

TRUTH:
CONTAINING THE CASE OF THE
SEVEN PRINCES OF BRITAIN,
CONTRASTED WITH THAT OF
SEVEN BRITISH MERCHANTS;
WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR OPPOSING
THE DYNASTY OF BRUNSWICK,
AND THE
BRITISH CONSTITUTION,
TO THE
Phantasmagoria of the Destroyer,
AND THE
CODE NAPOLEON;
AND INSTEAD OF
CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION,
Suggesting the GREAT and WISE POLICY of endeavouring to amalgamate
THE DIFFERENT
CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS OF BRITAIN,
Into one grand Hierarchy ;
AND IN PLACE OF
RENEWING INDIA MONOPOLY,
CREATING ONE OF THE BRITISH PRINCES
EMPEROR OF INDIA,
AND ANOTHER
KING OF CANADA.

—
BY FINGAL.
—

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TO THE PUBLIC.

THE greatest part of this pamphlet was written early in January, which will account for some of the matter appearing rather out of date; though otherwise I hope it will be found relevant to the subjects under discussion.

It was delivered to the printer for publication on the 15th of the above month, but this was prevented by its requiring some corrections, to which I was then entirely, and still am unable properly to attend; having been seized about that period with a violent fever, in which I had nearly lost my life, and from the effects of which I am only slowly recovering.

Should Truth meet with a favourable reception, it will be continued as a periodical work, and re-published in a superior style of elegance on the 1st of May; and should I even go out to Spain, which is at present in contemplation, it will be continued by a Gentleman of talents and literature.

Perhaps also my details from the scene of warfare may then be found of considerable interest, as all my soul is in the cause; which, if proper measures are adopted, I have not a doubt will ultimately triumph.

London, April 11, 1812.

TO
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
GEORGE, PRINCE OF WALES,
REGENT OF GREAT BRITAIN.

SIR,

SHOULD truth not be listened to by the prince, its admonitions never will be attended to by the people ; and I have therefore presumed to dedicate to Your Royal Highness, the first number of this work.

Had I solicited and obtained Your Royal Highness's gracious and condescending permission, it would have subjected me to a suspicion which I am determined to avoid ; as it might have been supposed, that without any deviation from truth, I ought in that case to refrain from mentioning the second personage in the kingdom with any allusion to his having fallen into error upon past occasions, as well as every one of the many millions, whom Providence has now called upon him to direct and govern.

I am firmly devoted to a limited monarchical form of government, and know not which I detest most, a republic, or the domination of a despot.

My respectful attachment to my revered and lamented Sovereign is well known, and was proved at the period of the celebration of the Jubilee, in a manner certainly not thought of by any other person in the kingdom—unwarranted possibly in my situation, and which might have been arraigned by prudence, though applauded by loyalty !

Perhaps also, Illustrious Sir, the fervent wishes of my heart may even, to a certain extent, mislead my judgment ; as I still entertain the hope, that the afflicted father of his people may *yet* be restored to mental health ; and the evening life of our venerable Vespasian be soothed, cheered, and comforted, by the virtuous conduct and filial attentions of a British Titus.

None are so blind as those whom party politics lead astray ; and in spite of the deriding, and therefore ungracious scepticism of the leaders of a powerful party, when speaking of an expression of the rulers of the land—I for one, though a humble man, am firmly of opinion, *that character, both in an individual and in a kingdom, is not only strength, but an impregnable bulwark ;* and that a new and brilliant era in the history of Britain, as well as of the universe, is fast approaching !

This supposes no doubt, Sir, that the awful impending crisis is to be looked firmly in the face ; and that daring, determined, and energetic measures are to be adopted and persevered in, worthy of the greatest and freest nation upon earth : to the extent of obliging every individual in the kingdom, from the richest to the poorest, and from the illustrious members of Your Royal Highness's august family, to the humblest peasant—to come forward with either purse person, or both, according to their different means. And thus, by a brilliant example of national exertion and patriotism, rouse all *the people of Europe, in the British sense of that word*, to one universal effort against the Destroyer, his legions of warlike slaves, and his system of desolation !

My declared object in taking up my pen, is to endeavour to open the eyes of all ranks to a sense of the present situation of their country ; of the superior blessings which they enjoy above any other people ; and of the efforts necessary to preserve them, and turn threatening evils, by wise and prudent anticipation, into greatly beneficial results.

