

# REPOSITORY

Arts, Literature, Commerce,

Manufactures, FASHIONS and Politics.

*This*  
WORK

*Already honoured by His Approval*

*Is most Humbly Dedicated by Permission*

*To His Royal Highness*

THE

Prince



OF

Wales.

GRATEFUL AND

ACKERMAN

CREDITS

THE

# Repository

OF

ARTS, LITERATURE, COMMERCE,  
*Manufactures, Fashions, and Politics,*

For JANUARY, 1809.

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The First Number.—Third Edition.

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## EMBELLISHMENTS.

1. *Two whole-length Figures of LONDON FASHIONS for the Month.*
2. *The REPOSITORY OF ARTS, 101, Strand.*
3. FASHIONABLE FURNITURE.
4. SPORTING VIGNETTES.
5. ALLEGORICAL WOOD-CUT, *with real Patterns of British Manufacture.*

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*WE have received two Letters inclosing specimens of Poetry, and shall be glad to have a personal communication with the Writer.*

*Three Letters, under the signature of A Well-wisher, Un Ami, and A Man of Fashion, (evidently written by the same person) are received. The Editor proposes to adopt the policy of Frederic the Great with respect to all Communications of this nature.*

*The Account of Montreal shall appear in our next. The Communications of this Writer, on the Natural History of that part of the world, will be received with pleasure.*

*We have been reluctantly obliged to abridge some of the Papers for this Month, notwithstanding we have given Sixteen Pages of Letter-press more than the prospectus announced. This has arisen in some degree from the late period of the Month in which they were communicated. Our Correspondents will particularly oblige us by sending, in future, such Communications as are intended for the following Month, before the 15th.*

*Hints for the Improvement of Beauty are received, and will appear in our next; also, a Letter on the real Causes of the Situation of the West India Planters, in reply to some Observations in the Monthly Review for last Month.*

## TO THE PUBLIC.

*We propose to begin the Deaths, Marriages, Bankruptcies, and some general Tables, from the 1st January, 1809.*

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—The suffrage of the wise,  
The praise that's worth ambition, is attain'd  
By sense alone, and dignity of mind.

ARMSTRONG.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE USEFUL AND  
POLITE ARTS.

At the commencement of a new year\*, it seems natural to pause, and look back upon the period which has just been completed, to review the more important events, to examine their causes and consequences, and to form some kind of estimate of their relation to ourselves indivi-

dually, or as they tend more generally to affect the aggregate of human happiness. Feelings of a similar nature lead us, at the commencement of a new work, which embraces so wide a circle, to trace the map of literature, to examine the progress of discovery in the arts

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\* The computation of the beginning of the year has been varied at different periods of our history, and was never legally settled for civil affairs till the parliamentary alteration of our calendar. From Bede's time, down to the Norman conquest, the constant practice was, to compute the year from Christmas-day. After the conquest, Gervaise, a monk of Canterbury, mentions several different

ways of computation during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries; some from the Annunciation, the Nativity, the Circumcision, and others from the Passion of our Lord: but he chuses to fix the commencement of the year to Christmas-day; "because," says he, "we compute the age of men from their birth." Matthew Paris and others prove this uncertainty for many years afterwards. T. Walsingham



and sciences, to follow their respective boundaries, to ascertain their extent, and finally, to form some opinion of their value, as they affect our morals and our manners. It is universally admitted, that to cultivate a taste for the arts, and an acquaintance with the sciences, is a pleasure of the most refined nature; but to do this without regard to its influence upon the passions and affections, is to "tear a tree for its blossoms, which is capable of yielding the richest and most valuable fruit."

The cultivation of this taste may and ought to be subservient to higher and more important purposes: it should dignify and exalt our affections, and elevate them to the admiration and love of that Being who is the author of every thing that is

fair, sublime, and good in nature. Indeed scepticism and irreligion are hardly compatible with that sensibility of heart which results from an intimate knowledge of, and a lively relish for the wisdom, harmony, and order subsisting in the world around us. In the discussion of subjects which occupy so much of our attention, and exercise so large a portion of our ingenuity, it is natural to begin with the most curious as well as interesting. Indeed

"The proper study of mankind, is man!"

He is the center round which the arts and sciences may be said to revolve, for whose comfort they were bestowed, and by whom they are to be enjoyed. The mind, accustomed to a beginning of things, feels an anxiety to trace him in the rude and

one of the most accurate of the monkish writers, begins the year sometimes from the Circumcision, and at others from Christmas. There is reason to believe, that the custom of computing from the Annunciation began about the year 1460.

Thomas Chandler, who was chancellor of Oxon from 1458 to 1402, in his short account of William of Wickham, printed by Warton (*Ang. Sacra.* ii. 355.) begins this year with the Annunciation. Bishop Godwin, who wrote at the beginning of the seventeenth century, computes from the first day of January; but then he wrote for the use of foreigners, who had no other way of computation.

At the Reformation the commencement of the year was fixed to the feast of the Annunciation, by adding the following rubric to the table of movable feasts for forty years, viz.

"Note, That the supputation of the year of our Lord in the church of England beginneth the 25th of March, the same day supposed to be the first day upon which the world was created, and the day when

*Christ was conceived in the womb of the virgin Mary.*" It stood thus down to the Savoy conference, soon after the Restoration, when it was thought proper to retain the order and drop the reason; in this shape it was continued until the alteration of the calendar.

In civil affairs, the year of the king's reign seems to have been the general date even in common deeds, till after the Restoration.

During Cromwell's usurpation the year of our Lord was introduced, because they did not choose to date by the years of the king's reign; and this was afterwards continued for convenience.

The Scotch have from time immemorial observed the 25th day of March as the first day of the year, till November 27, 1599, when the following entry was made in the books of the Privy Council: "On Monday, proclamation was made by the king's warrant, ordaining the first of January in tyme coming to be the beginning of the new year;" which they have constantly followed ever since.



earliest stages of society, when the first dawning of the arts gleamed upon the universe. Writers, notwithstanding they agree almost generally in opinion, that man is a social being, have, in their speculations, described a state of nature, which certainly never had any existence but in their own imaginations; and they appear to have fallen into this universal error, from a wish to exhibit the advantages of society in a stronger point of view, by contrasting them with a fancied state of wildness, as painters give effect to light by opposing large masses of shade, or as the beauty of melody is more sensibly felt when succeeding to the imperfect harmony which results from the proper management of discords. These philosophers seem generally to have omitted the acknowledgment, that such a state of nature in which they are pleased to consider man in the abstract, never had, or could have had, any actual or physical existence.

It is obvious that some of the more useful arts must, from necessity, have been coeval with the first of the human race. The means of procuring food, raiment, and shelter, even in their utmost simplicity, imply a certain extent of knowledge in the arts; some of them are so obvious and necessary, and at the same time their antiquity is so remote, that even tradition does not furnish us with the names of their inventors. At a period, when the occupations of mankind were limited to the attainment of what was necessary to existence, there was neither time or occasion for the cultivation of those arts which were to promote the conveniences, or minister to the luxuries of life. But very soon the shepherd state afforded,

not only the time, but was calculated to excite a desire for the useful arts; and the gradual improvements of agriculture furnished the means of supplying food for those who, relieved from the necessity of bodily labour, were employed in the useful arts, and afterwards in cultivating such as contributed to the enjoyments or amusement of mankind: accordingly, we find the arts first made their appearance in the East, under a genial sky and in a fertile soil. The bow and arrow, those necessary appendages of the first hunters, are attributed to Scythus, the son of Jupiter; and spinning, the most useful perhaps of all the arts, has usually been ascribed to some illustrious inventor: by the Egyptians to Isis, by the Greeks to Minerva, by the Peruvians to Mama Ella, wife to their first sovereign Mango Capac, and by the Chinese to the wife of their emperor Yao. The first attempts at architecture were necessarily rude and simple, and the hut of the savage was rivalled in neatness and accommodation by the commodious habitations of the more sagacious brutes. To a state of society naturally succeeded the appropriation of property, which as naturally led, first to individual trespasses, and afterwards to the mutual encroachments of different tribes upon one another. The means of attack and defence appear to have been among the first essays of human invention, and the miserable

## ART OF WAR

has, perhaps, in succeeding ages called forth the powers of the human mind in a greater degree than any of the arts of peace. To the club and the dart succeeded the bow and arrow. The employment of iron was a later discovery: even at the siege of Troy,



brass was more generally used. Menestheus, who commanded fifty Athenian vessels upon that occasion, is said to be the first who marshalled an army. The earliest fortifications were trees interlaced with boughs; to which succeeded the wall, with holes left for missile weapons. The battering-ram was opposed to the wall by Pericles, the Athenian, and brought to perfection at the siege of Gades by the Carthaginians. To oppose this invention, parapets were introduced, which were counteracted by covers pushed close to the walls, to secure in its turn the assailants. This again was rendered ineffectual by deep and broad ditches, which creating the necessity for, led to the invention of machines to throw weapons from a distance, to employ the defenders of a fortified place so as to afford an opportunity of filling up the ditches: the use of these engines led also to other modes of fortification, which enabled one part to flank another, and to the construction of round, afterwards improved to square towers, erected upon the salient angles of the walls. But the invention of cannon created a great revolution in military architecture. They were first made of iron bars united by rings of copper; and their size was afterwards reduced by the employment of iron instead of stone for the balls: these destructive engines were at length completed by making them of cast metal. To resist their force, ingenuity was employed in the construction of bastions, horn-works, crown-works, half-moons, &c.; but the arts of attack having at least kept pace with those of defence, have rendered these boasted inventions of little use.

In modern times, the experiment

has been tried, of associating with military tactics the science of politics, and the moral nature of man has been successfully employed to convert the members of the same society into instruments of mutual destruction. Indeed the vicissitudes of public opinion, or the public spirit arising out of public opinion, have had more effect in the revolutions of a late period, than even the collision of armies; and the lightening which blasts, has not been more powerful in effect, or more rapid in communication, than the solar rays which sustain the universe.

#### NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.

Naval architecture (a subject upon which no Englishman can be uninterested) has had its gradual progress to a state of improvement. The first vessels were constructed with beams, joined together and covered with planks. To these succeeded trees hollowed out by fire and manual labour, called *monoxyles*: and the Greeks formed other vessels, which were made of planks fastened together so as to imitate them. A prow for the head, and a movable helm for the tail, with oars for the fins, which was the next improvement, seems to have been suggested by the idea of imitating a fish. Sails were afterwards added; an invention of so remote antiquity, that the author is unknown. Before the middle of the sixteenth century, English ships of war were built without port-holes, and had only a few guns placed upon deck. Even in the sixteenth century, a voyage to the East Indies on this side the Ganges, allowing the time necessarily spent in the country for unloading and relading, was three years; but such is the im-

provement of navigation, accompanied by the advances made in marine astronomy, the knowledge of tides, winds, and currents, and in geography, that at present it is no more than a voyage of eighteen months. From Bombay and Madras to Falmouth, voyages have been frequently performed in less than four months. These circumstances, connected with the arts of writing and printing, facilitate the intercourse of men and minds, and account in a great degree for the accelerated progress of knowledge at the present, beyond all former periods. These arts enable the learned of all countries to supply mutual deficiencies, to correct mutual errors, and, on subjects of common investigation, to enlarge the knowledge of facts, which, since the days of Bacon and Galileo, have converted the learned world from visionary theorists into rational enquirers. As these two important arts (writing and printing) are the means by which we are principally acquainted with all human knowledge, we shall say a little respecting them.

#### WRITING.

To write, or, in other words, to express the thoughts to the eye, was early attempted in Egypt by means of hieroglyphics; these were figures of animals, parts of the human body, and even mechanical instruments; as the former were made choice of on account of the peculiar properties or quality of the animals, so they are said to have represented similar qualities in the gods, heroes, or others to whom they were applied. These images being placed in their temples, gave rise to a strange sort of worship ascribed to these people; and that homage and veneration which had first been paid to the heroes themselves, was insensi-

bly transferred, without any great violation of propriety perhaps, to the animals by which they were represented. The meanings of some of these hieroglyphics are preserved. The Supreme Deity was represented by a serpent with the head of a hawk: the hawk was the hieroglyphic of Osiris; the river-horse, of Typhon; the dog, of Mercury; the cat, of the moon, &c. But these were not confined to Egypt: figures, composed of feathers, were employed to express ideas in Peru; and Montezuma received intelligence of the invasion of his kingdom by the Spaniards, in this way. In Peru, arithmetic was composed only of different coloured knots. The next step in the progress of writing, appears to be the expression of a word by a single mark or letter, which is the Chinese method of writing. They have upwards of sixty thousand of these marks, which they employ in matters of science. Instead of using marks to represent words, which are infinite, we employ letters to represent articulate sounds, which compose words. Their inferior and wretched mode of writing, readily accounts for the state of literature among the Chinese, and their relative superiority in respect to the arts, which being imitative, may be acquired by practice or oral instruction. The art of writing seems to have been known in Greece when Homer composed the Iliad and Odyssey; and cyphers, invented in Hindostan, were brought into France from Arabia about the end of the tenth century.

#### PRINTING.

The mode of impressing figures upon silk and cotton, which (according to the accounts given us by the Jesuits) had been practised by the Chinese many centuries before print-



ing was known in Europe, seems to have been the first step towards the introduction of this art to the knowledge of mankind. The invention of cards, which took place towards the latter end of the fourteenth century, was an intermediate step between block and letter-press printing. They were originally painted, but about the year 1400, a mode was discovered of printing them from blocks. The books of images succeeded: they are likewise printed from blocks, and the text is placed below, or on each side of the print. Mr. M. Lambinet mentions seven of these: 1. *Figuræ Typicæ Veteris atque Antitypicæ Novi Testamenti*. There is one copy of this work in the Bodleian Library, and another at Christ's College, Cambridge. 2. *Historia 8. Joannis Evangelistæ, ejusque Visiones Apocalypticæ*. 3. *Historia seu Prozeridia Virginis Mariæ, ex Cantico Canticorum*. 4. *Ars Moriendi*. 5. *Ars Memorandi Notabilis per Figuras Evangelistarum*. 6. *Donatus, seu Grammatica brevis in Usam Scholarum conscripta*. 7. *Speculum Humanæ Salvationis*.

