

THE
SPORTING MAGAZINE:
OR,
MONTHLY CALENDAR

Of the Transactions of the TURF, the CHASE, and every
other Diversion interesting to the Man of Pleasure,
Enterprize and Spirit,
For JUNE, 1796.

CONTAINING

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EMBELLISHED WITH

1. A Portraiture of Bennington;—2. A capital Etching, descriptive of
Bull-baiting.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETORS,

By E. RIDER, Little Britain.

And Sold by J. WHEBLE, No. 18, Warwick Square, Warwick Lane,
near St. Paul's; WILLIAM BURREL's Circulating Library, at
Newmarket; and by every Bookseller and Stationer in Great
Britain and Ireland.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

IF our Correspondent, who requests the Portrait of Mr. *Durand's* *Hermione*, will refer us to a Painting of that Racer, we will gratify his wishes; being happy at all times (as far as in our power lies) in giving general satisfaction to our Subscribers.

Perigrinator will find his request complied with in the present Number. As likewise Captain Snug, *Contemplator Westmorlandensis*, &c. &c.

The Man of the Turf is too severe in his reflections on certain Provincial Sporting Characters; he should have considered that a due portion of candour is a necessary ingredient in cases of this kind, which would have cast a veil over many objectionable passages, and rendered it in some degree more worthy the notice of the EDITORS of the SPORTING MAGAZINE: His article is consequently rejected.

The Review of the Character of the unfortunate *Weston*, is totally inadmissible, on account of many circumstances therein contained, in which certain individuals of high life are implicated; it is inconsistent with the general tenor of our conduct to be *too personal* on a topic like the present; the second request of this correspondent will be attended to in a future number.

The *Cheshire Farmer* is under consideration.

Want of room obliges us to postpone the article signed *Little B.* till our next.

Anacreon shall have a corner in our next, in company with many other pieces of equal merit.

THE

Sporting Magazine

For J U N E, 1796.

NEW JOCKEY CLUB.

—
No. III.
—

The Right Honourable CHARLES
JAMES FOX.

THERE has been no individual, perhaps, since the foundation of civil society, whose character has been more frequently brought before the tribunal of public investigation, than that of this gentleman; yet as every year, in an epoch so eventful and interesting as the present, produces its novelties of thought and action, we hold ourselves, in some sort, excusable for this additional delineation, or rather sketch of a legislator so conspicuous and renowned.

Mr. Fox possesses those prominent qualities of the mind, which

usually characterise a vigorous genius: his movements have been noted for their versatility; yet, in his renunciation of an admitted error, he has so ordered his repentance, as to remove or suspend our regret that he had wandered from right or virtue. When young, he evinced more regard for the regal prerogative than the immunities of the people; but in the bloom of his manhood, he openly trod the path of retraction;—when young, he was so enamoured of the *force of habit*, as to be a muscadine of the first order; but now, in the meridian of his philosophy and his reflection, he disdains the vanity so completely as to approximate towards the sloven; he may be in a purer state of existence as to principle, but is assuredly less estimable in the sphere of fashion and self-love.

R 2

Nothing

Nothing is more certain than that it required the most consummate address, and fascinating ability, to reconcile the violent contradictions of his political life; during his senatorial evolutions, his attachment, succeeding hatred, and re-attachment to LORD NORTH, can never be obliterated from the national memory, and it is fortunate for the preservation of his good name, that mankind are so generous as to admit, that repeated failings may be blanchèd by a consequent deed of worthiness.

The external deportment of this gentleman, exhibits a degree of carelessness, which the majority of society construe as the emanation of an unsuspecting heart; and it is but doing Mr. Fox current justice to observe, that the humane and liberal tendencies of his disposition have been seldom doubted, even by those against whom he has thundered with the most acrimony and the most pertinacity. The only essential instance, when he suffered himself to be warped from the standard of greatness, was, when he was ingloriously induced, by the fallen EDMUND BURKE, to aid the clamorous and indecent persecution of the best European governor that Asia ever knew; it was a woful event, combining the malice of an individual with the energies of a ductile party, and the sooner the transaction is enveloped by oblivion, the better.

It is a remarkable feature in the character of this statesman, that he has been indebted for the plenitude of power, to a desertion of those principles and those declarations by which he originally gained a footing in the public opinion, and that in proportion as his power became narrowed, his reputation acquired health; thus

it appears that in his eagerness to become great, he either forgot or neglected the necessary means to secure what he had so summarily and indelicately acquired. He has been hurled from the heights of ambition with singular indignation, both by the king and the people, yet he has contrived to be luminous even in his declension, and, like another Antæus, assumed a new vigour, and rushing into the stormy war of argument, maintained his personal dignity, and qualified his discomfiture, by every subterfuge that ingenuity could offer to his adoption.

When the revolution in France occurred, and every monarch in Europe was paralysed with dread, Mr. Fox took a decided part on the momentous questions, which agitated the senate; he was then more brilliant than on any preceding occasion: he stood firmly in the defence of the rights of human kind, and exhibited, with a masterly hand, and foretold, with the voice of prophecy, the certain issue of the glorious struggle; his opponent, MR. PITT, retained a sullen silence during the primary operations in France; but well knowing the rottenness of the system at home, and that the extension or revival of enquiry would be inimical to the purposes of a corrupt government, he rashly embraced a determination which he conceived to be the least evil of the two, and committed this country in a contest with France—not to acquire a province, but to obliterate an opinion; from which inconsiderate measure, every thing was to be deplored, and nothing could possibly arise to substantiate hope—our armies were defeated—our allies deserted—our commerce wounded, while the sun of the Gallic republic was approaching its meridian with

with a novel splendour, and illuminating the wondering nations around her. At this instant, Mr. Pitt thought it expedient, for the safety of the state, to suspend the liberties of the people; he instituted some prosecutions which rendered his name eminently odious, and by other means, equally adverse to the privileges of the community, he gave Mr. Fox an opportunity of becoming the theme of general adoration—he threw himself in the gap of danger, and, nobly maintaining his post, combated the direful prejudices as they successively arose; and, in despite of the accumulating horrors of the hour, said, like the Omnipotent, unto the tide of ruin, “thus far thou shalt go, but no farther.”

This noble, manly, and equitable conduct, has so shaken the basis of the treasury bench, that every occupant looks pallid in his seat; and indeed that man must be more or less than mortal, who can reflect upon having impelled the sorrowful and bloody expedition to *Qui-beron*, and not feel heavy in soul—or does the anatomy and sensations of an individual undergo so material an alteration, when inducted into office, that they lose every emotion befitting moral responsibility, and treat the impending vengeance of God and man with a foolish scorn.

P.

An original ANECDOTE, relative to the late Troubles in Poland.

WHEN Poland was divided and desolated by her ambitious neighbours, injury and insult walked hand in hand to afflict her miserable natives: various were the instances that occurred to shake the philosophy of the wisest,

and the hearts of the most magnanimous. In the captivity of the honoured *Kosciusko*, all, who were worthy of protection, or alive to sympathy, bore a part; and when her gallant fallen bands were laid in chains across the province of Lithuania, to quit their country, apparently for ever, the sighs of their relatives accompanied them in their sad journey: no one, whom they left behind to weep over their polluted soil, ever expected to behold their expatriated heroes more; but to prove that the condition of the worst is not entirely hopeless, we have made an extract from a letter written from Poland at the commencement of this year, by the *Chevalier Bukaty*, a gentleman who formerly resided in this country, as envoy from its unfortunate monarch:—

MINSK, January 1, 1796.

“My dearest Friend,

“On my return from a long journey to St. Petersburg, after an absence of five months from my home and family, I had the pleasure of receiving your's of the 4th of last November, containing the afflicting news of the loss of the most beloved partner of your life; and it is with grief that I announce to you, my dearest friend, something similar on my part;—on the 16th of last December, I lost also my dear brother, the bishop, a man of the most exemplary piety, of an unbounded charity, and a true patriot, if such a character has any value in our times and climate. As I know your feeling heart, I will give you pleasure in telling you an anecdote of him: When he was compelled to go to St. Petersburg, last February, as one of the delegates from *Samagitia*, to the Em-
press,

press, he made every effort to procure liberty to upwards of one hundred gentlemen, who had been taken prisoners in the late revolution, and carried into distant parts of Russia; succeeding in his endeavour, he was told by the government, that he must pay four hundred pounds sterling, to defray the expences of the journey of the prisoners; but not being rich, he instantly offered his cross, as a security, which was valued at one thousand ducats, and which he had recently received as a present from the Empress: the government were so warmly touched with this act of generosity, that they gave him credit for the sum, and issued orders to the imperial treasury to pay the expences, which my brother refunded on his return home. You may easily imagine the rejoicing of so many families at the sight of their parents, husbands, brethren, and children, whom they thought buried in the desarts of Siberia for ever: their gratitude to my dear brother was unbounded; but alas, that gratitude will be now the measure of their sorrow when they hear of his death. Such a brother I deplore, and the only consolation I have, is, in the certainty of his enjoying the rewards of his manifold virtues."

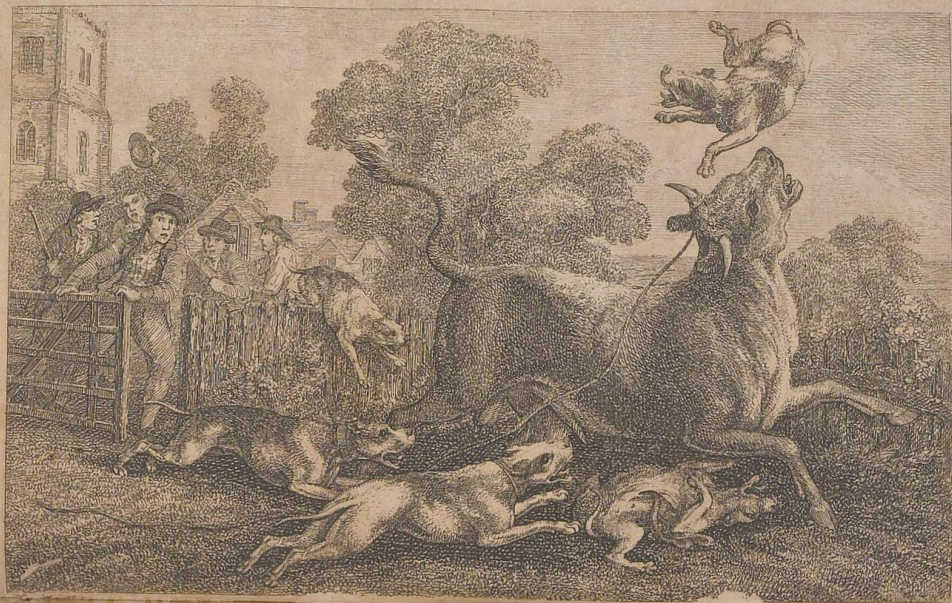
OBSERVATIONS upon the recent Conduct of LORD KENYON relative to Gaming.

IN the conflicts and indulgence of the human passions, many dreadful events happen, which it is extremely difficult to trace to their source, and it is very probable, that in our endeavours to ascertain that origin, we may be so blinded by our prejudices, as to attribute con-

sequences to causes, which never had existence, or if they had, that only operated in a remote degree to establish those evils, which may be generally regretted, but are certainly not sufficiently understood: it is one thing to make the ill manifested, and another to ascertain the progression of those incidents, which are, in the result, so baneful to our peace and interests.

We are led to make these remarks, from the late declarations which LORD KENYON hath delivered in his judicial capacity, but particularly in the case of WESTON, who is now under condemnation for death for forgery: it appears, that this victim of the laws, has written an account of his varied steps of guilt, and that this account has been communicated to the Lord Chief Justice, who has thought it necessary (doubtless with the purest intentions) to comment on it in the face of the Public: and, as whatever comes from so high an authority deserves the most serious consideration, we feel some hesitation in admitting the complete justice of such a measure, inasmuch as we believe it to have originated in a hope, that the criminal might thereby soften his own particular aggression or offence, at the expence of those whose situation renders peculiarly vulnerable, although their fortuitous establishments might be conducted with integrity; and he, who endeavours to acquire the property of his neighbour, through the medium of chance, should not be ultimately vindictive towards those who have but presented the means of that sport without participating in the good or bad fortune of the adventurers.

In what proportion the morals of society suffer by the prevalence of gaming,



gaming, we cannot ascertain, but it is certain, that the spirit is so universal, as to defy all attempts at its eradication from our habits: and the instances are not unfrequent, when the pursuit has been marked by general benefit, and particular advantage; the establishment of a national lottery is supposed to be beneficial to the state, and often the cause of independence and joy to private persons: yet, if any moral censor were to sit in judgment upon such an undertaking, and to weigh the hazard with the probable event, he would undoubtedly reject the system all together; the very basis of our commerce is speculation, and speculation is hazard, and hazard is gaming; yet that spirit of enterprize, which impels us to such a method of worshipping fortune, must not be too rigorously resisted, because there are rocks in the ocean and faithlessness in mankind; and as it appears by this true reasoning, that a spirit of gaming is interwoven in many of our firmest temporal habits, and even conducive to universal good, is it generous, or is it unequivocally just, to labour at the extinction of a few inconsiderable personages, for the indulgence of that spirit, which actuates, in a greater or a lesser degree, every class of society?

BULL-BAITING.

(See the Plate annexed.)

THE proprietors of the Sporting Magazine feel great satisfaction in observing, that their artist has exercised his usual ability in the execution of this capital etching, descriptive of *Bull-baiting*, and which they doubt not will meet the approbation of their subscribers in general.

An Account of the DEATH of RICHARD WILSON, Comedian, late of Covent Garden Theatre.

"Learn to be wise by others harm;
and you."

"Shall do full well."

LILLY.

THIS unfortunate man was a native of Durham; he originally manifested a love for the stage, while under the tuition of a seal engraver in London, where he attended the spouting clubs, and personated the mimic heroes of the drama. Previous to that period when he would have been regularly emancipated from his indenture, he joined a company of strollers, and performed for several years in various parts of England, in a chequered progression of delight and misery: he derived the first sensation from the ardour of his youthful enthusiasm, and the latter from the untoward circumstances usually attendant upon such an erratic life.

During the illness of the late celebrated Mr. Shuter, of Covent-Garden Theatre, he was engaged by Mr. Harris as a substitute for that extraordinary man, and, considering every thing, made a tolerable stand in his cast of parts; but the regret of the public for the loss of their accustomed favourite, was not much diminished, until Mr. Wilson played *Don Scipio* in Mr. Sheridan's opera of the *Duenna*, which tended to the establishment of his fame, as that performance was eminently successful; and in this instance he had the good fortune to enact an original character, where no invidious comparisons could be made between him and his more illustrious predecessor, and in

pro.

proportion as the memory lost its tenacity, he became more acceptable to a London audience.

Shortly after this assumption, he was engaged by the late Mr. Colman, to play, what are termed, the *Comedy old Men*, at the Little Theatre in the Haymarket; it was then imagined that his ambition was completely gratified, and his circumstances easy, but his total disdain of œconomy involved him in a vortex of trouble, from which he was never after wholly extricated; he was deluded by usurious money-lenders, and worried by *qui tam* attorneys: in this state he floundered on for several seasons, but was eventually compelled to leave his situation, and take refuge in Edinburgh, where he played for a length of time, under the management of Mr. Jackson. When a flimsy arrangement was made with his creditors in London, he returned, and resumed his character at Covent Garden Theatre. At this epoch he married the eldest daughter of that excellent comedian, Mr. Lee Lewes, with whom he had a handsome fortune, but which was too soon dissipated in pleasurable and idle pursuits: the honey-moon was scarcely wasted, before his creditors became more clamorous than ever, when he again fled to Scotland with his wife, and fretted his hour upon the Caledonian stage. In the summer of 1794, he joined Mr. Lee Lewes and Mr. Palmer, and took the Dundee and Aberdeen Theatres, where they performed during that summer.

In the succeeding year he re-engaged himself in the Edinburgh company, but on their removing to Newcastle upon Tyne, he was arrested, and from that period he continued to be additionally depressed by fortune: on his enlargement from that prison, he wandered

about the north of England, and gave lectures, when he was again arrested at the suit of Daly, the Dublin Manager, and committed to Lancaster Castle, from whence he wrote to his scenic brethren in London, to promote a subscription to procure him a *habeas corpus*, and which was effected through the kind interposition of Mr. Quick. On his arrival in London, he was confined in the King's Bench Prison, where he claimed the further assistance of his friends, but as the offerings of friendship are rarely strengthened by a repetition of calamities, the world must not be amazed that he was sincerely disappointed in his best hope—as his feelings were acute, this mortification made a lamentable impression on his mind; he reflected and pined for a few days, and then perished with a broken heart.

His remains were conveyed privately to a house in the neighbourhood of St. George's Fields, and were interred, with appropriate decency and mourning, at the expence of the Theatrical Fund.

Such was the melancholy end of the facetious *Dick Wilson*; a man possessing more than common powers, but destitute of that discretion to marshal his actions, without which even wit and valour are more ruinous than profitable; that want of sympathy in his associates, which hurried him into death, should be so far monitory, as to prove, that true friendship is not to be embraced in the haunts of licentiousness and folly; and that even him, who “sets the table on a roar,” shall be disregarded when the jester with his pleasantries is no longer visible at the festive board.

*A TREATISE on FARRIERY, with
ANATOMICAL PLATES.*

(*Continued from page 68.*)

OF OBSTINATE COUGHS, THE
ASTHMA, AND BROKEN-WIND.

THERE is scarce any disease so common, and so complicated with other disorders, as a cough. It may be defined to be the effort of nature, to expel any foreign matter from the bronchia of the lungs, by their contractile force, greatly increased with a more violent expiration.

But for the better explanation of its nature, it will be necessary to say something of the construction of the parts by which it is performed: the principal of these is the aerial canal or wind-pipe, by the help of which we fetch our breath. It is divided into the aspera arteria, or wind-pipe, properly so called, and the bronchia. The first reaches from the lungs to the fauces or bottom of the mouth, and the other creeps into the whole substance of the lungs, and is divided into innumerable branches, all which consist of cartilaginous segments, and contractile membranes, and terminate in small vesicles, like bunches of grapes, and adhere to the small branches of the bronchia, and so constitute the principal part of the substance of the lungs.

All the pipes, from the beginning to the end, are encompassed with a membrane, consisting of longitudinal and annular fibres, with many glands, which have numerous excretory ducts. These pour out a thin, roscid, lymphatic humour into the passages formed for breathing. The lungs likewise have arteries from the bronchial artery, which proceed from the trunk of the great descending artery, and is divided into three branches, one of which runs externally upon the windpipe, and the other two through

the whole substance of the membranes of the trachea and the bronchia of the lungs. The veins come from the bronchial veins, whose branches are propagated in the same manner as the arteries, and terminate in a great trunk, which goes to the descending vena cava, and into the azygos or vein without a fellow. The nerves proceed from the par vagum and the intercostal nerve.