Public reform is in every man's mouth, Illustrious Sir, but in no single man's power. Private reform is in every one's power, and therefore like a captive in the dungeons of a despot, who can be examined at any time, conscience is little attended to, and at last turns callous from lengthened imprisonment.

The first wish of every loyal patriotic heart must be, to see the whole British nation united in itself, and identified in policy and principle with Your Royal Highness, and your government: and then it cannot be doubted, but that the union, upon constitutional grounds, of the Prince and of the People, would quickly overwhelm all the discordant parties who are tearing the state to pieces. Their varied war-whoops of patriotism, œconomy, reform, and unconditional Catholic emancipation; but whose real objects, with but too few exceptions, are employments, places, and pensions; or coalesced aristocratic influence and power, founded on principles equally destructive of the prerogative of the monarch, and of the sacred rights of the subject.

As Regent of this great kingdom, Your Royal Highness is at this moment approached with fawning flattery by the servile writers of one party, and attacked with malignant rancour, and apparently treasonable intentions, by the hireling partisans of the other.

Of the latter class, daring unprincipled individuals might be pointed out, who appear fitter objects for an exhibition in front of Newgate, than deserving of confinement in its interior; though the latter punishment I presume will ere long be their portion, should they not be confined by their friends in the lunatic hospital.

Truth, Illustrious Sir, is too often obliged to keep

in the back ground, more particularly when assailing old prejudices, or starting new opinions.

I have therefore for the present, the honour to address Your Royal Highness under a signature I have often assumed and never disgraced ; and which is the real one of the ostensible leader of a party, to whose cause I wish much good ; amounting, I humbly think, to even better than ultimate success in their avowed object ; but whose conduct at this moment I condemn with all the determined energy of truth.

That in these extraordinary times, the government of Your Royal Highness may proceed in a virtuous, undaunted, and glorious career ; unawed by faction, applauded by mankind, and protected by heaven, is the fervent prayer of a loyal man, whose children are taught from their earliest years—to fear God, to honour the King, and to be ready at all times to seal their fealty with their blood, in defence of his crown, and the sacred liberties of unconquerable Britain.

I have the honour to be,
With profound respect,

SIR,

Your Royal Highness's

Devoted and very humble Servant,

FINGAL,

The Caledonian.

TRUTH;

ADDRESSED TO EVERY

LOYAL PATRIOTIC BRITON.

RESPECTED FELLOW-SUBJECTS,

FOR many years previous to the French Revolution, the unceasing theme of the democratic party, was the abuse of the Royal Family, in all its branches.

They were tried in every tavern, coffee-house, and *cabaret*; and every real or alleged error was dwelt upon with the most malignant and diabolical delight.

Fiction and falsehood heaped crime upon crime; till, in the jaundiced eyes of the people, they were made to appear like so many monsters, by those very men who, it is well known, afterwards realized, in the

brutal infamy of their own lives, the imputed profligacy of the accused parties.

Danton, Robespierre, and Marât, formed a leading trio, with thousands of similar characters in their suite ; and, from every information on the subject, the dissolute courts of Tiberius or Domitian, never presented such disgraceful orgies to the view, as were daily witnessed during the period of the Revolution.

At present, also, from every account, the court of the Fell Destroyer of the liberties of France, as well as of Continental Europe, displays one continued scene of thoughtless dissipation, unbounded extravagance, and infamous intrigue.

These observations have been suggested to me, from having been present a few evenings ago in a principal coffee-house in town, when one of the reforming Demagogues was declaiming, with all the energy of the new school, against a paragraph which lately appeared in the newspapers, relative to the payment of the debts of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

Upon the infamy of such a measure, he declaimed most vociferously ; and, as I have long been of opinion, that this is a thing which ought to have been done before now, I instantly took up the cudgels, and soon discovered, that my opponent's head, though furnished with a most voluble tongue, was totally destitute of brains ; as, without bringing forward a single proof, he indulged in the most infamous, rancorous, and unfounded abuse, of one of the highest person-

ages in the kingdom ; and I was at last under the necessity, with the assistance of the company, of turning him out of the room.

What was my astonishment, when informed, that this jealous guardian of the public purse, had himself run through a handsome fortune, left him by an industrious father ; had failed about four years ago, for a large sum of money ; only paid three shillings in the pound ; and, was again supposed to be in the high road to bankruptcy.