The bards are said to have carved their poems upon bars of wood, arranged like a gridiron. All these, which appear to be so many degrees of stereotype printing, naturally prepared the way for letter-press; but the origin and history of this invention is involved in so much obscurity, that with respect to its introduction, particularly to this kingdom, nothing satisfactory either has or can be said. The honour of having given birth to it is claimed by the cities of Haerlem, Strasbourg, and Mentz; but the evidence preponderates in favour of Strasbourg, where Guttenberg certainly first

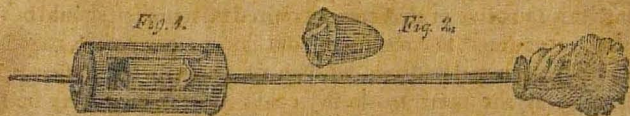
used movable types. It seems equally clear, that he afterwards carried on the business of printing at Mentz, where he was born. The names of the other competitors for the honour of this invention were, John Faust of Mentz, John Mental of Strasbourg, and L. J. Koster of Haerlem. When Mentz was taken, in the year 1462, by Adolphus, Count of Nassau, Faust and his workmen dispersed, and the art of printing became in consequence spread over the Continent. In Rome it was practised in the year 1467; and in 1468 it is said to have been introduced to this country by Thomas Bourchier, archbishop of Canterbury. He sent persons to the Continent, to make themselves masters of the art, who induced workmen to come over, and practise it in England. Accordingly, a press is said to have been soon after established at Oxford, thence removed to St. Albans, and ultimately to Westminster Abbey. Great doubts, however, have been expressed as to the authenticity of these circumstances; but the fact still remains, that about this period, and particularly at the beginning of the sixteenth century, the Germans, the Italians, and the Dutch, who had continued to engrave on wood and copper, now printed with movable types, and the art spread itself over a considerable part of Europe with astonishing rapidity: nor should this circumstance be a subject of surprise, when we consider what an alteration this art almost immediately produced upon the mind, by rendering that knowledge accessible to all ranks, which formerly was a luxury of which the rich and the great only could partake. But we are more surprised, that, in the nineteenth century, there should

ficult; over-roasting it should be carefully avoided. The common tin pot for boiling it, should not be used for any thing else but coffee; and should be large enough to contain about double the quantity that is wanted, in order to prevent it boiling over. One ounce and a half of coffee is sufficient for a pint of water: if it proves too strong, it may easily be weakened to every body's taste by pouring boiling water into their cups. To clarify it the sooner, a small quantity of isinglass, or a few hartshorn shavings, may be boiled with the coffee. At first the coffee will rise to the top of the pot, it should then be taken off the fire, and this should be repeated till the coffee falls to the bottom and a large clear bubble forms at the top: when this takes place it is sufficiently boiled, and will settle very soon, particularly after it is poured into the coffee-pot in which it is to be served. To this last may be fitted a strainer of tin, or a small sack of fine bolting cloth sewed to a tin circle (Fig. 2.); all other stuffs, such as linen, cotton, flannel, &c. make bad filters for coffee. Molasses and brown sugar give to good coffee a very bad taste, and refined sugar should always be preferred. The cream or milk that is to be taken with coffee should invariably be scalded. Those who have not been accustomed to prepare it in this way, can scarcely

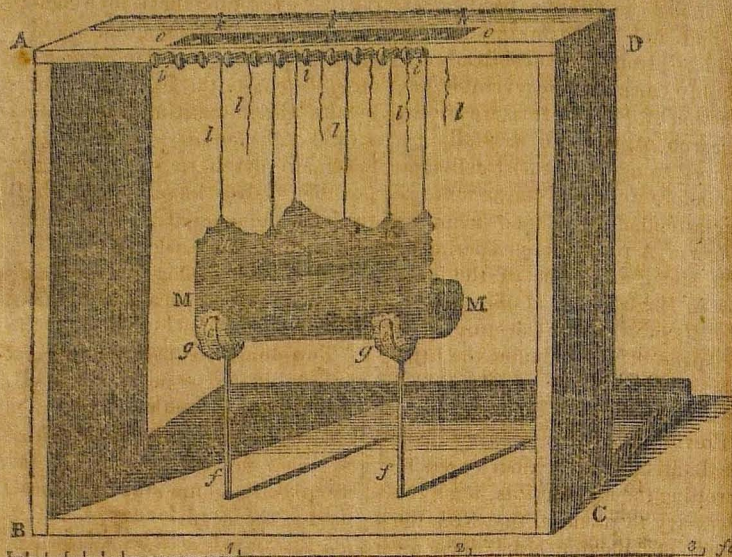
be said to have drank good coffee. I am your humble servant, D. T.

It was observed many years since by Dr. Percival, in his *Philosophical, Medical, and Experimental Essays*, that coffee was used as a beverage with peculiar propriety by the Turks and Arabians, because it operates as an antidote to the narcotic effects of opium, to the use of which these nations are particularly addicted. He likewise states, that having understood from Sir John Pringle, that an ounce of the best coffee, ground soon after it is roasted, and made into one cup, and taken without milk or sugar, was the best abater of the paroxysm of the periodic asthma, he had recommended it with considerable success, directing this quantity to be repeated at the distance of about half an hour. It is observed, that Sir John Floyer, after the publication of his book upon asthma, had contrived during the latter part of his life to relieve himself from, or at least to live with tolerable comfort under that disorder, by the use of coffee.

A severe head-ach is soon relieved by taking about eighteen drops of laudanum, and drinking immediately afterwards three strong cups of coffee. In about half an hour the pain will abate, without inducing drowsiness or even an inclination to sleep.







# DESCRIPTION OF THE APPARATUS USED AT PORTICI FOR UNROLLING THE HERCULANEAN PAPYRI,

WITH A WOOD-CUT.

THE discovery of a considerable number of ancient manuscripts among the ruins of Herculaneum, at the foot of Mount Vesuvius, was hailed at the time by every lover of antiquity throughout Europe, as an event which promised to add to our classic literature many an author whose works might hitherto have been unknown, or, if known, lamented as lost; or at least to afford the means of supplying the chasms with which a barbarous age had handed to us some of the most invaluable remains of the learning of Rome and Greece. Unfortunately, these fond hopes have to this day remained disappointed. The progress made in unrolling them, although perhaps commensurate with the difficulty of

the task, has hitherto been insignificant; and the emigration of the court of Naples to Sicily, with, as I am credibly informed, the most perfect part of the papyri, is not calculated to encourage any very sanguine expectations.

As, however, a few of the best preserved rolls are at this moment in England, and in the possession of an august personage, whose love for literature will not suffer such a treasure long to lay dormant, I conceive it may be acceptable to the classic scholar to know the method which has been adopted at Portici for unfolding their contents. That process, certainly, is of the most tedious nature, but as yet no other has been successfully attempted;



and when it is considered, that any new mode can only be tried on an original and perhaps inestimable manuscript, and that such a trial may possibly cause the irrecoverable destruction of the very treasure we are in search of, we shall naturally be induced to use the utmost deliberation before we venture on an innovation attended with such manifest danger. A precipitate experiment with steam upon one of the rolls now in England has at once annihilated its substance, by destroying in the space of two minutes the little cohesion of texture which it had possessed before.

Previously to my entering upon the detail of the machinery used for unrolling the manuscripts, it may be necessary to premise, that from the effects of volcanic heats, they are reduced to a perfect coal, liable to be crumbled into a black dust by a very feeble pressure of the fingers, such as might be the state of a tight roll of paper after being exposed to the action of an heated oven, without being absolutely ignited: with this favourable difference, however, that, instead of paper, they had been written on papyrus, a substance much stronger and glutinous than our present writing-paper. They had, like all books of that age, been rolled up with the writing inwards, divided into rectangular spaces, much in the manner of the pages of modern books.

As the different lamina of which the roll is composed, would break off with the slightest touch, a fresh back is successively formed by the application of gold-beaters' skin affixed with gum-water. But such is the damaged state of the material, that without using very minute

patches of gold-beaters' skin (generally not exceeding the size of a common pea), an upper stratum would often be glued to one or more under ones, through the little holes or breaks which sometimes penetrate several of the lamina. But in order to render myself as intelligible as possible, I beg leave to refer the reader to the annexed drawing, with its accompanying scale.

*A B C D* is a wooden frame which may be placed on a common table.

*ff* Two brass rods, supporting

*ee* Two brass rests in the shape of half-moons. On these rests

*M M* The manuscript is placed, with *gg*, some raw cotton to guard it from being injured by the contact of the metal.

*h h h* is so much of the manuscript roll as has already been furnished with a fresh back of patches of gold-beaters' skin.

As soon as a sufficient extent of back is thus secured

*lll*, silk strings, are fastened to the ends by means of dissolved gum Arabic. These strings are suspended from

*ik ik ik*, a row of pegs (like those of a violin) going through

*oo*, an opening in the top of the frame.

In proportion as the laborious operation of forming a new back proceeds, the work is gently and progressively wound up by turning the pegs, until one entire page is thus unfolded, which is forthwith separated from the roll and spread on a flat board or frame. A draughtsman, unacquainted with the language of the manuscript, makes a faithful fac-simile of it, with all chasms, blemishes, or irregularities.



The taking of this copy is no less a work of extreme patience and nicety, as it is only by a particular reflection of light, that the characters, whose black colour differs very little from that of the carbonized papyrus, can be distinguished. The fac-simile is next handed to an antiquarian, who separates the words and sentences, supplies any hiatus, and otherwise endeavours to restore the sense of the original. By a like process the succeeding pages are unrolled and decyphered, if I may be allowed to use the expression, until the work is completed. The whole is afterwards published, both in letter-press and correct engravings of each page, at the expence of the government.

In this tedious and costly manner, one work (a treatise of Philodemus on the power of music) has been recovered and published. Unfortunately, it was both the first and last with which the lovers of ancient literature have been gratified; and the contents of even this were far from compensating for either the trouble or expence bestowed upon it. Some years ago, the hopes of the

learned were revived by the mission of a literary gentleman from England to Naples, for the express purpose of superintending the establishment of Portici, which, by permission of the court of Naples, he actually conducted for a considerable time previous to the invasion of the French. But hitherto none of the fruits of his labour have met the public eye, although the expectations of the classic scholar were from time to time kept alive by notices of that gentleman's progress inserted in some of our periodical journals.

I cannot close this article without expressing a hope, that the manuscripts now in England will ere long meet investigation, confident as I am, that the ingenuity of our English artists will be able to suggest a more expeditious process for unrolling them, than the one above detailed; and that if the task were attended with success in this country, the court of Palermo might be prevailed upon to furnish a succession of new materials to enrich our store of classic literature.

PALEOPHILUS.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE REPOSITORY, &c.

I SEND you a drawing of a ring, supposed to be one that belonged to William III. and which is noticed in Rapin's *History of England*. After giving an account of the king's death, the historian thus continues: "As soon as the breath was out of his body, the Lords Lexington and Scarborough, who were then in waiting, ordered Roujat to take off from the king's left arm a black ribbon,

which tied next to his skin a gold ring, with some hair of the late queen Mary, which shewed the tender regard he had for her memory." This ring is of pure gold, its breadth is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, and its length is  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch. Instead of a chrystal, it is covered with what is called a picture diamond, beautifully cut. This drawing is enlarged in the wood-cut, for the sake of shewing the device, of



which the light parts are a very accurate representation: those parts which are shaded, represent the hair of queen Mary, which forms a dark ground for the workmanship: the black ribbon, by which it was fastened to the king's arm, passes through two small loops at the back of the ring, the gold of which is almost worn through: the workmanship is very good, not to say elegant, for the period in which it was done. It has been many years in the possession of the ancestors of Thomas Street, Esq. of Hampstead, to whom

it has descended, <sup>etc</sup> and can trace it pretty satisfactorily to his family connections up to Roger, who was sergeant-surgeon to William III.



## Law Reports.

*Ubi ingenio non erat locus, curæ testimonium promeruisse contentus.*

It will be unnecessary to say much upon the utility of reporting important judicial decisions, or the necessity of strict accuracy in the history of judicial proceedings. The courts of justice, which administer law in particular cases, are bound to state the principles and construction upon which those decisions may be founded, which are to govern analogous cases in future. The almost infinite modifications of which property is susceptible, and the multiplied combinations which arise out of these, in a commercial country, are beyond the reach of positive laws, because they are beyond the powers of human foresight. The wisdom of our constitution has therefore very properly left to the experience of our judges, the task of deducing from its general propositions such corollaries as come within the range of its intent and meaning: these deductions in time become part of the law itself. Notwith-

standing its importance, the care of collecting these decisions, and the principles by which they were governed, has been rather accidental than established. The records of the courts are indisputable evidence of the judgments, and at a remote period the reasons of the judgment were set forth in the record, but this practice has been long discontinued. According to modern usage, the most important points of law are brought before the courts in the shape of motions for new trials, or cases reserved. In these cases, which form so considerable a part of the law of England, we depend entirely upon the fidelity and accuracy of reporters, as well for the facts as the arguments and reasoning of the counsel and the court.

The Year Books are the earliest reports we have, although the names of the reporters themselves, or the precise nature of their office, cannot now be ascertained. This office has



not been excluded since the early part of Henry the Eighth's reign, but the industry of voluntary reporters has in some measure supplied the deficiency. Some of the ablest judges of the sixteenth century set the example, and by committing the more important cases and decisions to writing, at the same time dignified themselves, instructed posterity, and improved the science. These great luminaries have been followed by other reporters of unequal merit. The office of reporter was again renewed at the instance of the Lord Chancellor Bacon, in the reign of James I. but does not seem to have been productive of any material advantage, and was soon discontinued.

In the early part of the reign of Charles II. an act passed to prohibit the printing of law books without a licence of the chancellor, the two chief justices, and the chief baron, which was renewed from time to time, but finally expired in the reign of King William. The custom of fixing the imprimatur was continued for many years after the necessity for it had ceased, and till the judges came to a resolution not to grant them any longer. Of late years it has been customary for the proprietors even of diurnal publications, to employ short-hand writers, for the purpose of presenting the public with reports of cases of considerable importance or interest; and it has grown so much into practice, that they are constantly expected. Thus whatever is said in public, and regards the public, becomes the right of the public to repeat and report, and whether it be the argument of counsel, or the decision of the judge, it is public property. Words have wings, and they are no

sooner uttered in public situations, than they are irrevocably passed to all mankind, who are interested in them, and can no longer be confined to place, to age, or to country. We know that the Greeks in general, and the Athenians in particular, delighted in the vehicles of diurnal information; and the Romans, according to Tacitus, were not less partial to them: *Diurna populi Romani per provincias, per exercitus, curatius aguntur, quam, ut non noscatur quid Thrasea fecerit.*—TAC. *Ann. lib. xvi.*

If, in spite of our extreme desire to be accurate, we should fail in any part of our reports, it is some consolation, that even such reports may have their use, in as much as it was the opinion of a very great lawyer, that, for the purpose of furnishing an argument, one bad report was worth an hundred good ones. We shall easily obtain credit for the truth of the declaration, that our ambition has an higher object, than an humble one, and we shall have attained our utmost aim if we can merit the praise of useful accuracy.

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Before Sir A. Macdonald and a special Jury.

THE KING v. ROBERT MARRIS.

18th September, 1807, an extent issued against the defendant, at the suit of J. S. for 10,022l.

Same day, inquisition taken and debt found.

Sheriff's return, *cepi corpus*, and had seized lands, &c.

PLEA, *Michaelmas Term*, 1807. —The said defendant, by his attorney, claimed the property of the several goods, &c. mentioned in the inquisition to the said writ of extent

to belong to him; and he prayed over of the said writ and inquisition, which being by him heard and understood, complained that he had been greatly vexed and molested under colour of the premises; because

*Protesting* that the said writ and inquisition were respectively insufficient in law, whereunto he had no occasion, nor was he bound by the law of the land, to answer: nevertheless

*For plea* as to the writ and inquisition, he saith, that before and at the time of issuing the same, the said J. S. was a person carrying on trade and commerce in copartnership, to wit, in copartnership with one T. F.

*PROTESTING*, that nothing was due from him, he further says, that if any thing was due from him to the said J. S. the same was due to J. S. and his copartner, and not to J. S. alone; but the said J. S. unjustly and to oppress the said defendant, did wrongfully cause the extent to issue against him; under colour that a large sum was due to J. S. alone, did wrongfully cause the said writ to issue, and the lands, &c. of the said defendant to be seized, and the defendant to be taken and detained in prison: without this, that the said defendant, on the day of issuing the said writ, was justly indebted unto the said J. S. in 10,022*l.* or any part thereof, in manner and form in the said inquisition supposed; all which he was ready to verify: wherefore he prayed judgment, and that the hand of our lord the king should be removed from the possession of the said goods, &c. of the defendant.

