	28,556,903	24,565,850	831,207	29,387,110
1828	777,476,892	28,389,869	27,546,850	873,247	29,263,116
1829	772,322,540.	28,245,534	27,657,000	949,430	29,194,964
1830	771,251,932	28,285,900	25,490,550	878,494	29,134,394
1831	757,486,996	27,674,754	27,271,650	793,031	26,467,785
1832	755,543,884	27,658,299	27,133,350	649,833	26,298,132
1833	754,100,549	27,703,433	27,278,000	659,165	28,362,598

In 1834 the total charge of the funded and unfunded debt was 28,510,708*l.*; in 1835, 28,494,827*l.*; in 1836, 28,505,675*l.*; and January 5, 1837, 29,234,873*l.*: so that the total reduction in the charge of the national obligations, from the peace, has been to the amount of 4,237,337*l.* Almost the whole of this reduction has been effected, not by the application of surplus revenue to the payment of the principal of the debt, but in consequence of the improvement in public credit, and fall in the interest of money since the termination of the war. In 1816 the 3 per cent. stock was only 58; in 1825 it had

risen to 94; and in 1834 it was at 87. This favourable state of the money-market enabled the chancellor of the exchequer to effect reductions in the amount and interest of exchequer bills, and important savings, by the conversion of stocks of a higher into a lower denomination. The savings made by the latter operations, since 1822, exceed one-half of the decrease in the charge of the debt since 1815. The following is an account of the savings which have accrued to the public from the conversion of stocks from a higher to a lower rate of interest:—

	Capital.	Highest rate of Interest.	Lowest rate of Interest.	Saving.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1822.				
Capital 5 <i>l.</i> per cents. after deducting 2,794,318 <i>l.</i> dissects	149,627,825	7,481,391	. .	1,197,023
Capital of the new stock, 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., including the bonus of 7,481,393 <i>l.</i>	157,109,218	. .	6,284,368	
1826.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., after deducting 6,149,246 <i>l.</i> dissects	70,105,403	2,804,216	2,453,619	350,597
Capital 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cents., the same.				
1830.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., after deducting 2,649,366 <i>l.</i> dissects	151,021,728	6,040,869	. .	755,110
Capital 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cent. £150,344,051				
Do. 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. 474,374	150,818,425	. .	5,285,759	
1834.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents.	10,622,911	424,916	371,800	53,116
The same capital in 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cents.				
		Total Annual Savings .	£2,355,845	

The increase in the charge of the national debt, subsequent to 1833, has been chiefly occasioned by the measures of public reform adopted by the legislature since that period; by the repayment of one-fourth of

the capital of the bank of England in 1834; by the 20,000,000*l.* West India loan in 1835-6; and by the creations of stock to answer debt due to savings banks in 1836, 1837, and 1838.

Statement of the Funded Debt of the United Kingdom, January 5, 1837.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Debt due to the South Sea Company, at 3 per cent.	£3,662,784
Old South Sea Annuities, at 3 per cent.	3,497,870
New South Sea Annuities, at 3 per cent.	2,460,830
South Sea Annuities, 1751, at 3 per cent.	523,100
Debt due to the Bank of England, at 3 per cent.	11,015,100
Bank Annuities, created in 1756, at 3 per cent.	823,263
Consolidated Annuities, at 3 per cent.	357,166,317
Reduced Annuities, at 3 per cent.	125,141,496
Total, at 3 per cent.	£504,292,751

Annuities at 3½ per cent., anno 1818	10,725,232
Reduced 3½ per cent. Annuities	66,273,320
New 3½ per cent. Annuities	146,229,682
New 5 per cent. Annuities	438,240

Total, Great Britain £727,959,227

IRELAND.

Irish Consolidated Annuities, at 3 per cent.	£3,004,253
Irish Reduced Annuities, at 3 per cent.	1,162,882
3½ per cent. Debentures and Stock	14,757,160
Reduced 3½ per cent. Annuities	1,045,712
New 3½ per cent. Annuities	11,855,903
Debt due to the Bank of Ireland at 4 per cent.	1,615,384
New 5 per cent. Annuities	6,661
Debt due to the Bank of Ireland, at 5 per cent.	1,015,384

Total, Ireland £33,463,343

Total, United Kingdom £761,422,570

Exchequer bills outstanding and unprovided for, Jan. 5, 1837	£28,155,150
Do. do. do. Jan. 5, 1836	29,007,950

COMMERCE, SHIPPING, NAVIGATION.

Commercial prosperity, as remarked at the close of the former reign (p. 857), is not measured by the amount or excess of exports, but by the aggregate amount of imports and exports. The commodities a nation imports are as conducive to her interests as those she exports, and it is the magnitude of the two conjointly that indicates industrial activity and national enjoyment. The balance of trade, as it is called, may be against a country, as it often is in colonies and infant states, and yet that country be rapidly progressing in wealth, industry, population, and all the other elements of internal strength and social happiness. Reciprocal dependence is the surest bond of peace and friendly feeling, both among nations and individuals; and it is not to native resources, to an utter independence of neighbours, that each state ought to intrust its welfare, but to the greatest possible interchange of peculiar advantages, products, and conveniences. By impoverishing and exhausting others we do not enrich ourselves. Commerce that is wholesome is not gambling, but an interchange of benefits; and that intercourse is likely to be most lasting, the least alloyed with jealousy, the most conservative of international amity, and mutually the most advantageous, that resolves itself, as all commercial exchanges ultimately must do, into mere *barter*,—an equal and reciprocal exchange of commodities, without leaving any general balance on either side to be liquidated by money.

Another principle which the history of British commerce, since the beginning of the century, strikingly elucidates, is the

irrelevancy of the *money* or *declared value* of exports, as an index of commercial activity. This is merely the price of the commodities, which varies with the state of the market and the cost of production, and has no relation to the quantities exported. But the quantities are the chief point of interest—the only test of industrial prosperity. During the last forty years, the *real*—so called in the genuine mercantile spirit—or money value of our exports has been stationary or declining, but no one infers hence that commerce has declined; that it has not been prosperous in an unprecedented degree; that agriculture has not thereby been vastly promoted, and that it has not been the chief source of national riches, domestic improvements, and augmented employment for the population, shipping, navigation, roads, turnpikes, and conveyances of every description. These are the only results interesting to the statesman and legislator; the rest are merely the symbols of the custom-house, of no more importance in estimating the action of trade on the well-being of the community than the ancient tallies of the exchequer.

Having premised these explanations, we subjoin, in continuation of the tables of previous reigns, the following account of the trade of the United Kingdom to January 1837; exhibiting the *official value* of imports of foreign and colonial produce, and of British, Irish, foreign, and colonial produce exported:—

Years.	Exports.	Imports.
1830	£69,691,301	£46,245,241
1831	71,429,004	49,713,889
1832	76,071,591	44,586,741

1833	. £79,823,092	. £45,952,551
1834	. 85,393,586	. 49,362,811
1835	. 91,174,455	. 48,911,542
1836	. 97,621,548	. 57,023,867

The magnitude of foreign trade, and the enormous increase in the export of native produce, in the present reign, has never been exceeded. In the short term of seven years, from 1831 to 1836 inclusive, the exports increased 40 per cent, and the imports 23 per cent. The *actual or declared value of exports in 1830 was 38,271,597*l.** in 1836, 53,368,371*l.* Of the enormous amount of 97,621,548*l.* of exports in 1836, only 12,391,711*l.* was foreign and colonial merchandise re-exported; the remaining 85,229,837*l.* consisting entirely of British and Irish produce and manufactures.

In 1836 trade was pushed to its maximum state. It was a year of speculation and over-trading both in exports and imports, and the consequence was the re-action of 1837 and the extensive mercantile failures already described in the occurrences of that year (p. 1015). The exports of native products and manufactures dropped in 1837 to 72,312,207*l.*; being a decrease of 12,917,650*l.* This check was of short duration. In 1838 pecuniary transactions with America were re-established by the resumption of specie payments by the banks of the United States, and British commerce again commenced its wonted onward movement.

Since the peace the SHROUWERS had complained of the decline of their interest; of the relaxations introduced in 1822 by Mr. Wallace, the president of the board of trade, in the navigation laws and colonial trade, and of the encouragement thereby given to foreigners, with whom it was alleged to be impossible to compete, owing to the greater cheapness abroad than at home of labour and the materials of ship-building. These apprehensions have proved illusive, and the liberal policy determined upon by the government has proved as beneficial to the shipping interest, as it was just and unavoidable towards other countries. The proportion of British to foreign tonnage entering the ports of the United Kingdom is greater now than under the more restrictive system; for the former, from 1826 to 1836, has increased 23 per cent., while the increase of the latter has been exactly one half that rate, or 11½ per cent.

The following statement of the number of vessels belonging to the British empire in each year from 1803 will show the progress of our mercantile navy. It is chiefly extracted from the valuable tables of Mr. Porter. During the war many vessels were employed in the transport service, and a greater number was requisite for a given amount of traffic than in peace.

The records of 1812 and 1813 were destroyed at the burning of the custom-house. In 1827 a new mode of registration was adopted; previously to that year many vessels that had been lost were still continued in the registry.

Years.	Ships.	Tonnage.
1803	. 20,893	. 2,167,863
1804	. 21,774	. 2,268,570
1805	. 22,051	. 2,283,442
1806	. 22,182	. 2,263,714
1807	. 22,290	. 2,281,621
1808	. 22,646	. 2,324,891
1809	. 23,070	. 2,368,468
1810	. 20,703	. 2,426,044
1811	. 24,106	. 2,474,774
1814	. 24,418	. 2,616,965
1815	. 24,860	. 2,681,276
1816	. 25,801	. 2,783,933
1817	. 25,346	. 2,664,986
1818	. 25,507	. 2,674,488
1819	. 25,483	. 2,666,396
1820	. 25,374	. 2,648,593
1821	. 25,036	. 2,560,503
1822	. 24,642	. 2,519,404
1823	. 24,542	. 2,506,760
1824	. 24,776	. 2,559,507
1825	. 24,280	. 2,553,682
1826	. 24,625	. 2,635,644
1827	. 23,199	. 2,460,300
1828	. 24,095	. 2,518,191
1829	. 23,453	. 2,517,000
1830	. 23,723	. 2,531,819
1831	. 24,242	. 2,581,964
1832	. 24,435	. 2,618,069
1833	. 24,385	. 2,634,577
1834	. 25,055	. 2,715,100
1835	. 25,511	. 2,783,600
1836	. 25,820	. 2,792,646
1837	. 26,037	. 2,791,018

Of the 26,037 vessels registered belonging to the empire, in 1837, there belonged to England 14,998; Scotland, 3244; Ireland, 1694; Guernsey, 90; Jersey, 245; Isle of Man, 265; British plantations, 5501; the number of men and boys employed in navigating the whole was 173,506.

The year 1836 was one of such general and unexampled commercial activity, that it seems to claim a more detailed illustration. A statement is subjoined of the declared value of British and Irish products exported that year, specifying the countries to which they were sent. The sum of 160,722*l.*, affixed to Prussia, expresses only the value of the commodities exported direct to Prussian ports; most British goods that find their way to Prussia pass through the Netherlands to the Rhine provinces, or in still greater quantities are shipped to Hamburgh and other ports in the north of Germany, whence they are forwarded by land-carriage to the interior. The statement of exports to Spain is like-

wise below her actual consumption; large quantities of British goods being either smuggled into that kingdom from Gibraltar, or transmitted by the way of Portugal.

Amount of Exports in 1836.

Russia	£1,742,433
Sweden	113,308
Norway	79,469
Denmark	91,302
Prussia	160,722
Germany	4,463,729
Holland	2,509,622
Belgium	839,276
France	1,591,381
Portugal	1,085,934
Azores	53,574
Madeira	52,168
Spain	437,076
Canaries	40,370
Gibraltar	756,411
Italy	2,921,466
Malta	143,015
Ionian Islands	109,123
Greece	12,003
Turkey	1,775,034
Syria	33,650
Egypt	216,930
Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, Morocco	297,322
Western Coast of Africa	467,186
Cape of Good Hope	482,345
Cape Verd Islands	413
St. Helena	11,041
Mauritius	260,855
Arabia	16,358
Hindustan	4,285,829
Sumatra and Java, &c.	234,852
Philippine Islands	51,728
China	1,326,388
Australia	835,867
British North America	2,722,291
British West Indies	3,786,453
Hayti	251,663
Cuba and Foreign West Indies	987,122
United States of America	12,425,605
Mexico	254,822
Guatemala	764
Columbia	185,172
Brazil	3,030,532
Rio	697,334
Chili	861,903
Peru	606,332
Guernsey	318,609

Total of Exports £53,368,572

Among the mercantile impulses of the present reign may be reckoned the intire opening, in 1834, of the trade with India and China. This traffic is still in its infancy, and it is impossible to assign the limits to which it may be carried by individual vigilance and enterprise. One public advantage has already resulted in

the reduction in the price and improvement in the quality of the tea consumed by the community. The future supply of cotton from the East will probably increase, and the repeal, in 1835, of the discriminative duties levied on sugar and coffee, the produce of India, for the benefit of the West India planter, and to the detriment of the consumer, holds out additional encouragements to oriental commerce.

The formation of the Prusso-Bavarian league, under the name of *Zoll Verein*, appears to have been viewed with needless jealousy. Up to the present the regulations of the union have been fiscal only and limited to the removal of the obstructions that impeded the transit of merchandise through the adjoining states. During the first four years of the existence of the league the average amount of British and Irish commodities exported to Germany has increased as mentioned on a former occasion (p. 971, 881).

A peculiarity in the commercial history of the present and former reigns, which has been lately adverted to by sir William Molesworth (House of Commons, *March* 13, 1839), deserves to be remarked. Foreigners have taken in greater quantities than ever, supplies of our cottons, linens, woollens, and hardware. But, though the export of all these manufactured articles has largely increased, the export of them, either in an intermediate stage of manufacture, or in that of the raw material, has increased in a much faster proportion. Thus, take cotton for an example. Comparing the four years ending with 1828 with the last four years, the increase in the value of our trade in cotton goods has been 22 per cent., in cotton *yarn* 90 per cent., or four times as much. In comparing the last four years with the four years previous to 1828, the exports of hardware have increased 32 per cent. in value, those of *iron* and *steel*, 89 per cent., exceeding twice as much. The exportation of woollen yarn and of British wool was prohibited till the close of 1824. Comparing the average of the four subsequent years with those of the four years ending with 1838, it appears that, whilst the aggregate value of the exports of woollen manufactures had increased only 16 per cent., that of woollen *yarn* had increased 939 per cent., and of *wool* 1161 per cent.; that is, the ratio of the increase of the exports of the raw material, and of the half-manufactured commodity, had been fifty times as great as that of our once highly esteemed cloths. The trade in linens, upon the whole, has been the most flourishing of any; since 1828 it has increased in value 42 per cent., but even in this case the export of the half-manufactured commodity

has been more remarkable than in any other. The trade in *linen yarn* has grown up since 1832, in which year the aggregate value of linen yarn exported was only 8705*l.*; in the next year it was 72,006*l.*; in 1834, 136,312*l.*; in 1835, 216,635*l.*; in 1836, 318,772*l.*; in 1837, 479,000*l.*; and in 1838 it amounted to 655,000*l.*: an increase of about 50 per cent. per annum for the last five years. Almost the whole of this article was sent to France, where it was wrought up into cambrics, and the other finer descriptions of the linen manufacture, in which the French are unrivalled. Comparing the whole of our foreign trade, it appears that, on the average of the four years ending 1828, the actual value of our exports was 35,368,000*l.*; on the average of the four years ending 1838, 49,645,000*l.*; showing an increase of 5,277,000*l.* or about 14 per cent. But of that increase, 3,094,000*l.* worth was of cotton yarn; 2,000,000*l.* of linen and woollen yarn, wool, iron, and steel, making in all 5,000,000*l.*, or a little less than the whole increase of our exports in the last 10 years. While therefore the aggregate of our exports has increased 14 per cent., the increase of the exports of the primary materials of foreign manufactures has been 107 per cent., or eight times as much.

The explanation of this mercantile revolution will be chiefly found in the superior mechanical resources of England, especially in our unequalled spinning machinery, by which we are enabled to prepare, cheapest and best, the bases of the continental fabrics; while, on the other hand, in carrying through the ulterior processes of manufacture, requiring a greater proportion of manual labour, the foreign has an advantage over the English manufacturer in the lower rate of wages, the consequence of cheaper food, less burdensome taxes and rates, and, in many places abroad, an inferior standard of diet and domestic comforts.

The commercial intercourse with IRELAND exceeds in importance that carried on with any foreign state, and her rapidly increasing resources promise to lessen our future dependence on foreigners for the more essential elements of national strength. The circumstances of the two countries peculiarly suit them for an interchange of benefits—agriculture, or at least the raw material of agriculture, being the predominant field of industry in one, and manufacturing skill in the other; in one capital is abundant, in the other labour. The requisites that appear most essential for securing to both the greatest possible good appear to be, a steady perseverance in the impartial policy that has late-

ly marked the government of Ireland, affording the security of equal and efficiently administered laws to the persons and property of her inhabitants—allying party and religious animosities—diffusing useful knowledge—encouraging the investment and creation of capital—improving internal communications—providing for her indigent poor—and putting at rest any uncertainty that may exist as to the permanent maintenance of the legislative union between the two kingdoms. Ireland labours only under the disadvantage of *youth*, in not being so old as England and Scotland in the pursuits of industry, in religious toleration, in social quiet, security, and amalgamation; in the excellence of her magisterial and judicial administration, and in the equity and wisdom of her political rule.

No account can be given of the general trade between Britain and Ireland subsequent to 1825, the commerce between the two countries being in that year assimilated, and, with the exception of grain, no register has been kept of the goods sent to, or received from, Ireland. The following exhibits the value of the merchandise Ireland exported to, and imported from, Britain during the first quarter of a century after the Union.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1801	£2,370,350	£3,537,795
1805	4,067,917	4,288,167
1809	5,316,557	4,538,305
1813	6,746,353	5,410,326
1817	4,722,766	5,696,613
1821	5,338,838	7,117,452
1825	7,048,936	8,531,355

The following is a comparative statement of the commodities exported from Ireland in 1825 and 1835:—

Commodities.	1825	1835
Cows and Oxen	No. 63,524	98,150
Horses . do.	3,140	4,655
Sheep . do.	72,191	195,452
Swine . do.	65,919	376,191
Wheat . qrs.	283,340	420,522
Barley . do.	154,822	164,946
Other grain do.	23,832	39,637
Flour . cwts.	599,124	1,984,486
Potatoes . do.	—	223,398
Bacon and Hams do.	362,978	379,111
Beef & Pork do.	604,253	370,173
Butter . do.	474,161	827,009
Lard . do.	35,261	70,267
Soap and Candles do.	42	—
Eggs } no. of crates,	—	52,244,806
} boxes,	—	2,275
} boxes,	—	10,695
Feathers. cwts.	—	6,432

Commodities.	1825	1835
Hides and Calf Skins No.	—	57,657
Wool } bales	—	33
} lbs.	—	764,184
Flax and Tow . cwts.	54,898	163,949
Lead and Copper ore do.	—	477,660
Spirits . gals.	629,529	459,473
Beer . do.	—	2,686,688
Cotton } yds.	10,567,459	1,039,088
} packages	—	6,588
Cotton yarn lbs.	—	13,458
Linen } yds.	55,114,515	70,209,572
} boxes	—	134
} bales	—	7
Silk manuf. yds	—	8,400
Woollen do. do.	—	100,320
Other Articles value	—	369,294.
Foreign and Colonial Merchandise . do.	—	110,489.

Ports.	1835	1837
Liverpool .	3,846,306	4,450,426
Lynn . .	—	52,470
Newcastle .	286,918	307,274
Plymouth .	94,405	103,423
Portsmouth .	55,173	46,472
Southampton .	46,825	49,139
Stockton .	47,878	54,107
Sunderland .	65,284	78,126
Whitehaven .	86,063	88,291
Yarmouth .	64,410	63,783
Aberdeen .	54,581	58,673
Dundee . .	48,592	70,982
Glasgow .	270,667	289,702
Grangemouth .	—	25,728
Greenock .	482,138	374,467
Port Glasgow .	140,284	104,292
Leith . .	386,905	—
Belfast . .	289,024	366,718
Cork . .	198,089	230,904
Dublin . .	768,632	898,630
Galway . .	38,083	31,769
Limerick .	136,910	146,222
Londonderry .	87,469	99,652
Newry . .	51,083	58,800
Sligo . .	34,915	35,863
Waterford .	125,028	137,120

Estimated value of the above exports, in 1825, 9,243,210*l.*; ditto in 1835, 16,693,685*l.*; increase, 7,450,470*l.*

Estimated tonnage of Ireland in 1825, 510,245 tons; in 1835, 734,068 tons; increase, 223,823 tons. In 1835 Ireland exported agricultural produce to England to the value of 12,080,558*l.*, and took back in return English manufactures to the amount of 10,918,459*l.*

The trade with Ireland has increased faster and exceeds on an average of years that carried on with the United States of America. The following is the declared value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported to the United States in each of the following years:—

1827	£7,018,272
1828	5,810,315
1829	4,823,415
1830	6,132,346
1831	9,053,583
1832	5,468,272
1833	7,579,699
1834	6,844,939
1835	10,568,455
1836	12,425,605

The following shows the relative commerce of the different ports of the United Kingdom; being the gross amount of customs-duty received during the years ending January 5, 1835, and 1837.

Ports.	1835	1837
London. .	£10,697,263	£12,156,279
Bristol . .	1,072,106	1,112,812
Dover . .	60,897	47,437
Exeter . .	—	79,897
Gloucester .	131,105	166,187
Goole . .	—	60,317
Hull . .	682,008	801,628
Lancaster .	—	42,313

WAGES, FACTORIES, EMIGRATION, POOR-RATES, SAVINGS' BANKS, LUNATICS, BASTARDY.

It is likely the present reign will be hereafter reverted to as one of the most favourable in British history to the welfare of the industrious orders. Its great and manifold blessings can hardly be exaggerated. While vital reforms were being effected in political and social institutions, the condition of the people was unusually prosperous, and they had a greater command probably than in any former period of equal duration over the comforts and conveniences of living. During the whole seven years of the king's government there was not one failing harvest; all the crops were above an average, with the exception of that of 1831, which was nearly an average, and which very partial deficiency was amply compensated by the unusual abundance of 1835, that reduced the price of wheat to 3*s.* per quarter. The average price from 1830 to 1837, both inclusive, was only 55*s.* 3*d.* a quarter; about the average price of the eight years of peace and prosperity that preceded the war of 1793, and with which the present reign may be aptly compared. Clothing also became extremely cheap, which enabled the working classes not only to clothe themselves more decently and comfortably, but to wear articles of a more durable description than formerly. Calicoes are supposed to have fallen full two-thirds in price since the peace of 1815; linens, one-half; stout shoes, one third; the coarse

felt hats, for which labouring men used to pay 3s. 6d. fell to 2s., or have been superseded by silk hats. The reduction in the price of hardware has been enormous. Beer, tea, coffee, candles, and soap have been made more accessible to the community, either by greater abundance or the repeal of duties and removal of obstructions that impeded their sale to the consumer.

While articles of ordinary use fell in price, the rate of wages was kept up. There was no diminution in the means of purchasing. Some occupations certainly suffered, and were superseded, as that of the hand-loom weavers, by mechanical improvements; the fluctuations of fashion, also, wrought partial derangements, but generally there never was a period within the experience of the present generation when employment was more abundant, and when the wages of labour, taken in conjunction with the prices of every article that forms the expenditure of a working man, were so well calculated to ensure his comfort and independence.

Over this gratifying representation it is necessary to introduce some shading to render the social picture correct. The agricultural classes did not participate equally with the manufacturing in the general improvement of condition. In the benefits resulting from the low prices of clothing and food all shared; but this cheapness was accompanied with, and partly helped to produce, a scarcity of employment in the rural districts. The low price of wheat discouraged the application of capital to land, so that the increase of employment therein did not keep pace with the increase in the number of the people. For many years there have been symptoms of a growing redundancy of farm-labourers, manifested in a depression of wages, and consequent general discontent, as evinced by incendiary fires, the destruction of threshing machines, and other prædial outrages.

Another topic essential to a faithful elucidation of the state of the country at the beginning of 1837 requires to be noticed. Although the king's reign may be considered to have been the millenium of the industrious classes, it failed to effect any great amendment in the *common diet of the people*. Animal food, wheaten bread, and beer, still continued inaccessible to a large portion of the population of the United Kingdom. In Ireland potatoes it is well known are the staple food of the inhabitants. The government commissioners who reported on the state of that country in 1836, stated that agricultural wages varied from 6d. to 1s. a-day; that the average in general was about 8d.; and that the

earnings of the labourers did not amount, on an average of the whole class, to more than from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a-week for the year round. The number of persons out of work and in distress during 30 weeks of the year was estimated at not less than 585,000, and the number of persons dependent upon them at not less than 1,800,000; making, in the whole, 2,385,000. The commissioners found that, while in Britain the agricultural families constitute little more than a fourth, in Ireland they constitute about two-thirds of the whole population; that there were in 1831 in Britain 1,055,982 agricultural labourers, and in Ireland 1,131,715; while the cultivated land of Britain amounts to about 34,250,000 acres, and that of Ireland only to 14,600,000. There are in Ireland, therefore, about five agricultural labourers for every two there are for the same quantity of land in Britain; and the actual produce of Britain exceeds by four times that of Ireland.

The backwardness and destitution of the Irish are more easily described than the remedies. But the food and domestic conveniences of some parts of Britain do not offer such a remarkable contrast to the condition of the sister kingdom, and we cannot, any more than the continental nations, boast of an entirely wheat-fed population.

In the northern districts of England, in the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, the farmers work hard and subsist on very humble fare; their ordinary diet consisting of barley-bread, potatoes, milk, and a small quantity of bacon. Their industry and frugal living is very profitable to their landlords, who are thereby enabled to obtain much higher rents than their southern neighbours. Across the border, in Scotland, the condition of the agricultural population is not found to be more advanced. Rents have increased four-fold, but animal food and malt liquor continue out of the reach of the great body of Scottish husbandmen. The well-cultivated farms of East Lothian, Berwick, and Roxburgh, are so many manufactories, in which, the ploughmen, aided by horses and machinery, make plenty of corn and meat, but of which they do not partake. Their diet is oatmeal, mixed in water, or in milk, if they be allowed the use of a cow, and cakes made of barley-meal and pea-meal mixed together. Their lodging is equally mean. They are housed outside the farm-yard in sheds like barracks; each family in damp, dark, single apartments, unless it has been divided with wooden partitions at the occupants' own expense; the walls in many instances not plastered; and, in all, the floor consisting of nothing but the bare ground, and often below the level of

the adjoining road, from which the rain-water may be making its way into the interior of the hovel, which is lighted with one or two windows, consisting of four of the smallest panes of the coarsest glass. The windows are mostly *built in*, so that they cannot be opened for fresh air. There is no cissing; nothing above but the bare rafters, and the thatched or tiled roof. Houses, or *boothies* as they are called, of this description, may be seen in all directions within five miles of Edinburgh. Capital has increased enormously, but the peasantry are scarcely better off than their grandfathers; have hardly more comforts or higher wages. The parochial schools are so defective, both in books and mode of education, that few agricultural labourers can either read or write with facility. Their ignorance, general discomfort, and severe toil, prematurely exhaust them, and make them short-lived.

It is in dress and outward appearance that the greatest improvements have been effected. The cheapness of manufactures enables a Scotch dairy-maid to clothe herself in a complete summer Sunday's dress for 20s. Her winter garb will cost a little more, from 25s. to 28s., and both suits, with care, will last considerably more than a twelvemonth. Making included, a ploughman may clothe himself decently on Sundays for less than 2l. 10s.; his working garb (mole-skin) costs about 15s., and, if to these be added a ploughing-coat and stout shoes, 10s. each, his whole bill to the draper and tailor will not exceed 4l. 6s.

In the principal towns of Scotland and England the different ranks of society on Sundays can hardly be distinguished by difference of attire. They all dress well, and little difference exists in the quality and shape of their costume. Men wear silk or beaver hats; coats of woollen cloth; waistcoats of cloth, silk, or velvet; shirts of calico or linen; hose of cotton, silk, or worsted; trousers of kerseymere, or other material, with silk or cotton stocks, shoes or boots, which form the general walking garb of all classes. There is a like approximation to uniformity in female costume. Stuffs, merinos, French cloth, muslins, silks, and satins, are generally worn, according to the season of the year. It was thought a great luxury in queen Elizabeth to wear silk hose, but, in king William's reign, maid-servants were frequently seen in silk dresses, with laced caps, and silk, velvet, Dunstable, or Tuscan bonnets.

The low price of books may be noticed among the beneficial changes affecting the masses of the nation. This has been partly caused by the practice of stereotyping and the application of steam in

press-work; the reduction in the price of paper and the cost of embellishments; and by publishers trusting more to an extensive sale than to high profits for a remunerative return. On this principle many useful compilations have been put forth; some of the standard works reprinted, and numerous cheap periodical publications established, that have contributed, aided by popular lectures of literary and scientific societies, very extensively to the intellectual improvement of the people.

The state most desirable to attain by the industrious orders is exemption from sudden vicissitudes. During the last thirty years the price of labour has been nearly stationary, both in skilled and unskilled occupations. The wages of labourers in husbandry, and of carpenters, bricklayers, masons, tailors, spianers, and plumbers in towns, were nearly the same in 1805 as in 1835. The alternations of misery and comfort they have experienced have been mainly produced by circumstances over which they had no control; namely, changes in the value of paper-money, fluctuations in the amount of employment from mercantile speculation, and sudden vicissitudes in the price of bread, either from the seasons or the artificial operation of the corn-laws. Parliament has applied a remedy to the currency, and the other sources of popular derangement are not less deserving of legislative attention. That in which the working classes have wrought the most detriment to themselves has been in the indefensible claims of the trade-unions; they drove the masters into counter combinations in their own defence, and the result of the struggle, as might have been predicted, was the discomfiture of the workmen, the dissolution of their societies, and reduction, in some instances, of the rate of wages.

The employment of children in MILLS and FACTORIES formed an anxious subject of inquiry in the present reign. During the last sixty years the domestic manufacture of the West of England, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, has been gradually yielding to the encroachments of capital and machinery. Manual labour could not contend, in many stages of manufacture, either in cheapness or execution, with these powerful competitors; the factories combining, on a great scale, all the resources of money and mechanical ingenuity. In 1835 the number of persons, of all ages, employed in the cotton, wool, silk, and flax factories, worked by steam and water, in England, was 298,693; in Wales, 1936; Scotland, 50,180; Ireland, 9564: making a total population in the United Kingdom of 355,373. Of this number, 158,555 were males and 196,818

females. Between the ages of 8 and 12, the number employed of both sexes was 20,588; between 13 and 18, 108,208; above 18 years old, 190,710. The employment of a greater number of females than males, and of so many children of a tender age, constitutes the most objectionable peculiarity of factory industry. Parliament has sought to protect the unfortunate juveniles, by prohibiting the employment of children under a certain age and limiting the hours of labour; and its efforts to improve their condition have not been wholly fruitless, as the writer had an opportunity of witnessing during a late tour in the manufacturing districts. Legislative interference, however, can only be looked upon as a temporary palliative; the most effective cure must be sought in the higher moral tone and intellectual culture of the male operatives, who ought to be the natural protectors of their wives and offspring.

A few statements are subjoined, elucidatory of the subjects of the present section. Great light has been thrown on the condition of the body of the people by the inquiries of parliamentary committees, and by the commissions on the poor-laws, factories, and the state of Ireland, and the results of whose labours are in course of being arranged and published by Mr. Porter in his "Progress of the Nation."

Daily Wages at Greenwich Hospital.

Year.	Carpen-	Brick-	Masons.	Plumb-
	ters.	layers.		ers.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1729	2 6	2 6	2 6	3 0
1730	2 6	2 6	2 6	3 0
1735	2 6	2 6	2 8	3 0
1740	2 6	2 6	2 8	2 6
1745	2 6	2 6	2 8	2 6
1750	2 6	2 6	2 8	2 6
1755	2 6	2 6	2 8	2 6
1760	2 6	2 4	2 8	3 0
1765	2 6	2 4	2 8	3 0
1770	2 6	2 4	2 10	3 0
1775	2 6	2 4	2 10	3 0
1780	2 6	2 4	2 10	3 3
1785	2 6	2 4	2 10	3 3
1790	2 6	3 0	2 10	3 3
1795	2 10	3 0	2 10	3 3
1800	4 6	4 10	5 0	4 6
1805	4 6	4 8	5 0	4 6
1806	5 0	4 8	5 0	4 6
1807	5 0	5 0	5 0	4 6
1808	5 4	5 1	5 1	5 3
1809	5 8	5 2	5 3	5 9
1810	5 6	5 5	5 9	5 9
1811	5 6	5 5	5 9	5 9
1812	5 6	5 5	5 9	5 9
1813	5 6	5 5	5 9	5 9
1814	5 6	5 1	5 9	5 9
1815	5 2	5 1	5 3	5 5

1816	5 2	5 1	5 3	5 9
1817	5 3	5 1	5 3	5 9
1818	5 3	5 1	5 3	5 9
1819	5 3	5 1	5 3	5 9
1820	5 3	5 1	5 3	5 9
1821	5 1	5 0	5 1	5 7
1822	5 0	4 10	5 0	5 6
1823	5 0	4 10	5 0	5 6
1824	5 0	4 10	5 0	5 6
1825	5 9	4 10	5 6	5 6
1826	5 9	4 10	5 6	5 9
1827	5 8	4 10	5 6	5 9
1828	5 8	4 9	5 5	5 8
1829	5 8	4 9	5 5	5 5
1830	5 6	4 9	5 4	5 6
1831	5 5	4 9	5 3	5 6
1832	5 5	4 9	5 3	5 6
1833	5 5	4 9	5 3	5 5
1834	5 5	4 9	5 3	5 5
1835	4 10	4 4	4 1	4 11
1836	4 10	4 5	4 1	4 11

These are the contract rates of wages paid to the masters, and exceed the sums received by the workmen. Wages are higher in London than at Manchester, Glasgow, or Londonderry, by 16 or 20 per cent.; a difference partly made up by the less price of provisions, fuel, and house-rent. The rise of wages subsequent to 1800 was doubtless occasioned by the bad seasons of the four preceding years. Wheat rose to 139s. per quarter in 1801; its quality was injured by excessive rains; and every other article of provision was proportionately dear and unwholesome. The severe privations of the people checked the growth of population; and the number of marriages, which in 1798 amounted to 79,477, fell in 1800 to 69,851, and in 1801 to 67,288.

Wages in husbandry were affected in a like manner by the dearth at the close of the last century. It appears, from Mr. Barton's statements, and other sources, that the average weekly wages of farm-labourers, in England, in money and in equivalent *posts* of wheat, at the yearly average price, were as follows:—

Year.	s. d.	Wheat.
1796	8 11	70
1803	11 5	63
1811	14 6	76
1819	12 0	73
1824	10 0	89
1829	11 0	91
1832	12 0	90
1833	12 0	115
1834	12 0	133
1835	11 6	162
1836	11 6	121
1837	11 6	105

The following particulars are all we have been able to collect of the wages of

persons employed in manufactures and other branches of industry during the present reign.

COTTON MANUFACTURE.—It is calculated (McCulloch's *Com. Dict.* 41.) that 833,000 persons are directly employed in this manufacture as spinners, weavers, bleachers, &c. and that their aggregate wages amount to 20,000,000*l.* per annum. About one-fifth of the people employed are men, one-third women, and the remainder children. The following is a statement of the number and average wages of the work-people in the employ of Messrs. Birley, Hornby, and Kirk, made out in January, 1832.

	Spinners.		Weavers.		No.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Men . . .	20	6	15	1½	379
Women . .	11	3½	9	7½	563
Children .	5	10	5	4½	654

The change from hand to power-loom weaving has caused extreme distress in Lancashire. According to the inquiries of parliament, the hand-loom weavers comprise a body of 840,000 individuals; rather exceeding the amount of the African slave population, concerning whose freedom so long and laudable an interest has been manifested in the nation. In 1800 their wages averaged 18*s.* to 20*s.*; in 1816 they had fallen to 12*s.* or 14*s.* weekly, and in 1835, to 3*s.* or 7*s.* At Manchester they were from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* net; Aberdeen, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* net; Bolton, 4*s.* 1½*d.* net; Dundee, 6*s.* to 7*s.* net; Forfar, 6*s.* net; Glasgow, 4*s.* to 8*s.* gross; Huddersfield, 4*s.* to 5*s.*, a few 16; Lanark, 5*s.* 1*d.* net; Paisley 6*s.* to 7*s.* gross; Perth, 4*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 9*d.* net; Preston, 4*s.* 9*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* gross; Spitalfields, 7*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* gross; Stockport, 9*s.* gross; Coventry, 7*s.* 6*d.* net; Nuneaton, 4*s.* 8*d.* net; Drogheda, 2*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* net; Belfast, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* gross.

The average earnings of 657 weavers of different classes at Leeds were found by Mr. Baines to be, for the first class, men, 11*s.* 3*d.*; women, 5*s.* 9*d.*; boys, 7*s.* 3*d.*; girls, 5*s.* 9*d.*; but that these have employment during ten months in the year only. For the second class, men, 8*s.* 6*d.*; women, 5*s.*; boys, 5*s.*; but that these are employed during six months of the year only.

It is only recently that the *silk manufacture* has been firmly established in this country. Since the year 1824, when the restrictions on the trade were removed, the silk manufacture has spread into various districts, and is now conducted on such improved principles, as not only to place the products of the silk-loom within the reach of the humbler classes, but also to enable the manufacturer successfully to compete in the foreign market. The number of silk-mills in Manchester, which

in 1820 was only five, had increased in 1832 to sixteen. The total number of silk-factories in England in 1835 was 231, employing 29,947 persons, of which number 19,946 were females.

The number of persons employed in the *woollen manufacture* in England and Wales are supposed to be about 400,000, and their aggregate wages to amount to 9,600,000*l.*

The wages of spinners, slubbers, and dressers average about 21*s.* weekly. Forty years since the average wages of men, women, and children, in this manufacture, were from 5*s.* to 6*s.* each per week; they are now from 9*s.* to 10*s.* each per week. In the former period, masons, carpenters, &c., had 1*s.* 3*d.* and 1*s.* 6*d.* a-day; they have now 3*s.*, 3*s.* 6*d.*, and 4*s.* a-day.

The *carpet manufacturers* of Kidderminster in 1830 were divided into three classes:

- 1st class earning 30*s.* per week;
- 2d class about 23*s.* per week;
- 3rd class 20*s.* per week.

The workpeople in the *hardware and metal manufactures* carried on in Sheffield may also be divided into best, second, and third-rate workmen, earning rates of wages varying as follows:

- The best class about 25*s.* per week.
- The second class . . . 20*s.* ,,
- The third class . . . 16*s.* ,,

For one of the highest class there are three of the second and eight of the third. All these persons generally work by the piece. They comprise full 16,000 persons in the town of Sheffield alone. But the total number of persons in Britain directly engaged in the different branches of the hardware manufacture, in iron, brass, steel, and copper, is estimated by Mr. McCulloch to amount to 360,000, and the aggregate value of their products in different metals in a year to 17,500,000*l.*

The rate of wages in London has undergone no material alteration for the last quarter of a century. Those of journey-tailors have been long maintained at 6*s.* a-day, and this continues the general rate notwithstanding their unfortunate rupture with the masters in 1834. The wages of printers have been equally steady. In 1800 a compositor in book-work received 33*s.* weekly; on a morning newspaper, 40*s.*; evening, 37*s.* In 1811 there was an advance in these rates; since which, they have remained respectively at 36*s.*, 48*s.*, and 43*s.* 6*d.* per week.

The price of labour is less subject to fluctuation than that of any other commodity. The pay of seamen has undergone little permanent variation since the peace; fluctuating, in the Baltic and American trade, between 55*s.* and 60*s.* a-month. In

the Newcastle coal-trade there has been greater unsteadiness, but in this occupation wages appear to have settled at the long-established rate of from 65s. to 70s. per voyage to London.

Number of the Cotton, Wool, Silk, and Flax Factories worked by steam or water, in the United Kingdom, with the number of persons employed therein in the year 1835.

Countries.	Factories.	Males.	Females.
England .	2,555	138,254	155,439
Wales .	90	980	956
Scotland .	425	15,818	34,362
Ireland .	90	3,503	6,061
Total .	3,160	158,555	196,818

All under ten years are employed on silk only; children between ten and twelve years are subject to the education clauses of the bill for regulating labour in factories, except those in silk, and work nine hours per day, or forty-eight hours per week. On March 1, 1836, this regulation was extended to children under thirteen years. Young persons between twelve and eighteen years work twelve hours a-day, or sixty-nine per week. In 1836 the regulations were altered, so as to include only those from thirteen to eighteen years of age. A new act for the regulation of factories has been brought forward, and is now (1839) under the consideration of parliament.

EMIGRATION.—In the *Chronicle* will have been observed notices of attempts to form new settlements in South Africa and Australia, and of extensive emigrations to North America. The subject attracted much attention in 1827, and a parliamentary committee reported that there was a permanent redundancy of able-bodied labourers, especially in the agricultural districts. Government, however, refrained from countenancing any general plan of colonisation, lest its motives might be misrepresented, as indicative of a design to “get rid of the people:” with the exception of the encouragement it has afforded to the removal of part of the Chelsea pensioners to Canada, and the incorporating the Australian Company, it has limited its co-operation to the grant by sale of a local title to foreign territories. Under this system of non-interference, it will appear, from the following statement of the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom to America, the Cape of Good Hope, and Australia, that emigration has made no great progress:—

Years.	America.	Cape of Good Hope.	Australia
1820	17,921	1,063	—
1821	12,470	404	320

Years.	America.	Cape of Good Hope.	Australia.
1822	11,282	192	875
1823	8,133	184	543
1824	7,311	119	780
1825	8,741	114	485
1826	12,818	116	903
1827	12,648	114	715
1828	12,084	135	1,056
1829	13,607	197	2,016
1830	30,574	204	1,242
1831	49,333	58	423
1832	99,319	208	3,792
1833	58,083	517	4,134
1834	73,134	288	2,800

Of the 230,518 emigrants to America from 1831 to 1834 inclusive, 95,309 settled in the United States; the remainder in the British North American colonies.