When reflecting upon the circumstance afterwards, it occurred to me, that it might not be amiss to call the attention of the public to the consideration of this subject, which I beg to be allowed to state as “ *The Case of the Seven Princes of Britain, versus that of Seven British Merchants.* ”——I must preface it by saying, that no man living entertains a higher opinion than I do, of the character of a merchant ; but of late years, speculation has been carried to such an unbounded extent, as absolutely to have become, in many instances, greatly criminal : and, whilst I will not for a moment defend the real errors of any of the Princes, yet I wish their conduct, upon the head of extravagance and consequent debt, to be viewed in its proper light ; and, when this is done, and their debts contrasted with those of the Seven Merchants, I suspect the sins of the former will scarcely be thought of for a moment.

The debts of the Prince Regent, including £70,000.

which he has most handsomely agreed to pay for the Princess of Wales, I understand, from public report, may perhaps amount, at the very utmost, to £500,000

Let us say the Duke of York owes	150,000
His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence	80,000
His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent . .	60,000
His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland	—
His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex . .	60,000
His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge	—
His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester	—

In all £850,000

This is, no doubt, a very great sum, my respected Fellow-Subjects ; but it is not in fact more than the public expences of the British empire for five days, or the private expences of Napoleon, for six months ; as it is generally understood, that he allows himself fifty millions of livres annually, for his court, attendants, and equipage.

Be this as it may, he is, we all know, the upstart Despot of a day, and must not, I am well aware, be for a moment held up as an example, in any way, in this land of rational liberty.

As my wish is to have a fair public trial, I shall now therefore proceed to state, both from public report and private information, upon which I can perfectly depend, the amount of the debts of Seven Merchants, or Bankers, who failed at two different periods, viz. in

the years 1793 and 1810 ; and then, when contrasted with the debts of the Seven Princes, the public will be enabled to judge as to the extent of the demerits of the respective parties.

1793.	G. B. of Liverpool, failed for	£750,000
1796.	Again commenced business, and compounded for 10s. in the pound, for	170,000
1806.	Bankrupt in London, for	80,000
In all.....		£1,000,000
1793.	C.C.& Co. Bankers, in Liverpool	1,400,000
	Their friends in London, B. F. and G.	1,600,000
1810.	T. C. & Co. London, failed for	1,600,000
	B. & Co. Bankers, for	1,400,000
	K. & Co. and T. L. & Co. of Liverpool, each failed for about £400,000, and they were so deeply linked, that, though not partners, I shall take them as one	800,000
	D. & Co. of Glasgow.....	1,000,000
In all.....		£8,800,000

The debts of each of the Seven Merchants will thus be found to average above £1,250,000 ; a sum greater

by £400,000. than the debts of the Prince Regent, and all his Royal Brothers.

Neither need any friend of the Royal Family shrink from an examination of the mode in which their debts have been contracted; though great allowance must, no doubt be made, for follies and frailties in them, as well as in other men: Nay, I say, upon the sterling authority of the friend of his country, Samuel Whitbread, whom, though I greatly differ with him in his political creed, I highly respect, that much greater allowances must be made for Princes than for other persons.

How few men, said that gentleman, in the House of Commons, approach a Prince with feelings of real friendship; how seldom is he addressed in the language of sincerity and truth! Well and wisely also did Dr. Willis remark, on his examination before a Committee of the same House, that the management of our venerable and lamented Sovereign was infinitely more difficult than in the case of a common person similarly affected. The first, superior to controul, because in the habit of commanding; the other, from his rank in life, accustomed to govern his passions, and yield to circumstances.

Waving these generally admitted principles, however, it may be well to examine, in a cursory manner, how the debts of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent have been contracted; though it is utterly impossible that any private individual, like myself, can

be supposed or expected to state such points accurately. I shall suppose, therefore, which I dare say is pretty near the truth, that about three-fifth parts of the debts of His Royal Highness, are due to his private friends and tradesmen ; the latter of whom, without exception, are some of the richest and most respectable persons in their different lines in London, who have enjoyed his patronage for nearly thirty years, and all the overflowing business generated by, or attendant upon, such high protection.

Is it not known also, to every man of common intellect, that, from the peculiarity of the circumstances of His Royal Highness's situation, he is charged the highest price for every article ? perhaps, without meaning for a moment to offend his tradesmen, I may say, fully 20 per cent. above their common prices.—Under all the circumstances of the case, therefore, this description of the Prince's creditors have not much cause to complain.

