

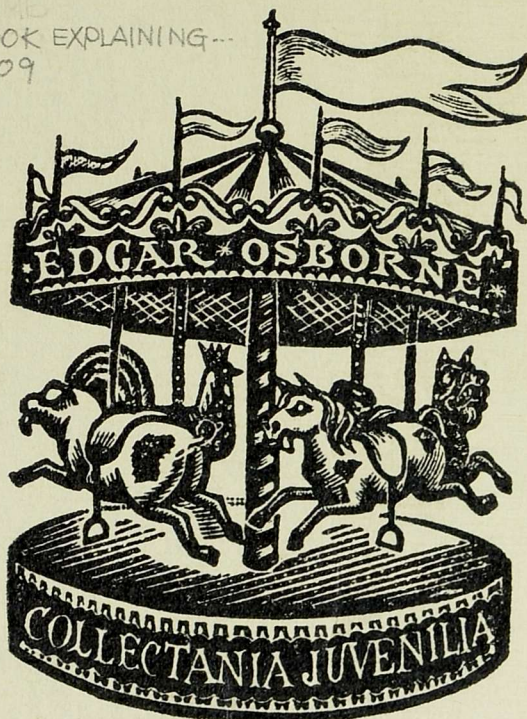


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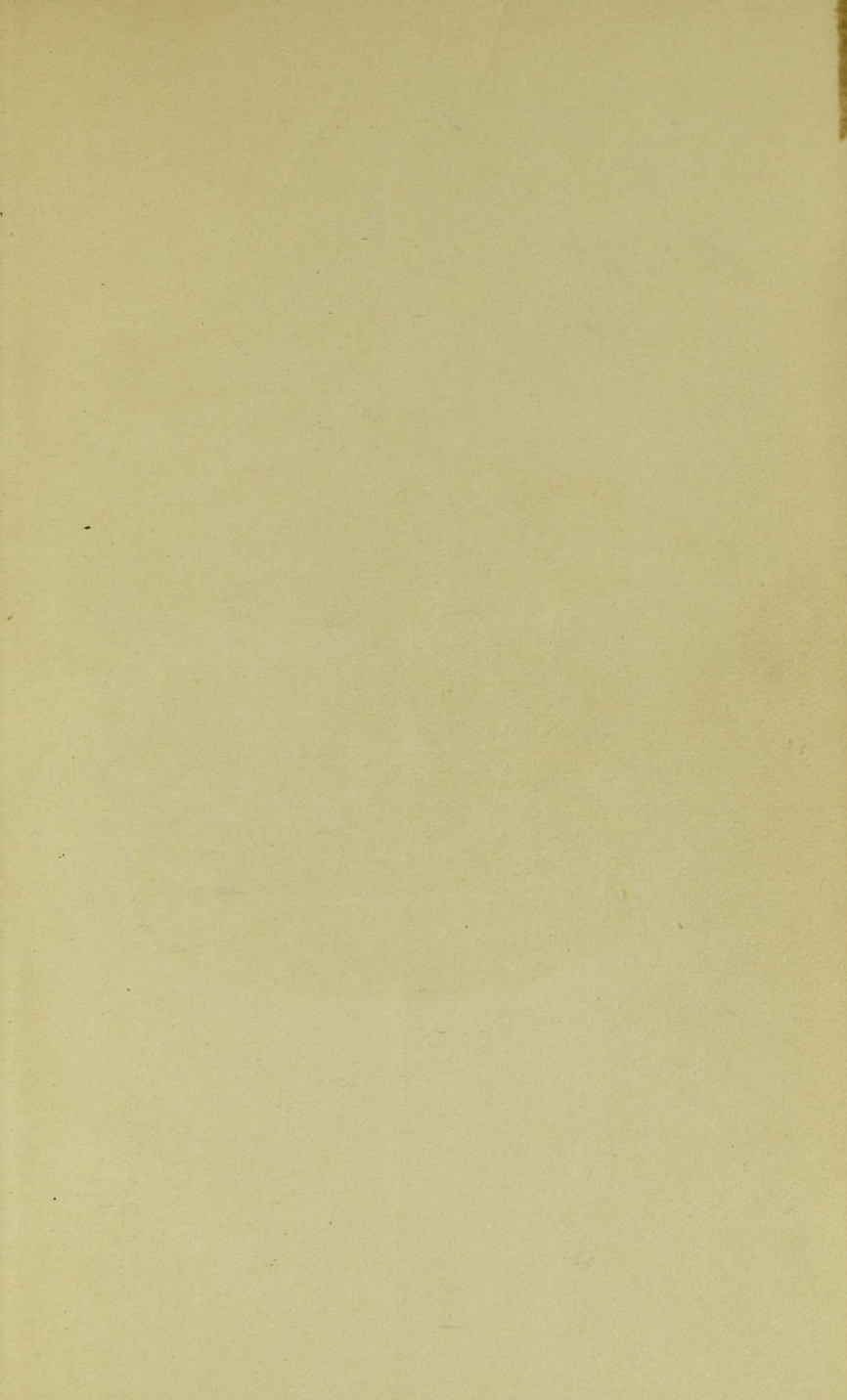
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III













*The King of Great Britain.*

*Pub. by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup>. June 4 1805. New Bond St.*



A  
B O O K

EXPLAINING

*THE RANKS AND DIGNITIES*

OF

*British Society.*

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OF

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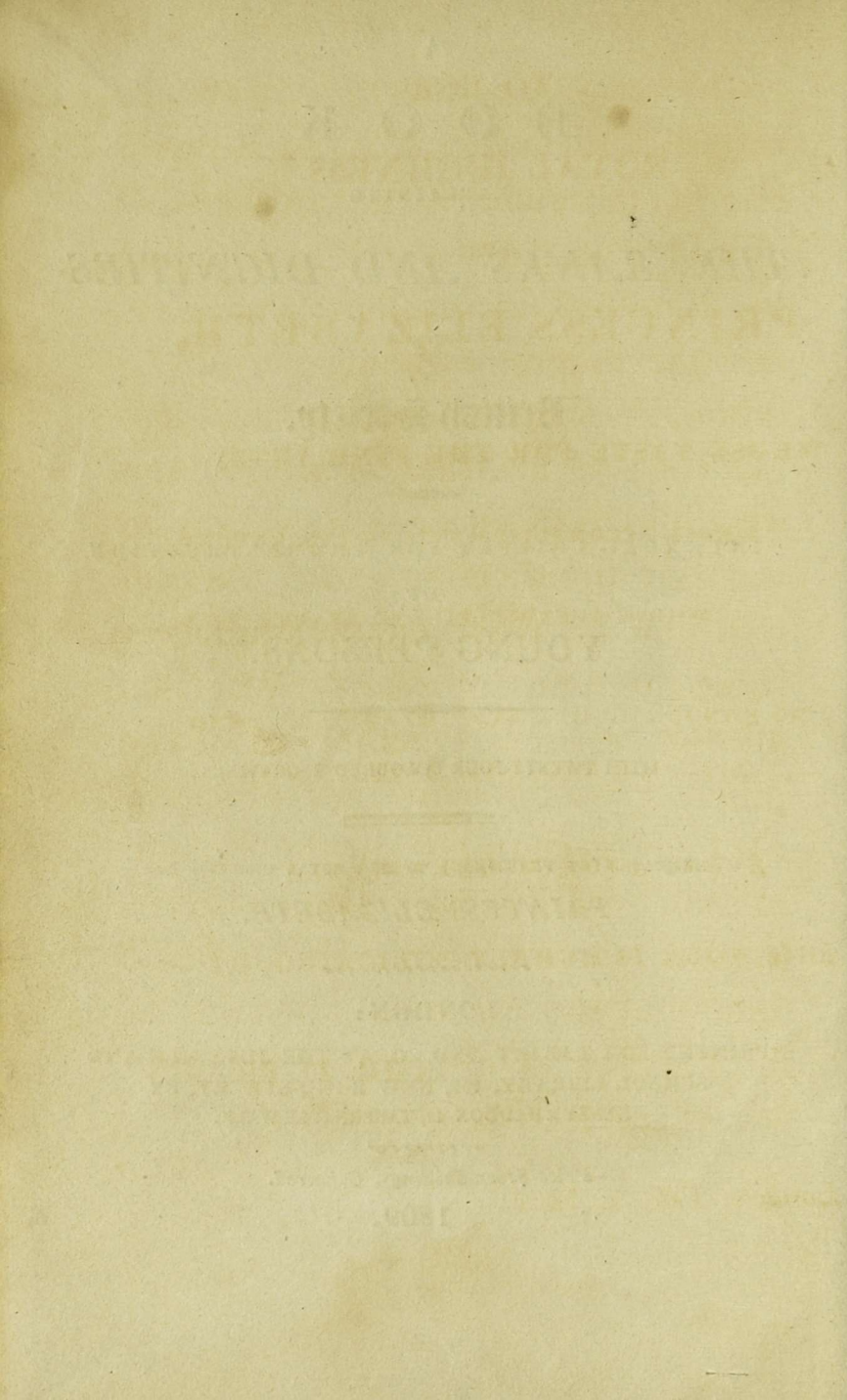
DEDICATED (BY PERMISSION) TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE  
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1809.





TO HER  
ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE

PRINCESS ELIZABETH,

WHOSE TASTE FOR THE FINE ARTS,

WHOSE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN LITERATURE,

WHOSE AFFABILITY AND BENEVOLENCE,

DO HONOUR TO HER EXALTED STATION, AND

AFFORD A MODEL FOR IMITATION TO

*EVERY RANK OF HER OWN SEX,*

THIS WORK IS HUMBLY DEDICATED, BY

THE AUTHOR.

*London, Feb. 2, 1809.*

TO HER

ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE

PRINCESS ELIZABETH

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THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH



## BRITISH RANKS.

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### *THE KING.*

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THE supreme executive power of these kingdoms, says Judge Blackstone, is vested by our laws in a single person, the King or Queen; for it matters not to which sex the crown descends: but the person entitled to it, whether male or female, is immediately invested with all the ensigns, rights, and prerogatives of sovereign power.

In the earliest periods of our history the crown appears to have been

elective. But hereditary succession has now been long established, and has proved a good preservative against that periodical bloodshed and misery, which both history and experience have long shewn are the consequences of elective kingdoms. The crown descends lineally to the issue of the reigning monarch, and not till the failure of the male issue is it allowed to be taken by the female.

Lawyers say the King of England is a mixed person, a priest as well as a prince; and at his coronation he is anointed with oil, as the priests and kings of Israel were, to intimate that his person is sacred.

The



The principal duty of the king is to govern his people according to law ; and these are the terms of the oath administered usually by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at his coronation, in the presence of the people, who on their parts do reciprocally take the oath of allegiance to the crown :

“ *The archbishop, or bishop, shall say, Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this kingdom of England, and the dominions thereto belonging, according to the statutes in parliament agreed on, and the laws and customs of the same? The king or queen shall say, I solemnly promise so to do.*

*Archbishop*



*Archbishop, or bishop.*—Will you to your power cause law and justice, in mercy, to be executed in all your judgments? *King or queen,* I will.

*Archbishop, or bishop.*—Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God, the true profession of the gospel, and the protestant reformed religion established by the law? And will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of this realm, and to the churches committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges as by law do or shall appertain unto them or any of them? *King or queen,* All this I promise to do.

*After*

*After this, the king or queen, laying his or her hand upon the holy gospels, shall say, The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep: so help me God. And then shall kiss the book.*

One of the principal bulwarks of our liberty, is the certain and definite limitation of the king's prerogative, the extent and restrictions of which are marked out with the greatest clearness. But in the exertion of those powers which THE LAW has given him, the king is irresistible and absolute. He is considered by the laws of England as the head and supreme governor of the national church; and, in virtue of this authority, he convenes, pro-

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rogues,



rogues, restrains, regulates, and dissolves all ecclesiastical synods or convocations. He has the supreme right of patronage over all ecclesiastical benefices; and if they are not presented to within the time prescribed, their lapse becomes the advantage of the crown. In regard to foreign concerns, the king is the delegate or representative of his people. He has power, by his prerogative, without any act of parliament, to make war or peace, conclude treaties, grant safe conducts, give commissions for raising and regulating fleets and armies, as well as for erecting, manning, and governing forts, and other places of strength. He can prohibit the exportation of arms and ammunition out of the kingdom,



dom; can dispose of magazines, castles, ships, public moneys, &c.; and all that is done in regard to foreign powers by the royal authority, is the act of the whole nation. He has the sole power of sending ambassadors to foreign states, and receiving ambassadors at home. He convokes, adjourns, prorogues, and dissolves parliaments; and may refuse his assent to any bill passed by both houses, without giving his reason for it.

He may increase the number of members of either house at pleasure, by creating new peers, and bestowing privileges on other towns for sending burgesses to parliament: but the last has by late kings been  
given

given up. The sole power of conferring dignities and honours is entrusted to him: so that all degrees of nobility and knighthood, and other titles, are received by immediate grant from the crown. And the king has also the prerogative of conferring privileges upon private persons; such as granting place or precedence to any of his subjects; such is also the power to enfranchise an alien and make him a denizen, and the prerogative of erecting corporations. The coining of money too, as well as the settling the denomination or value for which it shall pass current, is the act of the sovereign power. But to take all the characters into view in which the king is considered in domestic affairs



fairs, would be almost endless ; for from thence an abundant number of prerogatives arise. All lands recovered from the sea, gold and silver mines, royal fishes, &c., belong to him. He can unite, separate, enlarge, or contract, the limits of ecclesiastical benefices ; and, by his letters, erect new bishopricks, colleges, &c. He can dispense with the rigour of ecclesiastical laws, except those which have been confirmed by act of parliament, or declared by the bill of rights. He has also power to moderate the *rigour* of the law, according to equity ; to pardon a man condemned by law, except in appeals of murder, and in case of impeachment by the house of commons ; and to interpret, by his judges,



judges, in statutes and cases which are not defined by law.

But though he be entrusted with the whole executive power of the law, yet he cannot sit in judgment in any court; for justice must be administered according to the powers committed and distributed to the several courts.

As the king is declared to be the supreme head in matters both civil and ecclesiastical; so no suit can be brought against him even in civil matters, because no court can have jurisdiction over him. The law also ascribes to the king, in his political capacity, absolute perfection. The king can do no wrong. By which  
ancient

ancient and fundamental maxim we are not to understand, that every transaction of government is of course just and lawful; but that whatever is exceptionable in the conduct of public affairs is not to be imputed to the king, nor is he answerable for it personally to his people; and farther, that the prerogative of the crown extends not to do any injury. It is created for the benefit of the people, and therefore cannot be exerted to their prejudice. In the king, likewise, there can be no negligence, and therefore no delay will bar his right. In the king also there can be no infamy, stain, or corruption of blood. And the law ascribes a kind of perpetuity, or immortality to him. His death



death is termed his demise, because the crown is thereby demised to another. He is not in law liable to death, being a corporation of himself that lives for ever. There is no interregnum; but the moment one king dies, his heir is king, fully and absolutely, without any coronation, ceremony, &c. To these it may be added, that, by the law, the king is said, in a manner to be every where in all courts of judicature, which he alone has the right of erecting, and therefore cannot be nonsuited. The power of issuing proclamations is vested in the king alone, considered as the fountain of justice. The laws make it high treason barely to imagine or intend the death of the king; and because the destruction

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tion of the king may ensue that of his great counsellors or officers, it is felony in any of the king's subjects to conspire even that. Some things, however, there are which the king cannot do. He cannot divest himself or successor of any part of the regal prerogative or authority. And, in particular, there are two things which he cannot do, without the consent of parliament—the making of new laws, and the raising of new taxes. The king cannot dispense with the laws, nor do any thing contrary to law. In England the law is as much superior to the king, as to any of his subjects; and the obedience of the king of England to the laws, is his greatest glory, while it is the security

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city of the rights and liberties of his people, who are the greatest as well as the freest people on the face of the earth, merely because their sovereigns are obliged to live in subjection to the written laws of the land.