POOR RATES.—As this is the first statement that has been given of the progress of the poor-rates, it has been carried back to an early period. The introduction of the new poor law in 1834, effected a material reduction in the amount of the assessment. Its other results, as before observed (p. 883), will require a longer term of experience than the present reign has afforded to appreciate. Abundance of employment for the people, and the unusual low price of bread and provisions up to the harvest of 1838, have been peculiarly favourable to the new legislative experiment.

Progress of Poor rates from 1750 to 1837.

Years.	£.	s. d.
1750 . . .	680,433	27 11
1776 . . .	1,521,732	48 4
1801 . . .	4,017,871	115 11
1803 . . .	4,077,891	57 1
1811 . . .	6,656,105	92 5
1814 . . .	6,294,581	72 1
1815 . . .	5,418,846	63 8
1816 . . .	5,724,839	76 2
1817 . . .	6,940,929	94 0
1818 . . .	7,870,801	83 8
1819 . . .	7,516,704	72 3
1820 . . .	7,330,256	65 10
1821 . . .	6,959,249	54 5
1822 . . .	6,358,702	43 3
1823 . . .	5,772,958	51 9
1824 . . .	5,736,898	62 0
1825 . . .	5,786,989	66 6
1826 . . .	5,928,301	56 11
1827 . . .	6,441,088	56 9
1828 . . .	6,298,000	60 5
1829 . . .	6,332,410	66 3
1830 . . .	6,829,042	64 3
1831 . . .	6,798,888	66 4
1832 . . .	7,036,968	58 8
1833 . . .	6,790,799	52 11
1834 . . .	6,317,254	46 2
1835 . . .	5,526,418	39 4
1836 . . .	4,717,629	48 6
1837 . . .	4,044,741	55 10

The enormous reduction in parochial expenditure has been chiefly effected by the refusal of out-door relief to the poor, and the consolidation of parishes into unions, under local boards of guardians, chosen by the higher class of rate-payers, and superintended by a central board of commissioners sitting in London. The new system has been rapidly and energetically carried out. During the first year of the commission the number of parishes formed into unions was 2069; in the second year, 5846, and in the third year the number was 5598. In July 1837, 12,132 parishes in England had been unionised, containing a population of 10,556,907, and 1301 parishes, many of them under local acts, had not been united. The greatest resistance to the new law has been encountered in the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire, where the separation of the sexes, non-relief, and removal of the poor by emigration, have been stoutly resisted on *Scriptural* grounds. Pending the temporary commercial difficulties of 1837, the commissioners were compelled to relax their cardinal rule of refusing relief except in a workhouse, in the counties of Leicester and Nottingham, and they have commenced allowing greater discretion to the boards of guardians in carrying out the act. Lord John Russell stated (*House of Commons, March 14, 1839*) that the value of some land had increased under the operation of the act by three years' purchase, but the intrinsic worth and permanence of this gain it will require a longer and more varied term of experience than the last five years to determine.

Savings Banks.—The number of Savings Banks in 1837 was, in England, 398; Scotland 9; Wales 23; Ireland 78; making a total of 408. The total number of depositors in the United Kingdom was 624,560; the amount of investments, 18,498,044*l.*, making the average amount invested by each depositor 30*l.* The total number of depositors for sums not exceeding 20*l.* was 334,489. The number of depositors not exceeding 20*l.* in 1830 was 215,010; in 1831 they increased 7954; in 1832, 4147; in 1833, 17,415; in 1834, 16,769; in 1835, 20,278; in 1836, 27,644; in 1837, 25,272.

Bastardy.—The total number of bastards chargeable to parishes in England in the year 1835 was 65,475; in 1837 the number chargeable had been reduced to 39,371; being a decrease of 40 per cent. in two years. The number of bastards affiliated in 1835 was 11,244; in 1837, under the new poor law only 3862. It would be erroneous to infer that the number of natural children born had diminished in

an equal ratio with the number of affiliations. Under the new law the burden of maintenance is thrown entirely on the mother, or relief granted only on such proofs and onerous terms as often prevent paternal affiliations. The tendency of such a coercive procedure requires to be gravely considered and vigilantly watched. It is not intended to underrate either the necessity or importance of some of the provisions of the poor law act, but it is obvious that a reduction in the poor assessment and in the apparent amount of bastardy afford only equivocal proofs of the successful working of the new legislation; which may, unperceived, be slowly generating internal maladies much more dangerous to the state than the former external exhibitions of improvidence and incontinence. M. Guerry, in his valuable work on the *Statistics of Crime* in France, records a discovery that pointedly bears on the latter subject. He says, "The departments in which there are the *greatest number of illegitimate births* are in general those where the fewest number of *infanticides* are committed. And that, on the other hand, where infanticides are most numerous, there frequently are the fewest number of illegitimate births."

Lunatics and Idiots.—The total number of pauper lunatics and idiots in England and Wales is 13,667. Male lunatics 2834, females 3568. Male idiots 3372, females 3893. In England there is one lunatic or idiot to 1033 of the population, and in Wales 1 to 807. The proportion of idiots is largest in the agricultural counties, and of lunatics in the manufacturing districts.

Consumption of Malt.—The number of bushels of malt consumed in the United Kingdom is the last statistical fact we shall adduce to elucidate the condition and progress of the working classes. The subjoined comparative return of the bushels of malt consumed in 1830 and 1837 confirms our general description of the flourishing state of the population during the present reign:—

	<i>Bushels.</i> 1830.	<i>Bushels.</i> 1837.
England . . .	26,900,902	33,692,356
Scotland . . .	4,101,946	4,583,446
Ireland . . .	1,959,606	2,275,347

Total annual increase of consumption in the United Kingdom, 7,598,695 bushels. In 1825 the bushels of malt charged with duty were,—England, 29,572,741; Scotland, 3,925,847; Ireland, 2,706,862.

PRICES, CURRENCY, BILLS OF EXCHANGE
PUBLIC ANNUITANTS, CONSUMPTION,
MORTALITY.

Prices of 3 per cent. Consols, bank of
3 x

England and East India stock, in January; number of BANKRUPTS and declarations of INSOLVENTS in each year; and the price, per quarter, of WHEAT at the annual Gazette averages:—

Year.	3 per cent.	Bk.	India.	Bkts.	Ins.	Wht.
1831	81	200	217	1433	188	66s.
1832	82	194	194	1365	157	58
1833	87	193	206	1020	107	52
1834	88	213	242	1101	150	46
1835	91	223	260	1032	121	39
1836	91	213	253	929	103	48
1837	89	207	253	1668	182	55

PRICES of the following articles of Consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:

Year.	Coal pr. chl.	Coffee pr. ct.	Flour pr. sk.	Sugar pr. ct.	Tea pr. lb.
1831	29	84	63	23	24
1832	25	100	63	23	24
1833	20	94	50	28	24
1834	22	112	60	27	25
1835	26	124	40	27	25
1836	25	113	36	39	18
1837	29	117	55	33	19

Newcastle coal by chaldron (price per ton one-fourth less); coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohca. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield market, with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London bills of mortality:—

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Christened.	Buried.
1831	148,168	1,189,010	28,263	25,337
1832	158,640	1,257,180	26,974	23,606
1833	152,093	1,167,820	27,090	26,577
1834	162,485	1,237,360	27,216	21,679
1835	170,325	1,381,540	26,128	21,415
1836	164,351	1,219,510	26,255	18,229
1837	172,435	1,329,010	25,706	21,063

The bills of mortality for 1837 are said to be more imperfect than usual. By the operation of the New Registration Act a difficulty has been experienced in obtaining returns of christenings and burials in some parishes; in others, where the office of searcher (persons employed in London to

examine the dead previous to interment) has been discontinued, the diseases of which deaths have taken place have been necessarily omitted. But it seldom happens all the parishes within the bills make returns. The following are the numbers and ages of those who died in 1832, (year of the cholera morbus), 1836, and 1837:—

	1832.	1836.	1837.
Under two years of age	6355	4157	4891
Between two and five	2678	1624	2003
Five and ten	1270	783	775
Ten and twenty	1113	673	754
Twenty and thirty	2215	1315	1555
Thirty and forty	2749	1651	1947
Forty and fifty	3086	1948	2204
Fifty and sixty	3041	1866	2038
Sixty and seventy	2949	1849	2246
Seventy and eighty	2194	1573	1860
Eighty and ninety	848	685	710
Ninety and one hundred		105	94
One hundred and above		3	1
			6

The still-born, which, in 1837, amounted to 845, are not included in the bills.

The above may be compared with the returns at p. 860, and those given p. 404, and the earlier years of the reign of George I.

Before vaccination was established, the mortality from small-pox in the metropolis exceeded 5000 annually, although the population was one-fourth less. The deaths from this fatal disease prior to 1837, were about 300 annually. But in November of that year small-pox began to spread epidemically in London, and so widely, that from that month until November, 1838, the admissions into the Small-pox Hospital amounted to 700—the largest number ever received since the foundation of the hospital. The disease has also been prevalent in the country; chiefly, from the erroneous impression abroad that the vaccine matter has lost its preventive efficacy by time, and people consequently again resorting to inoculation.

Average CIRCULATION of the bank of England; amount of BULLION in the Bank; coinage of GOLD and SILVER; and average circulation of the Private Banks and Joint-stock Banks:—

Year.	Circulation.	Bullion.	Gold.	Silver.	Private Banks.	Joint-stock Banks.
1831	£.19,069,385	£.7,328,405	£. 587,949	£. 33,696		
1832	18,138,245	6,223,575	3,730,737	145		
1833	18,638,000	9,500,500	1,225,269	145	£.8,836,803	£1,315,301
1834	18,174,500	7,354,500	66,949	432,775	8,370,423	1,783,889
1835	17,602,000	6,272,000	1,109,718	146,665	7,912,587	2,508,016
1836	17,999,500	6,529,000			7,764,824	3,969,121
1837	17,907,600	6,229,500			6,701,996	3,440,653

The circulation of the private and joint-stock banks in 1833, is to Dec. 23, 1833, and for the subsequent years to the quarter ending in September of the respective year: the returns are made pursuant to 3 & 4 Wm. 4. c. 83.

The duty paid on BILLS OF EXCHANGE amounted to 384,956*l.* for England; Scotland 84,442*l.*; Ireland 75,151*l.*: total, in 1836, for the United Kingdom, 615,025*l.* In 1805, which is the earliest account at the stamp-office, the amount was 384,449*l.*; in 1810, 588,753*l.*; in 1815, 673,111*l.*; in 1825, 597,080*l.*; in 1835, 544,500*l.*

PUBLIC ANNUITANTS.—The number of persons to whom half-yearly dividends were payable at the bank of England, October 10, 1837, was 91,158; on January 5, 1838, 189,408: total, 280,566. The number of these receiving dividends at or under

£5	86,927
10	45,020
50	98,598
100	25,983
200	14,778
300	4,583
500	2,752
1000	1,363
2000	375
2000 and above	187

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, REPORTING, POPULAR LITERATURE.

The glory of newspapers, magazines, and parliamentary reporting, belongs to the last and present centuries. There were earlier attempts at journalism, but they were only attempts, and can no more be likened to the modern broadsheet than an Indian canoe to an Atlantic steamer. During the commonwealth there were wing-footed *Mercuries*, speeding their flight from London to York in the brief space of a fortnight or three weeks, freighted with tidings of equal importance, and recording with not less scrupulous etiquette than the present court circular, the daily proceedings, the entrances and exits from about Whitehall, of "His highness, the lord protector," of the "most illustrious lady, the lady Mary Cromwell," and of "the most noble lord, the lord Falconbridge." These, however, were like angels' visits, few and far between; they were not periodicals, but bulletins, or political pamphlets issued at uncertain intervals. In 1663, when Roger L'Estrange set up with privilege his *Intelligencer*, he boasted that "one book a-week may be expected to be published every Thursday, and finished upon the Tuesday night, leaving Wednesday entire for printing

off." So much time spent in "finishing" and "printing off" of perhaps a circulation not exceeding 100 copies would make the intelligence conveyed by Roger to his London customers not very fresh, and by the time it reached the country reader would be dead matter of history. The *Intelligencer* preceded the *London Gazette* about two years, and a copy of it may be seen in the British Museum, consisting of four pages, about the size of a Penny Magazine or Chambers' Journal.

Before the revolution of 1688 there were several London papers, regulated by licences and surveyors of the press. In 1709 London had one daily paper, fifteen three times a-week, and one twice a week: this was the year before the imposition of a penny stamp-duty, when a kind of mania raged for the latest arrivals, and when it was a subject of complaint in the aristocratic *British Mercury*, that in the metropolis "The meanest of shopkeepers and handicrafts spend whole days in coffee-houses ['penny universities,' as they are disparagingly called] to hear news and talk politics, whilst their wives and children want bread at home." After the statute of 1724, providing for the better collection of the stamp-duty, there were three daily papers, six weekly, and ten three times a-week. It seems to have dealt a heavy blow to genius, for Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," speaking of the effect of the new regulations, says, "Do you know that Grub-street is dead and gone last week? No more ghosts or murders now for love or money." The dean, however, was premature; the penny-a-liners still live, and are occasionally allowed to ply their vocation in the dark November months of the parliamentary interregnum, even in the London journals.

About the period of the introduction of the stamp-duty, the *Leeds Mercury* and some other of the old country papers had been established. They mostly present a singular contrast to their successors in their diminutive size, the meagreness of their contents, and are for the most part printed in larger type,—more suited, perhaps, to the bad eyes or bad lights of their readers.

The desire of news from the capital on the part of the wealthier country residents, and probably the false information and the impertinence of the public papers, led to the common establishment of a very curious trade, that of a NEWS-CORRESPONDENT, who, for a subscription of three or four pounds per annum, wrote a letter of news every post-day to his subscribers in the country. This profession probably existed in the reign of James I.; for in Ben Jonson's play, "The Staple of News,"

written in the first year of Charles I., there is an amusing description of an office of copyists and news-manufacturers:—

“This is the outer room where my clerks sit, And keep their aides, the Register i' the midst: The Examiner, he sits private there, within: And here I have my several rolls and files Of news by the alphabet, and all put up Under their heads.”

As this was long before the age of expresses, of resident agents abroad, of rival reporters, vying like race-horses in speed on well-macadamized roads—composing the while for next day's paper, in flying post-chaises and four, the disjecta membra of a Glasgow or Edinburgh Festival—the news-correspondent often suffered under a grievous dearth of interesting events and occurrences, that drove him to shifts and contrivances—to deal largely in *on dits*—to satisfy the ever-craving appetite of the rural *quid nunc*—the consequence of which was, that his manuscript circular fell into as much disrepute as the public news.

In the advertisement, announcing the first number of the *Evening Post*, (September 6, 1709,) it is said, “There must be three or four pound per annum paid by those gentlemen who are out of town for written news, which is so far, generally, from having any probability of matter of fact in it, that it is frequently stuffed up with a *We hear, &c.*, or *An eminent Jew merchant has received a letter, &c.*; being nothing more than downright fiction.” The same advertisement, speaking of the published papers, says, “We read more of our own affairs in the Dutch papers than in any of our own.” The trade of a news-correspondent seems to have suggested a sort of union of written news and printed news, for, towards the end of the seventeenth century, we have news-letters printed in type to imitate writing. The most celebrated of these was that commenced by Ichabod Dawks in 1696, the first number of which was thus announced: “This letter will be done upon good writing-paper, and blank space left, that any gentleman may write his own private business. It does undoubtedly exceed the best of the written news, contains double the quantity, is read with abundant more ease and pleasure, and will be useful to improve the *younger sort* in writing a *curious hand*.” Dawks arrived at such a pitch of celebrity, that, together with Dyer, another news-letter editor, they came to be emblazoned in the renown of a Latin ode, indited by one Anthony Alsop,—

“quid habent novorum
Dawksque, Dyerque?”

The period of the English press from the accession of James I. to the Orange revolution is generally considered the least satisfactory in our literary history.

In the reign of the first Stuart came an inundation of pedantry, which surrounded the court with verbal criticism and solemn quibble;—the people, indeed, had their glorious dramatists, but Bacon was looked upon as an impracticable dreamer. Controversy, too, began to be rife, and the spirit at last exploded in such a torrent of civil and ecclesiastical violence in the next reign, as left no opening for science or belles lettres. The press was absorbed by the productions of this contentious outbreak. There is in the British Museum a collection of 2000 volumes of tracts issued between the years 1640 and 1660, the whole number of which several publications amounts to the enormous quantity of 30,000. This most curious collection was made by a bookseller of the name of Tomlinson, in the times when the tracts were printed—was bargained for, but not bought, by Charles II.—and was eventually bought by George III., and presented by him to the British Museum. The limited demand for any publications unconnected with controversial subjects may be inferred from the little popularity enjoyed by Milton's metrical productions, and the fact mentioned by Dr. Johnson, that from 1623 to 1664, the nation was satisfied with two editions of Shakspeare's plays, which probably together did not amount to 1000 copies. The cause of wholesome literature did not benefit by the Restoration,—it was a transition from one extreme to another—from a cloacæ to a brothel,—and it became a mere toy of a licentious king, his courtesans and gallants, who sought to divert their weariness with wits and authors, as monarchs were wont to do with their jesters. Charles II. and his followers brought hither the spirit of the literary parasites of Louis XIV., with whom the great were everything and the people nothing, save a brute and random bolt, or slumbering shell in a mortar. Under this kind of favour, letters, with a few grand exceptions, put on the lowest garb in which they can be arrayed—were tricked out in meretricious finery—habilliments to excite the gross passions of human nature—to pander to the low appetites of the swell mob of St. James's, or the hardly less degraded rabble that congregated nightly at Blackfriars, or the Globe theatre in Southwark.

Literature, to be enduring and generally useful, must be based on the popular demand. If supported only by courtiers, nobles, or ecclesiastics, it is not national, but the literature of a class, and partakes of the vices of class interests. This distinction English letters attained under Queen Anne, when the caprice of private patronage, which had been fed by soft and

mendacious dedications, was exchanged for the more steady, remunerative, and independent support of the people. The penny "Tatlers," "Spectators," and "Guardians," were less exciting, and more conducive to a healthy state of the public intellect, than meagre paragraphs about the Low Countries, Prince Eugene, the Turks, and the Austrians, rumours of wars, and domestic scandal. They formed the taste, sentiment, and manners of society; they were to the middle ranks of those days what the cheap weekly periodicals now are to the working classes. They were not remarkable for originality, they were commonplace, and their triteness made them more suited to their purpose. Executed with singular good intent, fancy, delicacy, and judgment, they were better adapted to the first stages of popular training, by creating a literary propensity and seducing the reader's affections, than startling philosophical appeals to his understanding.

The Essayists had also the merit of being the harbinger of a higher class of periodical miscellany—the *MAGAZINE*. A printer, Edward Cave by name, with a shrewd regard to creating regular employment for his presses, formed the design of establishing a miscellany to collect into a permanent repository the most valuable of the fugitive pieces from the newspapers and other sheets, or rather half-sheets, that had appeared during the month. Of these it is stated, that "besides divers written accounts, no less than 200 per month were then thrown from the press only in London, and about as many printed elsewhere in the three kingdoms." He offered a share of his undertaking to half the booksellers in London, who rejected the project as absurd or injurious to their interests. These gentlemen had not learnt, even by the success of the Essayists, to rely upon the talisman of low prices in creating a demand. In 1731, Cave at his own risk produced the first magazine printed in England—*The Gentleman's*. Its success was so great, that in the following year the booksellers became jealous; they could not understand Cave's scheme till they had discovered its value by their own peculiar mode of testing the merit of literary enterprise, and they then set up a rival magazine, "*The London*." In 1749 the first review, "*The Monthly*," was started, and in a few years was followed by "*The Critical*." They did an immense deal for literature and the literary character. They did not create poets and philosophers, but they prevented kings, and lords, and fashionables, pretending to create them.

"Un Auguste peut aisément faire un Virgile"

was the sweet lollypop addressed by Boileau or other pensioned sycophant to the illiterate and vain-glorious Louis XIV.

Connected with the rise of the magazine, and about four years after, may be dated the commencement of *PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING*. Prior to this time the current proceedings of the house of commons were no more known to their constituents, than the proceedings of a cabinet council now are. Although accounts of single speeches, and even of entire debates, had been occasionally printed from a much earlier period, the only regular record of parliamentary proceedings which was given to the public, up to within about a century of the present time, was that contained in the "*Historical Register*," and the "*Political State of Europe*", both of which were annual publications. Parliament sternly asserted its right to prohibit all promulgation of its doings through the press, at least while it was sitting; and many persons maintained that it had the power to prevent any publication of its debates even during the recess. The first attempt at a monthly publication of the debates was made in an extraordinary number of the *Gentleman's Magazine* for August, 1735, which contained a report of the debate in the lords on the 23d of January preceding. The practice was continued in succeeding numbers. It was, however, no publication of the debates during the sitting of the houses; the session was always over before anything done in the course of it was given in the magazine. Even while following at this distance, the reports were of the most timid and cautious description. The names of the speakers were given only by the first and last letters, and in many cases no speaker's name is mentioned; all that appears is a summary of the argument and discussion. They got bolder by degrees, and at last the names were printed at full length. This audacity, coupled with the fact that some of the members appeared in a light not very satisfactory to themselves, either from their own defects, or the incorrect version of their oratory, caused the attention of the commons to be drawn to the subject. It was brought under notice, April 13, 1738, by the speaker, who was followed by sir William Yonge, sir William Windham, and sir Thomas Winnington. The last, after referring to the conduct of the lords, who had lately punished some printers for publishing their protests, asked, with warmth, if they were to be less jealous of their privileges than the other house? "What will be the consequence," continued the indignant member, "if you allow these reports to go on unchecked?"

Why, sir, you will have every word that is spoken here by gentlemen misrepresented by fellows who thrust themselves into our gallery. You will have the speeches of this house every day printed, *even during your session; and we shall be looked upon as the most contemptible assembly on the face of the earth!*" Mr. Pulteney and sir Robert Walpole, the leaders of the two political parties, followed, without dissenting from the last speaker's disparaging prognostication; after which, a thundering resolution was unanimously agreed to, declaring it "a high indignity to, and a notorious breach of, the privileges of the house to publish the debates, either while parliament is sitting or during the recess," and threatening to proceed against offenders with the "utmost severity." As an account of parliamentary business was now obtained with greater risk, the report of the debates necessarily became more inaccurate than before, and various contrivances were employed to disguise a version of them. The Gentleman's Magazine published them under the title of "The Debates in the Senate of Lilliput," and the London Magazine under that of a "Journal of the Proceedings and Debates in the Political Club;" giving Roman names to the speakers, while each publication printed an explanatory key to the whole at the end of the year. The two gentlemen principally occupied in this mystification were Mr. William Guthrie, the author of a continuation of Smollett's History of England, and Mr. Thomas Gordon, a translator of Tacitus, both of whom were Scotchmen.

About this time the celebrated Samuel Johnson arrived in London, poverty-stricken and without a lodging, accompanied by his hardly less celebrated townsman, David Garrick. He had for some years furnished essays and biographies to Cave's Magazine, who engaged him in the composition of the parliamentary debates. The reports from Nov. 19, 1740, to Feb. 23, 1743, inclusive, are considered to have been entirely prepared by him. The plan first adopted seems to have been, for Guthrie, who had a good memory, to bring home as much as he could recollect of the debate from the house, mending his draft by whatever other assistance he could command; after which, the matter thus collected underwent the finishing touches of Johnson. At times, according to Boswell, Johnson had no other aid than the names of the speakers, and the side they took, being left to his own resources to find the argument and language. A speech—the celebrated speech he put into the mouth of Mr.

Pitt, March 10, 1741, when that distinguished orator replied to the taunts of Horace Walpole on account of his youth—Johnson afterwards declared, in the company of Francis, Wedderburn, Foote, and Murphy, that he "wrote it in a garret in Exeter-street." His reports, however, are considered by the editor of Hansard's Parliamentary History the most authentic extant, faithfully embodying the argument, if not the style, of the speakers. It was once observed to him, that he dealt out reason and eloquence with an equal hand to both parties. "That is not quite true," said Johnson: "I saved appearances tolerably well, but I took care that the whig dogs should not have the best of it." The reports increased immensely the sale of the magazine; they enabled Cave to set up an equipage, who had the good sense, instead of going to the herald's office for a crest, to clap on the door-pannel a representation of his office at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell; where Johnson sometimes ate his dinner, concealed behind a screen, not having suitable clothes to appear in before the more modish visitors of his employer, some of them perhaps M.P.'s who dropped in to see or correct the maiden proofs of their oratory in the senate.

All this time the debates had not descended to the Newspapers; nor did they till thirty years later. The *Gazetteer* and other daily prints, consisting of a folio half-sheet or single leaf, were usually taken up with a political essay, some scraps of foreign news many months old, a few notices of domestic occurrences from the country, and a parcel of advertisements, mostly of quack medicines, low jest-books, and other matters suited to vulgar taste. The proceedings of parliament were rarely noticed at all, except perhaps to the extent of an intimation that, his majesty, it was reported, intended to go down to the house, to deliver a gracious speech. Things continued nearly in this state till 1770, when, though the papers had doubled in size, they still contained no debates. Soon after this, however, a great change took place. The conduct of the house of commons in the case of the Middlesex election of the preceding year, when they declared colonel Luttrell to be the sitting member instead of Mr. Wilkes, who had been returned by an immense majority of votes, had drawn upon the proceedings of parliament a degree of popular attention which they had never received since the Revolution; and had excited a determined spirit of resistance to what appeared the arbitrary conduct of the commons. The legality of its assumed privileges was jealously scrutinized, and the right of the

house to interdict the publication of its proceedings was the ground on which it was determined to make a stand. The printers of newspapers had long intended (*Woodfall's Junius*, iii. 345) to report the debates, and now resolved to make the experiment. They knew that they could confidently count upon being supported in the contest they were about to commence by nearly the whole force of public opinion, and towards the end of 1770 several of the London papers began to carry their determination of reporting into effect. The example was immediately followed by the *Dublin Mercury*, and the whole of the country papers.

It was not long before these bold proceedings attracted the notice of the house of commons, and the debates which ensued on several nights were unusually violent. On one evening, March 12, there were twenty-three divisions, and the house did not adjourn till four in the morning. The result was that eight printers were ordered to attend at the bar. But not one of them obeyed the summons. The officers of the house were then ordered to take them into custody, which they did in the case of three, and brought them before the city magistrates, who not only discharged the prisoners, but bound them over to prosecute the officers for false imprisonment. For this two of the magistrates were sent to the Tower; and the clerk of the city, being brought forward to the table of the house, was compelled to tear out the leaves of his register on which the judgments of the magistracy had been recorded. But here the violence of the commons appears to have exhausted itself. None of the refractory printers had yet been brought to the bar, and the house, either from the difficulty of determining on ulterior measures, or apprehensive of consequences, gave up (see *Feb.* 1771) the struggle. The public excitement was great; immense multitudes assembled nightly around the house, and the populace could hardly be restrained from acts of violence. The victory was complete, and no attempt has since been made to restrain the papers from daily reporting, during the session, the debates of parliament. For some years after, the practice of shutting the gallery of the commons was resorted to; this was frequently done, and the public sometimes excluded for a whole session, especially during the American war.

It is hardly possible to overrate the importance of the right to publish the debates, or its salutary influence, both on the people and their representatives. Parliamentary discussions are a treasury of information on all the chief questions of

public interest; and no doubt the practice of daily reporting them was a principal cause of the remarkable display of oratory that almost immediately after distinguished the British senate. Publicity is a cheap and efficient guarantee against the abuse of delegated authority; and the example of England, of open proceedings, has been followed by all the constitutional governments of the continent.

The system of newspaper reporting has been greatly improved since its first introduction. The person by whom it was carried to the greatest perfection, with the old machinery, was Mr. George Woodfall, the proprietor and editor, first of the *Public Advertiser*, and afterwards of the *Morning Chronicle*. Mr. Woodfall had so retentive a memory, that it is said he used frequently to write out the account of a whole evening's debate after having merely heard it in the gallery, and without having taken any notes. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that the speeches thus carried away were given with anything like the fulness and accuracy of modern reports. Another inconvenience attending the employment of only one reporter for the night was the delay which it occasioned in the publication of the paper. At the time when this practice prevailed it was no uncommon thing for the *Morning Chronicle* not to make its appearance before nine or ten o'clock at night. The public is indebted to the late Mr. Perry for the first suggestion and introduction of the greatly-improved principle on which parliamentary reporting is now conducted. It was about the year 1783 that that gentleman, on becoming the editor of the *Gazetteer*, proposed the establishment of a body of reporters to attend every night in succession in both houses. The superior excellence of the reports thus obtained soon superseded the former practice. Each of the great morning papers now employs from eight to twelve reporters, each of whom remains in either house only about three-quarters of an hour, or an hour, when his place is taken by another, and he hastens back to the office to write out the portion of the debate he has brought away with him, for the printer. A long speech may thus be said to extend from the mouth of the speaker to Printing-house-square; be, at the same time, in course of delivery in parliament—part of it travelling along the Strand—part in the hands of the compositor—part printed, and on the desk of the editor, who is occupied in compressing its substance into a leading article or in a commentary to accompany it in next day's publication. No reporter now thinks of depending merely upon his memory; all take notes, though

few write short hand, more or less extended. The object aimed at, is not a literal report, but a faithful abridgment of the sentiment, matter, and style of the speaker. The chief speeches are given with extraordinary correctness; but of the inferior speeches, or those of speakers little known to the public, only the points are indicated, and many are passed by in silence. There is only one publication, the *Mirror of Parliament*, that professes to give all the speeches fully and accurately. Of its accuracy, as a verbatim report, it is not easy to judge. Some of the great morning papers have accused the *Mirror*, not of misrepresenting what is said in the house, but of permitting the members to misrepresent it. The practice of submitting a speech to the correction of the person that has pronounced it is indeed liable to the objection, that the member will correct the report according to his discretion more than his memory; and the result will be a transcript of what he should have said, or intended to say, rather than of what he really uttered.

Although the duties of reporters are both important and arduous, it is only of late years that a disposition has been shown to afford them facilities for the discharge of them. Formerly they had no means of entering the gallery of the commons beyond those enjoyed by the public generally; and, on days when an interesting debate was expected, they were frequently obliged to take their places on the stairs early in the forenoon, and, after standing there for many hours, to depend for their chance of getting in by battling their way in the crowd when the door opened. The first arrangements for the express purpose of accommodating the reporters were made a few years before the death of Mr. Pitt. Previous to that time note-books had been very generally introduced; but in the commons, from the crowded state of the gallery, they were comparatively of small use. It happened one night, when the premier was to make a lead-speech, that the gallery was more than usually thronged, and neither by force nor entreaty could the reporters procure even tolerable accommodation. They took counsel together, and the result was a secession. Next morning, instead of the rounded periods of the minister, there appeared nothing but one dire blank, accompanied by a strong comment on the grievance in which it had originated. The almost immediate result was the appropriation, under the direction of Mr. speaker Abbott, of the uppermost bench of the gallery to the reporters' exclusive use, with a door in the centre, by which they alone had a

right to enter. Soon after, a small room at the end of the gallery passage, which bore on its glass pannels the words "Reporters' Room," notwithstanding the standing order and its penalties, was added for the convenience of the gentlemen previous to taking their places in the gallery, and during the divisions. The lords followed the commons in their accommodation of the press, at the due distance which befitted their dignity. It was not until about twenty years ago that a note-book was permitted to make its appearance at the bar of the upper house. If a young or forward reporter ventured to display the implements of his trade to the eyes of their lordships, they were immediately struck from his hand by one or other of the messengers. The first person who ventured to rest his book on their lordships' bar is said to have been Mr. Windyer, who now is, or lately was, a justice of the peace in Sydney, New South Wales. His example was followed; and only two sessions after, the robe of lord Eldon, while his lordship was proceeding to the bar to receive a deputation of the lower house, having accidentally caused Mr. Windyer to drop his book within the bar, the noble earl checked his onward step, picked up the fragments of the passing debate, and presented them, with an engaging smile, to their collector. In the session of 1828-9, when from the intense interest to which the catholic question gave rise, the press found it difficult to maintain their station, a portion of the space below the bar was railed off for them; and a session or two after, when a strangers' gallery was added to the lords, a seat was set apart for their use. In the present temporary erection, the privilege of an exclusive place for the press is provided in both houses—in the commons, behind the speaker's chair.

A regular and authentic publication of the debates must have added immensely to the interest of newspapers, and thereby vastly increased their number and circulation. In 1782 the number of newspapers published in the United Kingdom was 79; in 1790, 146; in 1821, 278; in 1836, 397. In September, 1836, the act for the reduction of the duty came into operation (see p. 1009) and gave a powerful impulse to the newspaper press. Within a year after the number of papers increased from 397 to 458, and their circulation from 35,576,956 to 53,496,207. The following is the parliamentary return, showing the effect of the reduction on the revenue, and the number and circulation of the newspapers in the year before and the year after it took place:—

Year ending Sept. 15, 1836.

	No. Newspapers.	No. Stamps.	Duty.
London newspapers	71	19,241,640	£256,556
English provincial do.	194	8,535,306	113,804
Scotch do. do.	54	2,634,438	35,392
Irish do. do.	78	5,141,582	37,525
Total	397	35,576,036	£443,278

Year ending Sept. 15, 1837.

	No. Newspapers.	No. Stamps.	Duty.
London newspapers	85	29,172,797	£121,553
English provincial do.	237	14,996,113	62,483
Scotch do. do.	65	4,123,330	17,180
Irish do. do.	71	5,203,967	16,263
Total	458	53,496,207	£217,480

The produce of the stamp-duty on newspapers was—

In 1809	£359,448
1815	383,696
1820	440,228
1825	449,574
1830	505,439

(See further on *Newspapers*, pp. 531, 760, 795.)

The period from the accession of George III. to the close of the last reign has been marked by the rapid increase of the demand for POPULAR LITERATURE, rather than by any prominent features of originality in literary production. Periodical literature spread on every side; newspapers, magazines, and reviews were multiplied; and the old system of selling books by hawkers was extended to the rural districts and small provincial towns. Of the number-books thus produced, the quality was indifferent, with a few exceptions, and the cost of these works was considerable. The principle, however, was then first developed of extending the market by coming into it at regular intervals with fractions of a work, so that the humblest customer might lay by each week in a savings-bank of knowledge. Smollett's "History of England" was one of the most successful number-books: it sold to the extent of 20,000 copies, on the first publication of it by the author.

The vast extension of commerce in books may be inferred from some curious facts published by Mr. Charles Knight, of Ludgate-hill. Exclusive of pamphlets and other tracts, the number of new works published in the first fifty-seven years of the last century was 5280, being only an average of ninety-three new works in each year. From 1792 to 1802, eleven years, exclusive of reprints and pamphlets, there were 4096 new works, averaging 372 new books per annum. From 1800 to 1827, excluding as before, the number of new

books was 15,888, showing an annual average of 588 new books; being an increase of 216 per year over the last eleven years of the previous century.

The prices of books having been raised since 1800, an attempt was made in 1827 by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and several of the large booksellers of London and Edinburgh, to reduce them to the old rate of cheapness, without any diminution of excellence. On this principle, several valuable works were published monthly, and numerous weekly periodicals commenced, which, at the price of one penny or three half-pence each, and without the excitement of either religious or political topics, attained a steady sale of from 70,000 to 120,000 numbers.

The new publications on this plan, though mostly consisting of extracts and compilations, appear not to have materially discouraged the production of original works. The following table exhibits the number of new publications, without pamphlets or reprints, of each year from 1828 to 1833, with the number of volumes, and the aggregate price of a single copy of each new work.

Year.	Pub.	Vols.	Price.
1828	842	1105	£668 10 0
1829	1064	1413	879 1 0
1830	1142	1592	873 5 3
1831	1105	1619	939 9 3
1832	1152	1525	807 19 6
1833	1180	1567	831 8 0

All the original and important works, the copyright of which is considered sufficiently valuable to be worth protecting in a court of law, are entered in Stationers' Hall. Judging by this criterion there appears to have been a slight decrease in the production of this description of publications. The following is the number of works entered at the Hall, each year from 1820 to 1831 both inclusive:—

1820	1208	1826	1181
1821	1111	1827	1316

1822 .	1454	1828 .	1309
1823 .	1296	1829 .	1105
1824 .	1281	1830 .	1264
1825 .	1376	1831 .	1159

Averaging in the first six years 1287 works per annum, and in the second 1222.

RAILWAYS AND STEAM-NAVIGATION.

Two periods of remarkable improvement in the modes of travelling and carriage conveyance, namely, that by the common roads and that by canal navigation, have been already noticed (pp. 567, 636); and it appropriately belongs to the present reign to record a third, which promises to supersede both its predecessors, and to effect a more sweeping change in locomotive action by land and water than it was possible for the human fancy to conceive. All nations seem in a fair way of becoming one nation, separated only by local administrations and provincial dialects. The poet's prayer, that time and space might be annihilated, has been almost conceded, and the old saw, that "time and tide wait for no man," has been so far inverted that few men feel the slaves of either. This extraordinary revolution is as sudden as universal. The Brindleys and Bridgewater, the M'Adams, Rennies and Telfords, have hardly ceased to live ere their glory begins to dim, their mighty works to dwindle in public estimation, and to be looked upon, like the Egyptian pyramids, or the aqueducts of the ancients, with commingled feelings of astonishment and pity at the wasted toil, the ill-adapted means to ends, compared with the rapid flights of later discoveries.

Both rail-roads and steam-navigation may be considered the inventions of the present century. There were crude attempts previously in both descriptions of mechanical contrivances, but they were either wholly unsuccessful or of such limited utility as to discourage their general adoption. In the Newcastle collieries wooden railways were used in the seventeenth century, and for which, on a limited scale, iron began in 1767 to be substituted as a more durable material. This experiment met with so little encouragement that, thirty years after, a Mr. Carr published a book, claiming to be the first inventor of cast-iron rails. These railways, it may be remarked, were all private undertakings, no public railway was attempted. The first act of parliament for a work of this kind was passed in 1801, and was for the construction of a railway in the vicinity of London, from Wandsworth to Croydon. In the twenty-three years that followed only 21 acts were passed for railways; showing the

little alacrity with which the new power was brought into use.

The application of steam to the purpose of propelling vessels in the water, made a contemporary and equally slow progress. It was first suggested by Jonathan Hulls a century ago, and attempted in France, in the United States of America, and on the Forth and Clyde canal, between the years 1781 and 1790. In 1801 an experiment already mentioned (p. 627; see also p. 170, for the first patent) was made on the Thames to navigate vessels by steam. These attempts do not appear to have been encouraging, and it was reserved for a later period successfully to repeat them. The ingenious Robert Fulton, a native of Pennsylvania, having witnessed the experiments of Mr. Miller of Dalswinton, on the Forth and Clyde canal, established a steam-boat in 1806 or 1807, which plied successfully on the river Hudson, between New York and Albany. It is likely that Fulton, who was a very skilful engineer, improved on what he had seen in England, and which emboldened him to claim the merit of the original discovery; but this honour could not be justly conceded to him, and its refusal is said to have preyed so much on his spirits as to have hastened his death, which took place at New York, February 24, 1815. The successful introduction of *steamers* in this country was a few years later than in America. The first steam-boat that was worked for hire in this kingdom was the *Comet*, a small vessel of three-horse power, which plied with passengers on the Clyde in 1811; two years later, the *Elizabeth*, of eight-horse power, and the *Clyde*, of fourteen-horse power, were placed on the same river. Since that time they have multiplied with astonishing rapidity; they have been adopted in the colonies, and in every civilized community: they are no longer limited to rivers nor lakes, nor seas, but regularly traverse the Atlantic with the safety and punctuality of a stage-coach.

There is another discovery connected with the subjects of this section, in the first introduction of the *locomotive carriage*. The *Sirius* and *Great Western* may be considered great locomotive steam-carriages on the waters, but those on land form a separate and distinct contrivance, though the motive powers of both are derived from the same mighty agent. Railways, for nearly two centuries after their introduction, were considered only as a means of economising, not superseding, animal labour. So early as 1759, the idea of applying steam-power for propelling carriages was thrown out by Dr. Robinson of Glasgow; and, in 1794, Watt, in the

specification of one of his patents, stated that it was intended to use his steam-engine for the same purpose; but neither of these philosophers made any effort for reducing their suggestions to practice. In 1787 Mr. Symington exhibited the model of a steam-carriage in Edinburgh, but it was not until 1804 that Trevithick invented and brought into use a machine of this kind upon the railroad of Merthyr Tydvil in Wales.

It is a singular fact in the early history of locomotive carriages that their projectors assumed the existence of a difficulty which is now known to be wholly imaginary; and, like the ancient Romans in the conveyance of water, without a knowledge that it would rise to its level, they resorted to sundry laborious contrivances for overcoming an obstacle that had no existence, and which Nature herself, had she been asked, would have accomplished for them. They assumed that the adhesion of the smooth wheels of the carriage upon the equally smooth iron rail must necessarily be so slight, that, if it should be attempted to drag any considerable weight, the wheels might indeed be driven round, but that the carriage would fail to advance because of the continued *slipping* of the wheels. The remedies devised for this fancied counteraction were various. One was conceived so valuable that a patent was taken out for it in 1811 by Mr. Blenkinsop of Leeds. It consisted, as the writer well remembers, of a rack placed on the outer side of the rail, into which a toothed wheel worked, and thus secured the progressive motion of the carriage. It was, however, wholly useless—it was an impediment; the simple adhesion of the wheels with the surface of the rails upon which they are moved being by an immutable law amply sufficient to secure the advance, not only of a heavy carriage, but of an enormous load dragged after it. The honour of discovering this oversight is due to Mr. Blackett; but the idea of a want of adhesion had taken such firm hold of the public mind that it was not generally removed till the opening, in 1830, of the Liverpool and Manchester railway.