Let me next suppose, that this high personage, now called by the fiat of Providence to rule these three mighty kingdoms, as well as the eastern and western world, has perhaps thrown away another fifth part of the amount of his existing debts, during a series of years, in a variety of ways which he cannot exactly account for. This, no doubt, in the eyes of the six W.'s. Wood, Wardle, White, Walker, Wishart, and Waithman, will appear a heinous crime ; but I am certain that, in the eyes of the Seventh W. *the growling but faithful*

watch-dog of England, Samuel Whitbread, this dreadful crime will melt away like a flake of April snow, when it is so well known, that the remaining fifth part of the debt has been contracted, in cheering the drooping artist, in clothing the naked, and in pouring the balm of comfort into the wounds of the broken-hearted. This is a true picture, Fellow Subjects, which I respectfully submit to your consideration, and at the same time I must request you to notice this single important fact—that, supposing such a thing possible, as that His Royal Highness the Prince Regent could be made a bankrupt, his effects, consisting of palaces, paintings, jewels, plate, &c. would probably at once pay his creditors in full, or at least 15s. in the pound—a dividend that would have astonished and delighted the creditors of any of the mercantile men I have mentioned, and whom I shall now attend to in the following pages.

Having three Princes in my list who owe nothing, I think it therefore but just, in the scale of comparison, to contrast the debts of one great Prince with those of three great Merchants; and, not to go out of my way, as they were all connected, I shall take the first three who failed in the year 1793, for a sum of about four millions sterling, and involved in misery and distress tens of thousands of their fellow-creatures. I know I am within bounds when I say this; and, I have every reason to believe, that I am also perfectly correct in stating, that the general estates of the parties never paid any thing like 5s. in the pound.

Contrast this, ye Demagogues, with the supposed bankruptcy of the Prince Regent, and its expected result. In the first real instance, three millions of money were lost or squandered in a few months, and thousands of persons driven to despair. In the second supposed case, the Regent of England would either pay his creditors in full, or a handsome dividend; and the loss, if any occurred, would be divided among so many rich individuals, that few or any of them would feel its effects.

In another point of view, let us remember that this supposed defaulter is heir to, and regent of a kingdom, which every Briton must regard as the first upon earth, and that the persons with whose debts I have contrasted those of his Royal Highness, were men in the middle rank of life. Indeed, it is a fact, which I state from decided authority, that the principal in the Liverpool failures, and the chief cause of the whole mischief, was a gentleman who, in the year 1789, came from Ireland, and settled there as a merchant, with a few hundred pounds in the world.

Nothing, I am told, could exceed the brilliancy of his parties, the brilliancy of his wit, or the hospitality of his board. In four years afterwards, however, he failed, for the immense sum I have stated; and yet, to the honour of that great mercantile town, he, after the lapse of a short period, recommenced business; and again, in about thirty months, got embarrassed,

and made a composition with his creditors. His history, for a few years afterwards, I have not traced ; though I believe he was connected in some banking house with Jew King, which, as might have been expected, went into the Gazette ; and I think it was in the year 1806, that his name again appeared in the pages of that record of speculation and misfortune ; having failed in London for a large sum of money. The amount I have heard variously stated ; but *it was a large sum*, and his estate paid little or nothing.

The history of speculation, and of mercantile lenity and liberality, does not however end here. This gentleman, as may be supposed, from what I have stated, is possessed of considerable talents, pleasing manners, and great address ; and, I am told, is now likely to realize, in a foreign dependancy of this country, a comfortable fortune, should he not again astonish the natives by one of those tremendous crashes, with which we have been so much accustomed in this country, that they are little thought of. The consequences are at first severely felt ; but, like the comet, they soon pass away, leaving not a trace behind.

Every person of common sense can make his own comments, upon the plain narrative I have given ; and I solemnly declare, that, to the best of my knowledge, I have not misrepresented a single point. All the issue I wish for, in making this statement is, that the conduct of the Princes of England, when con-

trasted with that of the other classes of society, may be placed in a proper point of view, and that all rational thinking men may look around them, and compare coolly and quietly the vices and virtues of the different classes of their fellow-subjects : and, I suspect, it will be uniformly found, that virtue increases as we climb the ascent, till we arrive at the throne itself. And of this melancholy tale I am afraid there is but little doubt, that, from the middle class downwards, vice invariably gathers strength, till lodged in the dungeon of the convicted felon.