*REPLICATION*, 29*th* Jan. 1808.

—And as to the pleas of the said defendant pleaded in bar, Sir V. Gibbs,  
*No. I. Vol. I.*

his majesty's attorney general, on behalf of his majesty,

Says, that by reason of any thing in the defendant's plea alleged, the hand of our lord the king should not be removed from the lands, &c. of the defendant, and that the defendant ought not to be restored to the possession thereof; because

*PROTESTING* that the plea of the defendant, and the matters therein contained, were wholly insufficient in law to remove the hand of our lord the king from the said lands, &c.; yet for replication as to the plea of the defendant as to the said writ and inquisition,

*SAITH*, that the said defendant was, on the day of issuing the same, and making the seizure aforesaid, indebted to the said J. S. in the said sum of 10,022*l.* and he prayed it might be enquired of by the country.

*JOINDER*, 3*d* Feb. 1808.—And the said defendant, as to the said plea of the said attorney general, pleaded in reply to the plea of the defendant by him pleaded in bar, and whereof the said attorney general prayed might be enquired of by the country, &c. saith,

That the said defendant doth the like.

From the evidence produced the court was of opinion, that the fact of the debt being due to J. S. was clearly established: upon which the counsel for the defendant called upon the crown to prove the quantum of the debt; but it was contended, that it was not incumbent upon the crown in this case to do so; *because*,

1. The quantum of debt was admitted by the protestation.

2. The inducement to the traverse, asserting a partnership, and stating the debt, if due at all, was



due to the firm of S. and Co. and not to S. alone, narrowed the traverse, and confined it to the single question, to whom the defendant was indebted?

In answer to these objections, the defendant's counsel said,

1. That protesting *nothing was due*, was a strange way of admitting the *whole was due*.

2. That it is not averred in the traverse, that the debt was due to S. alone, and that the words, "*or any part thereof*," in the traverse, which alone was to be looked to, were wholly inconsistent with the supposed admission.

3. That the issue, if double, should have been demurred to: no objection of duplicity can be taken now; it must be tried as it is.—To this it was replied,

1. That this was the constant form of a protestation, to keep the issue to a single point: it must be considered as an admission in the cause; though, in order to prevent the party from being concluded afterwards, it necessarily takes the form of a denial of the fact.

2. That the traverse, or rather the issue, is not to be taken alone, but as it is narrowed and pointed by the inducement.

The defendant had it in his power to deny either the quantum of the debt, or that he owed any thing to the person named in the inquisition, but that he could not do both. He had here chosen to do the latter, and for that purpose admitted the quantum by his protestation; and had further stated such fact in the inducement, as restrained the generality of the words used in the traverse, and confined them to a single point, namely, "the person to whom

the money was due," as much as if the word "alone" had been in the traverse.

That no argument was to be drawn from the words, "*or any part thereof*," which had been artfully introduced; but their effect had been foreseen, that they were dropped in the replication, and therefore formed no part of the issue.

That the issue, and not the traverse, was the matter to be tried.

The common form of replication was, "*indebted modo et forma*;" but here the precise sum is mentioned, because it had been admitted in the pleadings; and for the same reason the words, "*or any part thereof*," had been left out.

3. That it is begging the question to say "that the traverse was demurrable." If restricted (as contended for on the part of the crown), it is good; but at all events the replication confines it.

The court determined, that it was not incumbent on the crown in this case to prove the quantum of the debt.

For the crown, DAMPIER and DAUNCEY, solicitor-general.

For the defendant, HOLBROOK and ABBOTT.

Before Lord Ellenborough and a special Jury.

#### THE WET DOCKS.

*Chesnaut v. Baynes, Kn.*

This was an action against the Wet Dock Company, charging them with having taken into their docks 275 puncheons of brandy belonging to the plaintiff, and with having kept it so negligently that the plaintiff sustained a loss of 509 gallons, there being that deficiency in the quantity between the period when

the brandies were guaged by the excise guagers and the delivery from the docks. The plaintiff insisted that this deficiency was occasioned by jettage, and that the Dock Company being bound to keep all merchandise secure and safe, were liable to make reparation for the loss.—The Dock Company, in their defence, endeavoured to shew that the deficiency arose from natural causes: first, that the brandies were landed on their quays in hot weather, and consequently liable to evaporate from the rays of the sun; and secondly, that the puncheons being made of soft Hamburgh timber, open and full of veins, the liquor had exuded through the pores, and a great loss was sustained by leakage. This last point was replied to by stating, that if the puncheons were in the condition stated, it was the duty of the Dock Company to have given notice of the fact to the plaintiff, and to have seen that they were properly coopered. The plaintiff, however, was convinced that the imperfect state of the puncheons was an after-thought, and it would be monstrous, it was said, if it were otherwise, as the Dock Company had charged the plaintiff between 2 and 300*l.* for warehousing, cooping, and keeping safe the brandies in question. Another proof of its being an after-thought was, that the deficiency in some of the puncheons was 10, 12, and 13 gallons, and in others only one: however, as there might be some loss by leakage, the plaintiff was inclined to make an allowance of one gallon in every puncheon, and take a verdict for

the remaining loss. This was considered to be a fair proposal by his lordship, who said, he wished the Wet Dock Companies to understand, that they were bound to give notice to the merchants of the imperfect state of their puncheons and packages; to cooper and preserve them, if necessary; and, in short, to give every requisite care and attention the merchandise in their custody should require. The jury found for the plaintiff for a deficiency of 275 gallons, and the duty, amounting to 220*l.*

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A motion was made in the Court of Chancery, Dublin, for an attachment against an attorney, for publishing in the newspapers the proceedings of that court in reversing the decree of another, as it cast reflections upon some of the parties, and introduced matter which was hurtful to their feelings.

His lordship said, he was proud to find the proceedings of courts published, and he wished to see a great deal more of them, as they answered most salutary purposes. It shewed the people how to guide themselves, when similar cases would occur; and, if judges acted wrong, the proceedings ought to be published. He, for his part, wished every decree he had, or would make, was in every newspaper in the kingdom: if the press were to be gagged, God knows where it would end.

Such language does honour to the head and the heart of the noble and learned lord.

Motion refused.



## GENERAL RETROSPECT OF POLITICS, FOR THE YEAR 1808.

In the present eventful period of the history of the world, there has been scarcely any year more productive of important occurrences, than the year which has just elapsed. Nothing could have been more gloomy than the prospects of the Continent and of Great Britain at the close of the year 1807. As Austria had shewn herself too weak ever to attempt a diversion, while the common enemy was breaking down the power of Prussia, and humbling Russia, it was impossible for those who wished most ardently for the deliverance of Europe, to conceive by what power, or combination of powers, it could hereafter be effected. Prussia appeared not only to have been conquered, but even (as Mr. Burke once said of France) to be blotted out from the list of nations and from the map of Europe. Her great military power was not only taken away from the strength of Europe, but the greater part of her celebrated army was incorporated with the armies of those vassal states, which the common enemy had created for the purpose of forwarding his views to universal empire. The pride of Russia has been completely humbled at the battle of Friedland, and by the disgraceful treaty of Tilsit. The Emperor Alexander convinced the world, that no hopes were to be formed from any thing of firmness or vigour, which had hitherto been supposed to belong to his private character. Before his territories had been invaded, or the energies of his country tried, he accepted such a peace as a sovereign who possessed any portion of the spirit of Peter the Great would not have signed, if the French army had been before Petersburg. By this treaty he agreed to give up Moldavia and Wallachia, which he had conquered from the Turks: he also agreed to give up the mouths of the Cattaro, the Russian forts in Dalmatia, and the Island of Corfu: by this means surrendering the claims and views which Russia had so long entertained for the dismemberment of Turkey, to the French Emperor, who had professed to take that country under his high protection. If it was degrading to the sovereign of forty millions of people to purchase security from attack by such great sacrifices, the Emperor Alexander was still more degraded by what he was obliged to take from his conqueror, than in what he gave up. He accepted of a part of the dominions of his ally the King of Prussia; a part which was too small to give any sensible increase to the strength of Russia, but sufficiently large to shew the world that he was no more restrained by any feelings of honour or of principle, than the French Emperor. Having consented to share in the spoils of his ally, he was admitted into Bonaparte's legion of honour, and consented to receive, as French ambassador, *Caulincourt*, the murderer of the Duke D'Enghien, a worthy representative of his master. When it is recollected, that the murder of the Duke D'Enghien was the circumstance which first induced the Emperor of Russia to take up arms against France, it is hardly possible to conceive a greater personal humiliation than, to be



obliged to receive in the honourable character of ambassador, the man who was the principal instrument in that scene. It would have been a less humiliation to have been obliged publicly, and in the face of Europe, to beg pardon of Bonaparte for having expressed grief at the death of that unfortunate prince, than to be obliged to hold daily conferences with one of his murderers. It was necessary, however, for the policy of Bonaparte, that Alexander should always feel his inferiority; that his mind should be fully impressed with the idea, that it was only by following the system which France should dictate, that he could entertain any hopes of gratifying his own private ambition. While he continued to act as an obedient vassal, Bonaparte allowed him to pursue some of his favourite schemes of ambition.

Although France had stipulated at the treaty of Tilsit, that Moldavia and Wallachia should be restored to the Porte, she allowed the Russian armies still to occupy them, and pointed out a new object of ambition to Alexander in the conquest of Sweden. In consideration of those advantages, Alexander was obliged to enter completely into that system of vassalage which is called by Bonaparte, *the system of the Continent*; to cut off all commercial relations with Great Britain, and afterwards to declare war formally against this country. The Russian declaration of war is one of the feeblest state papers that we have ever seen. The attack of Copenhagen, and the not assisting her allies in the war, were the principal grounds of reproach against this country. His

Majesty's answer to this declaration completely refuted the frivolous accusations which formed the substance of it, referred to the state papers published at the time, which justified the expedition on the ground of necessary self-defence, and treated the Russian declaration as merely dictated by France. It concluded by declaring, that his majesty had no hostility to Russia, and that as soon as that power should emancipate herself from her dependance on France, the old relations of peace and friendship between the two countries might be immediately restored.

As to the attack of Copenhagen, it has been completely justified upon the principle of absolute necessity, in as much as not only the known character of Bonaparte, but positive information from Portugal, left our ministers no room to doubt, but that it was the full intention of the French ruler to unite all the fleets of the continental powers in an attack upon these islands. The opposition in parliament condemned the measure violently, on the ground of its being inconsistent with that morality for which the British nation had always been so justly distinguished. It was retorted upon them by ministers, that (when in power) they did not seem to be guided by that new morality, when they attacked Constantinople, and endeavoured to carry off the Turkish fleet, nor when they seized Alexandria, nor yet when they gave instructions to Lord St. Vincent with respect to the Portuguese fleet. These recriminations were not otherwise important than as tending to shew, that the arguments employed by opposition in the course of debate, were not the



principles which had governed them when in power. The only doubt that now exists of the measure being perfectly justifiable, is, with respect to the extent and degree of danger to this country from allowing the Danish fleet to be armed and equipped; for if the capture or destruction of that fleet was essential to the security of this country, all the world must acknowledge the measure to be justified by the necessity in which it originated: self-defence, which is the first law of nature, is also the first principle of morality, and there is no maxim in politics more universally assented to, than that "*salus populi suprema lex est.*" As to the other reproach which was thrown out against this country by Russia, and in the justice of which all Europe agreed, that we were the first to stimulate others to war, and the last to expose ourselves to the dangers of it, this reproach appeared but too well founded. It was certainly impossible for England to send armies to the defence of the Continent equal to those which France could pour forth for its subjugation; but it by no means followed, that because we could not be principals in a continental war, we should therefore give no military assistance to those who were fighting the battles of Europe; nor does it seem to be a necessary consequence, that because we were *unable to do every thing*, that therefore we should *do nothing*. It was utterly inconceivable to the people of the Continent, that this united kingdom, with its population of sixteen millions, with an immense army *upon paper*, and having abundant means to equip and ships to convey her armies, should yet see

nation after nation overthrown without making the slightest effort to save them. Bonaparte took advantage of this feeling upon the Continent, to calumniate the British nation, to describe them as worthless and dangerous allies, and to make all other nations at least indifferent about the fate of this country. On the 17th of December, 1807, he published his celebrated decree at Milan, declaring the British islands in a state of blockade, and *denationalizing* the ships of any neutral power which submitted to be searched at sea by British ships of war. At this time there was not a spot of the Continent of Europe open to British commerce except Sweden; and the United States of America had, by their non-importation and embargo laws, entered into the views of Bonaparte. This country was threatened not only with the loss of its commerce, with famine in the case of a bad harvest, but with the physical force of all Europe combined and directed by the genius and energy of the ruler of France.

Such was the situation of the country at the conclusion of the year 1807. On the first day of the year 1808, the Austrian ambassador, Count Stahrenburgh, presented a note to Mr. Canning, the secretary for foreign affairs, stating that he was authorized (but not mentioning whether by his own master or Bonaparte), to propose that this country should send plenipotentiaries to Paris to treat for peace. The answer of our government was, that we were also disposed for peace, but that before plenipotentiaries were appointed, it was necessary to know on what terms France was willing to treat. A few days after receiving this answer,

Count Stahrenburgh applied for his passport and left the country. In both the overture of Count Stahrenburgh and the offer of Russia to mediate after the treaty of Tilsit (in which a month was the time specified for England to express her assent), Bonaparte seemed to adopt a tone more resembling a summons to the garrison of a besieged city, than a proposal of sincere peace to a great and equal power. If ministers had discovered an eagerness to welcome proposals offered in such a tone, they would have compromised the honour and security of the country; for every Briton must feel, that there could be neither honour nor security in any treaty which implied a superiority in our enemy. He had some grounds for assuming a tone of superiority over those continental nations which he had conquered, but certainly not towards this country, over which no triumph had been obtained. The conduct of ministers on these occasions was arraigned in parliament by some of their opponents, who seemed to think peace upon any terms desirable, and who appeared to be so dazzled with the genius of Bonaparte, and the splendour of his successes, as to consider him invincible. The present ministers, however, in this most alarming crisis, did not despair of the fortunes of their country, and the result has already justified their hopes. There can be no doubt that the prospects of this country and of Europe are brighter than they were at the close of the year 1807, or than they would have been if England had condescended to accept what Bonaparte had been pleased to dictate under the name of peace.

The principal events which mark the history of the year 1808, are the attempts made by the Emperor of Russia (under the dictation of Bonaparte) to subjugate Sweden, the attempts of Bonaparte to make himself absolute master of Spain, the expulsion of the French troops from Portugal, the incorporation of the Papal territories and Tuscany with the French empire, the armaments in Austria, and the revolutions in Turkey. The general result of these operations has been, that Russia in a whole year has not been able to conquer Sweden, or advance beyond the province of Finland; while, on the other hand, she has lost a fleet at Lisbon, and has been defeated in a naval action in the Baltic. The French Emperor, who governed Spain completely by his influence, has put every thing to hazard in order to obtain the appearance only of a more complete and absolute dominion over that country: in this attempt he has experienced great losses, and whatever may be the final issue of it, it appears almost certain, that Spanish America, and probably the Spanish navy, will be withdrawn from his influence; while Spain will, for many years, whether victorious or beaten, employ a considerable portion of his armies. On the side of Austria and Turkey, Europe appears to have gained considerably in strength during the year. Austria has at length learned in the school of adversity, that regular armies are not sufficient to save a country from such an enemy as Bonaparte. The Emperor of Austria has appealed to the spirit of his people, and they have answered his utmost wishes. By the immense levies which have been made, and the organization



of their national militia, the defensive force of Austria has been nearly doubled in the course of the present year. The Turkish empire, which appeared sunk to the lowest degree of weakness, has gained considerably in strength by its last revolution; and by the energy and talents displayed by its grand vizier, Mustapha Bairactar, it is no longer that feeble country over which a French army might march without opposition to the conquest of Persia and India. Turkey, like Austria, now presents to view a great nation preparing itself for an important crisis. The prejudices of ages have yielded to the necessity of the times, and Eastern Europe may yet present a formidable barrier against the universal empire to which Bonaparte aspires. To these events we must also add, the experiment which the United States of America have made, of starving Europe into compliance with their terms, by the operation of their embargo act: an experiment which, however, has completely failed; for, besides that they have been the principal, if not the only sufferers, they have taught our West India planters to appreciate their own resources, and have lent a fostering hand to the more extended cultivation of our own Transatlantic dominions. From these considerations it will appear, that the prospects of the world are somewhat brighter now, than they were at the close of the year 1807.