These canals thus constituted, serve for the easy intermission and expulsion of the fluids, and are necessary to promote the circulation of the blood, and for the preservation of life. For this purpose the glands excrete a thin lymph, to prevent the lungs from growing dry, as well as to keep them soft and slippery; and when it has performed its office, it is resolved into a vapour, and so flies off with the breath. The sensible nervous, as well as muscular coats, gives them a motion of constriction and dilatation, which serve to promote the ingress and egress of the air, as well as the secretion of the lymph by the glands, and likewise to facilitate the circulation of the blood through the bronchial vessels. But as these membranous canals are not sufficient of themselves for the performance of respiration, the lungs, pleura, diaphragm or midriff, the intercostal muscles, and those of the abdomen, contribute thereto, in so much that there is a very close consent between each other; so it is impossible that one part should act without putting the rest in motion.

When all these parts are duly constituted, and in a healthy state, respiration will be rightly performed; but when they are disordered, the breathing must also be hurt. But as we are speaking of coughs, I shall omit the other disorders, and observe, that a cough is to the

lungs what vomiting is to the stomach, that is, their tonic motion is inverted; for in this disorder the constriction of the bronchial canals begins at the bottom, and from thence is continued to the upper part, which being violent, forces the air out of the lungs in a rapid manner. When these are thus affected, they draw the other parts designed for respiration, and those connected thereto, by consent, into convulsive motions. Hence it appears why vehement coughing shakes the whole chest, abdomen, and the rest of the body, and, on the contrary, when the diaphragm, stomach, gullet, the nerves of the pericordia, and those that depend thereon, as also when the pituitary membranes of the nostrils are vellicated by any cause, the windpipe is drawn into consent, and a cough is produced.

Now, if the spasmodico-convulsive motion is the formal ratio of a cough, thence it follows, that a vellication will produce this convulsive motion, and will become the proximate cause of a cough. Therefore all coughs have their seat in the breast, tho' the cause may be sometimes elsewhere; and the variety of causes which contribute to a cough, will beget the several kinds of it, which we now propose to say something about.

Thus a phtisical or consumptive cough arises from a colligation of the vesicles of the lungs, by an ulcer formed therein; for the ulcerous matter by vellicating the lungs produces a cough. Besides this, there are symptomatic coughs, which proceed from an inflammation of the lungs, a pleurisy, a schirrosity and vomica of the lungs, from an inflammation of the diaphragm and the liver, and from breeding of teeth. Hence it appears beyond all dispute, the cause of a cough may be seated in other parts beside the

breast, and that it is owing to a convulsive motion of the nerves.

Thus also any strange body getting into the lungs will occasion violent coughing; as most experience when any thing is said to have gone the wrong way. A cough may likewise be caused by a defluxion from the stoppage of perspiration, for then the acid matter will irritate the lungs, and consequently produce a cough.

From what has been said, we may safely conclude, that particular habits or constitutions of body may have a particular kind of cough. As for what Mr. Gibson says, that high feeding may cause the lungs to grow too large for the chest, and so occasion a cough, there can be nothing in it; for no fat was ever yet seen on the lungs. But when the abdomen is overloaded with fat, the diaphragm or midriff may be pressed upwards, and so lessen the cavity of the chest, that there will not be room enough left for the lungs to play in, and then a cough may be produced.

Now as there are different kinds of coughs, we cannot be too careful in attending to the symptoms of each, in order to discover from what cause it proceeds, and then we may enter more directly and with certainty upon a cure.

Thus a consumptive cough is attended with weakness, loss of appetite, and wasting away of the body. A cough proceeding from tubercles of the lungs, or a vomica, is little or nothing when he is at rest, or stands still in a stable; but if he is put to any hard work, he will cough almost incessantly. When a cough proceeds from the liver, he will always have a working at his flanks. When the lungs are stuffed with slimy matter, which occasions a cough, it may be known by his thick breathing, by the openness of his nostrils, by the wheezing of his throat,

throat, by the large quantity of white phlegm proceeding from his mouth and nose, especially after drinking or exercise, and lastly by the motion of his flanks.

This last case is an asthmatic cough, or one that attends the moist asthma. But as for the nervous or dry asthma, it has other symptoms; for a horse has then all the signs of health, except a cough, which often returns, and sometimes plagues him incessantly by fits, without bringing any thing up. And the time of the return of the fit is very uncertain, yet he has generally something of a cough in the morning or after drinking, or when he is affected by the changes of the weather.

When a cough, seated on the lungs, is not too far gone, and the horse is young, there is reason to expect a cure; in order to which it will be proper to take away a moderate quantity of blood, to cloath him well, especially about the head, and to keep him well littered. His diet should be scalded bran, with a spoonful of honey in each feed, and his drink water-gruel. The medicines should be mercurial, which should be given over night, and then purged off the next morning. Only at first he may take two mercurial balls together, that is, one each night, and a purge the next morning after the second ball has been taken. These may be repeated again three or four times, once a week, taking care the horse does not take cold. The mercurial ball may be made thus:

Take round birthwort, gentian, bay-berries, myrrh, and mercurius dulcis, of each a quarter of an ounce: reduce them to powder, and make them into a ball with a sufficient quantity of honey, for one dose.

The purge may be as follows:

Take of succotrine aloes ten drams; of Epsom salt an ounce; of flour of brimstone half an ounce; of oil of anniseed thirty drops: make them into a ball with honey. Or this,

Take of succotrine aloes half an ounce; myrrh and gum ammoniac, of each a dram; of saffron half a dram; of flour of brimstone a dram: make it into a ball with syrup of maidenhair, or syrup of coltsfoot.

When the symptoms are violent, the mercurial ball may be given always two nights together, instead of one, without danger of a salivation, for the brimstone given in the purge will repress the activity of the mercury:

Take of coltsfoot two ounces; raisins stoned, and figs, of each an ounce; of liquorice root half an ounce: boil these in three quarts of water to two, but don't put in the figs and liquorice till towards the last; then sweeten the decoction with four ounces of honey.

This decoction is for two doses, one of which is to be given in the morning after the purge, and the other the morning following. When the disease has been in some measure subdued by these medicines, we may proceed to milder mercurials, mixt with resolvents and pectorals:

Take cinnabar of antimony and gum guaiacum of each eight ounces; of powder of liquorice four ounces; of balsam of sulphur two ounces; with a sufficient quantity of honey: make them into a paste for twelve balls, one of which is a dose.

One of these balls is to be given every morning for two or three months. The horse must not eat or drink for two hours before he takes the ball, nor for two hours after; but he may go to work as usual, and may be fed with his ordinary quantity of oats, and a

little scalded bran between. In the winter-time the chill must be taken off his water.

When the cause of the cough is seated in the liver, it may be known by the yellowness of the eyes, mouth and lips, a light coloured dung, a deep coloured water, a short dry cough; a wanting to drink often, with a dulness and heaviness of the whole body, and sometimes yellow clouds in the eyes.

When this distemper is recent, it is not hard to cure, but if it has continued a long time, and there is reason to conclude there is an imposthume in the liver, there can be little hopes of restoring the horse to health. The above symptoms shew that there is an obstruction of the biliary duct of the liver, which prevents the gall from flowing into the guts and colouring the dung, when at the same time it abounds in the blood, and is partly carried off by the urine, which gives it the dark colour. This is in all respects a true jaundice, and the cough is only symptomatical, and therefore for the cure we must refer you to the cure of the jaundice.

The asthmatic cough, in which a horse breathes very quick, with a wheezing and rattling in his throat, is not incurable, unless it has continued long, and the horse is old. When the disease is recent, the horse young, in good case, and full of blood, we must begin the cure first by bleeding plentifully, and repeating it when the lungs seem to be very much oppressed, or in a violent fit of coughing. Likewise the mercurial balls may be given over night, and purged off the next morning, as above directed. Or for the purge,

Take of succotrine aloes an ounce; gum ammoniac, and gum guaiacum, of each half an ounce; of saffron a dram: of oil of anni-

seeds thirty drops; of syrup of garlic enough to make them into a ball for one dose.

When the lungs are stuffed with phlegm, which may be known by his wheezing, garlick is alone a very useful remedy to open the pipes, and it will be proper to give him a head two or three times a day. The mercurial ball may be repeated about three times, with seven or eight days between the repetition of the doses. On the days of purging he must have scalded bran with a small seed of corn. In general, he must be kept warm, and out of the wet, and his water must be milk-warm. Instead of the garlick, he may have the following balls:

Take the powder of the roots of Florentine orris, elecampane, and liquorice of each four ounces; gum ammoniac, garlick, and balsam of sulphur, of each two ounces; of the root of squills half an ounce; of oil of anniseeds an ounce: make them into a paste for balls with a sufficient quantity of honey. Each ball must be of the size of a small pullet's egg.

One of these is to be given every morning, letting the horse fast two hours before, and two hours after. These medicines must be assisted with open air and moderate exercise, which, if rightly managed, is sufficient alone. That is, it must always be proportioned to the horse's strength and constitution: it must be continued two or three hours, and the horse must be suffered to go his own pace.

The nervous asthma which is the forerunner of broken wind, is always attended with a dry husky cough. Horses that are afflicted with this disease seem to be well in all other respects, and go through their business with a good deal of alacrity.

(To be continued.)

A DESCRIPTION of the BEAVER, with an Account of the very extraordinary Methods used by them in building their Habitations. Extracted from Hearne's Journey to the Northern Ocean.

MR. H's account of the beaver differs materially from that of former travellers: we shall therefore copy such parts of the account as may seem to cast a new light on the wonderful history of this animal.

"The situation of the beaver-houses is various. Where the beavers are numerous, they are found to inhabit lakes, ponds, and rivers, as well as those narrow creeks which connect the numerous lakes with which this country abounds; but the two latter are generally chosen by them, when the depth of water and other circumstances are suitable, as they have then the advantage of a current to convey wood and other necessities to their habitations, and because, in general, they are more difficult to be taken, than those that are built in standing water.

"There is no one particular part of a lake, pond, river, or creek, of which the beavers make choice for building their houses on, in preference to another; for they sometimes build on points, sometimes in the hollow of a bay, and often on small islands; they always chuse, however, those parts that have such a depth of water as will resist the frost in winter, and prevent it from freezing to the bottom.

"The beavers that build their houses in small rivers or creeks, in which the water is liable to be drained off when the back supplies are dried up by the frost, are wonderfully taught by instinct to provide against that evil, by making a dam quite across the river, at a convenient distance from their houses. This I look upon as the

most curious piece of workmanship that is performed by the beaver; not so much for the neatness of the work, as for its strength and real service; and at the same time it discovers such a degree of sagacity and foresight in the animal of approaching evils, as is little inferior to that of the human species, and is certainly peculiar to those animals.

"The beaver-dams differ in shape according to the nature of the place in which they are built. If the water in the river or creek have but little motion, the dam is almost straight; but when the current is more rapid, it is always made with a considerable curve, convex toward the stream. The materials made use of in those dams are drift-wood, green-willows, birch and poplars, if they can be got; also mud and stones, intermixed in such a manner as must evidently contribute to the strength of the dam; but in these dams there is no other order or method observed, except that of the work being carried on with a regular sweep, and all the parts being made of equal strength.

"In places which have been long frequented by beavers undisturbed, their dams, by frequent repairing, becomes a solid bank, capable of resisting a great force both of water and ice: and as the willow, poplar and birch generally take root and shoot up, they by degrees form a kind of regular planted hedge, which I have seen in some places so tall, that birds have built their nests among the branches.

"Though the beavers which build their houses in lakes and other standing waters, may enjoy a sufficient quantity of their favourite element without the assistance of a dam, the trouble of getting wood and other necessities to their habitations, without the help of a

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current, must in some measure counterbalance the other advantages, which are reaped from such a situation; for it must be observed, that the beavers which build in rivers and creeks, always cut their wood above their houses, so that the current, with little trouble, conveys it to the place required.

"The beaver-houses are built of the same materials as their dams, and are always proportioned in size to the number of inhabitants, which seldom exceed four old, and six or eight young ones; though, by chance, I have seen above double that number.

"These houses, though not altogether unworthy of admiration, fall very short of the general description given of them; for instead of order or regulation being observed in rearing them, they are of a much ruder structure than their dams.

"Those who have undertaken to describe the inside of beaver-houses, as having several apartments appropriated to various uses; such as eating, sleeping, store-houses for provisions, and one for their natural occasions, &c. must have been very little acquainted with the subject; or, which is still worse, guilty of attempting to impose on the credulous, by representing the greatest falsehoods as real facts. Many years constant residence among the Indians, during which I had an opportunity of seeing several hundreds of those houses, has enabled me to affirm, that every thing of the kind is entirely devoid of truth; for notwithstanding the sagacity of those animals, it has never been observed that they aim at any other conveniences in their houses, than to have a dry place to lie on; and there they usually eat their victuals, which they occasionally take out of the water.

"It frequently happens, that some of the large houses are found to have one or more partitions, if

they deserve that appellation; but that is no more than a part of the main building, left by the sagacity of the beaver to support the roof. On such occasions it is common for those different apartments, as some are pleased to call them, to have no communication with each other but by water.

"To deny that the beaver is possessed of a very considerable degree of sagacity, would be as absurd in me, as it is in those authors who think they cannot allow them too much. I shall willingly grant them their full share; but it is impossible for any one to conceive how, or by what means, a beaver, whose full height, when standing erect, does not exceed two feet and a half, or three feet at most, and whose fore-paws are not much larger than a half-crown piece, can 'drive stakes, as thick as a man's leg, into the ground three or four feet deep.' Their 'wattling those stakes with twigs,' is equally absurd; and their 'plastering the inside of their houses with a composition of mud and straw, and swimming with mud and stones on their tails,' are still more incredible. The form and size of the animal, notwithstanding all its sagacity, will not admit of its performing such feats; and it would be as impossible for a beaver to use its tail as a trowel, except on the surface of the ground on which it walks, as it would have been for Sir James Thornhill to have painted the dome of St. Paul's cathedral, without the assistance of scaffolding. The joints of their tail will not admit of their turning it over their backs on any occasion whatever, as it has a natural inclination to bend downwards; and it is not without some considerable exertion that they can keep it from trailing on the ground. This being the case, they cannot sit erect like a squirrel, which is their

their common posture; particularly when eating, or when they are cleaning themselves, as a cat or squirrel does, without having their tails bent forwards between their legs; and which may not improperly be called their trencher.

"So far are the beavers from driving stakes into the ground when building their houses, that they lay most of the wood crosswise and nearly horizontal, and without any other order than that of leaving a hollow or cavity in the middle; when any unnecessary branches project inward, they cut them off with their teeth, and throw them in among the rest, to prevent the mud from falling through the roof. It is a mistaken notion, that the wood-work is first completed and then plaistered; for the whole of their houses, as well as their dams, are from the foundation one mass of wood and mud, mixed with stones, if they can be procured. The mud is always taken from the edge of the bank, or the bottom of the creek or pond, near the door of the house; and though their fore-paws are so small, yet it is held close up between them, under their throat, that they carry both mud and stones; while they always drag the wood with their teeth.

"All their work is executed in the night: and they are so expeditious in completing it, that in the course of one night I have known them to have collected as much mud at their houses as to have amounted to some thousands of their little handfuls; and when any mixture of grass or straw has appeared in it, it has been, most assuredly, mere chance, owing to the nature of the ground from which they had taken it. As to their designedly making a composition for that purpose, it is entirely void of truth.

"It is a great piece of policy in

those animals, to cover, or plaister, as it is usually called, the outside of their houses every fall with fresh mud, and as late as possible in the autumn, even when the frost becomes very severe: as by this means it soon freezes as hard as a stone, and prevents their common enemy, the quique-hatch, from disturbing them during the winter. And as they are frequently seen to walk over their work, and sometimes to give a slap with their tail, particularly when plunging into the water, this has, without doubt, given rise to the vulgar opinion that they use their tails as a trowel, with which they plaister their houses; whereas that flapping of the tail is no more than a custom, which they always preserve, even when they become tame and domestic, and more particularly so when they are startled.

"Their food chiefly consists of a large root, something resembling a cabbage-stalk, which grows at the bottom of the lakes and rivers. They eat also the bark of trees, particularly that of the poplar, birch, and willow; but the ice preventing them from getting to the land in winter, they have not any barks to feed upon during the season, except that of such sticks as they cut down in summer, and throw into the water opposite the doors of their houses; and as they generally eat a great deal, the roots above mentioned constitute a chief part of their food during the winter. In summer, they vary their diet, by eating various kinds of herbage, and such berries as grow near their haunts during that season.

"When the ice breaks up in the spring, the beavers always leave their houses, and rove about the whole summer, probably in search of a more commodious situation; but in case of not succeeding in their endeavours, they return again to their

their old habitations a little before the fall of the leaf, and lay in their winter stock of woods. They seldom begin to repair the houses till the frost commences, and never furnish the outer-coat till the cold is pretty severe, as hath been already mentioned.

"When they shift their habitations, or when the increase of their number renders it necessary to make some addition to their houses, or to erect new ones, they begin felling the wood for these purposes early in the summer, but seldom begin to build till the middle or latter end of August, and never complete their houses till the cold weather be set in."

To the EDITORS of the SPORTING
MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

IN perusing an odd volume of your pleasing work lately, I happened accidentally to fall in with an article relating the wonderful exploits of *Topham*, the *Strong Man*, which immediately brought to my recollection the many surprising instances of bodily strength I have at various times seen on record, a few of which I have been at the pains of collecting. If you think them worthy of notice, an insertion will highly gratify

Your sincere well-wisher,

PEREGRINATOR.

Northampton,
June 10, 1796.

A few years since, there was one Venetianello, well known throughout all Italy, a famous dancer upon the rope, a Venetian by birth, and called Venetianello because of the lowness of his stature: yet was he of that strength and firmness, that he broke the thickest shank bone of oxen upon his knee: three pins of

iron as thick as a man's finger; wrapping them about with a napkin, he would twist and writhen as if they were loosened by fire. A beam of twenty feet long, or more, and a foot thick, laid upon his shoulders, sometimes set on end there, he would carry without use of his hands, and shift from one shoulder to another. Theodorus was an eye-witness of all this, and related it.

George le Feu, a learned German, writes, that in his time, in the year 1529, there lived at Misna, in Thuring, a man called Nicholas Klunher, provost of the great church, who was so strong, that, without rope or pulley, or any other help, he brought up out of a cellar a pipe of wine, carried it out of doors, and laid it upon a cart.