I am also decidedly of opinion with Mr. Yorke, that there is a set of infamous characters in this country, who endeavour, by all the means in their power, to run down every high personage, and particularly the members of the Royal Family ; and who would rejoice to see the throne overturned, and democracy triumphant.

They are however, I trust, but few in number ; though the harm they do, among the lower classes of the community, appears to be considerable.

Nothing is more common, than to see pasted upon the windows of the lowest pot-houses, eating-houses, and gin-shops, this inviting bill of political fare : “ The Statesman, Cobbett, and The Examiner, taken in here.” Worthy trio ! Often, I doubt not, their olios have been feasted upon by the Soames’s, the Haggartys, and the Williams’s of the day, who, when

properly saturated with their accursed revolutionary principles, have rushed from their dens of villany, to put in practice the lessons of their worthy teachers, and revel in robbery, house-breaking, and murder.

In the case of the Duke of York, in particular, the savage and truly democratic joy which the party exhibited, at the period of his temporary downfall, under the pressure of calumny, falsehood, and perjury, may perhaps be appropriately compared, in its malignity, to the rejoicing yells of the infernal dæmons, when the first woman, herself misled, seduced from his duty the Father of Mankind. Let not any one however suppose, that I mean to insult decency and common sense, by comparing a false, vicious, infamous woman, with the chaste mother of the human race; or to class His Royal Highness, in point of good qualities, in the scale of that faithful husband, who fell, as the beautiful and heaven-recorded legend tells us, because he “loved not wisely, but too well.”

His Royal Highness is, like myself, one of the children of Adam; and “judge not, lest thou be judged,” is one of my favourite maxims, in all cases. Both wittily and wisely also, my respected Countrymen, did honest Jack Fuller remark to the astonished House of Commons, when discussing the case of His Royal Highness: “Let me see,” says he, “*one* amongst ye all, who dares throw the first stone?” Even the pillars of religion and morality, the virtuous Thornton

and Wilberforce, said nothing—all was peace in their own bosoms ; *but they looked around, and were silent !*

The pavement encircling Westminster Hall was not torn up ; and, from that day, in the case of this greatly-injured personage, truth and christian forgiveness have triumphed over infamous calumny and merciless revenge.

With regard to the debts of His Royal Highness, I confess I am a good deal in the dark. My avowed object is to extenuate, where truth will permit it ; but truth I will never intentionally depart from, and malice will not be suspected.

Early in life, it appears, that His Royal Highness had got considerably in debt ; and, like many other great men, including the venerated patriot, C. J. Fox, Mr. Sheridan, His Grace of Norfolk, a worthy patriotic Alderman, and many others, was too much in the habit of frequenting the gaming tables in St. James's Street.

We have seldom seen an instance of a Prince being a fortunate gamester ; and His Royal Highness has not, by success, furnished me with an example to the contrary : and to the losses incurred in this way many years ago, may safely be put down three-fourths of the sum which I have stated as the amount of his present debts. One fourth more, I presume, is due to a variety of persons, including his tradesmen, who, like those of the Prince Regent,

have, for a series of years, profited by his protecting recommendation ; and not a little has been expended in deeds of charity and benevolence.

On the score of comparative debt, between the prince and the merchant, the person who is intended to be contrasted with His Royal Highness the Duke of York, is a mercantile gentleman of great respectability. Indeed, it would appear, from the manner in which he has been treated by his creditors, that they almost considered, that Mr. T. C.'s failure for so large a sum as nearly two millions of money, was an act of great spirit and enterprise, rather meritorious than faulty. He has not lost his rank in society, or the esteem of his friends. He has got his certificate, and again commenced business in his former line, with every prospect of repairing his shattered fortunes.

Had a prince, at the gaming-table, or in any other way, (and what is unbounded speculation but the worst of gaming ?) lost, at any one time, a fiftieth part of the sum, what an outcry there would have been ! Yet, comparatively speaking, the evil done by the latter, except to himself, is a mere nothing. The merchant's failure reduces thousands to misery and wretchedness, perhaps to insanity and suicide ! Whilst the debts of the prince, and consequent loss to the parties, should he never pay one farthing, are probably equally divided among gambling nobles, fraudulent

swindlers (who, if they have money and play deep, are admitted every where), and a very small proportion falls to be borne by the rich tradesmen, who have for years enjoyed his fostering patronage and protection.