A second misconception in the history of these inventions deserves to be recorded. It is a fact that of all the railways constructed and contemplated up to the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester line, not one was undertaken with a view to the conveyance of passengers. In the prospectus of that work, a hope was held out that one-half the number of persons then travelling by coaches between the two towns might avail themselves of the railway, in consideration of the lower rate for which they could be conveyed; but the chief inducement held out to subscribers

was the conveyance of raw cotton, manufactured goods, coals, and cattle. On the contrary steam-vessels were originally projected for the conveyance, in rivers or coastwise, of passengers only; and they were not employed in this kingdom for the transport of merchandise before the year 1820.

It does not belong to the plan of this work to exhibit the statistics of these extraordinary innovations; only to record in chronological order, their introduction and progress. At the close of the present reign, the island was undergoing and, to a great extent, had undergone an entirely new demarcation with a zeal not less ardent, and capital and intelligence more ample, than signalized the beginning of turnpike roads and canal navigation. From London, as a centre, lines are radiating in all directions—east, west, north, and south; and these lines are being met transversely by other lines, crossing and intersecting each other at the great estuaries of population and industry—Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Norwich, and Edinburgh; which a few years hence will form so many grand railway stations, whence individuals may reach any part of the kingdom in almost as short a time as they traverse the metropolis from one part to another, from Charing Cross to Mile End, Paddington, Camberwell, or Turnham Green.

Had not the government adhered so tenaciously to the *laissez faire* system of undertaking nothing and of interfering with nothing that can be executed by individuals, or the joint means of individuals, it is probable some of the new undertakings might have been carried on with more despatch, economy, and advantage to the public. A revolution is about being effected in internal communications, which forms an exception to the general principle of non-interference. The great thoroughfares of the kingdom are national works: they interest the entire community, and ought not to become the property of individuals but of the state, in which the fee-simple at least ought to be permanently vested. By leaving the great railways to be undertaken at the risk of private adventurers, the mode and cost of travelling will be dependent upon them, and it can be hardly made a subject of complaint hereafter if the projectors seek not only to indemnify themselves for their outlay of capital, but to realize an undefined profit proportioned to the uncertain results of the original speculation. The principle of open competition has had the further disadvantages of causing delay and unnecessary expenditure. Rival companies have competed at an immense cost for different lines, and the interests of private parties have inter-

ferred to bias the decisions of parliamentary committees; all or a portion of which evils would have been obviated by the government determining, by preliminary surveys, the most eligible lines, leaving only the execution open to general competition. The expenses incurred by the railway companies in these contests, in buying off opposition, and in battling their projects through parliament, has been enormous, as appears from the following statement of parliamentary charges incurred in obtaining acts of incorporation for the following undertakings:—

London and Birmingham . . .	£72,868
Great Western	88,710
London and Southampton . . .	39,040
Midland Counties	28,776
Birmingham and Gloucester . .	12,000
Great North of England	20,526
The Grand Junction	22,757
Bristol and Exeter	18,592

All this outlay will have to be repaid by the public to the proprietors of the roads in the form of excessive fares, in addition to the enormous cost of the works. On the London and Birmingham line of 112 miles, had been expended up to June 30, 1838, eleven weeks before it was opened for traffic throughout, 4,553,557*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*; and, in the opinion of the directors, the entire expenditure would amount to five millions before the works are in all respects complete. It is indicative of some precipitancy in these undertakings, that before the London and Birmingham railway had been finished, the Manchester extension line had been projected, by which the distance between that town and the capital would, by the Grand Junction and the Birmingham, be reduced from 208½ to 179 miles. The total estimated cost of the Great Western railway from London to Bristol, Aug. 15, 1838, was 4,560,928*l.* The total number of acts of parliament obtained for railways from the first in 1801 to 1837 inclusive, has been 174, of which number 97 have been passed in the present reign.

Steam-navigation has had to contend with fewer obstacles than transit and conveyance on land. No act of parliament was requisite for liberty to traverse the great highway of nations. No private interests were to conciliate. All that was required was enterprising capitalists to command suitable vessels, fuel, and machinery. In the first attempts to make long voyages on the ocean, the aid of steam was sought only as an auxiliary to that of the wind and waves. In this way the Enterprise effected the passage to India by the Cape of Good Hope in 1825 (p. 823), and that the Savannah crossed the Atlantic in 1819, and the Curaçoa

in 1828; but the successful experiments of the Great Western and Sirius have shown that 3000 miles of ocean may be traversed with steam as the only motive force. In this way repeated voyages were performed, in 1839, in the short period of 14 or 15 days between Bristol and New York; and vessels have been started for the same service belonging to the ports of London and Liverpool. The same agent has been called into action to facilitate communication with India. Early in June, 1837, an arrangement was concluded between the government and the directors of the East India Company, for the establishment of a regular monthly steam communication between this country and Bombay, by way of the Mediterranean, Suez, and the Red Sea. This route, instead of that by the Cape of Good Hope, reduces the distance nearly one-half, and letters can now be transmitted from London to Bombay in from 44 to 60 days time; or a further economy of time of from four to six days is obtainable by sending the mails overland to Marseilles, from which port steam-packets are despatched three times a month by the French government.

The following statement of the number and tonnage of steam-vessels belonging to the United Kingdom in each year from 1814 to 1837 inclusive, will show the rapid progress of this new marine power. The account is exclusive of steamers employed in river traffic, and which do not therefore require to be provided with a register.

Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage
1814	1	69
1815	8	638
1816	12	947
1817	14	1039
1818	19	2332
1819	24	2548
1820	34	3015
1821	59	6051
1822	85	8457
1823	101	10361
1824	114	11733
1825	151	15764
1826	228	24186
1827	253	27318
1828	272	28010
1829	287	29501
1830	295	30409
1831	320	32262
1832	348	35238
1833	382	38122
1834	424	43429
1835	497	52767
1836	554	59362
1837	632	71031

The number of steam-vessels employed under the American flag in 1834 was

386, with the aggregate burden of 96,000 tons: since that year the number has greatly augmented. On the rivers and in the ports of France there were employed in 1835 only 100 steam-vessels, and in 1836 the number was only increased by five vessels.

PROGRESS OF CRIME.

The greater number of crimes against property in England than in any other European country has formed a difficult problem to the philosophical inquirer. Distinguished by superior wealth and a high degree of civilization, it seems extraordinary that we should also be remarkable for a delinquency which is commonly supposed to be most prevalent under the pressure of want and misdirection of ignorance. Great as is this anomaly in our condition, it appears to admit of explanation, and both the magnitude and complexion of the criminal calendar may be traced to peculiarities in the national pursuits and possessions.

England is pre-eminently a mercantile community, abounding in manufactories, docks, wharfs, shipping, and well-stocked shops and warehouses; combined with these, commodities are constantly being transferred from one to another by sale or exchange, which affords opportunities, and enlarges the field of depredation. Commerce requires much personal confidence; clerks, porters, factors, and agents cannot always resist temptation. It is productive of luxury, leads to the assembling people together in large towns—to the creation of credit and paper-money—the intoxicating and illusive stimulant to over-speculation, and fruitful source of offences. It leads to sudden vicissitudes in men's fortunes, produces extreme inequality of rank, avidity of gain, and contempt for poverty; in short, makes a violent thirst for riches the predominant passion, and offences connected therewith the prominent trait of the community. Where there is little chattel property there cannot be much theft, either from the person, house, warehouse, or in transfer; where there is little agency embezzlement and breaches of trust must seldom occur, and where men, as in agricultural countries, form a fixed *caste*, liable to no unexpected alternations of condition, they are exempt from the vicious excitements to which sudden wealth or raging poverty is exposed. Hence, it is apprehended, may be traced the predominance of crimes against *property* in this country. We are peculiarly an enterprising, industrious, and emulative people; the range for plunder is wider and more seductive, the necessities of individuals more sudden and urgent, and the frequent

ebb and flows in their circumstances beget a reckless excitement which makes them little scrupulous about the means they employ to better their lot or repair their disasters.

On the other hand we are an enlightened people, and this seems to account for the *second* trait of criminal propensity in the comparative fewness of offences against the *PERSON*. Crimes accompanied with personal violence, and indicating greater depravity of heart, are fewer in England than on the continent. We are, in fact, too calculating a people to give way to the unprofitable impulses of passion, and hence crimes originating in revenge, jealousy, lust, or mere atrocity, do not frequently occur. Our offences are mercantile like our pursuits; even highway robbery is nearly extinct among us, and the depredations chiefly followed are burglary, forgery, coining, swindling, theft, pocket-picking, fraudulent insolvencies, and smuggling. They indicate no personal hostility to mankind, only a culpable mode of seeking those objects that are in general request and form the staple social distinction.

It is only by taking into consideration the influence of riches and poverty, of sudden vicissitudes of condition, of commerce and manufacturing industry, and of a state of foreign war or peace, that we can satisfactorily explain the anomalies in the history of crime. A moderate share of adversity is usually deemed favourable to the formation of virtuous habits; and by a contrary action a long course of public prosperity may tend to national demoralization. It is certainly observable that every general peace is mostly followed by increased licentiousness in manners, avarice, and criminality. The twelve years of uninterrupted peace during the reign of George I. were distinguished by the profligacy of individuals, impiety, and the indulgence of every criminal passion. In like manner, the pacific era of George II. poured into the country a flood of wealth and luxury, attended with their wonted disorders (see pp. 367, 423). Smollett, speaking of the general prosperity of the community, says, "Commerce and manufactures flourished again to such a degree of increase as had never been known in this island; but this advantage was attended with an irresistible tide of luxury and excess, which flowed through all degrees of the people, breaking down all the mounds of civil policy, and opening a way for licentiousness and immorality. The highways were infested with rapine and assassination; the cities teemed with the brutal votaries of lewdness, intemperance, and profligacy." Descending to the following reign we find a similar association.

The country was intoxicated with prosperity immediately after the general peace of 1763, and the profligacy, both in private individuals and public men, which distinguished that era far transcends modern examples. The state of society immediately preceding the French revolutionary war, when the country had attained a very high pitch of prosperity, affords further proof of our general position. Many living individuals can bear testimony to the after-dinner drinking, licentiousness, and debauchery, which then pervaded even the middle orders of the community; and the occurrences recorded in the *Chronicle*, just before and after that period, attest the violence, disorder, and corruption raging in the metropolis. The environs and outskirts of the town were overrun with footpads and highwaymen; burglary and housebreaking were crimes of the most ordinary occurrence; and gangs of villains, fifteen or twenty in number, used to parade the streets, in open defiance of the police, and plunder and ill-treat every passenger they met with impunity. It was to remedy these enormous evils, and reform an inefficient and corrupt magistracy, that Messrs. Dundas, Burton, and Wilberforce introduced the plan of a permanent stipendiary police, which soon proved one of the greatest improvements ever made in the municipal government of London.

The deteriorating effects of sudden vicissitudes and mercantile avidity may be elucidated by the example of 1825-6. The disastrous convulsion of that period was the natural consequence of the causes which had been slowly operating since the peace of 1815, and which till then had not reached their full development. It grew out of a vast accumulation of capital, and men, almost delirious with real or fictitious riches, seemed absolved from moral and social ties. Every class was infected, from the peer to the commoner; those deemed respectable, as well as the reputedly infamous, appeared promiscuously loosened to run a race of fraud and speculative rapacity. Can it be matter of surprise that offences multiplied, when not a single class in the community remained whose entire purity and example offered a reproach to the general turpitude?

The effects of a long pacific era are not limited to the criminal extravagances produced by redundant wealth; a species of *immoral energy* is generated among the population, for which there exists no legitimate outlet. Every one must have remarked in the circle in which he moves, whether living in a large town or country village, at college or at school, in a counting-house or manufactory, that a number of depraved and unruly spirits, in every grade of life, are constantly rising to the surface at

the age of adolescence; possessed of strong passions, of ardent and irregular minds, they have no aptitude for steady industry, nor the quiet pursuits which are their inheritance. In time of war the army and navy open to them a congenial field of enterprise; the recruiting sergeant, aided by 'the soul-stirring drum,' collects them, through the country, and, after being a source of domestic disorder and social annoyance, those of the better families obtain commissions, while the less opulent file in the ranks or man the fleet. In peace these channels are closed, the reckless and dissipated hang loose and unattached in the community, and, for want of suitable occupation, raise an intestine commotion against the laws and usages of civil life. The unsettled, courageous, and enterprising among the working classes resort to emigration, poaching, smuggling, or sedition—those of the middle orders, who have no alternative but trade, for which they are unfit, soon become bankrupt, whence they graduate as sporting men, gamblers, and fraudulent dealers. The remainder of the route need not be followed; from poaching, smuggling, habitual gambling and unprincipled traffic, the road to darker delinquencies is short, broad, and obvious.

It is scarcely necessary to explain that the preceding observations, on the derivation of the *personnel* of the army and navy, do not apply to the entire of these professions: many enter both branches of service of virtuous dispositions, of richly cultivated minds, actuated only by a thirst for romantic adventure and chivalrous distinction. Neither ought it to be inferred that peace is a national calamity; like every human good, it is not without alloy, but it is obvious that a small addition to the criminal calendar is a trifle compared with the countless miseries inflicted on society by warfare. It must form an unimportant consideration in the estimation of the legislator, that there are a few whose element is storm and strife, or whose ephemeral prosperity renders them frantic and vicious against the far greater number to whom peace yields plenty and quiet enjoyment, and against those national improvements in laws and institutions, in the general diffusion of literature and science, in works of utility and magnificence, which her beneficent sway tends to cherish and introduce. Our aim has been to show the connexion between peace and the growth of delinquency; it would have been easy to array overwhelming countervailing benefits to society, but our purpose was limited to an elucidation of some of the causes that may have helped, in the existing state of educational culture, to give the character to the

criminal returns to which we are going to advert.

The public attention to the increase of crime was especially directed in 1823 by the reports of two parliamentary committees, one on the police of the metropolis, the other on criminal commitments in England and Wales. It appeared from these inquiries that the total committals for offences in London and Middlesex, from 1811 to 1817, amounted to 13,415; in an equal period from 1821 to 1827, to 19,883; being an average annual increase of 924, or 48 per cent. The increase of convictions was 642 per annum or 55 per cent. But the population was computed to have increased 19 per cent.; leaving of the committals 29 per cent., and of the convictions 36 per cent., to be accounted for by other causes than the increase of population. In the country crime was found to have increased more rapidly than in the metropolis; commitments having increased 86 per cent., and convictions 105 per cent.; while population had only increased in the provinces 16½ per cent.

The class of offences that had chiefly multiplied were those against property. The darker and more atrocious class of crimes, those directed against the person, it was alleged, had not increased so fast as population, and the parliamentary committee on commitments affirmed that "life and limb" were never less exposed to violence. The causes assigned for the increase of crime in the metropolis were principally the increase in population—the cheapness of spirituous liquors—the neglect of children by their parents—the want of employment—absence of suitable provisions for juvenile delinquents—defective prison discipline and police. To these were added other causes by the committee on committals, as more peculiar to the country, and accounting partly for an increase of crime, and partly for its 'greater exhibition to public view' without evidencing any virtual increase of depravity—namely, the payment of prosecutors their expenses in cases of misdemeanor—the malicious trespass act—decline in domestic superintendence—readiness with which magistrates commit for offences—defective and unsuitable punishments—improvement in the art of crime faster than the art of detection, and bringing before the tribunals petty offences which were formerly either settled by summary chastisement inflicted by the sufferer on the delinquent, or passed over without magisterial cognizance. All these circumstances, as well as the more general causes adverted to at the beginning of this article, may have contributed in different degrees to swell the criminal calendar. They may have been so energetic in

counteraction as to outweigh the benefits resulting from improvements in criminal law, and the moral influence of the popular diffusion of knowledge.

Since the inquiries of 1828 there has been some fluctuation in the progress of offences; in some years they have decreased, but this diminution has been more than counterbalanced by the accelerated increase of succeeding years, so that the general result is that crimes have increased at a faster rate than the population. The following table will render the whole subject intelligible by presenting it in one view; showing the progress of crime during the war, and subsequently to the end of the present reign:—

Statement of the number of COMMITTALS for offences in England and Wales, from 1805 to 1837 inclusive, and the proportion of committals to the computed amount of the POPULATION.

Year.	Com.	Population.	One to
1805	4,605	9,422,763	2,046
1806	4,346	9,464,103	2,177
1807	4,446	9,606,064	2,160
1808	4,735	9,750,154	2,056
1809	5,360	9,896,405	1,846
1810	5,146	9,944,851	1,942
1811	5,337	10,163,676	1,904
1812	6,576	10,369,362	1,577
1813	7,164	10,524,901	1,461
1814	6,390	10,775,034	1,673
1815	7,918	10,974,437	1,412
1816	9,091	11,160,577	1,227
1817	13,932	11,349,750	815
1818	13,567	11,524,389	850
1819	14,254	11,700,965	827
1820	13,710	11,893,155	875
1821	13,115	11,978,875	878
1822	12,241	12,313,810	1,006
1823	12,263	12,508,950	1,020
1824	13,698	12,699,098	926
1825	14,437	12,881,906	892
1826	16,164	13,056,931	807
1827	17,924	13,242,019	740
1828	16,564	13,441,913	801
1829	18,675	13,620,071	723
1830	18,107	13,811,467	762
1831	19,647	13,897,187	707
1832	20,829	14,105,645	682
1833	20,073	14,317,229	713
1834	22,451	14,531,957	691
1835	20,731	14,752,430	712
1836	20,984	14,973,716	713
1837	23,612	15,198,321	643

The criminal tables have been much improved during the last four years, by a careful classification of offences, the distinction of the sexes of offenders, their ages, and the degree of education they had received. The number of committals stated above exceeds the number of offenders, many persons for larcenies and other misdemeanors being committed twice, thrice,

or oftener in the same year, so that the number in the fourth column rather represents the annual proportion of offences than offenders to the population. Previously to the year 1834 the offences of conspiring to raise wages, riots, breaches of the peace, keeping disorderly houses, and assaults on constables, were not included in the criminal returns. It is these which swell the committals of that year to 22,451; whereas there was an actual decrease of crime in 1834, and had the former practice been adhered to, by the omission of the offences just mentioned, the number of committals would have been only 19,927.

The statistics of crime are a questionable criterion of the standard of national morals and civilization. The table above exhibits an enormous increase, since the beginning of the century, in the number of delinquents, without affording conclusive proof of deterioration in the manners of the people. During the war, as already explained, many found a refuge in the army and navy, who, since the peace, have worked out a reckless course in the gaols and prisons, the colonial dependencies, and penal settlements of the empire. The slow increase of *female* offenders has always appeared to the writer satisfactory evidence that national character has not degenerated; for, had there been a growing depravity in the community, it must have been shared in by the women as well as the men; and the existence of it would have been attested by a corresponding augmentation in the number of feminine committals. The reason that offences have increased among the men is that commercial property, and transactions connected with property, have increased. Females have been much less affected by this revolution than the males, and hence, while the number of committals of the former has increased from 1805 to 1837 only 214 per cent., that of the latter has increased 494 per cent. The committals of the sexes during this period were as follows:—

Years.	Males.	Females.
1805	3,267	1,338
1810	3,733	1,413
1815	6,036	1,782
1820	11,595	2,115
1825	11,899	2,548
1830	15,135	2,972
1831	16,600	3,047
1832	17,486	3,433
1833	16,804	3,268
1834	18,880	3,571
1835	..	..
1836	..	..
1837	19,407	4,205

A result derived by M. Guerry from his statistical inquiries in France, and which

has been reluctantly admitted, probably admits of explanation by reference to the principles mentioned. It has been found that the most *educated* districts are the most criminal, but it would be extremely erroneous to infer from hence that the greater proportion of crime is the consequence of education. The most instructed portion of a population is usually found in the parts most densely peopled; they are the inhabitants of towns, abounding in riches, and whose occupations are commercial and manufacturing. Their criminality is not a result of superior instruction, but in defiance of its checks and monitions—the consequence of greater temptations and a more changeable condition, which are incidents of their lot perfectly reconcilable with a higher state of social happiness than that enjoyed by the agricultural classes.

A great experiment has been for some years in progress in criminal legislation in the gradual abolition of capital punishments. During the war, and until the 14 notes of the bank of England were withdrawn from circulation, many were yearly executed for forgery. Forgery of every description has now ceased to be a capital offence. In 1837 the number of offences to which the extreme penalty of the law could be applied, were reduced to treason, murder, rape, sodomy, burglary, robbery with violence, and arson with intent to commit murder. Under the severity of the old law, great numbers annually suffered death. In the 26 years from 1805 to 1830 the total number of capital executions in England and Wales was 1938; being above 74 per annum. In the three years ending in 1820, 1830, and 1836, the number of executions was respectively 312, 178, and 85. In 1836 there were 17 executions; in 1837 only eight, all of which were for murders of an atrocious character.

The time of experience is yet too brief to afford a safe ground for concluding on the practical tendency of the milder system of punishments. It forms an interesting subject of moral investigation to trace the influence on crime of changes in the law, and of the alterations in the condition of the people produced by peace or war, prosperous or adverse circumstances, vicissitudes of the seasons, ignorance and knowledge, transitions from rural to manufacturing industry, and all the other elements that enter into the formation of national character. Most, if not all, the data for this inquiry may be found in the preceding pages of this work, and will be easily brought to bear by the reader to elucidate the progress of criminality. The short term of the present reign has been remarkable for a decrease, but still more for an increase of delinquency. The de-

crease of crime, which commenced in 1833, and continued through the two following years, amounting in the aggregate to 13 per cent., appears, in 1836, to have suffered a slight check. In that year crime increased one per cent. In 1837 the increase of offenders was far more considerable, amounting to 2,628 persons, or nearly 12½ per cent.; exceeding by 11 per cent. the computed rate of increase in the population. This increase has taken place in 33 English counties, and in both North and South Wales. In the county of Northampton the increase was 59 per cent., and in each of the counties of Stafford, Cornwall, Leicester, Wilts, Bucks, Dorset, and Berks, the increase was upwards of 30 per cent. It was only in the seven counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Bedford, Norfolk, Cambridge, Suffolk, and Huntingdon, that there was a decrease. Two causes assigned for the augmentation of offenders are the increased proportion of apprehensions consequent on the establishment of a more efficient police in the municipal towns, and to the greater facilities afforded for criminal proceedings.

These changes may account for a temporary increase in the committals, but this is not the main issue to be tried. Crimes may multiply or diminish in particular years, from transitory and obvious causes; but the momentous fact to be investigated is the cause of the average and steady growth of delinquency since the beginning of the present century. This is the problem for scrutiny, and which requires a general, not a local or temporary, solution.

The phenomenon cannot be explained by any great moral revolution the country has undergone. During the last forty years there has been neither political, religious, institutional, or educational change, adequate to account for this lamentable alteration in the national character. Knowledge has become more diffused, but no new principles of action have been disseminated among the masses, tending to give a more criminal direction to the popular mind. The great alterations in the social structure have been physical rather than moral or intellectual. In this respect, society has undergone an organic revolution. The predominant industrial occupations of the community have changed from the agricultural to the manufacturing and metropolitan. This cause has been constant and progressive in its course, contemporary with the accelerated growth of delinquency; and in this transition, and the consequent riches that have accompanied it, may be traced, we suspect, the primary origin of the increase in property-offences.

That a metropolitan and manufacturing population is more criminal than an agricultural people will be manifest from an inspection of the table we subjoin. Take the numbers for the year 1832. In Middlesex one out of every 360 of the population was an offender, and in Lancaster, one out of every 501. Compare these results with the great rural counties of Devon and Lincoln, where the proportion of offenders is only one in 1028, and one in 1659 of the inhabitants. In the year 1837 a corresponding relation is observable, though it is remarkable that in the intervening five years, the agricultural counties have approximated in the darker complexion of their criminal proportions nearer to those of London and the provincial towns.

Subjoined is the classification alluded to, exhibiting the whole of the English counties ranged according to their industrial character, and the proportion of offenders to the population of each county as returned in the census of 1831:

Manufacturing and Mining.

	1832	1837
	<i>One in</i>	<i>One in</i>
Lancaster	501	475
York	892	970
Warwick	478	382
Stafford	588	451
Nottingham	656	734
Chester	585	542
Durham	1,601	1,257
Monmouth	892	635
Worcester	668	516
Salop	852	884

Average 771 685

Metropolitan and Manufacturing.

Surrey	526	512
Kent	646	534
Sussex	962	648
Cornwall	1,550	1,071
Cumberland	2,262	1,101
Southampton	677	—
Gloucester	439	427
Derby	1,068	1,040
Leicester	795	456
Middlesex	360	415
Somerset	580	393
Hertford	489	428

Average 862 636

Agricultural.

Devon	1,028	736
Essex	466	425
Bedford	953	776
Suffolk	654	601
Berks	753	538
Oxford	699	559
Westmoreland	1,965	2,201
Northumberland . . .	2,786	1,179

Cambridge.	716	550
Norfolk	733	591
Bucks	773	568
Lincoln	1,629	770
Dorset	959	622
Wilts	691	498
Huntingdon	1,563	794
Northampton	919	601
Hereford	755	597
Rutland	1,938	718
Hampshire	677	505
Average	1,139	731
do. England	638	565
do. Wales	2,341	1,684
do. England & Wales	667	588

A cursory glance at the above shows that crime is less prevalent in the agricultural than in the metropolitan and manufacturing counties. In 1832 the proportions were in

Manufacturing and mining	one in 771
Metropolitan and manufacturing do.	862
Agricultural counties	do. 1139

This was the fact sought to be demonstrated. It satisfactorily unravels the mystery of an increase of crime since the peace of Amiens. The metropolitan and manufacturing population, which is the most delinquent, having increased faster than the agricultural, there has been an aggregate increase in the number of offences. This conclusion will appear irrefragable and less liable to objection, by bringing into comparison only the larger counties of each industrial class, as follows:—

Manufacturing Counties.

	1832	1837
	One in	One in
Lancaster	501	475
York	892	970
Warwick	478	382
Stafford	588	451
Nottingham	656	734
Chester	585	542
Monmouth	892	635
Average—one in 665		598

Metropolitan Counties.

Middlesex	360	415
Surrey	526	512
Average—one in 443		467

Agricultural Counties.

	1832	1837
	One in	One in
Devon	1,023	736
Essex	456	425
Bedford	953	776
Suffolk	654	601
Berks	753	538
Northumberland	2,786	1,179
Kent	646	534
Hampshire	677	505
Wiltshire	691	498
Average—one in 960		643

In 1832, in the seven manufacturing counties, one criminal to 665 of the population; in two metropolitan counties, one in 443; and in nine agricultural counties, only one criminal to 960 of the population. The cause of the predominance of crime in manufacturing districts has been already explained; it is no proof of general depravity, but compatible with a higher standard of morals, more physical enjoyment, and greater security to persons and property. In Scotland, in 1832, there was only one offender to 973 of the inhabitants, and in Wales only one to 234; owing doubtless to the less riches and greater predominance of rural industry in these divisions of the kingdom. In respect of crimes against property, Spain is three times less vicious than France, and seven times less criminal than England. The reason is obvious enough. In Spain, crimes, if committed at all, must be crimes against the *person* (and such predominate), not against property, since there comparatively is none. It is hard to be a thief where there is nothing to steal; you cannot, as the Scotch proverb says, steal the "brecks" from nudity. Hence the peculiarities in the Spanish criminal calendar. No one who is acquainted with the three countries infers that the moral character of Spain is superior, or even equal, to that of France or England.

The criminal returns for England and Wales for 1837 present remarkable results. The centesimal increase of crime in that year beyond 1836 was nearly 12.5 per cent. This enormous addition ought to fix general attention. By glancing at the last comparative table may be perceived the relative state of crime in 1832 and 1837 in different parts of the country. Crime in the interval appears to have been nearly stationary in the manufacturing counties, but to have increased enormously in the agricultural districts. In 1832 the ratio was only one in 90; in 1837 it had increased to one in 643 of the rural population. There has been no improvement in

rural police, as in municipal towns, to account for the increase of apprehensions; consequently there must have been a positive increase of delinquency. The rustic population is rapidly approximating, in its dark traits, to that of towns, without the temptations or countervailing benefits of manufacturing industry. In Ireland, where the state of society is notoriously distempered, the proportion of committals to the population was, in 1832, 1 in 565; in 1834, 1 in 363; and in 1836, 1 in 325: the returns from which these proportions have been deduced, are not much to be relied upon; but, if they be near the truth, they indicate a degree of criminality in the first-mentioned period, not greatly exceeding that of England in 1837. The only legislative change, during the last five years, affecting the agricultural classes, has been the introduction of the Poor Law Amendment Act. It is in the rural districts that this experimental measure has been most generally and sharply introduced. How far its introduction may have tended to deteriorate the character of the labourers in husbandry—to drive indigence from the workhouse to the gaol—to convert the pauper into a criminal—are matters seriously deserving the consideration of parliament. The “considerable increase in *sheep-stealing* in each of the last two years, and in larceny by servants,” which is noticed in the Criminal Tables of

the Home Office, for 1837 (page 2), indicates a pressure on the labouring classes that did not previously exist.

The Criminal Returns for England and Wales, for 1836 and 1837, specify the degree of *instruction* offenders had received. The decimal proportions, at these periods, are as under:—

	1836.	1837.
Unable to read and write	33·52	35·37
Able to read and write imperfectly	52·33	52·08
Able to read and write well	10·56	9·46
Instruction, superior to reading and writing well	0·91	0·43
Instruction could not be ascertained	2·68	2·18

Mr. Redgrave, in his synopsis of the returns, says, that of 358 offenders in 1837, “aged 12 years and under, 50 per cent. were uneducated; 48 per cent. were able to read and write imperfectly, and little more than 1 per cent. to read and write well.”

In France, crimes against the person are more numerous, and against property fewer than in England. The proportion of the former is 1 in 2188 of the population; of the latter 1 in 1766. Comparing this with England, the proportion of personal offences is 1 in 9629; and of property offences, 1 in 955 of the population. (*Companion to the Almanac for 1836*, p. 59).

CRIME IN THE METROPOLIS.

Comparative Statement of the Number of Individuals taken into Custody by the Metropolitan Police for the years 1831-2-3-4.

	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.
Taken into custody	72,824	77,543	69,959	64,269
Summarily convicted by the magistrates	21,843	23,458	20,791	26,302
Committed for trial	2,955	3,656	3,672	3,468
Discharged by the magistrates	48,026	50,429	45,496	34,499

A very large proportion of the charges before the magistrates are of a minor character. In 1833, it appears 45,496 charges were dismissed by the magistrates without ulterior proceedings. The largest items in the catalogue of offences in that year, were—

Drunken charges brought before the magistrates	11,393
Drunken charges discharged by the superintendents	18,487
Disorderly characters	5,721
Prostitutes	3,427
Assaults	5,721
Larcenies	7,858
Suspicious characters	3,201
Vagrants	6,721

Out of the large number of 29,800 drunkards, no less than 12,000 were females!

The total expenditure on account of the metropolitan police, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1836, was 216,313*l*.

These statements do not include the crime and police of the city of London.

BARRISH MUSEUM.—Number of visits made to the reading-rooms, for the purpose of study and research, about 1950 in 1810; 63,466 in 1835; 62,360 in 1836; 69,936 in 1837. Artists and students to the galleries of sculpture for the purpose of study, 6081 in 1835; 7052 in 1836; 5570 in 1837. Number of visits made to the print-room, 1065 in 1835; 2916 in 1836; 4429 in 1837.

Number of persons admitted to view the general collections, in 1832, 147,896; 1833, 210,495; 1834, 237,366; 1835 289,104; 1836, 383,147; 1837, 321,151.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The following table shows the number of the present house of lords created in each reign:—

A. D.	Reign.	Peers.
1264 . . .	Henry III. . .	2
1295-1299 . .	Edward I. . .	7
1307-1324 . .	Edward II. . .	4
1442-1461 . .	Henry VI. . .	5
1483 . . .	Richard III. . .	1
1492 . . .	Henry VII. . .	1
1514-1539 . .	Henry VIII. . .	7
1547-1551 . .	Edward VI. . .	4
1553-1554 . .	Mary . . .	2
1559-1579 . .	Elizabeth . . .	6
1603-1624 . .	James I. . .	17
1626-1644 . .	Charles I. . .	11
1660-1683 . .	Charles II. . .	17
1686 . . .	James II. . .	1
1689-1699 . .	William III. . .	7
1703-1712 . .	Anne . . .	14
1714-1725 . .	George I. . .	14
1728-1760 . .	George II. . .	20
1761-1817 . .	George III. . .	145
1821-1829 . .	George IV. . .	45
1830-1837 . .	William IV. . .	29

A creation of peers has mostly taken place on the accession of a new family, the commencement of a new reign, or to carry political measures. On the death of queen Elizabeth the peers only amounted to 56. James, being the first of a new dynasty, raised the number to 105, and Charles I. to 135; Charles II. created 15 dukes, (six of whom were his natural children,) 1 marquis, 37 earls, 3 countesses, 2 viscounts, and 29 barons. At the revolution, William III. raised 8 powerful earls to dukedoms; created 18 earls, 3 viscounts, and 9 barons. Anne increased the peerage to 170. The accession of the house of Brunswick gave rise to new creations. George I. either created or elevated no fewer than 49 peers. George II. left 184. It is evident that the great increase of the peerage was in the reign of George III., being more than doubled. In 1777 a batch of peers was drafted from the commons into the lords, to effect a ministerial majority. This expedient was frequently resorted to by Mr. Pitt. In 1797 ten peers were made. He nearly created the order of marquises: he made 10 marquises in England where there was but one; and 9 in Ireland, where there was none. Knighthood was also freely bestowed. No doubt this lavish distribution of honours was partly the consequence of the war, and of the vastly increasing riches of the middle classes.

The peers created during the long reign of George III. have been classified (*Quarterly Review*, lxxxiv. 314) as follows:—
Landed commoners, 46; Irish peers, 56;

Scotch peers, 24; law, 25; state, 23; army, 13; navy, 10; younger sons and younger branches of peers, 17; renewals, 7; confirmations, 7; peeresses, 5; total 235: from which must be deducted 74 extinctions, making the additions to the peerage 161.

George IV. added 64 members to the upper house. In this number are included individuals who were raised to the peerage, or in whose favour an abeyance terminated, as well as peers of Scotland and Ireland who obtained English baronies. It does not, however, include Scotch peerages which were restored, nor the creations of peers of Ireland; of claims to English peerages which were admitted, nor elevations of English peerages to higher honours. The average rate at which peers were created during the two former reigns was four per annum; and was the same rate of increase to continue for a century, it would double the existing number of parliamentary lords.

The political character of the peers created is naturally determined by that of the ministry of the time, from whom their honours are received. Toryism being the ascendant school of politics during the reign of George III. and his successor, the peers created mostly belonged to that denomination of statesmen. This fact was manifest on the first introduction of the Reform Bill into the house of lords. Of the *old* peers of the United Kingdom, there was a majority of two for the second reading of the bill. Of the *new* peers of the United Kingdom, created subsequent to 1792, the majority was *against* the second reading of the bill, and their number was only balanced by the creations of the whig ministry.

The number of peers who sat in the house of lords at the death of George IV. was 403, and which number increased during the reign of his successor, to 432.

The following is the number and denomination of the peers who sat in the upper house, on the accessions of William IV. and queen Victoria:—

	Will.	Vict.
Princes of the blood royal . . .	5	3
Dukes	19	21
Marquises	18	19
Earls	105	107
Viscounts	22	16
Barons	160	192
Peers of Scotland	16	16
Peers of Ireland	28	29
English Archbishops and Bishops	26	26
Irish representative Archbishops and Bishops	4	4
Total	403	432

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Number of Parliaments held in each reign, from 27th Edward I. A.D. 1299, to the end of the present reign, showing also the respective length of each reign.

	<i>Parls.</i>	<i>Reign</i>
Edward I. from 1299,	8	8
Edward II.	15	20
Edward III.	37	50
Richard II.	26	22
Henry IV.	10	14
Henry V.	11	9
Henry VI.	22	39
Edward IV.	5	22
Richard III.	1	2
Henry VII.	8	24
Henry VIII.	3	38
Edward VI.	2	6
Mary	5	5
Elizabeth	10	45
James I.	4	22
Charles I.	4	24
Charles II.	8	36
James II.	3	4

	<i>Parls.</i>	<i>Reign.</i>
William III.	6	13
Anne	6	12
George I.	2	13
George II.	6	33
George III.	11	59
George IV.	2	10
William IV.	4	7

From this table it appears that in the 461 years preceding the reign of George III. there were 202 parliaments, whose average duration was $2\frac{2}{3}$ years; and that in 210 years preceding the reign of Henry VIII. there were 143 parliaments, averaging rather less than 1½ year each. In the 69 years of the reigns of George III. and IV. there were only 13 parliaments, averaging five years and one-third each. In the reign of William IV. there were four two before and two after the Reform Act.

The following abstracts show the gradual alterations in and additions to the representation of the people up to the period of the Reform Acts:—

Shires and Universities.

	<i>No. of Members.</i>
Edward I. and preceding monarchs, 37 counties	74
Henry VIII. Shires of Chester and Monmouth	4
12 Welsh counties, 1 member each	12
James I. the 2 universities	4
Charles II. Durham county	2
Anne 30 Scotch Counties, with 1 member each	30
George III. Irish county members	64
Irish university	1
George IV. Yorkshire County	2
William IV. changes in this reign, see p. 919 and post.	
<hr/>	
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Cities and Boroughs.

Edward I. and preceding monarchs, created 78 boroughs, with 2 members each, and London with 4	160
Edward II. created 6 boroughs, with 2 members each	12
Edward III. created 9 boroughs, with 2 members each	22
restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . . . . .		4
Henry VI. created 5 boroughs, with 2 members each	14
restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . . . . .		4
Edward IV. created 3 boroughs, with 2 members each	8
restored 1 borough, with 2 members . . . . .		2
Henry VIII. created 4 boroughs, with 2 members each	8
created 12 Welsh boroughs, 1 member each	21
created 1 borough, with 1 member . . . . .		1
Edward VI. created 14 boroughs, with 2 members each	48
restored 10 boroughs, with 2 members each . . . . .		20
Mary created 7 boroughs with 2 members each	21
created 3 boroughs, with 1 member each . . . . .		3
restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each	4
Elizabeth created 24 boroughs, with 2 members each	64
restored 8 boroughs, with 2 members each . . . . .		16
James I. created 3 boroughs, with 2 members each	23
created 1 borough with 1 member . . . . .		1
restored 8 boroughs, with 2 members each	16

Cities and Boroughs.

	Brought forward	339	393
Charles I. . . restored 9 boroughs, with 2 members each . . .			18
Charles II. . . created 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . . .			4
Anne . . . added 15 Scotch boroughs, with 1 member each . . .			15
George III. . . added 35 Irish cities and boroughs . . .			35
George IV. . . disfranchised Grampond for bribery 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 47.		—	—
		339	465

Distribution of the elective franchise, and number of members returned for the different sections of the United Kingdom prior to the Reform Acts.

Cornwall, 42; Wilts, 34; York, 32 . . .	108
Sussex, 28; Dorset, 30; Suffolk, 16; Stafford, 10	74
Devon and Hants each	26 52
Kent and Somerset each	18 36
Bucks, Lancaster, and Surrey each	14 42
Lincoln, Norfolk, and Salop each	12 36
Berks, Northampton, Oxford and Worcester each	9 36
Essex, Gloucester, Hereford, Mid- dlesex, Northumberland, and Nottingham each	8 48
Cambridge, Cumberland, Hert- ford, and Warwick each	6 24
Bedford, Chester, Derby, Durham, Huntingdon, Leicester, and Westmorland each	4 28
Monmouth, 3; Rutland, 2	5
Wales, 24; Scotland, 45; Ire- land, 100	169
Making the total number of members	658

The following was usually given as the distribution of PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE prior to the Reform Act; a majority of the house of commons being returned by the nomination of peers, commoners, or the treasury.

Members returned by 87 peers in England and Wales	218
21 peers in Scotland	31
36 peers in Ireland	51
Total returned by peers	300
Members returned by 90 com- moners in England and Wales	137
14 commoners in Scotland	14
19 commoners in Ireland.	20
Members nominated by govern- ment	16
Total returned by commoners and government	187
Total returned by nomination	487
Independent of nomination	171
Total of the House of Commons	658

The boroughs which returned members under the old system of representation were of three sorts: *first*, the close or pocket-boroughs, in which the power of returning the members was exercised by one or two individuals; *secondly*, the corporation or charter-boroughs, in which the members were returned by a dozen or more of self-elected corporators, mostly under the control of peers or commoners; *thirdly*, the open boroughs, in which the electors varied in number from 500 to 10,000 and upwards. These last, with the exception of the cities of Westminster and London, and one or two others, were as marketable as the rest; many of the voters were non-residents, and consisting generally of the poorer class of freemen and householders, they openly sold their franchises to the highest bidder. It has been calculated that under the old representation, exclusive of county and metropolitan electors, three-fourths of the remaining body of electors in England belonged to the labouring classes.

The preceding tables show the progress and state of parliamentary representation up to the passing of the Reform Bill; the following will show the changes effected by the Grey ministry. The population of the boroughs disfranchised and enfranchised has been taken from the census of 1831.

Population of the FIFTY-SIX BOROUGHS totally disfranchised by the Reform Bill.