The title of *grace* was first given to our kings about the time of Henry IV, and that of *majesty* first to Henry VIII. The title of his present Majesty is, GEORGE the Third, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Sovereign of the Orders of the Garter, Thistle, Bath, and St. Patrick; Duke and Elector of Brunswick Lunenburg, Bishop of Osnaburg, and Arch Treasurer of the Holy Roman Empire.

LORD







*The Lord Chancellor of England.*

*Pub. 1 June 1805 by Tabart & Co 157 New Bond Street.*

*LORD CHANCELLOR.*

THE Lord High Chancellor of England is the first lay person of the realm in all civil affairs, next after the king and princes of the blood. He is the chief administrator of justice in the kingdom; and presides over the vast and extensive jurisdiction of the court of chancery. All other justices are tied to the strict letter of the law; but the chancellor has the king's absolute power to mitigate its rigour, to govern his judgment by the law of nature and conscience, and to order all things according to equity.



The offices of lord high chancellor and lord keeper, by a statute of Queen Elizabeth in 1563, were made one. Till that time they were different, and frequently subsisted at the same time in different persons. The keeper was created by the delivery of the great seal ; but the lord chancellor was made by patent : though now that he has the keeper's office, the delivery of the seal is *his* appointment. By his office he is a privy counsellor, as well as speaker of the house of lords ; and superior, in point of precedency, to every temporal peer. To him belongs the appointment of all justices of the peace throughout the kingdom. He is visitor, in the king's right, of all hospitals and colleges of royal foundation



dation; patron of all the king's livings under twenty pounds a year in the king's books; the general guardian of all infants, idiots, and lunatics; and has the superintendence of all charitable uses in the kingdom. His twelve assistants, or coadjutors, (of whom the master of the rolls is the first) are called masters in chancery.

In writing to the lord chancellor, the style of address is usually, *To the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor*; and in conversation he is called, *My Lord*.

*A DUKE.*

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**D**UKE is the highest degree of British peerage, and is derived from the Latin word *dux*, which signifies a leader or commander : noblemen being anciently either generals of armies in time of war, or governors of provinces in time of peace. In process of time, great estates being annexed to the title, it was held by lands or fees ; and at last became hereditary and titular.

In England, in the Saxon times, the officers or commanders of armies, after the old Roman fashion, were called *dukes*, without any addition ;





*A Duke.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co. June 4-1845. New Bond St.*





dition; but after the Norman conquest, the title was no longer used; till, in 1358, Edward III. created his son, who was first called the Black Prince, Duke of Cornwall: a title which has been ever since the peculiar inheritance of the king's eldest son, during the life of his father. After Edward the Black Prince, more were made; the earliest was Henry Plantagenet, son of the great Earl of Lancaster; and after him, two other of Edward's sons, Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and John, Duke of Lancaster. The Black Prince was created by a wreath on his head, a ring on his finger, and a silver rod. Lionel and John of Gaunt were created, by the king, by girding on a sword, putting  
on

on their heads a furred cap, with a circle of gold and pearls, and the delivery of a charter. From this period, we had many hereditary dukes created, though for ages the honour was but sparingly conferred, and seldom upon any that were not in some way allied to the crown. Of late years, the ceremony of investiture has been omitted, and the creation made entirely by patent.

According to Guillim, the following ceremonies were observed at the creation: “ At his creation, a duke  
“ must have on him his surcoat and  
“ hood, and should be led between  
“ two dukes, if there be any present; if not, a marquis or two,  
“ and, for want of either, an earl:  
“ somewhat



“somewhat before him, on the right  
“hand, shall go an earl, who shall  
“bear a cap of estate, with the  
“coronet in it; and on the other  
“side shall also go an earl, who  
“shall bear the golden rod; and  
“before the duke that is to be  
“created, should go a marquis, or  
“one of the greatest estate, to bear  
“the sword; and before him an  
“earl, to bear the mantle, or robe  
“of estate, lying on his arms. And  
“all these nobles that do service  
“must be in their robes of estate.  
“His title is proclaimed twice, and  
“the largess thrice.”

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth,  
1572, after the attainder of the  
Duke of Norfolk, the whole order  
became

became utterly extinct ; but it was revived about fifty years afterwards by her successor, in the person of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.

The dukes of our days retain little of their ancient splendor but the coronet on their escutcheon, which is the only mark of their departed sovereignty. By courtesy, their eldest sons are styled *marquisses*, (though they are usually distinguished by their father's second title, whether it be that of marquis or earl) and the younger sons *lords*, with the addition of their Christian name. The coronets of the royal dukes are different from those of ordinary creation. The first have a  
circle



circle of gold bordered with ermine, heightened up with four *fleurs de lis*, and as many crosses patée alternately. The common ducal coronet is a circle of gold, bordered with ermine, enriched with precious stones and pearls, and set round with eight large strawberry leaves.

The mantle and surcoat which a duke wears at the coronation of a king or queen is of crimson velvet, lined with white taffeta, and the mantle is doubled from the neck to below the elbow with ermine, having four rows of spots on each shoulder.

His *parliamentary* robes are of fine scarlet cloth, lined with white taffeta,



taffeta, and doubled with four guards of ermine at equal distances, with gold lace above each guard, and tied up to the left shoulder with a black ribband.

Charles II. was lavish of this honour: he created two of his mistresses dutchesses, and six of their offspring dukes, beside nine creations of the ordinary kind. His present majesty has been more sparing: with the exception of the royal dukes, those of Northumberland and Montague have been the only ones distinguished by the honour; beside admitting the claim of the Duke of Hamilton to the title of Brandon.

The

The premier duke of England, of ordinary creation, is the Duke of Norfolk.

In Scotland, the title was first introduced by King Robert III. about 1400.

The address of a letter is, *To his Grace the Duke of .....* ; and in conversation he is called, *Your Grace, My Lord, or, My Lord Duke.*



## M A R Q U I S.

MARQUIS (or, as it is now usually spelt, marquess) is a title given to a person in possession of a considerable demesne erected into a *marquisate*, by letters patent; holding a middle place between the dignity of a duke and that of an earl or count. The meaning of the title is supposed to be taken from a word which signifies *frontier*, and answers to the margrave of the Germans: the first marquisses being governors of frontier cities or provinces. Marquess is said to be originally a French title; and the first time we hear of it, is under the Emperor Charle-

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magne.







*A. Marquis.*

*Pub. June 1805 by T. & C. 157 New Bond Street.*

magne. In our own country it was introduced by Richard II., who, in 1387, created Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, *Marquis of Dublin*: but with him it was a mere title of honour; for those who before governed the borders in the neighbourhood of Scotland were commonly called *lord marchers*, and not *marquisses*, as we call them.

The creation of a marquis was formerly with nearly the same ceremony as that of a duke; but they are now created by patent, under the great seal. The honour is of course hereditary, and the eldest son, by the courtesy of the land, is called earl or lord of a place; and the younger sons, only Lord *John*,



Lord *Thomas*, or the like. The title is, *most noble*: while the nominal marquis, the eldest son of a duke, is only styled *most honourable*. The coronation-robcs of a marquis are of crimson velvet, lined with white taffeta, and have four guards of ermine on the right side, and three on the left, set at equal distances, with gold lace above each guard, and are tied up to the left shoulder by a ribband. His cap is of crimson velvet, lined with ermine, having a gold tassel at top; and his coronet of gold has pearls and strawberry leaves mixed alternately round, of equal height.

It may not be amiss to mention here, as an historical anecdote, what  
we

we find in the parliament rolls of the fourth year of Henry IV. When John de Beaufort was from Earl of Somerset advanced by Richard II. to be Marquis of Dorset, and divested of that title by Henry IV., and the commons in parliament humbly besought the king to restore to him the name of marquis, which he had lost, he himself opposed it, and publicly declared this was a new dignity, and utterly unknown to our ancestors, for which reason he by no means desired it nor would take it.

In writing to a marquis the letter is usually directed, *To the Most Noble the Marquis of .....*; and he is addressed in conversation as, *My Lord*.



## E A R L.

—

EARL, which now holds the third rank only among our titles of nobility, is the most ancient of any of the peerage; and the only title of honour now in use which existed previous to the Conquest. It is said to have been derived to us from our ancient forefathers in Germany. The Latin word is *comes*; and we are told by Tacitus, the Roman historian, that the Germans called those by a similar name who assisted the prince with their advice and authority. The Saxons in this country, seem to have called them *ealdormen*; the Danes changed the name to





*An Earl.*

*Pub. June 1805 by Tabart & Co. 157 New Bond Street*



to *eorlas*, honourable ; and time has since softened it to earl.

For a long time the name was given singly ; and, originally, the title died with its possessor : But after the Norman settlement, earls became feudal, hereditary, and patrimonial ; and though at first, if we may judge from the celebrated Domesday survey, they were called simply Earl *Hugh*, Earl *Alan*, Earl *Roger* ; yet they were afterward created with the addition of some place, and had, according to our old law-books, the third penny of the county assigned to them.

The oldest charter (and that was the ancient method) of creation on record,



record, is one mentioned by Camden, from the Empress Maud, daughter of Henry I., to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex. King John, however, introduced investiture by the girding on of a sword: and in the succeeding age, the putting on of a cap was added, with a golden circle.

In the more ancient times, there were no earls but who had a county or shire for their earldom; but afterwards, the number increasing, they took their title from some eminent town or village, or even from their own seat or park: in many instances they have been derived from the names of illustrious families; and in one or two instances from the kingdom

kingdom of France, as Albermarle and Tankerville.

Upon the increase of earls their revenue ceased, and their powers were much abridged; and it became a custom of the kings of England to assign a stated pension to the person whom he ennobled, for the better support of his dignity, out of some particular part of the royal revenue. In old times, the earls' creation-fee was twenty pounds.

An earl is now created entirely by letters patent. His coronation-robe is the same as that of a duke or marquis, except that he has only three rows of spots. His parliamentary robes too are the same, except that



that he has only three guards of ermine and gold lace. His cap is the same; but his coronet has pearls pyramidically raised, and low strawberry leaves between them. His title is, *right honourable*. The present custom, that the person to be created earl, if he were not before a baron, should be made one, is modern, and was introduced in the time of Henry VIII.

A letter to an earl is usually directed, *To the Right Hon. the Earl* .....; and in conversation he is called, *My Lord*.

*VISCOUNT.*







*A Viscount.*

*Pub.<sup>d</sup> June 1805 by Tabart & Co 137 New Bond Street.*

## VISCOUNT.

WHERE the title of Viscount had its first rise has been disputed. Some have said in England: but it seems more probable that it was brought hither by the Normans. It was anciently the name of an office under an earl, *vice-comes*, who, being oftentimes required at court, was his deputy to look after the affairs of the county; and in our old law-books it signifies the same with sheriff. But in the reign of Henry VI. it became a degree of honour between an earl and a baron, and was made hereditary. The first viscount in England created by patent,



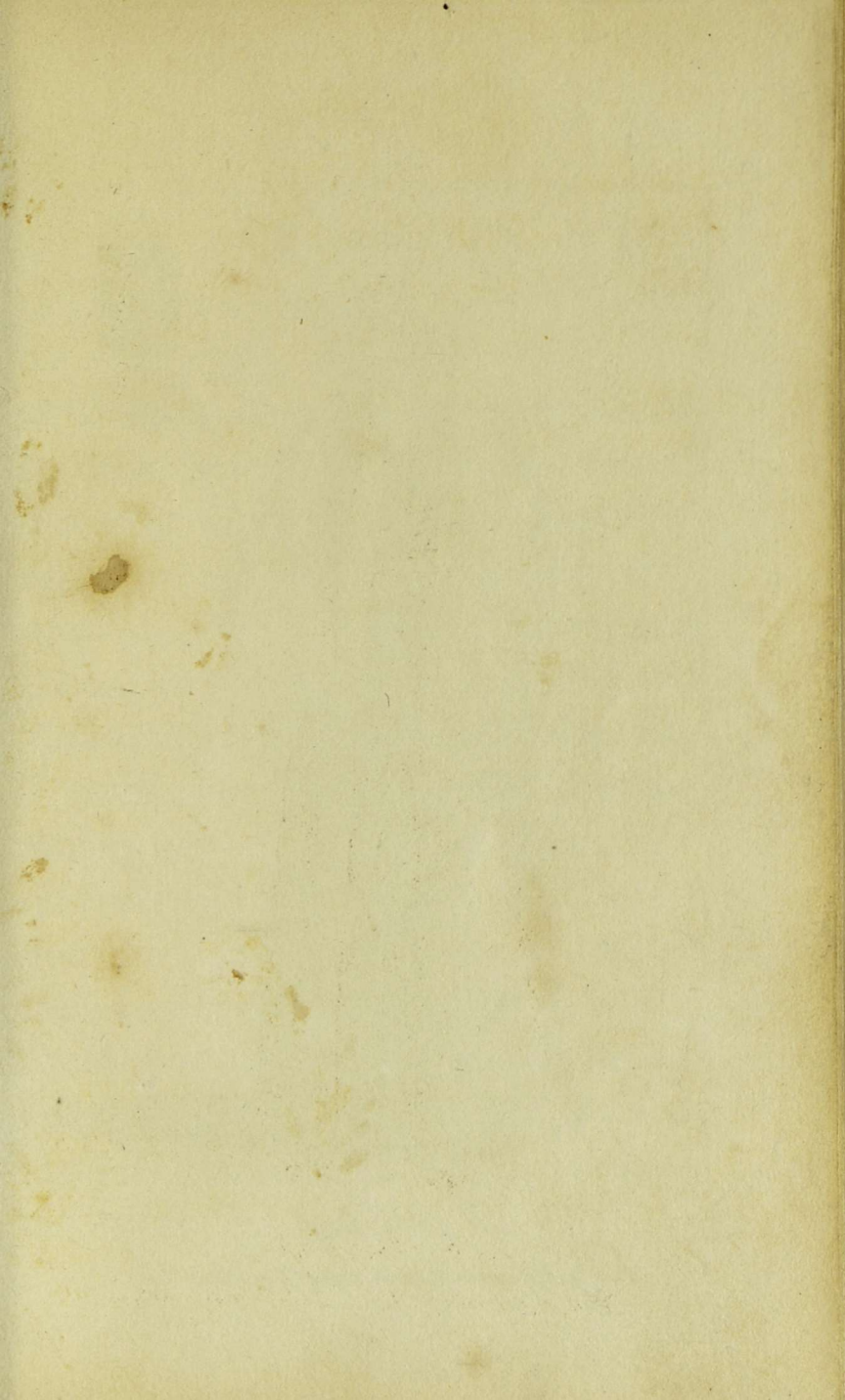
patent, was John Lord Beaumont, who was by the above king created Viscount Beaumont, and took precedence above all barons. The creation, like that of all the other degrees of nobility, is now made entirely by letters patent.

The coronation-robes of the viscount are the same as an earl's, except that the former has only two rows of plain white fur, which are likewise the distinction on his parliamentary robes. His cap is the same; but his coronet has only a row of pearls close to the circle.

The written address of a viscount is, *To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount* .....

The oral address, *My Lord*.

BISHOP.





*A Bishop.*

*Pub by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> June 4 1805 New Bond St.*



*A BISHOP.*

A BISHOP is a person consecrated for the spiritual government and direction of a diocese, and derives his name from a Greek word which signifies an overseer. In the earliest times, in this country, ecclesiastical dignities were confirmed by the king in parliament. Afterwards, contests arising between the clergy and their sovereign, it was frequently declared that bishops should be elected by the chapters of monks or canons in the different cathedrals: but by an act of parliament of Henry VIII. the right of nomination was restored to the crown.

E

How

How far we had bishops in the remotest times, is a question scarcely worth our enquiry. When St. Augustine came over to convert the English, he met with great kindness from Ethelbert, then king of Kent, and settled the metropolitan, or mother see, at Canterbury, where it has continued ever since.