The war which the Emperor of Russia commenced against Sweden in the beginning of 1808, was not preceded by any provocation or cause of complaint on the part of the King of Sweden. The Emperor Alexander (under the dictation

of Bonaparte) invited him to join in a confederacy against England: he refused to do so, and the emperor immediately published a declaration of war against him, on the ground, that "the relations between Russia and Sweden must be no longer uncertain." The court of Denmark also about the same time published a declaration of war against Sweden, containing the same expression. This phrase was evidently of French origin, and meant that Sweden must resign its own independence, and act in the same manner that Bonaparte prescribed to his other vassals. The King of Sweden answered the Russian manifesto with great firmness, and stated that he had resisted an offer made to him in the last year by Bonaparte, of recovering all the provinces which Charles XII. had lost to Russia, if he would join the continental confederacy against England. Formidable preparations of war were made both by Russia and Denmark. A very considerable Russian army entered Swedish Finland in the month of February, and threatened nothing less than to march to Stockholm in the course of the campaign: a combined French and Danish army threatened to cross the Sound, and invade Sweden in that quarter; fortunately, however, for the King of Sweden, the capture of the Danish fleet in the preceding year rendered this measure impracticable. He, on his side, made vigorous preparations for carrying on the war against both Russia and Denmark: he sent a considerable army into Finland, and another force to invade Norway. On the side of Norway, the Swedish troops had at the commencement of the campaign considerable advantages,

but were afterwards obliged to return to their old positions. On the side of Finland, the Swedish armies have fought with considerable spirit, and have often defeated the Russian armies; but they were never able to repair the losses that had been sustained in the first irruption of the Russian army, which advancing unexpectedly and with an immense superiority of force, occupied the whole of Southern Finland, and captured the strong town of Sweaburgh, in the first two months of the war. The Swedish troops have, however, shewn the most distinguished bravery, and the Russians appear unequal to the execution of their threat of marching to Stockholm. When it was known in England, that the Emperor of Russia had thus unexpectedly declared war against our ally, and that Sweden was threatened on all sides by enemies, no time was lost by the present ministers to send a considerable force to his assistance. Alexander had chosen the season of winter for his attack, both because the morasses of Finland are then frozen over and present no obstacles to the march of an army, and because at that season of the year no British auxiliary force could enter the Baltic. The fortress of Sweaburgh for the same reasons was unable to offer any effectual resistance, and the grand Swedish flotilla, which was locked up in the harbour by frost, fell into the hands of the Russians. No sooner, however, was the Baltic open to a British fleet, than it was entered, not only by a considerable naval force, but an expedition consisting of near 15,000 men, under the command of Sir John Moore, arrived at Gottenburgh. This force

was sent unasked for, but the danger of Sweden appeared to require it. At the time of their arrival a great difference of opinion arose between the King of Sweden and the British general about the mode of employing these troops: all that is publicly known of the dispute is, that the King of Sweden, considering his frontiers safe on the side of Norway, and not fearing an invasion from Copenhagen, wished to employ the British troops in Finland, upon expeditions which appeared to Sir John Moore to be very imprudent. The King of Sweden was irritated at the opposition to his views, and the British army returned. It has never been publicly stated what were the proposed expeditions of which Sir John Moore disapproved, but it was evident, that upon the arrival of the British force at Gottenburgh, Sweden was not on that side exposed to so much danger as was apprehended, and that the continuance of a British force in that neighbourhood would be unnecessary. The return of the British expedition did not, however, alter the disposition of the King of Sweden, who continued the war with great firmness, and accepted with thankfulness the naval assistance which this country afforded him.

The great event, however, which marks the history of the year 1808, and which (if Providence so wills it) may form a new æra in the history of the world, is, the rising of the Spanish nation against Bonaparte. Although the French troops have a second time entered Madrid, the final issue of that struggle has not been yet determined; and if the just cause of Spain should ultimately prevail, the independence of



the other nations of Europe may yet be secured, and ultimately be freed from the apprehension of falling under the degrading yoke of an upstart military adventurer, who boldly and without disguise avows his intention of reducing all nations to an obedience to his will. The principal events of the Spanish revolution are so fresh in the recollection of our readers, that it will be unnecessary to repeat them, and it would much exceed our limits to dwell upon the events which have recently taken place in that country. There can be no doubt but that there has for many years existed among the grandees of Spain an ardent feeling for the honour of their country, and a deep-rooted indignation against that upstart favourite, the Prince of the Peace, whose base policy had reduced Spain so low as to be considered by Bonaparte as a part of his federative empire. The marching of French armies through Spain under pretence of occupying Portugal, and afterwards the treacherous occupation of Barcelona and Pampeluna by the French, opened the eyes of the Spanish nation. The tumult at Aranjuez made the old king think it prudent to abdicate his crown, and his son was welcomed to the throne and proclaimed with the greatest enthusiasm all over Spain. The treachery by which Bonaparte persuaded the royal family of Spain to meet him at Bayonne, their forced abdication, and subsequent imprisonment, the entrance of the French into Madrid, and the massacre of the 2d of May, are events fresh in the recollection of every body. The consequence has been, the simultaneous rising of all the provinces of Spain, the capture

of Dupont, the defeat of Moncey, the noble defence of Saragossa, and the struggle which Spain is now maintaining against the whole power of Bonaparte.

The great success which the Spaniards had in the beginning of the war, and the defeats and losses which the French armies sustained in Spain, raised the public feeling in this country to the highest enthusiasm, and to a confident hope that the time had at length arrived, that would witness the overthrow of the gigantic power of Bonaparte. He was considered as already conquered, and our politicians argued with considerable shew of reason, that if the Spanish people were able to do so much, unorganized, undisciplined, and unarmed, they would infinitely stronger after they had six months time to be armed, equipped, and organized. They also thought, that Bonaparte had been quite intoxicated with his former successes, and that he had committed a capital error in endeavouring to conquer by force a country which he before ruled completely by his influence. Whether this last opinion be well or ill founded, must be determined by the result; but there is no doubt, that having taken the resolution absolutely to conquer Spain, he took his measures with great craft and ability. Under the shew of marching through Spain to Portugal, he took care to seize the strong fortresses of Barcelona and Pampeluna. By fraud and treachery he got the whole royal family of Spain in his hands, and prevailed on them to abdicate their rights to the throne. He also got a number of the first personages in Spain to agree to the constitution

which was settled at Bayonne, and which was certainly better than the wretched form of government before subsisting in Spain. He offered this constitution with his brother Joseph for their king, and threatened them with subjugation in the event of their refusal. The army which he had in Spain was either not sufficiently numerous, or sufficiently well directed, to crush a general rising of the Spanish nation, but he was conscious of the great resources which he could bring up.

Austria was in the mean time making the most formidable preparations. The destruction of the Papal power, the seizing the persons of the royal family of Spain, and the avowed intention of conquering that country, made Austria clearly see the danger which awaited her if she continued any longer inert. Bonaparte perceived how formidable a diversion the Emperor of Austria was capable of making, and felt a chance there was of the rest

Europe following the example of him: he therefore left the frontier of Spain and went to Erfordt in Saxony, to meet the Emperor of Russia. In these conferences he established his ascendancy over Alexander, and all Europe were induced that the two emperors acted in the most perfect concert. Their imperial majesties, however, chose to put the farce of offering peace to Spain; but the terms of it were to abandon the Spanish nation (whom they were pleased to designate as rebels) should be abandoned. The emperor's ministers, however, properly rejected such an overture, and a declaration has been issued stating that the engagements of his majesty had contracted

with the Spanish nation were negotiations to all Europe, and that he should not depart from them. He spoke with great indignation of the indecorum of calling the whole Spanish nation insurgents, and expressed surprise at finding the Emperor of Russia so blindly led by the French Emperor, as to sanction the most monstrous usurpation which had ever been known in the history of the world. Such a declaration certainly did great credit to the feelings of the government, and might be productive of great benefit to the cause of Spain, if that cause is not already too far gone. Bonaparte advanced rapidly from Erfordt to the frontiers of Spain, and took the command of the great army which had been marching to that country while he was holding conferences with the Emperor of Russia. His campaign has hitherto been brilliant: he has defeated the armies of Blake and Castanos, and entered Madrid as a conqueror. Whether his armies are sufficiently numerous to occupy all Spain, or whether the Spanish nation has sufficient spirit and resources to expel his armies a second time, remains yet to be decided.

The grand question now with respect to British politics is this: Has the country done its duty? or have ministers done their duty in giving adequate support to the cause of Spain? There is no doubt but that we have been liberal in granting all manner of supplies, of money, arms, and ammunition: Spain has acknowledged this service with the sincerest gratitude. As to our armies, the Spaniards did not in the first instance wish for their co-operation. The junta of Seville politely



refused the offered co-operation of General Spencer's corps with that of Castanos in the attack of Dupont; and the junta of Galicia, even after the unfortunate battle of *Rio Seco*, did not wish Sir Arthur Wellesley to co-operate with their army under Blake. Neither the great Northern nor the great Southern army of Spain wished our direct co-operation, and each of them pointed out, that the most effectual service we could render Spain, was to expel the French from Portugal. This service has been rendered, but not in a manner to satisfy the first expectations of the nation. A public inquiry has been instituted into the causes of the convention by which the French were allowed to evacuate Portugal with their arms and baggage; and as far as public opinion can judge, on the evidence which has been laid before the Court of Inquiry, its result must be, that Sir Arthur Wellesley would have made the victory of Vimeira most glorious and decisive, if he had not been restrained by Sir Harry Burrard; and that by the favourable opportunity being lost, the situation of the French was

so much improved, that, in the opinion of all the other lieutenant-generals, as well as Sir Hew Dalrymple, they were entitled to the favourable terms of the convention. As far as the question relates to ministers, it is now reduced to this, was it that recommended Sir Harry Burrard to be employed, and then by superseded Sir Arthur Wellesley in the command of our army in Portugal? Whether there has been an unnecessary delay in marching the British army from Portugal to Spain, does not as yet appear. The feeling of this nation for the cause of Spain is so general and so strong that we may venture to say, a point upon which the merits of the administration could be now considered to turn, is, whether it had done enough for Spain? or whether it was not possible for them to have done something more than they have done? On these questions, opinions of the ablest men in the nation will be pronounced in the proaching parliament, and in the next publication we shall be able to enter more fully into the consideration of them.

## LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE Medical and Chirurgical Society of London will shortly publish the first volume of their Records. It will contain some very valuable contributions from practitioners of first-rate eminence in the metropolis.

Mr. George Montague's supplement to his *History of British Shells* is nearly ready for publication.

The Rev. R. Nares will shortly put to press a *Dictionary of the Middle Language of England*, or

the *Age of Shakspeare*, on the plan of *Johnson's Dictionary*.

Dr. C. Burney has nearly completed, at the Cambridge press, a very learned work on the *Chorus of Æschylus*, and it will soon be published.

Mr. Beloe's third volume of *Anecdotes of Literature and Science* will appear in the course of this month.

The author of the *Military Dictionary* is preparing for publication

three volumes of *Essays on the Art of War*, and on *Modern Military Tactics*.

Mr. John Murdoch of Hartstreet, has nearly completed a work which he intends to publish by subscription, to be entitled the *Dictionary of Distinctions*, which is to consist of three alphabets, containing, 1. Words the same in sound, but of different spelling and signification, including such as have any similarity of sound. 2. Words that vary in pronunciation and meaning, as accentuated or connected. 3. The changes in sound and sense produced by the addition of the letter *e*.

The Board of Agriculture proceed in their design of completing the County Reports. Berkshire, Leicestershire, Oxfordshire, and Derbyshire, are in the press, and expected to appear shortly.

We allow a greater proportion of room to our examination of the two following articles, because we think their merits are not sufficiently known or appreciated.

*Commercial Arithmetic, or a new method for teaching that science with facility, and of enabling learners to instruct themselves without a master*, by Christopher Dubost, 1 vol. 12mo. pp. 228. 5s. 6d.

*The Elements of Commerce, or a treatise on different calculations, operations of exchange, arbitrations of exchange, speculations in exchange, and banking operations, exchange circulations, operations of specie and bullion, pars of exchange and coins, practical speculations in merchandize, description of monies, weights, and*

*measures, tables of monies, weights, and measures, tables of logarithms, being a complete system of commercial calculations*, by the same author, 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 868. 17. 5s.

Among the few publications of merit which the science of numbers has had to boast of for some years past, the above two works bear a prominent rank. To those students who value mathematical knowledge as much on account of the practical use of its rules, as for the habit of demonstrative deduction which the young mind imbibes by following, step by step, the chain of unerring evidence on which its theorems are progressively founded—Mr. Dubost's *Commercial Arithmetic* will prove a most useful and interesting production. The author appears, very justly, to differ, in opinion, from the generality of our writers on elementary arithmetics, who, to judge from their works, conceive that to be the easiest mode of teaching mathematics, which (dispensing with all reasoning) drily and mechanically dictates rule after rule, and depends on the credulity or confidence of the pupil for taking upon trust a volume of abstract precepts without any evidence of their truth; or which (advancing one step farther) ventures to add in abstruse algebraical notes (generally overlooked by the learner,) the proofs of the rules given in the text; methods which reduce the most elevated, and indeed the only certain branch of human knowledge to a mere mechanical operation, and cannot be too soon or too strongly discouraged, because they are founded on error; for experience has shewn, that the pupil will more



readily understand, and more firmly retain, that of which the truth has been brought home to his understanding, than a chaos of rules, which he has been made to learn by rote, however carefully and neatly he may have recorded the whole mass in his cyphering-book.

We do not apologize to our readers for this apparent aberration. It is the pedantic manner of teaching arithmetic at many of our *private* seminaries (for most of our eminent *public* schools consider any thing but Latin and Greek, and mathematics in particular, either below their dignity or beyond their province); it is, we are convinced, this pedantry of system, that creates the disgust in our youth for numerical science, and launches them into the counting-houses or public offices so totally ignorant of a branch of knowledge, the want of which they feel at every step in their career, without then having either the application or the time for supplying that chasm in their education.