Old Sarum	12
Newtown, I. W.	68
St. Michael	97
Gatton	145
Brumber	97
Bossiney	1006
Dunwich	232
Ludgershall	555
St. Mawe's	459
Beerlston	—
West Looe	593
St. Germain's	2586
Newport, C.	1084
Blechingley	1,03
Aldbrough	2475
Camelford	1359
Hiudon	921

East Looe	865
Corfe Castle	960
Great Bedwin	2191
Yarmouth	586
Queenborough	736
Castle Rising	888
East Grimstead	3364
Higham Ferrers	965
Wendover	2008
Weobly	819
Winchelsea	772
Tregony	1127
Hastmere	849
Saltash	3029
Orford	1302
Callington	1388
Newton, L.	2137
Hchester	975
Boroughbridge	950
Stockbridge	851
Romney, N.	378
Hedon	1080
Plympton	804
Seafoed	1098
Heytesbury	1413
Steyning	1436
Whitechurch	1673
Wootton Bassett	1896
Downton	3961
Fowey	1767
Milborne Port	2072
Aidburgh	1538
Minehead	1494
Bishop's Castle	1729
Okehampton	2055
Appleby	1359
Loatwithiel	1074
Brackley	2107
Amersham	2816

Population of the THIRTY BOROUGHs, of which the Representatives were reduced to ONE by the Reform Act.

Petersfield	1423
Ashburton	4165
Eye	2313
Westbury	7324
Wareham	2325
Midhurst	1478
Woodstock	1320
Wilton	1997
Malmesbury	2785
Liskeard	2853
Reigate	3397
Hythe	2287
Droitwich	2487
Lyme Regis	2621
Launceston	2231
Shaftesbury	3061
Thirsk	2835
Christchurch	1599
Horsham	5105
Great Grimsby	4225
Calne	4795

Arundel	2804
St. Ives	4776
Rye	3715
Cutheroe	5213
Morpeth	5156
Helston	3293
North Allerton	5118
Wallingford	2545
Dartmouth	4597

New Boroughs empowered to return TWO MEMBERS to Parliament.

Manchester	187,022
Birmingham	142,251
Leeds	123,323
Greenwich	62,009
Sheffield	90,657
Sunderland	43,078
Devonport	44,454
Wolverhampton	67,414
Tower Hamlets	359,820
Finsbury	244,077
Marylebone	240,294
Lambeth	203,329
B. lton	41,195
Bradford	23,233
Blackburn	27,091
Brighton	40,684
Halifax	15,382
Macclesfield	23,129
Oldham	50,513
Stockport	25,469
Stoke-upon-Trent	52,946
Stroud	13,721

New Boroughs empowered to return ONE MEMBER to Parliament.

Ashton-under-Lyne	33,597
Bury	15,086
Chatham	19,000
Cheltenham	22,942
Dudley	23,043
Frome	12,270
Gateshead	15,177
Huddersfield	31,041
Kidderminster	14,981
Kendal	11,265
Rochdale	25,764
Salford	50,810
South Shields	18,756
Tynemouth	16,926
Wakefield	12,232
Walsall	15,060
Warrington	16,018
Whitby	10,399
Whitehaven	17,808
Merthyr Tydvil	

Registered Electors in the United Kingdom.

In the years 1834-5, the number was as follows:—

	<i>England.</i>	<i>Wales.</i>	<i>Scotland.</i>	<i>Ireland.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Counties . . .	357,053	26,796	36,677	65,358	485,884
Boroughs . . .	273,668	11,128	36,043	32,648	353,487
Total . . .	630,721	37,924	72,720	98,006	839,371

Male Population in 1831:—

	<i>England.</i>	<i>Wales.</i>	<i>Scotland.</i>	<i>Ireland.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Total	6,376,627	394,563	1,114,816	3,794,880	11,680,886
20 years of age . . .	3,199,984	194,705	549,821	1,667,765	5,812,276
Centesimal proportion of electors to male population, 20 years of age	19.71	19.47	12.86	5.24	14.44
Total registered electors in 1832	619,213	37,124	64,447	92,152	812,936

In 1835-6 the number of registered electors had increased over the registration of 1834-5, in the English counties, 78,297, equal to 21 per cent; in Wales 5,102, equal to 19 per cent; in Scotland 3,208, equal to 14 per cent. The borough electors in England had increased 28,052, equal to 10 per cent.

Comparing 1834-5 with the first registration under the Reform Act, in 1832, it appears that the number of registered electors in the interval, in the United Kingdom, had increased 26,435, equal to 3½ per cent.

The county population in Britain was estimated, in 1832, at 10,446,241; borough population, 5,816,060. Members for counties, 189; members for boroughs, 364. So that the county population was two to one against the towns, and the town representation two to one against the county.

In Ireland the case is different. The county representation exceeds the borough representation; but the county population is rated at 7,000,000, and the borough at little more than 700,000. Taking Britain and Ireland together, the population of cities and boroughs is about one-third of the population of counties, and the electors for counties are to the electors for towns about as four to three.

The above statements of the number of electors do not include the universities of

Oxford and Cambridge, Trinity College, Dublin, nor the Isle of Wight.

The number of individuals is less than the number of electors on the register. The same elector being occasionally inserted twice or oftener, in respect of different rights of voting for the county and borough, as freeholder, occupier, and burgess.

The number who actually vote in a general election is always less than the number registered. But no official return is made of the voters; the returning officers sending to the crown office only the names of the members elected, leaving to the newspapers to record the state of the poll, which is frequently incorrect.

The number of voters will also depend on the number of contested elections. The number of contests in 1835 was 225; in 1837, 244. The number of votes given in the former for sir R. Peel's parliament was estimated to amount to 595,000; in the latter, for viscount Melbourne's, to about 760,000.

According to calculations founded on the report of a parliamentary committee on election expenses, in 1834, it appears that 170 members for boroughs, being just one-half of those returned in England and Wales, are elected by 49,153 persons, being on the average 1 member for every 289 electors.

Of these, 32 places whose constituencies do not exceed 300, return 44 members.	
23 places where the number of electors is between	
	300 and 400, " 34 "
20 places where the electors are between 400 and 500,	" 31 "
13 " " "	500 and 600, " 21 "
16 " " "	600 and 700, " 24 "
10 " " "	700 and 800, " 16 "
	<hr/>
114	170

The borough included, which has the smallest number of registered votes, is Thetford, in the county of Norfolk. In that place 146 electors return 2 members.

There are only four other boroughs, the numbers of whose electors are under 200. These are Ashburton with 198, Reigate with 152, Calve with 191, and Westbury with 185 electors. These places return only one member each.

It can hardly be thought that the system of representation has been rendered too popular, when it is thus shown that 70 members—being more than one-fourth of the total number of representatives for the United Kingdom—are returned by 49,153 electors, a number forming no more than the 118th part of the males above twenty years of age. At the same time

that must be admitted to be a great improvement, which has transferred even to this comparatively small proportion of the people a franchise which was previously exercised by a very few individuals, belonging chiefly to the aristocracy.

The expenses of the revising barristers were, in 1834, 22,500*l.*; in 1835, 32,700*l.*; in 1836, 44,704*l.*

The following tables will show the increasing quantity of business that has come before the house of commons during the present century, the quantity of business discharged, and the duration of each session.

Volumes of SESSIONAL PAPERS ordered to be printed.

<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>
1801	7	1810	15	1819-20	4	1829	26
1801-2	7	1810-1	11	1820	12	1830	33
1802-3	10	1812	11	1821	23	1830-1	16
1803-4	11	1813	14	1822	22	1831	20
1805	11	1813-4	14	1823	19	1832	48
1806	19	1814-5	13	1824	24	1833	43
1806-7	9	1816	19	1825	27	1834	51
1807	5	1817	17	1826	29	1835	51
1808	15	1818	17	1827-8	26	1836	50
1809	12	1819	18	1828	27	1837	

The average of the first ten years is only 13 volumes; while the average of the last ten years is 36. The entire series of house of commons papers from 1701 to 1800 are contained in 15 volumes large

folio. (*Hansard's Letter to Sir R. H. Inglis, Sess. Paper 600—1832.*) So that the house now print more than three times as many papers in a year as they formerly did in a century.

Number of PETITIONS presented.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
1785	298	1801	192	1811	132	1827	3,635
1786	156	1801-2	158	1812	340	1828	4,074
1787	98	1802-3	367	1812-3	1,699	1829	4,041
1787-8	201	1803-4	168	1813-4	1,479	1830	2,522
1788-9	127	1804-5	141	1814-5	848	1830-1	10,220
Sum	880		1,026		4,498		24,492
Average	176		205		899		4,896

From this table it will be seen that the ratio of increase in the public petitions presented within the last twenty-five years has been as 24 to 1, and since the close of the war as 6 to 1; that the number received in 1831 alone was nearly twice, and the number received during the fourth period nearly six times, as great as the number received during the whole of the three preceding periods taken together.

Hours of Sitting.—In 1606 an order was moved and settled for the meeting of the House at eight o'clock in the morning. In 1614, seven o'clock was made the hour of meeting; and all second readings of bills were directed to be proceeded with at eight o'clock. Ten years after this period, the time of meeting was fixed at half-past seven o'clock. In 1641, eight o'clock was appointed the hour for prayers, and all mem-

bers absent at prayers were liable to a fine of one shilling, and, if absent for a whole day, to a fine of five shillings. The hour from which the fine of one shilling should be exigible, was afterwards altered to nine o'clock. In those primitive times the House rose at noon; and so determined were the members to observe this rule, that any one who commenced a new motion after twelve o'clock was liable to a fine of five shillings. — *Mercurii, 14 Februarii, 1643.* The hour for commencing public business was, after the Revolution (*Nov. 19, 1694*), altered to ten o'clock; at a later period, ten o'clock was fixed as the hour of the House's meeting, and so nominally continued up to the meeting of the Reform Parliament, when new regulations (*see p. 931*) were adopted both as respects petitions and the hours of business.

Table showing the public and private business completed by the HOUSE OF COMMONS from 1806 to 1832 inclusive; with the times of meeting and proroguing, and the time occupied by each Session of the House.

Year.	Public Acts.	Private Acts.	SESSION		Sitting Days.	Sitting Hours.
			Commenced.	Terminated.		
1806	153	226	21 Jan.	23 July	125	645
1806—7	56	268	15 Dec.	27 April	86	434
1807	78	269	22 June	14 Aug.	45	273
1808	152	234	21 Jan.	4 July	111	829
1809	129	304	19 Jan.	21 June	97	746
1810	119	314	23 Jan.	21 June	97	803
1811	128	295	1 Nov.	24 July	135	588
1812	165	289	7 Jan.	30 July	137	856
1813	162	295	24 Nov.	22 July	136	776
1814	190	298	4 Nov.	30 July	127	476
1815	196	212	8 Nov.	12 July	119	654
1816	142	163	1 Feb.	2 July	91	667
1817	132	140	28 Jan.	12 July	100	587
1818	101	153	27 Jan.	10 June	84	483
1819	138	208	14 Jan.	13 July	118	774
1819—20	14	167	23 Nov.	28 Feb.	34	563
1820	119	167	21 April	23 Nov.	69	563
1821	123	187	23 Jan.	11 July	104	861
1822	127	161	5 Feb.	6 Aug.	105	858
1823	100	167	4 Feb.	19 July	96	774
1824	115	213	3 Feb.	25 June	86	621
1825	134	282	3 Feb.	6 July	91	687
1826	79	201	2 Feb.	31 May	64	457
1827	75	184	14 Nov.	2 July	106	645
1828	95	175	29 Jan.	29 July	111	777
1829	63	205	5 Feb.	24 June	79	540
1830	75	204	4 Feb.	23 July	105	856
1830—31	27	80	26 Oct.	22 April	90	640
1831	60	114	14 June	20 Oct.	98	913
1831—2	—	—	6 Dec.	16 Aug.	148	—

For the mass of business discharged, and the hours of sitting, during the first session of the reformed parliament, see

p. 937, and the business of subsequent years is enumerated in the *Chronicle* at the close of each parliamentary session.

ECCLIASTICAL STATISTICS.

The subjoined tables of the amount and distribution of the revenues of the church of England, are abstracted from the reports of the ecclesiastical commissioners, especially the important report on ecclesiastical revenues, dated June 16, 1835. The returns of revenue were made on the average of the three years ending December 31, 1831. According to these returns, the gross annual revenues of the English church are 3,738,951*l.*; the net annual revenues, 3,439,767*l.* These revenues are thus distributed:—

	Gross revenue.	Net revenue.
Archbishops and bishops . . .	£181,631	£160,092
Dignitaries . . .	360,093	274,754
Rectors and vicars . . .	3,197,225	3,004,721

Net yearly income of the Archbishops and Bishops.

Canterbury	£19,182
York	12,629
St. Asaph	6,301
Bangor	4,464
Bath and Wells	5,946
Bristol	2,351
Carlisle	2,213
Chester	3,261
Chichester	4,229
St. David's	1,897
Durham	19,066
Ely	11,103
Exeter	2,713
Gloucester	2,282
Hereford	2,516
Lichfield and Coventry	3,923
Lincoln	4,348
Llandaff	924
London	13,929

Norwich	£5,395
Oxford	2,648
Peterborough . . .	3,103
Rochester	1,459
Salisbury	3,939
Winchester	11,151
Worcester	6,569
Sodor and Man . .	2,555

Average amount of episcopal income, if equally divided, 5936*l*. The commissioners, in their report dated March 7, 1835, recommend various alterations of the boundaries of the dioceses, the union of the sees of Llandaff and Bristol, and those of St. Asaph and Bangor, and the erection of two new sees in the province of York, one at Manchester, the other at Ripon. Speaking of the incomes of the sees, they say,—“We are of opinion that where the annual income of a bishop amounts to 4500*l*. it is not necessary to make any addition; nor would we recommend any diminution unless it exceeded 5500*l*. But we think that the two archbishoprics, and the bishops of London, Durham, and Winchester, ought to have a larger provision than the rest.” Accordingly in a subsequent Report, dated May 20, 1836, the commissioners fixed the average incomes of these dioceses as follows:—Canterbury, 15,000*l*.; York, 10,000*l*.; London, 10,000*l*.; Durham, 8000*l*.; Winchester, 9000*l*. Agreeably with these suggestions, the established church bill of 1836, the 6 & 7 Wm. 4, c. 77, fixing the future incomes of the prelates, was passed.

Net yearly income of the CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE FOUNDATIONS, divisible by the Chapters, and the number of persons, DEAN, CANONS, or PREBENDARIES, among whom it is divided.

Foundation.	Persons.	Revenue.
St. Asaph	13	£382
Bristol	7	3,022
Canterbury	13	14,377
Carlisle	5	4,809
Chester	7	634
Chichester	5	3,721
St. David's	6	1,176
Durham	13	20,899
Ely	9	6,069
Exeter	9	5,963
Gloucester	7	3,410
Hereford	6	3,247
Lichfield	7	1,183
Lincoln	4	6,959
Llandaff	13	533
Norwich	7	4,992
Oxford	9	15,700
St. Paul's	4	9,048
Peterborough . . .	7	3,918
Rochester	7	4,809
Salisbury	7	2,799

Foundation.	Persons.	Revenue.
Wells	7	£6,445
Winchester	13	10,635
Worcester	11	8,698
York	5	1,630
Manchester	5	3,981
Middleham	2	435
Ripon	10	265
Southwell	16	954
Westminster . . .	15	19,543
Windsor	13	17,819
Wolverhampton . .	1	641

From the above it appears there are thirty-two cathedral and collegiate foundations, whose net divisible revenues amount to 184,123*l*., and that the number of persons among whom this aggregate revenue is divided is 261; making the annual average share of each 705*l*. There are also 10 minor incorporations of canons, who have an aggregate revenue of 4754*l*., divisible among 69 persons, making the average share of each 68*l*.

In addition to the aggregate revenues above of the chapters, there are separate revenues of the several prebends, and other ecclesiastical preferments in cathedrals and collegiate churches, the net yearly income of which is 44,705*l*.

The total amount of RENTS received on renewals of leases during the three years ending 1831, in addition to the average net yearly income, was 65,280*l*.

The cathedral chapters are of two kinds: first, the deans and chapters of the *old* foundation; secondly, those of the *new* foundation. The former class comprehends all those cathedral establishments which were founded at different periods before the reign of Henry VIII.; the latter, those which were founded by letters-patent from the crown, confirmed by parliament about the time of the Reformation. The *old* foundations comprise not only the dean and canons-residentary, who compose the chapters of each, but various other prebendaries, who are not required to keep any residence at the cathedral, nor to perform any other duty except that of preaching one or two sermons in each year. The prebendaries who are not residentaries have no share of the corporate revenues, except, in some cases, small fixed payments, but in most instances possess each a separate endowment. In the chapters on the *new* foundation, on the contrary, there are no prebendaries besides the residentaries, and except at Durham and Ely they have no separate estates. The dean, independently of statutable allowances, mostly double those of the prebendaries, receives, on the division of the fines, a twofold share.

Net annual income of BENEFICES and CURATES' AVERAGE STIPENDS.

Dioceses.	Benefices.	Total Income.	Average.	Curates.	Stipends.
St. Asaph	143	£38,840	£271	43	£82
Bangor	123	31,061	252	61	80
Bath and Wells	430	109,397	256	231	80
Bristol	253	71,397	232	133	86
Canterbury	346	110,050	318	174	84
Carlisle	124	21,777	175	44	83
Chester	630	159,372	252	267	87
Chichester	267	75,522	282	122	77
St. David's	409	56,317	137	207	35
Durham	192	67,639	352	98	87
Ely	150	53,000	353	75	87
Exeter	613	174,275	284	323	89
Gloucester	283	77,429	273	143	79
Hereford	321	87,987	274	157	82
Lichfield and Coventry	610	159,073	260	307	81
Lincoln	1,251	358,073	286	629	77
Llandaff	192	34,077	177	113	59
London	640	255,429	399	351	100
Norwich	1,026	321,823	313	523	73
Oxford	196	49,088	250	103	77
Peterborough	293	93,650	319	139	81
Rochester	94	39,007	414	60	109
Salisbury	398	127,459	320	223	81
Winchester	419	143,614	342	202	96
Worcester	223	69,655	312	111	81
York	891	216,005	242	390	75
Sodor and Man	23	3,623	157	3	70

10,540 £3,004,639 £285 5,232 £81

179 benefices were not returned to the commissioners, but the value of them has been included in the average estimate, calculated upon the average of those returned.

The total number of benefices in England and Wales, including those not returned, but exclusive of those annexed to other preferments (24 in number) is 10,718.

If the amount of the curates' stipends, which is included in the income of the in-

cumbents, be abstracted therefrom, the aggregate net income of incumbents, or rather of benefices (for, many of the incumbents being pluralists, the number of *individuals* is considerably less than that of *benefices*), will be reduced to 2,579,961*l.*, giving an average of 244*l.* to each.

The two most valuable livings are the rectory of Stanhope, in Northumberland, 4843*l.*; and the rectory of Doddington, in Cambridgeshire, 7306*l.* per annum.

Patronage of Benefices.

Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Dignit- aries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
St. Asaph	2	120	..	2	1	19	—
Bangor	6	78	1	7	3	29	—
Bath and Wells	21	29	39	103	23	224	4
Bristol	12	15	11	42	14	159	10
Canterbury	18	148	36	36	14	87	2
Carlisle	4	20	27	19	3	54	..
Chester	26	34	34	227	13	299	6
Chichester	19	31	21	49	15	130	..
St. David's	63	102	16	61	12	159	..
Durham	12	45	36	28	4	66	..
Ely	2	31	21	13	46	39	..
Exeter	63	44	69	117	11	309	5
Gloucester	29	30	35	40	26	133	3
Carried forward	277	727	346	744	185	1707	30

Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Digni- taries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
Brought forward	277	727	346	744	185	1707	30
Hereford	26	36	26	54	11	179	..
Lichfield and Coventry	53	18	10	122	6	391	5
Lincoln	156	73	63	177	102	688	..
Llandaff.	14	6	23	19	7	118	..
London	75	86	58	105	68	277	..
Norwich.	95	85	47	124	86	596	13
Oxford	12	13	22	16	59	78	..
Peterborough	31	18	12	40	32	171	..
Rochester	10	15	17	8	4	44	..
Salisbury	35	39	44	67	60	154	..
Winchester	30	53	15	79	53	197	..
Worcester	20	14	38	39	15	98	..
York	103	57	61	237	33	377	5
Sodor and Man	15	8	..	..	..	1	..
Total	952	1,248	787	1,851	721	5,096	53

The above classification comprises only the patronage returned to the Commissioners. There are 178 non-returns, and 86 returned, omitting the patronage.

As the patronage is frequently divided

between different classes of patrons, and is included under each, it is obvious that the aggregate total of the above numbers will not agree with the total number of benefices.

Appropriations and Impropriations.

Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Digni- taries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
St. Asaph . . . . .	..	12	10	8	..	27	..
Bangor . . . . .	..	11	7	7	..	29	..
Bath and Wells.	1	9	27	35	..	105	4
Bristol . . . . .	..	1	16	11	2	48	2
Canterbury . . . . .	..	48	46	12	8	49	1
Carlisle . . . . .	..	8	30	3	2	28	..
Chester	2	21	28	5	15	113	..
Chichester . . . . .	..	7	11	19	5	67	..
St. David's	1	18	20	49	4	124	2
Durham	1	7	28	7	13	61	1
Ely . . . . .	..	10	26	..	19	27	..
Exeter	2	5	61	23	4	156	7
Gloucester	2	14	32	2	3	54	1
Hereford . . . . .	..	20	25	11	12	80	..
Lichfield and Coventry	1	8	20	49	5	249	4
Lincoln	3	39	48	36	31	347	3
Llandaff	1	10	30	9	4	45	2
London	1	13	26	16	16	144	1
Norwich	1	47	48	2	22	197	9
Oxford . . . . .	..	7	18	5	27	36	..
Peterborough . . . . .	..	8	10	1	6	65	..
Rochester	1	3	13	1	4	21	..
Salisbury.	1	6	37	23	21	93	2
Winchester . . . . .	..	3	8	16	29	78	..
Worcester	5	4	25	8	3	43	3
York	7	40	52	79	26	265	1
Sodor and Man	8	6	..	..	..	1	..
Total	38	385	702	438	281	2,552	43

An *appropriation* is when the tithes of a benefice, instead of being in the hands of the parson, are appropriated to a bishopric, prebend, college, or other spiritual corporation; if in the hands of a layman, it becomes an *impropriation*.

121 vicarages are partly, and 132 wholly, endowed with the great tithes.

The number of vicarages of which the impropriations have not been returned to the commissioners is 223.

CHURCH OF IRELAND.

The following summary is taken from the appendix to the first report of the commissioners of public instruction for Ireland.

The total population of Ireland in 1834 was 7,954,100; of which 6,436,060 were Roman catholics, 853,160 members of the established church, 643,058 presbyterians, and 21,882 belonged to other religious denominations. It results from this statement that the proportion per cent. of each denomination to the total population is as follows:—Roman catholics, $80\frac{1}{2}\%$; members of the established church, $10\frac{1}{2}\%$; presbyterians, $8\frac{1}{2}\%$; other protestant dissenters, $\frac{1}{2}\%$.

The number of places of worship in Ireland is 4502; of which 2109 belong to Roman catholics, 1537 to the established church, 452 to the presbyterians, and 404 to various other sects.

The total number of parishes or ecclesiastical districts is 2408, and of this number 2351 possess a provision for the cure of souls, and 57, containing 3030 members of the established church, are without any such provision.

The total number of benefices is 1387, viz., 908 consisting of single parishes, and 479 being unions of two or more parishes. In 87 of these unions the parishes are not contiguous. A glebe-house is attached to 851 benefices; to the other 536 no glebe-house is attached.

The number of benefices in which there is more than one church is 118; in which

there is only one church, 1059; in which there is no church, 210.

The incumbent is resident on 890 benefices; in 340 the incumbent is non-resident, but divine service is performed by him or a curate in a place of worship; and there are 157 benefices in which the incumbent is non-resident, and no divine service is performed.

In five benefices the population is not more than 100: in 7, is between 100 and 200; in 36, between 200 and 500; in 94, between 500 and 1000; in 368, between 1000 and 3000; in 278, between 3000 and 5000; in 406, between 5000 and 10,000; in 125, between 10,000 and 15,000; in 39, between 15,000 and 20,000; in 21 between 20,000 and 30,000; and in 8 the population exceeds 30,000.

In 41 benefices there is not a single member of the established church; in 99, the number is under 20; in 124, these are more than 20, and not more than 50; in 161, there are between 50 and 100; in 224, between 100 and 200; in 286, between 200 and 500; in 210, between 500 and 1000; in 139, between 1000 and 2000; in 91, between 2000 and 5000; and there are 12 benefices in which the number of members belonging to the established church exceeds 5000.

In the Irish tithe bill, introduced by Lord Morpeth, June 3rd, 1836, it was proposed to reduce the 1387 benefices of Ireland to 1250, with an average net income of 294*l*. Under this arrangement the ecclesiastical establishment of the United Kingdom would have been as under:—

	Bene- fices.	Of in- come.	Popula- tion.	Acres.	Square Miles.
England and Wales	10,718	£285	1,014	3,460	5
Scotland	900	240	2,770	21,048	32
Presbyterians of Ulster	200	155	2,500	15,903	40
Established Church in Ireland	1,250	294	681	10,000	13 to 14

Education.—The number of schools in Ireland, in connexion with the National Board, is 892; in connexion with the Association for discountenancing vice, 203; Erasmus Smith's fund, 115; Kildare-street society, 235; London Hibernian society, 618; other schools, 771. The proportion of daily schools to the population is, therefore, as 1 to 824. In the ecclesiastical province of Armagh it is as 1 to 698; province of Dublin, 1 to 774; province of Cashel, 1 to 1008; province of Tuam, 1 to 994.

The total number of children receiving daily instruction is 633,946. The proportion per cent. to the population is, therefore, $7\frac{3}{10}\%$; to the population of the province of Armagh, $8\frac{1}{10}\%$; province of Dublin, $7\frac{7}{10}\%$; Cashel, $5\frac{2}{10}\%$; Tuam, $6\frac{1}{10}\%$.

DISSENTERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

The following statement is not derived from official sources. It is the result of inquiries instituted by the dissenters into the number of established and non-established places of worship in England and Wales, and the details from which the table was drawn up were first published in a supplement to the *Congregational Magazine* for December 1829. In the absence of a more authorized document, it is probably the best and latest account extant of the distribution of religious denominations, and will conclude the subject of the Ecclesiastical Statistics of the United Kingdom

Statement of the number of DISSENTING CHAPELS and CHURCH LIVINGS in England and Wales.

COUNTIES.	Roman Catholics.	Presbyterians.	Independents.	Particular Baptists.	General Baptists.	Quakers.	Wesleyan Methodists.	Calvinistic Methodists.	Other Methodists.	Missionary Stations.	Total Dissenting Congregations.	Church Livings.
Bedfordshire . . .	1	—	8	21	—	4	35	—	1	1	71	115
Berkshire . . .	6	1	14	11	1	6	34	7	—	1	81	150
Buckinghamshire . . .	1	—	21	28	—	8	25	1	—	37	121	190
Cambridgeshire . . .	1	1	23	19	6	3	29	1	1	1	85	162
Cheshire . . .	7	12	27	5	9	6	48	8	30	1	153	145
Cornwall . . .	2	—	31	12	—	10	219	3	39	4	320	187
Cumberland . . .	4	10	16	8	—	22	32	—	11	2	105	139
Derbyshire . . .	8	7	36	5	11	5	84	3	22	1	182	161
Devonshire . . .	9	15	65	31	—	6	93	—	18	10	247	442
Dorsetshire . . .	7	3	22	5	—	5	21	—	22	3	88	248
Durham . . .	14	7	13	8	—	7	72	—	28	28	177	91
Essex . . .	7	2	64	24	—	20	36	1	—	21	175	413
Gloucestershire . . .	5	4	38	27	—	13	53	11	7	19	177	290
Hampshire . . .	11	4	49	22	1	5	27	6	—	3	128	258
Hertfordshire . . .	4	—	11	9	—	4	16	1	—	4	49	201
Hertfordshire . . .	1	1	28	13	1	12	2	4	—	—	62	129
Huntingdonshire . . .	—	1	9	12	1	3	9	1	—	—	36	74
Kent . . .	8	4	44	30	4	9	90	15	—	6	210	395
Lancashire . . .	81	36	88	29	5	25	156	9	76	—	504	287
Leicestershire . . .	7	3	17	13	17	4	68	—	13	2	144	208
Lincolnshire . . .	12	2	18	14	11	9	211	2	24	1	304	598
London and Middlesex . . .	21	15	91	55	2	12	59	22	7	5	289	233
Monmouthshire . . .	4	—	21	28	—	3	10	—	—	3	72	118
Norfolk . . .	8	1	21	32	2	13	74	1	24	5	181	683
Northamptonshire . . .	3	1	35	40	4	7	61	—	—	2	153	303
Northumberland . . .	19	50	8	3	1	4	29	—	22	—	136	97
Nottinghamshire . . .	3	3	12	7	6	3	77	—	41	—	152	178
Oxfordshire . . .	8	3	14	12	—	10	44	—	2	6	99	203
Rutland . . .	—	—	3	1	1	1	7	—	—	—	13	40
Shropshire . . .	7	2	25	15	—	3	32	—	18	—	102	209
Somersetshire . . .	8	7	47	37	—	17	94	3	20	21	254	456
Staffordshire . . .	21	5	32	16	3	6	82	—	41	7	213	178
Suffolk . . .	4	2	33	35	2	10	40	1	—	5	132	486
Surrey . . .	4	1	27	21	—	10	—	11	—	27	101	142
Sussex . . .	6	4	31	13	—	5	20	6	—	2	87	300
Warwickshire . . .	11	5	30	16	7	12	18	2	2	5	108	209
Westmoreland . . .	2	1	12	—	—	11	13	—	1	1	41	68
Wiltshire . . .	3	1	38	31	3	3	37	1	8	4	129	274
Worcestershire . . .	8	8	10	22	—	7	24	3	21	1	104	175
Yorkshire . . .	46	13	154	51	9	64	532	1	147	2	1019	809
North Wales . . .	6	23	172	52	—	31	—	—	6	—	299	—
South Wales . . .	—	—	202	107	—	51	214	300	9	—	1100	526

JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The total expenses on account of the judicial establishments of the United Kingdom amounted to 1,022,751*l.* for the year ended 5th January, 1836; and the following is a detail of the cost of each department:—

<i>England.</i> —Courts of justice, namely:—	£
Vice-chancellor	6,000
Master of the rolls	3,546
Chief and puisne judges,	
" " king's bench	28,500
" " common pleas	29,500
" " exchequer	27,243
Clerk of the hanaper	3,000
Insolvent debtors' court	12,307
Compensation allowances for loss of fees and emoluments	69,670
	<hr/>
	£179,766

<i>Scotland.</i> —Paid out of the gross revenue for the judicial esta- blishments	£84,192
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<i>Ireland.</i> —Courts of justice:—	
Lord chancellor	7,195
Master of the rolls	3,969
Masters in ordinary and others, court of chancery	16,612
Judges of the court of	
" " king's bench	27,373
" " common pleas	25,443
" " exchequer	34,059
Judge of the prerogative court	3,000
" " admiralty	500
Clerk, court of errors	277
Commissioners, court of appeals	2,215
Insolvent debtors' court	8,222
Taxing officers	2,416
Registrars to the judges	5,446
Judges attending adjourned assizes	923
Lodging money to judges	1,252
	<hr/>
	£138,902

<i>England.</i> —Police and criminal prosecutions	£402,860
Eight police offices	52,300
Metropolitan police	57,348
Mint prosecutions	8,000
Law charges	14,000
Sheriffs' convictions	7,713
<i>Scotland.</i> —Criminal prosecutions	13,000
<i>Ireland.</i> —Barristers of counties	14,486
Criminal prosecutions	63,738
Police and watch, Dublin	17,000
	<hr/>
	£247,605

<i>England.</i> —Correction:—	£
Convicts at home and abroad	57,184
Bills drawn from New South Wales	170,157
Penitentiary House	16,362
Criminal lunatics	2,629
Commissioners to prevent traf- fic in slaves	16,200
Bills drawn on account of cap- tured negroes	24,000
<i>Ireland.</i> —Officers of prisons	4,144
Expense of removing convicts	2,052
Salary of process-servers	8,052
Transportation of felons	8,916
<i>Scotland.</i> —Salaries to sheriffs and other expenses	62,550
	<hr/>
	£372,256

The total expenditure on account of judicial establishments for the year ending Jan. 5th, 1837, was 1,010,184*l.*

Magistrates and Jurors.

Return of **MAGISTRATES** in England and Wales, appointed by the lord chancellor; distinguishing clergy and laymen: also the number of persons qualified and liable to serve on **JURIES** in each county, under 6 Geo. 4, c. 50, in the year ending Dec. 31, 1835.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Clergy.</i>	<i>Lay.</i>	<i>Jurors.</i>
Bedford	19	27	1,469
Berks	28	95	1,739
Bucks	54	90	2,483
Cambridge	23	28	1,430
Chester	16	58	3,660
Cornwall	36	54	3,747
Cumberland	15	39	2,810
Derby . . . . .	..	79	3,209
Devon	42	144	6,915
Dorset	25	43	2,537
Durham	23	59	2,771
Essex	51	119	4,665
Gloucester	49	127	6,316
Hants	19	131	3,892
Hereford	58	97	2,364
Hertford	44	102	1,731
Huntingdon	7	18	897
Kent	2	145	6,146
Lancaster	24	151	17,690
Leicester	17	27	2,691
Lincoln	52	59	6,781
Middlesex	16	153	28,554
Moumouth	13	44	1,694
Norfolk	78	119	5,170
Northampton	35	49	2,984
Northumberland	6	40	1,549
Nottingham	10	44	3,689
Oxford	18	53	3,429
Rutland	3	6	272

Carried forward 794 2240 125,483

Counties.	Clergy.	Lay.	Jurors.	Counties.	Clergy.	Lay.	Jurors.
Brought forward	794	2240	123,485	Brought forward	1294	3633	173,709
Salop	88	106	2,886	Carmarthen	9	75	1,365
Somerset	53	97	7,575	Carnarvon	14	17	996
Stafford	16	70	6,092	Denbigh	24	41	1,613
Suffolk	58	98	4,533	Flint	15	26	1,027
Surrey	39	215	11,042	Glamorgan	18	36	2,048
Sussex . . . . .	..	189	4,969	Merioneth	9	14	619
Warwick	24	42	5,700	Montgomery	13	31	1,864
Westmoreland	15	18	1,216	Pembroke	10	35	1,296
Wilts	18	71	3,882	Radnor	4	29	795
Worcester	44	92	3,854				
York	103	311	14,615	Total	1324	4017	213,336
Anglesea	7	14	765				
Brecon	24	37	1,044				
Cardigan	11	53	1,051				
Carried forward	1294	3633	173,709				

The return of county magistrates is for about the year 1830. The number of persons qualified to serve on juries is doubtless much greater, the returns being carelessly made and collected.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Statement of the annual revenues and charges of INDIA; also the interest of the DEBT.

Year.	Gross Revenue.	Interest on Debts.	Total Charges.	Expense of St. Helena.	Net surplus Revenue.	Surplus Charge.
1810	£16,547,654	£2,159,019	£16,137,399	£83,821	£326,434	..
1811	16,774,257	2,196,691	16,310,176	81,220	381,861	..
1812	16,689,039	1,457,077	14,847,901	81,854	1,759,284	..
1813	16,523,779	1,491,870	15,333,361	82,292	1,107,126	..
1814	17,299,255	1,537,434	15,340,396	95,254	1,863,595	..
1815	17,297,279	1,502,217	15,862,919	92,087	1,342,273	..
1816	17,232,818	1,584,157	16,858,220	201,748	172,850	..
1817	18,077,577	1,719,470	17,024,418	279,744	773,415	..
1818	18,375,820	1,753,018	17,740,625	255,569	329,626	..
1819	19,459,017	1,665,928	19,404,077	294,092	..	£239,152
1820	19,230,462	1,940,327	19,183,475	169,278	..	122,291
1821	21,352,241	1,902,585	19,605,740	274,565	1,471,936	..
1822	21,803,108	1,932,835	19,648,451	208,038	1,946,619	..
1823	23,171,701	1,694,731	19,963,648	120,093	3,087,960	..
1824	21,280,384	1,652,449	20,741,729	112,268	426,387	..
1825	20,750,183	1,460,433	22,086,221	109,439	..	1,445,687
1826	21,128,388	1,575,941	24,057,600	110,413	..	3,039,625
1827	23,383,497	1,749,068	23,323,179	114,500	..	54,182
1828	22,863,263	1,958,313	23,933,266	120,571	..	1,190,474
1829	22,740,691	2,121,165	21,605,507	113,054	1,022,130	..
1830	21,695,207	2,007,693	20,461,605	93,004	1,140,598	..

Estimated territorial revenue and charges of INDIA for the year 1829-30.

Revenues.	Charges.
Mints	Civil charges
Post-office	Provincial battalions
Stamps	Mints
Judicial	Post-office
Land-tax	Stamps
Customs	Judicial
Ceded territory	Land-tax
Burmese cessions	Customs
Salt	Ceded territory
Opium	Burmese
Marine	Salt
Ava indemnification	Opium
Bhurtlepore	Marine
Subsidies	Claims on Carnatic
Bank profits	Buildings and repairs
	Military
Carried forward	Carried forward
£22,301,916	£18,888,702
	3 Z

Brought forward . . .	£22,301,916	Brought forward . . .	£18,888,702
Deduct for land-tax . . .	247,500	Interest on debts . . .	2,139,117
Total . . .	£22,054,416		
		Expenses of St. Helena . . .	21,027,819
		Charges paid in England . . .	93,004
			1,742,162
		Total of charges . . .	22,862,985
		Deduct revenues . . .	22,054,416
		Estimated surplus charge	
		1829-30 . . .	£808,569

An account of the exports and imports between Great Britain and all places eastward of the Cape of Good Hope (except China); distinguishing the PRIVATE TRADE from that of the East India Company:—

Years.	EXPORTS.			IMPORTS.		
	By the E. I. Company.	Private Trade.	Total Exports.	By the E. I. Company.	Private Trade.	Total Imports.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
1814	826,558	1,048,132	1,874,690	4,208,079	4,435,196	8,643,275
1815	996,248	1,569,513	2,565,761	3,016,556	5,119,611	8,136,167
1816	633,546	1,955,909	2,589,455	2,027,703	4,402,082	6,429,785
1817	638,382	2,750,333	3,388,715	2,323,630	4,541,956	6,865,586
1818	553,385	3,018,779	3,572,164	2,305,003	6,901,144	9,206,147
1819	760,508	1,586,075	2,347,083	193,240	4,683,367	6,615,768
1820	971,096	2,066,815	3,037,911	1,757,137	4,201,389	5,958,536
1821	887,619	2,656,776	3,544,395	1,743,733	3,031,413	4,775,146
1822	606,089	2,838,354	3,444,443	1,092,327	2,621,334	3,713,663
1823	458,550	2,957,705	3,416,255	1,587,078	4,334,973	5,922,013
1824	654,783	2,841,795	3,496,578	1,194,733	4,410,347	5,605,100
1825	598,553	2,574,860	3,173,213	1,462,692	4,716,083	6,178,775
1826	990,965	2,480,588	3,471,552	1,520,060	5,210,866	6,730,926
1827	805,610	3,830,580	4,636,190	1,612,480	4,068,537	5,681,017
1828	488,601	3,979,072	4,467,673	1,930,107	5,135,073	7,065,180
1829	434,586	3,665,678	4,100,264	1,593,442	4,624,842	6,218,284
1830	195,394	3,891,917	4,087,311	1,593,566	4,085,505	5,679,071

Commerce with India was nearly stationary from 1805 to 1814; the partial opening of the trade to individual enterprise in the latter year gave an impulse to exports, particularly since 1826; so that, contrasting the amount of commerce in 1814 with 1835, there had been an increase of 133 per cent. The opening of the trade with China gave a farther impulse to mercantile intercourse with the East. This trade was thrown open on the expiration of the charter of the East India Company in April 1834. Since that time the declared value of English manufactures ex-

ported to China has increased from 842,552*l.* in 1834, to 1,074,708*l.* in 1835, and to 1,326,368*l.* in 1836.

During the last seven years of the company's exclusive privilege, the importation of raw silk from China averaged 77,136*lbs.* per annum; in 1834 the quantity imported rose to 582,834*lbs.* In the article of Tea the increase was 11,449,533*lbs.* in the imports. The returns on the next page is a comparative statement of the importation of tea, before and subsequent to the opening of the trade:—

Comparative Statement of the Quantities of Tea imported into the United Kingdom in the Season 1833-4, being the last year of the East India Company's Monopoly, and the Season 1834-5, being the first year of Open Trade.

Description.	London.	Liverpool.	Bristol.	Leith.	Glasgow.	Dublin.	Total Import in the Season 1833-4.	Total Import in the Season 1834-5.
Fokien Bohea . . . lbs.	3,007,655	619,499	45,704	110,451	.	107,698	4,398,120	3,891,002
Canton Bohea . . .	5,791,977	887,495	119,382	92,984	72,002	150,114	3,763,922	7,113,954
Congou . . .	14,760,304	2,700,752	795,746	327,283	249,533	566,572	15,233,012	19,400,190
Caper . . .	349,467	131,859	.	11,951	18,649	4,559	344,240	516,785
Ankoi . . .	66,055	19,175	.	.	.	.	.	85,230
Souchong . . .	582,858	97,438	113,341	3,940	11,032	.	439,827	808,609
Orange Pekoe . . .	801,793	111,633	.	27,186	.	13,134	257,787	953,746
Campoi . . .	744,005	168,531	20,619	788	78,668	.	.	1,012,611
Pekoe . . .	377,846	52,139	24,428	6,304	11,557	.	199,916	472,274
Twankay . . .	3,310,949	337,526	20,882	14,083	16,851	3,283	3,898,563	3,703,544
Hyson . . .	1,382,422	178,740	96,005	6,435	21,276	3,283	887,444	1,688,161
Hyson Skin . . .	299,810	10,769	.	1,051	6,576	.	104,990	318,206
Young Hyson . . .	403,751	26,792	2,283	657	.	.	.	433,483
Gunpowder . . .	305,832	13,002	14,972	3,415	9,325	263	32,046	346,809
Imperial . . .	166,714	15,235	21,276	.	8,688	.	.	211,893
Presents, &c. . .	85,346	.	.	.	.	.	32,448	85,346
Total . . .	32,436,784	5,370,585	1,274,633	606,498	504,137	849,201	29,592,310	41,041,843

Two or three ships of the season 1834-5, which had not arrived, are excluded from this account. Their cargoes were estimated to amount to two millions of pounds. But as the imports of 1833-4 were about 1,500,000 pounds short of the average of preceding years, the imports of the first year of free-trade may be considered to have been twelve millions of pounds greater than the annual shipments under the East India Company's Monopoly.