I have seen a man, (saith Mayolus, an Italian bishop,) in the town of Alste, who, in the presence of the Marquis of Pescara, handed a pillar of marble three feet long, and one foot in diameter, the which he cast high in the air, then received it again in his arms, then threw it up again, sometimes after one fashion, sometimes after another, as easily as if he had been playing with a ball.

There was (saith the same author) at Mantua, a man called Rodomas, of little stature, but so strong that he broke a cable as thick as a man's arm, as easily as if it had been a small twine-thread.

Froyfard (a man much esteemed for the truth and fidelity of his history) reports, that about two hundred years since, lived Ornavado Burg, a Spaniard, he was companion to the Earl of Folix: one time attending the earl, he accompanied him into a higher room, to which they ascended by twenty four steps: the weather was cold, and the fire not answerable. But seeing some asses laden with wood in the lower court,

court, he goes down thither, lifts up the greatest of them with his burthen upon his shoulder, and carrying it to the room from whence he came, laid them both on the fire together.

Lebelki, a Polander, in his description of the things done at Constantinople, in the year 1581, at the circumcision of Mahomet, the son of Amurath, Emperor of the Turks, writes, that amongst many active men who there shewed their strength, one was very memorable, who for proof thereof lifted up a piece of wood which twelve men had much ado to raise from the earth; and afterwards, lying down flat upon his back, he bore upon his breast a weighty stone, which ten men had with much ado rolled thither; and this he made but a jest of.

Many yet alive know how strong and mighty George of Froasberg, Baron of Mindelheim, was: he was able, with the middle finger of his right-hand, to remove a very strong man out of his place, though he sat ever so firm. He stopped a horse suddenly, that ran in a full career, by only touching the bridle: and with his shoulder would easily move a cannon whither he pleased. His joints seemed to be made of horn; and he wrested twisted ropes and horse-shoes asunder with his hands.

Cardan writes, that himself saw a man dancing with two men in his arms, two upon his shoulders, and one hanging about his neck.

Of later days, and here at home, Mr. Richard Carew, a worthy gentleman, in his survey of Cornwall, assures us that one John Bray, well known to himself, as being his tenant, carried upon his back at one time, for the space of near a bow-shot, six bushels of wheaten meal, reckoning fifteen gallons to the bushel, together with the miller, a stout fellow of twenty-four

years of age: whereunto he adds, that John Roman, of the same shire, a short clownish fellow, would carry the whole carcase of an ox.

Julius Capitolinus, and others, report of the tyrant Maximinus (who murdered and succeeded the good Emperor Alexander Severus) that he was so strong, that with his hands he drew carts and waggons full laden. With a blow of his fist he struck out a horse's tooth, and with a kick broke his thighs. He crumbled stones betwixt his fingers: he cleft young trees with his hands; so that he was surnamed Hercules, Anteus, and Milo.

Trebellius Pollio writes of Caius Marius, a cutler by his first occupation, (and who, in the time of Galienus, was chosen Emperor by the soldiers,) that there was not any man who had stronger hands to strike and thrust than he; the veins of his hands seemed as if they had been sinews; with his fourth finger he stayed a cart drawn with horses, and drew it backward. If he gave but a fillip to the strongest man that then was, he would feel it as if he had received a blow on his forehead with a hammer: with two fingers he would wrest and break many strong cords twisted together.

Tritanus, a Samnite fencer, was of such a make, that not only his breast, but his hands and arms were furnished with sinews both long-wise and across: so that, without any pain, and with the least blow, he overthrew all that encountered him. The son of this fencer, of the same name and make, a soldier in Pompey's army, when he was challenged by an enemy, set so slight by him, that he overcame him by the blows of his bare hand; and with one finger took him up, and carried him to Pompey's camp.

Flavius Vopiscus writes, that the

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Emperor

Emperor Aurelian was of a very high stature, and marvellous strength: that, in the war against the Samaritans, he slew in one day, with his own hands, eight and forty of his enemies; and in divers days together, he overthrew nine hundred and fifty. When he was Colonel of the sixth legion, called Gallica, at Mentz, he made strange havoc of the Frangi, who over-run all the country of Gaul; for he slew with his own hands seven hundred of them, and sold three hundred at Portfale, whom he himself had taken prisoners: so that his soldiers made a military song in praise of him.

Thomas Farel reports of Galeot Bardasim, a gentleman of Catana, that he grew from time to time to such a height and bigness of body, that he exceeded all other men, how great soever, from the shoulders upwards. He was too hard for all others in leaping, throwing a stone, and tossing the pike; for he was strong and mighty according to his stature. Being armed at all points, his casque on his head, a javelin in his right hand, and holding the pommel of his saddle in his left, he would spring into the seat without help of a stirrup or other advantages; sometimes he would bestride a great courser unbridled, and having brought him to his full speed would stop him suddenly in his course, by straining him only with his thighs and legs: with his hands he would take up from the ground an ass with his load, which commonly weighed three kintals. He struggled in the way of pastime, with two of the strongest men that could be found, of which he held one fast with one arm, and threw the other to the ground, and keeping him under with his knee; at last he pulled down the second, and bound their hands behind their backs.

Julius Valens, a Captain-pensioner, or Centurion of the guard of soldiers about the body of Augustus Cæsar, could bear up a wagon laden with two hogheads or a butt of wine, until it was unladen, and the wine drawn out of it; he would take up a mule upon his back, and carry it away; he used also to stay a chariot against all the force of the horses striving and straining to the contrary, and other wonderful masteries, which are to be seen engraven upon his tomb stone.

Milo, the great wrestler of Crotona, was of that strength, that he carried a whole ox the length of a furlong; when he stood firm upon his feet, no man could thrust him off from his standing; or, if he grasped a pomegranate fast in his hand, no man was able to stretch a finger of his, and force it out at length.

Tamerlane the Scythian had exceeding great strength; so that he would draw the string of a Scythian bow (which few were able to deal with) beyond his ear; and caused his arrow to fly with that force, that he would shoot through a brazen mortar, which the archers used to set up for themselves as a mark.

To the EDITORS of the SPORTING
MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

I NOW come to the second public game formerly celebrated in Greece, which was known by the name of the *Pythæan Game*.

These diversions were exercised at a place near Delphi. As to their origin, there is no authentic account upon record which can be relied on. They are, by some, thought to have been first instituted by Amphiction, the son of Deucalion, or by the council of Amphictyones. Others refer the first institution of them to Agamem-

Agamemnon; Pausanias to Diomedes, the son of Tydeus, who having escaped a dangerous tempest as he returned from Troy, dedicated a temple at Trazen to Apollo, and instituted the Pythian games to his honour: but the most common opinion is, that Apollo himself was the first author of them when he had overcome Python, a serpent, or cruel tyrant:

Then to preserve the name of such a deed,
For Python slain, he Pythian games decreed.

DRYDEN.

At their first institution, they were only celebrated once in nine years, but afterwards every fifth year, according to the number of the Parnassian nymphs that came to congratulate Apollo, and brought him presents after his victory.

The rewards were certain apples consecrated to Apollo. At the first institution of these games, the victors were crowned with garlands of palm, or (according to some) of beech-leaves.

Here noble youths for mastership did strive,
To box, to run, and steeds and chariots drive,

The prize was same; in witness of renown,

A beechen garland did the victor crown,
The laurel was not yet for triumph born.

Others report, that in the first Pythian solemnity, the gods contended. Castor obtained the victory by race-horses, Pollux at boxing, Calais at running, Zetes at fighting in armour, Peleus at throwing the discus, Telamon at wrestling, Hercules in the pancratium; and that all of them were honoured by Apollo with crowns of laurel. But others again are of a different opinion, and tell us, that at the first there was nothing but a musical contention, wherein he that sung best the praises of Apollo, obtained the prize, which at first was either silver or gold, or something of value, but afterwards changed into a

garland. The first that obtained victory by singing, was Chrysothemis, a Cretan, by whom Apollo was purified, after he had killed Python; the next prize was won by Philamon; the next after that, by his son Thamyras. Orpheus having raised himself to a pitch of honour almost equal to the gods, by instructing the profane and ignorant world in all the mysteries of religion and ceremonies of divine worship, and Musæus, who took Orpheus for his example, thought it too great a condescension, and inconsistent with the high characters they bore, to enter into the contention. Eleutherus is reported to have gained a victory purely upon the account of his voice, his song being the composition of another person: Hesiod was repulsed because he could not play upon the harp, which all the candidates were obliged to do.

Afterwards, in the year of the XLVIII. Olympiad, the Amphictiones, who were presidents of these games introduced flutes, which till that time had not been used at this solemnity: the first that won the prize was Sacadas of Argos; but because they were more proper for funeral songs and lamentations, than the merry and jocund airs at festivals, they were in a short time laid aside. They added likewise all the gymnical exercises used in the Olympian games, and made a law, that none should contend in running but boys. At, or near the same time, they changed the prizes, which had before been of value, into crowns or garlands, and gave these games the name of Pythia, from Pythian Apollo, whereas till that time (as some say) they had either another name, or no peculiar name at all. Horse-races also, or chariot races, were introduced about the time of Clisthenes, king of Ar-

gos, who obtained the first victory in them, riding in a chariot drawn by four horses; and several other changes were by degrees made in these games, with which I shall not trouble you, but proceed to an account of

THE NEMEAN GAMES,

Which were so called from Nemea, a village and grove between the cities Cleonæ and Phlius, where they were celebrated every third year upon the twelfth of the Corinthian month. The exercises were chariot races, and all the parts of the Pentathlum. The presidents were elected out of Corinth, Argus, and Cleonæ, and apparelled in black cloths, the habit of mourners, because these games were a funeral solemnity instituted in memory of Opheltes, otherwise called Archemorus, because Amphiaræus foretold his death soon after he began to live: or, according to Statius, because that misfortune was a *prelude* to all the bad success that befel the Theban champions; for Archemorus was the son of Euphetes and Creusa, or Lyncus, a king of Nemea, or Thrace, and Eurydice, and nursed by Hypsipyle, who leaving the child in a meadow, while she went to shew the besiegers of Thebes a fountain, at her return found him dead, and a serpent folded about his neck; whence the fountain before called Langia, was named Archemorus; and the Captains to comfort Hypsipyle for her loss, instituted these games,

Langia alone, and she securely hid
Lurk'd in a dark, and unfrequented shade;
Her silent streams by some Divine command

To feed the circumjacent pools retain'd.
Before Hypsipyle was known to lame,
Before the serpent had Archem'rus slain,
And to the spring bequeathed his dreadful name.

Yet in the lonesome desert tho' it lies,
A grove and riv'let it alone supplies;

Whilst endless glory on the nymph shall wait,

And Grecian chiefs shall eternize her fate,
When they shall sad triennial games ordain

To after ages to transmit her name,
And dismal story of Opheltes slain.

Others are of opinion, that these games were instituted by Hercules after his victory over the Nemean lion, in honour of Jupiter, who as Pausanias tell us, had a magnificent temple at Nemea, where he was honoured with solemn games, in which men ran races in armour; but perhaps these might be distinct from the solemnity I am now speaking of. Lastly, others grant indeed, they were first instituted in memory of Archemorus, but will have them to have been intermitted and revived by Hercules, and consecrated to Jupiter.

The victors were crowned with parsley: which was an herb used at funerals, and feigned to have sprung out of Archemorus's blood; concerning it, Plutarch relates a remarkable story, with which I shall conclude this epistle:—

“As Timoleon,” says he, “was marching up an ascent, from the top of which they might take a view of the army and strength of the Carthaginians, there met him by chance a company of mules laden with parsley, which his soldiers conceived to be an ill-boding omen, because this is the very herb wherewith we adorn the sepulchres of the dead, which custom gave birth to that despairing proverb, when we pronounce of one that is dangerously sick, that he wants nothing but parsley, which is in effect to say, he is a dead man, just dropping into the grave; now, that Timoleon might ease their minds, and free them from those superstitious thoughts, and such a fearful expectation, he put a stop to his march, and, having

ing alledged many other things in a discourse suitable to the occasion, he concluded it by saying that a garland of triumph had luckily fallen into their hands of its own accord, as an anticipation of victory, inasmuch as the Corinthians do crown those that get the better in their Isthmian games with chaplets of parsley, accounting it a sacred wreath, and proper to their country; for parsley was ever the conquering ornament of the Isthmian sports, as it is now also of the Nemean; it is not very long since branches of the pine-tree came to succeed, and to be made use of for that purpose: Timoleon, therefore, having thus bespoken his soldiers, took part of the parsley, wherewith he first made himself a chaplet, and then his captains with their companies did all crown themselves with it in imitation of their general."

In my next you will receive my last correspondence upon this subject, which will consist of an account of the *Isthmian Games*.

Believe me, Gentlemen,
Berkshire, Your's, &c.
June 14, 1796. *An Admirer of*
Antiquarian Sports.

For the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

Description of a newly invented
Patent GUN-LOCK,

By G. BOLTON, Esq.

MILITARY men have long complained of the frequent inefficacy and constant danger of the firelocks now used by our soldiery; indeed they are sometimes as fatal to themselves as to the enemy. Sportsmen, also, particularly such as are fond of *cock-shooting*, &c. are often exposed to meet with melancholy accidents. To prevent

such misfortunes, Mr. B. has invented a new lock, which possesses the desirable property of 'bolting and unbolting itself.' It is difficult, if not impossible, without a plate to convey an idea of it; we shall however attempt it in his own words. 'In the first place,' says this gentleman, in a pamphlet he has lately published, 'the whole work of my improved lock is between two plates, and all the centres are doubly supported. The main spring, contrary to the present mode of making it, is extremely open, and has strong double centers going through the two plates, which much increases its strength, and prevents its being dragged from the inner plate; the upper part of this spring answers for the hammer, instead of the feather spring. In the foot of the hammer is a roller, which works on the top of the main spring and takes off friction; the back part of the hammer is finished with a curb, and rounded so as to work through a hole, which lets it play on the top of the main spring, and at the same time keeps out the weather. The bottom of the cock is a solid piece of metal made circularly, and in the back part of it are cut the notches (or bent) for the full and half cock. The cock, when discharged, strikes on the solid piece of metal projecting inwards at right angles from the outside plate; in this solid piece, the pan is made, the inner plate shuts close to this, and the whole is boxed up, and can never move from its work; for when stocked, the inner plate comes against the barrel.

'On the top and right hand part of the cock, a considerable part of its thickness is cut away; into the bed thus formed falls a very strong flat bolt, of nearly double the thickness of the strongest

est part of the main spring. This bolt drops on a center, fitted at a considerable distance beyond the back of the cock in the outside plate; immediately underneath this bed in which the bolt lies, are cut the notches for the full and half cock, in the solid part of the cock itself. Below the bolt center, and nearer to the back of the cock is a fear, which is made in a circular form, and also drops on a center, there not being a single screw throughout the whole lock. In the front part of the cock is the swivel for the main spring.

I have totally put away that delicate fear spring, which on account of its imperfect action, I have so much complained of; and all the necessary operations for acting on the bolt and fear are performed in the same instant by a single spring; the breadth of this spring is determined by that of the main spring, which also determines the distance of the two plates from each other. This spring is sawed nearly into two; the lower part is broader than the upper, and acts upon the fear; the breadth of the spring is determined by the thickness of the fear itself. The upper part acts at the same instant on the bolt; it is rather larger than the main spring, and is placed to its work in the following manner: a stationary center is fixed in the outer plate, and which comes through the inner one, a little below and beyond the centers of the main spring.

‘The left hand of this spring is nearly bent round to form a circular hole to drop on the center already described. The bolt, when in its place, falls into the bed cut for it out of the metal on the top of the cock; so that if the finger is drawn over it at the same time it is in its place, it is perfectly smooth, and only appears as a

part of the real thickness of the cock itself. This spring, which acts in the same instant upon the bolts and fear, is kept to its work by a moveable pin placed behind it, and which goes through the two plates, and is put in or taken out with the greatest facility, only by pressing with the finger on the spring. When the cock is down, the bolt points downward, and remains a little below and beyond the angular point of its bed. The upper part of the spring already described, as sawed nearly in two, comes under the bolt, which it presses forcibly against the angular point of its bed. The lower part of the spring, at the same time, presses against the foot of the fear, which it keeps forcing closely to its work, making it ready to fly into the notch, when the cock is drawn back far enough. Upon attempting to come to the half cock at the same instant that the bottom spring conducts the fear into the notch for the half cock, the upper spring carries the bolt into its bed: the bolt goes into its place rather before the fear: if any one listens he will distinctly hear that they are separate, but if fifty thousand trials were made to get the fear in before the bolt, it would be found impossible. It is necessary that it should act so, for if the fear was permitted to take hold first, upon hearing it click, many might imagine the bolt had also gone in, and by this means they would be deprived of its security.’

Mr. Bolton describes a less complex lock, and also a contrivance for rendering the flint more certain, by altering its position, and presenting a new edge to the hammer at pleasure. He hints at three different screens for preventing the powder from flashing in the men's faces.

Among

Among many improved locks of late, there is also one invented by a private belonging to the artillery, which is so contrived, as to be fitted into the stock by a simple application, without the use of a single screw.

Another, the production of an ensign of foot, measures out the priming, by means of a roller, every time the piece is cocked; the hammer is also shut down, priming procured, and full cock attained, with a single motion, by means of a simple lever.

A third, termed the Prussian gun, primes itself from the charge by means of a conical touch-hole, and has a rammer with a button at each end, which renders four distinct motions unnecessary. The elder Captain Morris, it is reported, has made a very great improvement on the soldier's musket, which promises to be efficacious on account of its simplicity.

*To the EDITORS of the SPORTING
MAGAZINE.*

GENTLEMEN,

MR. Frankly, in his rambles, having led his readers to a variety of places of pleasure and entertainment, I cannot resist as an admirer of sentimental journeying, to extract the following, as by no means the least amusing and entertaining, which I trust may find a place in your highly esteemed publication, and oblige your northern correspondent of Ambleside.

Westmorlandiensis.

THE VILLAGE.

"We did not stop until we got to a village about twenty miles from London. What a contrast to that metropolis! the beautiful situation of this little place was really delightful; the simplicity of many of its inhabitants striking-

ly pleasing. We alighted at a very good inn, and after we had given orders for our dinner, went out for the amusement of a walk. We were happily in a disposition to be pleased with every thing we saw and met. Were mankind oftener in such an harmonious temper, how much more delightful would this world appear, and how imperceptibly should we glide over the little unevenness in the road which we meet with in our journey through life."

THE TURTLE DOVES.