Ordinarily, we are told, three bishops are required in the ceremony of consecrating a bishop; but in some cases one only may suffice. The king, being certified of the death of a bishop by the dean and chapter, and his leave requested to elect another, the *cong   d'elire* is sent them, with a letter missive nominating the person whom he would



would have chosen ; and the election is to be within twelve days after the receipt of it ; otherwise, the king, by his letters patent, appoints whom he pleases. After election, and its being accepted of by the bishop, the king grants a mandate under the great seal for confirmation. Then follows the consecration by the Archbishop of Canterbury, or some other bishop appointed by lawful commission, and two assistant bishops : the ceremony of which is much the same as in the Romish church, except that having put on the episcopal robes, the archbishop and bishops lay their hands on the new prelate's head, and consecrate him with a certain form of words. The fees of the whole process are said, in Cham-



bers's Dictionary, to amount to about 600%. The process of translation of a bishop to another bishopric only differs in this, that there is no consecration. The age of a bishop is to be at least thirty years.

The bishops of England are all barons in a two-fold manner: and by a statute of the thirty-first of Henry VIII. 1540, take precedence next to viscounts.—They have the title of *lord*, and *right reverend Father in God*; and, besides the two archbishops, are twenty-four in number.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is the first peer in Great Britain next the royal family: the Lord Chancellor

cellor is the next, and the Archbishop of York the third. They take place of all *dukes*; and the two archbishops have the title of *Grace*. The Archbishop of Canterbury writes himself, by *Divine Providence*; the Archbishop of York, and the other bishops, by *Divine Permission*. The bishops of London, Durham, and Winchester, have precedence of all bishops; the others, unless they are privy-counsellors, rank according to the priority of their creation.

A bishop is usually addressed, *My Lord*, or, *Your Lordship*.



## A B A R O N.



A BARON, says Judge Blackstone, is the most general and universal title of nobility; for, originally, every one of the peers of superior rank had a barony annexed to his other titles. The most probable opinion of the origin of baronies seems to make them something similar to our present *lords of manors*; who, about the reign of John, became so very numerous, that the greater ones only were summoned by the king to parliament.

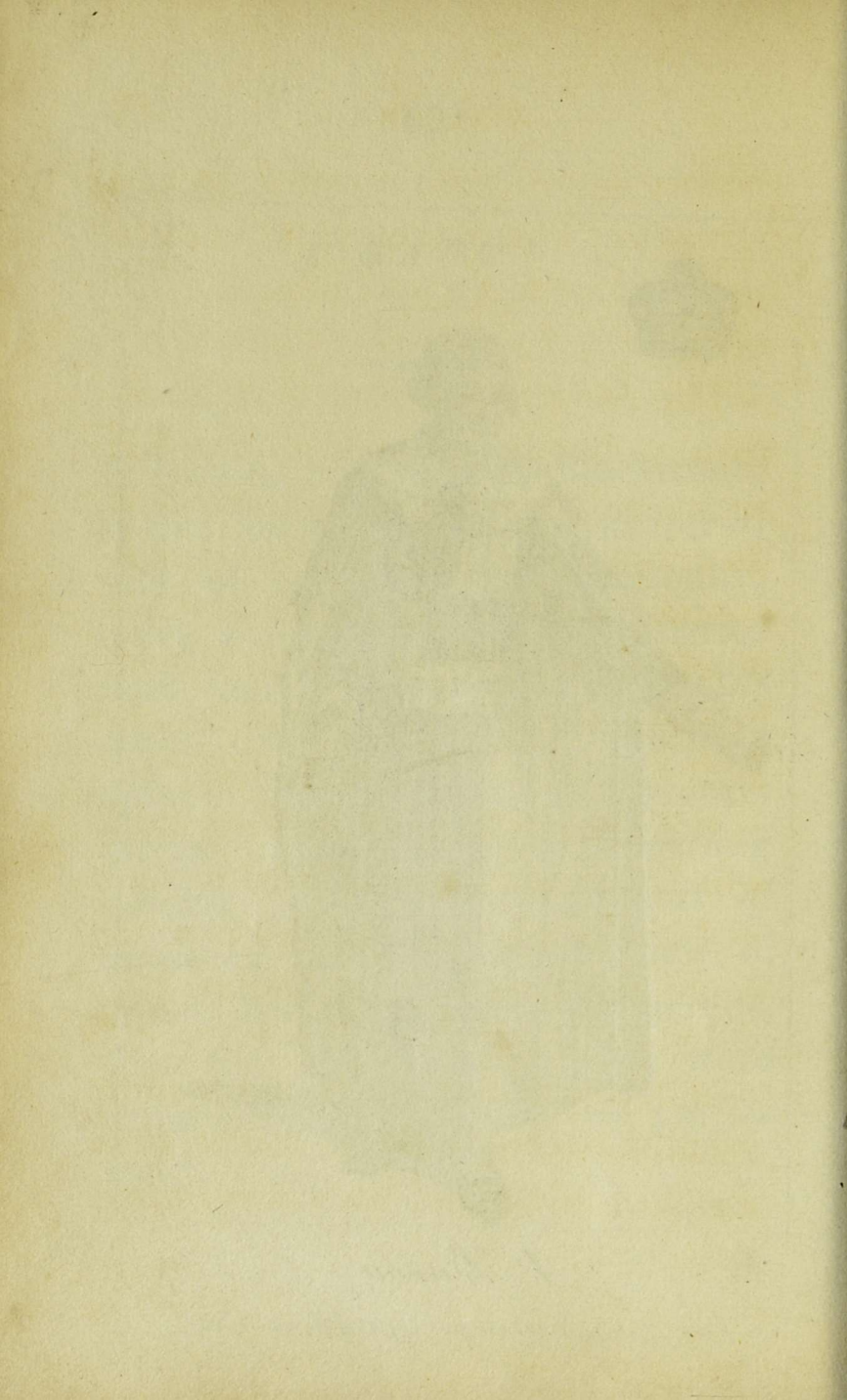
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*A Baron.*

*Pub. June 1805 by Tubbart & Co. 157 New Bond Street.*





By degrees, the title came to be confined to the greater barons, or lords of parliament only, till Richard II. first made it a mere title of honour, by conferring it on divers persons by letters patent. The first who was raised to this dignity was John de Beauchamp, of Holt-castle, created baron of Kidderminster, in Worcestershire, 1387, who was invested with a mantle and cap.

A baron is usually made by patent, but sometimes by writ; being thereby called up to sit in the house of lords.

When a baron is called up to the house of peers by writ of summons, the writ is in the king's name; and  
he

he is directed to come to the parliament appointed to be held at a certain time and place, and there to treat and advise with his majesty, the prelates, and nobility, about the weighty affairs of the nation. The ceremony of the admission of a baron into the house of peers is thus: He is brought into the house between two barons, who conduct him up to the lord chancellor, his patent, or writ of summons, being carried by a king at arms, who presents it kneeling to the lord chancellor, who reads it, and then congratulates him on his becoming a member of the house of peers, and invests him with his parliamentary robe. The patent is then delivered to the clerk of the parliament, and the



the oaths are administered to the new peer, who is then conducted to his seat on the baron's bench.

The coronation-robcs of a baron are the same as an earl's, except that he has only two rows of spots on each shoulder. In like manner his parliamentary-robcs have but two guards of white fur, with rows of gold lace: in other respects, they are the same as the peer's. The cap is the same as the viscount's. But the coronet, which was not granted till the time of Charles II., has six pearls set at equal distances on the chaplet.

A letter addressed to a baron is usually directed, *To the Right Hon. Lord .....*; and in conversation he is called, *My Lord*.

*KNIGHT.*



## A KNIGHT.

KNIGHT, in the plainest of its modern senses, signifies a person, who for some merit or martial prowess, has been raised by the king above the rank of gentleman, to a higher class of dignity and honour.

In ancient times *knighthood* was almost exclusively conferred on those who had distinguished themselves by notable exploits in arms. Although in what is called the middle period of English history, we find the assumption of it depending on tenure: that is, that he who held a knight's fee



BRITISH PEER.





fee (or 680 acres of land) might be compelled to take it, or undergo a fine.

Thus was the order of *knights bachelors* not only in this, but in other countries debased; and hence, and from the number of creations, we may date the rise of new orders, partly of a military, and partly of a religious constitution; in which the more deserving were separated from the croud, and marked by certain tokens of honour and distinction.

To give even a bare list of the military and religious orders in the several countries of Europe would be unnecessary here. We shall confine ourselves to those of the united kingdom.



## THE ORDER OF THE GARTER

is the first, styled *the most noble*; and was instituted by king Edward the third, January 19, 1344. It appears to have originated in Edward's desire during his wars with France, to draw the best soldiers of Europe into his interest; and was placed by its founder under the immediate patronage of St. George.

The habits and ensigns of the order, consist of the garter, surcoat, mantle, hood, george, collar, cap, and feathers. The four first were assigned by King Edward the III., the four last by King Henry the VIII. Of these the garter has the pre-

pre-eminence, being the first part of the habit presented to the knight-elect. It is worn on the left leg, between the knee and the calf, and appears to have been instituted by the founder with no idle reference to the Countess of Salisbury, as some writers have supposed, but as an ensign of unity and combination. The motto, *Honi soit qui mal y pense*, is thought to bear allusion to the equity of Edward's intentions in the institution.

The manner of electing a knight-companion, and the ceremonies of investiture, are as follow :

When the sovereign designs to elect a companion, the chancellor  
F of



*Wear this ribbon about thy neck, adorned with the image of the blessed martyr and soldier of Christ, St. George; by whose imitation provoked, thou mayst so overpass both prosperous and adverse adventures, that having stoutly vanquished thy enemies, both of body and soul, thou mayst not only receive the praise of this transient combat, but be crowned with the palm of eternal victory.*

Then the knight-elect kisses the sovereign's hand, and returns his thanks for the great honour done him, rises up, and salutes all the companions severally, who return their congratulations.

The

The pantaloons of the knight-companion, are of pearl-coloured silk, with a knot of open silver lace on the outside of the right knee. His shoes, which are of white shammy, with red heels, have each a knot as the former on the exterior side. His doublet is of cloth of silver, adorned before and behind, and down the sleeves, with several guards, or rows of open silver lace, each lace having a row of small buttons set down the middle. The cuffs are open, and adorned with the lace, and ribbons set in small loops. The gloves, of kid, laced at the top with silver. In this habit, having a blue ribbon spread over the left shoulder, and brought under the right arm with the george

F 3

appendant,



appendant, the knight proceeds from his lodgings in the castle (the ceremony of the garter being always performed at Windsor) to the chapter house; where, disrobing himself of his upper garment, he is invested with a surcoat of crimson velvet, lined with white taffata; during which time another admonition is read, exhorting him to take the robe as a token that he is to fight for the defence of Christ's faith, and the liberties of the church.

After this the sword is girt about him over his surcoat with a belt the same as the coat; and then bearing the cap in his hand, which is of black velvet adorned with a diamond band, and a plume of white feathers,

thers, with a heron-sprig in the middle, he proceeds to his installation in St. George's chapel, being led by two knights companions of the order, to the seat below his stall, where the following oath is administered to him by Garter king at arms:

*You being chosen to be one of the honourable company of this most noble order of the garter, shall promise and swear by the holy Evangelists, by you here touched, that wittingly and willingly, you shall not break any statute of the said order, or any articles in them contained, the same being agreeable and not repugnant to the laws of Almighty God, and the laws of this realm, as far  
forth*



*forth as to you belongeth and appertaineth.*

The oath having been taken, the knight is led to his stall, where being invested with the mantle of sky-coloured velvet, the register of the order pronounces another admonition. After which, the hood being placed upon the right shoulder, fastened by the tippet, the collar and george are put on, while another admonition is given, similar to the former; when the cap and feathers being put upon the head, the investiture is completed.

The officers of the order are, *a prelate*, who is the bishop of Winchester for the time being; *a chancellor*,  
the

the bishop of Salisbury; *a register*, who has apartments in the castle of Windsor; *garter*, whose office was instituted by Henry V.; and *black rod*, who is the chief usher in the kingdom.

The star, which is worn by the sovereign and knights companions of the order, when not adorned with their robes, consists of eight points: it appears to have been added to the ensigns by King Charles the second.

#### THE ORDER OF THE BATH

is styled *the most honourable*. It is said by some writers to have been originally instituted by King Richard II.; while others ascribe it to  
King



King Henry IV., who they assert increased the number of knights from four to forty-six.

The bath, it should seem, was anciently used in the creation of knights, from a circumstance of which nature the title may perhaps have been derived.

Having lain extinct for many years this order was revived by King George I., in 1725, for a great master, and thirty-six companions.

The mantle and surcoat of the knights, are of red taffata, lined with white. The chief ensign of the order consists of a silver star, of eight points,

points, having three imperial crowns in the centre, surrounded by this motto, *Tria juncta in uno*.

The ribbon of the order is red. The officers are, a dean, a genealogist, a king of arms, a register, a secretary, an usher of the order, and a messenger.

#### THE ORDER OF THE THISTLE,

or *St. Andrew*, is styled *the most ancient*, though our historians differ very much on its antiquity. Some say that it was instituted after a victory had been obtained over Athelstan, by Hungus or Hungo, King of the Picts: while others date its origin considerably later.



At the time of the reformation, we are told, the knights were so very zealous for the reformed religion, that they left their order: and it was not resumed till the reign of James VII., the second of the name in England. The misfortunes of his reign, however, prevented his completing the design: and it lay dormant till Queen Anne was pleased to sign another body of statutes, whereby it was restored to its ancient magnificence.

The habit of the knights is their parliamentary robes. The star is of four points; and the ribbon green. The motto of the order, *Nemo me impune lacessit.*

## THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK

is styled *the most illustrious*; the first investiture of which was performed on the 11th of March, 1783, at Dublin Castle. At the ceremonial of installation, admonitions similar to those used in the ceremonies of the other orders are pronounced. The star of the order, in the centre of which is the shamrock, has this motto, *Quis separabit.* 1783.



*A JUDGE.*

BY the long and uniform usage of many ages, says Judge Blackstone, our kings have delegated their judicial power to the judges of their several courts.