Mr. Dubost's *Commercial Arithmetic* sets out from the first elements of the science, and gradually leads the learner from one problem to another, through every rule necessary for the purposes of a commercial life. His method, although singularly concise, is perspicuous; and his demonstrations will be found intelligible to the most common capacity, being unincumbered by algebraical notations. The manner in which he introduces the doctrine of decimals at the very outset of the work, by combining it at once with our numeral system, is novel and ingenious; the rule given for division of decimals (a

stumbling block in many arithmetical treatises) is both simple and well explained. The chapter on fractions is divested of its usually mysterious and dry complexion, and the rules for their multiplication and division are well defined and demonstrated. The rule of three is, as it ought to be, built upon geometrical proportion; and from the same doctrine Mr. D. has deduced one of the most important, though least understood, rules in commercial arithmetic, the *rule of equation*, or, as it is generally termed by such of our English arithmeticians as have noticed this species of calculation at all, *conjoined proportion*, upon which, as he justly observes, the principal calculations on business are founded.

The few pages devoted to the article of exchanges are sufficient to give correct ideas of a subject, which, in most elementary treatises we know of, is little more than a confused compilation of antiquated and erroneous statements, copied from preceding works equally loose and incorrect in that respect. A short chapter comprehending the first rudiments of algebra closes the work. Here the few analytical questions appear to us so judiciously chosen, and their solution developed in so clear and systematic a manner, as to persuade us that this little appendix will tend, not only to remove the terror with which young beginners in mathematics are accustomed to view that science, but even to stimulate their ardour for the attainment of ulterior perfection therein.

Such are the leading features of this valuable little treatise. It is but justice due to its author, whom

we have not the pleasure of knowing, to give our most cordial approbation to his efforts; and strongly to recommend his *Commercial Arithmetic* as a standard work both for our seminaries and for private or self instruction, convinced as we are, that it will not fail to extend and diffuse mathematical knowledge among the rising generation.

Mr. Dubost's *Elements of Commerce* may be looked upon as the sequel to his *Commercial Arithmetic*. Its principal contents will be found enumerated in the title-page. That a work of this description, involving the whole theory of commerce, should so long have remained a desideratum in a country where trade has been carried to the greatest extent and highest degree of perfectibility, has, in some measure, the appearance of a paradox; but it ought to be remembered, that the best treatises on subjects of any particular science have rarely emanated from the country where that science has been most successfully cultivated. The publications both old and modern, exclusively treating of exchange, monies, weights, and measures, which, from time to time, have been published in this country, do not contradict our assertion. The greater number of them teem with errors of incorrectness or ignorance, nay, frequently with downright nonsense, copied from the nonsense of preceding publications. Their authors have preferred such a mode of writing to the trouble of searching into the classic works of a Kruse, Gerhardt, Reichenbrecher, Paucton, Riccard, Girardeau, and others on the same subject. A reproach of this nature does not attach to Mr. F

host: he not only appears to have diligently consulted many of the above writers, but also to have obtained much original information from personal experience and observation, embracing the most recent changes in different countries.

It is not within our limits to present our readers with a regular abstract of the contents of a work so elaborate and comprehensive as the present treatise; we therefore shall content ourselves with tracing a short sketch of the author's plan. It sets out with an exposition of the different calculations occurring in mercantile transactions, as Tare, Tret, Commission, Insurance, Interest, Discount, &c. exemplified by apposite practical questions. This chapter, as well as every subsequent one, is preceded by an appropriate and in many instances philosophical introduction, setting forth the nature and primary principles of the particular subject under consideration. Mr. D. next proceeds to the subject of exchange, which he prefaces by a full illustration of the necessary arithmetical rules, and particularly of the *Rule of Equidion* universally adopted throughout his work. After elucidating the operations of exchange for every commercial place of note throughout the world in upwards of 200 pages, he enters on the important doctrine of arbitrations of exchanges, and illustrates by copious and well selected examples the mode of deducing a proportionate rate of exchange between two places, from the known quotations of the courses of one or more intermediate cities: and in the next chapter, on banking operations, Mr. D. points out the rules for computing the present loss



on projected speculations in matters of exchange by means of arbitrations.

The first volume concludes with a view of *Exchange Circulations*, which are classed under two heads:

“1. Operations by which the possessors of limited capital are enabled to undertake and sustain concerns of far greater magnitude, or by which a competency to future responsibility is made subservient to immediate or ultimate advantage.

“2. Operations to which government and public establishments have occasional recourse, either to fulfil subsidiary treaties, or to procure the importation of bullion and specie, or to effect a rise or fall in exchanges.”

As an instance of a speculation of the latter kind, Mr. D. gives a very interesting account of an operation by which Spain was enabled to discharge her subsidy to the French government in the year 1804, at a time when the resources of that peninsula had, by epidemical disease, famine, a paralyzed commerce, and the non-arrival of the expected galleons from America, been reduced to the lowest ebb of insolvency, and when the modern Attila, unmoved by such accumulated distress, sternly insisted on the immediate payment of his tribute. In this dilemma French ingenuity, which has perfected the art of rapine and plunder into a system, was not deficient in expedients. An exchange circulation, in which London itself acted a prominent part, was forthwith set on foot between the principal commercial cities in Europe, whose wealthy merchants supported the operation with their capital and credit. The bills were drawn from one

place on a second, from a second on a third, and so on. For these bills France obtained present cash, while the period consumed by their circulation enabled Spain to await the arrival of bullion from her colonies, and thereby to appropriate in time sufficient funds for the discharge of the debt afloat; an object which appears to have been attained in the end with even considerable advantage to Spain.

In the second volume Mr. D. proceeds to the operations of specie and bullion. The examples given under this head, embracing not only the principal gold and silver coins of every country, but also the mode of estimating those metals in bars, are copious and clear. His definition and illustration of *Par of Exchange*, an expression so frequently used and so little understood by many merchants themselves, are at once novel, correct, and intelligible to any reader of common sense. A separate chapter on practical speculations in merchandize is next introduced, and immediately followed by the important subject of monies, weights, and measures, alphabetically arranged according to the names of the countries and places which have any pretensions to mercantile notice. The republican innovations in the monies, coins, weights, and measures of France, are here fully explained under their proper heads; and other modern changes relating to this subject, are duly noticed in their respective places. Eleven voluminous tables are added, exhibiting at one view the comparative proportions between the monies of exchange, coins, measures, and weights of foreign countries, and those of England. And

this volume, finally, concludes with a brief exposition of the doctrine of logarithms, and a logarithmical table especially adapted to this treatise. Such an appendix was necessary to the plan of the author, since, wherever his calculations throughout the work could be abridged by the use of logarithms, he has availed himself of their assistance; not, however, without explaining the nature of their application in every case so fully as to enable the student to adopt them in any other corresponding calculation.

Such are the outlines of a performance which reflects the highest degree of credit on its author. We feel pleasure in taking upon ourselves the responsibility of an unqualified recommendation, and sincerely hope Mr. Dubost's labours will be rewarded by the introduction of his *Elements of Commerce* into every counting-house of respectability in this country.

There are but few of the musical productions of the last year that can support any pretensions beyond those of humble mediocrity. That the English nation can be pleased, or even amused with the wretched operatical odes which have been produced during this period, is a strong proof (if others were wanting), that our taste for music is on the decline. That we have exchanged melody for counterpoint, and difficulties of laboured execution for substantial harmony, has long been observed and regretted; but since the revival of a taste for music in this country, we have seldom had the opportunity of noticing compositions so destitute even of novelty. It will afford us much higher satis-

faction to recommend the effusions of taste and science, than to undergo the drudgery of examining productions revolting to every principle of both. We shall only notice a few.

The music of the *Opera of Kais*, by Braham and Reeve, is inferior to their former productions. The only pieces entitled to praise are, "Sad, sad is my heart," Braham's songs, "Slow broke the morn," and "On this cold flinty rock." The quartett at the end of the first act is also well managed.

*The Jew of Mogadore.* The music of this opera is in the worst style of compilation by Kelly. With the exception of Braham's song, "Relics of my faithful crew," there is nothing worth notice.

*The Exile.* Mr. Mazzinghi deserves considerable praise for the knowledge of instrumentaleffect that he has displayed in the overture to this melo-dramatic opera. The slow movement is particularly good. We are sorry we cannot bestow equal commendation on the vocal part. The two songs by Mrs. Dickens are the only good ones in the piece, and these suffer much by the affected manner in which she sings them. This lady's singing would produce more effect, if she were to determine not to suffer her naturally good taste to be vitiated by the present rage for exuberant ornaments and unmeaning flourishes. We think also, that the too frequent use of wind instruments in accompanying the voice, produces a monotonous effect. The songs allotted to Incedon are not at all adapted to the display of his powers to advantage.

*Venoni.* Kelly has selected a very



first opening to the overture of this piece: the transition to the key of D-flat is masterly, and prepares the hearer for something superior to the usual, trifling, contemptible style of modern overtures; but it ends in disappointment, as the allegro movement is a mere collection of commonplace, vulgar passages. The glee sung by Mr. Smith, Masters Durousset and Huckel, is pretty, but the melody too closely resembles the air of "The Beggar Girl," and some part of "All's well." Master Durousset possesses an excellent voice, particularly in his lower tones: he has also a very fine shake: but his ear appears to us very defective, as he is sometimes nearly half a note too sharp. Mr. Smith has a fine voice, but his style is neither chaste or polished.

The Rev. Dr. Vincent is preparing to publish the Greek Text of Arrian's *Indica* and the *Periplus*; with a translation, to accompany his comments on those works.

The Rev. Dr. Rees, editor of the New Cyclopaedia, has in the press two volumes of *Sermons*, on practical and interesting subjects, which will be published early in the spring.

Mr. C. Sylvester, of Derby, has in the press an *Elementary Treatise on Chemistry*, the plan of which is said to be in many respects original.

The Rev. John Robinson, of Ravenstonedale, is engaged on a *Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Dictionary*; a work of considerable interest, being intended to comprise whatever is known concerning the antiquities of the Hebrews, and to form a body of scripture history, geography, chronology, divinity, and ecclesiastical opinions.

The Rev. W. L. Bowles will shortly publish a third volume of *Poems*.

Mr. Francis Lathom is engaged on a fiction, entitled *the Romance of the Hebrides*.

Mr. Polwhele is employed in collecting the correspondence and papers of his late friend and neighbour, Mr. Whitaker, with a view to the publication of his *Memoirs* in a quarto volume.

Mr. Bigland's *View of the World* is in a state of great forwardness at press, and will extend to five octavo volumes.

Mr. Donovan is preparing for publication a Continuation of his *History of British Birds*.

Mr. Oulton has in the press a *Collection of Poems*, chiefly comic, containing burlesque translations of Ovid and Horace, dramatic and miscellaneous pieces.—Also, *Letters from a Father to a Daughter on Female Education*, with appropriate directions for instructing young ladies.

Mr. Tannton, surgeon to the City and Finsbury Dispensaries, will shortly publish a small work on *Pathology*, illustrated by engravings.

Mr. Thomas Green, of Liverpool, a youth of 17, has in the press a volume of *Poems*, which will appear early in this month.

*The Muses' Bower*, a selection of the most favourite poetical pieces, in four small volumes, is on the eve of publication.

Mr. Molineux, of Macclesfield, has in the press, in post quarto, the *Shorthand Instructor, or Stenographical Copy-book*; designed as a companion to his Introduction to Mr. Byron's Shorthand.

A new edition, very much improved and corrected, of Langhorne's *Plutarch*, by the Rev. Francis Wrangham, will appear this month.

A new edition of Mr. Thoratton's *Present State of Turkey*, with very considerable additions and alterations, including a map of the Turkish empire and a plan of Constantinople, is expected to appear this month.

The Rev. J. Gordon's *History of Ireland* has been translated into French, and published at Paris in three octavo volumes.

*The History of Chili*, natural, civil, and political, translated from the Italian of Abbé Molina, with notes from the Spanish and French versions, is in the press at New-York, in two octavo volumes. This work will be reprinted in London.

The second part of the *Philosophical Transactions* contains,

xii. Observations of a comet, made with a view to investigate its magnitude and the nature of its illumination; to which is added an account of a new irregularity lately perceived in the apparent figure of the planet Saturn, by William Herschel, LL. D. F. R. S....p. 145.

xiii. Hydraulic investigations subservient to an intended Croonian Lecture on the motion of the blood, by Thomas Young, M. D. For. Sec. R. S....p. 161.

xiv. A letter on the alterations that have taken place in the structure of rocks on the surface of the basaltic country in the counties of Kerry and Antrim, addressed to Humphry Davy, Esq. Sec. R. S. by William Richardson, D. D. p. 187.

xv. A letter on the differences in the structure of calculi, which

arise from their being formed in different parts of the urinary passages, and on the effects that are produced on them by the internal use of solvent medicines, from Mr. William Brande to Edward Home, Esq. F. R. S....p. 223.

xvi. Some observations on Mr. Brande's paper on calculi, by Everard Home, Esq. F. R. S....p. 244.

xvii. On the changes produced in atmospheric air and oxygen gas by respiration, by William Allen, Esq. F. R. S. and W. H. Pepys, Esq. F. R. S....p. 249.

xviii. Description of an apparatus for the analysis of the compound inflammable gases by slow combustion, with experiments on the gas from coal, explaining its application, by William Henry, M. D. vice-president of the Lit. and Phil. Society, and physician to the infirmary at Manchester, communicated by Humphrey Davy, Esq. Sec. R. S....p. 282.

xix. An account of some peculiarities in the anatomical structure of the womb, with observations on the female organs of generation, by Everard Home, Esq. F. R. S....p. 304.

xx. On the origin and office of the albumen of trees, in a letter from T. A. Knight, Esq. F. R. S. to Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K. B. P. R. S....p. 313.

xxi. Eclipses of the satellites of Jupiter, observed by John Goldingham, Esq. F. R. S. and under his superintendence at Madras in the East Indies....p. 322.

xxii. Electro-chemical researches on the decomposition of the earths, with observations on the metals obtained from the alkaline earths, and on the amalgam procur-



ed from ammonia, by Humphrey Davy, Esq. Sec. R. S. M. R. I. A. ....p. 333.

Presents received by the Royal Society from November 1807, to July 1808....p. 371.

Index....p. 377.

The ninth volume of the Transactions of the Linnean Society is published, and the following are the contents:—1. The genus *apion* of Herbst's *Natursystem* considered, its character laid down, and many of the species described, by the Rev. William Kirby, F. L. S. 2. Description of several marine animals found on the south coast of Devonshire, by George Montagu, Esq. F. L. S.—3. An account of the Indian badger, the *ursus Indicus* of Shaw's *Zoology*, by lieutenant-colonel Thomas Hardwick, F. L. S.—4. A botanical sketch of the genus *conchium*, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—5. An inquiry into the genus of the tree called by Pona Ablicca *cretica*, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—6. An inquiry into the real *daucus gtingidium* of Linnæus, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—7. Descriptions of eight new British *lichens*, by Dawson Turner, Esq. F. R. S. A. S. and L. S.—8. An illustration of the species of *lycium*, which grow wild at the Cape of Good Hope, by Sir Charles Peter Thunberg, Knight of the Order of Wasa, professor of botany at Upsal, F. M. L. S.—9. Some observations on an insect that destroys the wheat, supposed to be the wire-worm, by Thomas Watford, Esq. F. A. S. and L. S. with an additional note by Thomas Marsham, Esq. Treas. L. S.—10. An

account of the larger and lesser species of horseshoe bats, proving them to be distinct, together with a description of *vespertilio barbastellus*, taken in the south of Devonshire, by George Montague, Esq. F. R. S.—11. Descriptions of two new species of *didelphis*, from Van Diemen's Land, by G. P. Harris, Esq. communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K. B. Pres. R. S. H. M. L. S.—12. Description of a species of *dimorpha*, by Edward Rudge, Esq. F. R. S. and L. S.—13. Some interesting additions to the natural history of *falco cyaneus* and *pygargus*, together with remarks on some other British birds, by George Montagu, Esq. F. R. S.—14. An account of some new species of *piper*, with a few cursory observations on the genus, by Mr. John Vaughan Thompson, communicated by the Right Hon. Lord Seaforth, F. R. S. and L. S.—15. An inquiry into the structure of seeds, and especially into the true nature of that part called by Gartner the *vitellus*, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—16. Observations on *nauclea gambir*, the plant producing the drug called *gutta gambier*, with characters of two other species, by William Hunter, Esq. secretary to the Asiatic Society, communicated by the president.—17. Observations respecting several British species of *hieracium*, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—18. Specific characters of the decandrous papilionaceous plants of New Holland, by James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.—19. On the variegation of plants, in a letter to Richard Anthony Salisbury, Esq. F. R. S. and L. S. by Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq.