Two turtle doves were hung out near the door of a cottage, and in soft cooing melancholy sounds, were telling their artless tales of love, nor seemed to regret confinement. "How sweetly pleasing," said I, "appear these harmless birds; how faithful and disinterested is their union! so unaffected is their truth, that one will not many weeks survive the other, nor cease to mourn until the like stroke has pierced the survivor's bosom. There is something strikingly great in such natural constancy, which is seldom shaken, although variety be procured to amuse. 'Tis pity the human inhabitants of this world will not follow the example which the turtles set before them, and by endeavouring to imitate, them taste a more exalted happiness."

A MATRIMONIAL SCENE.

"You are become the most extravagant, lazy, idle, thoughtless b—h" cried a man in a harsh voice, "that ever existed." The reproof was followed by a blow, and the woman begged for mercy. I immediately went in: a decent pretty looking female was the object of her husband's rage. "For shame, desist," said I, "how unmanly to use a wife in so cruel a manner."

manner." The woman burst into a flood of tears—"Oh! William," she cried, "I never expected this from you. Was it for this I passed so many sleepless nights and miserable days, when you were gone for a soldier, and refused so many offers for your sake? I am neither extravagant, lazy, nor idle. Times, I know go hard with you, but I cannot earn so much as I did before the birth of my little boy, nor will your ill-humour lessen the price of provisions. Many in this place are greater sufferers than we are."—"You must keep birds," said he, "because I suppose they were given by some of the lovers you boast of so much, and spend half your time in dressing that you may be finer than your neighbours. You had better set more to the spinning wheel, and you shall too, or you and your bantling may starve for me."

"If it is misfortune and hardship that have soured your temper," said I, to the man, "I can forgive, though I can hardly pity you. Your wife is a much greater object of compassion; is she not equally exposed to the same hardships as yourself? Why will you then add the burthen of ill-nature? surely, her constancy deserves better of you. Discontent adds greatly to the evils with which we are encompassed. Fortitude and patience as surely lessen them. No longer repine or grudge your wife her harmless favourites. Observe them well, they may reach you happiness. They are confined and equally dependent on you as you on Providence, for the good things of this life. Regard the neatness of your wife as a compliment paid you. It plainly shews that she still wishes to please. Do you think that you ever should have married her had she appeared slutish and in rags?" "Why, I do believe I

should not," said he, looking down. His confusion was a good sign. I gave his wife two guineas, and hope it purchased a reconciliation; if it brought about a reformation, it paid me noble interest indeed."

For the Sporting Magazine.

Omnium rerum vicissitudo.

A HUMOROUS AND MORAL TALE.

Men change with Fortune, Manners change
with climes,
Tenets with Books, and Principles with
Times.

THUS popular prejudices, private pique, false taste and judgment, or the headlong impulse of folly and fashion, may counteract all the efforts of struggling genius, and render as abortive its endeavours to please, as those of the Old Man and his Son, in the fable, who, by turns, led, drove, rode, and carried the ass, to please the caprices of different individuals,

But all in vain:

And the following short story, setting forth the embarrassments, disappointments, and distresses of an English traveller, in passing through four different countries in Europe, may in some degree tend to confirm the observation—

"You must know," says my correspondent, "that during the rage of the last continental war in Europe, particular business obliged me to set out upon a journey to Vienna; but, being a stranger to the etiquette of travelling, I neglected to provide myself with a passport; for, as my business was of no concern to foreign nations, I had no notion that they had any business to concern themselves about me.

"I had to shape my course thro' the territories of neutral and contending

tending powers. I landed in Holland, and passed the usual examination; but frankly confessing that the business which brought me there was of a private nature, I was imprisoned, cross-examined, searched, bag and baggage, and finding no cause to detain me, I was at length permitted to pursue my journey.

"To the officer of the guard who conducted me to the frontiers, I complained bitterly of the loss I should sustain by the delay; and, as we were then in alliance with the States, I swore it was unfriendly—it was ungenerous—five hundred Dutchmen might have travelled through Great-Britain without a question;—they never questioned any stranger in Great-Britain, nor stopped them, nor imprisoned them, upon any pretext whatever. Roused from his native phlegm by these reflections on the police of his country, the Dutchman slowly drew the pipe from his mouth, and puffing out a volume of smoke, "Myn-heer," says he, "ven you voorsit fet foot in de land of de Seven United Provinshes, you should have declared you vash a marthand, and come upon affairs of commerce," and then replacing the pipe in his mouth again, he relapsed into immoveable taciturnity. This was a hint, however; and so, being released from this unsocial companion, I soon arrived at a French town, where the sentry at the gate requested my permission to ask for my passport: and, upon telling him bluntly that I had none, he begged pardon ten thousand times for de liberte he vas oblige to take by conducting me to de Commissaire.

"Monsieur le Commissaire received me with true French politesse, and, with all the graces of Gallic shrug and grin, made the usual enquiries; and I, being determined to avoid the error which

caused such inconvenience before, replied, that affairs of commerce had brought me to the continent.

"Mon Dieu!" says the Commissaire, "'tis un negociant une Bourgeois! Here, take him away to de Marechaussee, me vil examine autre fois, at dis time I must go drefs for de Opera, allons!"

"Monsieur Anglois," says the French soldier, as he conducted me to the guard-room, "you should not ave mention de commerce to Monsieur le Commissaire; dey pay no regard to traffique in dis country: you should ave tell Monsieur le Commissaire, dat you come here to dance, to sing, and to drefs a la Francoise; den he vould ave treat a you vid beaucoup de compliment, and conge down to de ground, seven, six, two, three, four time, vid tres humble serviteur, Monsieur, my Lor Anglois."

"This was but poor consolation; but, however, it was all I could get; so I had the honour of spending the night in a French guard-room, with a set of wretches as ragged as scare-crows, and the next day the Commissaire condescended to let me go about my business.

"Proceeding on my way a few leagues farther, I fell in with a detachment of German chasseurs, who demanded my name, quality, and what brought me there? Upon which I told them, that I came to dance, to sing, and to drefs,—“To dance, to sing, and to drefs! He's a French spy,” says one; “he must be hanged,” says another; so I was commanded to mount behind a dragoon, and away they scampered with me full drive to the camp.

"When I came there, instead of a rope, I only met with a reprimand, for giving such a foolish account of myself, and was presently discharged, with a word or two by way of advice. "We, Germans," says the

commanding officer, "eat, drink, and smoke; these are our favourite employments: and had you informed the dragoons that you followed no other business, you would have saved them, yourself and me, an infinite deal of trouble."

"Soon after this escape, I approached the Prussian dominions, where my examination was still more strict; however, I had got my lesson, and so told them that my only business there was to eat, drink, and smoke.—"To eat, drink, and smoke," says the officer; "impossible! there can be no such characters, except among the Hottentots. Sir, you are an impostor, and must be tied up to the picket till you can give a better account of yourself."—"Sir," says I, to the Prussian officer, "upon my honour I am no Hottentot, but an unfortunate Englishman, who have ran the gauntlet in such a manner as no poor devil ever did before."

"I have been imprisoned in Holland for keeping my own affairs to myself; I have been confined a whole night in a French guard-room for owning that I was an honest dealer and chapman; I have been threatened to be hanged for a spy in Germany, only for saying that I came there to dance, sing, and dress; and now I am to be treated worse than an Hottentot for acknowledging that I came here to eat, drink, and smoke. But, sir, if you will only be so good as to tell me what other account I may give of myself, so as to avoid that damn'd picketing spike, you will do me the greatest service in the world; for, as I am troubled with very tender feet, upon my soul, I shall never be able to bear it. The Prussian officer laughed very heartily, and ordered me to be safely conducted back to the frontiers of Germany."—"Make the best of your way home,

my good friend," says he, "nor regret the time and labour you have lost, since if you take back with you this useful lesson, your disappointments and distresses in this short journey may be of infinite service in your journey through life: Never take any man's word for what will please another; never falsify your own word, for the sake of pleasing anybody; and, in whatever quarter of the world you may hereafter be a resident, or a wanderer, be assured that the hopes of pleasing every body will be found as chimerical as the invention of human wings, or the discovery of the philosopher's stone."

Hunting the WILD BULL in the EAST-INDIES. Extracted from "A Journey over-land to India, by Donald Campbell, Esq."

"**W**HEN I was under the command of Captain, afterwards General Mathews, in his regiment of cavalry," says the author, "being cantoned at a place called Tuckolam, in the neighbourhood of extensive woods, information was brought us, that wild bulls infested the neighbouring villages, and had killed some people: we prepared to enter the wood, and destroy, if possible, those ferocious animals, which had become the terror and destruction of the contiguous country. The origin of those wild herds was this:—From time immemorial, a religious custom had prevailed among the Pagan inhabitants, of offering a calf to the wood upon the accomplishment of any favourite purpose, such as the safe delivery of his wife, or the obtaining an employment, &c. In process of time, those calves bred, and became numerous and incredibly fierce. Independent of protect-

testing

testing the defenceless natives, it was in itself a most interesting kind of hunting. The mode of doing it was this:—a large party, well mounted, galloping in a body up to a great flock, and marking out the fiercest champion of the whole, attacked him with sword and pistols. One day, a bull, which was wounded, and thereby rendered more fierce, though not less vigorous, got posted in some thick bushes, in such a manner as to be approached only in front: a whim of the most extravagant kind came into my head, suggested by vain glory and youthful fire—I thought it ungenerous for so many to attack him at once; and, wishing to have the credit of subduing him, I dismounted from my horse, and attacked him with a pike; I soon, however, had cause to repent this rash and unwarrantable step; it had nearly been fatal to me—for the bull soon threw the pike into the air, and had it not been for the very gallant exertions of my brother officers, who rode in upon him, and rescued me at the moment that the brute's horns had touched my coat, I must have been killed. An Indian officer, who was in my troop, particularly distinguished himself at the imminent hazard of his life; the bull having tossed his horse and himself to a distance from his horns. At this time I was but eighteen years of age, and had not the judgment to reflect, that if I had been killed, my fate would be attended with only pity or scorn for my folly: whereas, had I succeeded, the whole reward of my danger, would have been the useless applause of some youngsters, idle and inconsiderate as myself—while my rashness would have been reprobated by every man whose good opinion was worth enjoying. One or two people, who were present at the time,

are now living in great repute in England. We succeeded, however, in driving those wild cattle into the interior recesses of the wood, dividing the flesh of those we killed among such of the poor sepoy as would eat it, and thereby rendered essential service to the contiguous villages.

"Often when I have heard, in coffee-houses and play-houses, some of our sporting sparks boasting of their prowess over a timid hare or a feeble fox, I could not help recollecting with respect the hunters of India, who chase the destructive monsters of the forest—the boar, the tyger, the hyena, the bull, or the buffalo; and, while they steel the nerves, animate the courage, and, by habitual deeds of pith, fit themselves for war, render essential service to their fellow-creatures, and save the lives and property of thousands. Such greatness of spirit, under the controul of good sense, and the direction of prudence, must render a man respectable; but, if not managed with discretion, leaves a man no other praise than that of a magnanimous madman."

* * * *We have extracted the following singular Description of a Turkish Drama, from the same interesting publication, which no doubt will also be found highly entertaining to our readers.*

A TURKISH DRAMA.

"We visited many coffee-houses in the course of that day," continues this ingenious gentleman, "in every one of which we found something to divert or disgust us; at length as we entered one, my friendly guide turning to me with satisfaction in his countenance, said, 'Here is something about to go forward that will please you better than the concert of music.'" "What

is it?" said I. "A drama," returned he; "a drama, to you most certainly of a new and extraordinary kind; and I do assure you that so zealous am I to procure you entertainment, I would rather than a couple of louis you could understand what is going forward: your hearty mirth and laughter," added he, "are sufficient to put one in spirits." He then directed my attention to a fellow who was busily employed in erecting a stage, which he accomplished in a time incredibly short. The light of the sun was completely excluded, and a puppet-show commenced, which gave great delight to all the audience, and, ignorant as I was of the language, pleased me very much.

"I was astonished when informed, that one man only spoke for all the personages of the drama, for so artfully did he change his tone of voice, that I could have sworn there had been as many people to speak, as there were characters in the piece. The images were not actually puppets, commonly so called, but shadows done in the manner of Astley's *Ombres Chinoises*. They were, however, far inferior to his in execution and management, though the dialogue and incident evidently appeared, even to me, to be executed with a degree of the *vis comica* far superior to any I ever saw in a thing of the kind in Europe; indeed, so perfect was the whole, that though I knew not a word of the language, I comprehended clearly the plan of the piece, and many of the strokes of humour contained in the dialogues. The plan was obviously taken from a story which I have read in some of the Eastern tales, I believe the Arabian Nights Entertainments, and it is founded on the law of the country, that a man may repudiate his wife twice, and take her back again; but, in the

event of a third divorce, cannot retake her to his marriage-bed, unless she be previously married and divorced by another man. To obviate which, husbands who repent having divorced their wives a third time, employ a man to marry them, and restore her back again; and he who does this office is called a *Hullah*.—In the piece before us, however, the Lady and the *Hullah* like each other so well, that they agree not to separate; the husband brings them both before the Cadi to enforce a separation: and the scene before the Cadi was as ludicrous, and as keen a satire upon those magistrates, as can well be conceived, though of the low kind.

"The piece was introduced with a grand nuptial procession, in which the master displayed the powers of his voice by uttering a variety of the most opposite tones in the whole gamut of the human voice; sometimes speaking, sometimes squeaking like a hurt child, sometimes huzzaing as a man, a woman, or a child; sometimes neighing like a horse, and sometimes interspersing it with other such sounds as commonly occur in crowds, in such a manner as astonished me; while the concomitant action of the images, grotesque beyond measure, kept up the laugh; horses kicking, and throwing their riders, asses biting those near them, and kicking those behind them, who retire limping in the most ridiculous manner; while their great standing character in all pieces, *Kara-ghuse* (the same as our Punch), raised a general roar of obstreperous mirth even from the Turks, with his whimsical action, of which I must say that, though nonsensical, though indecent, and sometimes even disgusting, it was on the whole the most finished composition of low ribaldry and fun that I ever beheld.

"When

"When they come before the Cadi, he is seated in his divan of justice; but as soon as the complaint is opened and answered, he rises and comes forward between the contending parties; here he turns to one, and demands, in a terrific tone, what he has to say, while the other puts cash in his hand behind, and in proportion as the cash is counted in, increases the terror of his voice; he then pockets the money, and again turns to the other, and demands what he has to offer, while in like manner he receives the bribes from his adversary, and puts it in an opposite pocket: this alternate application lasts till the purses of both are exhausted, when, giving a great groan, he retires on one side to reckon the money of each, from a pocket he has on either side, one called plaintiff and the other defendant; when balancing them, he finds plaintiff better by one asper (or three-halfpence than defendant, and pronounces his judgment accordingly. The defendant appeals to the Bashaw; they go before him; Kara-ghuse (Punch), however, takes the defendant aside, and in a dialogue, which my friend assured me was pointed, witty, and bitterly satirical, developes to him the whole system of magistratical injustice; advises him to bribe the Bashaw, and, declaring his zeal for all young people fond of amorous enjoyment (which he is at some pains to enlarge upon to the excess of indelicacy), offers him the aid of his purse. The advice is followed; the bribe is accepted; the Cadi's decree is reversed, and himself disgraced, and the mob at once hustle him, and bear the Hullah home to his bride with clamours of joy. Here again the master shewed his extraordinary powers, giving not only, as before, distinct and opposite tones of voice, but huddling a

number of different sounds with such skill and rapidity together, that it was scarcely possible to resist the persuasion that they were the issue of a large and tumultuous crowd of men and animals. With this extravagant *melange* the curtain dropped, and the performance ended."

FEMALE COMBATANTS of FASHION.

Dublin, June 6.

A *Boxing-match* lately took place between two elderly maiden ladies of fashion, in the vicinity of Merion-square, which has made some noise in the circle of the *beau monde*: the following is the cause and consequences —

A certain son of Mars paid his addresses to both those ladies at the same time, a practice but too common with gentlemen of the profession. A coolness between the ladies ensued, which was observed by their friends with concern, as they had lived on terms of great intimacy since their first acquaintance, which commenced, we hear, about *thirty* years ago. Unfortunately, they met on Thursday evening last, at Lady ———'s, and while drinking tea, one of them sarcastically observed, "*red coats are bewitching things.*" The lady to whom this insinuation was directed, replied, with much warmth, that "it was a pity *old* ladies would trouble themselves in affairs of love." The word *old* had an instantaneous effect on the feelings of the other lady, who most incautiously clenched her fist, and called her antagonist by the filthy name of *b——*, which was immediately followed by a *plumper* just under the right eye. The lady who received the blow, enraged beyond utterance, flew at the throat of her antagonist, who, literally

literally speaking, gave her a warm reception, for the tea-urn was overturned, by which she was dreadfully scalded, as well as several ladies who were present. A most valuable set of china was dashed to pieces, and a scene of confusion ensued, easier conceived than described. The company for the most part being severely scalded, the combatants were left to themselves for some minutes, during which they reciprocally changed some good blows without mercy or remission, till the footman appearing, disengaged them, and the company at the same time interfering, a reconciliation took place.

For the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

OBSERVATIONS and FACTS concerning the BREED of HORSES in SCOTLAND, in ancient Times; By ROGER LADYKIRK, Esq.

THE Caledonians, Picts, and Saxons, had each a word in their languages as a name for this noble animal; and I am informed, that the Gaelic abounds in a variety of names for the different kinds of horses, mares, and geldings. It seems probable that amongst these ancient nations, horses were chiefly used by their warlike leaders; for a *ridar* signifies the same as a knight.

When we came to have written records in Scotland, the language used by the clergy was Latin; horses, therefore, occur under many barbarous appellations, as *Cuballa*, *Averia*, *Pullami*, *Palfredi*, *Dextrarii*, and *Gradarii*, denoting their various uses, either in husbandry, war, hunting, or travelling.

The most ancient evidence that I have yet discovered, relative to breeding horses in Scotland, is a grant by Gilbert de Umfraville,

before the year 1200, to the monks of Kelso, of the tenth of the foals bred in his forest and studs. From which we learn, that such great Barons as he, were very attentive to this article; that horses were bred by being let loose in the forest, where the foals followed their dams, being marked with their owner's name, till they were three years old, and were then taken up to be broke. These great men had also studs called *Harrus* in the ancient writings, over which grooms and servants were appointed. The favourite horses were put into inclosures, called (in Scotland) *parks*, near the baron's cattle.

This taste for breeding horses became general soon after 1200; because the exportation of them to England became a profitable branch of commerce, and carried on by men of the highest rank. We have several instances of this in Rymer's *Foedra*. In 1359, Thomas Murray, Dominus de Bothwell, Panetarius Scotix, and Allan, second son of William, fifth Lord Erskine, obtained a passport to come into England with horses for sale; and the grooms and servants of the Earl of Marr obtained the like for coming into England, in the year 1361, with a full-bred war horse, and two smaller sized horses.