The judges are always chosen out of the serjeants at law, and are constituted by letters patent.\* They are bound also by a strong oath to administer justice, and to determine all causes that may come before them according to the known laws and

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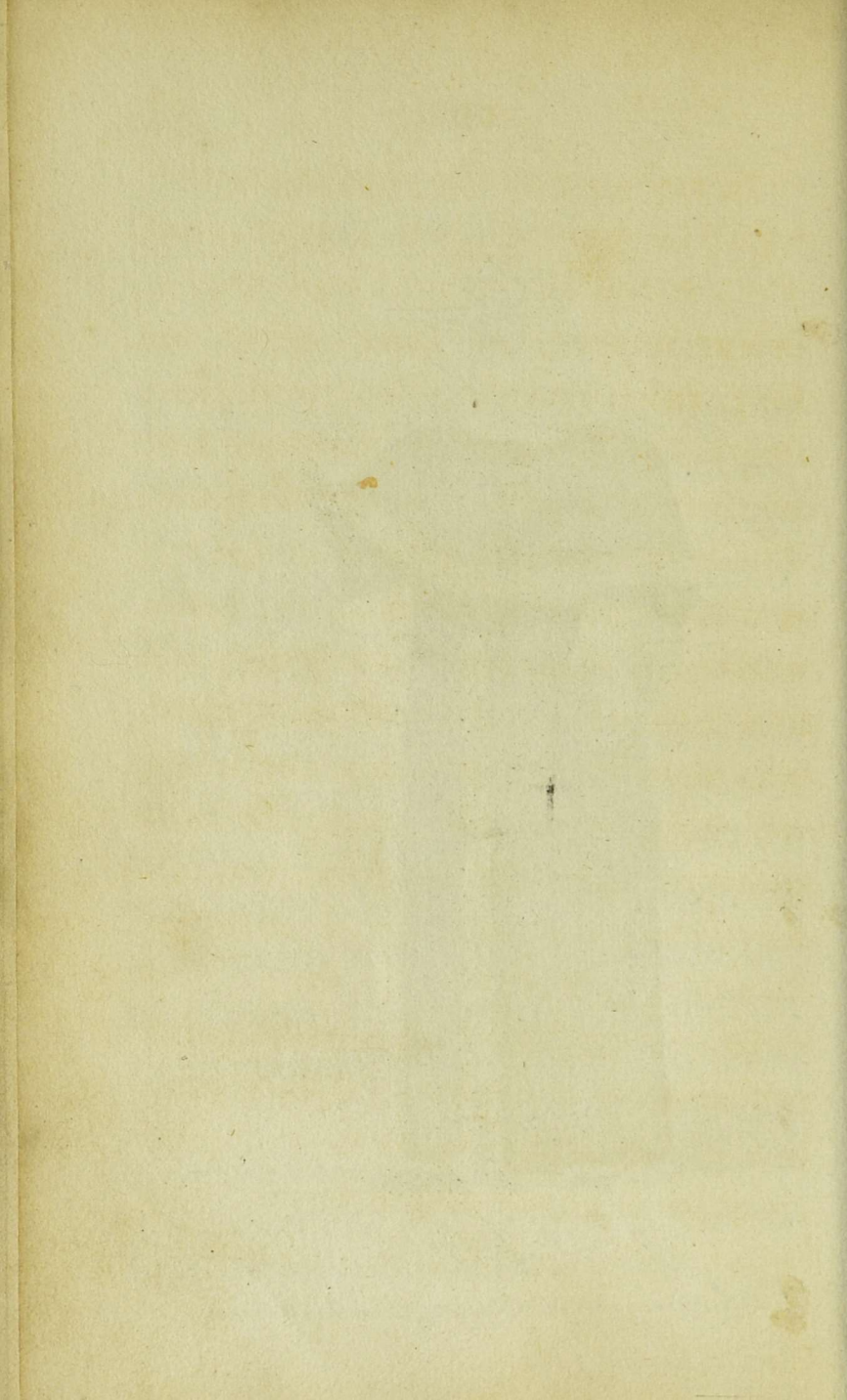
\* Except the lord chief justice of the King's Bench, who is made by writ.



*A Judge.*

<sup>d</sup>  
*Pub. 1 June 1805 by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> 167 New Bond Street*





and customs of the realm, which even the crown itself cannot now alter, except by act of parliament. Formerly they held their places at the royal pleasure; but, that both their dignity and independence might in future be secured, and the administration of justice, if possible, rendered more impartial, a statute of King William III. ordered their commissions to continue during good behaviour; and likewise ascertained and established for them certain salaries. Though appointed by patent, they are to continue notwithstanding the demise of the crown: but, on an address of both houses of parliament, they may at any time be lawfully removed.



To strike them is punished in a signal manner by our laws. They are free from all prosecutions for any thing they may do in court, which appears to have been an error of their judgment; but for wilful corruption they may be called to an account in parliament. It is the noble declaration of the English law, that, in criminal cases, where counsel for defence are not allowed, that the judge is always counsel for the prisoner, and is bound to see that the proceedings against him are legal and regular.

In their official capacities, the judges are invariably styled, *My Lord.*

## THE SERJEANT AT LAW.

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THE *Serjeant at Law*, or of the *Coif*, (as it is called) is the highest degree taken in the common law, as that of doctor is in the civil law. The *coif* is the serjeant's badge: it is of lawn, and is worn on the head, under the cap, both at his creation and afterward. Its use, originally, was to cover the crown of the head, which, as in ancient times, the clergy were the only lawyers, was always close shaved.

In conferring the degree great ceremony is observed. Those who are chosen make presents of gold rings to a considerable value, and



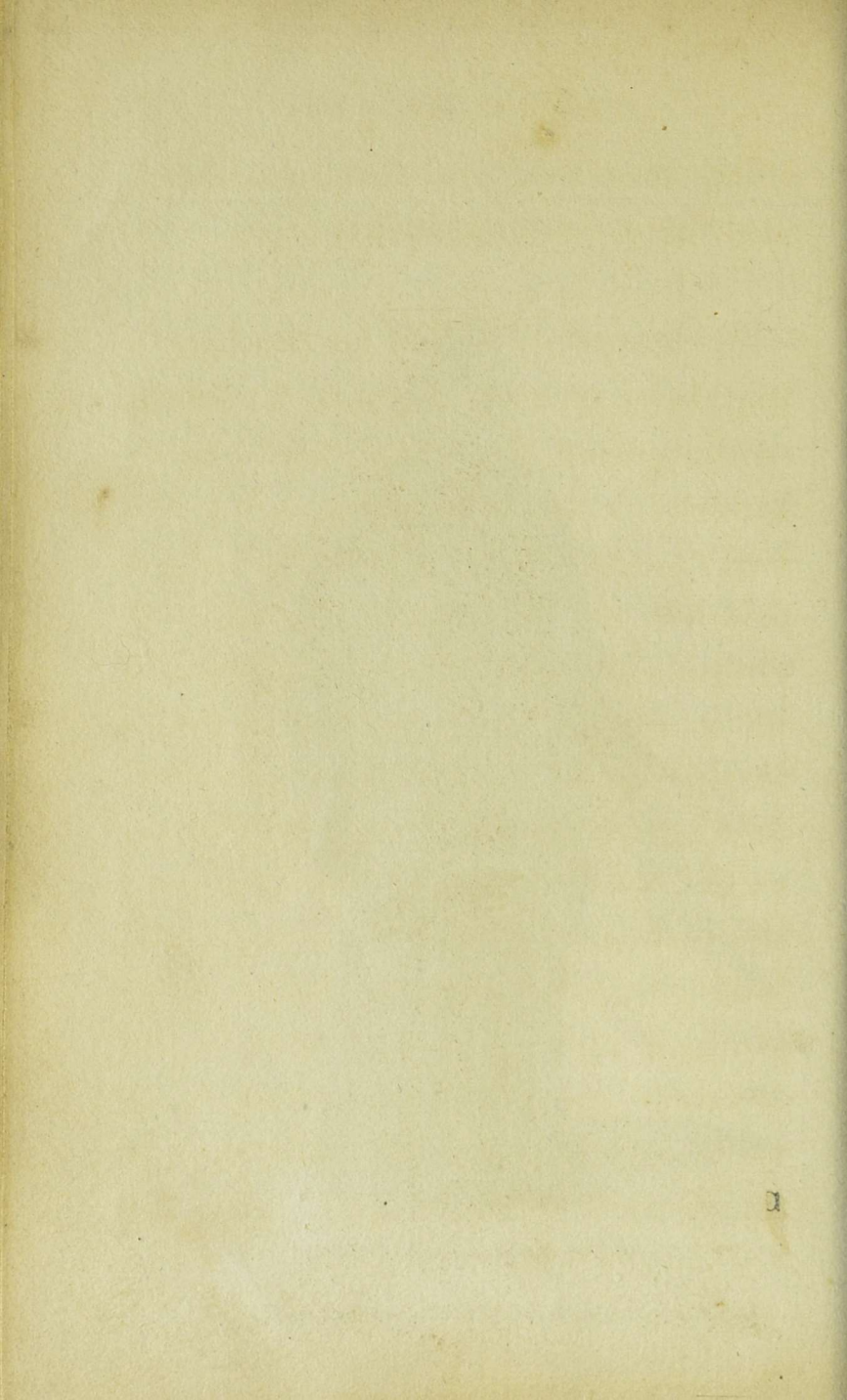
generally hold a sumptuous feast. In modern times, however, the expences of the latter have been much curtailed. Mr. Pennant says, that in 1531, eleven gentlemen, who had just been honoured with the *coif*, gave a grand feast at Ely-place, in Holborn, for five days successively. On the first, the king and his queen, Catherine of Arragon, graced them with their presence. The minutiae of the entertainment are not given us; but two or three particulars will easily suffice to convince us of its greatness. He enumerates, among other more extraordinary particulars, twenty-four beeves, or black cattle, one carcase of an ox, one hundred fat muttons, thirty-four large and ninety-one small pigs, thirteen



*A Serjeant at Law.*

<sup>2</sup>  
Pub. 1 June 1805 by Tabart & Co. 157 New Bond Street.





thirteen swans, and three hundred and forty dozen of larks.

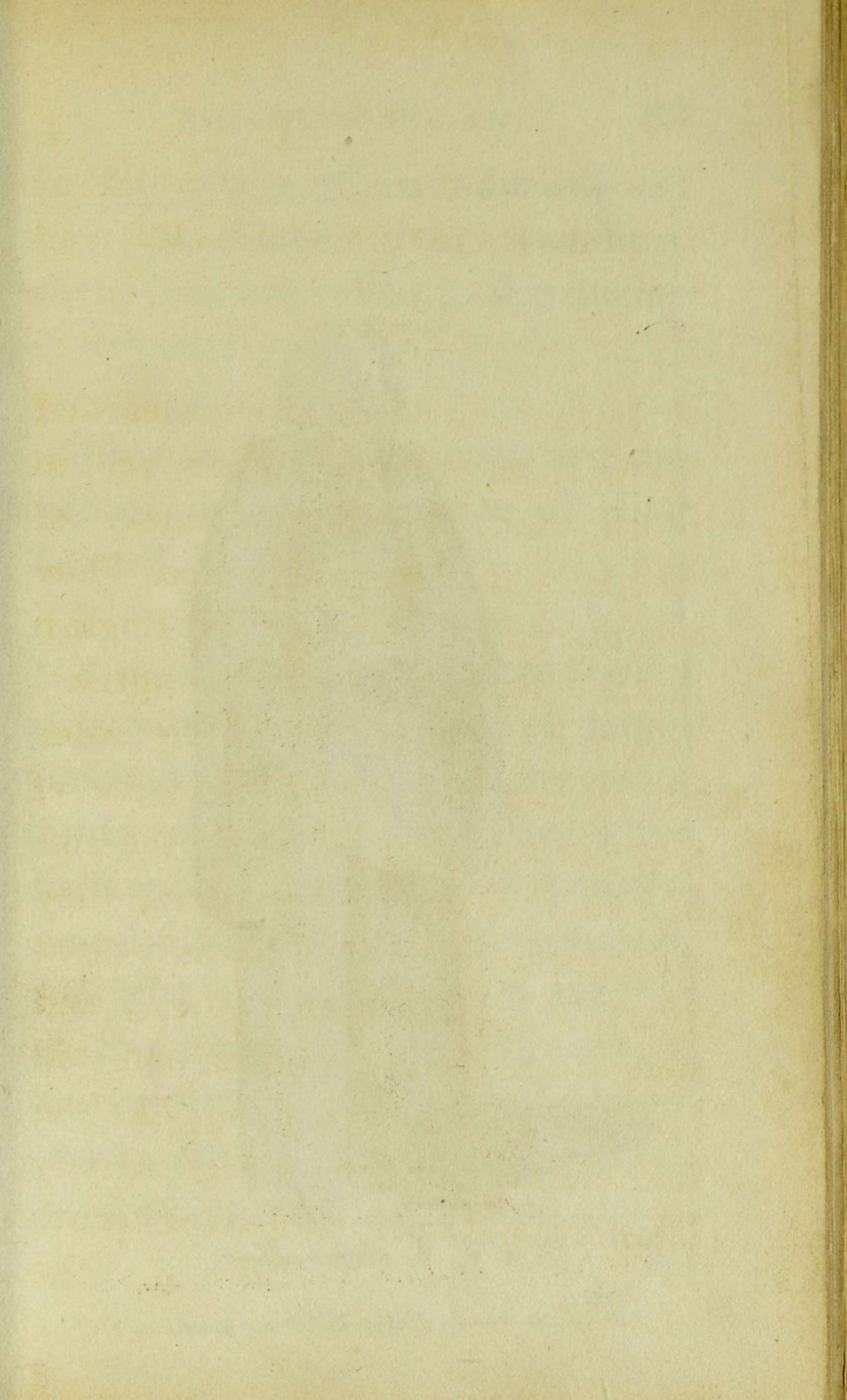
Serjeants are called by the king's mandate, or writ, directed to them, commanding them to take the degree by a day assigned. They are bound, says Judge Blackstone, by a solemn oath to do their duty to their clients: and as they are supposed to be the most learned and experienced lawyers, there is one court set apart for them to plead in by themselves, called the Court of Common Pleas; because there the unwritten, (as it is termed) or common law of England, is most strictly observed: but they are not prohibited pleading in other courts; and the judges, who by custom must be serjeants, call them *brothers*.

*BARRISTER*

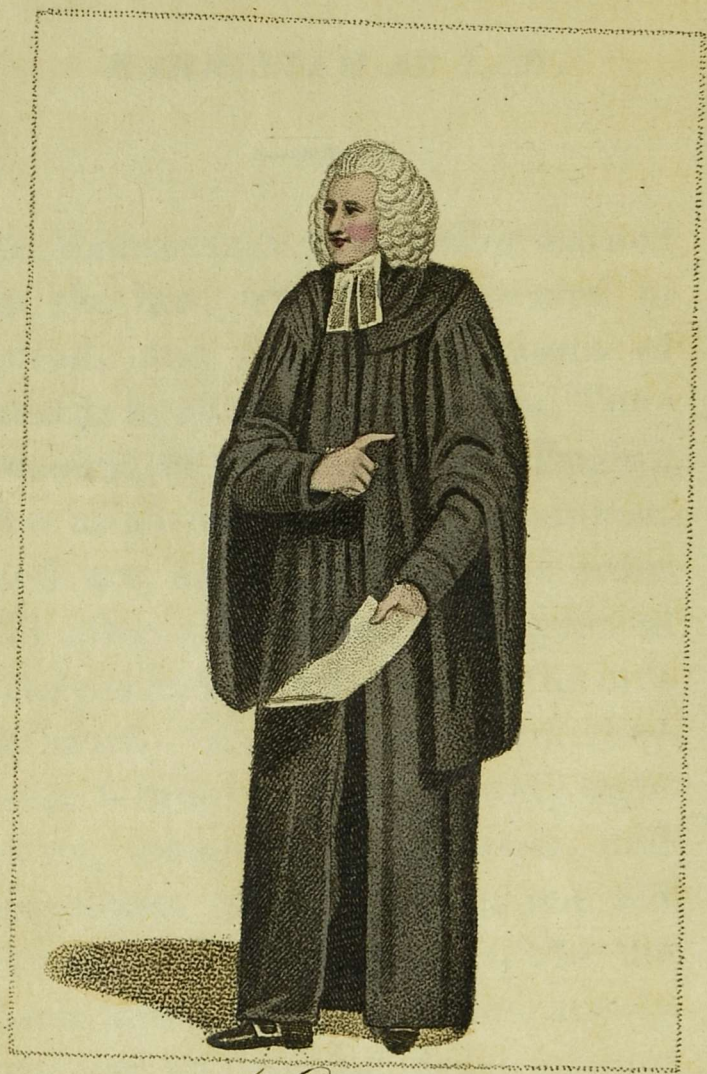


*BARRISTER AT LAW.*

A BARRISTER is a counsellor learned in the law, who is empowered to plead, and defend the causes of clients in our courts of justice. They amount to the same in the English law as advocates in other countries, and are not admitted to the order till after a considerable degree of study or at least standing in the inns of court. To pass barristers, they were formerly obliged to study eight years, though now only seven, and sometimes fewer; and in our old law-books are looked upon, like the bachelors of our universities, as only learners, and not qualified to execute the







*A Councillor.*

*Pub<sup>d</sup> 1 June 1805 by Tabart & Co 157 New Bond Str.<sup>t</sup>*

the full office of an advocate till they are sixteen years standing, when they are called to the degree of serjeant.