COLONIAL STATISTICS.

Return from each COLONY or FOREIGN POSSESSION of the British Crown: stating the year in which it was captured, ceded by treaty, or settled; the number of the POPULATION, distinguishing white from coloured, and free from slaves; also the value of EXPORTS and IMPORTS into each of those colonies.

Those with a * affixed have a Legislative Assembly; those without are governed by the orders of the king in council. T. denotes ceded by treaty; c. captured; s. settled by the British power.

YEAR.	COLONIES.	POPULATION 1829, OR LATEST CENSUS.			Trade with Great Britain, in 1829.			
					Imports into the United Kingdom. Official Value.	Exports from the United Kingdom. Official Value.	Num. and Tonnage of Vessels to and from the United Kingdom, and the Colonies.	
		Whites	Free Coloured	Slaves.			Ships.	Tons.
NORTH AMERICA.		Total.					Ships.	Tons.
1759 c	*Lower Canada	423,630			569,451	1,117,421	778	70
1763 t	*Upper Canada	188,558			213,842	274,922	569	40
	*New Brunswick	72,382			61,701	297,900	121	110
	*Nova Scotia	142,548						
1497 s.	*Cape Breton							
	*Prince Edward's Island	53,473			243,628	373,817	148	30
	Newfoundland	60,088						
	Totals			911,229	1,088,622	2,064,126	1,669	1,622
				911,229				
WEST INDIES.								
1632 s.	*Antigua	1,980	3,895	29,839	35,714	285,500	146,687	46
1605 s.	*Barbadoes	14,959	5,146	81,902	102,607	489,214	369,829	55
1763 t.	*Dominica	840	3,606	15,392	19,838	141,911	27,479	12
1763 t.	*Grenada	801	3,726	24,145	28,732	359,813	35,015	41
1665 c.	*Jamaica	No census taken.		322,421	322,421	3,741,179	2,761,483	286
1639 s.	*Montserrat	330	814	6,262	7,406	40,958	8,302	5
1628 s.	*Nevis	700	2,000	9,259	11,959	78,278	25,253	8
1623 s.	*St. Kitts	1,612	3,000	19,310	23,922	192,280	97,334	24
1803 c.	*St. Lucia	972	3,718	13,661	18,351	157,538	51,505	22
1763 t.	*St. Vincent	1,301	2,824	23,589	27,714	414,548	99,891	23
1763 t.	*Tobago	322	1,164	12,556	14,042	158,385	51,368	26
1666 s.	*Tortosa	477	1,296	5,399	7,172	33,243	5,666	3
1666 s.	*Anguilla	265	397	2,388	3,080			
1727 c.	*Trinidad	4,301	15,956	24,066	44,163	694,001	361,077	94
1624 s.	*Bahamas	4,240	2,911	9,268	16,499	17,915	51,524	7
1609 s.	*Bermudas	3,905	738	4,608	9,231	4,901	24,817	3
	Demerara and Essequibo	3,006	6,300	69,467	78,833	1,762,409	502,226	190
1803 c.	*Borneo	552	1,151	21,312	23,032	325,051	51,587	23
1670 t.	Honduras	250	2,266	2,127	4,643	190,795	792,278	42
	Totals			798,769	9,087,914	5,521,169	958	918
1704 c.	Gibraltar	17,024	nil.	nil.	17,024	34,535	1,117,615	28
1800 c.	Malta	104,489			119,969	20,784	505,359	11
	Gozo	15,480						
	Cape of Good Hope	55,675	37,852	35,509	199,036	238,133	383,427	30
1787 s.	Sierra Leone and Gambia	87	15,123	15,210	2,216	238,570	511,779	163
1641 s.	Ceylon	24	2,122	20,464	933,267	202,668	46,496	4
1795 c.	Mauritius	6,414	906,369	76,774	101,469	451,998	280,130	41
1810 c.	New South Wales	8,844	15,851	15,668	36,598	92,628	250,620	
1787 s.	Van Dieman's Land	9,421	Aborigines not ascertained.	8,484	17,905	33,191	58,913	30
1829 s.	Swan River	850	Convicts	850			37,210	
	General Totals	2,259,725	829,605	3,083,542	11,508,943	10,777,244	2,808	2,377
		Whites and Free.	Slaves, exclusive of Convicts.	Total Population	Imports.	Exports.	Ships.	Tons.
							237,463	767,942

The following is an account of the value of the imports into, and exports from, each Colony in the year 1833:—

	Imports. £.	Exports. £.
Canada	1,665,144	965,026
New Brunswick	549,215	469,464
Nova Scotia (including Cape Breton)	757,620	431,385
Cape Breton	10,324	28,608
Prince Edward's Island	1,693	3,956
Newfoundland	595,909	715,098
Antigua	170,334	183,285
Barbadoes	438,679	418,351
Dominica	38,421	119,528
Grenada	114,179	281,130
Demerara and Essequibo	487,229	1,577,615
Berbice	70,345	258,954
Jamaica	1,519,452	2,489,797
Montserrat	8,065	18,885
Nevis	28,030	44,729
St. Christopher	71,703	102,378
St. Lucia	34,723	63,510
St. Vincent	126,763	283,170
Tobago	54,731	106,589
Trinidad	287,453	268,446
Tortola	10,006	31,105
Bermuda	86,145	13,522
Bahamas	107,399	76,614
Mauritius	593,382	636,089

Ceylon	'320,891	100,470
Cape of Good Hope	394,521	267,086
New South Wales	693,990	340,116
Van Diemen's Land	237,023	119,420
Malta	503,444	364,277
Ionian Islands	563,611	250,669
Sierra Leone	93,786	62,707

Annual Cost to Britain, as Military Establishments, of the undermentioned Colonies, taken from the Returns of 1832:—

Gibraltar	£172,439
Malta	100,462
Cape of Good Hope	99,928
Mauritius	99,332
Bermuda	67,216
Heligoland	500
Ionian Islands	102,899
Jamaica, Bahamas, and Honduras	141,605
Windward and Leeward Islands	386,634
Lower and Upper Canada	208,248
Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island and Newfoundland	143,568
Sierra Leone and Gambia	28,002
Ceylon	118,844
Western Australia	3,481
New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land	90,339
Total	£1,761,505

Actual Expenditure incurred by the United Kingdom on account of the CANADAS; the declared Value of British Exports thereto, and the Official Value of Imports and Exports, British and Colonial.

Years.	Actual Expenditure.		Declared Value of British Exports.		Official Value.	
	£.		£.	Imports. £.	Exports. £.	
1834	220,788		799,912	613,596		1,339,625
1835	166,661		1,184,985	629,051		2,127,531
1836	259,380		1,539,153	633,575		2,739,507

TURNPIKES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In 1829 the extent of turnpike-roads was, in England, 18,244 miles; Wales, 2,631; Scotland, 3,666: total length in Britain, 24,541 miles. Between 1818 and 1829 the length of turnpikes had increased in England and Wales 1000 miles. From accounts of turnpike trusts for the year ending Dec. 31, 1834, it appears there are in England and Wales 1,108 trusts; the number of surveyors is 912; treasurers, 822; clerks, 771. The following is the general state of the trusts in that year:—

	England.	Wales.
	£.	£.
Income from tolls, fines, parish composition in lieu of statute-duty, &c.	1,656,417	97,127
Expenditure in labour, materials, interest of debts, law-charges, &c.	1,725,647	103,083

Debts on bonds, mortgages, and floating debts, &c. 7,980,744 472,646.
The rents of all the turnpike-gates in Scotland for the year preceding Whit Sunday, 1835, was 254,678*l*.

SHIPWRECKS.

1. Number of ships and vessels belonging to the United Kingdom which were wrecked or lost in the periods specified below, appears, by a return made to a Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the causes of the increase of shipwreck, from the books of Lloyd's, to be as follows:—

Number of Vessels Stranded or Wrecked.			
1816	343	1833	595
1817	362	1834	454
1818	409	1835*	524
	<u>1,114</u>		<u>1,573</u>

Number of Vessels Missing or Lost.

1816	19	1833	56
1817	40	1834	43
1818	30	1835	30
	—		—
	89		129

Taking the number of vessels wrecked and lost in the two periods named above at the assumed value of 5000*l.* for each ship and cargo, on the average of the whole, the loss of property occasioned by these wrecks would amount, in the first three years, to 6,015,000*l.*, being an average of 2,005,000*l.* per annum; and in the last three years to 8,510,000*l.*, being an average of 2,836,666*l.* per annum.

2. Number of ships in each of the years above specified of which the entire crews were drowned, though the exact number of each crew is not stated, appears, from the books of Lloyd's, to have been as follows:—

Number of Vessels in each Year, of which the entire Crews were Drowned.

1816	15	1833	38
1817	19	1834	24
1818	15	1835	19
	—		—
	49		81

3. Number of persons drowned in each of the years specified, in addition to the above, and of which the number drowned belonging to each vessel is distinctly known, appears, by the same return from Lloyd's books, to be as follows:—

Number of Persons drowned in each Year by Ships named.

1816	945	1833	572
1817	499	1834	578
1818	256	1835	564
	—		—
	1,700		1,714

4. Among the various causes of ship wreck which appear susceptible of removal or diminution, the following appeared to the Committee to be the most frequent and the most generally admitted:—Defective construction of ships; inadequacy of equipment; imperfect state of repair; improper or excessive loading; inappropriateness of form; incompetency of masters and officers; drunkenness of officers and men; operation of marine insurance; want of harbours of refuge; imperfection of charts.

Amount of POSTAGE collected at the undermentioned Cities and Towns of the United Kingdom, during the year 1834, compared with the Gross Receipt during the years 1832 and 1833.

PLACES.	YEARS.								
	1832.			1833.			1834.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
London	632,696	17	8	642,871	0	7	650,411	11	4
Birmingham	28,685	1	11	28,812	4	0	29,258	1	7
Bristol	33,884	14	10	33,242	13	8	33,210	17	8
Coventry	4,446	7	6	4,357	8	10	4,421	2	7
Hull	14,607	14	4	14,853	19	9	14,859	15	1
Leeds	20,316	10	11	21,331	18	0	20,670	6	5
Leicester	6,464	11	10	6,439	9	5	6,463	6	6
Liverpool	70,011	17	7	74,090	11	1	77,333	1	4
Macclesfield	2,064	19	0	1,955	2	5	2,054	10	2
Manchester	53,510	8	4	56,287	16	11	60,621	12	6
Norwich	10,004	8	9	9,766	6	11	9,689	18	0
Nottingham	9,033	4	10	9,368	7	1	9,195	2	4
Potteries and Newcastle (Stafford)	6,714	10	8	6,858	7	8	7,891	11	9
Preston	5,200	6	5	5,190	8	11	5,146	8	6
Sheffield	11,027	9	0	11,582	16	2	11,759	16	4
Edinburgh	42,759	17	0½	41,864	16	0	41,680	16	9½
Aberdeen	8,668	6	8	8,479	12	1	8,596	15	0½
Dundee	7,367	13	8½	7,904	8	2½	8,162	18	10
Glasgow	36,053	12	11	36,451	0	3	36,453	3	5
Dublin	80,611	19	10	69,096	9	8	70,344	1	1
Belfast	9,747	8	10	9,457	13	11	10,312	1	9
Cork	11,557	0	5	11,721	10	11	12,516	12	8
Limerick	6,380	15	7	6,357	6	1	6,967	2	0
Drogheda	1,932	19	3	1,935	14	3	2,040	15	5
Londonderry	3,479	12	0	3,510	19	10	3,654	2	8
Waterford	5,383	9	11	5,351	1	2	3,339	12	7

There are 54 four-horse mails in England and 49 pair-horse mails. The greatest speed travelled is 10 miles 5 furlongs per hour; slowest speed, 6 miles; average speed per hour 8 miles 9 furlongs. The number of four-horse mails in Scotland is 10, and of pair-horse mails, 4. The greatest speed travelled is 10 miles 4 furlongs per hour; slowest speed 7 miles; average

8 miles 2 furlongs per hour. In Ireland there are 30 four-horse mails and 5 pair-horse mails. The greatest speed travelled is 9 miles 1 furlong; slowest speed 6 miles 7 furlongs; average speed 8 miles 2 furlongs per hour. In Ireland there are 97 mail-cars employed in the conveyance of the mails. Their average speed is 6½ miles per hour.

Expenditure of COUNTY RATES in ENGLAND and WALES.

Heads of Charges.	Expenditure.					
	1792, or other Year.			1832, or other Year.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Bridges	42,237	0	0	74,501	0	0
Gaols, Houses of Correction, &c.	92,319	0	0	177,245	0	0
Prisoners—Maintenance of, &c.	45,785	0	0	127,297	0	0
Vagrants	16,807	0	0	28,723	0	0
Prosecutions	34,218	0	0	157,119	0	0
Lieutenancy and Militia	16,976	0	0	2,116	0	0
Constables	659	0	0	26,688	0	0
Professional	8,990	0	0	31,103	0	0
Coroners	8,153	0	0	15,254	0	0
Salaries	16,315	0	0	51,401	0	0
Incidental	17,455	0	0	32,931	0	0
Miscellaneous, Printing, &c.	15,890	15	7½	59,061	14	10½
	315,805 15 7½			783,441 14 10½		

ASSESSED TAXES.

The rental charged to the assessed taxes in Britain amounted to 10,261,334*l.* in the year 1821; to 11,106,237*l.* in 1826; and to 12,629,980*l.* in 1832; but in 1825, the tax upon houses rented under 10*l.* was repealed. This produced, in the year previous to the repeal, the sum of 1,171,667*l.* The total amount is distinguished into classes, which, for the year 1832, may thus be stated, together with the number of houses to which the amount was charged:—

£	£	Rent.	Houses.
£10	£15	£1,653,481	146,828
15	20	1,312,948	79,745
20	25	1,103,281	53,159
25	30	707,775	27,477
30	35	970,892	31,869
35	40	653,932	18,280
40	45	848,206	20,994
45	50	357,933	7,870
50	55	662,812	13,183
55	60	182,356	3,295
60	65	583,178	9,674
65	70	136,952	2,086
70	75	355,703	5,064
75	80	104,353	1,384
80	85	385,467	4,797
85	90	45,754	533
90	95	181,926	2,017
95	100	30,950	324
100	110	417,126	4,149
110	120	117,465	1,055
120	130	235,633	1,953

£	£	Rent.	Houses.
130	140	£119,533	914
140	150	96,385	685
150	160	176,695	1,175
160	170	81,788	508
170	180	57,461	335
180	190	91,158	505
190	200	25,365	133
200	220	220,250	1,094
220	240	66,655	293
240	260	101,727	410
260	280	35,220	133
280	300	23,400	83
300	350	114,199	373
350	400	66,026	185
400 and upwards		309,973	529
		Total £12,629,980	443,090

The inhabited house-duty, on which the above is founded, was repealed in 1834.

The number of male domestic servants, with the amount which the tax on them produced, was as follows in the specified years:—

	Number.	Duty.
1820	85,344	£319,087
1823	85,731	158,630
1826	90,061	167,167
1829	96,671	177,169
1832	103,381	187,280

The following shows the number of servants kept by persons distinguished as "bachelors" or "not bachelors," and

classed so as to exhibit the number of servants, from one to eleven and upwards, in the employ of individuals, with the amount of duty contributed under each head. It applies to the year 1832, and is limited to domestic servants:—

By persons keeping		Not kept by Bachelors.		Kept by Bachelors.		
		Number.	Duty.	Number.	Duty.	
1	.	45,909	£55,090	6,468	£14,329	
2	.	14,265	22,110	1,929	4,918	
3	.	9,295	17,660	1,065	3,068	
4	.	5,985	13,017	731	2,320	
5	.	3,746	9,177	447	1,542	
6	.	2,581	6,646	382	1,365	
7	.	1,828	4,798	261	946	
8	.	1,484	4,155	166	630	
9	.	990	3,019	81	328	
10	.	615	2,044	70	302	
11 and upwards	.	4,639	17,744	444	2,142	
		Total	91,337	£155,465	12,044	£31,815

LEGACY DUTY.

A Return showing the amount of capital on which the several rates of Legacy-duty were paid in Britain, in the years 1834-5—namely:—

Rate of Duty	1834.	1835.	
1 per cent.	£22,109,303	£22,085,931	
2½ do.	160,338	206,593	
3 do.	1,240,973	11,931,662	
4 do.	36,792	16,549	
5 do.	1,558,875	1,642,198	
6 do.	300,672	300,998	
8 do.	91,538	94,844	
10 do.	4,915,934	4,813,882	
		£41,574,628	£41,092,660

For the two years the capital amounts to 82,667,288*l.* A similar return for Ireland exhibits the extraordinary difference in the circumstances of the two countries: the amount of capital on which duty was paid being, for the two years, 4,545,765*l.*

At 10s. per cent.	1834.	1835.
25s. do.	£1,243,471	£1,552,892
40s. do.	606,059	597,406
50s. do.	83,912	68,391
100s. do.	81,983	4,382
	163,792	143,377

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

An Account of the sums paid into the Stamp-office for duty on INSURANCE from fire, and of the sums insured by each fire-office on farming stock exempt from duty during 1834:—

London Offices.	Duty on Insurance.	Amount of Farming Stock Insured exempt from Duty.
	£.	s. d.
Alliance	21,034	1 6
Atlas	21,398	10 0
British	16,428	13 3
	£	£.
	372,145	614,983
	311,602	

London Offices. Duty on Insurance.

	£.	s.	d.	Amount of Farming Stock Insured exempt from Duty
	£.			£.
County	40,471	13	4	5,194,30 <i>l.</i>
Globe	27,355	1	7	633,64 <i>l.</i>
Guardian	32,114	1	4	664,74 <i>l.</i>
Hand-in-Hand	10,950	2	4	2,12 <i>l.</i>
Imperial	27,020	12	1	200,03 <i>l.</i>
London	9,490	9	5	55,46 <i>l.</i>
Phoenix	72,821	14	5	2,862,371
Protector	56,676	17	8	1,588,555
Royal Exchange	55,266	1	9	3,109,545
Sun	127,470	8	11	3,801,766
Union	16,370	5	10	190,029
Westminster	15,331	3	8	21,410
Bath Sun	1,568	12	6	49,67 <i>l.</i>
Birmingham	6,042	2	9	507,255
Bristol	3,652	4	2	20,906
Bristol Crown	1,753	4	1	1,000
Bristol Union	2,552	18	9	4,527
District Birmingham	147	19	2	6,720
Essex Economic	2,595	9	3	496,553
Essex and Suffolk	5,356	0	3	953,963
Hants, Sussex, and				
Dorset	2,598	2	1	239,690
Kent	10,290	5	1	1,024,486
Leeds & Yorkshire	8,966	3	2	177,445
Manchester	18,318	12	9	237,667
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	5,108	14	0	281,167
New Norwich Equitable	1,294	19	8	220,633
Norwich Union	59,826	3	8	8,080,898
Reading	202	4	2	
Salamander	5,021	2	1	615,951
Salop	2,812	11	8	280,342
Sheffield	2,056	13	4	89,520
Shields, North and South	758	5	1	
Suffolk, East	4,117	6	8	820,450
West	5,781	16	11	1,096,825
West of England	20,284	16	3	671,313
Yorkshire	4,992	15	10	1,403,476

PORT OF LIVERPOOL.

Amount of dock duties received at the port of Liverpool every tenth year, from 1752 to 1832.

Years.	Dock Duties.	Vessels.	Years.	Dock Duties.	Vessels.
1752	£1,776	—	1796	£12,377	4,738
1756	2,187	—	1801	28,365	5,060
1761	2,382	1,319	1806	44,560	4,676
1766	3,653	1,908	1811	54,752	5,616
1771	4,203	2,087	1816	43,765	6,888
1776	5,064	2,246	1821	43,131	7,810
1781	3,915	2,512	1826	60,411	9,601
1786	7,508	3,228	1831	81,039	12,537
1791	11,645	4,045	1832	74,530	12,928

Tonnage of the vessels in 1801 amounted to 459,719; in 1832, to 1,540,057.

WHALE FISHERY.

Number of Ships employed in the Whale fishery from 1820 to 1834.

Years.	INWARD.		OUTWARD.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1820	194	62,750	210	64,847
1821	197	60,257	196	59,445
1822	157	48,204	169	49,700
1823	170	51,796	179	55,297
1824	148	45,925	144	44,378

INWARD.

Years.	INWARD.		OUTWARD.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1825	138	42,736	142	43,721
1826	125	39,394	128	40,532
1827	119	38,002	121	38,290
1828	106	34,029	110	35,829
1829	113	35,982	119	39,540
1830	97	31,897	123	40,166
1831	111	37,454	110	36,472
1832	106	34,900	116	38,240
1833	94	30,755	100	32,275
1834	107	34,161	99	33,014

PUBLIC CHARITIES.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Rent.	Rent Charges. Land-tax Deducted.	Dividends and Interest.	Income of Endowed Schools.	For education not in Endowed Schools.	Total for Education	Income for other purposes.	Total.
Bedford	£12,123	£614	£930	£1,626	£214	£1,841	£11,836	£13,677
Buckingham	7,865	1,607	1,926	1,413	169	1,583	9,815	11,399
Cumberland	1,858	376	1,041	1,802	85	1,888	1,388	3,277
Derby	7,897	1,918	2,680	3,547	127	3,675	8,821	12,496
Devon	20,063	2,259	6,072	5,755	785	6,540	21,853	28,394
Durham	13,902	706	2,455	1,783	60	1,863	15,261	17,124
Gloucester	13,788	1,180	3,787	4,510	874	5,385	14,072	19,457
Hertford	7,797	1,559	2,583	2,501	363	2,865	9,345	12,211
Huntingdon	3,108	247	377	854	172	1,026	2,706	3,732
Lancaster	24,824	5,050	5,851	18,455	259	18,715	17,011	35,726
Monmouth	3,745	316	821	1,919	13	1,933	2,950	4,883
Norfolk	30,427	1,456	5,302	5,703	538	6,242	30,943	37,186
Northampton	14,117	1,702	2,179	3,207	687	3,895	14,105	18,000
Northumberland	3,793	666	1,188	2,478	40	2,518	3,129	5,648
Nottingham	13,720	672	1,809	2,687	224	2,912	13,289	16,202
Oxford	7,431	1,317	4,341	1,621	118	1,740	11,349	13,090
Rutland	4,182	333	267	1,290	197	1,487	3,295	4,783
Salop	14,506	1,384	4,133	6,231	197	6,428	13,594	20,023
Somerset & Bristol	22,506	2,898	9,509	7,581	574	8,156	26,757	34,913
Southampton	5,264	1,735	3,452	2,730	623	3,353	7,118	10,472
Stafford	14,077	2,444	2,643	6,693	440	7,133	12,032	19,165
Suffolk	23,708	1,725	1,684	2,972	1,018	3,991	23,126	27,117
Surrey	27,217	1,562	6,559	5,547	1,049	6,597	28,742	35,339
Warwick & Coventry	33,531	1,459	5,140	11,856	660	12,516	27,614	40,131
Westmoreland [try	3,661	386	1,097	1,952	220	2,172	2,973	5,145
Wilts	10,364	1,533	4,724	1,727	367	2,094	14,527	16,622
Worcester	12,577	1,161	3,515	7,375	291	7,666	9,587	17,254
York	61,233	5,978	14,271	18,678	2,453	21,133	60,351	81,483
Anglesey	1,105	180	199	506	29	535	860	1,395
Caernarvon	1,784	193	241	871	66	937	1,281	2,219
Merioneth	404	95	840	267	55	323	516	840
Cardigan	287	4	79	294	12	306	64	370
Carmarthen	246	237	601	370	41	411	673	1,085
Pembroke	1,393	183	206	412	38	451	1,332	1,783
Berks	3,418	365	2,216	4,140	626	4,766	1,234	6,001
Kent	5,809	1,308	2,522	6,559	918	7,478	2,162	9,640
Sussex	2,657	460	1,393	3,383	401	3,784	726	4,510
London companies	40,290	5,078	14,025	..	..	..	..	59,393
do. Parochial cha-	25,711	1,630	7,178	13,080	292	13,372	21,148	34,520
Westminster rities	8,555	198	8,096	4,600	519	5,119	6,730	11,849
Middlesex	18,162	1,549	13,483	11,313	778	12,091	21,103	33,195
General charities	11,521	442	443	..	310	310	16,097	16,407
Grand Total	540,565	56,963	150,649	180,309	16,938	197,248	491,536	748,178

It appears from a Return, dated May, 1835, that the total amount of money paid by the Treasury on account of this Inquiry from 1818 to 1835 was 208,527*l.* 13*s.* The proceedings under the commission had terminated in twenty-eight counties of England and six of Wales. In the counties of Berks, Dorset, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, and Sussex, the inquiry was not completed. In Berkshire, Kent and Sussex, the charities for education only had been investigated. In Dorsetshire, 56 parishes, townships, and chapelries had been investigated; in Essex, 52; and in Middlesex, 88. The Return states that there are no means of forming a definite opinion as to the extent to which these counties are unfinished. In addition to the above-mentioned six counties, the cities of London and Westminster, and the charities under the management of the chartered companies of London were unfinished. In the city of London, the charities of 140 parishes, and the education charities in two others; and in the city of Westminster, the charities of three parishes, and the education charities of four others, had been investigated. The charities under the management of the corporation of London, and of 39 chartered companies, had been investigated. In the following counties the inquiry had not been commenced:—in England,—Cambridge, Chester, Cornwall, Hereford, Leicester, Lincoln; in Wales,—Brecon, Denbigh, Flint, Glamorgan, Montgomery, Radnor. The number of charities investigated in each county in England was as follows:—Bedford, 270; Berks, 89; Bucks, 700; Cumberland, 311; Derby, 1003; Devon, 1736; Dorset, 172; Durham, 345; Essex, 324; Gloucester, 996; Hereford, 17; Hertford, 698; Huntingdon, 226; Kent, 139; Lancaster, 1181; London—parishes, 947; also charities under the management of the corporation of London, and of the chartered companies, 665; and in Middlesex, including the city of Westminster, 925; Monmouth, 235; Norfolk, 1710; Northampton, 721; Northumberland, 170; Nottingham, 567; Oxford, 849; Rutland, 70; Salop, 743; Somerset, including Bristol, 1621; Southampton, 553; Stafford, 1124; Suffolk, 986; Surrey, including Southwark, 837; Sussex, 90; Warwick, 1030; Westmoreland, 355; Wilts, 750; Worcester, 930; York, 2603; general charities, 13.—Total, 26,751. In Wales

—Anglesey, 277; Cardigan, 36; Carmarthen, 139; Carnarvon, 102; Merioneth, 140; Pembroke, 106.—Total, 590.

In 1835 the appointment of the ex-chancellor, lord Brougham, and sir E. B. Sugden, with other new commissioners, it was thought would have rapidly completed this protracted investigation. But this effort terminated like preceding ones, only by a further addition to the mass of reports previously existing, and the undertaking remains unfinished; ministers declining in 1837 to propose a further grant of public money.

PRICES AND WAGES

(Abridged from Communications made to the Board of Trade.)

Statement taken from the Weekly Book of ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL, in Southwark, of the prices of BEEF and MUTTON per stone, at Lady-day, in every fifth year to the year 1832.

Years.	Beef.		Mutton.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1688	1	10		
1692	1	10		
1697	2	1		
1702	1	10		
1707	1	8		
1712	1	11		
1717	2	0		
1722	1	8		
1727	1	8		2 2
1732	2	0		2 6
1737	1	8		1 10
1742	2	3		2 8
1747	1	10		2 2
1752	1	8		2 0
1757	2	0		2 3
1762	1	10		2 3
1767	2	6		3 0
1772	2	8		3 0
1777	2	6		2 10
1782	2	4		2 6
1787	3	0		3 2
1792	3	0		3 2
1797	4	2		4 2
1802	5	0		5 4
1807	4	8		5 0
1812	6	0		6 0
1817	3	8		4 8
1822	2	10		3 4
1827	4	0		4 4
1832	3	4		4 2

The pieces of beef are rounds, chucks, clods, and leg of mutton pieces. The pieces of mutton are legs and loins.

Prices of Provisions in the Town of MANCHESTER, in each year from 1826 to 1832, both inclusive.

	1826.	1827	1828.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, best* . . per lb.	0 6½	0 6	0 6½	0 6	0 5½	0 6	0 0
coarse . . do.	0 4½	0 4	0 4	0 3½	0 3	0 3½	0 0
Bacon . . . do.	0 7½	0 8	0 7½	0 7½	0 6½	0 7	0 7
Bread, flour per 12 lbs.	2 5	2 5	2 7	2 9	2 7	2 6	2 4
wheaten per lb.	0 0	0 0	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 1½
Cheese . . . do.	0 7½	0 7½	0 8	0 6½	0 7½	0 8	0 7½
Malt . . . per 9 lbs.	2 1	2 4	2 2	2 2	2 1	2 4	2 2
Meal . . . per 10 lbs.	1 7½	1 8½	1 7	1 5	1 6	1 6	1 3
Potatoes† . . per 252 lbs.	9 9	4 9	5 8	6 6	6 0	6 3	4 3
Pork . . . per lb.	0 6½	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	0 5	0 5½	0 5½

* Contract prices at the Royal Infirmary. † Contract prices at the Workhouse. The other prices are such as were charged by retail shopkeepers.

An account showing the PRICES upon which the estimate for BREAD and MEAT was formed for the ARMY in Great Britain by the Commissariat Department in 1832.

Counties.	Bread.	Meat.
	per 4 lb.	per lb.
Berks . . .	6½d.	3½d.
Devon . . .	4½	3½
Hants . . .	4½	4½
Kent . . .	5½	4
Lancaster . .	5½	4½

Counties.	Bread.	Meat.
	per 4 lb.	per lb.
Middlesex . .	6½d.	4½d.
Sussex . . .	5½	4½
Warwick . . .	5½	4½
York . . .	6½	4½
North Britain .	4½	3½

Average prices about 5½ 4½
This return is important as showing the difference of price in different parts of the kingdom.

Prices of the principal articles of CONSUMPTION in the Market of LIMERICK, 1820 to 1831.

Articles.	1820.	1822.	1825.	1828.	1831.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef . . . per lb.	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 3½
Mutton . . do.	0 4	0 3½	0 4	0 4	0 4
Pork . . . per cwt.	20 0	20 0	33 0	30 0	24 0
Butter . . do.	70 0	76 0	76 0	74 0	88 0
Flour . . . per bag.	34 0	36 0	44 0	31 0	42 0
Potatoes . . per stone.	0 2	0 5	0 3	0 2	0 3
Oatmeal . . per cwt.	10 6	14 0	14 6	12 0	15 6
Wheat . . . per stone.	1 7	1 0	1 8	1 2½	1 2
Barley . . do.	1 4	0 9	1 0½	0 10	0 10
Oats . . . do.	0 9½	0 8	0 10½	0 8	0 8½
Whiskey . . per Irish gall.	10 6	10 0	7 0	5 9	6 6

A statement of the WEEKLY WAGES of LABOUR in the TOWN of MANCHESTER and the other principal Seats of the COTTON MANUFACTURE; with an Account of the Retail Prices of sundry articles of Provision in the years 1810 to 1825.

Provisions.	1810	1815	1820	1824.	1825
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Flour, per 12 lbs. "Good"	3 9	2 7	2 5	2 0	2 2
Seconds"					
Oatmeal, per do.	2 6	2 2	2 1	1 9	1 9
Potatoes, per 20 lbs.		0 11	0 7½	0 6	0 7
Butcher's Meat, per lb.	0 8	0 8½	0 7½	0 5½	0 7½
Do. do. coarse pieces	0 6	0 6½	0 5	0 4	0 4½
Bacon, per lb.	0 11	0 10½	0 8	0 8	0 8
Irish Butter, per lb.	1 1	1 2	0 10½	0 10	0 11
Cheese . . .	0 8½	0 8½	0 7	0 6½	0 7

Spinning.

Fine Spinners . . .	42 6	32 0	32 0	. .	. .
Coarse do. . . .	Will run from 20s. to 28s. per week during the whole of the time.				
Women do. . . .		17 0	17 0	25 6	25 6
Reelers	12 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0

	1810	1815	1820	1824	1826
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Stretchers	15 6	14 0	14 0	17 6	17 6
Pickers	11 3	10 0	9 0	7 0	7 0

Weaving by hand.

Nankeens	16 3	13 2	11 0	6 6	6 6
Best 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ Calicoes		10 10	8 3	4 6	4 3
Third do.		11 8	8 0	4 6	4 3
Strong $\frac{1}{2}$ do.	13 0	8 9	9 0	5 0	4 8
Velveteens	12 0	10 4	8 9	7 0	6 6
Bolton Cambrics, 60 Reed. 16 10 $\frac{1}{4}$		10 5	7 5	7 0	6 3
Manchester do. 80 ,, 14 0		10 3	7 6	7 6	6 6
Quiltings, 36 ,, 16 5 $\frac{1}{4}$		13 0	8 6	7 0	6 6
Do. fine	17 2	18 3	10 0	9 0	8 6
Fancy Articles	21 0	18 3	11 0	8 6	8 0

Printing and Bleaching.

Calico Printers.	26 0	26 0	26 0	20 6	17 6
Bleachers and Finishers	18 6	18 6	18 6	21 6	21 6

Fustian Cutters	14 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	21 0
Warpers	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Dyers and Dressers	15 0	15 0	15 6	16 3	17 6
Skein Dyers	16 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Hat Finishers	27 5	22 2			
Tailors	18 6	21 6	18 6	21 0	21 0
Porters	18 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	15 0
Packers	20 0	20 0	20 0	21 0	21 0
Shoemakers	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Ironfounders	31 3	32 1	31 6	30 0	30 0
Whitesmiths	25 0	25 0	25 0	27 0	27 0
Sawyers	25 0	25 0	30 0	25 0	25 0
Carpenters	25 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	24 0
Stonemasons	22 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	24 0
Bricklayers	22 6	22 6	22 6	21 0	24 0
Painters	22 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	23 0
Slaters	21 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	21 0
Plasterers	19 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0
Bricklayers' Labourers	15 9	15 9	15 9	14 0	16 0
Spademen	15 0	15 0	13 6	13 0	14 0

DAILY WAGES of various MECHANICS, and of the RETAIL PRICES of various Articles of PROVISIONS and HOUSEHOLD STORES in the City of GLASGOW, from 1810 to 1831.

Average Wages.	1810	1815	1819	1831
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Masons 9 working hours.	2 10	2 0	2 6	2 4
Bricklayers 9 "	2 10	2 10	2 8	2 6
Plasterers 9 "	2 6	2 8	2 6	2 4
Slaters 9 "	2 9	2 6	2 4	2 2
Plumbers 10 "	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 7
Painters 9 "	2 10	2 10	2 10	2 9
Joiners 10 "	2 0	3 0	2 4	2 4
Sawyers 10 "	4 0	4 0	4 0	3 6
Labourers 9 "	1 10	1 10	1 8	1 6
Shoemakers 12 "	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Bootmakers 12 "	3 4	3 4	3 4	3 4
Bootlosers 12 "	3 9	3 9	3 9	3 9
Blacksmiths 10 "	2 4	2 8	2 10	2 10
Tailors 12 "	3 2	3 2	3 4	3 4
Cabinetmakers 10 "	3 2	3 2	3 2	2 6
Coopers 10 "	2 8	2 8	2 8	2 8
Fleshers 10 "	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Gardeners 10 "	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Porters 11 "	2 4	2 4	2 2	2 2
Machinists 10 "	3 2	3 2	3 2	3 2
Weavers of 4-4th Cambrics 1,800	2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 0	0 9	1 0

Average Wages.	1810	1815	1819	1831
Warpers	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Calenderers	3 6	3 6	2 6	2 9
Oatmeal, per Peck	1 8	1 6	1 3	1 2
Barley, per lb.	0 2	0 1½	0 8	0 1½
Potatoes, 40 lbs. weight	0 11	0 10	0 10	0 10
Beef	0 8½	0 8	0 7½	0 5
Coarse Fleeces, per lb.	0 6½	0 6	0 5½	0 4
Fork per lb.	0 7½	0 7	0 6½	0 5
Bacon per lb.	0 8	0 8	0 7	0 6
Bread, Wheat, Quarter Loaf	1 3½	0 10½	0 11½	0 8½
Household or Brown	0 10½	0 7½	0 8½	0 6½
Milk	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 5
Salt Herrings, per lb.	0 4	0 4	0 3	0 2½
Scotch Cheese, per lb.	1 0	1 0	0 8½	0 6
Irish Butter, per lb.	1 4	1 4	1 1	0 10
Salt, per lb.	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 0 4-12
Candles, per lb.	0 11	1 0	1 0	0 7
Soap, White, per lb.	0 11	0 11	0 10	0 7½
Do, Brown, ditto	0 10	0 10	0 9	0 6½
Do, Ditto, ditto	7 0	7 3	5 6	4 6
Coals, 12 Cwt.	0 5	0 5	0 4	0 4
Black Tea, per oz.	0 9	0 11	0 7	0 5½
Brown Sugar, per lb.	0 3½	0 5½	0 4½	0 3
Tobacco, per oz.	0 3½	0 5½	0 4½	0 3
Snuff, per oz.	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
Schooling, Children each per day	0 0½	0 0½	0 0	0 0
House Rent of a Family per annum	100 0	100 0	90 0	85 0

MEM OF LETTERS.

William Haslitt, criticism, essays, 1778 1830. "Essay on the Principles of Human Action," 8vo.; "The Eloquence of the British Senate, with Notes," 2 vols., 8vo., 1808; "An Improved English Grammar," 18mo., 1810; "The Round Table," a collection of essays, written in conjunction with Leigh Hunt, 2 vols., 8vo., 1817; "Characters of Shakspere's Plays," 8vo., 1817; "A View of the English Stage," 8vo., 1818; "Lectures on the English Poets," 8vo., 1818; "Political Essays, with Sketches of Public Characters," 8vo., 1819; "Letter to Wm. Gifford, Esq.;" "The Spirit of the Age," 8vo.; "The Literature of the Elizabethan Age;" "Table Talk," 8vo.; "The Modern Pygmalion;" "Notes on a Journey through France and Italy;" "Conversations of James Northcote, Esq.;" "Life of Napoleon Buonaparte," 4 vols., 8vo., 1830.

Henry Mackenzie, poetry, novels, 1746 —1831. "Man of Feeling," a novel, 8vo., 1771; "The Pursuit of Happiness," poem, 1772; "Miscellaneous Works," 8 vols., 8vo., 1810. Mr. Mackenzie also wrote several plays, and edited the "Mirror" and "Lounger," Edinburgh periodicals.

Thomas Hope,—fine arts, novels,—1831. "Household Furniture and Internal Decorations," fol., 1805; "Costume of the Ancients," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809; "Anastatius, or Memoirs of a Modern Greek," a romance, 3 vols., 8vo.; "On the Origin and Prospects of Man," posthumous work.

William Roscoe, biography, poetry, 1752 —1831. "Wrongs of Africa," poem,

1788; "The Vine-covered Hills," and "Millions be Free," two ballads, about 1790; "Life of Lorenzo de Medici," 2 vols., 4to., 1795; "Life and Pontificate of Leo X.," 4 vols., 4to., 1805. Mr. Roscoe was the author of several effective political pamphlets.

Richard Duppa, travels, biography,—1831. "Journal of Occurrences at Rome on the subversion of the Ecclesiastical Government in 1798," 8vo., 1799; "Heads from Michael Angelo and Raffaello in the Vatican," fol., 1803; "Life of Buonarrotti," 1806; "Life of Raffaele," 1816; "Travels in Italy," 1828; "Travels on the Continent, in Sicily, and the Lipari Islands," 1829.

Rev. Robert Hall, theology, morals, 1764—1831. "Christianity consistent with a Love of Freedom," 8vo., 1791; "Apology for the Freedom of the Press," 8vo., a reply to Bishop Horsley's sermon, Jan. 13, 1793; "Modern Infidelity, its Influence on Society considered," 8vo., 1800; "The advantage of Knowledge to the Lower Classes," a sermon, 8vo., 1803; "Character of the late Rev. Thomas Robinson," 8vo., 1813. This eloquent preacher was for some time one of the conductors of the Eclectic Review.

Sir Nathaniel William Wraxall, memoirs, travels, 1751—1831. "Tour round the Baltic," 8vo., 1775; "History of the Kings of France of the race of Valois," 2 vols., 8vo., 1777; "History of the Reigns of Henry III. and Henry IV., Kings of France," 3 vols., 4to.; "Memoirs of the Courts of Berlin, Dresden, Warsaw, and Vienna," 2 vols., 8vo., 1799; "Historical Memoirs of my Own Time," 3 vols., 8vo.,

1815; "An Answer to the Calumnious Misrepresentations of the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, and of the British Critic," relative to the Historical Memoirs.

John Bigland, history, topography, 1750—1832. "Letters on the Study of History," 12mo., 1804; "A System of Geography and History," 5 vols., 8vo., 1809; "History of Europe from the Peace of 1783, 2 vols., 8vo., 1811; "Influence of Physical and Moral Causes on the Character of Nations," 1817; "Letters on French History."