The next prince whose debts come under discussion, in routine, are those of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence; and the sum for which I have put him down as debtor, was, it is well known, contracted in the heyday of youth: for, as I have before remarked, princes, as well as other men, are apt to be inconsiderate in their earlier days; and the ward-room of a seventy-four-gun ship was not exactly the school in which to acquire much worldly wisdom.

For almost twenty years past, however, the domestic concerns of this son of England, now High Admiral of the Ocean, have been so admirably managed by the valuable and exemplary mother of His Royal Highness's children, that it only is necessary for me to hope, that, in time coming, they may be equally well conducted.

Against the debts of His Royal Highness, supposing them to be £80,000, I have to place those of a respectable banking house, which failed at the same time as T. C. and Co. from nearly the same causes, and almost for the same amount. So great was the deserved respect, however, in which the principal partner (though a dormant one) was held, by all mer-

cantile men, that he not only immediately got his certificate, but every possible indulgence was shewn him by his creditors ; equally honourable to their liberality, and to the private character of this worthy unfortunate gentleman, who had a large capital in the house. He, I am happy to say, has now been enabled to repurchase, on easy terms, his mansion in the country ; and, having a snug situation under Government, has still a prospect of comparative comfort in the decline of life.

Had His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence been placed by any accident in this situation, in point of debt, there would have been no resource left. His person would have been sacred, but his personal property constantly liable to seizure ; and his situation, character, and conduct, would have furnished an unceasing theme of remark, abuse, and reproach, to all the horde of scribblers, who, to procure a sale for their papers, in the purlieus of St. Giles's, and other similar quarters, are under the necessity of suiting their writings to the meanest capacities.

In mentioning the debts of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent at £60,000. I believe I am near the truth ; and it is well known of this manly, amiable, and estimable character, that the greatest part of this debt has originated in severe and afflicting losses by sea, of military baggage, plate, jewels, and other valuables, to a great amount, which, unfortunately

were not insured. If these immense losses were taken into consideration, and his houses, furniture, and other effects, valued as they now stand, I have strong reasons to believe, that His Royal Highness would not be a great defaulter. Yet his charities have also been princely; and, I am credibly informed, that, like his eldest brother, a tale of woe never was addressed to him in vain, if he had the power to relieve it*.

He has served his native land in different climes—in the West Indies, at the capture of Martinique, and various others of its dependancies; and though, in one instance, he was reported to have acted with too much severity, yet I have heard a very different statement, from one of the best and bravest officers in the British Army, now serving under Lord Wellington. Supposing it, however, to be true: such has been the virtuous and honourable tenor of his life, that I think every man of generous feelings must have wished, like the recording angel, that he could have “dropped a tear upon it, and blotted it out for ever!”

My respect for the character of this excellent Prince (unstained by a single act of gaming or debauchery, and whom I soon hope to see placed in some such situation as his high birth and talents entitle

* The sum of money laid out at Kensington, does not form any part of His Royal Highness's property: and to repair that palace completely would, I am credibly informed, require at least one hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

him to) had almost led me from the main object I have in view, that of proving the absolute nothingness of the debts of the Seven Princes, either as to amount, mode of contracting, or effect, when compared with those of Seven Merchants.

Though in London I could find some other mercantile men, who have failed for a million of money, within these last twelve months, yet I shall again, in search of a contrast for a royal personage, take a peep at the Exchange of Liverpool; which is not only the second commercial city in this kingdom, but in the world. There I find, that the scenes of 1793 have been realized in a ten-fold degree; partly no doubt arising from the generally depressed situation of commerce, but in a far greater measure, from the absurd, unbounded, and even criminal speculations of a number of individuals, unknown in trade a few years ago: who nevertheless, by the daring folly of their system, shouldered from the field, fortunately for themselves, the greater part of the cautious, regular, and opulent merchants of the old school. British manufactures were sent a begging from Liverpool to every quarter of South America—nay, I might almost say, of the universe; and the agents sent out, when they could get a purchaser, were happy to part with their articles at any price, in order to pay their own expences; whilst any merchandise sent home as freight for their vessels, lost, in almost every instance, from fifty to sixty

per cent. and in many cases occasioned, on the sale abroad, and that of the returns at home, a total loss.