They seem to have been first appointed by an ordinance of King Edward I. about 1291.

A custom has sometimes prevailed of granting letters patent of precedence to such barristers as the crown thinks proper to honour with the distinction. These rank promiscuously with the king's counsel, and with them sit within the bar of the respective courts; but as they receive no salaries and are not sworn, are at liberty to be retained in causes against the crown.



All the others, whether serjeants or barristers, indiscriminately, (except in the court of common pleas, where serjeants only are admitted) may take upon them the defence of any suiters, whether plaintiff or defendant, who are therefore called their *clients*.

Judge Blackstone tells us it is established that a counsel can maintain no action for his fees; which are given as a mere gratuity, which a counsellor cannot demand without doing wrong to his reputation. And in order to encourage due freedom of speech in the lawful defence of their clients, it has been held by the lawyers that a counsel is not answerable for any thing he may  
say

say that relates to the cause in hand, and is suggested by the instructions of his client; not even though it should reflect upon another, or after all prove absolutely groundless. Though as a proper check to those of the profession who may be inclined to be illiberal, or to prostitute that freedom which the law allows, it is determined that if a barrister mentions an untruth of his own invention, or even upon instructions, if it be impertinent to the cause in hand, he is then liable to an action from the party injured.



*A DOCTOR IN DIVINITY.*

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A DOCTOR, simply so expressed, means a person, who, having been long engaged in study, and passed all the degrees of what is called a faculty in our universities, is empowered to teach or practise the same. The title is supposed to have been created in the university of Paris about 1140, and to have been introduced into England about 1207.

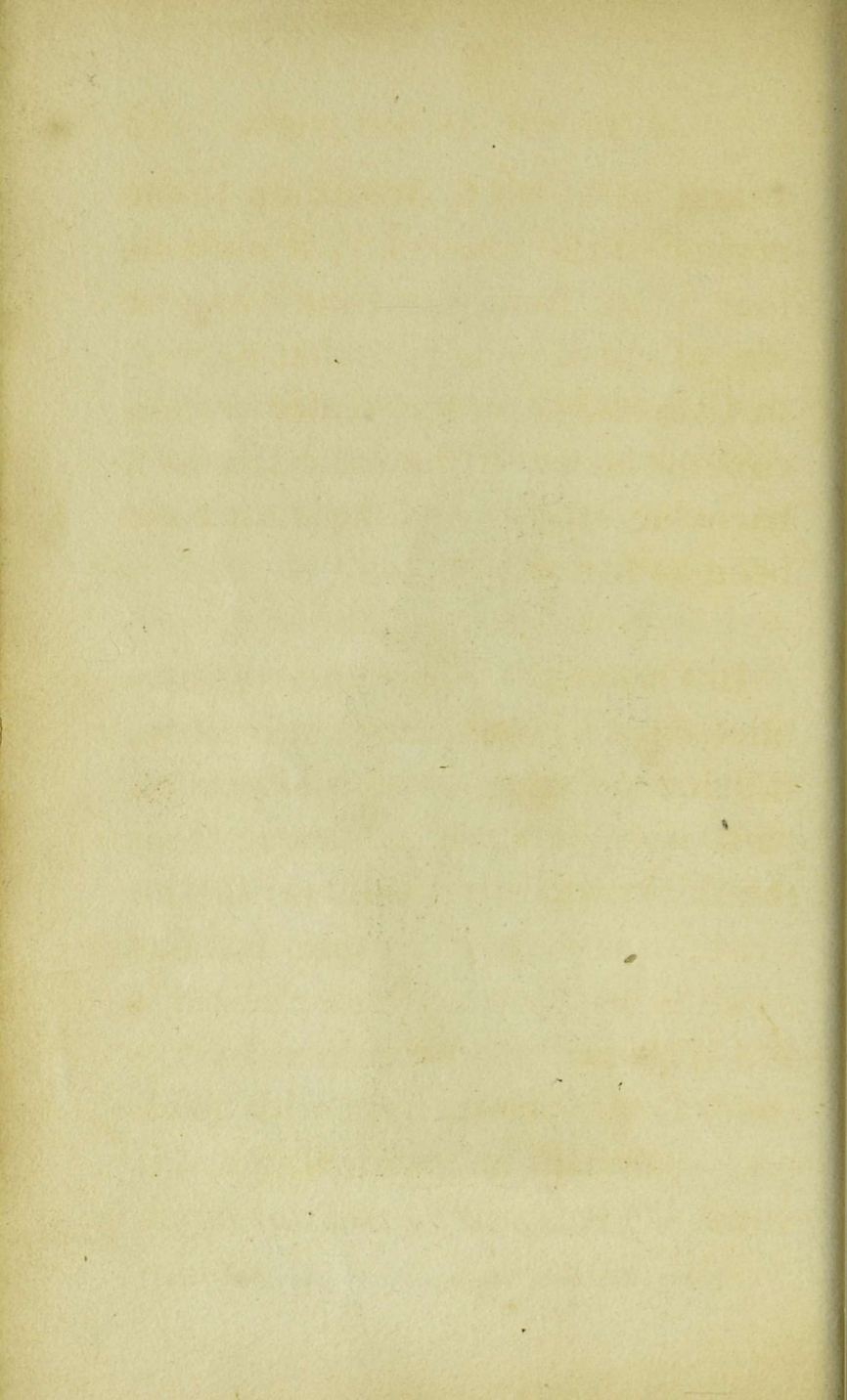
To be a doctor of divinity in Oxford, the candidate must have been a bachelor of divinity four years;



*A Doctor of Divinity.*

*Pub by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> June 4-1805 New Bond St.*





years; or at least, according to the régime of the university, it must be four years from the time when he was of standing to take that degree. In Cambridge, unless under certain circumstances, if the candidate be a bachelor of divinity, he must have been so five years.

In Oxford, during solemn assemblies, or processions of the university, the doctor's dress-gown is of scarlet, with wide black velvet-sleeves from the thickest part of the arm to the wrist; it is without a cape; but has a button and loop to secure the scarf; and is likewise accompanied by the hood of scarlet cloth, lined with black silk. His cap, on such occasions, is round, of black velvet, and not much



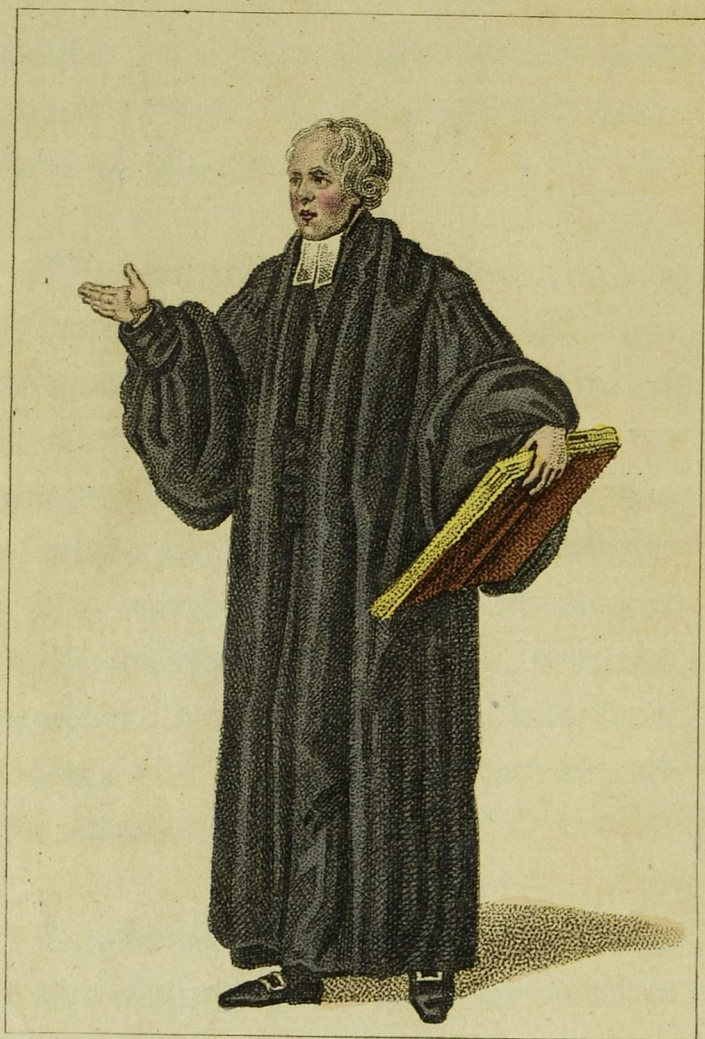
unlike in shape to that which is at present worn by his majesty's yeomen of the guard.

The ordinary gown is black, either of crape, silk, or prince's stuff; it is without a cape, and is exactly similar in form to that which is worn by masters of arts, except that it has a button and loop for the scarf which is only worn by doctors. The sleeves reach nearly to the ground, and are scooped away at the end, but have a cross slit about the centre to put the arms through.

The hood shewn in the engraving is the distinction of a doctor of divinity in both of our universities.







*A Clergyman in full Orders.*

*Publ. June 1805 by Tabart & Co 167 New Bond Street*

## A CLERGYMAN in FULL ORDERS.

IN the general acceptation of the word, *priests* are any ministers of a church: but in the more particular one, it implies those who are admitted to the full or second degree of holy orders.

In conferring holy orders, the church of England preserves but two distinctions, while those in the Romish church were seven. The first degree is that of *deacon*. Deacons were originally instituted with no other functions than to assist the priest at the altar. By the regulations of the church, a deacon must

H 2

be



## 76 CLERGYMAN IN FULL ORDERS.

be of the age of twenty-three at his admission. He is allowed to baptize, to catechize, to preach, to assist in the administration of the sacrament, to solemnize matrimony, and to inter the dead; but he can neither consecrate the sacred elements or read the absolution, these being the peculiar duties of the *priest*, or clergyman in full orders. Nor can a deacon, as such, be instituted to a living.

To be admitted to the ecclesiastical functions in their full extent, as well by the canons of the church as by an act of Queen Elizabeth, a man must be twenty-four. Though, anciently, when there were more degrees of holy orders in the church,  
thirty

thirty was the age. The manner and form of ordination both for deacon and priest is annexed to the book of Common prayer.

A prejudice was long entertained, that they who had only received deacon's orders might at any time throw off the sacred character; but of late years, when the clergy were no longer suffered to sit among the commons in parliament, its indelibility was confirmed by the legislature.

The gowns which the clergy usually wear are different: some adopting those appropriate to the degrees they may have taken in the university, others wearing such as



## 78 CLERGYMAN IN FULL ORDERS.

they deem most convenient; but the generality adopting that as a preaching gown which is represented in the plate: from its fulness, usually termed the pudding-sleeve.

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*AN ADMIRAL.*

ON the origin and denomination of this important officer, whom we find, with some variation, established in most kingdoms that border on the sea, authors are divided. The Sicilians are by some said to be the first, and the Genoese the next, who gave the title to the commanders of their naval armaments; and it is affirmed they took it from a Saracen or Arabic term, that signifies a commanding officer.

The first admiral we read of in the English history is under Edward I. And the first title of Admiral



miral of England conferred upon a subject, was given by patent from Richard II. to the Earl of Arundel and Surry, in 1387. His successors were afterward called lord high admirals, to whose care the whole government of the British navy was committed; and they were vested with a power not only to appoint sea-officers, but also commissioners, or judges, for exercising justice in the court of admiralty.

Prince George of Denmark, however, was the last who had the title of lord high admiral; the office is now put into commission, and the commissioners are styled lords of the admiralty.



*An Admiral.*

*Pub.<sup>d</sup> June 1806 by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> 137 New Bond Street.*





An admiral, such as we have represented in the plate, is the commander in chief of a single fleet, or squadron; and is distinguished by a flag displayed at his main-top-mast-head. Thus we say, the admiral of the *red*, the admiral of the *white*, and the admiral of the *blue*.

A *vice-ADMIRAL* commands the second squadron of a fleet, and has his flag set up at the fore-top-mast-head; and a *rear-ADMIRAL* the third and last squadron: he carries his flag at the mizen-top-mast-head.

A CAPTAIN

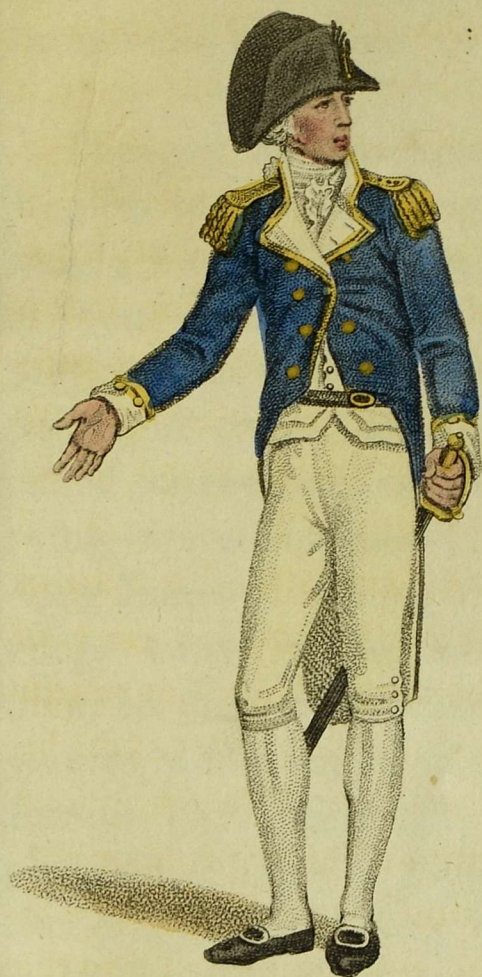


*A CAPTAIN IN THE NAVY.*

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AT the present day captains of ships, are of two kinds; the one of a ship of war, by whom we mean a captain in the navy: the other is only the commander of a trading vessel.

The rank of captain of a man of war is held equivalent to that of colonel in the army. He is accountable for the ship, if lost or taken by his misconduct; and his province extends to the military government, navigation, and equipment, of the ship which he commands, and to the conduct of the inferior officers and  
men,



*A Captain in the Navy*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co June 4-1805 New Bond St.*





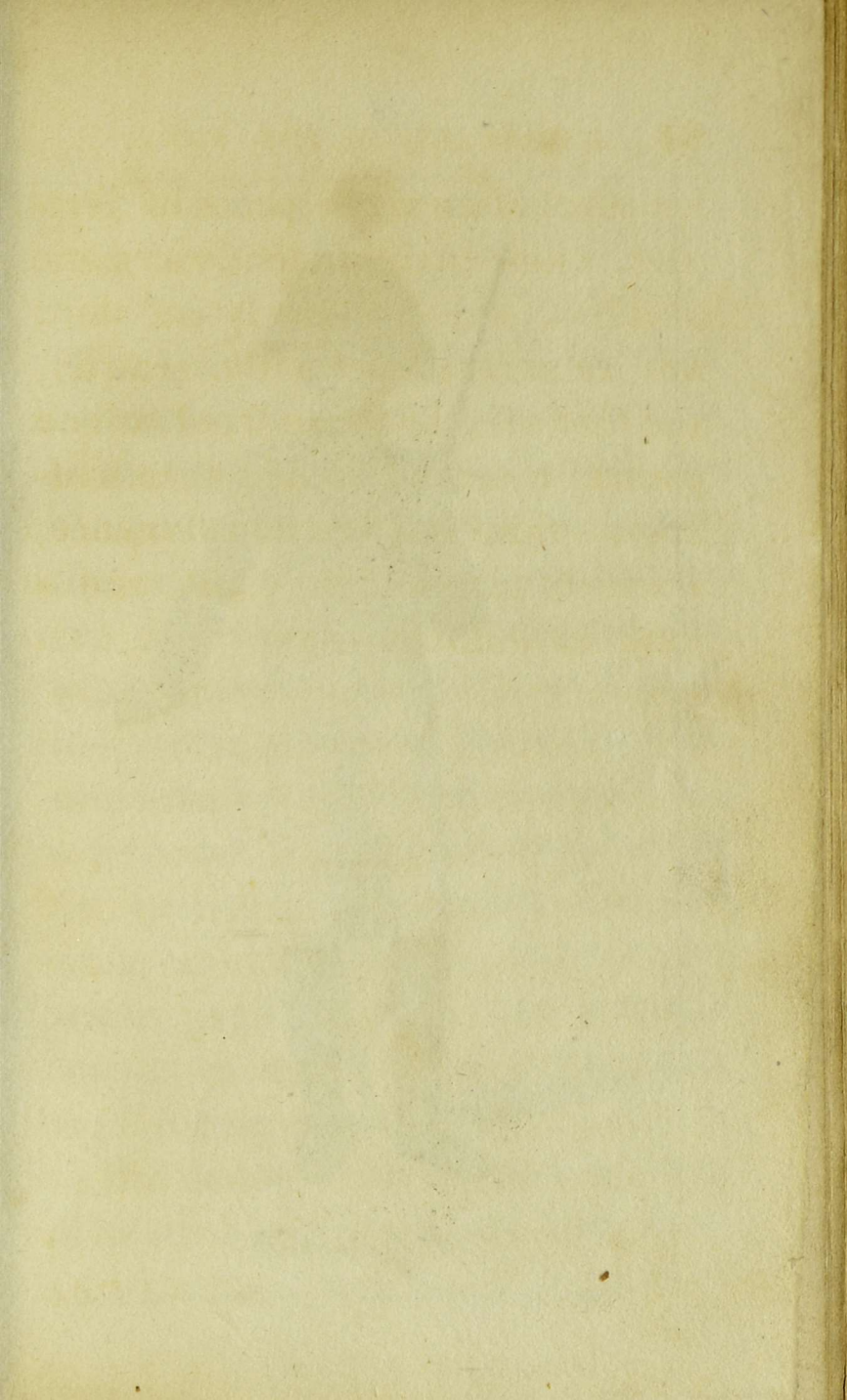
men, which he is required to superintend and regulate.