F.R.S. and L.S.—20. Characters of *Hookeria*, a new genus of mosses, with descriptions of ten species, by James Edward Smith, M.D. F.R.S. P.L.S.—21. Description of *notoclea*, a new genus of coleopterous insects from New Holland, by Thomas Marsham, Esq. Tr. L.S.—22. Some remarks on the plants now referred to *sophora*, with characters of the genus *Edwardsia*, by R.A. Salisbury, Esq.—23. Characters of *platylobium*, *bossiaea*, and of a new genus named *poireta*, by James Edward Smith, M.D. F.R.S. P.L.S.—24. *Musci nepalenses*, or descriptions of several new mosses from Nepal, by W. Jackson Hooker, Esq. F.L.S.—25. Extracts from the minute-book of the Linnean Society of London—catalogue of the library of the Linnean Society—list of donors to the library of the Linnean Society.

#### ROYAL SOCIETY.

This society assembled after the summer vacation on Thursday, Nov. 10, 1808, the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, president, in the chair. The secretary read a summary of M. de Luc's paper on the action of electricity and galvanism, or the electrospectral agency of electric and galvanic matter. In this paper M. de Luc proved, that the galvanic and electric fluid are essentially the same: he also stated, that it passes through bodies without producing any chemical changes, unless the bodies were previously prepared and the electricity highly concentrated.

November 17—24. The Croonian Lecture on the muscles of the heart and the motion of the blood, by Dr. Young (Foreign Sec. R. S.) was read. This lecture was a continu-

ation of the author's former paper on the motion of fluids in elastic or flexible tubes. Dr. Y. took a view of the nature of fever, and its effects on the blood. He also gave a theory of mortification, which the Germans call a "cold burning."

A paper by Mr. Childers was read, containing some observations and experiments on the most economical means of constructing very powerful galvanic batteries.

#### WERNERIAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Wernerian Natural History Society, 1st Aug. Dr. James Ogilby of Dublin, read a very interesting account of the mineralogy of East Lothian, which appeared to have been drawn up from a series of observations, made with great skill, and was illustrated by a suite of 350 specimens laid upon the table. It is only by investigations like those of Dr. Ogilby, that we obtain any certainty respecting the mineral treasures of a country; and such alone can afford us data for a legitimate theory of the formation of the globe.

At the same meeting a communication from Colonel Montagu was read, describing a new species of fasciola, of a fed colour, and about an inch long, which sometimes lodges in the trachea of chickens, and which the colonel found to be the occasion of the distemper called the *gapes*, so fatal to these useful tenants of the poultry-yard. The knowledge of the true cause of this malady will, it is hoped, soon be followed by the discovery of a specific cure: in the mean time, a very simple, popular remedy is employed in Devonshire; the meat of the



chicks (barley or oat meal) is merely mixed up with urine, in place of water; and this prescription is very generally attended with the best effects.

At the meeting of this society on the 12th of November, the Rev. Andrew Jameson, minister of St. Mungo, Dumfriesshire, read observations on meteorological tables, with a description of a new anemometer. The anemometer which he described, will, by a very simple and ingenious arrangement of parts, enable the most common observer to ascertain the velocity of the wind with perfect accuracy.

At the same meeting, the Rev. John Fleming, F.R.S. Ed. minister of Bressay in Shetland, communicated an interesting account of the geognostic relations of the rocks in the islands of Unst and Papa Stour. As Mr. Fleming announced his intention of again examining the whole of the Shetland Islands, and of constructing mineralogical maps of them, in which the rocks should be laid down according to their relative antiquity and extent, much valuable information may be expected.

At the meeting of the society on the 19th of November, Mr. Mackenzie, jun. of Applecross, read a short account of the coal-formation in the vicinity of Durham.

At the same meeting, Dr. Ogilby of Dublin, read the continuation of his mineralogical description of East Lothian, describing the different veins which he observed in that tract of country.

At this meeting, also, Mr. P. Neill read an account of a great sea snake, lately cast ashore in Orkney.

This curious animal it appears, was stranded in Rothesholm bay, in the island of Stronsa: the body was unluckily knocked to pieces by a tempest, but the fragments have been collected by Mr. Laing, and are to be transmitted to the museum at Edinburgh. Mr. Neill concluded with remarking, that no doubt could be entertained, that this was the kind of animal described by Ramus, Egede, and Pontoppidan, but which scientific and systematic naturalists have hitherto rejected as spurious and ideal.

#### DUBLIN SOCIETY.

A letter, dated Manchester, and signed John Bradbury, was laid before the society at their late meeting, stating, that the proprietors of the Liverpool botanic garden had resolved on forming an establishment at New Orleans, America, with a view to collect the plants of Kentucky and Louisiana, and to transmit to England living duplicates of the plants which should be so collected and multiplied on such establishment; and desiring to be informed if the Dublin Society would, in consideration of green specimens of the same, contribute to the expence, their quota not to exceed 100*l.* per annum.

The secretary laid before the society a list of several valuable West Indian plants, presented to the society by Captain Burgh.

#### LECTURES.

*Royal Institution.*—The following arrangement is made for the lectures of the ensuing season; they commenced on Saturday the 17th of December, with an introductory lecture by Mr. Davy.

Experimental chemistry and electro-chemical science, by Humphry Davy, Esq. Sec. R.S.

Botany, by James Edward Smith, M.D. F.R.S. P.L.S.

Astronomy, by John Pond, Esq. F.R.S.

Grecian history and historians, by the Rev. William Crowe, public orator at the university of Oxford.

Perspective, by Mr. John Geo. Wood.

Music, by Mr. Samuel Wesley.

We cannot close this article of Literary Intelligence, without giving a brief retrospect of the *periodical publications* which relate to *natural history* that have lately appeared in this country. Natural history is a plant, which, even in a soil the most congenial to its growth, refuses to thrive, if unassisted by the fostering hand of power and wealth: there is no country more favourably situated for its cultivation than ours; none that can boast of greater resources and of men better qualified for promoting it—but still England does not appear to be the soil in which it exhibits its most luxuriant growth.

On taking a view of the numerous, splendid, and costly periodical publications in this science, with which the presses of a neighbouring nation (our rivals both in arms and science) are incessantly teeming—Vaillant's *Oiseaux d'Afrique*, Audubon's *Singes*, *Oiseaux Dorés*, Ventenat's *Jardin de Malmaison*, *Jardin de Cels*, Redorte's *Liliacées*, &c. we cannot conceal our astonishment at seeing such a multiplicity of the most sumptuous works go on at the same time without interfer-

ing; not to mention the host of cotemporary minor publications in this department of science, which are unworthy of support. In England, the promoters of natural history appear to be less ardent or less numerous, if we may judge from the number of publications that are daily commenced, and, after lingering for a short time, discontinued for want of encouragement: witness Bower's incomparable work the "*New Plants*," in the three published numbers of which the most remarkable heaths are depicted in a style of excellence eclipsing all similar works that have preceded in this or in any other country. Perhaps the price of this work was deemed too high; and indeed half-a-guinea a plate may be a consideration to many. But Roxburgh's "*Plants of Coromandel*," a work than which (at least as to the uncoloured copies) nothing has ever been sold at a cheaper rate, is likewise discontinued. Dr. Smith's "*Exotic Botany*"—But to give a list of all the monthly and other periodical publications on natural history that have met with an untimely fate within the last ten years, would occupy more space than we are willing to devote to such a melancholy subject: suffice it therefore to say a word or two of the living.

Dr. Shaw continues to make us acquainted with many interesting subjects of natural history in his "*Naturalist's Miscellany*," a work particularly interesting on account of the great variety of objects it comprehends, the materials of which are partly original and partly taken from works not accessible to the generality of the students in zoology. The figures are by the able



band of Mr. Nodder. The text accompanying them, it must be acknowledged is much to the purpose; but the author appears at present to be more brief and laconic in his descriptions than he originally proposed. Both Mr. Sowerby and Mr. Donovan continue their laudable exertions to render their countrymen familiar with indigenous natural productions, the former in his "*British Miscellany*," the latter in his "*Birds and Insects of Great Britain*." The figures they give are of various and unequal merit.

Botany has of late offered a richer harvest than the other branches of natural science. Not half a century ago, when the knowledge of the vegetable world was thought to possess no charms beyond those derived from converting herbs into nauseous medicines, this lovely science was almost exclusively cultivated by the physician and druggist; and "what is it good for?" was the first question suggested by the sight of a new or unknown plant. But when a less selfish philosophy taught us, that vegetables, as well as other objects, are capable of creating interest, and of affording rational pleasure, by the beauty of their form alone, and by the various relations in which we see them; and when thus the idea of physic merged in one far more pleasing, botany gradually became the general and favourite pursuit of the cultivated part of society, and proved a study equally well adapted to the turn of mind of the gravest philosopher, and to the task of the gayest among the fair, provided her heart be still open to those softer emotions which the contemplation of blooming nature seldom fails to produce. Indige-

nous botany appears to possess a greater number of votaries in this than in any other country, and publications relating to it are for the most part favourably received. But none, we suppose, ever met with greater success than "*English Botany*," the result of the joint labours of Dr. Smith and Mr. Sowerby; and deservedly too, for we know of no work on the Continent that can be compared with it: when completed, this work will be indispensable to the student of indigenous botany. Curtis's "*Botanical Magazine*," continued ever since the death of the original author, by Dr. John Sims, is the best conducted work of this kind we possess: the figures, by Mr. Edwards, though small, are uncommonly characteristic; and Dr. Sims's text, though often very concise, is amusing and instructive. Mr. Gawler, a gentleman who has made the liliaceous plants his particular study, likewise furnishes materials for this work, which appears to have a greater sale than any other publication of this kind either in this country or abroad. A comparatively new periodical work is Mr. Hooker's "*Paradisus Londinensis*," written by Mr. Salisbury, a profound botanist, though too much addicted to paradoxes. Mr. Hooker's figures are elegant, and upon the whole botanically correct. We wish this publication may not be discontinued. Mr. Andrews's "*Botanist Repository*" is taken up again, and continues to make the lovers of exotic botany acquainted with many curious productions of our hothouses and gardens. Mr. Andrews's style of painting is peculiar to himself: the "*Heaths*" and "*Roses*" of this artist are well known to ama-

teurs. We must not forget a work relating to indigenous botany, Mr. Dawson Turner's elaborate and elegant publication, "*The British Fuci*." Whoever is acquainted with the difficulties attending the examination and study of the cryptogamous marine plants, the most intricate of all the vegetable tribes, will readily join us in our wishes, that such a meritorious undertaking may be crowned with all the success it deserves. Mr. Dilwyr's "*British*

*Confervæ*" we suppose is discontinued.

In mineralogy we have to notice a periodical publication of the indefatigable Mr. Sowerby, entitled "*British Mineralogy*," in which he endeavours to depict, in their natural colours, the various minerals with which this island abounds. The idea is new, at least in this country, and executed with as much success as can be reasonably expected from so difficult an undertaking.

### MEDICAL REPORT.

FOR the last twelve months London has not been visited by any epidemic disease, or universally prevailing complaint. Typhus fever, at one time so much and so justly dreaded, is now scarcely known; not because a fever-house has been established to receive cases of this nature, and thus secure the poor from exposure to the contagion: however laudable and excellent this institution may be, we know that very few patients are admitted within its walls, because there are very few affected with the complaint. We must rather attribute the cause of this happy truce from the attack of contagious fever, to the plentiful and comparatively cheap supply of food: whilst the wages of labour are high, the industrious poor are able to obtain every necessary, and many of the comforts of the affluent. This induces a desire to improve their condition, they have a greater respect for themselves, they take more pains to keep their habitations clean; and where temperance, cleanliness, and plenty are combined, we need not fear the pre-

valence of contagion. It would not be difficult to lay down certain rules by which typhus fevers might be engendered. In corroboration of the opinion that scarcity essentially promotes fevers of this description, we may remark, that some years ago, when provisions, and particularly bread, were extremely scarce and dear in London, and the public mind was desponding, typhus fevers were both frequent and fatal.

Scarlet fever and measles (formerly we might have added, and the small-pox,) are seldom absent. In the spring of last year, measles spread throughout the metropolis and its environs; for, though it never occurs twice to the same individual, yet (children constantly coming into the world) the infection is readily continued, and probably there is also a certain state of atmosphere conducive to its propagation. In this climate, where the disposition to pulmonic affections is strong, the accession of measles must always be regarded with an eye of jealousy, and its progress watched with unremitting assiduity.



Though most children go through the complaint with safety, and scarcely are subject to one unpleasant symptom, it not unfrequently happens, that from some peculiarity of constitution, want of care and proper management, they are lost, or become the victims of a lingering complaint, from which they never perfectly recover. It is not too much to say, that three fourths of those who die in measles might be saved by proper treatment in the first instance, and where this is not employed sufficiently early, some of the worst consequences may still be prevented. If this complaint sometimes baffles the skill and judgment of the most practised and experienced physicians, what must be the result of feeble, inert practice, or mistaken opinion?

From the beginning of the year till late in the spring, the wind blew almost constantly from E. & N. E. : we have uniformly observed, that when the easterly winds have prevailed for a length of time with little variation, nervous people and those subject to lowness of spirits are considerably affected, and about this time many such deplorable cases claimed our attention. The long continuance of cold is in itself depressing, and when combined with a cloudy foggy atmosphere, materially assists any moral cause in producing hypochondriasis and melancholy. These again are often dispersed by the cheering influence of a fine spring-day, or the grateful warmth of a summer's sun. The state of the weather not unfrequently arrests the arm of the intended suicide, or impels the fatal stroke : hopeless indeed is that state which resists alike the consolation of friendship,

the balm of the physician, and the joys of the opening summer.

Catarrh, or what is vulgarly termed a cold in the head, was also frequent in the beginning of the year, and as the summer and autumn proceeded, gave way to synochus, bilious and bowel complaints : none of these, however, presented any unusual appearances.

The following is an enumeration of the diseases which the writer of this article has attended from the 20th of November to the 20th of December, 1808 :

*Acute diseases.*—Scarlet fever, 6. ....Scarlet fever and sore-throat, 8. ....Inflammatory sore-throat, 3..... Intermittent fever, 2....Typhus fever, 1....Catarrhal fever, 10....Puerperal fever, 2....Acute rheumatism, 6....Pleurisy, 1....Peripneumony, 3....Measles, 4....Whooping-cough, 5....Small-pox, 3....Peritoneal inflammation, 2....Gout, 2... Acute diseases of infants, 6.