Rev. Caleb Charles Colton, poetry, maxims,—1832. "A Plain Narrative of the Sampford Ghost," 8vo., 1810; "Hypocrisy," a satire, 8vo., 1812; "Napoleon," a poem; "Lacon, or Many Things in Few Words," 8vo., 1820; "An Ode on the Death of Lord Byron," privately circulated.

Sir James Mackintosh, history, metaphysics, 1765—1832. "De Actione Muscalori," a Latin thesis, 1787; "Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa," 2 vols., 8vo. (Watt's Bibliotheca) a pamphlet on the Regency Question, 8vo., 1789; "Vindiciæ Gallicæ," 8vo., 1791; "A Discourse on the Law of Nature and of Nations," 8vo., 1799; "Discourses on the Laws of England," 8vo., 1799; "History of England to a.d. 1572," 3 vols., 8vo., 1830—1; "Memoirs of Sir Thomas More" for Lardner's Cyclopædia; "Fragment on the Revolution of 1688," an unfinished work. Sir James was a contributor to the Edinburgh and Monthly Reviews, and the author of a Dissertation on the History of Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy, for the new edition of the Edinburgh Encyclopædia.

Anna Maria Porter, novels, tales, — 1832. "Artless Tales," 2 vols., 12mo., 1793, written before the authoress was twelve years of age; "The Lake of Killarney," 3 vols., 12mo., 1804; "The Hungarian Brothers," 3 vols., 1807; "Ballads, Romances and other Poems," 1811; "The Recluse of Norway," 4 vols., 1814; "Roche Blanche," 3 vols.; "Tales round a Winter's Hearth," 2 vols.; "Coming Out," 2 vols.; "The Barony," 3 vols.

Charles Butler, law, biography, 1749—1832. "Essay on the Legality of Impressing Seamen," 8vo., 1778, written in concert with Francis Hargrave, Esq.; "Coke's Commentary upon Littleton, with Notes," 13th edit., fol., 1788; "Horse Bibles, or Literary History of the Sacred Books of the Jews and Christians," 8 vols., 1799; "Letter on the Penal Laws against the Catholics," 8vo., 1801; "Historical Account of the Laws against the Catholics," 8vo., 1801; "Horse Juridica Subsecivæ," a series of notes

respecting the Grecian, Roman, feudal, and canon law, 8vo., 1804; "Notes on the Chief Revolutions of the States which composed the Empire of Charlemagne," 8vo., 1807; "History of the Political Revolutions of Germany," 8vo., 1812; "Lives of Fenelon, Bossuet, the Rev. Alban Butler, Michael de l'Hôpital, and Grotius," published separately; two volumes of "Reminiscences of Contemporary History;" "The Book of the Catholic Church," and vindication of that work.

Sir John Carr, travels, 1773—1832. "The Fury of Discord," a poem, 4to., 1803; "The Stranger in France," 4to., 1803; "Travels round the Baltic," 4to., 1805; "The Stranger in Ireland," 4to., 1806; "Tour in Holland," 4to.; "Tour in Scotland," 4to., 1809; "Travels in Spain, Majorca, and Minorca," 4to., 1811. This lively tourist received for the copyright of his Stranger in France, 100*l.*; his Baltic Tour, 600*l.*; Stranger in France 700*l.*; and Tour in Holland, 600*l.*

Rev. Adam Clarke, antiquary, oriental scholar, 1760—1832. "Dissertation on the Use and Abuse of Tobacco," 8vo., 1797; "A Bibliographical Dictionary," 6 vols., 12mo., 1802—1806; "Narrative of the Last Illness of Richard Porson," 8vo., 1808; "The Holy Scriptures, with Commentary and Critical Notes," 8 vols., 4to., 1810—1826; "Clavis Biblica, or a Compendium of Scripture Knowledge;" "Memoirs of the Wesley Family;" "Sermons:" he also edited Baxter's Christian Directory, Fleury's History of the Israelites, Shuckford's connexion of Profane and Sacred History, and Harmer's Observations on Passages of Scripture.

Sir John Leslie, mathematics, natural philosophy, 1766—1832. A translation of Buffon's "Natural History of Birds," 9 vols., 8vo., 1793; "An Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat," 8vo., 1804; "Elements of Geometry," 8vo., 1809; "Experiments on the Relations of Air to Heat and Moisture," 8vo., 1813: with many admirable articles in the Edinburgh Review, and a valuable Discourse on the History of Mathematical and Physical Science during the Eighteenth Century, inserted in the seventh edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica.

Elizabeth Spence, novels, miscellanies, 1768—1832. "Helen Sinclair," 2 vols., 12mo., 1799; "Letters from the North Highlands," 8vo.; "Sketches of the Manners, Customs, and Scenery of Scotland," 2 vols., 12mo.; "Dame Rebecca Berry," 3 vols., 12mo.: with some others.

Priscilla Wakefield, education, morals, 1751—1832. "Juvenile Anecdotes," 18mo., 1795; "Mental Improvement," 3 vols., 18mo., 1797; "Leisure Hours," 2 vols.,

12mo., 1796; "Reflections on the Present Condition of the Female Sex," 8vo., 1798; "Familiar Tour through the British Empire," 12mo., 1804; "Excursions in North America," 12mo., 1806; "Sketches of Human Manners," 12mo., 1807; "Anecdotes and Curious Facts," 12mo., 1809; "Instinct Displayed," 12mo., 1811; "Traveller in Africa," 12mo., 1814.

Rev. George Crabbe, poetry, 1754—1832. "The Library," a poem, 4to., 1781; "The Skull," a tale, 4to., 1783; "The Village," 1783; "The Newspaper," a poem, 4to., 1785; "The Parish Register," 1807; "The Borough," 8vo., 1810; "Tales in Verse," 8vo., 1812; "The Variations of Public Opinion as respects Religion," a sermon, 1817; "Tales of the Hall," 2 vols., 8vo., 1819.

Sir Walter Scott, poetry, novels, 1771—1832. Translations from the German of Bürger, "William and Helen," and "The Wild Huntsman," 1796; "Goets Von Berlichingen," a tragedy, from Goethe, 8vo., 1799; "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border," 3 vols., 8vo., 1802-3; "The Metrical Romance of Sir Tristram," 1804; "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," 4to., 1805; "Sir Henry Slingsby's and Captain Hodgson's Memoirs," 8vo., 1806; "Marmion," 4to., 1808; "Works of John Dryden," 18 vols., 8vo., 1808; "Strutt's 'Queen-hoo Hall,'" a romance, 4 vols., 12mo., 1808; "Sir Ralph Sadler's Life, Letters, and State Papers," 3 vols., 4to., 1809; "The Lady of the Lake," 4to., 1810; "Vision of Don Roderick," 4to., 1811; "Rokeby," 4to., 1812; "The Bridal of Triermain," 12mo., 1813; "Swift's Works," 19 vols., 1814; "Waverley," 3 vols., 12mo., 1814; "Lord of the Isles," 4to., 1815; "Paul's Letters to his Kinsfolk," 1816; "The Antiquary," 3 vols., 12mo., 1816; "Tales of my Landlord," 4 vols., 12mo., 1816; "Harold the Dauntless," 12mo., 1817; "Provincial Antiquities of Scotland," 4to., 1818; "Ivanhoe," 3 vols., 8vo., 1819; "Halidon Hill," 1822; "Letters of Malachi Malagrowth," 1826; "Life of Napoleon Buonaparte," 9 vols., 8vo., 1827; "Miscellaneous Prose Works," 6 vols., 8vo., 1827; "Tales of a Grandfather," 3 vols., 18mo., 1829; "Two Religious Discourses," 1828; "The Doom of Devorguil," 1830; "Letters on Demology and Witchcraft," 18mo., 1830; "Count Robert of Paris and Castle Dangerous," 1831.

Jeremy Bentham, legislation, morals, jurisprudence, 1749—1832; "Fragment of Government, an examination of what Blackstone has delivered on the subject in his Commentaries," 8vo., 1776; "View

of the Hard-labour bill," 8vo., 1778; "Defence of Usury," 8vo., 1787; "An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation," 4to., 1789; "A Draught of a New Plan for the Organization of the Judicial Establishments of France," 8vo., 1790; "Panopticon, or the Inspection House," 12mo., 1791; "Supply without Burden, or Eachest vice Taxation," 8vo., 1795; "Traité de Législation, Civile et Pénale, publiée en François d'après les MSS. par Etienne Dumont," 3 vols., 8vo., Paris; "Letters to Lord Pelham on Penal Colonization, and the Home Penitentiary," 8vo., 1802; "A Plea for the Constitution," 8vo., 1803; "Scotch Reform," judicial, 8vo., 1808; *Théorie des Peines et des Récompenses*, edited in French by Dumont, 2 vols., 8vo., 1811; "On the Law of Evidence," 1813; "Table of the Springs of Human Action;" "Swear not at all," 1813; "Catechism of Parliamentary Reform," 8vo., 1817; "Church of Englandism and its Catechism examined," 8vo., 1818; "Chrestomathia," educational, 8vo., 1816; "Observations on the Restriction and Prohibitory Commercial System," 1820; "Not Paul but Jesus," 8vo., 1823; "The Book of Fallacies," 8vo., 1814; "Indications respecting Lord Eldon," 8vo., 1825; "Codification Proposal," 8vo., 1827; "Supplement to," 8vo., 1827; "Equity Despatch-Court Proposal," 8vo., 1830; "Constitutional Code for the Use of all Liberal Governments," 8vo., 1830; "The Rationale of Reward," and "The Rationale of Punishment," English versions of Dumont's redactions of "Peines et des Récompenses;" "Official Aptitude Maximized," "Expense Minimized," 8vo., 1830; "A Test for Parliamentary Candidates," 8vo., 1831; "On Death-Punishment," 8vo., 1831; "Lord Brougham Displayed," 8vo., 1832.

William Sotheby, poetry, translations, 1757—1833. "Poems, Sonnets, and Odes," 4to., 1790; "Oberon," from the German of Wieland, 1798; "The Battle of the Nile," a poem, 1799; "The Siege of Curco," tragedy, 1800; "Six Tragedies," 8vo., 1800; "A new Translation of Homer."

Samuel Drew, metaphysics, religion, 1765—1833. "Remarks on Paine's Age of Reason," 1799; "Essay on the Immateriality and Immortality of the Soul," 1803; "Identity and General Resurrection of the Human Body," 8vo., 1809.

Sir John Malcolm, history, 1769—1833. "Political History of India," subsequent to 1784, 8vo., 1811; "Sketch of the Sikhs," 8vo., 1812; "Persia," a poem, without his name, 8vo., 1814; "History

of Persia," 2 vols., 4to.; "A Memoir of Central India." Sir John left an unfinished biography of Lord Clive, lately published.

Right Hon. Peter, Lord King, currency, 1775—1833. "Thoughts on the Bank Restriction Act," 8vo., 1803; "Speech in the Lords on Earl Stanhope's Bill respecting Guineas and Bank Notes," 8vo., 1811; "Life of John Locke, with extracts from his Correspondence," 4to.

Hannah More, poetry, morals, religion, 1745—1833. "Search after Happiness," pastoral drama, 8vo., 1773; "Percy," tragedy, 8vo., 1778; "Thoughts on the Manners of the Great," 12mo., 1788; "Estimate of the Religion of the Fashionable World," 12mo., 1791; "Strictures on the Modern System of Female Education," 2 vols., 8vo., 1799; "Cœlebs in Search of a Wife," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809; "Christian Morals," 2 vols., 8vo., 1812; "On the Writings of St. Paul," 2 vols., 8vo., 1815.

John O'Keefe, drama, 1746—1833. "Tony Lumpkin in Town," 8vo., 1778; "The Agreeable Surprise," 1781; "Wild Oats," 1794; "Modern Antiques," with many other popular plays.

Right Honourable Agar Ellis, Lord Dover, history, fine arts, 1797—1833. "History of the Man in the Iron Mask;" "Historical Inquiries concerning the Lord Chancellor Clarendon," 1828; "The Killis Correspondence," 1829; "Life of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia," 2 vols., 8vo., 1831. He also edited the Letters of Horace Walpole to Sir Horace Mann, and was an able contributor to the periodical literature.

Rev. Daniel Lysons, antiquary, topographer, —1834. "Environs of London," 4 vols., 4to, 1792—6; "Magna Britannica," 3 vols., 4to., 1806—1822; "History of the Meetings of the Three Choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford," 8vo., 1812.

Francis Douce, antiquary, 1760—1834. "Illustrations of Shakspeare," 2 vols., 8vo., 1807. Mr. Douce was a frequent writer in the *Archæologia*.

Rev. James Dallaway, heraldry, fine arts, 1763—1834. "Letters to the Bishop of Derry," 2 vols., 8vo., 1789; "Origin and Progress of Heraldry," 4to., 1792; "Constantinople, Ancient and Modern," 4to., 1797; "Anecdotes of the Arts in England," 8vo., 1800; "Observations on English Architecture," 8vo., 1806. In 1826 Mr. Dallaway superintended a finely embellished edition of Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting.

Prince Hoare, fine arts, drama, 1755—1834. "Such Things Were," a tragedy 1788; "Academic Annals," 4to., 1805;

"Inquiry into the Arts of Design in England," 2 vols., 4to., 1806; "Life of Granville Sharpe;" "Essay on the Moral Power of Shakspeare's Dramas."

Rev. T. R. Malthus, political economy, 1765—1834. "An Essay on the Principle of Population," 8vo., 1798; new edition, 4to., 1808; "A Letter to Samuel Whitbread, esq., on his Bill for the Amendment of the Poor Laws," 8vo., 1807; "Observations on the Corn Laws," 8vo. 1814; "An Inquiry into the Nature and Progress of Rent," 8vo., 1815; "Additions to an Essay, on the Principles of Population," 8vo., 1817; "Principles of Political Economy;" "Definitions in Political Economy," 8vo., 1827.

Charles Lamb, poetry, essays, 1774—1834. "Blank Verse" (in conjunction with his friend Charles Lloyd), 1798; "Rosamond Gray," 1798; "Specimens of the English Dramatic Poets," 1808; "John Woodville," tragedy, 1802; "Fables from Shakspeare," 2 vols., 8vo., 1807; "The Adventures of Ulysses," 12mo., 1808; "Eliä," 1823; "Album Verus," 1830; "The Last Essays of Eliä," 1833; "Garrick Papers," published in Mr. Home's *Every Day Book*; "Satan in Quest of a Wife."

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, metaphysics, morals, poetry, 1772—1834. "Fall of Robespierre," drama, 8vo., 1794; "Addresses to the People," 8vo., 1795; "The Watchman," Nos. 1 to 10, a weekly miscellany, 1796; "Wallenstein," tragedy from Schiller, 8vo., 1800; "The Friend," essays, 8vo., 1812; "Remorse," tragedy, 1813; "Christabel," 1816 "Statesman's Manual, or Lay Sermon," 1816; "A Second Lay Sermon," 1817; "Zapolya," drama, 1818; "Aids to Reflection," 1825; "On the Constitution in Church and State," 1830.

Dr. Carey, missionary and oriental scholar, 1761—1834. "Sanskrit Grammar," 4to., 1806; "Mahratta Dictionary," 8vo., 1810; "Punjabee Grammar," 8vo., 1812; "Zelinga Grammar," 8vo., 1814; "Bengalhee Dictionary," 3 vols., 4to., 1818.

Dr. Morrison, missionary, Chinese scholar, 1782—1834. "New Testament, translated into Chinese," 1813; "Chinese Dictionary," 1822. Some books of the Old Testament were translated into Chinese by this indefatigable Orientalist, who was also the author of several translations from the Chinese into the English language.

Alexander Chalmers, biography, compilations, 1759—1834. "British Essayists," 45 vols., 1803; "Walker's Classics," 45 vols.; "Works of the English Poets," 21 vols., 8vo., 1810; "History of the Cal-

leges and Halls of Oxford University;" "Projector," 3 vols., 8vo., 1811; "A Collection of Essays," originally published in the *Gentleman's Magazine*; "General Biographical Dictionary," first published in 15 vols., in 1796; the present edition is in 32 vols. This is his chief work and comprises 9000 lives. Mr. Chalmers also edited for the booksellers the works of Fielding, Johnson, Gibbon, Bolingbroke, Pope, Addison; and in 1812 prefixed a life of Cruden to the sixth edition of his "Concordance."

Rev. T. M'Crie, biography, history, 1772—1835. "Life of John Knox," 1812; "Life of Andrew Melville," 1819; "History of the Reformation in Italy," 1827; "History of the Reformation in Spain," 1829.

Thomas James Mathias, satires, criticism,—1835. "Runic Odes," 1781; "Pursuits of Literature," 1794; "Works of Thomas Gray," 1814, 2 vols., 4to. Mr. Mathias had cultivated Italian with great success, and many of his publications are in that language.

William Cobbett, politics, 1762—1835. "Porcupine's Works" (first published in America about 1794—8, and reprinted in London), 12 vols., 8vo., 1801; "Political Register," 88 vols., 8vo., 1801—1835; "Parliamentary History" to 1803, in 12 vols.; "Debates from 1803 to 1810," 16 vols.; "Paper against Gold;" "Emigrant's Guide;" "History of the Protestant Reformation;" "Cottage Economy;" "Poor Man's Friend;" "An English Grammar;" "A French Grammar;" "Advice to Young Men and Women;" "Legacy to Labourers," 24mo., 1834; "Legacy to Parsons," 24mo., 1835.

Henry David Inglis, tales, travels, 1795—1835. "The Tales of Ardenne;" "Solitary Walks through Many Lands;" "Travels in Norway and Sweden;" "Tour through Switzerland and France;" "Spain in 1830;" "The New Gil Blas;" "Ireland in 1834;" "Travels in the Footsteps of Don Quixote," an unfinished work.

Thomas Taylor, the Platonist, 1758—1835. "A New Method of Reasoning on Geometry," 4to., 1780; "Orphic Hymns," 1787; "Plotinus on the Beautiful;" "Proclus's Commentary on Euclid." The most laborious of Mr. Taylor's tasks was a translation of Pausanias in 3 vols., for which he received only 60*l*. His publications extend to twenty-three quarto volumes and forty octavo volumes.

Charles Coote, history, biography, 1759—1835. "Elements of English Grammar," 1788; "History of England to 1793," 9 vols., 1797; "Life of Julius Cæsar," 1794; "History of the Irish Union," 1802; "Lives of English Civilians." Dr. Coote

wrote continuations of Russell's Ancient and Modern Histories, and of Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History. He also for some years edited the *Critical Review*, at a time when Southey, Pinkerton, D'Israeli, and other eminent writers, were contributors to it.

James Hogg, poetry, essays, 1772—1835. "Reflections on a View of the Nocturnal Heavens," 1801; "The Mountain Bard," 1807; "Cultivation of Sheep," 1807; "Forest Minstrel;" "The Spy," 1810—11; "The Queen's Wake," 1812; "Jacobite Relics of Scotland," 1819; "Winter Evening Tales," 1820; "The Three Perils of Man," 1822; "The Three Perils of Woman;" "Confessions of a Sinner," anonymous, 1824; "Queen Hynde," 1825; "The Shepherd's Calendar," 1829, a collection of tales which first appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*; "Altrive Tales," 1832; "A Queer Book;" "Lay Sermons," 1834; "Domestic Manners of Sir Walter Scott," 1834.

William Henry Ireland, novels, poetry, 1835. "An Authentic Account of the Shakespeare Manuscripts," 8vo., 1796; "The Abbess," a romance, 4 vols., 12mo., 1799; "Ballads in imitation of the Ancients," 12mo., 1801; "Henry II.," drama, 8vo., 1799; "Mutius Scevola," drama, 1801; "Chatelot, or Effusions of Love," 12mo; "The Woman of Feeling," novel, 4 vols., 12mo.; "All the Blocks," poem, 12mo., 1807; "Confessions relative to the Shakespeare Forgery," 8vo., 1805; "Neglected Genius," poem, 8vo., 1812; "Chalcographimania," satirical poems, 8vo., 1814. Mr. Ireland was for some time editor of the *York Herald*, and his last works were a "Life of Napoleon" and "Topographical History of the County of Kent."

Sir John Sinclair, statistics, politics, agriculture, 1754—1835. "Lucubrations during a Short Recess," 8vo., 1782; "Statistical Account of Scotland," 4 vols., 8vo., 1792—1799; "History of the Public Revenue of Great Britain," 4to., 1785; "Considerations on Militias and Standing Armies;" "Essays on Agriculture;" "Code of Health and Longevity," 4 vols., 8vo., 1807; "Agricultural Practice of Scotland," 8vo., 1813; "Hints on Longevity," 4to., 1802; "On the Bullion Report," 8vo., 1810; with many others; and numerous papers in periodicals.

Sir William Gell, classical antiquary, 1777—1836. "Topography of Troy," 1804; "Antiquities of Ithaca," 1808; "Itinerary of Greece," 4to., 1810; "Itinerary of the Morea," 1817; "Pompeiana," 1817; "The Topography of Rome."

John Gillies, historiographer of Scotland, 1746—1836. "History of Greece," 2 vols., 4to., 1786; "Reign of Frederick

II. of Prussia," 1789; "Aristotle's Ethics and Politics," 2 vols., 4to., 1797; "History of the World from Alexander to Augustus," 2 vols., 4to., 1810.

George Colman, drama, 1762—1836. "Two to One," 1784; "Inkle and Yarico," 1787; "Sylvester Daggerwood," and "The Mountaineers," 1795; "The Iron Chest," 1796; "The Heir-at-Law;" "Blue Beard;" "John Bull," 1805. Mr. Colman wrote "My Nightgown and Slippers," 4to., 1797; "Broad Grins;" "Poetical Vagaries," 4to., 1812; "Eccentricities for Edinburgh," no date.

Nathan Drake, miscellanies, 1756—1836. "Literary Hours," 1798; "The Gleaner," 1811; Shakspeare and his Times," 2 vols. 4to., 1817; "Winter Nights," 2 vols., 1820.

William Godwin, novels, education, biography, 1756—1836. "Sketches of History," six Sermons, 1784; "Political Justice," 2 vols., 8vo., 1793; "Caleb Williams," novel, 1794; "The Inquirer," series of essays, 1797; "Memoirs of Mary Wollstonecraft," 1798; "St. Leon," 1799; "Antonio," tragedy; "Life of Chaucer," 1803; "Fleetwood," 1804; "Faulkner," tragedy, 1807; "Essay on Sepulchres," 1808; "Lives of Milton's Nephews," 4to., 1815; "Mandeville," 1819; a controversial tract "On Population," 1820; "History of the Commonwealth of England to the Restoration of Charles II.," 1824—1828; "Cloudesley," a novel, 1831; "Thoughts on Man," 1831; "Lives of the Necromancers," 1834.

James Mill, history, metaphysics, 1773

—1836. "History of British India," 3 vols., 4to., 1818; "Elements of Political Economy," 8vo., 1821; "Analysis of the Human Mind," 2 vols., 8vo., 1829. Mr. Mill was the author of the articles, "Government," "Education," "Jurisprudence," "Liberty of the Press," "Colonies," &c., in the Edinburgh Encyclopædia, and was a contributor to the *Edinburgh Review*, and subsequently to the *Westminster Review*.

William Van Mildert, bishop of Durham, 1766—1836. Edition of "Waterton," 10 vols., 1823; "Sermons at Lincoln's Inn," 2 vols.

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William Taylor, 1768—1836. "Review of German Poetry," 3 vols., 8vo.

Henry Roscoe, legal writer, 1799—1836. "Lives of Eminent Lawyers," as Lardner's Cyclopædia; editor of "North's Lives;" and author of several legal works.

William Marsden, orientalist, 1754—1836. "History of the Island of Sumatra," 4to., 1782; "Travels of Marco Polo, a Venetian, in the Thirteenth Century," 4to., 1818; "Numismata Orientale Illustrata," 2 vols., 4to., 1825; "Memoirs of a Malayan Family," 8vo., 1830.

John De Greyer Fonblanque, law, political economy, 1760—1837. "A Treatise of Equity," 2 vols. 8vo. 1793; "Doubts on the Suggestions of the Bullion Committee," 8vo., 1810.

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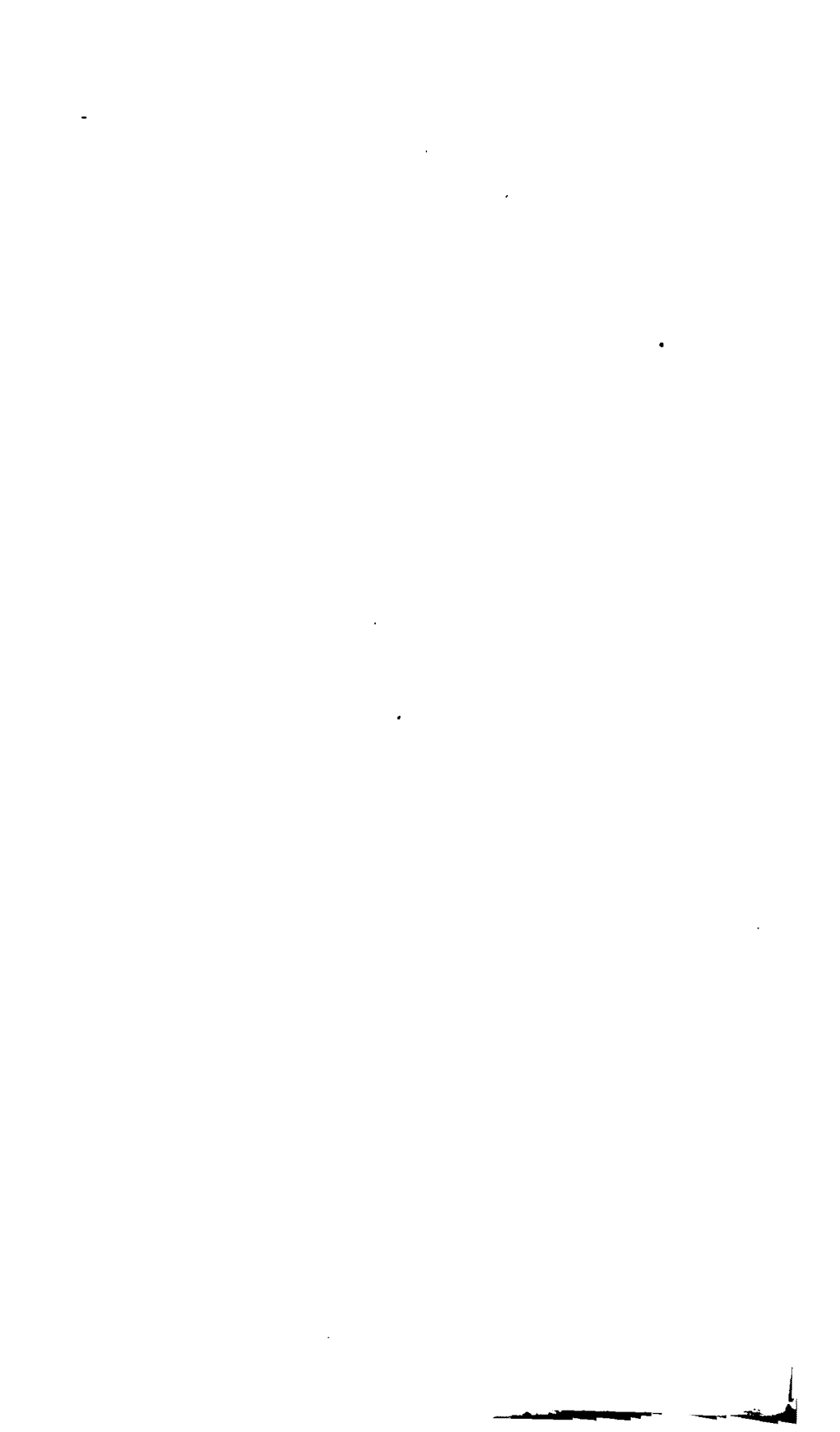
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CONTEMPORARY PRINCES, FROM EGBERT TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.†	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constantinople.
800	Egbert .	Achaisus.*	Charle- magne.	Charle- magne.	..	Leo III.	..	Irene.‡
802	Nicepho- rus I.
811	Michael I.
813	Leo. V.
814	Louis I. .	Louis I.	..	..	..	..
816	Stephen V.	..	..
817	Paschal I.	..	..
819	..	Congale III.	..	..	..	..	..	..
820	Eugene II.	..	Mich. II.
824	Valentine	..	..
827	Gregory IV.	..	..
829	Theophilus.
831	..	Alpin .	..	..	..	..	..	..
834	..	Kenneth II.	..	..	..	..	..	..
836	Ethelwulph	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
842	Mich. III.
843	Chas. the Bald.	Louis II.	..	Sergius II.	..	..
847	Leo IV.	..	..
854	..	Donald V.	..	..	..	..	..	..
855	Benedict III.	..	..
857	Ethelbald	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
858	..	Consts. II.	..	..	Garcia I.	Nicholas I.	..	..
860	Ethelbert	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
862	Rivick.	..
866	Ethelred I.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
867	Basil-
868	Adrian II.	..	..
872	Alfred the Great.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
873	John VIII.	..	..
874	..	Ethus	..	..	..	..	..	..
875	..	Gregory	..	..	..	..	..	..
876
—
—
877	Louis II. the Stammerer.	..	..	..	..	..
879	Louis III. Carloman.	..	..	..	Oleg.	..
—	Fortunio.	..	..	..
880
883	Martin I.	..	..
884	Chs. the Fat.	..	..	Adrian III.	..	..
885	Stephen VI.	..	..
886
887	Leo VI.
888	Hugh.	Arnold	..	..	..	..
891	Formosus	..	..
892	..	Donald VI.	..	..	..	..	..	..
897	Stephen VII.	..	..

* Metellanus was the seventeenth King of Scotland to A.D. 29, and from that year to Achaisus forty-seven kings reigned.

† The Emperors of Germany were heads of a Confederation of States, and monarchs of their hereditary dominions.

‡ Irene succeeded her son, Constantine VI., who was murdered by her A.D. 797, or 792, and was the fortieth monarch of Constantinople from the reign of Constantine the Great, who died A. D. 337.

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
893	Chas. the Simplic.					
899	Louis IV. the Infant.		[moos.		
901	[Elder. Edw. the	..	..	..	..	Rom. For- John IX.		
905	..	Const. III.	..	..	Sancho I.	Benedict IV.		
906	Leo. V.		
907	Christopher.		
910	Sergius III.		
911	Conrad I.	..	Anastatus.	..	Alexander
912	Lando.		
913	John X.	..	Romanus.
919	Henry I.	..	..	Ighor I.	
922	Robert Ralph	..	..	..	..
923	
925	Athelstan.	..	..	..	Garcia II.	..	..
926	Leo. VI.	..	
928	Stephen VIII.	..	
929	John XI. 1	..	
931	Leo. VII.	..	
936	Louis IV.	Otho the Great.	..	..	..
938	..	Malcolm I.	..	..	..	..	..
940	Stephen IX.	..	
941	Edmund.	..	..	..	..	..	..
943	Martin II.	[law I. Swatoo-	Constantinus VII.
945	
946	Edred	..	..	..	..	Agapet II.	..	
954	Lotharius.	..	..	..	..
955	Edwy	..	..	..	..	John XII.	..	
956	
958	..	Indulphua.	..	..	..	..	..	Romanus II. Nicophorus II.
959	Edgar	..	..	..	..	..	..
963	
965	Benedict V.	..	
966	John XIII.	..	
968	..	Duplius.	..	..	..	..	..
969	John Zimiscas.
970	Sancho II.	..	..
972	..	Cullenus.	..	..	..	..	Jaropolk I.	
973	Otho II.	..	Domne II.	..	
—	Benedict VI.	..	
974	..	Keneth III.	..	..	..	Benedict VII.	..	
975	Edw. the Martyr.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Basil II. & Com. IX.
976	
978	Ethelred II.	..	..	..	..	..	..
980	Waldimer the Great.	
983	Otho III.	..	..	..
984	John XIV.	..	
985	John XV.	..	
986	Louis V.	..	..	John XVI.	..	
987	Hugh Capet.	..	..	..	..
994	..	Const. IV.	..	..	Garcia III.	..	..
996	Gregory V.	..	
997	..	Grimus.	Robt. the Pious.	..	..	..	..
999	Silvester II.	..	
1000	Sancho III. the Great.	..	..
1002	Henry II. the Saint.	..	..	..
1003	John XVII. and XVIII.	..	
1004	..	Malcolm II.	..	..	..	..	..
1009	Sergius IV.	..	
1013	Rened. VIII.	..	
1015	
1016	Edmund Ironside.	..	..	..	..	..	Swiatopolk.	
1017	Canute the Great.	..	..	..	..	..	..

CONTEMPORARY PRINCES FROM EGBERT.

1161

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
1018	Jaroslav I. of Kiev.	
1024	Conrad the Sallc.	..	John XIX.		
1025	Constantine IX. alone.
1028	Romanus [III.]
1031	Henry I.	..	Ferdin. I. in Castile.	Benedict IX.		
1033	Mich. IV.
1034	..	Duncan.	..	..	..	..	..
1035	Garcia IV. in Navarre	..	..
—	Ramirez I. in Arragon	..	..
1036	Harold Harefoot.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Michael V.
1039	Hardicnutte.	..	..	Henry III.	..	..	..
1040	..	Macbeth.	..	..	..	..	..
1041	Edw. the Confessor.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1042	Zoe and Theo.
—	Constantine X.
1044	Gregory VI.		
1047	Clement II.		
1048	Damasia II.		
1049	Leo IX.		
1051	Isaslav I.	
1054	Sancho IV. Navarre.	..	..	Theodora
1054	
1055	Victor II.	..	Michael VI
1056	Henry IV.	..	..	..	Isaac I.
1057	..	Malcolm III.	..	..	..	Stephen X.	..	
1058	Nicholas II.	..	Constantine XI.
1059	
1060	Philip I.	..	..	..	..
1061	Alexander II.	..	
1063	
1065	Harold II.	..	..	..	Sancho I. Arragon. Sancho I. Castile.	..	..
1066	William I.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Eudocia. Romanus III.
1067	Michael VII.
—	
1071	
1072	Alfonzo I. Castile.	..	[II.]	
1073	Gregory VII.	Swatoslaw	
1076	Sancho V. Nav. & Arr.	..	..
1078	Wsewold [I.]	Nicephorus III. Alexius I.
1081	
1085	
1087	William II.	..	..	..	..	Victor III.	[II.]	
1087	Urban II.	Swatopolk	
1093	..	Donald VI. Duncan II.	..	..	..	..	..
1094	Peter I. Nav. & Arr.	..	..
1096	..	Edgar	..	..	..	..	..
1099	Pascal II.	..	
1100	Henry I.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1104	Alphonso I. Nav & Arr.	..	..
1106	Henry V.	..	..	..
1107	..	Alexander I.	..	..	..	..	..
1108	Louis VI. the Gross.	..	..	..	..
1109	Urraca, Ca.	..	[II.]	
1113	Waldimir	
1118	Ielas II.	..	John Com.
1119	Calixtus II.	..	

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
1124	..	David I.	..	..	..	Honorius II.	Mistislav	
1125	Lotharius II. the Sax.	..	..	..
1126	Alphon. II. Castile.	Innocent II.	[II.] Jaropolk	
1130	
1132	Garcia V. N. Ramirez II. Arr.	..	..
1134	
1136	Stephen	..	Louis VII.	..	Petronilla and Raymond Arr.	..	..
1137	
1138	Couard III.	..	..	Waswold [II.]	Manuel Com.
1143	Celestine II.	..	
1144	Lucius II.	..	
1145	Eugene III.	..	
1146	
1149	Ismlaw II. Jurje I. D.	
1150	Sancho VI. the wise, N.	..	..
1152	Frederic I. Barbarossa	..	..	..
1153	..	[IV.] Malcolm	..	..	..	..	..
1154	Henry II.	..	..	..	..	Anastasius [IV.] Adrian IV.	..	
1155	
1157	Sancho II. Cast.	..	Andrej	
1158	Alphon. III. Cast.	..	..
1159	Alexander [III.]	..	
1162	Alphonso II. Arr.	..	..
1165	..	William I.	..	..	..	..	..
1175	Philip II.	..	..	..	Michel I. Waswold II.	
1177	
1180	Augustus.	..	..	..	..	Alexius Com. [Com]
1181	Lucius III.	..	Andron. Isaac II.
1183	
1185	Urban III.	..	
1187	Gregory VIII.	..	
1188	Clement III.	..	
1189	Richard I. Cœur de L.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1190	Henry VI.	..	..	..
1191	Celestine III.	..	
1194	Sancho VII. Nav.	..	..
1195	Alexius Angelus.
1196	Peter II. Arr.	..	..
1193	Philip and Otho IV.	..	Innocent III.	..	
1199	John	..	..	..	..	..	..
1203	Isaac II. restored.
1204	Mour-souff. * Baldwin Henry
—	
1206	
1212	Frederic II.	..	..	..
1213	Jas. I. Ar.	..	Jurje II.	
1214	..	Alexander II.	..	..	Henry I. C.	..	..
1216	Henry III.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1217	Ferd. III. [C.]	Honorius III.	[time.]	Peter Robert
1219	
1223	Louis VIII	..	..	..	..
1226	Louis IX. St. Louis.	..	..	..	..
1227	Gregory IX.	..	John with Baldwin.
1228	

* Constantinople taken by the Western Crusaders, and the Emperor put to death, his eyes being first torn out.

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
1234	Theobald I. (Nav.	..	..	..
1237	Baldwin II. alone.
1238	Jaroslav II	..
1241	Celestine IV.	..	..
1243	Innocent IV.	..	..
1245	..	Alexander III.	..	..	..	..	Alexander	..
1250	Conrad IV.	..	..	Newskoj	..
1252	Alph. IV. C	..	..	..
1253	Theobald II. Nav.	..	..	..
1254	William of Holland.	..	Alexander IV.	..	..
1257	Richard D. of Cornwall	..	..	..	..
1261	[Pal. Michael
1262	Urban IV.	Jarosl. III.	..
1264	Gregory X.	..	..
1265	Clement IV.	..	..
1270	Philip III. the Bold.	..	Henry I. Nav.	..	Wasilej I.	..
1272	Edward I.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1273	Rodolph of Hapsburgh	..	..	..	..
1274	Joanna I.	..	..	..
1275	Dimitrej	..
1276	Peter III.	Innocent V.	..	..
—	Adrian V.	..	..
—	John XX.	..	..
1277	Nicholas III.	..	..
1281	Martin IV.	Andrej	..
1282	Androni- cus.
1284	Sanc. IV. C.	..	..	..
1285	Philip IV. the Fair.	..	Alphonso III. A.	Honorius IV.	..	..
1286	..	Margaret Johu Baliol	..	..	..	Nicholas IV.	..	..
1288
1291	Jas. II. Ar.	..	..	..
1292	Adolphus of Nassau.	..	..	..	..
1294	Celestine V.	Dunlo	..
1295	Ferd. IV. C.	Boniface VIII	..	..
1296	..	Interreg- num.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1298	Albert of Austria.	..	..	..	..
1303	Benedict X.	..	..
1305	Clement V.	Michailow	..
1306	..	Rob. Bruce	..	..	..	..	..	..
1307	Edward II.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1308	Henry VII.	..	..	..	..
1312	[V. Cast.	..	..	..
1314	Louis X. K. of Navarre	Louis of Ba- varia, & Fred. of Austria.	Alphonso	..	..	..
1316	Phil. the Tall, K. of Navarre	..	..	John XXI.	..	..
1317
1322	Charles IV. the Fair, K. of Navarre.	..	..	..	Jurje III.	..
1327	Edw. III.	..	..	..	Alphonso IV. Arr.	Alexander II.	..	..
1328	Phil. VI. the Fortunate.	..	Joanna II. Nav.	..	Iwan I. of Moscow	..
1329	..	David II. Ed. Baliol	..	..	..	..	..	..
1332	Benedict XI.	..	..
1334	Peter II. Arr.	..	..	..
1336
1340	Semen	..
1341	John Canta
1342	Clement VI.	..	..

* Michael Paleologus retook Constantinople from Baldwin II., restoring the old Greek line. The Greek Emperors during the French interregnum established their empire at Nice, in Bithynia.

Year.	England.	Scotland.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
1346	Charles IV.	..	..	..	..
1349	Cha. II. N.	..	..	..
1350	John I. the Good.	..	Peter I. C.	..	..	..
1353	Innocent VI.	Iwan II.	John Pal.
1355
1359	Dimitrej II.	..
1363	Urban V.	Dimitr. III.	..
1364	Charles V. the Wise.	..	..	..	..	..
1369	Hen. II. C.	..	..	..
1370	..	Robert II.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1371	Gregory XI.	..	..
1377	Richard II.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1378	Wincelau.	..	Urban VI.	..	..
1379	John I. C.	..	..	..
1380	Charles VI.	..	..	..	..	..
1386	Cha. III. N.	..	..	..
1387	John I. A.	..	..	..
1389	Wassilej II.	..
1390	..	Robert III.	..	..	Hen. III. C.	Bouiface IX.	..	..
1391	Mann Pal.
1395	Martin A.	..	..	..
1399	Henry IV.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1400	Robert	..	..	..	..
1404	Innocent VII.	..	..
1405	..	James I.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1406	John II. C.	Gregory XII.	..	..
1409	Alexander V.	..	..
1410	John XXII.	..	..
1411	Sigismund	..	..	..	..
1412	Ferd I. Arr.	..	..	..
1413	Henry V.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1416	Alphonso V. Arr.	..	..	..
1417	Martin V.	..	..
1422	Henry VI.	..	Chas. VII. the Victor.	..	..	..	..	..
1425	Blanche, N & John I. A.	..	Wassil. III.	John Pal.
1431	Eugene IV.	..	..
1437	..	James II.	..	Albert II.	..	..	..	..
1440	Fred. III.	..	..	..	..
1447	Nicholas V.	..	..
1448	Comet. Pal.
1453	Moham. II.
1454	Hen. IV. C.	..	..	..
1455	Calixtus III.	..	..
1458	Pius II.	..	..
1460	..	James III.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1461	Edw. IV.	..	Louis XI. the Prudent.	..	..	..	..	..
1462	Iwan Wa- silej I.	..
1464	Paul II.	..	..
1471	Sixtus IV.	..	..
1474	Ferdinand II and Isabella of Castile.	..	..	..
1479	Ferd. II. the Catholic, A. Eleanor Nat. Francis Phoebus Nav.	..	..	..
1481	Bajazet.
1483	Edward V. Rich. III.	..	Chas. VIII. the Affable	..	Catharine Nav.	..	..	..
1484	Innocent VIII	..	..
1485	Henry VII.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1487	..	James IV.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1492	Alexander VI	..	..
1493	Maximi- lian I.	..	..	..	..
1498	Louis XII.	..	..	..	..	..
1503	Pius III. Julius II.	..	..