The pay of sea-captains in the English service was originally very small; but the defect was made up to them by many privileges which they are not now allowed, as plundering of prizes, taking what were called convoy-monies, and even carrying merchant-goods, plate, &c. King James II. taking this last privilege away, in lieu of it granted them an annual allowance of table-monies almost equal to their whole former pay. But this not taking place on account of James's abdication of the throne, King William III. in 1693 ordered the pay of captains to be doubled; but the fund even  
for



for this failing at the peace of Ryswick, a new establishment was made in 1700, whereby nearly one third was retrenched from the sea-pay, and that of a first rate fixed at one pound, a second rate sixteen shillings, a third thirteen and sixpence, a fourth ten, a fifth eight, and a sixth six shillings a day

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*A General.*

*Pub.<sup>d</sup> June 1805 by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup>, 157 New Bond Street.*

## A GENERAL.



THE General of an army is the chief commanding officer, whose business is to regulate the march and encampment of the army, to choose the most advantageous ground in the day of battle, to dispose the army, post the artillery, and send his orders wherever there may be occasion by his aids-de-camp. At a siege he is to cause the place to be invested, to regulate the approaches and attacks, to visit the works, and to send out detachments for securing the convoy and for foraging.

But of this order there are three inferior degrees. These are *lieutenant-*

I



*tenant-general, major-general, and brigadier-general.*

A lieutenant-general is the next in rank to the commander in chief; and in battle the oldest, according to the date of his commission, commands the right wing of an army, the second the left wing, and the third the centre, &c.; and in sieges they command the right of the principal attack: one part of their function is to assist the general with their counsel.

The major-general is the next in rank: he receives the general's orders, and delivers them to the majors of brigades, with whom he concert what troops are to mount the guard

guard, what to go on parties, and what to form detachments, or to be sent on convoys, &c.; it is also his business to view the ground for the army to encamp on, and when it marches to place himself at his head. In sieges, if there are two separate attacks, the second belongs to him.

A brigadier-general is an officer that commands a brigade or division only of an army, and is only a general officer in his respective corps.

A *general of horse* is an officer next in command to the chief general, who has the absolute command of the horse of an army above the lieutenant-general. A *general of foot* has a similar power over the infantry.



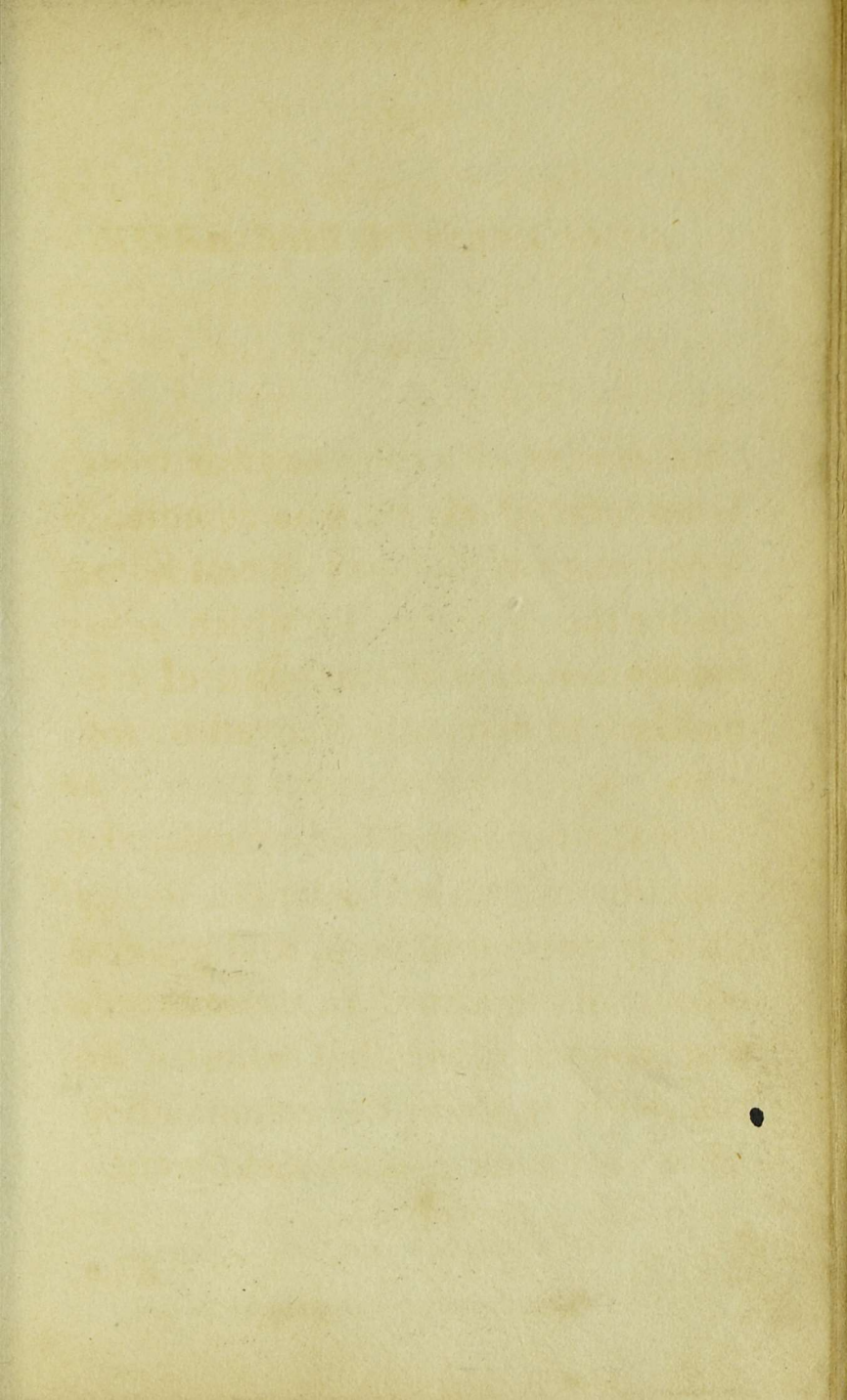
*A CAPTAIN IN THE ARMY.*

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A CAPTAIN of a company, or troop, is an inferior officer, who commands a company of foot, or troop of horse, under the colonel. In which sense we say a captain of dragoons, of grenadiers, of marines, of invalids, &c.

In the horse and foot-guards, the captains are styled colonels, being usually persons of rank, and general officers of the army. In the colonel's first company, or that whereof he himself is *captain*, the commanding officer is called *captain-lieutenant*.

The







*A Captain in the Army.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co June 4-1805, New Bond St.*

The duty of this officer is to be careful to keep his company full of able-bodied soldiers, to visit their tents and lodging, to see what is wanting, pay them well, cause them to keep themselves neat and clean in their clothes, and to keep their arms bright. He has power in his own company of making serjeants and corporals.

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## THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.



DURING the time of William the Conqueror, and till the reign of Richard I. the name of the civil governor of London was Port-reve, or Bailiff: but in 1189 it was changed to that of Mayor, and the first who held the office was Henry Fitz Alwyn. In 1197, the mayor was first vested with the conservancy of the Thames; but till 1345 the election to the office was not established on a regular plan. About 1354, it seems, the title of *Lord* Mayor was assumed; and in 1475 the mode of election still used, (by the master wardens







*The Lord Mayor of London.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co June 4-1805 New Bond St.*

wardens, and liveries of the city companies) adopted.

In the election of a lord mayor, says Mr. Noorthouck, all the aldermen under the chair, who have served the office of sheriff, are proposed in rotation, two of whom are to be returned by the common-hall to the court of aldermen, whose choice is limited to one of those two. It has been the usual custom of the livery to nominate the two senior aldermen under the chair; and the court of aldermen have usually upon the like example elected the senior of those two into the office; but that each of them have a right to deviate from this usual method, is indisputable: and in cases of particular  
dislike,



dislike, especially when the city has been divided into political parties, the order of rotation has been disregarded.

Although the office of lord mayor is elective, yet it may in some measure be said to be perpetual; for his authority, unlike to that of all commission-officers, does not cease on the demise of the king. In such cases the lord mayor of London is said to be the principal officer of the kingdom, and takes his place in the privy council until the new king is proclaimed. His powers are very extensive: he is the king's representative in the civil government of the city; first commissioner of the lieutenancy; perpetual coroner and  
escheator

escheator within the city and liberties of London and the borough of Southwark; chief justice of oyer and terminer, and goal delivery of Newgate; judge of the courts of wardmote at the election of an alderman; conservator of the rivers Thames and Medway; perpetual commissioner in all affairs relating to the river Lea; and chief butler of the kingdom at all coronations.

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ALDERMAN.



## AN ALDERMAN.



ALDERMAN, among our Saxon ancestors, was a title of nobility: ealdorman among them implied a man advanced in years, and accordingly supposed to be of superior wisdom and gravity. In the time of Edgar, the office was among the first in the kingdom.

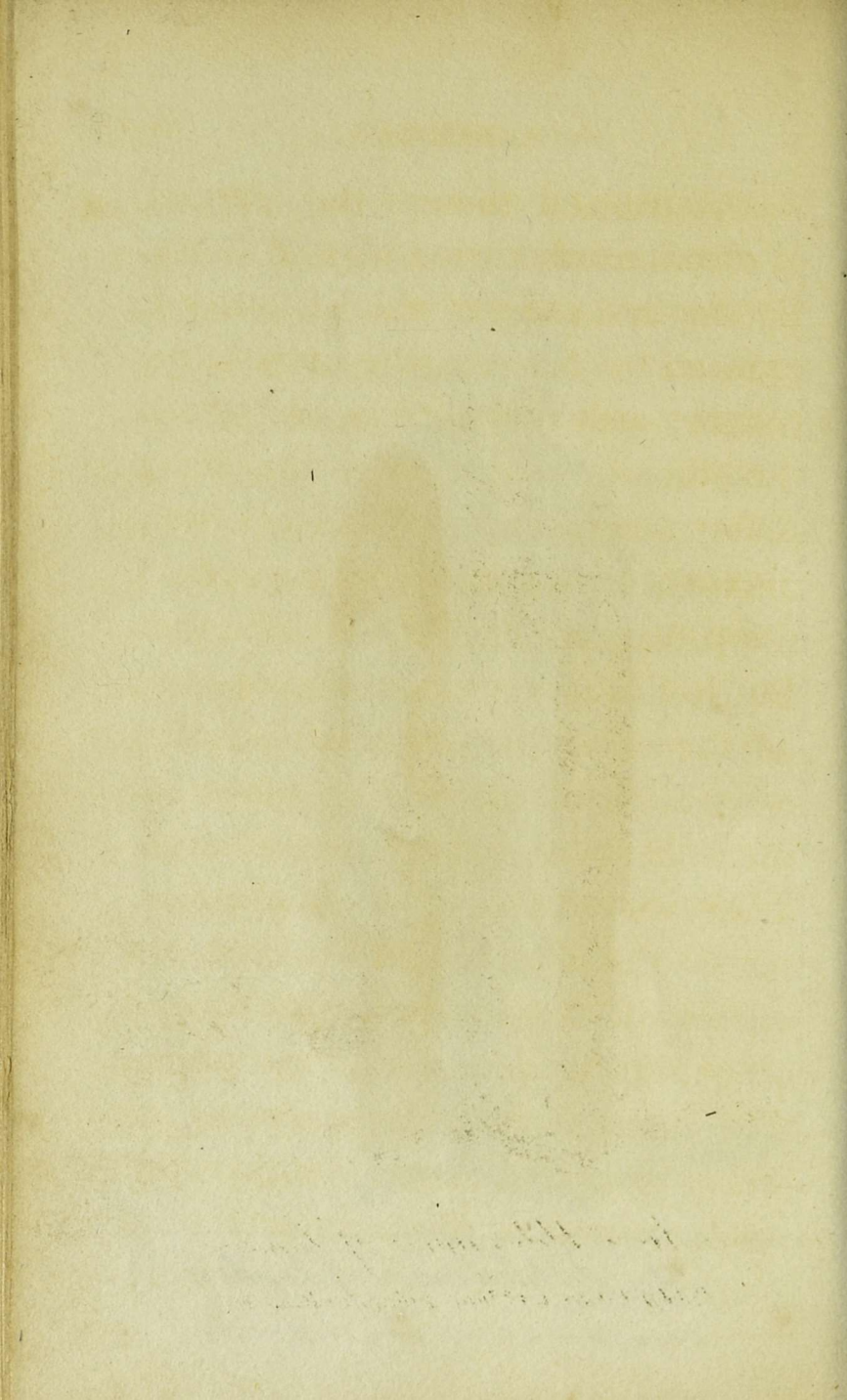
In the present state of English *polity*, it signifies an associate to the mayor or civil magistrate of a city or town, for the better administration of his office. In our cities, as well as most of the municipal or incorporated



*An Alderman of London.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co June 4-1805 New Bond St.*





incorporated towns, the aldermen form a kind of council, and regulate things relating to the policy of the place. They sometimes also take cognizance of civil and criminal matters, but that very rarely, and only in particular towns. Their number is not limited, but varies in various places: in some it is six, in others twenty-six. Out of them are annually elected the mayors, or chief magistrates, who, after the expiration of their year of office, return again into the body of the *aldermen*.

The twenty-six *aldermen* of LONDON are properly the subordinate governors of their respective wards, and originally held their offices either  
by



by inheritance or purchase; at which time the wards changed their names as often as they did their governors. The oppression, however, to which the citizens were subject from such a government as this, put them upon means to abolish the perpetuity of the office; and by application to Edward III. in 1376, at the time he renewed the charter of his father, they brought it to an annual election. But this being attended with inconveniences, and becoming a source of perpetual contention, the parliament of 1395, in the seventeenth of Richard II. enacted, that the aldermen of London should continue in their several offices during life or good behaviour; and so it still

still continues, though the manner of election has varied several times. By the first charter which Charles I. granted to this city, the mayor, recorder, such aldermen as had served the office of mayor, and the three senior aldermen, who had not been mayors, were constituted justices of the peace for the city and liberties. But in 1742, it was found necessary, for the more effectual administration of justice, to extend that power to the whole body of aldermen at large. They who have passed the chair, or served the office of lord mayor, are justices of the *quorum*, and all the other aldermen justices of the peace. They are exempted from serving inferior offices: and are neither put upon assizes, or serve on juries, as



long as they continue to be aldermen. When one of them dies or resigns, the wardmote chuse a successor, who is admitted and sworn into office by the lord mayor and court.