This trade, however, of exporting horses, was soon perceived to be disadvantageous to the state, and restraint was laid upon it by a statute of David Bruce, in 1369, imposing a duty of one-sixth part of the value on every horse carried out of the kingdom; perhaps, the reason of this might be a mortality which had happened among the horses and cattle some time before.

This prohibition was not strictly executed; for licences were obtained from the sovereign dispensing with the statute,

James

James I. a politic prince, finding the trade of horses was an advantage to the country, if properly regulated, departed from the statute of David, and allowed horses to be exported, providing they were three years old, when they were ready for use; and we suppose to induce the owners to pick out the best for their own work, as at that age the nature and temper of the horse would be more certainly discovered.

These regulations indicate, that the Scottish breed of horses was held in great request, and other nations as well as England sought after them; for a total prohibition was enacted by the legislature in 1567.

Eneas Sylvius, the Pope's Nuncio, who was in Scotland in the reigns of James I. and II. describes our horses to be mostly small-sized pacers, a few of them reserved for stallions, the rest gelded; that they were never dressed by brush or comb, nor broke to, nor used with a bridle. We are informed by some English statutes, that the stallions were 14 hands, and the mares 15 hands high, and allowed to be imported into England for a breed.

The breed of horses remained unimproved till James II. brought stallions and mares from Hungary, as our historian Boece tells us, to mend the breed; probably James II. procured these more easily by his connection with Sigismund, Duke of Austria, married to his sister. We believe such horses would mend the breed of saddle horses, but not raise the size. The size of horses was more studied in the next reign. The two younger sons of James II. viz. the Duke of Albany, and John Earl of Marr, as Piscotie informs, were great admirers of what he calls great horses, that is, as I conjecture, horses for war and for tournaments. These princes

took great delight in these horses and mares, whereof the offspring might flourish.

The taste still prevailed during the reign of James IV. who was much given to tilts and tournaments, and feats of horsemanship. He sent his grooms to Spain, and brought home twelve horses and mares; likewise to Poland in 1509. Lewis XII. of France, sent a present to the King of Scotland, of the best French horses; in return for which, James sent four of the most choice amblers, which, in his letter, he says, were proper for running and hunting, and promises to send more and better ones when he could get them.

James IV. promoted more the race of swift horses than of great horses, for he was accustomed to make speedy circuits through his dominions: one instance is told us by Lesley, made from Stirling, by Perth and Aberdeen, to Elgin, a distance of 150 measured English miles, in one day, which, even supposing relays of horses, shews the fleet horses he used in this excursion.

James V. went a step farther, for he applied himself to improving the breed of all kinds of useful horses. He procured a law for raising the size of the native breed of horses in Scotland, all manner of persons being enjoined their studs with stud mares and great stallions.

This law extends the breeding horses to all ranks, which formerly had been confined to the nobility and gentry. After this period, a strogner and more weighty breed was introduced: for James writes a letter to Christian III. King of Denmark, and to Gustavus, King of Sweden, for horses, and sent his groom, Charles Murray, to purchase them. This was in 1539, about four years after the above law

law was made; at the same time, he signified that he wanted the most approved horsemen or riders.

In the reign of this prince, races and horse-courfing was very much in fashion among all ranks, which are most humourously described by Sir David Lindsay.

Henry VIII. of England, in 1540, sent a present by Sir Ralph Sadler, his ambassador, to our King, of Spanish jennets, Barbary horses, besides some English geldings; they are described to have been small, but well proportioned. These foreign horses contributed to mend the shape of our horses chiefly for the saddle, hunting, and racing.

It would seem, that from 1540, during the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots, the breed had been greatly improved; for the French, who remained long in the country at that time, perceiving the good qualities of our horses when they quitted Scotland, not only carried many away with them, but commissioned many more, which were accordingly sent off for Bourdeaux, 1565 and 1566; so that Regent Murray, in the first parliament held by him in 1567, discharged the exportation of any kind of horses whatever, to any part beyond seas, under forfeiture of ship and cargo, whether by strangers or natives.

The total prohibition of the export of horses, multiplied them to such a degree, that in James VI's reign, a restraint was laid upon keeping too many of them. The breed, at that time, was small, and there were many jockies and horse-dealers who carried on a great trade. In the subsequent reign, it is surprising what numbers of horses were forced out for the public service during the civil commotions from every quarter of the kingdom.

(To be continued)

*ANECDOTE of the celebrated
Mr. LOCKE.*

WHEN Mr. Locke lived with Lord Ashley, afterwards the Earl of Shaftsbury, and Lord High Chancellor, he was introduced to the acquaintance of some of the most eminent persons of that age, such as Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, the Lord Halifax, and other noblemen of the greatest wit and parts, who were all charmed with his conversation. One day, three or four of these lords having met at Lord Ashley's when Mr. Locke was there, after some compliments, cards were brought in; before scarce any conversation had passed between them. Mr. Locke looked upon them for some time, while they were at play; and taking his pocket-book, began to write with great attention. One of the lords observing him, asked him what he was writing? 'My Lord,' said he, 'I am endeavouring to profit, as far as I am able, in your company; for having waited with impatience for the honour of being in an assembly of the greatest geniuses of this age, and at last having obtained the good fortune, I thought I could not do better than write down your conversation; and indeed I have set down the substance of what has been said for this hour or two.' Mr. Locke had no occasion to read much of this conversation; these noble persons saw the ridicule of it; and diverted themselves with improving the jest. They quitted their play, and, entering into rational discourse, spent the rest of their time in a manner more suitable to their character.

This anecdote is related, to show that the liberty, which Mr. Locke took with men of high rank, had something in it very suitable to his character. He expected 'the feast of reason, and the flow of soul,' and
we

we may suppose that his disappointment was at first not unmixed with some degree of indignation, had not his good sense and good nature dictated a mode of resentment more agreeable to his general character.

To the Editors of the Sporting Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

AS I perceive you profess to open your esteemed Miscellany on subjects interesting to the man of pleasure, enterprize, and spirit, I have not a doubt but (among the variety of discussions comprized in your admired publication) that you will give admission to what may tend either to illustrate your work, the information of your readers, or the utility of our species.

Most of the natural productions of the earth are in some manner or other conducive to the use of animals. A variety of animals afford food for others, and unquestionably they were destined for that purpose by the sovereign creator. Man, considered as an animal, has a share of the leguminous, as well as of the animal food allotted him by nature. For all the various kinds of living creatures, ample nourishment is provided. This earth may be considered as Creation's store-house, wherein food is ready prepared for the multitudinous inhabitants of nature. But here lies the difference: the inferior species of creatures are not furnished with intellectual eyes to see the bounteous hand which thus provides for their subsistence, whilst man, though partaking in common with the brute creation of alimentary supplies, is endowed with a mind capable of perceiving, through the medium of reflection, the finger of deity labouring for his eternal support, and his internal happiness. This essential difference

between the brute and human species being admitted, it will hence follow demonstrably, that, on the brute creation, no obligatory claim of duty is incumbent. It is not from them that gratitude to the sovereign donor is to be expected; they trace not the godhead in his works, and are, therefore, ignorant of his providential bounties; whereas to the intellectual eye of man, the hand of divinity is invisible: to a considerate mind, each blade or spire of grass proclaims it. Man, therefore, who is so formed as to be conscious of his benefactor, should be so grateful as to love him for his benefits; from the human race it is expected; and those of the human species, who feel not their obligations to infinite goodness, are lost to every sense of gratitude. Perhaps the principal design in crowding the earth with the various wonders of a vegetable and animal kind was, "that the mind of reflecting man might be lost in admiration; his heart absorbed in gratitude." It is rash to pronounce that the bee, consciously, and with design, makes use of any geometric principles in the formation of the hexagonal cells, nor can it be said that any physical knowledge of the distinct properties of flowers directs this wonderful creature to cull such sweets as yield honey from some, neglecting others. It is equally rash to affirm, that the various tribes of spiders, by reflection, adopt mechanic rules for framing these nets of different forms and sizes, wherein the careless flutters are entangled. Equally rash and unphilosophical is it to imagine, that swallows or crows form their nests, and chuse the fittest situations from any principle of antecedent reasoning about what is properest to be done. The cat lies not in wait so patiently and attentively for her prey, prompted

either by reflection or the calls of hunger. These several animals are incited to these several actions, merely because prompted by the apt formation of their frames, and impelled by that internal feeling to which we give the name of instinct.

It has been said, by some philosophers, "that we are strangers to those instincts which actuate brutes, that we are not capable of forming any conception about them." I question much, Gentlemen, the truth of this assertion; for by what passes within ourselves, we may form an almost just idea of the workings of that principle we term instinct in brutes. Are we prompted to eat and drink from a previous reflection that such acts are necessary to support our existence; is the desire we feel for the softer sex founded solely on an intention to propagate the species. These, Gentlemen, are mere instincts, which operate mechanically, and irresistibly impel us, to eat, to drink, to copulate, independent of reflection. In such respects, we are exactly on a par with the brute creation, and from the internal workings of such natural instincts within ourselves, we may form a very just idea of that unerring principle by which brutes are necessarily stimulated to perform the various offices, at the execution of which man stands amazed, and sometimes finds himself out-done in art by a reptile, whom a blast of his breath could instantly deprive of existence.

CONTEMPLATOR.

*Ambleside, Westmoreland,
Old May-day, Anno Domini 1796.*

ROYAL ANECDOTE.

DURING the royal residence at Cheltenham, it was remarked, by the keepers of several turnpike gates, that his Majesty, in

his short excursions, paid no toll. The right of his Majesty to pass toll-free happening to become the subject of conversation in a large company at Worcester, Robert Sleath, keeper of Barban gate, strenuously argued that his Majesty, in his private capacity, was liable to the toll; declaring at the same time, that though he respected his sovereign, if he ever came to Barban gate, he should not pass till the toll was paid. A short time after, Robert's resolution was put to the test; for his Majesty, in his route to Worcester, came to Barban gate. On the arrival of the first horseman, Robert having previously locked the gate, stood with the keys in his hand, and demanded the toll. The Equerry, in an accent of perturbed impatience, said, "Open the gate instantly, for his Majesty is at hand." "I know that," replied Robert, "but his Majesty is not at the head of an army, and must pay the toll." The servant remonstrated with threats and indignations, but Robert heard him with indifference, till his Majesty's carriage came in sight. The attendant was now reduced to the necessity of having recourse to polite entreaty, assuring Robert that the person who followed his Majesty's carriage would pay the regular demand. On this assurance, the gate was opened, and the whole cavalcade, accompanied by an immense crowd, passed, but Robert received not one penny—He, however, was aware that his Majesty would return to Cheltenham the following day, and must pass the gate again. Accordingly, having heard that the royal equipage was approaching, he locked the gate, and took his station as before. The same equerry preceded the carriage, and began again to remonstrate, but Sleath swore roundly, that no one should pass

pafs till he had received the toll for both days. The royal attendant perceiving that verbal means were not likely to prevail, paid Sleath about twenty-seven shillings, threatening him with legal vengeance; but Robert pocketed the money, and has never yet been called to an account for his conduct.

THE FEAST OF WIT;
OR,
SPORTSMAN'S HALL.

DIFFERENT people, upon meeting a friend or relation, make use of some particular phrase, or mode of salutation, as for instance—"How d'ye do?" now that's a very common, old fashioned phrase. "How fares it, my cock?" "How are you, my hearty?" these are of a more modern date, and are much made use of amongst that class of mortals distinguished by the appellation of jolly dogs, buckish wags, &c.—A gentleman, possessing "wit at will," and well known as a humorous, eccentric genius, was one day met on the Greenwich road by a lady of his acquaintance, who accosted him with "Good morning, Mr. W.—how d'ye hold it?" to which he laconically answered, "Sometimes in one hand, and sometimes in t'other."—"Ah, you naughty man," says she, "you put bad constructions upon innocent expressions."—"Lord, Ma'am," added he, "I only meant my *walking stick*."

A certain Lieutenant-Colonel of one of the city regiments, who was mounted, "en militaire," on horseback, at the head of his corps, marching through his district, on a sudden brandished his sword, ordered the regiment to halt, and, in a military, authoritative tone of voice, addressed a decrepid old

female, who was vociferating her commodity along the street, with "*Woman, bring me a penny-worth of your SHRIMPS.*"

Lady Wallace has been a violent canvasser for Knatchbull and Geary, in the regions of Margate; her ladyship's address was laconic, and to the point—"Come, give me your suffrage like a man! no *split vote* will do for me; d—, but I'll have a *plumper*!"

ANECDOTE OF ADMIRAL GARDNER.

The King was drinking to him, and paying him many compliments—the Admiral was overcome, and could not speak. Mr. Dundas said, "Your Majesty sees Gardner may be overcome by his friends, but not by his enemies."

The famous Dean Swift was one day informed by a friend, that King William the Third had, upon his arrival, taken the following motto:—*Non rapui, sed recipi.* "Aye," said the splenetic Dean, "I always thought the RECEIVER as bad as the THIEF."

JEU D'ESPRIT.

A young author, about to publish a volume of poems, was complaining to his friend, Mr. Vaughan, "he dreaded the pen of the critics." "Ne'er mind their pen," replied Mr. V. "so as they do not add the knife to it."

The Trinity-House, on Tower Hill, is at length finished, and the elder brethren of the Trinity have lately had their first meeting.—These gentlemen are all pourtrayed in one canvass by Mr. Gainborough Dupont. The picture is placed at the upper end of the court room, but from the youthful appearance

appearance of several of these *elder* brethren, many a foreigner will be puzzled to guess at the grounds of their appellation. When some years ago there was a disturbance in Cornwall, and a gentleman met a multitude of underground workmen, and asked what they were, he was answered, "They are all of them *miners*." "The devil they are," said he, "well, if they look so grim, and have such beards in their *minority*, what sort of fellows will they be when they come of age?"

A gentleman, in a letter to his friend, observing upon the immoderate price of every article of life, remarked, that people *now* could not even afford to *die*, for a neighbouring sexton demanded an advance of fees for tolling the bell, digging the grave, &c. which gave rise to the following lines:

*Raise cloaths, raise drink, raise all where-
with we're fed,
Yet the sexton outdoes you,—he raises the
dead.*

The Rev. Rowland Hill, when at college, was remarked for the vivacity of his manners, and frequent wittiness of his observations. In a conversation on the powers of the letter *H*, where it was contended that it was no letter, but a simple aspiration of breathing, Rowland took the opposite side of the question, and insisted on its being to all intents and purposes a *letter*; and concluded by observing that, if it was not, it was a very serious affair to him, as it would occasion his being *ILL* all the days of his life.

Mrs. Mills has begun a negotiation with the proprietors of the hackney-coaches, in Piccadilly, for the ground their carriages occupy; she proposes giving a ball in a temporary room, of the whole length

of Piccadilly, and she calculates *she* can dance 2700 and *odd* couples!

Mrs. Mills's plan is the most convenient and ingenious hitherto invented. Her *city friends* will dance in *Coventry-street*, and her great acquaintances at *Hyde-park-corner*; and the rank of every person be known by the street to which they stand nearest.

EPIGRAM.

How many pamper'd cits will deal
Stern rules at home—TO SPARE THE MEAL;
Who when abroad—O monstrous fault!
Forget themselves—TO SPARE THE MALT.

By the reception one of our most favourite performers meets with in Dublin, the Irish seem to think there is no rising up the *steps* of dramatic excellence without a *Bannister*.

The Chamberlain of London being asked what he thought was the reason that divorces were so much more frequent than they were formerly, said, in reply, that it was for the same reason that Bankrupts were more numerous—*because we did more business than our ancestors.*

The following advertisement is copied from the Argus, an American paper, dated April 14: "Miss Newtham proposes, on Thursday afternoon next, to afford her numerous admirers an opportunity of taking their *last survey* of her substantial personal *charms*, on which they have long so generously lavished their *encomiums*. Enquire for Miss N. &c. at Mr. Wm. Post's, Winney-street, directly behind the Bull's Head, in the Bowery."

The world is strangely altered.—There was a time when, if the Pontiff mounted his palfrey, a sovereign held his stirrup; when he dictated
his

his will to every European nation, bound their kings in chains and their nobles in fetters of iron, and if they complained, his bull roared—and they were silent! Should he act thus by the French, who promise to visit his capitol, it would end in the Pope's bull being baited.

* * * *As it comes immediately within our province to record the various noticeable transactions which may at any time take place among those who frequent the temples devoted to the fickle Goddess; the following decision in the Court of King's Bench cannot, we presume, be considered as irrelevant to our plan.*

May 28.

M'NEAL v. WILTSHIRE.

THIS action was brought for recovery of value of twelve dozen of port sherry, sold by the plaintiff to the defendant.

The delivery of the wine was proved; but the defence set up was, that the wine had been sent to the defendant upon the credit of a Mr. Frost.

It turned out upon the cross-examination of the witnesses, that all the parties, the plaintiff, defendant, and Mr. Frost (who was a witness), were equally notorious and infamous characters, being fellow-labourers in those gambling-houses in Oxendon-street, and Gresse-street, which have lately been so much the objects of legal censure. It was observed by Mr. Mingay, that the plaintiff, who had brought this action for the value of red and white wine, was a much more extensive dealer in *rouge & noir*.

Lord Kenyon expressed great abhorrence and indignation at the parties. He mentioned his having

received some further information from the unfortunate Weston, in which he was sorry to say the name and character of a person of *high rank* was implicated. His lordship said, the witnesses on either side were unworthy to be relied on. He thought the delivery of the goods had been proved, which was sufficient to ground a verdict. The jury, therefore, found for the plaintiff.

For the Sporting Magazine.

INSCRIPTION on a favourite Dog.

By J. J. B.—F. R. S.

My dog, the trustiest of his kind.
With gratitude inflames my mind.

GAY.

LET this perpetuate the Memory
Of an Animal
Who, when living, was deservedly esteemed
For his
Uncommon Sagacity and Honesty: though
of Irish Origin,
And a noted Defender,
He was no Rebel,
But faithful, constant, and invariable
In his Attachments:
His Anger
Got sometimes the better of
That Discretion with which he was endowed
By Nature.
But it was then only when he found
Unjustifiable Opposition
To his delegated legal Authority;
Possessed of every amiable Quality,
His resentment for any Affront or
Rough Treatment
Soon subsided,
And he became at once
Placable, loving, and sincere.—
Such was the famous
UNO,
Whose misfortune it was to be
Killed by Accident,
(To the general Regret of all who knew
him,)
June 6th, 1796.
To effect the Memorial,
His Skin
(Being tanned for the Purpose)
Makes the Cover of the SPORTING MAGAZINE!