Though, from the nature of the subject which I write upon, I am under the necessity, whilst stating positive facts, to mention the names, or the initials of the parties alluded to, I wish not to injure the feelings of any one, when I can possibly avoid it—but truth I must state; and the gentlemen in question may perhaps think, that I torture a little, in the way in which the Princes are daily accustomed to be treated, when I take a passing glance at the extravagance of their domestic establishments, and remind them, that till they become as wealthy, prudent, and respected, as an E——le, a H——d, an E——t, or a G——ne, they ought not to sport palaces in the country, barouches and four, three courses and a desert, or old hock, claret, burgundy, and champagne, after dinner, to the astonishment, terror, and dismay of their Birmingham, Manchester, and Glasgow correspondents.

Without further preamble, therefore, I shall mention the initials of two gentlemen, of certainly admirable talents, who lately failed in Liverpool, as a cockney would say, “for a little bit of money”—I believe, about one million sterling, though in the general statement of princely and plebeian debts, I have only called it £800,000. as a hundred thousand of pounds, more or less, was nothing, in the calculations of a

'T. L. or a J. K. whom I class as one, though they were not partners ; as, to use a vulgar expression, it is well known, that they played into each other's hands, with many others of the same junto, who have all of them, to a man, failed for enormous sums of money.

To the credit of their own talents, and of the liberality of their numerous creditors, however, the two gentlemen alluded to have been appointed, with handsome salaries, to manage, unravel, and wind up their own concerns, under trustees ; and have thus been enabled to support their families, and enjoy every rational comfort :—whilst, had they been so unfortunate, instead of failing for a million of money, to as have allowed themselves to be taken-in ten or fifteen thousand pounds, by some speculating villain, and then been so mean-spirited as to fail for *only* the latter sum, they, *for any thing that their friends, relatives, or creditors, would have done for them, might have eaten husks from a hog-trough, or perished, in a brain fever, for the debts of others, in a dungeon ! **

* “ Pray, Mr. L.” said Sir Vicary Gibbs, “ how much do you expect to pay in the pound ? ” “ If my affairs are well managed,” answered this gentleman, “ I think one shilling and sixpence.”——“ Pray, Mr. S.” said Mr. L. the Liverpool banker, “ as you owe me £30,000. how much do you think I shall recover ? ” The worthy Quaker, one of the Liverpool junto, immediately answered : “ There is a clever man, friend L. ; and if thee should be appointed assignee, I think fifteen pence in the pound.”

That they were mercantile gamesters, in the most unlimited sense of the word, is most certain ; yet they are pardoned, and their sins almost forgotten :—whilst had the honourable, brave, and excellent Prince, whose debts, or rather losses, I have contrasted with those of the Liverpool Merchants, lost the £60,000. at a gaming table, in a supposed state of intoxication—Merciful Heaven ! how he would have been abused now, and, on every proper opportunity, tortured, questioned, and racked ever after, whilst on this side of eternity ! Yet his have been real mercantile losses, chiefly arising from his ignorance of the laws and usages of insurance. But still, my honoured Countrymen, such is the situation of this son of our Sovereign, that he may probably remain for years in distress, before he can pay off or arrange this comparatively trifling debt : whilst, on the other hand, one person, a year or two ago a Liverpool broker's boy, and another, at the same period, a Glasgow weaver's apprentice, can fail for nearly twenty times the sum, get their certificates, be taken into favour, pay three shillings in the pound, start again as great merchants, and again probably crack for another million, in a few years afterwards.

This is all sacredly true ; and, as three others of the Royal Family, viz. their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Cumberland, Cambridge, and Gloucester, have ever been most punctual in their payments, and never owe a shilling, but running accounts, I am under the ne-

cessity of passing these high personages *subalto silentio* ; as my object is, to place error or supposed misconduct, in its proper point of view, not to panegyryze the universally allowed prudence, œconomy, and good management, of the Royal Princes above-mentioned ; who, to their many other good qualities, were never yet known to lend a deaf ear to the widow's sorrow, or the orphan's prayer.

I now draw near the end of my list of Princes and Merchants ; and, when I mention the house of D—'s and Co. of Glasgow, I confess I am rather in the dark, as to the extent of its debts : but, by a very intelligent person from that city, I am informed, that in the north of Scotland alone, the firm owes about £300,000. sterling, chiefly to small manufacturers ; and in all, the enormous sum of £1,200,000.