The court of lord mayor and aldermen is a court of record, wherein is lodged a great part of the executive power. All taxes, and other instruments that pass the city-seal, are executed by them ; the assize of bread ascertained ; contests relating to water-courses, lights, and party-walls adjusted ; and the city-officers suspended or punished, according to the notoriety of their offences. This court has not only a right of fixing their several taxes, with the appro-  
bation

bation of privy-council; but also a power of disposing of most of the places belonging to the city-officers, and of electing annually eleven overseers, or rulers of the fraternity of watermen.

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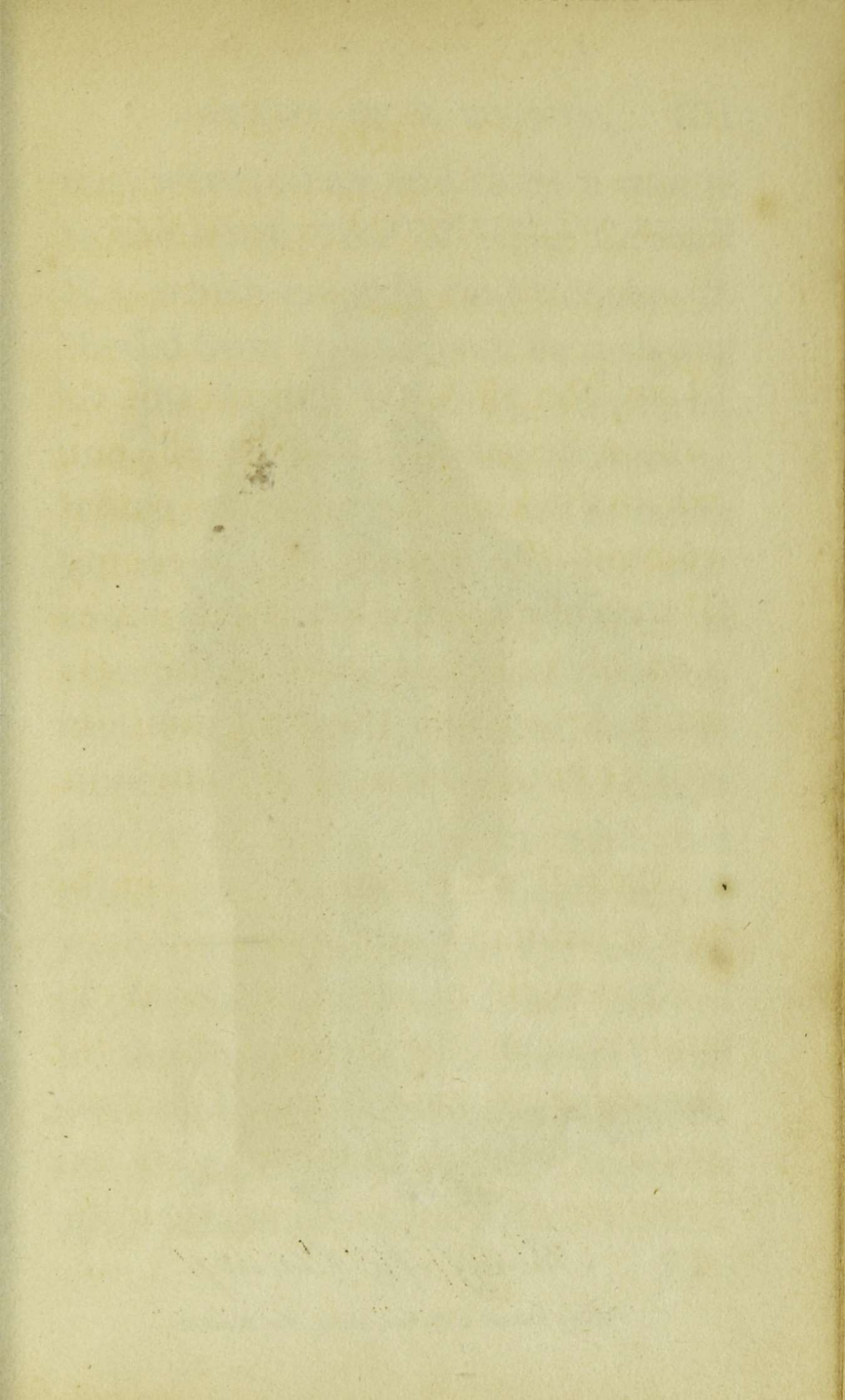


*A SHERIFF OF A COUNTY.*

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**T**HE Sheriff is the executor of the law in his county, and the officer to whom the king, by his letters patent, commits the custody of the county. His chief qualification is the possession of sufficient land within the same to answer the king and the people in any manner of complaint.

Sheriffs were formerly chosen by the inhabitants of the several counties, though in some, as in Westmoreland at the present day, the sheriffs were hereditary. These popular elections, however, on the juncture of their growing tumultu-  
ous







*Sheriff of a County.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co. June 4-1805 New Bond St.*

ous, were put an end to by a statute in the ninth year of King Edward II.; which enacted that the sheriffs should from thenceforth be assigned by the lord chancellor, treasurer, and the judges, as being persons in whom the trust might with safety be reposed. Other statutes also were made in succeeding reigns to regulate the election; and the custom now is, which has obtained ever since the time of Henry VI., that all the judges, together with the other great officers, meet in the exchequer-chamber on the morrow of All Soul's yearly, (now altered to the morrow of St. Martin) and then and there propose persons to the king, who afterwards appoints one of them to be sheriff.



The sheriffs of London and Middlesex, are still, however, chosen by the livery of London in common-hall.

The sheriff is not only the governor, but may be likewise styled the treasurer of his shire or county. For it is his business to collect and pay into the exchequer the public revenues of his county, to levy the fines even by distraining, to attend the judges, to execute convicts, and to determine lesser causes.

An attorney, it is said, is exempt from the office of sheriff, because of his attendance on the courts of Westminster. Nor can any person be obliged to take the office during the  
time

time he is serving as a militia officer.

The sheriff, before he exercises any part of his office, and before his patent be made out, is to give security in the king's remembrancer's office in the exchequer, under penalty of 100*l.* for the payment of his proffers, and all other profits of the sheriffwick; he must also take the oaths of allegiance and abjuration; and all, except the sheriffs of Wales and Chester, an oath for the due execution of their office.

In his judicial capacity, the sheriff is to hear and determine all causes of forty shillings' value and under, in his *county-court*. He is likewise to decide



decide the elections of knights of the shire, of coroners, of verdeors, or officers of the king's forests; to judge of the qualifications of all voters, and to return such as he shall determine to be duly elected, but incapable of being elected himself for the county, &c., of which he is returning officer.

As the keeper of the king's peace, both by common law and special commission, he is the first man in the county, and superior in rank to any nobleman therein during his office.

The sheriff is the keeper of the prisons in his county, all of which it is his duty to *visit often*, and to protect the unhappy prisoners from  
the

the cruelty and oppression of goalers and their turnkeys.

All writs are also executed in his name, and by his officers, whose extortions and arbitrary conduct he should attend to and correct.



*A COMMON-COUNCIL MAN.*

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THE earliest mention of common-council men, as appointed to assist the aldermen in public business, is said to be in 1285, when the city of London, being divided into twenty-four wards, each ward chose certain of the inhabitants to be of council, who were regularly sworn into their office; and in 1385 it was ordained, that four of each ward should be chosen.

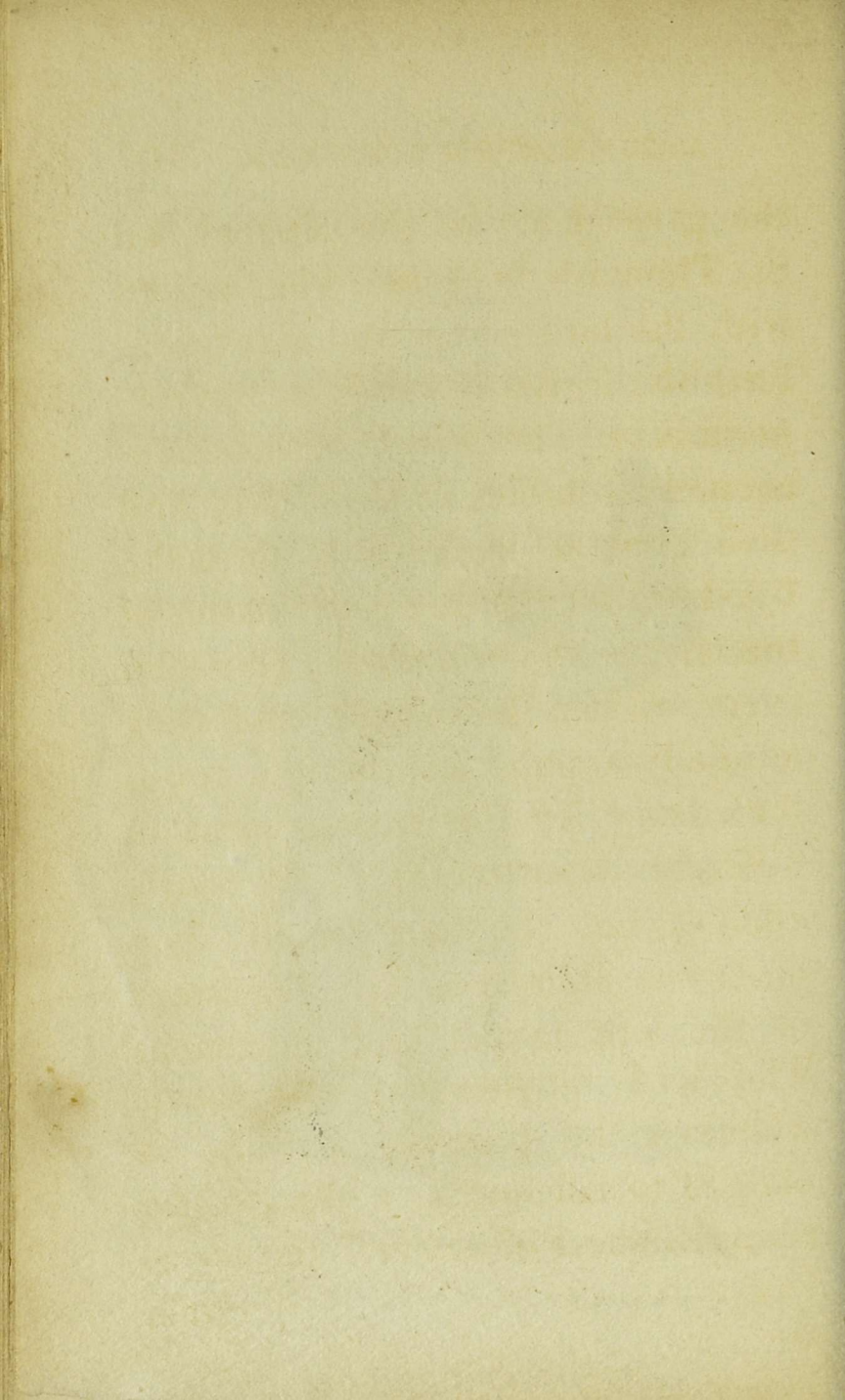
The common-council of London consists of two hundred and thirty-six deputies from the different wards of the metropolis, who are chosen annually, as the representatives of  
the



*A Common Councilman of London.*

*Pub. by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> June 4-1805. New Bond St.*





the great body of the citizens, on St. Thomas's day; and who, united with the lord mayor and aldermen, form the legislative body of the corporation. The court of common-council assembles in Guildhall, and their general business is to make bye-laws for the due government of the city, to the observance of which every citizen is bound: and they annually appoint committees out of their body for the management of different departments of the city's affairs: but the acts which they make are obliged to have the assent of the lord mayor and aldermen. The lord mayor may call courts whenever he pleases; but he is obliged to call four in a year. The commissioners of sewers, the town-clerk,



clerk, and some other officers, are in the appointment of the court.

As an instance of the service they have sometimes done, it ought to be remembered that during the dreadful plague, in 1665, Sir John Laurence held councils *daily*, that every necessary disposition for the public peace and safety might be made.



*A Gentleman in a Court Dress.*

*Pub. by Tabart & Co June 11805, Bond St.*



arm, are reckoned sufficient for officers in the deepest mourning.

Gentlemen not in uniform, wear what are called weepers in deep mourning, which are merely cambric cuffs, with broad hems turned back upon the sleeves.

The court-dress for ladies is now distinguished only by the hoop, lappets, and full ruffles; for the mantua is now made exactly like any other open gown, and differently in shape before, according to the fashion of the year: the petticoat also is plain or trimmed, according to the fancy of the wearer. The most general form is the one followed in the plate; of late, it has  
been







*A Lady in a Court Dress.*  
*Pub. by Tabart & Co. June 4-1805 Bond Str.<sup>t</sup>*

been more the fashion to have the petticoat, both the drapery and the under part, of the same colour as the gown; but a coloured drapery over a white petticoat prevailed for many years, and the drapery was even often of a different colour from the gown. Velvet, sattin, silk, crape, and gauze, are the only materials allowed for ladies' court dresses; the lappets are sometimes of black lace, but oftener the same as the ruffles of fine lace or blonde. Court dresses are trimmed, and often embroidered with gold and silver; and artificial flowers are much used for ornamenting the petticoat. Feathers are not reckoned a necessary part of a court dress; but young ladies very seldom go without them, and they



at the same drawing-room, but before they were presented to her majesty; but since the king has gone so much seldomer to court, they have been presented first to the queen at a common drawing-room, and to the king at the birth-day following; and those invited by her majesty to the entertainments at Windsor, have been presented to his majesty there: in that case, they are not in court dresses, but the ceremony is the same. On their being named to the king, by the lord of the bed-chamber, they make a low courtesy, and he salutes them; but their right-hand glove should be off, as if they intended to take his hand to kiss.

To her majesty, the ceremony of presentation for ladies is different according to their rank: all under the rank of right honourable kiss the queen's hand, making so low a courtesy as to have almost the appearance of kneeling; she salutes those who have that rank, though they equally have their glove off.

People are presented on different occasions: on first coming into the world, (which young ladies usually do about seventeen or eighteen); on their marriage, or any change of name; on going abroad, or to Ireland; or to an appointment to any situation about their majesties or the royal family.

Gentlemen



Gentlemen are also presented on obtaining a commission in the army; promotion in the army or navy; a place under government; or any high situation in the church or law.

The personal attendants on the royal family are presented in private to the one they belong to, and to the king or queen, or both, (if it is an attendant on any of the other branches of the royal family) at the levee and drawing-room.

The drawing-room generally begins about two o'clock, when their majesties come in; the king first, preceded and followed by his attendants; and the queen, led by her lord chamberlain, (or vice-chamberlain

lain in his absence); her train led by a page of honour, and followed by the princesses, each led by one of her majesties gentlemen ushers, or equerries: the ladies of the bed-chamber in waiting to the queen and princesses follow; then the maids of honour; and last, the bed-chamber woman in waiting on the queen. On the birth-days, the mistress of the robes, all the ladies of the bed-chamber, and bed-chamber women, follow in the train, those in waiting going first; the mistress of the robes usually takes her waiting on the birth-days, as the groom of the stole does his upon his majesty.

At the entrance of the drawing-room, the page resigns the queen's  
train



train to the lady of the bed-chamber, who hangs it over her arm, and keeps it there during the whole of the drawing-room; of course, she must then follow before the princesses.