* Constantine Paleologus was the last Christian Emperor. On the 29th of May, 1453, Constanti-
nople was taken by the Turks, the Emperor Constantine killed, and Mohammed II. ascended the
throne of the eastern empire, thus founding the present empire of Turkey in Europe.

Year.	Gt. Britain.	France.	Germany.	Spain.	Papal States.	Russia.	Constant.
1689	William & Mary	..	..	..	Alexand. VIII.		
1691	..	..	..	..	Innocent XII.	..	Achmed II.
1693	..	..	..	..	..	..	Mustapha II.
1700	..	..	..	Philip V.	Clement XI.		
1702	Anne.	..	..	..	..	..	Achmed III.
1703	..	..	..	..	..	..
1705	..	..	Joseph I.	..	..	..
1711	..	..	Charles VI.	..	..	..
1714	George I.	..	..	..	..	..
1715	..	Louis XV.	..	..	..	..
1721	..	..	..	..	Innocent XIII.	..	
1724	..	..	..	..	Benedict XIII.	..	
1725	..	..	..	..	..	Catharine I.	
1727	George II.	..	..	..	..	Peter II.	
1730	..	..	..	..	Clement XII.	Anne.	Mohammed
1740	..	..	..	..	Benedict XIV.	Iwan III.	(V.
1741	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabeth.	
1742	..	..	Chas. VII.	..	..	..
1745	..	..	Francis I.	..	..	..
			Maria Theresa	..	..	..
1751	..	..	..	Ferd. VI.	..	..	Osman II.
1754	..	..	..	..	..	..	Mustapha III.
1757	..	..	..	..	..	..
1758	..	..	..	..	Clement XIII.	..	
1759	..	..	..	..	..	..
1760	George III.	..	..	Charles III.	..	..
1762	..	..	..	..	..	Peter III.	
						Catharine II.	
1765	..	..	Joseph II.	..	..	..
1769	..	..	..	..	Clement XIV.	..	
1774	..	Louis XVI.	..	..	..	..	Abdul-Ha-
1775	..	..	..	..	Pius VI.	..	ussat.
1788	..	..	..	Charles IV.	..	..	Setim III.
1789	..	..	..	..	..	..
1790	..	..	Leopold II.	..	..	..
1792	..	Republic.	Francis II.	..	..	..
1796	..	..	..	..	..	Paul I.	
1800	..	..	..	..	Pius VII.	..	
1801	..	..	..	..	..	Alexander.	
1804	..	Napoleon, Emperor.	..	..	..	..
1806	..	..	Confed. of the Rhine.	..	..	..
			Austria.*	..	..	..
			Francis I.	..	..	..
1808	..	..	..	Ferd. VII.	..	..	Mohammed
			..	J. Napoleon.	..	..	(VI.
1814	..	Louis [XVIII.	..	Ferd. VII.	..	..
1820	George IV.	..	..	..	..	..
1823	..	Charles X.	..	..	Leo XII.	..	
1824	..	..	..	..	..	..
1825	..	..	..	..	..	Nicholas I.	
1830	William [IV.	Louis [Philip.	..	..	..	..
1831	..	..	..	..	Gregory XVI.	..	
1834	..	..	..	Isabella II.	..	..
1835	..	..	Ferdinand I.	..	..	..
1837	Victoria.	..	..	..	..	..	(VII.
1839	..	..	..	..	..	..	Abdul-Med-

* Upon the establishment of the Confederation of the Rhine in 1806, Francis II., ceasing to be the elective Emperor of Germany, became hereditary Emperor of Austria under the title of Francis I. Upon the formation of the Germanic Confederation of 1815, the Emperor of Austria was declared hereditary head of that body.

THE SMALLER EUROPEAN STATES, FROM 1697.							
Year.	Sweden.	Denmark.	Naples.	Poland.	Portugal.	Prussia.	Sardinia.
1697	Charles XII.						
1699	..	Frederic IV.					
1701	..	..	..	..		Frederic I.	
1704	..	..	..	Stanislaus (Lescinsky.)			
1706	..	..	..	..	John V.		
1709	..	..	..	Augustus II.		[I. Fred. Wm.	
1713	..	..	Charles II.				
1719	Ulrica El.						
1720	Frederic.	..	..	..	..	..	Victor Am. II.
1730		Christian VI.	..	..	..	..	Charles Ema- [nuel III.
1733	..	..	..	Augustus III.			
1735	..	..	Charles III.				
1740	..	..	..	..	..	Frederic II. the Great.	
1746	..	Frederic V.					
1750	..	..	..	..	Joseph Emanuel.		
1759	Adolph. Fred.	..	Ferdinan. IV.				
1764	..	..	..	Stanislaus (Poniatowsky.)			
1766	..	Christian VII.					
1771	Gustavus III.						
1772	..	..	..	1st Partition.			
1773	..	..	..	..			Vict. Am. III.
1777	..	..	..	..	Marla.		
1786	..	..	..	..	..	Fred. W. II.	
1792	Gustavus IV.						
1793	..	..	..	2d Partition.			
1795	..	..	..	3d Partition.			
1796	..	..	..	..	..	..	Chas. Eman. [IV.
1797	..	..	..	..	..	Fred. W. III.	
1799	..	..	..	..	John VI.		
1802	..	..	..	..	..	..	Victor Eman.
1808		Frederic VI.	Jos. Napoleon				
1809	Charles XIII.						
1815	..	..	Joach. Murat	Alexander.			
1818	Charles John [XIV.	..					
1821	..	..	Ferdinand I.*	..			
1825	..	..	..	Nicholas.	..	..	Chas. Felix.
1826	..	..	Francis.	..	Pedro IV. Maria da Gloria.		
1828	..	..	..	..	..
1830	..	Frederic VII.	Ferdinand II.				
1831	..	..	..	..	..	..	Chas. Albert.
1832							
1833							
1834							
1835							
1836							
1837		[VIII.					
1838	..	Christian					
1839	..	..	..	..	..	Fred. W. IV.	
1840	..	..	..	..	..

* Of the United Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, formerly Ferdinand IV. of Naples, and immediately Ferdinand III. of Sicily.

MONEY FROM THE CONQUEST.

I.—GOLD COIN.

A TABLE,

Exhibiting the STANDARD, WEIGHT, and VALUE of GOLD MONEY; also the proportional Value of FINE GOLD to FINE SILVER, from the Conquest.

The Dates of the several Mint Indentures.		Standard of the Gold.		Pound Troy of Gold coined into,	Ounce Troy coined into,	Value of 20s. at each period.	Proportional Value of Fine Gold to Fine Silver, at each period.
		Fine Gold.	Alloy.				
<i>Asso Regni.</i>	<i>A. D.</i>	oz. dwt. gr.	oz. dwt. gr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
William I.	1066	11 18 18	0 1 6				
William II.	1087	11 18 18	0 1 6	9 0 0	0 15 0	5 12 8½	1 to 8-36874
18th Edward III.	1346	11 18 18	0 1 6	15 0 0	1 5 14	3 7 7½	1 to 13-7754
19th —	1346	11 18 18	0 1 6	13 3 4	1 2 04	3 17 0½	1 to 12-0917
20th —	1347	11 18 18	0 1 6	14 0 0	1 3 54	3 12 5½	1 to 11-5714
27, 30, 37, & 46th do.	1373						
18th Richard II.	1395	11 18 18	0 1 6	15 0 0	1 5 13	3 7 7½	1 to 11-1861
3rd Henry IV.	1402	11 18 18	0 1 6	16 13 4	1 7 11½	3 0 104	1 to 10-2315
9th Henry V.	1422	11 18 19	0 1 6	22 10 0	1 17 8½	2 5 0½	1 to 11-1561
1st & 39th Henry VI.	1422 } 1461 }	11 18 18	0 1 6	16 13 4	1 7 11½	3 0 104	1 to 10-3315
4th —	1425	11 18 18	0 1 6	16 13 4	1 7 11½	3 0 104	1 to 10-3315
4th Edward IV.	1465	11 18 18	0 1 6	20 16 8	1 14 10½	2 8 8½	1 to 10-3316
5, 8, 11, 16, & 22d do.	1482						
1st Richard III.	1483	11 18 18	0 1 6	22 10 0	1 17 8½	2 5 0½	1 to 11-1561
9th Henry VII.	1494						
1st & 23d Henry VIII.	1509 } 1532 }	11 18 18	0 1 6	27 0 0	2 5 24	1 17 64	1 to 11-1561
1st and 23rd	1509 } 1532 }	11 0 0	1 0 0	25 2 6	2 5 84	1 17 24	1 to 11-2682
34th —	1543	11 10 0	0 10 0	28 16 0	2 10 1	1 13 11½	1 to 10-4348
36th —	1545	11 0 0	1 0 0	30 0 0	2 14 64	1 11 1	1 to 6-81818
37th —	1546	10 0 0	2 0 0	30 0 0	3 0 0	1 8 34	1 to 5-0000
1st & 2d Edward VI.	1549	11 0 0	1 0 0	34 0 0	3 1 94	1 7 5½	1 to 5-16161
3rd —	1550	11 18 18	0 1 6	28 16 0	2 8 3	1 15 24	1 to 2-01048
4th —	1551	11 18 18	0 1 6	36 0 0	3 0 34	1 8 2	1 to 11-1079
6th —	1553	11 0 0	1 0 0	33 0 0	3 0 0	1 8 3½	1 to 11-0500
6th —	1553	11 0 0	1 0 0	33 0 0	3 0 0	1 8 3½	1 to 11-0500
1st Mary I.	1553	11 18 18	0 1 6	36 0 0	3 0 34	1 8 2	1 to 11-0576
2nd Elizabeth	1560						
2nd and 35th ditto	1560 } 1594 }	11 0 0	1 0 0	33 0 0	3 0 0	1 8 3	1 to 11-1600
12th and 26th ditto	1578 } 1645 }	11 18 18	0 1 6	36 10 0	3 0 34	1 8 2	1 to 11-1561
43rd ditto	1601	11 18 18	0 1 6	36 0 0	3 1 14	1 7 14	1 to 10-9461
43rd ditto	1601	11 0 0	1 0 0	33 10 0	3 0 104	1 7 104	1 to 10-9047
1st James I.	1603	11 0 0	1 0 0	37 10 0	3 8 24	1 4 11	1 to 12-3076
2nd —	1604	11 0 0	1 0 0	37 4 0	3 7 7½	1 5 1½	1 to 12-1091
3rd —	1605	12 18 18	0 1 6	40 10 0	3 7 10	1 5 0½	1 to 12-1479
10th —	1613	11 18 18	0 1 6	44 0 0	3 13 84	1 3 04	1 to 13-1977
10th —	1613	11 0 0	1 0 0	40 18 4	3 14 44	1 2 10	1 to 13-3189
2nd Charles I.	1627	11 18 18	0 1 6	44 10 0	3 14 64	1 2 94	1 to 13-3478
12th Charles II.	1661						
2nd Charles I.	1627	11 0 0	1 0 0	41 10 0	3 14 61	1 2 94	1 to 13-3460
22nd Charles II.	1671	11 0 0	1 0 0	44 10 0	4 0 10	1 1 0	1 to 14-4553
1st James II.	1685	11 0 0	1 0 0	47 15 9	4 6 114	1 9 64	1 to 15-8717
William III.	1717	11 0 0	1 0 0	46 14 6	4 4 114	1 0 0	1 to 15-29946
3rd George I.	1717	11 0 0	1 0 0	46 14 6	4 4 114	1 0 0	1 to 15-29946
56th George III.	1816	11 0 0	1 0 0	46 14 6	4 4 114	1 0 0	1 to 14-287

II.—SILVER COIN.

A TABLE,

Exhibiting the STANDARD, WEIGHT, VALUE, and COMPARATIVE RATE of SILVER MONEY, from the Conquest to Queen Victoria.

The Dates of the several Mint Indentures.		Standard of the Silver.		Number of Shillings, &c. in the Pound.	Weight of 20s. in tale.	Weight of the Fine Silver contained in 20s.	Value of 20s. in present Money.	Value of the Ounce of Fine Silver.		Price of Wheat per Quarter.
		Fine Silver.	Alloy.					s. d.	s. d.	
<i>Anno Regni.</i>	<i>A. D.</i>	oz. dwt.	oz. dwt.	s. d.	oz. dwt. gr.	oz. dwt. gr.	£. s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
William I.	1066	11 2	0 18	21 4	11 5 0	10 8 3	3 1 14	1 11½	..	
William II.	1087	11 2	0 18	20 0	12 0 0	11 2 0	3 6 0	1 9½	1 9	
29th Edward I.	1300	11 2	0 18	20 3	11 17 1	10 19 6	3 6 2½	1 9½	7 2	
20th Edward III.	1347	11 2	0 18	22 6	10 13 8	9 17 8	2 18 8	2 0½	10 10	
27th —	1354									
18th Richard II.	1385	11 2	0 18	25 0	9 12 0	8 17 14½	2 12 9½	2 3	14 11	
3rd Henry IV.	1402									
13th —	1412	11 2	0 18	32 0	7 10 0	6 18 18	2 1 1½	2 10½	11 6	
9th Henry V.	1422	11 2	0 18	30 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	2 4 0	2 8½	8 0	
1st Henry VI.	1422	11 2	0 18	37 6	6 8 0	5 18 10	1 15 2½	3 4½	8 0	
4th —	1426	11 2	0 18	30 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	2 4 0	2 8½	5 8	
24th —	1446									
39th —	1461									
4th Edward IV.	1464	11 2	0 18	37 6	6 8 0	5 18 10	1 15 2½	3 4½	8 10	
5, 8, 11, 16, and 22d —	1482									
1st Richard III.	1483									
9th Henry VII.	1494	11 2	0 18	40 0	6 0 0	5 11 0	1 13 0	3 7½	5 8	
20th —	1505									
1st Henry VIII.	1509	11 2	0 18	45 0	5 6 16	4 18 16	1 9 4	4 0½	5 4	
23rd & 18th do.	1532									
34th —	1543	10 0	2 0	48 0	5 0 0	4 3 8	1 4 9½	4 9½	18 8	
36th —	1545	6 0	6 0	48 0	5 0 0	2 10 0	0 14 10½	8 0	16 8	
37th —	1546									
1st Edward VI.	1547	4 0	8 0	48 0	5 0 0	1 13 8	0 9 11	12 0	14 8	
2nd —	1548									
3rd —	1549	6 0	6 0	72 0	3 6 16	1 13 8	0 9 11	12 0	14 5	
6th —	1551	3 0	9 0	72 0	3 6 16	0 16 16	0 4 14	24 0	16 6	
6th —	1553	11 1	0 19	60 0	4 0 0	3 13 16	1 9 0½	5 5½		
1st Mary I.	1553	11 0	1 0	60 0	4 0 0	3 13 8	1 8 11½	5 5½	11 7	
2nd Elizabeth	1560	11 2	0 18	60 0	4 0 0	3 14 0	1 2 0	5 4½	18 8	
19th & 25th do.	1583									
43rd —	1601									
2nd James I.	1605									
2nd Charles I.	1627									
12th Charles II.	1661	11 2	0 18	62 0	3 17 10	3 11 14½	1 1 2½	5 7	62 2	
22nd —	1671									
1st James II. to the . . .	1685									
56th George III.	1816	11 2	0 18	66 0	3 12 17½	3 7 6½	1 0 0	5 11½	82 0	

REMARKS ON MONEY.

In monetary comparisons of the present with former periods of British history two considerations are essential. First, the relative quantity and purity of the precious metals contained in coins of the same denomination; and, secondly, the relative prices of commodities, or the quantities of labour and other articles of consumption for which a given sum of money will exchange at the respective periods of comparison.

An example will illustrate. Henry the Seventh's chapel, built in 1493, at the east extremity of Westminster Abbey, cost 14,000*l.*; but, as the pound of silver at the same standard fineness as the present was

coined only into thirty-seven shillings and sixpence, this was equal to 24,640*l.* of our money; and, if the difference in wages and prices be taken into account, was equivalent to an expenditure of 98,560*l.* in the reign of Queen Victoria.

It appears from the first of the preceding Tables that there has been no alteration in the standard fineness of gold since 1627; nor in its Mint price, 46*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* per *lb.* Troy, or 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* an ounce, since 1717. But in 1816 gold coin was made the only legal tender, in specie, in all payments exceeding forty shillings.

Standard silver is 11*oz.* 2*dwt.* of pure

silver, with 18*lots*. of alloy; and this has continued unchanged since the Conquest, except the short interval from 1543 to 1560, during which the fluctuations appear to have been considerable. From 1661 to 1816 the pound of silver bullion was coined into 62 shillings, but in the latter year it began to be coined into 66 shillings, the additional four shillings being deducted at the Mint, as a seignorage or duty. It is the latest alteration in the silver coinage up to the present, further than the recent issue of a silver coin of a smaller denomination, namely, fourpence.

From 1296 to 1355 the coins of England and Scotland were of the same weight and purity; but in the last-mentioned year the standard of Scotch money was, for the first time, sunk below that of England; and by

successive degradations the value of Scotch money, at the union of the crowns in 1603, was only a twelfth part of the value of the English money of the same denomination. It remained at this point till the legislative union of the two kingdoms in 1707 cancelled the separate coinage of Scotland.

The gold and silver coins of Ireland have been for a considerable period the same as those of Great Britain; but, until 1825, they were nominally rated at $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. higher. This being attended with inconvenience, an act of that year assimilated the currency of the united kingdoms.

The prices of wheat are not exactly to be depended on prior to 1646. The prices subsequent to this year are the Eton prices, reduced to the Winchester bushel of eight gallons.

PUBLIC TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL PUBLIC TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS BETWEEN EUROPEAN NATIONS, FROM THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

- Abo, peace of, between Russia and Sweden, 1743.
- Aix-la-Chapelle, peace of, between France and Spain, 1668; France yields Franche Comte, which she again recovered in 1678; great treaty of, in 1748. See p. 434.
- Alt Ranstadt, peace of, between Charles XII. of Sweden and Augustus of Poland, 1706.
- American independence acknowledged by England, Jan. 20, 1782.
- Amiens, peace of, between Britain, France, Spain, and Holland, 1802.
- Armed Neutrality, convention for, between Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, 1780. Prussia, Holland, and Germany soon after acceded; second armed neutrality for the protection of neutrals in 1800.
- Arras, treaty of, 1482; by which Margaret, daughter of Maximilian of Austria, and husband of Mary of Burgundy, was espoused to the Dauphin, son of Louis XI. of France, with Artois and Burgundy as a dowry.
- Assiento contract, renounced by England in 1750; it had been originally concluded for the supply of slaves to Spain, and was a stipulation of the peace of Utrecht in 1713.
- Augsburgh, religious peace established at, and the free exercise of the protestant worship secured in Germany, 1556; league of, against France, 1686.
- Austria, convention concluded with, by England for the navigation of the Danube by British subjects, July 3, 1838.
- Balta-Liman, convention of, between Turkey and England, August 16, 1838. By this agreement British subjects and British ships are placed on a footing of equality with the most favoured nation with which the Sultan is in alliance; and British merchandize to be admitted into Turkey at lower and fixed rates of duty.
- Barrier treaty, signed at Antwerp by the British, the Imperial, and Dutch ministers, 1715; the Netherlands ceded to the emperor.
- Basle, peace of, between Prussia and the French republic, April 5, 1795.
- Bayonne, treaty of, between Buonaparte and Charles IV. See p. 682.
- Berlin decree, issued by Napoleon, November 21, 1806; declaring the British islands in a state of blockade, and interdicting the whole world from any communication with them.
- Berlin, peace of, by which Silesia is given up to Prussia, 1742.
- Breda, peace of, between England, France, Holland, and Denmark, 1667.
- Bretigny, peace of, 1360. By this England retained Gascony, Guienne, Perigord, Limousin, and Rouergue; renouncing her pretensions to Maine, Anjou, Touraine, and Normandy; she was also to receive 3,000,000 crowns, and release king John, who had long been prisoner in London.
- Boulogne restored to France by England, 1549.
- Bull issued by the Pope December 3, 1839, prohibiting the traffic in human beings by the subjects of Roman Catholic states.
- Calais surrendered to France, 1558; having been in English possession since 1347.
- Campo Formio, peace of, between France and Austria, 1797.
- Cambray, league of, 1508; formed against the republic of Venice by the Pope, the Emperor, and the kings of France and

- Spain; Venice forced to cede to Spain her possessions in Naples.
- Carlsbad, congress of, August 1st, 1819.
- Carlowitz, peace of, between Turkey, Germany, Russia, Poland, and Venice, 1699.
- Chatillon, congress of, between the four great Powers allied against France; Caulincourt attended for Buonaparte; it began February 5, and broke up March 9, 1814.
- Chaumont, treaty of, between Britain, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, March 1, 1814.
- Cintra convention, signed August 30, 1808.
- Closterseven, convention of, 1757.
- Confederation of the Rhine formed under the auspices of Napoleon, July 12, 1806.
- Concordat, between Buonaparte and Pius VII., concluded, 1801; second concordat with the Pope signed at Fontainebleau January 25, 1813.
- Crimea passes under the dominion of Russia, 1783.
- Denmark cedes Swedish Pomerania and Rugen to Prussia, in exchange for Lauenburgh, June 4, 1815; concludes a commercial treaty with Britain, June 16, 1824.
- England, fortress of Guieuens, in France, claimed by Edward II., 1326; acknowledges independence of Scotland under Robert Bruce, 1327; peace of Bretigny concluded with France, 1360; peace concluded with Scotland, Henry VIII. having failed to effect a matrimonial alliance between the young queen Mary and his son, prince Edward, 1542; peace ratified between England, France, and Scotland, 1560; James I. concludes a treaty with Henry IV. of France, to support the States General against the Spanish branch of the house of Austria, 1603; war in favour of the distressed French protestants, 1627; England accedes to the protestant league for the restoration of the elector palatine, son-in-law of James I., 1630; peace with Turkey ratified, 1809; England concludes a convention with Russia, settling frontier of north-west coast of America, February 28, 1825; treaty of navigation with France concluded, 1826. *See* Austria, France, &c.
- Falkland Islands, possession of, confirmed to England by Spain, 1791.
- Family Compact, of the different branches of the house of Bourbon, signed 1761.
- Flemings, league formed with, by Edward III. to support his pretensions to the crown of France, 1336.
- Florida ceded to the United States by Spain, October 24, 1820.
- France, Pragmatic Sanction, regulating election of bishops and power of the pope, 1439; partition treaty between, and Spain, for the division of Naples, which was the cause of a war between the two kingdoms, and eventually Naples remained in possession of Spain, 1501; France obtains peace from the Pope, by promising to abolish the Pragmatic Sanction, 1514; Francis I., to release himself from captivity, surrenders to Charles V. Burgundy, Artois, and Flanders, and renounces all claim to Italy, 1526; peace signed at Cressy, concluding the fourth war between Francis I. and Charles V., 1544; peace of St. Germain, 1570; league began in France, 1576; France joins the protestant league against the house of Austria, 1630; grand alliance against, by England, Austria, Holland, Spain, and Savoy, 1689; concludes a treaty with American States, acknowledging their independence, 1778; first coalition against, by Prussia and Austria, 1792; second coalition against, 1799; third coalition against by Britain, Austria, Russia, Sweden, and Naples, 1805; fourth coalition against, by Britain, Russia, Prussia, and Saxony, 1806; fifth coalition against, by Britain and Austria, April 9, 1809; sixth coalition against, by Russia and Prussia, the treaty being ratified at Kalisch, March 1, 1813; convention of the great powers at Aix-la-Chapelle, October 9, 1818, in which it is stipulated the Allies shall evacuate the French territory on the 30th November ensuing; France recognises independence of St. Domingo, April 17, 1825.
- Friedwald, treaty of, between France and protestant princes of Germany, 1551.
- Ghent, pacification of, by which foreign troops are expelled from the Netherlands, and the inquisition abolished, 1576.
- Golden Bull, by which the German constitution, and mode of electing the emperor, determined, 1356.
- Greece, declares her independence, January 1, 1822; treaty of London, between Britain, France, and Russia, for settlement of affairs of, July 6, 1829.
- Hague, treaty of, between France, Holland, and England, to maintain equilibrium of the North, 1659; second Hague treaty between Holland and Portugal, the Dutch retaining their Indian acquisitions, 1669.
- Halle, treaty of, between protestant princes of Germany, 1610.
- Hanover, treaty of, 1725. *See* p. 377.
- Heilbron, treaty of, between Sweden, after death of Gustavus Adolphus, and protestant states of Germany, 1633.
- Holland incorporated with France, on the abdication of Louis Buonaparte, July 9, 1810.
- Holland and Belgium, final decision of the London conference on the separation of the two kingdoms, January 23, 1839.
- Holy alliance ratified at Paris by the emperors of Austria and Russia and the king of Prussia, Sept. 26, 1815.
- Interim, granted by Charles V. to protestants of Germany, 1548.

- Ionian Islands, treaty respecting, concluded by Britain with Russia, and by which they are placed under the protection of the former, November 5, 1815.
- Kiel, treaty of, between Britain, Sweden, and Denmark, January 14, 1814; Norway ceded to Sweden.
- Laybach, congress of, May 6, 1821. It was attended by the sovereigns of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, who issued a circular, stating their resolution to occupy Naples with Austrian troops, and proscribing popular insurrections.
- League began in France, 1576.
- Liebau, treaty of, annulling the feudal subjection of the duchy of Prussia to the crown of Sweden, 1656.
- Lisbon, peace of, by which the independence of Portugal is acknowledged by Spain, 1668.
- Luneville, peace of, between Austria and France, 1801.
- Methuen treaty, between England and Portugal, principally for the regulation of the wine-trade, 1703.
- Milan decree issued by Napoleon, December 17, 1807.
- Netherlands, kingdom of, created and vested in the house of Orange, by treaty concluded at Vienna between Britain, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, May 31, 1815.
- Nice, treaty of, concluding the third war between Francis I. and Charles V.
- Nimeguen, peace of, between France and Holland, 1678.
- Nootka Sound, treaty signed with Spain respecting, 1790.
- Paris, treaty of, between Napoleon and the allies, April 11, 1814; ditto, of May 30, *see* p. 713; convention signed by Britain, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, styling Napoleon the prisoner of these powers, and confiding his custody particularly to the British government, August 2, 1815; peace of Paris, November 20, 1815, p. 721; treaty of, June 10, 1819, to fulfil the articles of the Congress of Vienna.
- Paris, peace of, between France, Spain, Portugal, and Britain, 1763; Canada ceded by France, and Florida by Spain.
- Parma, duchy of, with other territories, secured by convention concluded at Vienna to the empress Maria Louisa, and on her death to her son, by Napoleon, September 14, 1815.
- Partition, first treaty of, for regulating succession to Spanish monarchy, 1698; second treaty of, 1700.
- Passarowitz, peace of, between the emperor, Venice, and Turkey, 1718.
- Passau, treaty of, by which Charles V. concedes freedom of religion to the protestant princes of Germany, 1552.
- Pilnitz, convention of, between the emperor Leopold and the king of Prussia, July 20, 1791.
- Poland, secret convention for partition of, by Russia and Prussia, February 17, 1772; Austria entered the conspiracy August 5, 1773; further partition of by Russia, Austria, and Prussia, 1795.
- Pragmatic Sanction, published by the emperor Charles VI., providing that his daughters shall succeed in preference to his nephews, 1713; it gave rise to a war in 1740, in which most of the powers of Europe were engaged.
- Presburg, peace of, between France and Austria, 1806.
- Pyrenees, treaty of, between France and Spain, 1659.
- Quadruple alliance between Britain, France, and the emperor, signed at London, 1718. It was principally intended for guaranteeing the succession of the reigning families in Britain and France, and settling the position of the Spanish monarchy.
- Quadruple treaty between Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal, for the pacification of the Peninsula, April, 1834.—*See* p. 948.
- Quadruple treaty between Britain, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, July 15, 1839; the object of this alliance was to strengthen the Porte by enforcing the vassalage of the pasha of Egypt, Mehemet Ali, thereby rendering the auxiliary co-operation of Russia with Turkey for that purpose unnecessary.
- Radstadt, congress of, for settling a general peace between France and the Germanic powers, 1797.
- Ratisbon, peace of, between France and the emperor, 1630.
- Ryswick, peace of, between France, England, Spain, Holland, and Germany, 1697.—*See* page 285.
- Saxony, electorate of, raised into a kingdom by Napoleon, December 11, 1806.
- Scotland, independence of, acknowledged by treaty between Robert Bruce and Edward III., 1327; peace with England concluded at Edinburgh, 1482; treaty by which Perkin Warbeck is compelled to quit Scotland, 1497.
- Seven Years' War, ended by peace of Hubertsberg, between Prussia, Austria, and Saxony, 1763.
- Sicily, an alliance concluded with, by England in 1808, by which the former is to be garrisoned by 10,000 British troops, and to receive a subsidy of 300,000*l*.
- Slave-trade, treaty concluded with Netherlands for abolition of, May 4, 1818; ditto with Brazil, October 18, 1825.
- Smalcald, league of, entered into by the elector of Brandenburg, and other German princes, in defence of protestantism, 1529.
- South American States, British consuls first appointed to, October 30, 1823.

- Spain and Portugal, convention between, for the free navigation of the Douro, August 31, 1835; a tariff and regulations on a basis of reciprocity, to be settled by commissioners appointed by each state, and to continue in force 21 years.
- Stockholm, peace of, between Britain and Sweden; by which the former acquired the duchies of Verden and Bremen, in virtue of King George I., as elector and duke of Brunswick, 1719.
- Sweden, obtains Pomerania and Rugen from France, on condition of enforcing the prohibitory system against England, January 6, 1810: joins the Allies against France in return for the cession of Norway, March 24, 1812.
- Swiss, first alliance between, and the French, 1453.
- Texas, commercial treaty signed with this republic on a basis of reciprocity, November 16, 1840; this convention implies a recognition of the independence of the new republic by Britain; and which had been recognised by the United States of America in 1837, by France in 1839, and by the kingdoms of Holland and Belgium in the autumn of 1840.
- Temeswar, truce of, for twenty years, between the Turks and the emperor of Austria, 1664.
- Teschen, peace of, between Austria, Saxony, and Prussia, 1779.
- Teusin, peace of, between Russia and Sweden, 1595.
- Thirty-Years' War, beginning of, by the acceptance, in 1619, of the kingdom of Bohemia by the elector palatine Frederick V., son-in-law of James I., and one of the protestant party.
- Tilsit, peace of, between France and Russia, July 7, 1807.
- Tolentino, treaty of, between the Pope and French republic, 1797.
- Toplitz, triple treaty at, between Russia, Prussia, and Austria, September 9, 1813; to which Britain became a party in October.
- Troyes, treaty of, between England, France, and Burgundy; Henry V. to marry the daughter of Charles VI., be appointed regent of France, and after the death of Charles inherit the crown, 1420.
- Triple Alliance, between England, Holland, and Sweden, against France, to protect the Spanish Netherlands, 1668.
- Triple Alliance of the Hague, between France, England, and Holland, to oppose the designs of cardinal Alberoni, the Spanish minister, 1717.
- Troppan, congress of, October 20, 1820.
- Turkmauchoy, peace of, between Russia and Persia, 1828; Erivan and Nakhitchwan ceded to Russia.
- Unkiar Skelessi, treaty of, between Russia and Turkey, July 8, 1833; by this treaty Russia engaged to furnish Turkey with such force as her exigencies may at any time require, and the Porte engaged, at the demand of Russia, to close the Dardanelles against any foreign vessel of war.
- United States of America, independence of, acknowledged by England, 1782; treaty of commerce concluded with in 1806, which England refused to ratify; prohibit all French and English vessels from entering their ports, 1810; declare war against Britain, June 18, 1812; peace of Ghent concluded with Britain, Dec. 24, 1814; recognise independence of the republics of Columbia, Mexico, and Peru, March 19, 1822.
- Utrecht, union of, 1579; formed by Holland, Utrecht, Zealand, Friesland, and Guelderland, and which constituted the republic of Holland; Overysel joined in 1580, and Groningen in 1594.
- , peace of, 1713, *see* p. 327.
- Valençay, treaty of, between Napoleon and Ferdinand VII., the former agreeing to restore the latter to the throne of Spain on Ferdinand stipulating to maintain its integrity, Dec. 8, 1813.
- Venezuela, federation of, established, April 10, 1810.
- Verona, congress of, August 25, 1822.
- Versailles, peace of, between Britain, Spain, and France, 1783.
- Vienna, peace of, between France and Austria, 1809; treaty of, between Britain, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, consequent on the escape of Napoleon from Elba, March 23, 1815; federative constitution of Germany signed at, June 8, 1815.
- Vienna, treaty of, between the Emperor and king of Spain, 1725, *see* p. 376.
- Warsaw, alliance of, between Austria and Poland, against the Turks, 1683.
- Westphalia, peace of, 1648, signed between France, the Emperor, and Sweden; Spain continuing the war against France. By this peace the principle of a balance of power in Europe was acknowledged; Alsace was given to France, and part of Pomerania to Sweden; the Elector Palatine restored; the rights of the German states established; and the independence of the Swiss confederation recognised by Germany.
- Westminster, peace of, between England and Holland, 1674.
- Wilna, treaty of, between the northern powers, 1561.
- Worms, edict of, directed against Luther and his adherents, 1521.
- Wurzburg, league of, between the Catholic princes of the empire, 1610.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES BY EUROPEAN NATIONS.

- Alcutian Isles, discovered by Behring in 1741. A more accurate survey of these islands was made by captain Billing Sarytchef, from 1781 to 1798.
- America discovered by Columbus in 1498. Ojeda and Amerigo Vespucci discovered the eastern coast in 1499, which some contend preceded by a year the discovery of the American Continent by Columbus. In 1524 North America was travelled over from Florida to Newfoundland by Verrazzani, a Florentine, in the service of France. The northern limits of America were determined in 1819-22, by Captain Franklin from the mouth of the Coppermine river to Cape Turnagain. In Franklin's second expedition, in 1825-6, the coast between the mouth of the Coppermine and Mackenzie rivers, and the coast from the mouth of the latter to $149\frac{1}{2}$ W. longitude was discovered. In 1827 Capt. Beechey, in H. M. S. Blossom, discovered the coast from Icy Cape to Point Barrow, leaving about 140 miles of coast unexplored between this Point and Point Beechey. Point Barrow is in long. $156\frac{1}{2}$ W. In 1832 Capt. Ross determined that the north-east extremity of America is in lat. $73^{\circ} 56'$, and long. 90° west. Subsequent to these explorations, Mr. Simpson and others in the service of the Hudson Bay Company are reported either to have found out, or nearly so, the long-sought-for north-west passage to Asia.
- Archipelago del Espirito Santo discovered by Guirao, a Portuguese, 1606. They are the Cyclades of Bougainville, and the New Hebrides of Captain Cook.
- Ascension Isle, discovered by Tristan da Cunha, 1508.
- Australia, the largest island in the world, appears to have been discovered by the Dutch, who in 1605 first saw the north coast, mistaking it for New Guinea. In 1616 they discovered the west coast under Dirk Hartag; in 1627 they explored the south coast for an extent of 1000 miles, and in 1642 Albert Tasman was sent by the Dutch East India Company to survey the shores previously discovered. From this period the country appears to have been little thought of, till Captain Cook, in 1770, carefully examined the east coast of this immense region, and which became, in 1785, the site of a British penal settlement, to which convicts were transported, and continued uninterruptedly until 1840, when the practice of assigning them to private settlers was suspended on the ground of the bad effects of this mode of criminal punishment.
- Azores Islands, discovered by Gonzalo Vello, a Portuguese, in 1448.
- Baffin's Bay, discovered by William Baffin, 1616. The late voyages of Ross and Parry have proved the accuracy of Baffin's account of this discovery.
- Bahama Islands, were the first points of discovery by Columbus, 1492.
- Barrow's Straits, discovered in 1819 by Lieut. Parry, who penetrated as far as Melville Island, in lat. $74^{\circ} 26' N.$, and long. $113^{\circ} 47' W.$ The strait was entered Aug. 3rd. The lowest state of the thermometer was 55° below zero of Fahrenheit.
- Bass's Straits, separating Van Diemen's Land from New South Wales, was first suspected to exist by Mr. Bass, surgeon of H.M.S. Reliance, who penetrated as far as Western Port, in a small open boat from Port Jackson. In 1799 Lieut. Flinders circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land, and named the strait after Mr. Bass.
- Behring's Strait, explored in 1728, by a Danish seaman in the service of Russia, whose name it bears. Behring thus ascertained that the continents of Asia and America are severed, and at their nearest points distant about thirty-nine miles.
- Bengal, discovered by some Portuguese thrown on the coast by a tempest, 1517.
- Borneo first visited by the Portuguese, 1513.
- Bourbon Isle, occupied by the French, 1652.
- Brazil, discovered April 24, 1500, by a Portuguese, Alvarez de Cabral, who was driven on its coast by a tempest. It was called Brazil on account of its red wood; and was carefully explored by Amerigo Vespucci from 1500 to 1504.
- California, discovered by Cortez, 1535.
- Canary Isles, visited by some Genoese and Spanish seamen in 1345: they were known to the ancients.
- Canada, visited by Thomas Aubert, 1508. Known before to fishermen, who had been thrown there by a tempest. A settlement was made there in 1523 by Verrazzani, who took possession in the name of Francis I. of France.
- Cape of Good Hope, discovered by Bartho-

- lomey Diaz in 1486. It was first named the "Cape of Tempests," but the appellation changed by John II. of Portugal, who augured favourably of future discoveries from Diaz having reached the southern extremity of Africa. In 1497 Vasco di Gama doubled the Cape, thereby discovering the passage to India.
- Cape Horn, doubled, 1610, by Le Maire and Schouten, Dutch navigators, who called it after the town of which Schouten was a native. These enterprising seamen performed a voyage round the world in about two years.
- Cape Verd Islands, discovered by Antonio de Noli, a Genoese, in the service of Portugal, 1449.
- Cape Verd, discovered by Denis Fernandez, a Portuguese, 1445.
- Ceylon, discovered by the Portuguese, 1506. It was known to the Romans under Claudius.
- China, first discovered by sea by Ferdinand Perez d'Andrada, 1517.
- Chesapeake Bay, discovered by John Smith, 1607.
- Chili, discovered by Diego de Almagro, one of the conquerors of Peru, 1537.
- Columbia River, source of, discovered by Captains Lewis and Clarke, 1804-5.
- Congo, discovered by the Portuguese under Diego Cam, 1484.
- Cuba, discovered by Columbus in his first voyage, 1493.
- Davis's Strait, discovered, 1587, by the English navigator whose name it bears, in his voyage for the discovery of a north-west passage.
- Dominica, discovered by Columbus in his second voyage, 1493.
- Easter Island, discovered by Roggewein, a Dutch navigator, 1686.
- Falkland Islands, discovered by the English navigator Hawkins, 1594.
- Feroe Islands, discovered by a Scandinavian vessel, 861.
- Florida, discovered by Ponce de Leon, a Spanish navigator, in 1512.
- Frobisher's Strait, discovered, 1576, by the English navigator whose name it bears.
- Frozen Ocean. In 1636 the Russians had ascertained that this great sea washed and bounded the north of Asia. Its terrene limits were carefully explored by Baron Wrangel in 1821, who, after repeated excursions on fields of ice from land northerly, concluded that a vast and open ocean extended from its Asiatic boundary into the polar regions, perhaps to the pole itself.
- Greenland, discovered by the Icelanders about 950, but its limits have never been fully ascertained. The first colony established there was destroyed by a pestilence in the fourteenth century, and by the accumulation of ice, which prevented all communication with Iceland.
- Guinea, coast of, discovered by some seamen of Dieppe about 1364; first voyage made to, by English ships, for elephants' teeth, 1530.
- Gulf of Mexico. Some of the shores of this gulf explored by Columbus in his last voyage, 1502.
- Hayti, Hispaniola, or St. Domingo, discovered by Columbus in his first voyage, 1492.
- Hudson's Bay, discovered by the English navigator Hudson, 1607. Venturing to pass the winter in the bay on his fourth voyage, he was, with four others, thrown by his sailors into a boat, and left to perish.
- Iceland, discovered by some Norwegian chiefs, who were compelled to leave their native country, 871.
- Icy Cape, discovered by Cook, 1778.
- India, the passage to, round the Cape of Good Hope, was discovered by Vasco di Gama, 1497; and the first English ship sailed in that course in 1541, for the purpose of attacking the Portuguese.
- Jamaica, discovered by Columbus in his second voyage, 1493.
- Japan, carefully visited by a German in 1692.
- Java, first visited by the Portuguese, 1513.
- Kamschatka, discovered by a Cossack chief, Morosko, in 1690, and settled by the Russians in 1697; it was ascertained by Behring, in 1728, to be a peninsula.
- Kurile Islands, occupied by the Russians 1711. They are 21 in number, principally volcanic, and pay tribute to Russia.
- Labrador, and the river St. Lawrence, discovered 1501, by Coteragal, while on a voyage of discovery for the Portuguese.
- Ladrone Islands, discovered by Magellan, 1521.
- Leopold South Island, in lat. 73° 56', and long. 90° W., ascertained to be the north-east extremity of America, by Captain Ross, 1832.
- Louisiana, discovered by the French, 1673.
- Madagascar Island, discovered by Tristan da Cunha, 1506, and revisited by the Portuguese navigator, Fernandez Pereira, in 1508.
- Madeira, discovered by an Englishman, Robert Machan, 1344; it was visited by the Portuguese in 1419, who called it St. Lawrence, from the name of the saint-day on which it was seen, and subsequently Madeira, on account of its woods.
- Magellan, Straits of, traversed by Magellan with a fleet of discovery fitted out by the emperor Charles V. in 1519. The first voyage round the world was undertaken by this bold navigator, and his vessel performed the enterprise, although the commander perished in a skirmish with the natives of the Philippines.
- Magnetic Pole, or that point of the earth over which the mariner's needle is per-