To the Editors of the Sporting Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

SOMETIME ago, three flirting gentlemen-commoners were at tea at one of the heads of colleges, where an elegant young lady was completing a purse. Many gallant things were said, each wishing to be possessed of the admired web. At length a lady of the company prevailed on the young one to promise it to him who should produce the best lines on the occasion, to be determined by the poetry professor. The happy gallants retired to their rooms, and soon produced the following three.

I.

Arachne's web entangled simple flies :
Matilda's texture makes proud man her prize.

II.

Rare metal, Fortune ! is at thy command,
But spare the work of fair Matilda's hand ;
With that my soul without regret would part !
But 'ere this go, stern Fate must pierce my heart.

III.

An empty purse, a present !—can it be !
'Tis all vexation, and mere vanity !
Hold, sir, and let thy consternation cease :
Money brings strife—this purse is fraught with peace.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your's, &c.

Fairy Camp, OBERON.
June, 12, 1796.

N. B. The prize was reserved, the clerk of the course giving it a dead heat.

TRIAL of HENRY WESTON, for FORGERY.

Old Bailey, May 18.

THIS unfortunate young man, an account of whose misconduct we have already laid before our readers, (see page 42,) was

this day tried before Mr. Sylvester, the city serjeant, and a London jury, on a charge of feloniously making and forging, or causing to be made and forged, an instrument purporting to be a power of attorney from General Tonym, for the transfer of one sum of 5,000*l.* and another of 11,000*l.* 3 per cent. consolidated stock. There were counts also charging him with uttering the same, forging the name of Bower as a witness, and an intent to defraud the governor and company of the Bank of England, &c.

Mr. Garrow opened on the part of the prosecution in a very liberal and impartial speech, and detailed the circumstances of the case as they afterwards appeared in evidence.

The evidence for the prosecution being ended, Mr. Weston was asked if he had any thing to say in his defence ?

His reply was, that he left that to his counsel, but would call some witnesses to his character.

Dr. Peters, and Benjamin Oakely, said, they knew him about four years, and till this melancholy affair, he bore the best of characters.

Mr. Garrow, to save time, said the prosecutors were willing to admit the excellence of the prisoner's character, independent of this unfortunate transaction.

The jury, without hesitation, found the prisoner guilty.

As soon as the verdict was delivered, Mr. Weston, who during his trial had been indulged with a chair, rose and addressed himself to the court with a manliness and composure which rendered what he said exceedingly affecting. His words were nearly as follows :

" MY LORD,

" I hear the sentence now pronounced against me with a calmness and resignation which, I am happy to

to find, enables me to deliver a few observations to the court. At this melancholy moment I call upon all young persons who are witness to this trial, and who may be in circumstances similar to those in which I was unfortunately placed, to avail themselves of the awful example which I now exhibit: and to those more advanced in years, let it operate as a caution against placing too much confidence in youth and inexperience. My appearance, my Lord, is a sufficient indication that I am as yet but a very young man, and when I first engaged in business I was of course proportionably younger, and unacquainted in some degree with the consequences of that conduct which now places me here.—The misfortunes of my short, but unhappy life, arose from too much precipitation in myself, and the want of attention in those who had a controul upon my conduct."

The prisoner, who is a very elegant and handsome young man, wore a suit of black, and had his hair very handsomely dressed.

*To the EDITORS of the SPORTING
MAGAZINE.*

GENTLEMEN,

SEEING, in your Magazine for last month, the portrait of Benningbrough, I have taken the liberty to send you his pedigree and performances. He is the property of Sir Charles Turner, and not of Mr. Willon, as stated in your last.

I remain,

Your's, &c.

R. B. S.

*Doncaster,
June 5th, 1796.*

*The Pedigree and Performances of
BENNINGBROUGH.*

Benningbrough (so named from a village in the neighbourhood where

he was bred,) was foaled in the year 1791, at Shepton, near York, the residence of the celebrated Mr. John Hutchinson, who also bred Overton, Traveller, Bramble, Hambletonian, &c. &c.

Benningbrough was got by King Fergus, his dam by King Herod, his grand-dam (Pyrrha) by Match'em, out of Mr. Fenwick's Dutchess, by Whitenose, out of Miss Slamerkin by True Blue, Lord Oxford's Dun Arabian, out of a D'Arcy black legged royal mare. His dam also bred Ticket, Tooth-drawer, (afterwards Adæon and Sportsman), Sandhopper, Whitley, &c.

In 1794, Benningbrough, on Wednesday, in the York August Meeting, won a sweepstakes of 100gs. h. ft.—for three yr old colts, 8ft. 3lb. fillies, 8ft.—two miles,—(6 subscribers); beating Fergus, and Mr. Garforth's grey colt by Phænomenon, out of Faith. 6 and 7 to 4 on Benningbrough.

On Saturday, at the same meeting, he won a sweepstakes of 100gs each,—colts, 8ft. 2lb.—fillies 8ft.—the last mile and a half; beating Eliza, Mr. Garforth's grey Phænomenon colt (second time), Kelton, Prince de Cobourg, Cade, and Poole,—6 to 4 on Benningbrough, and 5 to 2 against Eliza.

At Doncaster, he won the St. Leger Stakes of 25gs each,—for three yr old colts, 8ft. 2lb. fillies 8ft.—two miles—(19 subscribers): beating Prior, Mr. Garforth's grey Phænomenon colt (third time) Ambush, Allegro, Tim Tartlet, Cockade, and another,—2 to 1 Benningbrough or Prior won. The next day, he won the gold cup, value 100gs,—4 miles; beating Constant, Rally, Ninety-three, Bradamante, Wentworth, and Kerenhappuch,—2 to 1 on Benningbrough.

In 1795, Benningbrough was purchased of Mr. Hutchinson, by Sir

Sir Charles Turner, Bt. And at Doncaster, carrying 7st. 7lb. he beat Bennington, carrying 8st. both four years old—4 miles—for 500gs—6 to 4 on Bennington. The next day he won the Doncaster stakes of 10gs each, with 20gs added by the corporation of Doncaster.—13 subscribers),—4 miles; beating Eliza, and Mr. Garforth's grey colt (fourth time),—7 to 4 agst Benningbrough, and 6 to 5 agst Eliza. The day following, he won 100l.—for three and four yr olds,—at two heats—2 miles each; beating Moorcock, Mr. Garforth's grey colt (fifth time), and Sir T. Gascoigne's Young Mark colt,—5 to 2 on Benningbrough.

The above are the only times he started except twice, when he was beat the first time of his running, at York Spring Meeting, by Prior; and at York August Meeting last year, by Mr. Garforth's grey colt above-mentioned, and Bennington. He is yet in training, and matched four miles over at York, in the next August Meeting, carrying 8st. agst Ormond, carrying 8st. 4lb.—500gs each, 100 ft. Sir C. Turner refused 1500gs for him last winter. He is allowed by judges to be the handsomest horse almost in England.

N. B. I cannot exactly say what was the price of Benningbrough; but Sir Charles gave 3000gs for him, Hambletonian, and Oberon.

For the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

Philosophical HISTORY of the CANINE GENUS.

THE late proceedings in the British senate, respecting a tax on dogs, have set many persons on an enquiry into the nature and the different species of the canine genus.

A learned gentleman, who is a

firm believer in the *transmigration of souls*, and who has acquired the stupendous art of distinguishing, at the sight of any animal, from what class of mankind his soul is derived, has favoured us with the following intelligence :

The souls of deceased *bailiffs*, and *common constables*, are in the bodies of *setting dogs* and *pointers*;

The *terriers* are inhabited by *trading justices*.

The *blood hounds* were formerly a set of *informers*, *thief-takers*, and *false evidences*.

The *spaniels* were heretofore *courtiers*, *hangers on of administration* and *hack journal writers*—all of whom preserve their primitive qualities of fawning on their feeders, licking their hands, and their spittle, and snarling and snapping at all who offer to offend their master.

A former train of *gamblers* and *black-legs*, are now embodied in that species of dogs called *lurchers*.

Bull dogs and *massiffs* were once *butchers* and *drovers*.

Greyhounds and *beagles* owe their nomination to *country squires* and *fox-hunters*.

Little, whiffing, useless *lap-dogs* draw their existence from the *quondam beau*, *macaronies*, and gentlemen of the *tippy*; still being the play-things of ladies, and used for their diversion.

There are also a set of *sad dogs*, derived from *attornies*—and *puppies*, who were in past time *attornies' clerks*, *shop-men* to retail *haberdashers*, *men-milliners*, &c. &c.

Turnspits are animated by old *aldermen*, who still enjoy the smell of the roast meat.

That droning, snarling species, stiled *Dutch pugs*, have been *fellowes* of colleges.

And that faithful, useful tribe of *shepherds' dogs*, were in days of yore members of parliament, who guarded

ed the flock, and protected the sheep from wolves and thieves—though indeed, of late, some have turned sheep-biters, and worried those they ought to have defended.

DOG TAX.

*** For the information of our Sporting friends, we insert the following ABSTRACT of "an Act for granting to his Majesty certain Duties on Dogs;" passed on the 19th of May last*.*

"FROM and after the 5th day of July, 1796, every person who shall keep any greyhound, hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, lurcher, or terrier, or who shall keep two or more dogs, of whatever description or denomination the same may be, shall be charged and assessed annually with the sum of 5s. for each greyhound, hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, lurcher, or terrier; and also for each dog, where two or more dogs shall be so kept; and every person who shall inhabit any dwelling-house, assessed to any of the duties on inhabited houses, or on windows or lights, and shall keep one dog and no more, such dog not being a greyhound, hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, lurcher, or terrier, shall be charged and assessed annually, with the sum of 3s. for such dog.

"Nothing in this act contained shall charge with the said duty any dog or whelp, which, at the time of returning the list of dogs kept by any person as by this act is required, shall not actually be of the age of six calendar months: Provided also, that if any dispute shall arise touching the age of such dog or

whelp, the commissioners authorised to execute this act shall finally determine the same, on appeal to be made thereupon; and that upon every appeal to the said commissioners, for any matter or thing under this act, if the matter in dispute shall be in respect of the age of any dog or whelp assessed to the said duty, the fact that the same is under the age of six calendar months, shall lie on the owner or owners of such dog or whelp, who shall claim such exemption, on his, her, or their oath or affirmation, or on the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to be tendered by such owner or owners.

"The duties to be assessed, collected, &c. same as the duties on horses.

"The first assessment under this act, of the said duties hereby imposed, shall be made for three quarters of a year, from the 5th day of July, 1796; and that in the first list to be made out in pursuance of this act, the same shall contain the greatest number of dogs kept in the year preceding, and ending on the 5th day of July, 1796; and afterwards the said assessments shall be made for one year from the 5th day of April in every year; and that, in the lists to be made out for any subsequent year, the same shall contain the greatest number of dogs kept in the year preceding, and ending on the 5th day of April yearly.

"Commissioners for the duties on horses to be commissioners for executing this act, with the like powers, and shall hold their first meeting under this act at such time or times as they shall appoint, before the 30th day of July, 1796.

"Surveyors, inspectors, assessors, and collectors for the duties on horses, to act in like manner in the execution of this act.

* For an account of the debates in the House of Commons on this act, see page 71.

" And whereas it may be convenient to enable the assessors to deliver joint or distinct notices to persons liable to any of the duties on horses, servants, or carriages, or for wearing hair-powder, by any former act or acts of parliament, or by this act, on dogs, according to circumstances, and as the commissioners for the affairs of taxes shall from time to time direct, be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the said commissioners for the affairs of taxes, at any time after the passing of this act, to direct joint or distinct notices to be given to the several persons liable to any of the before-mentioned duties, as the said commissioners for the affairs of taxes shall see convenient; and if any assessor or assessors, who shall be required by order of the said commissioners for the affairs of taxes to prepare, sign, or deliver any notice or notices in the person or persons liable to any of the before-mentioned duties, shall neglect or refuse to prepare, sign, or deliver such notice or notices, in pursuance of such order, every such assessor or assessors shall, on complaint thereof made to the commissioners authorized to carry this act into execution, at any meeting held within or for the precinct of such assessor or assessors, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 5l. nor less than 40s. as the commissioners before whom such complaint is heard shall think fit, to be levied as any other penalty inflicted by such commissioners for neglect of duty by any law in force, may be levied.

" Persons keeping hounds may compound for the duty, on paying the full sum of 15l. within thirty days after the 5th day of July, 1796, and in any subsequent year, shall pay, or cause to be paid, the sum of 20l. within thirty days after the 5th day of April in such year.

" Limitations of actions, six months."

THEATRICALS.

CLOSE OF THE WINTER THEATRES.

COVENT-GARDEN, June 7.

THE season concluded, last night, at this theatre, with the comedy of the *Busy Body*, and the farce of the *Blunders* at Brighton.

At the end of the play, Mr. Lewis came forward, and addressed the audience nearly as follows:

" *Ladies and Gentlemen,*

" It is customary, at the close of a season, to offer a tribute of respect and gratitude. We know our obligation, and we feel our duty, but doubt our power to express the high sense we entertain of your favours—a patronage almost without precedent, acquired, we own, by feeble merits, but aided by the strongest wish to deserve it—a wish that, I am authorized to assure you, will never be obliterated from the grateful minds of the proprietors, and the performers of this theatre."

Thus ended a season no less characterized for the liberality of the manager, than for the generous encouragement with which his exertions have been crowned throughout the whole of it.

DRURY LANE, June 15.

THE entertainments of this theatre terminated with the new opera of *Mahmoud*; at the conclusion of which Mr. Palmer came forward, and addressed the audience in the following words:

" *Ladies and Gentlemen,*

" The distinguished patronage with which you have honoured this theatre during the season, demands the liveliest expressions of the most sincere and heartfelt gratitude.

" I am authorized, by the proprietors, to assure you, that as they consider your approbation the best

re-

reward for past exertions, so they will ever estimate it as the most encouraging, as well as the most honourable motive for their future efforts in your service.

"The performers desire to join with me in every sentiment of the most ardent and respectful acknowledgment of your generous protection, to their zealous endeavours to contribute to your pleasure and amusement; and, under this impression, flatter themselves with the cheering hope, that the approaching season may merit an undiminished portion of your kind and indulgent partiality."

OPENING OF THE SUMMER THEATRE.

HAYMARKET, June 6.

The theatrical entertainments commenced at this theatre on Saturday last, with the *Liar*, (one of the best comedies of our modern Aristophanes, still to be lamented as a dramatic loss, because even in the very height of humour, he kept a moral end in view,) with *Peeping Tom*; and with a musical entertainment, in two acts, called *Bannian Day*.

In the first, as unimpaired throughout the lively support of an eccentric character as he was welcomed to the audience, Mr. Palmer performed *Young Wilding*. The *Emma* of the scene was Mrs. Harlowe, from whose theatrical merits we do not mean to derogate when we remark, that Mrs. Kemble would, to use the language of the stage, have been more at home than the former in *Miss Grantham*.

Upon the same principle, may be hazarded the opinion, that in the comic opera the *casts* of *Emma* and *Maud* should have been the reverse of what they were. Mr. Fawcett rendered the character of *Peeping Tom* ridiculously pleasant. It had all the buffoonery of *Edwin*,

but not the twentieth part of his nature. His descriptions were, indeed, served up with as high a relish as the most luxuriant imagination could desire; and, in the *Little Farthing Rushlight*, particularly with respect to the *finger-movements*, which are meant to describe its extinction, we give this entertaining actor joy (if he chuses to set a value upon the congratulation) of being as little troubled with the malady of the "*mauvais-chante*" as the most unimbarassed Frenchman, to whose countrymen we are indebted for the expression.

Of *Bannian Day*, the dramatis personæ are as follow:

Sir George Goodwill	Mr. Davis
Capt. O'Macgellagher	Mr. Johnstone
Lieutenant Goodwill	Mr. Trueman
Jack Hawser	Mr. Wathen
Bobby Notice	Mr. Suett
Batch	Mr. Fawcett
David	Mr. Waldron, jun.
Bailiff	Mr. Ledger
Mrs. Goodwill	Miss Leak
Polly	Mrs. Bland
Maid	Mrs. Jones

SCENE—Plymouth.

The fable is short and simple. Lieutenant Goodwill, having married against the consent of his father, is deserted by the latter, and, becoming plunged in distress, experiences the precarious allowances of a *Bannian Day*. His servant, Jack Hawser, the sweetheart of Polly, the daughter of Batch, a married baker, whose chief joy is to talk incessantly of state-affairs and news, faithfully attends upon him, and contrives to procure him *some* temporary succours. O'Macgellagher, also, endeavours to excite the commiseration of Sir George in his favour; yet his strange blunders only serve to hinder the accomplishment of his generous intention. In the pretended character of a money-lender, the baronet imagines that he shall receive overtures from

his son: but is waited upon by Mrs. Goodwill, who in the course of a conversation respecting a bill in her possession, which she desires him to discount, finds that she is the wife of the Lieutenant, is softened by the mention of her sufferings, and hastens to forgive and assist her husband. This reconciliation, accompanied by the union of Hawser and Polly, conclude a piece which it would not be fair to try by laws of criticism. Having been written to raise a laugh, yet interest the best feelings of the human mind, the end was fully answered. The audience, extremely pleased, were loud in their applause; and, doubtless, it will not pall from frequent repetitions.

The airs, executed by Miss Leak and Mrs. Bland, were as pleasing as the songs from Fawcett and Suetit were calculated for more diverting purposes; and the music charmed, in general, though not by much originality.

The sentiment from Batch—"May the monopolizers of corn be condemned to eat mouldy crusts, and never taste the crumbs of comfort," was well received; and the mistake of the Irishman, who, when Sir George declared that his *commands* to his son should remain *inflexible*, answered, that he was glad to find that he was to be appointed Captain to that man of war, did not lose its effect.

The house was well and respectably filled. The Duke of Leeds, the Marquis of Carmarthen, and several of their friends, were in the stage box.

BENNINGTON.

THE annexed beautiful engraving is the portraiture of that celebrated racer, Bennington — We shall be much indebted to our correspondent, who has favoured

us with the performances, &c. of Benningbrough, (which we have inserted in the present number,) if he will likewise transmit the pedigree and exploits of the horse in question; or to any other of our sporting friends, we shall consider ourselves obliged, who may be in possession of them.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

ASCOT-HEATH RACES.

THEIR Majesties and the Princesses were received at Ascot races with much joy, by the most numerous and loyal concourse of spectators ever assembled at that place.

The principal personages consisted of their Majesties, the Duke of York, Prince Ernest, six Princesses, the Stadtholder and Princess, Marchioness of Bath, Earl and Countess of Chatham, Earls of Westmoreland and Beaulieu, &c.

Two elegant marquees were pitched on the ground for the reception of the royal family.