*Chronic diseases.*—Pulmonary consumption, 3....Cough and dyspnoea, 18....Marasmus, 2....Pleurodyne, 4....Lumbago and sciatica, 3....Chronic rheumatism, 8....Asthenia, 6....Palsy, 2....Dolor faciei, 3....Cephalalgia, 4....Gastrodynia, 7....Enterodynia, 3....Dyspepsia, 3....Diarrhoea, 5....Bilious vomiting, 3....Dysentery, 4....Dropsy, 3....Hæmorrhoids, 2....Hæmatemesis, 2....Epilepsy, 1....Cutaneous diseases, 5....Menorrhagia, 3....Amenorrhœa, 4....Leucorrhœa, 2.

Of the acute diseases it appears, from the above list, that scarlet fever and sore-throat were the most prominent ; they were the most frequent in November, and are now on the decline, no new case having occurred within the last week. In

two or three instances the throat was ulcerated, and the fever assumed a malignant form: they all, however, recovered, though some of them were in the most unfavourable circumstances. Fifty years ago this disease was much more fatal than it has been of late times: so mild indeed is its present type, that some practitioners recover their patients without using bark or wine, adopt-

ing the evacuating antiphlogistic plan, which formerly was so fatal. Unless in cases of imminent danger, all extremes are to be deprecated, "*medio tutissimus ibis*:" in the same case, one man would prescribe a bottle of wine, and other stimuli daily; whilst another would take away a pound of blood, and administer drastic purges.

*Review of medical books in our next.*

## AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

AN agricultural report at this season, can neither embrace a great variety of objects, or those of much interest; and we are not disposed to supply the appetite of our readers with novelty at the expence of accuracy. The information we have collected from our correspondents, enables us to state, that the wheat crop does not rise to the flail so well as it generally does; but although it is not so defective in produce as was at first supposed, the price of that article has increased about six shillings per quarter, during the month of December. Oats have continued much the same, but the few samples are light. There has been little variation in the price of barley. Beans and peas have been a defective crop, and will probably bring still greater prices when the demand for seed begins. The young wheats look very promising, and the ground is well covered; a considerable breadth has been sown this year, and the season has been generally so favourable, that little land has been left for spring wheat; upon early dry soils this plant is too luxuriant. Rye, cabbages, cole, and winter green crops in general, are very

good, except turnips, which are represented, from different quarters, as generally deficient, and likely to disappoint those who depend upon this article for the spring; indeed, should the winter prove severe, sheep food will certainly be scarce. The operations usually carried on at this season of the year, are represented as proceeding with great spirit notwithstanding the high price of agricultural labour; indeed the present rent of land, as well as the price of its produce, contributes to urge the farmer to the best exertion of his knowledge and abilities. Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well, and the appearance of a farm will very soon discover whether the work is done slovenly or effectually. At the late fairs, cows and calves have generally sold well; for lean cattle and store sheep the sales have been dull; fresh horses sell well. There is a great disproportion in the price of small pork and bacon hogs; the latter must necessarily continue to fetch great prices, if the farmer is to be reimbursed the expence of feeding them at the present prices of grain. It must likewise be remembered, that a want of the usual great



supplies at this season of the year and the spring, from the distilleries, will sensibly affect the market for this article, and may probably encourage the farmer to consume his stained barley at home. Potatoes, although a deficient crop, prove very good; but the demand for this as well as other articles of grain and provision for the supply of our own troops and those of our allies in

Spain, will probably exhaust our markets at an early season; and it is very probable this country alone can be depended upon for that purpose, a supply from the Mediterranean being uncertain, the ports of the Baltic shut against us, and the prospect of a removal of the American embargo distant and problematical.

## FASHIONS FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

### PLATE I.---WALKING DRESS.

A Polish bonnet and mantle of gold coloured velvet, with an invisible hood trimmed with ermine; an antique collar fastened with a gold ornament in front, in form of a shell. *Morning dress*, white muslin Brussels spot, with a worked stomacher, and trimmed down the front and at the bottom; worked long hanging sleeves, twisted and fastened at the wristband with a small gold ornament, of the same form as that which fastens the mantle and cincture of the dress; sandals of gold-coloured cloth, laced with brown cords and tassels; York tan gloves.

### EVENING FULL DRESS.

A white satin Spanish hat with a diamond loop and Spanish plume; diamond earrings and necklace; the hair full, in ringlets; a white satin dress, full trimmed with blue velvet, with a lace mediceis round the back and shoulders; an antique stomacher ornamented with diamonds mounted in gold; white satin shoes with gold bows, white gloves and fan.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

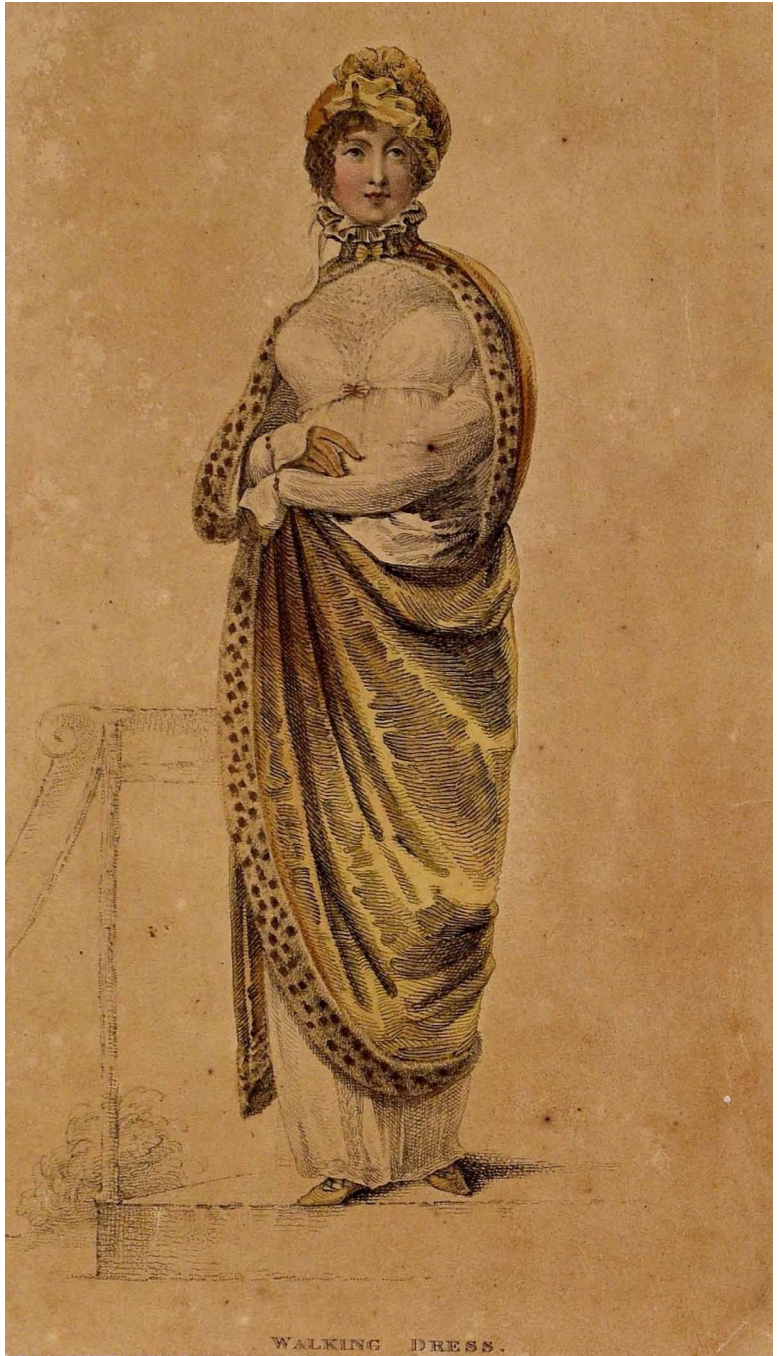
Nazaratt royal purple and gold are the most prevailing colours for pelisses and mantles, which are made of various materials, cloth, velvet,

brocade, sarsenet, and satin, according to the fancy of the wearer. Head ornaments, Spanish hats, and caps decorated with feathers, flowers, pearls, or diamonds, according as the occasion requires. *Morning dress*, cloth, sarsenet, Brussels spotted muslin, trimmed with embroidery. *Evening dress*, satin, velvet, brocade, sarsenet, with gold or silver ornaments, and trimmings.

It is almost unnecessary to add, that the design and description of the ladies' fashions in this month, are under the direction of Madame Lanchester, whose taste in the department of ladies' dress and female ornaments, is so well known as to render any eulogium unnecessary.

### FASHIONS FOR GENTLEMEN.

The prevailing colours are dark brown and bottle green. *The coat for evening dress* is cut rather long in the waist, and short in the skirts, double breasted, with pointed lappels, corresponding in length to the hip button; the lappels are padded to fall back with the collar, which is made pretty high and stitched narrow, the collar to fall back about an inch and half; deep pockets under the cross flaps; the cuffs round.



WALKING DRESS.





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naments may be finished in bronze metal, when a similar style has been adopted in the other furniture of the apartment. The covering here shewn is supposed to be of azure blue velvet, the ornaments being worked up in gold colour and bronze. Each end has a Grecian mantle, to correspond with the covering, fringed with a gold-colour silk fringe. One side of this design being geometrical, a scale is added, from which every dimension may be obtained, observing that 28 inch. is its intended width.

#### WINDOW-SEAT.

This design would have a very good effect executed in bronze, with the rosettes, fillets, and other ornaments of the frame, in mat gold. It might be covered with green velvet, with stripes of rose colour. The design of this window-seat was furnished by Messrs. Morgan and Saunders, Catherine-street, Strand.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Fashion is ever creating change and variety in furniture. We observe with pleasure a more tasteful arrangement daily taking place; the gaudy colours of the chintz and calico furniture have given place to a more chaste style, in which two colours only are employed to produce the appearance of damask. The same style is adopting in carpets, giving apartments an uniform and pleasing appearance. Bronze still prevails as a ground-work for chairs, sofas, cabinets, &c. and will always be classic when delicately and sparingly assisted with gold or-

ness can alone make its use tolerable. Manchester coloured velvets, used for furniture and curtains, produce a rich effect. Poles richly decorated form the best and most fashionable supporters for draperies, and in all probability will continue throughout the present year. Other improvements will be noticed in our succeeding numbers.

In fitting up dining-rooms it has been suggested, that a new system is about to be adopted, in which the architecture and the furniture are rendered subservient to domestic comfort, as well as elegant arrangement. In the *Morning Post*, a few days since, is noticed a design now executing for the eating-room of a noble duke: it comprehends a space of sixty feet in length, from which twenty feet are taken by a colonnade of ten feet at each end. Ten feet forms the breast of the chimney; the remaining spaces on each side become recesses, three feet and a half deep, in which are placed architectural pedestals, supporting imitative granite columns. These pedestals are so contrived as to contain every necessary requisite, usually placed in what are called sarcophagus cellarets, with other conveniences, rendering the ingress and egress of domestics less troublesome than is customary. The remaining spaces are appropriated to the sideboards: they are supported by eight beautiful and strictly classic Grecian female Caryatides, under a frieze embellished by a Greek ornament of the present taste, executed in bronze metal. The vacuum underneath each sideboard is corrected by the placing of elegant sarcophaguses, adapted to the purpose of heating plates, &c. by contrivances from

A great deal of black in chairs, &c. but the harsh, and the contrast too violent to be approved by genuine and correct taste; its cheap-



the flue of the chimney. The whole of these embellishments are intended to be executed in the most beautiful mahogany, relieved by ormolu inlay of ornaments and lines. Over each sideboard will be placed glasses of the most superb dimensions, in

frames of bronze and gold; in the recesses and center of each glass are to be suspended cut-glass Grecian lamps of an unique design and execution. The carpet for the room is making at Axminster, from a design given by the architect.

#### PLATE 4.—BRITISH SPORTS.

THE forest laws, which are the foundation of our game laws, may easily be traced to a Saxon or Danish origin. The creation of the New Forest by the first of the Norman kings, shews the indefinite antiquity of other forests belonging to the crown. The very names of the inferior courts are Saxon—whoever will attentively consider the institutions of our Saxon ancestors, will discover in them not only a perfect regard to equality of rights, connected with an anxious attention to order and good government in a wild and uncultivated country, but that the influence of these institutions continues to pervade the whole system of our constitution. We ungratefully deny to our German progenitors the acknowledgment, that to their plain good sense, their love of liberty, of order and of justice, we owe almost all the blessings of the government we enjoy, whilst a foreigner (*Montesqu de l'Esprit des Loix*) accurately tracing our happiness to its real source, justly exclaims "*Ce beau système a été trouvé dans les bois.*" The struggles successively made in this country have been to preserve and restore, rather than to improve our constitution. To this country the Saxons brought the institutions of their forefathers, pure and uncor-

rupted, from their native forests; and after a struggle of two centuries, the Britons were driven to the western extremities, and this island in possession of the conquerors became truly German; for in their new situation they receded no farther from their institutions than was merely necessary for their establishment. It would derogate from the glory of the Saxon institutions, if these laws could be considered as a system of slavery; indeed, an impartial and unprejudiced inquiry into their history and origin, will induce us to believe, that at the early period when their foundation was laid, the forest laws were part of a political system for the internal benefit and security of the country at large, mixed indeed with the indulgence of royal pleasures, but in which the public peace and the preservation of the growth of timber, were considerations of no less importance. Canute, to whose mildness of government the submission of the Saxons is attributed, established regulations similar to those of his own country: what they were cannot be accurately or perfectly given now, but they are stated to have been framed with the advice of great men, for the ends of peace and justice; but it appears, that for killing a stag, a gentleman lost his rank.



For N<sup>o</sup> 1. of ACKERMANN'S REPOSITORY of ARTS & Pub. June 1809. 301 Strand LONDON.



freeman his liberty, and a slave his life. The severity of these laws was considerably abated in practice by his successors, and under Edward the Confessor they were almost entirely neglected: it was this which made the revival of them under William the Conqueror, to be felt as a greater hardship, which certainly was not lessened by his adding to their penalties—the loss of an eye as a punishment for killing a stag. The reservation of control in the crown over the officers of the forest, is the origin of the office of chief justice in eyre of the present day. Both the Williams were fond of the chase, which led them to oppress their subjects most inordinately. Henry commenced his reign by promising relief, which he never granted; on the contrary, it is evident, from the charter of his successor, that his extending the abuses of the forest laws occasioned great discontent. During the reign of Henry II. a milder system prevailed; and in Richard I.'s time the severe punishments enacted by the forest laws, were usually redeemed by a fine. John had stretched the forest law to the utmost, and was compelled to submit to an explicit declaration of the rights of the crown in this as well as in other respects; for that purpose a commission issued to ascertain boundaries, &c. The regulations then made were repeated in the reign of Henry III. and confirmed by Edward I. The *Ordinatio Forestarum* made in the 54th of this reign, contained many beneficial

regulation. This statute is recited in the 1st of Edward III. from the latter of which, it appears, that at very distant times the law had provided for persons charged with offences of the forest a particular remedy, similar to the writ of Habeas Corpus, so deservedly considered as one great bulwark of our liberties; a statute was likewise made in this reign, for keeping the perambulations of Edward I. In the reign of Richard I. the officers of the forest appear to have attempted to influence the juries, an offence for which a remedy was provided in the 7th year of his reign: here the regulations of the forest appear to have remained for several years.

(To be continued.)