- pendicular, seems to have been determined, or at least brought within a circle of about two miles diameter, by captain Ross and commander Ross, during their sojourn in Felix Harbour, from 1830 to 1832. Captain Franklin and captain Parry, in their previous voyages, had assigned nearly the same terrestrial position for the magnetic pole; which coincides within a few degrees with that laid down by Professor Barlow, by means of his curves of equal variation.
- Malabar coast, discovered by Vasco di Gama, 1493.
- Maldives. A Portuguese navigator, wrecked on these islands in 1512, found them in occasional possession of the Arabians.
- Marquesas, discovered in 1595 by Mendana, a Spaniard, on his voyage from Peru, to establish a colony in the Solomon Isles.
- Mexico, discovered by the Spaniards, 1518, and conquered by Cortez, 1519.
- Mississippi River, explored by the French under La Salle, 1682.
- Missouri, explored to its sources by Captains Lewis and Clarke, 1804-5-6.
- Molucca Isles, discovered by the Portuguese, 1511.
- Mozambique Island, discovered by Vasco di Gama, 1498.
- New Caledonia, discovered by Cook, 1774.
- New France. In the first voyage of discovery made by the French under Francis I., in 1524, one of the ships, after reaching Florida, coasted along as far as 50° north latitude, and gave to this part the name of New France.
- New Guinea, discovered in 1527, by Saavedra, a Spaniard, sent from Mexico by Cortez.
- New Albion, discovered in 1577 by Drake, who was the second to attempt a voyage round the world, which he completed in three years.
- New South Shetland, discovered, 1819, by Mr. Smith, of the brig William, bound to Valparaiso.
- New South Wales, *see* Australia.
- Newfoundland, discovered, 1497, by John Cabot, who first called it Prima Vista and Baccalao. Prima Vista is still the name of one of its capes, and an adjacent island is still called Baccalao.
- New Zealand, discovered by Tasman, a Dutchman, 1642. The missionaries first succeeded in establishing themselves in this fine country; and in 1839 the New Zealand Company fitted out eight vessels under colonel Wakefield, who, having arrived at Port Nicholson, in Cook's Strait, obtained, by purchase from the natives, the southern part of the northern island, and the northern part of the southern island, or all the New Zealand territory between the 38th and 43rd parallels of latitude.
- New Britain, and the straits which separate it from New Guinea, discovered by Dampier, 1699.
- New Holland, *see* Australia.
- Niger River. The geography of this great African stream had been a subject of conflicting surmise and learned disquisition from the time of Herodotus; and Ledyard, Mungo Park, Laing, Clapperton, and other ardent adventurers, successively fell victims in abortive efforts to unravel this perplexing problem. The Niger, however, has now been ascertained to have its origin in the Wangara country, not far distant from the source of the Senegal, from which it flows in an opposite direction towards the east, and then, bending by a long circuit southerly, terminates, by two branches, the Nun river, and another more easterly stream, in the Gulf of Guinea. The unfortunate Park, in 1795, traced the direction of almost 1000 miles of the Niger; but we are indebted for a knowledge of the more mysterious portion of its course, and of its outlets, in the Bight of Benin, to the enterprise of the two brothers, Richard and John Lander, who in 1830-2 sailed down its current.
- Nova Zembla, discovered 1553 by Wiloughby, an English seaman.
- Otaheite, supposed to have been discovered in 1606 by Guiros, a Portuguese, in the service of Spain: it was visited by Wallis in 1767.
- Pacific Ocean, first discovered from the mountains of Darien by Nueves de Balboa 1513, and subsequently navigated by Magellan. The supposition of the New World being part of India now vanished.
- Pelew Islands. Captain Wilson was wrecked on these islands in 1783, though it is likely they had been previously visited, from the Philippines, by the Spaniards, who called them the *Palase* Islands, from the tall palm-trees which grew there in great abundance.
- Peru, discovered by Perez delos Rua in 1515.
- Philippines, discovered by Magellan 1520.
- Rio Janeiro, discovered in 1516 by Dios de Solis, who in the same year discovered Rio de la Plata.
- Roxburgh Island, in the South Pacific, discovered by captain B. Wright, 1623.
- Sau Salvador, first of the Bahama Islands, seen by Columbus on the night of October 11th or 12th, 1492.
- Sandwich Islands, discovered by Cook, 1778.
- Senegal River, discovered by the Portuguese in 1440 or 1445.
- Siberia, discovered in 1580 by Yermak Timopheievitch, chief of the Cossacks.
- Solomon's Isles, discovered by Mendoza, a Spaniard, 1575.
- Southern Continent. An American exploring expedition, under Lieutenants Wilkes and Hudson, appears to have discovered,

- in 1839 or 1840, a new continent in the South Sea; it was first seen in latitude 66° 2' south, longitude 153° 40' east, and traced for an extent of 1800 miles, but on which they were prevented from landing by vast bodies of ice which encompassed it.
- Straits of Le Maire, discovered, with the island of Staten, on the east, by Le Maire, a merchant of Amsterdam, and Schouten, a merchant of Horn, 1615.
- St. Christopher, discovered by Columbus in 1493.
- St. Thomas, island of, under the equator, discovered in 1471.
- St. Helena, discovered by Jean de Nova, a Portuguese, in 1502.
- St. Domingo, *see* Hayti.
- Spitsbergen, seen in 1552 by the English, who mistook it for part of Greenland. Visited by Barents, a Dutch navigator, in search of a north-west passage, in 1596.
- Sumatra Island, discovered by Siqueyra, a Portuguese, in 1508, and more accurately examined by the Portuguese in 1511
- Sunda Isles, discovered by the Portuguese, 1511.
- Terra del Fuego, discovered by Magellan in 1520.
- Van Diemen's Land, discovered by the Dutch, 1616; and circumnavigated by Lieut. Flinders in 1799.
- Volcanic Islands, new group discovered, 180 miles to the west of Valparaiso, Feb. 12, 1839.
- Winenland, a part of the continent of America, is supposed to have been discovered in 1001 by the Icelanders, whose chronicles are full and minute respecting this discovery.

JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS, &c.

ALPHABETICAL ACCOUNT OF THE PROGRESS OF JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS, LAWS, AND TAXES.

- Accountant General, to receive moneys in Court of Chancery, created, 1726.
- Admiralty, court of, erected, 1357; incorporated, 1768.
- Adultery punished by cutting off the nose and ears, 1031; made capital, 1650; after restoration, mitigated to a civil injury.
- Affirmation, of the Quakers, first accepted as an oath, 1702; alterations made in it, 1721; admitted in civil and criminal procedure to Quakers, Moravians, and Separatists, 1834.
- Ale and ale-houses in England made mention of in the Laws of Ina, king of Wessex; first licensed by magistrates, 1551; by the excise, 1830.
- Aliens forbidden to hold church livings, and juries for their trials to be half foreigners, 1430; prevented from exercising any trade or handicraft by retail, 1483; restrictions on residence almost entirely repealed, 1836.
- Almanac, duty on, increased, 1781; entirely repealed, 1834.
- Anatomy act, for licensing practice of, 1832.
- Apothecaries obtain a charter of incorporation separate from the grocers, 1606; exempted from civil offices, 1702; practice of, regulated, 1815.
- Armorial bearings introduced into England, to distinguish nobles, 1100.
- Arrest, vexatious ones, prevented by an Act, 1733; for less than 10*l.* forbidden, 1779; for less than 20*l.* 1828; abolished on mesne process, 1838.
- Assizes, justices of, appointed to go into every shire two or three times a year; assize of bread and ale in England, established, 1266; repealed, 1815.
- Asylums for debtors abolished in London, 1696.
- Bachelor's tax, 1695; again, 1785 and 1796.
- Bankruptcy, first regulated by law, 1543; court for separate adjudication of, instituted, 1831.
- Bastard-children, concealing the death of, deemed murder, 1624; maintenance of, cast on the mother, 1834.
- Beer duties repealed, and allowed to be retailed by excise licence, 1830.
- Benefit building societies, encouragement of, by statute, 1836.
- Benefit of the clergy taken from murderers, 1513; abolished for all offences, 1828.
- Benefit or friendly societies, act for, first passed, 1795.
- Bills of exchange, first used by a bishop, 1255; first law encouraging them, 1381; first stamped, 1782; protected from usury penalties if not for exceeding twelve months, 1840.
- Builders' act, for security against fire, 1764.
- Calico, prohibited to be printed or worn, 1700 and 1721.
- Canon law first introduced into England, 1140; but never obtained more than partial validity in this country.
- Capital punishments, limited to about twelve offences, 1837.
- Cattle prohibited to be imported into England from Ireland and Scotland, 1663.
- Central criminal court, for effecting speedy gaol deliveries in metropolitan district, instituted, 1834.
- Chancery, court of, established, 605; present one by William I. 1066; regulated

- by Oliver Cromwell, 1655; abuses of, exposed in the House of Commons, 1825.
- Charity schools instituted, 1698.
- Children forbidden by law to be sold by English parents, 1000.
- Clergy forbidden drunkenness by law, 741; future pluralities of, interdicted and stricter residence required, 1838.
- Coals, duty laid on them by Charles I. 1627; by Charles II. in favour of the Duke of Richmond, which was converted into an annuity by George III. 1800; prohibited to be sold, except by weight, in London, 1832.
- Combinations among journeymen, forbidden by an act, 1799; laws restraining abolished, 1824—1825.
- Common pleas, court of, established, 1215.
- Contractors with Government disqualified from sitting in Parliament, 1782.
- Convocation of the clergy first summoned, 1695; no business since 1716.
- Copyhold and freehold estates made assets for payment of simple contract as well as specialty debts, 1833.
- Copyright secured, by an act, 1710; further secured, 1814; extended to exclusive representation of dramatic pieces, 1833; to public lectures, 1835.
- Corporations municipal, act for reform of, 1835.
- Council first allowed to persons guilty of treason, 1696; allowed to prisoners accused of felony, as well as misdemeanor, 1836.
- Counties first sent members to parliament by authority, 1258.
- Courts of conscience, or requests, in London, began 1517; in Bristol, Gloucester, and Newcastle, 1689; extended to the sum of 5*l.* 1800.
- Courts of law, were settled in their present form, under Edward III., see p. 63.
- Curates stipendiary, law for the better support of, 1813.
- Curfew bell, said to be established by William the Conqueror, 1068.
- Customs, officers of the, deprived of voting for members of parliament, 1782; not required to serve any parochial or municipal corporation office, 1834.
- Danegelt, a land-tax, first established by Ethelred II. 991; abolished, 1136.
- English language to be used in all law pleadings, 1362; ordered to be used in all law-suits, 1731.
- Entailing estates introduced by statute, 1279 and 1307; settlement of property limited to twenty-one years, 1800.
- Exchequer, court of, instituted on the model of the transmarine exchequer in Normandy, 1079.
- Excise on beer and ale, first imposed by the long parliament, 1643.
- Exportation of corn permitted by law, 1663; bounty granted, 1689; graduated duty on import, imposed, 1815; fluctuating duty according to average price 1829.
- Fencing schools in London, prohibited, as introductory to duels, 1285.
- Feudal laws introduced into England by the Saxons about 600. The slavery of this tenure increased under William I. 1068. It was discountenanced in France by Louis XI. about 1470; restored and limited by Henry VII. 1495; abolished, with the exception of the honorary services of grand serjeantry, and grant of excise duties accepted in lieu, 1662.
- Fines and recoveries for barring entails, abolished, 1833.
- Fishing on our coasts, the Dutch forced to pay a tribute for, 1609.
- Forgery first punished with death in England, 1634; capital punishment for, of every kind, abolished, 1837.
- Freeholders permitted to alienate their lands, 1492 and 1512.
- Freeholders under 40*s.* per annum disqualified from voting for members of parliament, 1431.
- French tongue partially abolished in the English courts of justice, 1362.
- Gipsies expelled out of England, 1563; law which made it felony to associate with them, repealed, 1820.
- Greenwich hospital began to receive 6*d.* per month from every seaman, in 1695, and 1*s.* from 1797; such deductions from seamen's wages abolished, and annual grant of public money substituted, 1834.
- Guineas reduced by parliament from 22*s.* to 21*s.* 1717.
- Habeas Corpus act passed, 1641, and May 27, 1679; suspended in 1715, for six months; 1716, for six months; 1722, for twelve months; 1744, for six months; 1779, for six months; 1794, 1795, 1798, 1799, and 1800, for nine months; in 1801, for six weeks; again, in 1803, in consequence of the Irish insurrection; suspended in consequence of the report, in each house of parliament, of the green bag committee, March 3, 1817.
- Hackney coaches established by act of parliament, 1694; last regulation of, 1831 and 1839.
- Harlots obliged to wear striped hoods of party colours, and their garments the wrong side outwards, 1355.
- Highland dress forbidden in Scotland by law, 1746; restored, 1782.
- Highways, the first law in England to repair them was in 1525; statute duty on, abolished, 1835.
- Income-tax passed, 1799; repealed, 1802; renewed, 1803; increased, 1806; renewed for a year, 1815; repealed, 1816.
- Inheritance, new law relating to, 1833.
- Parents may now inherit from their

- children, in preference to collaterals, and relations of the half-blood may inherit.
- Inns of courts, began to be established under Edward III.; see p. 64.
- Insolvent act, the first passed, 1649; insolvent court, instituted, 1820.
- Insurance, first duty imposed, 1782; being 1s. 6d. on each, 100*l.* insured.
- Interest of money was 2*d.* per week for 20*s.* in 1260; 45 per cent. 1307; at 10 per cent. 1547. Reduced from 10 to 8 per cent. 1624; reduced by the Rump Parliament to 6 per cent., and confirmed at the restoration to 5 per cent., 1714; from 4 to 3 per cent., 1750.
- Ireland, law called Poynings, declaring English statutes valid, 1494; relief granted to her trade, 1778; legislative union of, with England, 1800; act for relief of Catholics, passed, 1829.
- Jews' naturalization act passed, 1755; repealed the next year; bill for relief of their disabilities, lost in the lords, 1833.
- Judges, salaries of, increased in lieu of fees, 1825; number of, increased from twelve to fifteen, 1830.
- Judicial committee of privy council, instituted, 1833.
- Juries first instituted, 970, in civil causes; in Scotland, 1815; laws relating to, consolidated, 1825.
- Justices of the peace first appointed, 1076.
- Marriage act passed, 1753; amended, 1718; again, 1822; new regulations and registration of, introduced, 1836.
- Murderers, hanging them in chains, or the dissection of their bodies, prohibited, 1834; judges empowered to fix time of execution, 1836.
- Mutiny act first passed, in 1689; and renewed annually to the present.
- Navigation act first passed, 1381; again, 1541; again, for the colonies, 1646, 1651; relaxation of, began in favour of foreigners, 1823.
- Newspapers stamped, 1713; duty on reduced from 4*d.* to 1*d.* 1836.
- Ordeal by fire and water abolished, 1261.
- Parliament began under the Saxon government; the first regular one was in king John's reign, 1204; bill passed for triennial parliaments, 1694; repealed, 1716; members of the Commons made liable to bankruptcy commission, and disqualified from sitting until debts be satisfied, 1812.
- Penitentiary houses, instituted for moral reform as well as punishment of criminals, 1779.
- Peter-pence paid to Rome, 790; abolished, 1534.
- Pillory, punishment of, limited to perjury, 1816; abolished for every offence, 1837.
- Plays required to be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, 1737.
- Poll-tax first levied in England, 1378; abolished by William III.
- Poor, first act for the relief of, 1597; abolition of out-door relief, and management of poor vested in royal commissioners, 1834.
- Postage of inland letters reduced to an uniform rate of one penny, 1839.
- Registering shipping in the Thames commenced, 1786; of merchant seamen, 1835; of births, deaths, and marriages, 1836.
- Registers, parochial, first appointed, 1530.
- Sanctuaries abolished in England, 1534.
- Stamp-duties, instituted, 1694; on newspapers, 1713; on bills and notes, 1782.
- Star-chamber court instituted, 1487; abolished, 1641.
- Stews, public ones suppressed, which before were licensed, 1546.
- Surgeons and physicians were exempted from bearing arms or serving on juries, 1513, at which period there were only 13 in London.
- Swearing on the Gospel first used, 528; declarations substituted in lieu of oaths in the chief public department, in the bank of England, and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, 1836.
- Terms of law began, 1079; new regulation of, in 1831.
- Test act passed, 1673; repealed, 1829.
- Tithes first granted, in 854; commuted for a corn rent charge, payable in money, 1836.
- Tobacco first used as a medicine, and a tax laid on it of 6*s.* 8*d.* per lb.; prohibited to be grown in England, 1624; subjected to excise laws, 1789.
- Transportation of felons introduced, 1590; to New South Wales, began, 1785; assignment of them to settlers discontinued in 1840.
- Trinity act passed, to exempt from penalties persons denying the doctrine of, 1813.
- Truck practice, or the payment of wages in goods instead of coin, prohibited, 1831.
- Union act, for Scotland, passed, March 6, 1707; for Ireland, passed, July 1800, and took place, Jan. 1, 1801.
- Vice-chancellor, appointed to assist the Lord Chancellor, 1813.
- Wales incorporated with England, 1536; separate judicial administration of, incorporated in the circuits of the judges, 1831.
- Wills of all kinds, except of soldiers and sailors, to be written not verbal, and be attested by two or more witnesses, 1837.
- Weights and measures, imperial standard introduced, 1825.
- Window duty instituted, 1696.
- Witchcraft act passed, 1601; repealed March 25, 1736.
- Woollen cloths, for burials first enforced by law, 1678.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF REMARKABLE BUILDINGS, INSTITUTIONS,
DOCKS, RAILWAYS, AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

- Adelaide Gallery of Practical Science opened, 1833; and the Polytechnic Institution, for a similar purpose, 1838.
- Adelphi buildings, Strand, London, built 1770.
- Amsterdam Stadthouse, built 1638; the Exchange, 1634.
- Asaph, St., church and palace, in Flintshire, built 560; rebuilt 1402.
- Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, founded May 15, 1769.
- Asylum, near Westminster bridge, London, instituted 1758.
- Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, Kent Road, erected 1792.
- Bancroft's alms-houses, Mile-end, Middlesex, built 1735.
- Bank of England, London, first built 1694; enlarged 1771; dividend warrant office erected 1835.
- Banqueting-house, Whitehall, Westminster, built 1607; repaired 1831.
- Bartolomew monastery, near Smithfield, London, built 1162; hospital founded 1546; rebuilt from 1750 to 1770.
- Bastille in Paris, the foundations laid April 23, 1369; not finished till 1483; destroyed by the populace, and the governor killed for resisting them, July 14, 1789.
- Bath, church of St. Peter, rebuilt by Offa, 973; free grammar-school, founded 1552; society for encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce, instituted 1777; pump-room, erected 1797; mechanics' institution, commenced 1826.
- Bees, St., priory, Cumberland, founded 1120; college for the education of candidates for holy orders in the four northern dioceses, 1817.
- Belgrave-square, and adjoining streets and squares, began to be erected on an area of about 140 acres of open fields 1824.
- Bethlem Hospital, new, first stone laid April 20, 1812; greatly enlarged and area in front extended 1839.
- Blackfriars Bridge, first stone laid 1760; passable 1766; finished 1770; cost 150,840*l.*; piers repaired, open balustrade removed, and road across lowered 1840.
- Bow Church, Cheapside, built, 1673; the tower finished 1680.
- Billingsgate established a free market for the sale of fish 1699.
- Birmingham old church, built of stone about 1300, and cased with brick in 1690; new church, erected 1790; free school, founded by Edward VI.; blue-coat school, established 1724; Sobo works, established 1764; general hospital, built 1766, and opened in 1779; theatre, built 1792; theatre of philosophical society, erected 1810; society of arts, established 1821; general repository for exhibition and sale of manufactures, erected 1824; mechanics' institution, began 1825; town-hall built, and free grammar-school to be re-built, 1833.
- Bridewell, (formerly a palace of King Henry VIII.) London, built 1522; converted to an hospital 1553.
- British Lying-in Hospital, Brownlow-street, London, instituted 1749.
- British Museum, late Montagu House, purchased by Parliament 1753; Elgin sculptures bought for 35,000*l.* 1817; additional rooms for reading and other purposes provided 1837.
- Bristol, part of the old monastery converted into a cathedral 1140; free grammar-school, founded 1352; Queen Elizabeth's hospital, 1586; Colston's free school, founded 1708; merchant-hall's-school, 1738; exchange, founded 1741; infirmary, opened 1786; commercial rooms, on the plan of Lloyd's, erected 1809.
- Buckingham Palace became the residence of Queen Charlotta 1760; taken down and rebuilt between 1825 and 1830; became the town residence of Queen Victoria 1837.
- Cambridge, St. Mary's church, (built on the site of an old one,) began building 1478, but not finished till 1508; St. Sepulchre's church, supposed to be of the era of Henry I., and oldest of the form in England; first college of the university, endowed 1280; Downing college, founded 1807; senate-house, built 1722; shire-hall, built 1747, and town-hall, 1782; Addenbrooke hospital, endowed 1766.
- Canterbury Cathedral built, 1184.
- Castles were chiefly built in the eleventh

- and twelfth centuries : Alnwick, Northumberland, 1147; Aberconway 1204; Aberystwith 1110; Bamborough 558; Barnwell 1132; Beaumaris 1295; Beeston, Cheshire, 1220; Berkeley 1108; Bernard, Durham, 1270; Bodiham, 1139; Brougham, Westmoreland, 1070; Burgh, Staffordshire, built by the Romans; Cambridge 1068; Cardigan 1160; Carew 1100; Carisbrook 692, rebuilt 1610; Carlisle 680; Castle-Rising 1204; Cleobury 1160; Clithero 1171; Corfe, Dorset, 970; Cowes, Isle of Wight, 1540; Leeds, Kent, 1071.
- Cemeteries in London : Kensal Green, enclosed 1832; Abney Park, Stoke Newington, 1837; Norwood and Highgate 1838; Nunhead 1840; Westminster, Earls Court, Brompton, 1840.
- Charing Cross erected 1678; the hospital 1832.
- Charter House built 1371; converted to an hospital 1611.
- Chelsea College began, 1609; finished, 1690; cost 150,000*l*.
- Chelmsford Bridge built 1100; Prison built, 1777.
- Chichester built, by Cissa, 540; Cathedral built 1115.
- Christ's Hospital, London, founded 1552; handsome propylæum erected in Newgate-street 1834.
- Clarendon-press printing office, Oxford, founded 1781.
- Coliseum, Regent's Park, began 1824.
- Compter of London, built near Newgate, 1789 to 1791; cost 20,473*l*.
- Corn Exchange, new, Mark Lane 1828.
- Cottonian library settled for the public, 1701.
- Covent-garden-square built 1633; church repaired 1789, burnt 1795; theatre built 1735; enlarged 1792; burnt, 1808; rebuilt 1809.
- Coventry, St. Michael's church begun 1373, and finished 1395; St. Mary's hall erected under Henry VI.; free school under Henry VIII.; Bablake hospital instituted 1506; Grey Friars' hospital founded 1529; Blue-coat school 1566.
- Custom House, London, first built 1559; burnt down and rebuilt 1718; burnt down again, 1814; rebuilt, and opened for business 1817; long room of gave way and fell through 1825; reopened 1828.
- Docks, London, foundation-stone laid 1802; opened 1805; East India docks opened 1806; West India, founded 1800, opened 1806; St. Catharine founded 1825; opened 1828.
- Dover Castle, built by Julius Cæsar, 50 years before Christ; tower built 47; old church built 1156; priory built 1130; pier built 1549; ancient well discovered in the keep 1811.
- Drury-lane Theatre, built 1662; destroyed by fire 1672; rebuilt 1674; pulled down 1791; rebuilt 1794; burnt 1809; rebuilt and opened to the public November 10, 1812.
- Dublin, Christ Church, the ancient cathedral, built 1038; St. Patrick's cathedral erected 1190, decorated with a steeple in 1370, and a spire in 1750; the castle completed 1213; Trinity college founded 1591; society incorporated for promoting husbandry, manufactures, and the fine arts, 1742; parliament-house erected 1729; destroyed by fire 1792; royal exchange began 1769; custom-house finished building 1790.
- Dulwich college built 1619; repaired 1837. Sir Francis Bourgeois left to the college his pictures, and 10,000*l*. for the building and maintenance of a gallery 1811.
- Durham university founded, 1831.
- East India College, at Haileybury, Hertfordshire completed 1809.
- East India House, Leadenhall-street, London, built 1726; enlarged 1799.
- Edinburgh, metropolitan church of St. Giles founded about 800, and became collegiate 1466; castle built, about 950; palace and abbey of Holyrood built 1120; the high school founded 1578; university founded 1582; parliament-house, original portion, finished 1640; Heriot's hospital erected 1650; royal exchange founded 1753; register-office 1744; physicians' hall 1775; royal society constituted 1782; Bridewell, founded on the site of the old prison, 1790; Bank of Scotland, first stone laid, 1801.
- Eddystone Lighthouse, built 1696; blown down 1703; rebuilt 1706; burnt down 1755; rebuilt 1759; again burnt down 1770; rebuilt 1774.
- Eton College, built 1441; rebuilt 1569.
- Exeter Castle, built 680; cathedral began 1064; completed 1485; new bridge began 1770; country court-house built 1776; theatre built 1783.
- Exeter Exchange, London, built, 1566; demolished, and Exeter Hall with other buildings erected on the site, 1829.
- Fleet Market, opened 1737; obelisk erected 1775; Fleet prison burnt by the rioters 1780; market removed to Farringdon market 1830; Waithman's obelisk erected 1833.
- Foundling Hospital, London, incorporated 1739; building began 1742; opened 1756.
- Freemasons' Hall, Queen-street, London, built 1775.
- French Protestants' Hospital, London, incorporated 1718.
- George III., colossal equestrian statue of, erected on Snow Hill, near Windsor, 1832.

- George's, St., Hospital, Hyde-park-corner, instituted, 1733; rebuilt 1833.
- Glasgow, cathedral begun 1123, and spire erected 1420; university founded 1450; letter-press printing introduced 1630; manufacture of linen, lawns, and cambrics, began 1725, of green bottles 1730, of inkles and delft 1732, of flint-glass and cudbear 1777, of muslins 1787; in 1787 the dyeing of cottons in Turkey red colour began, and later the manufacture of bandana handkerchiefs; town hospital erected 1733; merchants' coffee-room projected 1781; chamber of commerce established 1783; Anderson's institution founded 1796.
- Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster-lane, and Fishmongers' hall, London-bridge, erecting 1832.
- Greenwich Hospital, instituted 1694; first began to receive disabled seamen 1737; had the Derwentwater estate given it 1735; injured by a fire 1779; chapel rebuilt and opened for service 1789.
- Gresham College, founded 1681; pulled down 1771; and the excise office built upon the spot 1774; lectures of, delivered in south-east corner of Royal Exchange till the burning of that building in 1838, after which delivered in the city of London schools.
- Guildhall, London, built 1416; council chamber 1425; the front and porch, 1431; burnt 1666; repaired 1669; beautified 1762; front rebuilt 1789; repaired, 1815.
- Guy's Hospital, Southwark, built and endowed by Thomas Guy, a bookseller, with a legacy of 200,000*l.*; an endowment to an equal amount bequeathed by Mr. Hunt, 1829.
- Hammersmith suspension bridge opened 1827; it was designed by Mr Clark, and the first of the kind in the neighbourhood of London.
- Hampton Court Palace built 1525; bridge began, 1750; palace opened to the public under Queen Victoria.
- Henry VII.'s Chapel, Westminster, completed January 18, 1502.
- Heralds' College, instituted 1340; house built 1670.
- Hick's Hall, Smithfield, London, built 1612; pulled down, 1782.
- Hick's Hall, Clerkenwell, foundation laid, May 26, 1779; finished, 1782.
- House of Commons, Westminster, repaired 1348; entirely burnt down, 1834.
- Horse Guards, Westminster, built 1758.
- Hull, the Trinity church, partly built about 1312, and St. Mary's, or the low church, a few years later; Trinity-house established 1369, and the present house built in 1753; charter-house, founded by Michael de la Pole, 1384; grammar-school, founded 1486; charity-hall, or workhouse, established under William III.; old dock begun 1775; general infirmary erected 1782; Humber dock begun 1807.
- India House, Leadenhall-street, London, built 1726.
- James's, St., built 1530; converted to a palace, and the park made, 1536; one of the wings destroyed by fire, 1809.
- Kew Bridge, built of wood 1759; of stone, began 1783.
- King's Bench Prison, in St. George's-fields, Southwark, built 1751; enlarged 1776; burnt by rioters June 7, 1780; rebuilt 1781; 50 apartments burnt July 14, 1799.
- King's College, London, opened October 3, 1831; it was built on ground originally intended for the east wing of Somerset House, and given by government on condition that the new erection should correspond with that edifice.
- Lambeth Church, founded 1169; palace, built 1184; palace repaired in Gothic style, 1832.
- Law Institution, Chancery-lane, for attorneys, solicitors, and proctors, site purchased, 1830.
- Leeds, St. John's church, founded 1634; Trinity church erected 1721; the old parish church of St. Peter has been lately rebuilt by voluntary subscriptions; free grammar-school founded 1552; mixed cloth-hall erected 1758, and the white cloth-hall 1775; theatre built 1771; general infirmary established 1771; house of recovery 1802; literary and philosophical society established 1820; mechanics' institution 1825; commercial buildings erected 1826; Calvert's museum opened 1827.
- Lincoln's Inn, London, built 1229; converted from the Bishop of Chichester's palace to an inn of court, 1310; chapel finished, 1626; square completed and enclosed with rails, 1737; new buildings erected, 1782.
- Liverpool, blue-coat hospital established 1709; the old dock (now the site of the custom-house), the oldest of the kind in the kingdom, formed 1708; infirmary instituted 1749; town-hall built 1749; theatre opened 1772; Athenæum erected 1799; union news-room established 1800; Lyceum erected 1802; school for the indigent blind erected 1808; exchange buildings completed 1806; literary and philosophical society instituted 1814; incorporated 1822; royal institution opened 1817; Wellington-rooms opened 1816; school of arts for gratuitous instruction of artisans established 1825; mechanics' institute, founded 1835.
- London Bridge, built of wood 1016; burnt 1136; rebuilt with timber 1163; built

- with stone, began in 1176, finished 1209; houses on it pulled down, and the whole repaired, 1758, when the temporary bridge was burnt, April 11, 1758, and made passable again for carriages in ten days; new bridge founded 100 feet west of the old one, 1825; opened Aug. 1, 1831; approaches to, improved on the south end by pulling down the line of houses on the western side as far as the Town-hall, Southwark, 1832.
- London University College, first stone laid April 30, 1827; opened October 1, 1828.
- University, incorporated for advancement of religion, morals, and useful knowledge, without distinction of sect, 1837.
- Mechanics' Institution, first stone laid December 2, 1824; opened July 8, 1825.
- stone, Cannon-street, placed by the Romans 15 B.C., supposed to compute distances from; wall, built 306; hospital, Mile End, instituted 1740, and medical theatre opened 1785; lying-in-hospital, Brownlow-street, instituted 1750; ophthalmic infirmary, Moorfields, 1805; fever hospital, Pancras-road, 1805; workhouse, Bishopsgate-street, founded 1611; literary institution, Finsbury Circus, founded 1815; general post-office, St. Martin-le-Grand, opened 1829; city school, on the site of Honey-market, founded 1835.
- Luke's, St., Hospital, Moorfields, began July 31, 1751; built in Old-street, near the City Road, 1785.
- Magdalen Hospital, Blackfriars' Road, built 1772.
- Manchester, parish church made collegiate and endowed, 1422; free grammar-school founded 1492; blue-coat school, 1653; infirmary, established 1752; literary and philosophical society, 1781; agricultural society, one of the earliest in the kingdom, 1767; New Bailey prison founded, 1787; assembly rooms, erected 1792; poor-house, erected 1792; commercial clerks' society for relief of their own sick, began 1802; theatre royal, erected 1806; society for promoting natural history, projected 1821; general cemetery, opened 1821; royal institution, began 1823; horticultural society, 1823; mechanics' institution, commenced 1824; botanical society, established 1828; riding-school and gymnasium, erected 1829.
- Mansion House, London, built 1739; inhabited 1752; externally renewed, 1840.
- Marischal College, Aberdeen, founded 1593.
- Marine Society-house, Bishopsgate-street, London, began 1773.
- Maynooth, royal college of St. Patrick, instituted by Irish parliament for education of Catholic priests, 1795.
- Merchant Tailors' School, founded 1568.
- Merlin's Cave, in Richmond Gardens, made, 1735.
- Middlesex Hospital, instituted 1745; built 1755; house of correction, finished 1794.
- Military Academy, Woolwich, instituted 1719.
- Military Asylum, foundation laid 1801.
- Monument, London, began 1671; finished 1677; repaired 1786.
- National gallery of paintings opened, 1836.
- Newgate, in the Old Bailey, London, built 1776; burnt by the rioters 1780; restored 1781.
- Nottingham, Plumtre's hospital, established 1392; free grammar-school, 1513; St. Nicholas's church, built 1678; St. Mary's church, under Henry VII.; castle, erected under James II. on the site of a fortress built by William I.; county hall, rebuilt in 1770; barracks, built 1793; literary society, established 1824.
- Old Bailey Sessions House, London, built 1773; enlarged 1808.
- Opera House, Haymarket, opened 1704; burnt 1789; and the foundation of a new one laid 1790.
- , English, built on the site of the Lyceum, Strand, 1816; burnt down 1830; rebuilt 1834.
- Oxford, university college, the oldest college of the university, founded 1249, and the remaining colleges and halls mostly in the next two centuries; castle built in 1074; Garden Court completed 1684; Ashmolean Museum founded 1682; Bodleian Library, first formed by Humphrey duke of Gloucester, and augmented by Sir Thomas Bodley; Radcliffe Library completed 1749; Clarendon Printing-office built 1711; Observatory erected 1792; Magdalen Bridge built 1779.
- Park, St. James's, drained by Henry VIII. 1537; improved, planted, and made a thoroughfare for public use, 1668; decoy removed, and drains filled up, 1775; began to be laid out in its present improved style 1825; public entrance to by a flight of steps on the site of Carlton House, Waterloo Place, 1831.
- Pantheon, Oxford-street, converted into a bazaar, 1834.
- Paul's, St., London, built on the foundation of an old temple of Diana 610; burnt 964; rebuilt 1240, having been 150 years building; the steeple fired by lightning 1443; rebuilt, having been in great part burnt down, 1631; totally destroyed by fire 1666; first stone of the building laid 1675; finished 1710, and

- cost 1,000,000*l.*; first service performed December 2, 1697.
- Paul's, St., School, built 1510; rebuilt lately.
- Penitentiary, new, for convicts, at Millbank, the quadrangle of, completed, and convicts removed to, 1816.
- Physicians' College, erected 1824.
- Railways, the first, in Surrey, from Wansworth to Croydon, 1801; Carmarthen-shire, 1802; Kilmarnock and Troon, 1808; Severn and Wye, 1809; Berwick and Kelso, 1811; Gloucester and Cheltenham, 1815; Mansfield and Pinxton, 1817; Plymouth and Dartmoor, 1819; Strafford and Moreton, 1821; Redruth and Chasewater, 1824; West Lothian, 1825; Liverpool and Manchester, opened 1830; Canterbury and Whitstable, 1827; Bristol and Gloucester, 1828; Bolton and Leigh, 1828; Warrington and Newton, 1829; Leeds and Selby, 1830; Leicester and Swannington, 1830; Dublin and Kingstown, 1831; London and Greenwich, 1833, and opened its entire length December 26, 1838; Grand Junction, act obtained for 1833; Newcastle and Carlisle, 1829; London and Birmingham, act for 1833, and opened through its entire length September 17, 1838; London and Southampton, 1834, and opened throughout 1840; Great Western, began 1835; Wigan, Hull and Selby, 1836; Bristol and Exeter, 1836; Midland Counties, 1836; North Midland, or Leeds and Derby, 1836; Sheffield and Rotherham, 1836; Manchester and Leeds, 1837; Newcastle and Shields, 1837; London and Croydon, 1839; Eastern Counties to Romford, opened 1839; London and Blackwall, 1839; Lancaster and Preston, 1839; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 1840.
- Railroads, in 1839, were opened on the continent between Ghent and Ostend, Paris and St. Cloud, and Paris and Versailles; Berlin and Potsdam, Brunswick and Wolfenbuttel, Leipsic and Dresden.
- Regent-street, commenced building in its present style in 1815.
- Richmond Palace, built 1498; bridge, Surrey, 1774; finished 1777.
- Round towers are of uncertain date and object; the erection supposed to be contemporary with the Anglo-Saxon government.
- Royal Exchange, London, built 1566; burnt 1666; rebuilt 1670; repaired and beautified 1769; burnt down January 10, 1838.
- Royal Society, incorporated 1662.
- Academy of Arts 1768.
- of Music 1807.
- of Literature 1822.
- Institution, first sitting 1800.
- Royal Observatory, in Greenwich Park, built 1675.
- Sheffield, Lady's bridge, built 1485, repaired 1762; parish church of St. Peter, built under Henry I.; the castle, under Henry III.; free grammar-school, founded 1649; Shrewsbury hospital, 1616; Norfolk hospital, 1670, and further endowed by the Duke of Norfolk, 1770; Hollis's hospital for cutlers, founded 1703; cutlers' hall, erected 1726; theatre and assembly-rooms, erected 1762, since rebuilt; Market-place, 1786; stage-coach to London, set up 1760; commercial coffee-room, begun 1765; a bank opened 1770; first steam-engine grinding-wheel used 1786; first hackney coach set up 1793; general infirmary, opened 1797; literary and philosophical society, instituted 1822.
- Sion College, London, built 1624.
- Somerset House, Strand, London, built 1549; pulled down 1776, and began to be rebuilt in its present style; the navy office, pipe office, victualling office, and other public offices removed into it in 1788; terrace fell down December 26, 1788.
- Southwark Bridge, first stone laid May 23, 1815.
- Stock Exchange, in Capel-court, foundation of, laid May 18, 1800.
- Surgeons, college of, erected 1800; enlarged 1834.
- Thames Tunnel, Rotherhithe, first stone laid 1825; carried through to the Wapping side 1840.
- Temple, London, founded by the knights-templars 1185; Middle Temple-hall built 1572; the church built 1240; plan for its entire restoration settled 1840.
- Temple-bar built 1672.
- Thomas's, St. hospital, Southwark, founded 1553.
- Tilbury-fort built 1145.
- Tower of London built 1078; walled in 1099; opened on moderate terms to the public under Queen Victoria.
- Trinity-house, London, founded 1515; incorporated 1685; built on Tower-hill 1795.
- Vauxhall-bridge opened 1817.
- Waterloo-bridge, first stone laid 1811; finished 1817.
- Westminster-abbey built by Ethelbert, of Kent, on the spot where stood the temple of Apollo, 914; rebuilt 1065; again rebuilt 1269; made collegiate 1560; towers built 1732; and north porch repaired 1752; damaged by fire 1803; complete repair of, begun 1810, and finished 1822; damaged by fire 1829.
- Bridge began 1738; first stone

- laid 1738-9; centre arch finished 1741-2; last arch 1746; pier sunk and repaired 1747; opened for passengers 1750; cost 426,650*l*.
- Westminster Hall built by William Rufus 1098; rebuilt 1399 by Richard II.; repaired 1748; slated 1750; beautified and repaired 1782; went through a thorough repair in 1802; damaged by fire 1834; interior repaired 1835.
- School founded 1070; endowed by queen Elizabeth, 1560.
- Whitehall, Westminster, built by cardinal Wolsey 1525; damaged by fire 1690; consumed June 5, 1697-8; gateway pulled down and carried to Windsor, 1746; banqueting-house repaired 1831.
- Whitecross-street prison built 1815.
- Winchester college founded by William of Wykeham 1367; cathedral built 1366; palace began 1683.
- Windsor-castle built 1364; chapel built 1473; college founded 1543; terrace made 1587; chapel thoroughly repaired and opened 1790; great improvements began in 1824, a tower erected opposite the Long-walk, the terrace extended, and new gateway, called king George the Fourth's, erected; alterations completed in 1828, at an expense of 450,000*l*. Under William IV. the Round-tower was raised 30 feet, the Waterloo-gallery erected, and the presence-chamber and throne-room repaired.
- York Minster founded 628; rebuilt 1075; set on fire by Martin, a lunatic, 1829; roof of the nave destroyed by an accidental fire 1840.
- York column, on the site of Carlton palace, opened 1838.
- Zoological-gardens, Regent's-park, opened 1828; Surrey Zoological-gardens, Wai-worth, 1832.

. The two preceding Tables, though incomplete, will be useful to show the period of legislative and judicial changes, and of important local improvements in the metropolis and chief towns of the United Kingdom. Omissions in either of them may often be supplied by reference to the General Index.