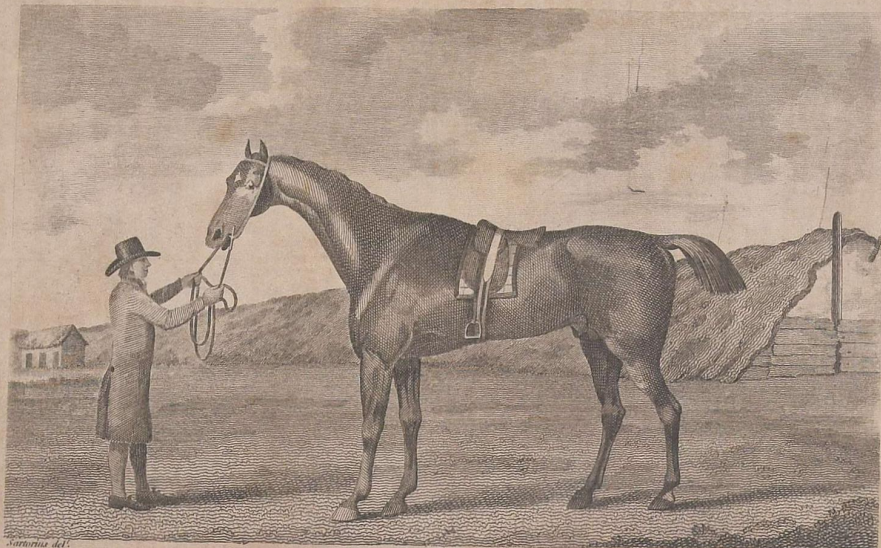
The Prince, once the life of the course, was not there.

The E. O. tables were out of number this year, and, during the race week, were regularly licensed at twelve guineas a table. The gold table was let out for forty guineas.

It is not here, however, so flagitious as in some other places, for the licence money does not go into the pocket of the magistrates or his clerk, but is appropriated to pay for the plates; and by this means the races are kept up for a whole week, instead of two or three days.

The company on the Thursday was the best that had been there during the week. The betting room was full, and exhibited a numerous group of gentlemen and blacklegs.

At



BENNINGTON.

At the late Wicklow races, a horse belonging to Dennis, a butcher in Castle Market, Dublin, beat Lord Westmeath's horse, and won the plate.

There are to be races at Bray, this summer, under the patronage of Lord Westmeath.

GAMBLING.

In one of the causes lately tried before Lord Kenyon, at Guildhall, wherein counsel contended that two witnesses were not entitled to credit, on account of keeping infamous gambling-houses, his lordship said, "I am sorry I did not know sooner that such witnesses were to be brought forward, for I have in my possession a list, containing a great number of persons of that description, sent to me by the unfortunate Mr. Weston; and I am sorry to say, that amongst the number, is the name of a person of very high rank."

His lordship stated, that the history of the unfortunate Weston had been sent to him by a Rev. Dr. of Divinity. That history was dreadful; Weston had got upwards of 50,000*l.* and at different times had lost 46,000*l.* at play; 7000*l.* of which he had lost in one night at Faro!

The Bank directors have, we understand, directed a criminal prosecution to be instituted against the proprietor of a notorious gambling-house in Pall-mall, at which Weston lost a considerable sum of money. At the same house no less than 35,000*l.* have been lost by three young officers, since their return from the continent.

The ladies marked by Lord Kenyon still continue their playful amusements, malgre his lordship's denunciations; however, the mischief is considerably abated, as their punting at *faro* seldom now exceeds the narrow circle of their own visiting friends.

The gambling-houses in and about Oxendon-street, live in a stile of unprecedented luxury and dissipation. It was stated some time ago, in the Court of King's Bench, that their dinners amounted to 150,000*l.* per annum!

DUELLING.

On Thursday morning, June 16, a duel was fought upon the race-ground, Northampton, between two young men—one of them an apprentice to a surgeon, the other to a draper: a correspondent has sent us the following particulars of the affair.—The parties met at the place appointed about six o'clock, each attended by a friend. The distance being settled, each party fired without effect. The seconds, as usual, then interfered, and tried to compromise the quarrel—but the rage of the combatants ran so high, that they insisted on proceeding;—they therefore each fired again, when a shot took place, but from which pistol is uncertain, in the body of a milch cow, which was quietly grazing at a distance. The whole party then dispersed with the greatest dispatch. We hear the subject of the quarrel was a young lady; but as each gentleman shewed such a determined courage to support his claim, it is supposed a difficulty will occur on the lady's part, which shall have the palm of victory assigned to him!

The same day, a duel took place at St. Helen's, between Mr. R. B. and Mr. E. M'L. Cadets in the India service, and fellow passengers in an outward bound Indian ship lying there. Mr. B's first ball passed close under Mr. M'L's ear, and that of the latter, brushed the shoulder of Mr. B. They exchanged two more shots without effect, when the seconds interposed, and the matter was amicably settled.

A duel

A duel was lately fought in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, between Major Crichton and Mr. Bennet, surgeon in Edinburgh, when the Major was wounded. The ball entered near the left side of the chest, passed through part of the pectoral muscle, and proceeding backwards under the skin, came out behind, near the edge of the blade bone. We are happy to add, that the wound is not considered dangerous, and that there is every reasonable hope of a speedy recovery.

Another of Sir John Lade's estates is now under the hammer, the money arising from which has been long appropriated: 200,000l. have indiscreetly slipped through this baronet's fingers since he became possessed of his property; amongst which was the 80,000l. which he found on mortgage upon the Portland estate!

Baccelli having left off *dancing*, is now become the first-rate *walker* in the country: last summer her regular day's exercise was walking down to *Southend*, 43 miles, or from thence to town, attended by a single servant, or not, as the whim of the moment possessed her!

The Duke of Manchester and Lord Craven have laid a *bet* that they will *row* a boat to Gravesend in two hours: it is said his Grace has been long failing to *Gravesend*.

Cordy, the Irishman, who challenged Jack Bartholomew, has forfeited his deposit of five guineas, rather than fight him.

June 5, was rang at the Parish Church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, a complete peal of caters, on Stedman's principle, being the second production in that critical method.

The peal consisted of 5184 changes, and was performed in three hours and 47 minutes, by the society of Cumberland Youths.

June, 9, was run on Barham Downs, a foot race of one mile, between John Palmer, of Ospringe, and Joseph Cash, for fifty guineas, which was won by the former. Odds, at starting, 5 to 4 in favour of Palmer. This is the second time, this year, Palmer has beat Cash, the same distance on the same ground.—Cash, is the noted runner who run from Bath to Bristol (12 miles) in one hour and ten minutes.

One day, last month, Mr. Hill's famous bay horse Snail, by Drone, for a considerable bet, ran twice round Gog-Magog Hills, near Cambridge, in 13 minutes, 45 seconds, although he had been only three weeks in training. And on the Tuesday following he ran once round the same hills, in the short space of five minutes and 50 seconds, carrying 12 stone each time, to the no small astonishment of the knowing ones present, who got completely taken in.

June 13.

An hurling match was played on Kennington Common, between two parties of Irish players. The game was contested with much spirit, before a large assembly of spectators; and the victorious party, after being ornamented with ribbons by their female friends, were escorted home in procession with music.

Otter hunting, so well described by honest Isaac Walton, has lately afforded fine sport on the river Werfe, near Bridgenorth: four of these enemies to the patient angler were killed in one morning, one of which was hunted in three hours, and another for four hours; and
scarce

scarce a minute out of fight at any one time: it weighed twenty-four pounds, and was upwards of four feet in length. The hearts were dressed, and afforded a delicious repast to a number of epicures.

We hear from Witney, that on Whit-Monday last, at the annual diversion of deer-hunting in the Chase Coppices, adjoining to the forest of Whichwood, there was the most capital sport ever remembered on a similar occasion. A small, but well-bred pack of hounds, of good scent and condition, the property of Mr. Henry Townsend, of Abingdon, Berks, killed a single deer, after having hunted it three hours and a half. Mr. Townsend received the plaudits of a numerous and respectable company for the entertainment he had afforded them by the judicious management of his excellent pack of dogs; and, as a further testimony of respect to this descendant of the ancient and mighty Nimrod, he was, in his way to Abingdon, numerously attended, and preceded by a select band of music playing. This spontaneous mark of esteem of the inhabitants of his native place, drew from his eye the silent tear of gratitude.

THE OUZE.

In a kitchen, at Tyingham-house, near Newport-Pagnel, is the rude portraits of the following fish, recorded to be taken in that river:

A carp, in 1648—two feet nine inches long.

A pike, in 1658—three ditto seven ditto.

A bream, ————two ditto three 1-half ditto.

A salmon, ————three ditto ten ditto.

A perch, ————two ditto.

A shad, in 1683—one foot eleven ditto.

These are the records of rural life—important to those who are

happily disengaged from the bustles and cares attendant on politics and dissipation.

Shrewsbury.

LONGEVITY.

A few days ago, the following plough team was at work in a field belonging to R. Broadman, in the township of Chadderton:—Three horses, whose ages with the driver and ploughman together make 231 years. The age of the first horse is 30; the second is 24, and the youngest is 23 years. The driver, Edmund Chadwick, is 79; and the ploughman, Adam Broadman, 84 years of age. These three horses can plough half an acre of any sort of land in a day.

The following remarkable family meeting took place a few days ago, at Rolleston House, the seat of Sir John Parker Mosley, Bart. Lord of the manor of Manchester. Sir J. and Lady Mosley, with two sons and three daughters, and their respective wives and husbands, and 17 of Sir John's grand children, which (including an unmarried daughter) formed a party of thirty persons, dined together at Rolliston House, and spent the day with that heartfelt satisfaction which such a meeting was calculated to inspire.

The Leicester Journal informs us, that a gentleman near Nottingham, has, for the two last winters, kept 15 draught horses upon turnips, with very little hay, (no corn) in constant work, and that they looked plump and were remarkably healthy; and that another gentleman has, with the same good effect, kept a larger number of draught horses on the same food, and has saved 120 quarters of oats. The mode of preparing the turnips is by cutting off the tops and bottoms, washing and chopping them in a trough

trough, and then mixing them with cut straw and hay together. At night the horses have a little hay only. In order to induce the horses to eat turnips at first, keep them rather short of hay and water, and mix the turnips cut small with bran.

POST-HORSE DUTY.

In the course of last month, several persons in the counties of Hertford, Bedford, and Buckingham, were convicted in penalties of 10*l.* each, for letting horses and carriages to hire without first obtaining a licence to authorize and enable them so to do, as by the Act 25th Geo. III. cap. 51, is required and directed. Likewise one licensed post-master was convicted in the penalty of 10*l.* for letting a horse and chaise to hire, and neglecting to issue and deliver a Stamp-office ticket, thereby defrauding the farmers of the said duty, contrary to the above act. And actions are brought against several others in 50*l.* penalties, for like offences, &c.

A short time ago there was a nest of brown linnets, full fledged, found in the middle of a cabbage, in a garden belonging to Mr. G. Nixon, of Gedney, in Lincolnshire.

Lately was growing in the garden of Richard Eccles, Esq. at Upton, in the parish of Hawkesbury, Gloucestershire, a cowslip which had 209 pips on one stalk; and in the same village, a polyanthus in the garden of Mr. Thomas Lee, maltster, which had 10 pips on one stalk.

A cow belonging to Mr. Renshaw, one of the reguards of the New Forest, and which had run in the forest all last year, has produced a calf that has every appearance of being got by a red deer. There was no singularity in its appearance till it was five weeks old,

and was just on the point of being sold to a butcher, when something unusual was observed in its form. It is at present ten weeks old, and has been seen by all the keepers of the forest, who, as well as the neighbouring farmers, are of opinion it is of the mixed breed above-mentioned. Its head and face are exactly like a stag's, except the horns, which are just coming out, and seem to resemble those of the bull; its shape also has much of the lightness of the stag's, and it brays like one. Its tail is like the mother's in shape, but set on like that of a red deer. It is extremely active, and is a male.

A few days since, a magpie's nest with six young ones, three of which are of a beautiful dove colour, was taken by a lad, son to a gardener belonging to the Duke of Richmond. The boy has been offered half-a-guinea for the nestlings, but declined accepting it.

A male pike of the following dimensions and weight was caught in the pond belonging to the Earl of Gainborough, in Exton-park, a few days ago; length from eye to fork, 42 inches and a half, ditto from nose to tail 49 inches, girth round the body, 28 inches, weight 37*lb.* 4*oz.* the largest ever taken from this water in the memory of any man.

In an old stone bottle placed in a clump of trees, at no great distance from the lodges at Heathfield Park, there is at this time a tit's nest full of young ones. But what renders the circumstance most extraordinary is, that these birds, or some of their family, have built their nests and reared their young in the same bottle for thirty successive years; notwithstanding the bottle has at different

different times, been removed to the distance of three miles, from where it was originally placed.

CASUALTIES.

On Saturday night the Bristol and Birmingham mail coach arrived at the Hop-pole, in Tewkesbury, about twelve o'clock, with four inside passengers, when one of the gentlemen and a lady getting out, left an elderly gentleman and another passenger behind in the coach. Fresh horses being put to, the guard and coachman went into the house to take a little refreshment, when the horses set off full speed, and passing through the turnpike-gate, which was open, went on for Gloucester, and passed along the various turnings with as great regularity as if the coachman had been on the box. After going about eight miles, they met the other mail coach, the guard of which, observing that no coachman was on the box, went on with the coach towards Bristol. One of the passengers, just before they met the other mail coach, was so much frightened, that he jumped out, and was much hurt. The elderly gentleman being unable to follow him, was obliged to remain in the coach, and was several times heard on the road, by different persons, crying out murder.

On Thursday se'nnight, Mr. Thomas Brown, an extensive corn-dealer, returning from Mansfield, after buying a quantity of corn, was met in the valley between Glapwell and Heath, by two young fellows on horseback, who dismounted, and immediately stopped his horse; when one of them taking a cord out of his pocket, tied his hands behind him, and his legs fast to the girth; this being done, they rode away. In this condition, Mr. B's horse took him to the adjacent

bar, where he was disentangled; having met with no other accident, than being very much frightened. The toll-bar man, at his request, with a large dog, accompanied him to his own house.

A few days since, Mr. Palmer, of St. James's-street, was thrown from a cabriolet, in consequence of his horse taking fright, near the church of Chelsea, and was severely hurt: a carman was wounded by a splinter of the chaise in the temple, and his recovery is doubtful.

Mr. Carvill, of Southgate, in Middlesex, had a mare died lately in the forty-third year of her age: the same gentleman had three horses in his possession at the time, whose ages amounted together to upwards of one hundred years.

Mr. Wright, the coach-maker, who has died suddenly, was the nephew of old John Wright, who made the Duke of Queensbury's famous Newmarket carriage for horses, and who realized a large estate in Essex.

The surgeon, and third officer of the Oxford Indiaman, on their passage from Calcutta, in December last, went on shore to shoot at Diamond Harbour, and proceeded to the place where poor Munro was killed by a tyger. At a village which they passed, they heard of a tyger being in the vicinage: with more spirit than prudence, they went in quest of him, attended by a number of villagers, who were rejoiced at the prospect of losing so unpleasant a neighbour. The enemy was concealed in a paddy field, but on their approach, rushing out, seized a poor native by the neck, and was carrying him off; on the gentlemen's firing, the ferocious beast

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dropped

dropped his prey; the poor man, however, soon after died; the tyger escaped.

— LEWES, June 1.

A few days ago it was discovered that some barbarous villain had cut out the tongue of a horse, the property of Mr. Alfrey, of Friston, which was at keep in a field near Seaford, belonging to Mr. Chambers. There are certain circumstances which lead to a strong suspicion of the author of this cruel act, and who, it is notorious, has more than once escaped from the threatening arm of justice.

— Saturday morning last, as a team was passing through a lane, in Worcester, the driver, though repeatedly urged, would not give way to a boy riding on a poney, who met him in a contrary direction; and in consequence of his obstinacy in persisting to drive forward, a wheel tore off one of the poney's feet above the fet-lock joint; the boy fortunately was not hurt. The proprietor of the team, to prevent an action, was under the necessity of paying down three guineas as a compensation to the owner for the loss of his poney by this cruel act.

— June 13, as Captain Goble's troop of Gentleman Yeomanry Cavalry were firing at a target on the Broil, near Chichester. Mr. Andrew's horse took fright, turned short round upon the right just as he fired, and the horse received the contents of the pistol in the upper part of his neck, and immediately fell. Mr. A. received no hurt whatever from the falling of the horse.—Every assistance was given to extract the ball, but without effect.

— June 16, the servant of Mr. Fenn, of Tothill-street, Westminster, wan-

tonly driving his master's cart a race against the Post-Office mail basket, in Newgate-street, the horse which drew it, from over exertion, dropped instantly dead near Christ's Hospital. The fellow, it appears, had kept the poor animal a full gallop up the steep ascent of Snow-hill! It is sincerely to be hoped he will not escape punishment. The person who furnishes this article, cannot at the same time avoid noticing that the driver of the mail-basket is notoriously culpable, from the manner in which he uniformly dashes through the crowded streets, to the great hazard of the lives of foot passengers.

— On Saturday se'nnight the body of a man, named John Cowflick, an agricultural servant to Mr. Chambers, of Chinton, was taken out of the water in Cuckmere harbour, Sussex. The deceased had left his master's house on the Thursday evening preceding, with an intent to collect the eggs of wills, mews, and caughts, from holes and ridges of the high cliff, near Seaford, in which dangerous employ it is supposed, he fell on the beach, and was killed; and that the night tide had taken off the body. The cliff, from which the poor man is supposed to have fallen, is from 350 to 400 feet perpendicular height.

The amusement of taking eggs deposited by marine and other fowls in the lofty cliffs above-mentioned, and in the neighbouring ones called the *Three Charles*, or *Charles's*, is much practised by farmer's servants, near Seaford; but they generally take the precaution of tying a rope about the body of the man, who goes over, by means of which he is lowered, by his companions on the top, from one ridge to another, and by whom, when he has filled his basket, he is drawn, with a tolerable degree of safety,

to

to the surface. By this method, a couple or three men will often procure a bushel of excellent eggs in an evening.

A few days ago a serious dispute took place betwixt the Northumberland and Warwickshire regiments of militia, at Norwich, which originated in a challenge sent by the Warwickshire to the Northumberland, that one of their corps would box any one of the other;—the offer was accepted, and the Warwickshire hero was beaten: his comrades broke into the circle, and a battle royal ensued, in which the Northumbrians were again victors. After the evening parade, a large party of the Warwickshire surrounded a few of the Northumberland and insulted them; news of this being carried to the barracks, the Northumbrians, in spite of the entreaties of their officers, issued out, and a desperate battle with bayonets ensued, in which many were wounded, 200 of whom were sent to the hospital.

COCKING INTELLIGENCE.