#### COURSING.

All the meetings in the south differ from the Malton meeting, in running for the prize cup. In the south, each member subscribes to it, and, if present, starts a dog, which are drawn by lots to run against each other, two and two. The next day the winners of the preceding day run against each other, till all the dogs are run off; and lastly, the two winners of the whole start for the cup. An interest is thus kept alive through the whole meeting. The best dog is fairly ascertained, and not more than a brace of dogs are started at once, which renders the course a proper trial: this cannot be the case when five or six greyhounds are running together after one unfortunate hare.

## ALLEGORICAL WOOD-CUT, WITH PATTERNS OF BRITISH MANUFACTURE.

PATTERNS afford the manufacturer an opportunity of circulating a new article more extensively in one day, than can be done by sending a dozen riders with it through the country. It will likewise afford persons at a distance from the metropolis the means of examining and estimating the merit of the fabric, and of being made acquainted with the tradesman from whom it may be purchased.

Among the fashionable articles for gentlemen's wear, we have given one of plush, manufactured from mohair, some of which are made in imitation of fur, others rival an article of the same nature made with silk.

The present cold weather has induced our young men of fashion to introduce this article pretty generally. The appearance is genteel and comfortable. The utility of this fabric for vests, is sanctioned by sporting gentlemen, who have the lower part of the vest for six or seven inches lined with the same. After a hard chase, the loins do not experience that chill and cold which is often felt in the ride home, owing to the gentle irritation and warmth of the plush, which absorbs the perspiration.

At Coventry, the silk and ribbon manufactures are very much declined, but the introduction of this ar-

ticle, (at present made only Messrs. Harris's) if it becomes general, bids fair to employ the poor in that place during the winter season. The pattern No. 1 is one among a great variety of colours in this article which we have observed in the shops of Mr. Smith, Prince Street, Soho; Messrs. Maund, Cornhill; and at the principal mercers. It is sold considerably under the silk plush, and looks well.

No. 2 is the gold-coloured velvet described in the mantle of the morning dress, plate I, and may be had of D. and P. Cooper, Pall-Mall.

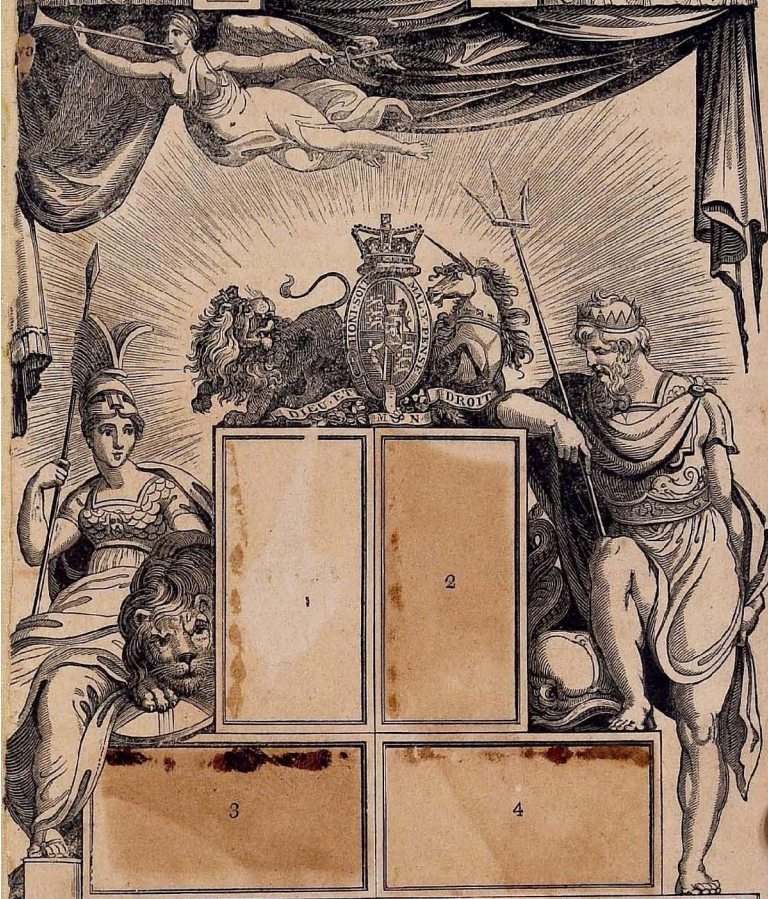
No. 3 is a pattern of broad cloth or tissue, very much worn for pelisses, from Robarts, Ploman, and Snuggs, Chandos-Street, Covent Garden.

No. 4 is an entire new flowered satin, for evening dresses, furnished by Harris, Moody, and Co. Pall Mall.

The three last patterns are the manufacture of Spitalfields. The introduction of silks among our ladies of fashion, has revived the almost declining employment of the silk weavers, and if it has the effect of excluding the fine fabrics of Indian manufacture, to the increase of our artizans at home, we shall feel very happy in the exchange.



No. I. January 1809.



## The Repository

*Of Arts, Literature, Commerce, Manufactures, Fashions, and Politics.*

MANUFACTURERS, Factors, and Wholesale Dealers in Fancy Goods that come within the scope of this Plan, are requested to send Patterns of such new Articles as they come out, and if the requisites of Novelty, Fashion, and Elegance, are united, the quantity necessary for this Magazine will be ordered.

*R. Ackermann, 101, Strand, London.*



## Poetry.

### TO THE MUSES.

My first fair hope, and now my last retreat,  
 From empty pride and insolent deceit,  
 Once more, ye Muses, at your holy shrine,  
 Life's busy scenes I willingly resign.  
 From jarring politics, and faithless man,  
 From fools that execute, and knaves that plan;  
 From men that use you for their private ends,  
 And those, once answer'd, are no more your friends;  
 With whom e'en gratitude is found a sin,  
 All pomp without, and littleness within!  
 Whose ruling passion is, in selfish views,  
 To change their friendships as they change their shoes;  
 Set ev'ry feeling of the heart at strife,  
 And dry up all the charities of life;  
 From all these strange artificers of words,  
 That rule a senate which no truth affords,  
 Mere coruscations, dazzling, as they pass,  
 Some titled idiot, or some pension'd ass!  
 From men, whose riches are their sole support,  
 Whose vast ambition is to shine at court;  
 To shew their weakness in embroider'd arms,  
 The secret laughter of the thing that charms:  
 From dames of fashion, who are vastly kind,  
 And lull our senses to seduce our mind:  
 From things like these, ye Muses, I retire,  
 To act as Reason and as you inspire;  
 To move, unshaken in the midst of strife,  
 Prepar'd for death, and not too fond of life!  
 In actions honest, and in thought sincere,  
 The voice of nature and of God to hear!  
 With you to meditate that awful home,  
 Whose entrance opens on a world to come.

卷五

### THE LOVERS' QUARREL

ON THE SHORTEST DAY IN THE YEAR.

*From Major JAMIE'S Poems.*

We quarrell'd on the shortest day;  
 The consequence was this:  
 Throughout the longest night we lay  
 In scenes of mutual bliss.  
 Oh! may it thus for ever prove  
 With hearts that own no guile;  
 An instant be the frown of love,  
 A century the smile!









## SCOTCH LINENS, Dundee, Dec. 20.

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Doth, No. 1	20	20	3
Carton Bag	15	21	3
Doth, No. 2	15	21	3
Doth, No. 3	15	21	3
Doth, No. 4	15	21	3
Doth, No. 5	15	21	3
Doth, No. 6	15	21	3
Doth, No. 7	15	21	3
Doth, No. 8	15	21	3
Doth, No. 9	15	21	3
Doth, No. 10	15	21	3
Doth, No. 11	15	21	3
Doth, No. 12	15	21	3
Doth, No. 13	15	21	3
Doth, No. 14	15	21	3
Doth, No. 15	15	21	3
Doth, No. 16	15	21	3
Doth, No. 17	15	21	3
Doth, No. 18	15	21	3
Doth, No. 19	15	21	3
Doth, No. 20	15	21	3

## EXCHANGE.

ard, 83	6	2	U	Bordeaux	22	8	Venice	52	ineff.
eight, 32	11	Madrid	44	off	Naples	42			
ard, 10	7	2	U	Cadiz	42	off	Lisbon	60	
ard, 31	2	2	U	Bilbao	41		Oporto	69	p. C.
ard, 32	3	2	U	Palermo	42		Dublin	84	p. C.
1 day's							Cork	9	
2	22	4					Leghorn	57	N. Dollars os od per
3	22	8	2	U	Genoa	59			oz.

## LONDON MARKETS.

Return of Wheat from Dec. 5 to 10.  
 TOTAL, 6,154 quarters, from 73s to 106s per quarter.  
 Average, 90s 3d per quarter, or 1s 11d higher than last re-

Return of Flour from Dec. 10 to 16.  
 TOTAL, 16,249 sacks, from 15s to 90s per sack.  
 Average, 60d per sack, or 1s 11d higher than last return.

## Average of England and Wales, Dec. 10,

s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d	
eat	89	9	Barley	45	4	Beans	66	3
	87	4	Oats	32	9	Pease	66	9

## CORN, SEEDS, &amp;c.

Wheat, white	s.	s.	Tares, per bushel	%.	%.
per quarter	78	86	98	10	12
red	66	76	94	12	14
foreign	38	42	47	15	17
Barley, English	32	36	39	8	10
Malt	34	38	43	11	13
Oats, Feed	36	40	46	11	13
Foreign	36	40	46	11	13
Potatoes	40	44	45	11	13
Foreign	40	44	45	11	13
Beans, Small	60	64	69	70	90
Pease, Boiling	54	59	64	70	90
Flour, per sack	125	135	145	70	90
Seconds	58	60	62	70	90
Scotch	75	80	85	70	90
American Flour	74	78	82	70	90
Rapeseed, per last	50s	50s	(nominal)	per barrel of 160lls.	
Linseed Oil Cakes, per thousand	£48	50, 56.			

## HAY &amp; STRAW, per Load.

St. James's	Hay	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Barley	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Oats	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Straw	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Hay	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Straw	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Hay	5	5	0	6	10	0	0
Straw	5	5	0	6	10	0	0

## HOPS in the Borough.

Bags	£	s.	d.	Pockets	£	s.	d.
Kent	3	10	4	16	3	14	5
Sussex	3	0	4	6	3	6	4
Essex	2	16	4	4	3	0	4
Famham Pockets	7	1	7	8	7	1	7

## MEAT at Smithfield, &amp;c.

Exclusive of the Offal, which consists of head, entrails, and Hide, and is worth about 1d per lb.—per stone of 14lb.

SMITHFIELD.	s.	d.	NEWGATE & LEADENHALL.	s.	d.
Beef	4	6	6	3	4
Mutton	5	0	5	3	4
Veal	7	0	8	4	0
Pork	5	0	6	5	0
Lamb	0	6	0	6	0
MONDAY—Beasts,	3,280		Sheep	19,740	
Pigs	320		Calves	126	
FRIEDAY—Beasts	800		Sheep	3,550	
Pigs	300		Calves	160	

## RAW HIDES, per Skin.

Best Heifers	s.	d.	Best Calf	s.	d.
and Steers	2	6	3	0	0
Middling	2	0	2	0	0
Ordinary	1	6	1	10	0
English Horse	14	0	16	0	0

## TALLOW, &amp;c. per Cwt.

Candles,	s	d	s	d	Tallow, town	99	6	0	0
per doz	14	6	15	0	— Russia vel,	0	0	0	0
— mould do	16	6	0	0	— white	0	0	0	0
Soap, yellow	122	0	0	0	— soap	0	0	0	0
— mottled	126	0	0	0	— Stuff	84	0	0	0
— pieces	122	0	0	0	— Rough	54	0	0	0
— curd	130	0	0	0	— Graves	14	0	0	0
— Castle of	10	10	0	0	Good Dregs	14	0	0	0
TALLOW at St. James's					55	0d	Average	58	9d
— Clave					58	9d	per stone of 8lb,		
— Whitechapel					5	10			

## POTATOES, &amp;c. at Spitalfields.

	l	s	t	s	l	s	t	s		
Kidney, per ton	6	10	2	7	0	Ox-Noble, p. t.	3	10	4	0
Champions	4	0	2	5	10	Apple	3	10	5	10







# METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL,

*Kept by R. BANKS, Mathematical Instrument-Maker, Strand, London.*

1808 NOV. Day of	BAROMETER. 9 A.M.	THERMOMETER.		High- est.*	Low- est.	WEATHER.	
		9 A.M.	3 P.M.			Day.	Night.
22	30.18	41	47	52	46	Rain	Fair
23	30.12	47	50	52	46	Cloudy	Rainy
24	30.19	46	55	56	44	Ditto	Ditto
25	30.09	48	51	52	46	Ditto	Ditto
26	29.98	50	52	54	50	Rain	Cloudy
27	29.50	50	42	54	34	Ditto	Fair
28	29.81	55	56	53	34	Fair	Ditto
29	29.77	56	41	47	40	Rain	Rainy
30	29.16	42	41	46	37	Fair	Fair
DEC.							
1	29.36	40	43	47	42	Ditto	Ditto†
2	29.17	41	42	47	41	Ditto	Ditto
3	29.45	42	46	47	42	Ditto	Ditto
4	30. 2	41	46	48	36	Ditto	Fog
5	30.27	40	48	49	43	Cloudy	Mist
6	29.97	50	47	52	34	Rain	Fair
7	29.87	35	39	49	32	Fair	Ditto
8	29.95	34	40	41	40	Ditto	Ditto
9	29.86	41	50	44	33	Ditto	Fog
10	30.03	35	40	40	34	Ditto	Cloudy
11	30.25	36	36	42	33	Ditto	Fair
12	30.25	36	41	42	30	Cloudy	Fog
13	30.33	40	35	42	34	Ditto	Rainy
14	30.36	34	40	42	23	Ditto	Cloudy
15	30.03	34	33	38	33	Fair	Ditto
16	30.07	33	53	35	30	Ditto	Fair
17	29.82	32	26	34	22	Snow	Ditto†
18	29.62	26	30	32	28	Fair	Ditto‡
19	29.65	28	29	32	28	Snow	Cloudy
20	29.69	28	32	33	20	Ditto	Ditto
21	29.69	24	31	31	28	Ditto	Snow

\* During the night. † Heavy rain in the night. ‡ Stars brilliant at 6 P. M. Snow at 9. High wind all night. § Snow at 3 P. M. Stars brilliant in the evening. At 12 appearance of change.

## PRICES

OF

*Fire-Office, Mine, Dock, Canal, Water-Works, Brewery, and Public Institution Shares, &c. &c. for DECEMBER 1808.*

Albion Fire & Life Assurance £2 pr. ct. prem.	Grand Junction Canal £125 0 per share
Eagle ditto - - - - - Par.	Grand Surrey ditto - - - 60 0 ditto
Globe ditto - - - - - £114 0 per share	East London Water-Works 46 0 ditto prem.
Hope ditto - - - - - 1 1 ditto prem.	West Middlesex ditto - - - 12 0 ditto
Imperial ditto - - - - - 4 0 ditto	South London ditto - - - 40 0 ditto
Rock ditto - - - - - 0 5 ditto	Kennett & Avon Canal - 4 0 ditto
West India ditto - - - 120 0 per cent.	London Institution - - - 94 0 ditto
West India ditto - - - 167 0 ditto	Surrey ditto - - - - - 35 0 ditto
London ditto - - - - - 121 0 ditto	Commercial Road Stock - 116 0 per cent.
Commercial ditto - - - 140 0 ditto	Basingst. Canal shares pd up 36 to 38 per share.

EDWARD F. T. FORTUNE,

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