The queen courtesays to the king on entering the drawing room, which she then goes round to the left, while he is doing so to the right; and their majesties speak to every person as they get up to them. The page, gentleman usher, and bed-chamber women, do not follow the queen into the inner drawing-room, nor the ladies of the bed-chamber not in waiting; and the maids of honour do not go round it with her, but stand altogether at  
one

one end till the drawing-room is over, when they follow her out, and fall into the train in their places in the outward drawing-room. Their majesties come and go through the levee-rooms.

Since there have been drawing-rooms so much seldomer, (only on every other Thursday) and that, of course, they have been so much more crowded, their majesties, instead of going round the room, have stood each with their back to a table between the windows, and the company have gone up to them. Any of the royal family coming to court, go in at the middle door, the company at one of the two side doors; and since their majesties have stood  
still,



still, they should go in at the door next the windows, and out at the other.

There are three rooms in which those desirous of seeing the company go to court may stand, by obtaining tickets from the lord chamberlain: the guard-chamber, the royal presence-chamber, and the privy-chamber; in the last only, they also see the king, queen, and royal family pass, as it is between the levee-rooms and the outer drawing-room.

The inward drawing-room is also called the great council-chamber; and in it his majesty receives addresses from the houses of parliament, city, &c. when he sits under the canopy at the upper end. In

this room are also held the chapters of the different orders, and the royal children are christened.

For that ceremony, her majesty's state-bed of crimson velvet, lined with white sattin, and with a counterpane of point lace, is placed under the canopy: the mattresses are so placed upon it as to admit of, and be even with the seat of a chair, placed in the middle, in which the queen sits, superbly dressed in white and diamonds, but not in a court-dress. At the foot of the bed is placed a table, covered with crimson-velvet, trimmed with gold, on which stands the bason, ewer, &c. all of gilt plate; the king stands on one side of this table, and the

M                      archbishop



archbishop on the other, with the sponsors, or their proxies, near him. All the branches of the royal family, with their attendants; all who compose the king or queen's family; the great officers of state, ministers, peers and peeresses, privy counselors and their wives, and peers' unmarried daughters, are admitted, but no other persons, to this ceremony: all are in full court-dresses. The child is brought from the royal nursery, carried on a crimson-velvet cushion by the governess, and attended by the lord chamberlain, vice-chamberlain, the maids of honour, the gentlemen ushers, &c.: the sub-governess and nurse also attend.

The

The governess first carries the child up to her majesty, and then places herself with it at the bottom of the bed, near the archbishop: the maids of honour stand three and three on each side of the bed.

Before the christening the company are admitted to see the child in its state-cradle, of crimson-velvet and gold, which stands with a wire railing round it, under the canopy, in the canopy-room of the royal nursery: the governess, sub-governess, gentlemen ushers, &c. attending.

During her majesty's lyings-in, there are regular enquiries after her at St. James's, in what is called the



queen's little drawing-room, where the lady of the bed-chamber, and bed-chamber women in waiting, two maids of honour, and one gentleman usher, attend to receive them, from one to three in the morning, and from seven to nine in the evening.

Cake and caudle are offered by the pages to the company in the queen's presence-chamber, where a page writes down the names of those who come to enquire.

At the king and queen's birthdays, the royal children, before they were of an age to go to a drawing-room, received the company who were desirous of seeing them as they  
came

came from court, in the queen's little drawing-room, attended by the governess, sub-governess, and one of her majesty's gentlemen ushers.

On the two birth-days, the archbishop of Canterbury, at the head of the bishops, comes to congratulate her majesty in a speech fitted for the occasion. She receives them in her state bed-chamber, standing at the foot of the bed with the princesses, and the ladies of her own family standing round her, dressed for court. The bishops are preceded into the room by the lord or vice-chamberlain; and when the archbishop has made his address, the queen answers their congratulations in a short speech.



*A SCOTCH HIGHLANDER.*

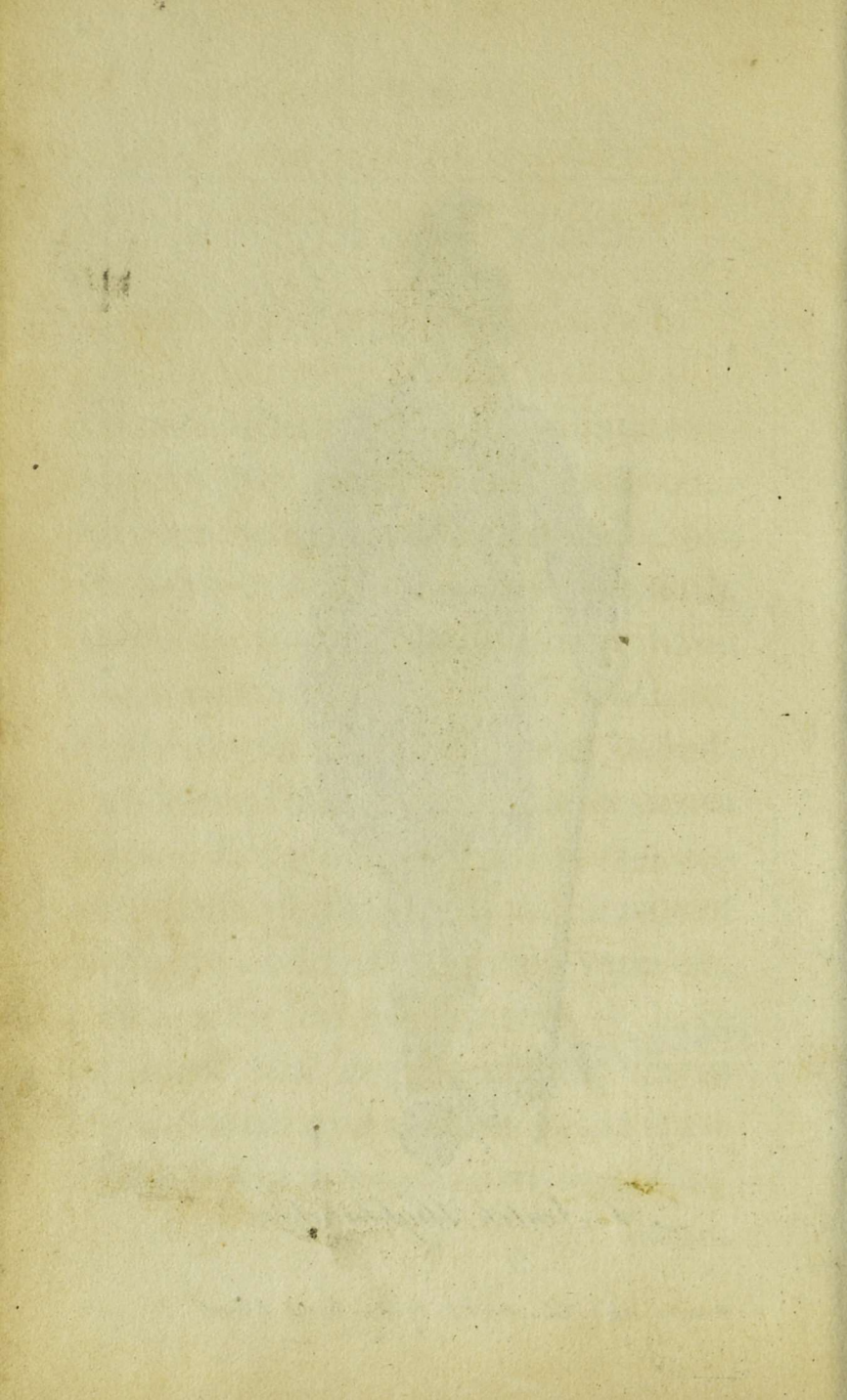
HIGHLANDERS is a general appellation for the inhabitants of the mountainous parts of any country: but in Britain, the name is particularly given to those people who inhabit the mountainous parts of Scotland, to the north and north-west, including those of the Hebrides, or western isles. They are, probably, the descendants of the first inhabitants of Britain; and though in the remotest times they do not appear to have possessed that degree of refinement in sentiment and manners that is ascribed to them by some writers, they  
seem



*A Scotch Highlander.*

*Pub. June 1805 by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> 157 New Bond Street*





seem always to have been a hardy, brave, and warlike people.

For a long series of years they enjoyed a king and governor of their own: but in 835, when Kenneth Mac Alpin, after having subdued the Pictish kingdom, transferred thither the seat of royalty, the country of the Highlands fell into anarchy and confusion. The petty chiefs began to extend their authority, to form factions, and to foment divisions and feuds between contending clans. *Klaan*, in the Highlands, signifies children; and, at that period, every great family formed a civil government within itself, of which its head was the absolute prince. Hence sprung all those evils



evils which for so long a time disgraced the remotest parts of Scotland. Family made a systematic warfare against family: quarrels were handed down from one generation to another; and the whole clan were bound in honour to espouse the cause, whether right or wrong, of every individual who composed it.

The idea which the English entertained of them in the reign of Elizabeth, may probably be obtained from Camden. He describes them as a people tight-moulded, of great strength and swiftness, high-spirited, bred up in war and robbery, and extremely prone to revenge and deep resentment. They wore striped  
mantles,

mantles, he says, and thick long hair, and lived by hunting, fishing, and plunder. In battle, their armour was an iron head-piece and a coat of mail, and they used bows and bearded arrows, and very broad swords, and were divided into companies called clans.

Doctor Johnson, in his journey to the western islands, gives a strong proof of their attachment, or rather their blind veneration for their chiefs, so late even as the reign of George I. When the Scots first rose in arms against the succession of the House of Hanover, *Loval*, the chief of the Frazer clan, was in exile. The Frazers were very zealous against the government. A pardon was sent  
to



to Lovat: he came to the English camp, and the clan immediately deserted to him.

After the rebellion of 1745, their arms, not even with the exception of the loyal clans, were taken from them by an act of parliament. The Highland chieftain, who had formerly been attended by a retinue wherever he went, having lost his military importance, now lost a great portion of his dignity; and in cases where his pride or his property have suffered injury, appeals no longer to his sword, but to the law. Since the disarming-act, not only the bows and arrows, but the broad-sword and the target have been laid aside; and, if  
we

we except his dirk, the native Highlander walks about defenceless.

Among the Highlanders of very early periods the harp is said to have been used ; but their chief instrument of music has been for ages, both in war and peace, the bagpipe. The particular music which is used in their dances, is generally known by the name of *strathspey-reels*.

The following summary of their habit is abridged from Mr. Pennant. Beside the cap, the dress of the men is the *brechan*, or plaid, twelve or thirteen yards of narrow stuff wrapped round the middle, and  
reaching



reaching to the knees, often girt round the waist, and in cold weather covering the whole body, even on the open hills all night, and fastened on the shoulders with a broche; short stockings tied below the knee; *truish*, a genteeler kind of breeches and stockings of one piece; *cuoranen*, a laced shoe of skin, with the hairy side out, now very much disused; the *kelt*, or *fillebeg*, the little plaid, or short petticoat, reaching to the knees, substituted of late to the longer end of the plaid; and lastly, the pouch of badger, or other skins, with tassels, that hangs before them.

*Precedency of Men in England.***KING**

Prince of Wales

King's Sons

King's Brothers

King's Uncles

King's Grandsons

King's Nephews

Vicegerent, when any such officer

Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Primate of all England

Lord High Chancellor or Lord Keeper

Archbishop of York, Primate of England

Lord High Treasurer

Lord President of the Privy Council

Lord Privy Seal

Lord High Constable in Commission

Hereditary Earl Marshal

Lord High Admiral

Lord Steward of his Majesty's Household

Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's household

Dukes according to their patents

Marquisses according to their patents

Dukes' Eldest Sons

Earls according to their patents

Marquisses' Eldest Sons

Dukes' Younger Sons

Viscounts according to their patents

Marquisses' Younger Sons

Bishops of { London  
                   { Durham  
                   { Winchester

Bishops.... { According to seniority of consecration;  
                   { but if any bishop be Principal Secretary of  
                   { State, he shall be placed above all other  
                   { bishops, not having any of the great offices  
                   { before mentioned.

Baron



Barons.... { According to their patents of creation ;  
 { but if any baron be Principal Secretary of  
 { State, he shall be placed above all barons,  
 { unless they have any of the great offices be-  
 { fore mentioned.

Speaker of the House of Commons

Viscounts' Eldest Sons

Earls' Younger Sons

Barons' Eldest Sons

Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Garter

Privy Councillors

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Chancellor of the Dutchy of Lancaster

Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench

Master of the Rolls

Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas

Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer

Judges { Of the degree of the coif of the said courts,  
 Barons { according to seniority

Bannerets { Made under the king's own royal standard,  
 { displayed in an army royal, in open war, by  
 { the king himself in person, for the term of  
 { their lives only, and no longer

Viscounts' Younger Sons

Barons' Younger Sons

Baronets

Bannerets not made by the king in person

Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Bath

Knights Bachelors

Baronets' Eldest Sons

Knights' of the Garter Eldest Sons

Bannerets' Eldest Sons

Knights' of the Bath Eldest Sons

Knights' Eldest Sons

Doctors of Divinity, Laws, and Medicine, of the English  
 Universities

Serjeant at Law

Baronets' Younger Sons

Esquires of the King's creation by the imposition of a  
 collar of SS.

Esquires attending Knights of the Bath

Esquires by office, as Justices of the Peace, &c.

Captains

Captains, and Gentlemen of the Privy Chamher, &c.  
 Knights' of the Garter Youngest Sons  
 Bannerets' (of both kinds) Younger Sons  
 Knights' of the Bath Younger Sons  
 Gentlemen entitled to bear Arms  
 Gentlemen by office, function, or profession  
 Clergymen  
 Attornies at Law, &c.  
 Citizens  
 Burgesses, &c.

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*Precedency of Women in England.*

QUEEN


Princess of Wales  
 Princess Royal  
 Daughters of the King  
 Duchess of York  
 Wives of the King's Younger Sons  
 Wives of the King's Brothers  
 Wives of the King's Uncles  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Dukes of the Blood-Royal  
 Daughters of Dukes of the Blood Royal  
 Wives of the King's Brothers or Sister's Sons  
 Dutchesses  
 Marchionesses  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Dukes  
 Daughters of Dukes  
 Countesses  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Marquisses  
 Daughters of Marquisses  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Dukes  
 Viscountesses  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Earls  
 Daughters of Earls  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Marquisses  
 Baronesses  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Viscounts  
 Daughters of Viscounts

Wives



Wives of the Younger Sons of Earls  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Barons  
 Daughters of Barons  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Viscounts  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Barons  
 Dames, Wives of Baronets  
 Wives of Knights of the Garter  
 Wives of Bannerets of each kind  
 Wives of Knight of the Bath  
 Wives of Knights Bachelors  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Baronets  
 Daughters of Baronets  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Knights of the Garter  
 Daughters of Knights of the Garter  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Bannerets of each kind  
 Daughters of Bannerets of each kind  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Knights of the Bath  
 Daughters of Knights of the Bath  
 Wives of the Eldest Sons of Knights Bachelors  
 Wives of Serjeants at Law, and Doctors of Divinity,  
     Law, and Medicines, of the English Universities  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Baronets  
 Daughters of Knights Bachelors  
 Wives of Esquires, attendants on Knights of the Bath  
 Wives of Esquires by office, as Justices of the Peace  
 Wives of Captains, Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, &c.  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Knights of the Garter  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Bannerets of each kind  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Knights of the Bath  
 Wives of the Younger Sons of Knights Bachelors  
 Wives of Gentlemen lawfully bearing Coat Armour  
 Daughters of Esquires lawfully bearing Coat Armour,  
     who are Gentlewomen by birth  
 Wives of Gentlemen by office, function, or profession, as  
     Clergymen, Attornies at Law, &c. &c.  
 Wives of Citizens  
 Wives of Burgesses, &c.

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