ON Saturday, June 18, 1796, ended the great main at the Cock-pit Royal, Westminster, between J. H. Durand, Esq. and J. Reid, Esq. (BROMLEY and WALTER feeders) for *bona fide* 20gs a battle, and a THOUSAND the odds. Of the main, 22 battles were won by BROMLEY, and three by WALTER; of the byes, 15 by BROMLEY and three by WALTER. A more numerous assemblage of opulent sportsmen, or a greater field for betting money, has never been remembered. The odds at setting to were 5 and 6 to 4 upon WALTER; and on Tuesday evening, when WALTER was only *five* battles a-head (in the

first fix), 120l. to 30 was betted upon *his* main. Five and 6 to 4 was the invariable betting upon each battle in favour of WALTER. On Thursday evening the current odds *against* BROMLEY were 5 to 2, and laid to a considerable amount; on Friday he lost the *first* battle, when they increased to 3 to 1; he then won *five* main battles in *succession*, and continued the same career on Saturday, when the main terminated EIGHT battles a-head in his favour, and TWELVE in the *byes*. Candour compels us to confess the energetic fervour of each party could not be exceeded; nor could the HONESTY of FEEDERS be ever brought to a more decisive criterion. Employed by gentlemen of the most un sullied honour, the cause became enthusiastically sympathetic, and it is universally admitted, a better fought main has never been seen in the kingdom. WALTER had certainly a most capital accumulation of *feather*, the LOWTHERS, the ELWES, the HOLFORDS, the BASINGSTOKE, &c. &c. which (luckily for BROMLEY) were put in the *back-ground* of the *PICTURE* by the *old blood* of the late Capt. BERTIE, Vauxhall CLARKE, COOPER of MAPLEDURHAM, and a little of BROMLEY's *Cock bread* from Berkshire.

ADDENDA.

The gentlemen of Windfor Forest, are willing to fight a main (in the forest) for five guineas a battle, and fifty the odds. (Address to the Publisher). To shew any number, and fight at any season.

In our next, we propose to present our subscribers with an elegant engraving descriptive of *Cock-Fighting*, from a drawing taken at the Cock-pit Royal, with characters, &c.

CRICKET MATCHES.

June the 6th, a match of cricket was played on Bury Common, Suffex, by *females* (the married women of that parish against the maidens), which was won by the former, whose *notches*, at the conclusion of the game, out-numbered those which the maids had got by 80. So famous are the Bury women at a cricket-match, that they offer to play with any eleven in any village in their own county, for any sum.

June 23.

On Monday fe'nnight, and the two following days, a grand match at cricket was played in Lord's ground, Mary-le-bone, between five gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone club, and six players of Hants, against four gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone club, and seven players of Kent, for 1000 guineas.—This match was made between the Earl of Winchelsea and Earl Darnley.

<i>First Innings.</i>		KENT.	<i>Second Innings.</i>	
Ring, hit wicket	—	8	b Lord Fred. Beauclerk	4
Pilcher, c T. Walker	12		b T. Walker	2
Hon. J. Tufton, b Lord Fred. B.	2		b Lord Fred. Beauclerk	0
Hammond, b T. Walker	21		c T. Walker	28
Hon. Col. Bligh, ran out	2		not out	8
Ray, c J. Small, jun.	50		b T. Walker	14
Winter, c Lord Fred. Beauclerk	6		b Ditto	3
Boxall, b ditto	20		b Ditto	6
Earl Darnley, c T. Walker	0		c G. Louch, Esq.	8
Bulling, b ditto	2		b Lord Fred. Beauclerk	4
Hon. Col. Onslow, not out	0		b Ditto	3
Byes	0		Byes	1
	123			81

<i>First Innings.</i>		HANTS.	<i>Second Innings.</i>	
Earl of Winchelsea, run out	11		c Pilcher	0
T. Walker, b Boxall	0		run out	9
J. Small, jun. c Pilcher	2		b Bulling	48
J. Small, sen. c ditto	1		c Pilcher	9
Lord Fred. Beauclerk, b Bulling	11		run out	4
Harding, run out	21		b Bulling	9
G. Louch, Esq. b Boxall	2		b Hammond	18
E. Small, b ditto	0		not out	0
Mellish, Esq. b Earl Darnley	4		b Boxall	7
Hon. A. P. Upton, not out	2		b Ditto	0
Freemantle, c Ray	35		b Bulling	1
Byes	4		Byes	5
	93			107

A grand alphabetical cricket-match is to be played this summer between Lord Darnley and Lord Winchelsea. Lord Darnley is to have the choice of players, whose surnames begin with the first eleven letters of the alphabet, and Lord Winchelsea eleven of the last. Lord Darnley has chose for his side, Aylward, Beldam, Boxall, Bulling, Crawte, Fennex, Fielder, Freemantle, Hammond, Harris, and Lord. Lord Winchelsea has named for himself, Monk, Purchase, Robinson, Scott, Small, Small, jun. Taylor, T. Walker, H. Walker, John Wells, and Winter.

POETRY.

POETRY.

THE HIGH COURT OF DIANA.

O D E
FORHIS MAJESTY'S BIRTH-DAY,
PERFORMED IN THE GRAND COUNCIL
CHAMBER, ON THE 4th OF JUNE.*Written by JAMES FYE, Esq. Poet Laureat.*

I.

WHERE are the vows the Muses
breath'd,
That Discord's fatal reign might cease?
Where all the blooming flowers they
wreath'd

To bind the placid brow of Peace;
Whose angel form with radiant beam,
Pictur'd in Fancy's fairy dream,
Seem'd o'er Europa's ravag'd land,
Prompt to extend her influence bland,
Calm the rude clamours of the martial lay,
And hail with gentler note our Monarch's
natal day?

II.

For lo! on yon devoted shore,
Still thro' the bleeding ranks of war,
His burning axles sleep'd in gore,
Ambition drives his iron car.
Still his eyes in fury roll'd,
Glare on fields by arms o'er-run.
Still his hand rapacious hold
Spoils, injurious inroad won.
And spurning with indignant frown
The sober olive's proffer'd crown,
Bids the brazen trumpet's breath
Swell the terrific blast of destiny and
death.

III.

Shrinks Britain at the sound? tho' while
her eye
O'er Europe's desolated plain she thitows,
Slow to avenge, and mild in victory,
She mourns the dreadful scenes of war
and woes.

Yet if the Foe misjudging read
Dismay in Pity's gentlest deed,
And construing Mercy into Fear,
The blood-stain'd arm of Battle rear;
By insult rous'd, in just resentment warm,
She frowns defiance on the threat'ning
storm;

And far as Ocean's billows roar,
By every wave encircled shore,
From whence o'er icy seas the gaunt wolf
loves

To coasts perfum'd by aromatic groves.
As proudly to the ambient sky,
In silken folds her mingled crosses fly,
The soothing voice of Peace is drown'd
A while in War's tumultuous sound:
And strains from Glory's awful clarion
blown,
Float in triumphant peal around Britan-
nia's Throne.

*Stanzas on a favourite Dog, who was accident-
ally starved and frozen to Death.*

'T WAS in December's gloomy hours,
When nature ceas'd to deck with
flowers,

Amanda's lonely grot;
That having safely lock'd her door,
She wander'd o'er the snow-clad moor,
To her lov'd Anna's cot.

There from the cares of sorrow free,
They each admir'd the branching tree,
That veil'd their blest retreat;
No care did then Amanda know,
And Anna's heart was free from woe,
As *Damen's from deceit!

* A favourite Spaniel.

But

But ah! can pleasure long remain
Unmix'd with pangs of bitterest pain?
Unruffled can the mind?
Amanda felt it could not be,
No more she prais'd the branching tree;
Her *Rogue* was left behind!

Alas! poor dog (then cry'd the maid),
With justice will it now be said,
My folly caus'd thy death!
Ah! hapless *Rogue*, fell hunger now,
With biting cold, doth lay thee low,
And chase thy fleeting breath!

So said; she quickly o'er the plain,
Sought out her lonely grot again.
Quick too unbar'd the door;
Alas! too true the maid had said,
For now the hapless *Rogue* was laid
Extended on the floor!

Amanda, frantic with alarms,
Caught up her fav'rite in her arms
For signs of life she 'spied;
Poor *Rogue* then lifted up his eye,
Gently then gave a plaintive cry,
Then wagg'd his tail and died.

Cambridge, June 14. 1796.

H. G.

A Recipe for making a Poetic Compliment (or Love Sonnet) addressed to a Gentleman who requested the AUTHORESS to write one to a Lady.

Of me a compliment you now require,
To please the lovely charmer you
admire;

A verse that should your very soul impart,
Form'd to engage, and captivate her heart.
Something you want both elegant and new,
Full of encomiums, yet strictly true.
Now, *Flattery's* a drug so common grown,
Disguise it as you will, it must be known;
If dealt with an unskillful lavish hand,
It loses all it's power of command.
Nay whilst the world takes the gilded pill,
All who have sense, must know 'tis flatt'ry
still.

A skilful hand alone can use it right,
A large dose clogs, a small one gives delight.
If it requires such care, I humbly ask,
How can my judgment execute the task?
A task, I ought, in justice, to decline,
Since nice discrimination ne'er was mine.
Yet you from me, a recipe may take,
By which your panegyrics, you may make.
Cull of smooth *Flattery*, with the utmost care,
Enough to suit the temper of your fair;
Sufficient *Art*, to colour flattery o'er,
On *those*, the essence of your raptures pour,
The genuine *Cream of Art* pray next employ,
Your's is *Original*, and cannot cloy.
Truth's Indure will the composition mend,
Tho' out of use, a little can't offend—

Procure each *Goddeß* from their seats above,
A slice of *those*, the mixture will improve.
Take only of *Sincerity* the *shade*,
For compliments were first by *Falshood*
made.

Of *Cupid's* get as many as you please,
Throw in your *Darts and Arrows* by degrees,
Stir all *these* up in a poetic mould,
Cement and serve it up before 'tis cold;
When thus 'tis form'd, let *Sinner* be its
name,
No doubt 'twill please your tender-heart-
ed dame.

Credulity will seize the bait in haste,
And make it suit in every age and taste.
This recipe, like others, will admit
Of deviation to improve the wit;
As, when to *Beauty*, you would praise ap-
ply,

Keep Madam *Venus* chiefly in your eye.
If your fair theme should boast superior
pride,

'Tis majesty and *Juno* must preside.
If *prudish*—*Dian* with her can't compare,
If *ugly*—she must claim *Minerva's* care;
If *she's Poetic*, her each *Muse* must crown,
If *Musical*—she'll draw *Cecilia* down.
Thus to keep up one fav'rite woman's sway,
Gods must adore, and *Goddeßes* obey.

Bath.

J. M. S.

For the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

AN OCCASIONAL EPILOGUE.

Written by JOSEPH ATKINSON, Esq. and
spoken by MISS BRETT, at the Theatre
Royal, Dublin.

WELL! faith, I've play'd a charming
comic part,
And topp'd the gay coquette with all my
heart:

For ~~fore~~ there's nothing in the world so
pleasing,
As plaguing lovers—they're so monstrous
teazing.

Oh what delight to see those heroes fall
Down on their knees—and for compassion
call!

Then, what a triumph by our smiles to
raise them,
And, if we like them—out of pity ease
them!

But mind, ye Fair, whose youth and
beauty shine!
You ne'er too soon this precious pow'r
reign;

Else tyrant man—his love of rule to crown,
Will ever after strive to keep you down.

—Then,

—Then, whilst you're single, with their
nonsense play,
'Till all the sex shall adoration pay:
Then on some worthy youth your hand
bestow,

Whose love you value—and whose heart
you know.

'Till then let frolic and amusement please,
To keep your liberty and mind at ease.
Fly to the ball and splendid suite of rooms,
Throng'd like an aviary, with noise and
plumes!

Hear the shrill buzz thro' each apartment
run,

"Lord! this is charming—what delightful
fun!

What a fine rattle! what a pleasing
squeeze!

Here *all the world and his wife* one sees,
And all as busy as a swarm of bees!"
Borne on the cards, see how the money flies
And every temper in its progress tries.

"Is that Cassino? Pray, dear partner,
take it;

Oh, there's a combination! won't you
break it?

What a misfortune that you let it pass,
I'm forc'd to play my Ace to Little Cafs!
You let them clear the board and win the
game, Sir,

Tho' we had got the cards—O fie!—for
shame, Sir!"

But hear the Dowagers at yonder table,
Who scold and gamble every night they're
able.

Talk not to *them* of Theatres and bards,
Who live by *shuffling life away*—at
cards.

"Lord, Sir, you've won my heart—and
odd enough,

You play directly to that lady's ruff:
I know *her* tricks—have seen you bet
upon her."

"Madam, I've won the game, for *you've*
no honour!"

A Tabby cries, "Lord! Sir, you'll tear
my gown!

Lift up your chair, Sir, and move further
down:

I've lost five rubbers in this cursed seat,
And these dry drums—give ne'er a scrap
to eat!

O! here's the *Lemonade* and cool *Orgeat*:
Give me my fan—O! dear 'tis shocking
hot!

There's the gay widow, just come in, 'see,
Who gave a ball last week, precluding me;
And that's her paramour, who shares her
passion;

'Tis well for her, short waltzes are still in
fashion.

But come, I'll go to Lady Mangrove's party,
Win back my loss, and eat my supper
hearty."

Thus dissipation drives the world about,
From the late *Dinner*, to the *Midnight Roast*,
But You,* with rational and moral taste,
Despise your hours in folly's train to waste:
A more improving recreation chuse,
To aid the Tragic and the Comic Muse;
For which the Author of the play to night,
Bids me HIS Thanks—and Gratitude unite.

*The Song of † MELCHTALE, Bowman of the
Hills of Switzerland, to ‡ MARINA, the
Last of the Lakes.*

WITHIN the dungeon's sickly gloom,
Helvetia's heroes pine,
And † Grissler's fiat seals their doom,
My gentlest maid! and mine;
Nor ‡ William Tell's unerring shaft
The tyrant's soul can shake;
From just revenge, secur'd by craft.
He lives by Lucern Lake.

Then fly, my fair! these lowland haunts,
And range the hills with me;
This heart is thine, that warmly pants,
To set its charmer free.
The mountain larks so blith to see,
Thy slumbers shall awake,
And sing their songs of peace for thee,
Sweet Last of Lucern Lake!

Come, fly! then, fly to the courtly scene,
No scornful face to know;
No fell deceit with angel's mien,
Shall wreck another's woe;
On thy sweet lips that know no guile,
Love's faithful pledge I'll stake,
And teach thee, morn, and eve, to smile,
Sweet Last of Lucern Lake,

For thee, I'll cull the summer grove,
While fruits are ripe and rare,
Just when the bees for honey rove,
Will I at morn be there:
I'll pluck imperl'd with evening dew
The berries from the brake,
Then spread the sweet repast for you,
Sweet Last of Lucern Lake.

From nipping blasts, from frost and hail,
Thy beauty I'll defend,
And still, amidst the winter's gale,
Live blithe, thy love and friend;

* The Audience.

† Arnold of Melchtales, who, with Wer-
ner and Warner, brought about the Revo-
lution in Switzerland.

‡ Daughter of Warner.
Governor for Albert in Switzerland.

§ Founder of Swiss Liberty. See Sport-
ing Magazine, No. 1. p. 35.

The

The glowing hearth, heap high for thee,
Each eve while tempests shake,
While those soft love-tales tell for me,
Sweet Lads of Lucern Lake.

When from our Tyrant's will secure,
Wrapt in our steepy hills,
We'll teach others to endure
The care contentment kills;
Then turn, fair maid, and fly with me,
Thine Arnold's fortune take,
Whose only hope is love and thee,
Sweet Lads of Lucern Lake.

T. N.

*The following Lines were spoken extempore at
LITCHFIELD RACES, in 1793, after
CORNET lost the King's Plate there, who
was backed at the odds of 6 to 1 to win.*

THO' long Eclipse bore matchless sway,
Celestial's sometimes fail;
The knowing ones at Litchfield say,
The Comet lost its tail.

THE HAUNCH OF VENISON.

A PLEASING EPISTLE.

THANKS, my friend, for your ven'son;
for finer or fatter,
Never rang'd in a forest, or smok'd in a
platter;
The haunch was a picture for painters to
study;
The white was so white, and the red was
so ruddy,
I had thoughts in my chamber to hang it
in view,
To be shewn to my friends as a piece of
Virtu.
As in some Irish houses where things are
so fo,
One gammon of bacon hangs up for a
shew.
But for eating a rasher in what they take
pride in,
They'd as soon think of eating the pan it is
fry'd in.
But hold—let us pause—don't I hear you
pronounce,
This tale of the bacon a damnable bounce?
Well, suppose it a bounce; sure a poet may
try,
By a bounce now and then to get courage
to fly.
But in truth it's no bounce, I protest in my
turn,
It's a truth, the curious may ask Mr. Burn.
To go on with my tale—as I gaz'd on the
haunch,
I thought of a friend that was trusty and
frank,

So I cut it and sent it to Opie's undrest,
To paint it, or eat it, just as he lik'd best,
Of the neck and the breast I had next to
dispose,

'Twas a neck and a breast that might rival
Munroe's.

But in parting with these I was puzzled
again,

With the *how*, and the *who*, and the *where*
and the *when*,

There's Walcot or Pindar, and Boaden and
Stiff,

I think they love ven'son, I know they
love beef,

But—hang't—to poets that seldom can eat,
Your very good mutton's a very good
treat;

Such dainties to them, it would look like a
flirt,

Like sending 'em ruffles when wanting a
flirt.

EPICURIANUS.

ON ALE.

*The present Duty upon WINE amounting gene-
rally (as it may be supposed) to a prohibition
of its use, we may expect to find the Muses
very busy in the praise of Ale.—The follow-
ing lines were written several years ago.*

IN the Grape's praise Anacreon's numbers
shine,
And gentle Flaccus sang the praise of Wine;
The Apple's fame sweet Phillips' lays impart,
And Barley, thou shalt claim my humbler
art.

How blest; could in return thy bard prevail,
Peculiar wish, with Oxford's sparkling Ale!
Quaff'd by old Ihs banks, in sylvan scenes,
Or, with good Fellows wind the Horn at
Queen's!

Delicious viand! boon of Ceres' hand,
To Britain given, thy native happy land:
How would thy traffic spread, thy credit
rise,
If thou had'st but more MALT, and less
EXCISE!

EPIGRAM,

By the Rev. Mr. BISHOP, late Master of Mer-
chant Taylor's School.

IN modern Anarchy's reign absurd,
When'er the maggot bites the herd,
The order of the day's the word

Throughout confusion's border.
But Heaven, the wife and worthy pray,
May soon turn things another way,
And, for the order of the day,
Restore the days of order.