Be this as it may, I shall only call it a round million of British sterling money ; as the same observation here applies, as in the case of the Liverpool broker's boy, and the Glasgow weaver's apprentice—that a few hundreds of thousands of pounds, more or less, either way, is no great object ; and the private characters of the unfortunate gentlemen, are so much in their favour, that as to any kind of criticism, I will expunge them from my list. Heaven send them, therefore, a good deliverance ; and may they find Glasgow manufacturers no harder to deal with, than liberal Liverpool merchants.

I must, therefore, now look out, for some other great mercantile person, to contrast, in point of debt, with the only Prince remaining on my books ; and, passing by many a broken-hearted man in London, who, from the speculation of others, has failed for perhaps a hundred thousand pounds, or more, I must, most respectfully, solicit His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, who, I am informed, is possessed of an excellent temper, to forgive me for introducing him into the presence of the British public, contrasted, in point of debt, with a magnanimous London stay-maker ; a gentleman, who, instead of attempting, like many foolish missionaries, to convert the souls, determined to comfort the bodies, and introduce his new patent elastic stays, among the savage Lady Pampas's, in the back settlements of Buenos Ayres.

It is a correct fact, my respected Fellow-Subjects, that this man-milliner, fabricator of corsets, caps, night-caps, and farthingals, absolutely so managed matters, as to become a great merchant, and lasted, like the other butterflies of the day, for a certain number of months ; and then crack he went, in the year 1810, for the moderate sum of one-fourth of a million sterling !

In my haste, however, to introduce this worthy stitcher of ladies' trappings to the public, I have been guilty of an unpardonable breach of etiquette, in not first discussing the debts of the illustrious personage.

before-mentioned ; whom, like Crib *versus* Molyneux, the black, I now place front to front, with his blacker opponent. Nor have I the least doubt, from his having failed for so enormous a sum of money, but that he will now be considered a man of decided mettle, and do better than ever.

Seriously speaking, the debts of His Royal Highness amount to a very large sum ; and, as he is neither possessed of a civil or military situation, and does not enjoy either place, sinecure, or pension, but merely the same family allowance possessed by his illustrious Brothers, who are all, in some shape, or other, differently provided for, I suspect that, after all deductions, such as income tax, allowance to his children, and to the lady to whom he was united, though the marriage was in fact illegal, and dissolved by the mandate of his Royal Father—I say, that when all these allowances, and various others, which I have heard stated, are taken into the account, it will be found, that this Royal Personage, instead of eighteen, has scarcely eight thousand pounds a-year to live upon, and pay the various necessary expences of a Prince's establishment. This, no doubt, is a handsome annual income for a private English gentleman, but when a gay young Prince has been accustomed, for a series of years, to the splendid profusion of foreign courts, or else resided abroad in a palace of his own, it is not to be wondered at, though I dare say all the W.'s, with

my former exception of Mr. Whitbread, will be greatly surprised at it, that he should find this income scarce equal to his expences ; and, therefore, however willing, be rendered utterly unable to pay off those debts which he had contracted in the heyday of youthful folly, dissipation, and extravagance.

The debt His Royal Highness owes, has, I understand, been contracted during the course of sixteen years, and a very considerable part of it at the very commencement of that period ; when as a gay, young married man, the son of the King of England, he was dashing away in a foreign land, united to a fascinating woman, possessed of many excellent qualities no doubt, but certainly, by all accounts, then very deficient in the virtue of œconomy.

His residence abroad also exposed him to a variety of expences ; and I have been informed by a high naval character, that at Lisbon, and other places, he kept an open table for all his countrymen, who were properly introduced.

I have also understood, from the same naval friend, who had particular access to information, that His Royal Highness had formed a wrong conception, as to the promises of his Royal Father, and the then minister, Mr. Pitt ; having been led to believe, that, upon the dissolution of a marriage illegally entered into, all the debts contracted during its existence were to have been liquidated ; which, I am told, has

not been done: and consequently, not only the effects of the thoughtlessness of his juvenile days, but also the debts of his married life, now form a large portion of the amount of his embarrassments.

Though I cannot rightly embody the story, it also runs in my recollection, that a circumstance was buzzed about, I think seven years ago, of a Royal Duke, in a moment of conviviality after dinner, having lost no less a sum than twenty-five thousand pounds, in the short space of half an hour. If His Royal Highness was the person in question, he certainly acted very wrong, in drinking too much, and consequently very unwisely, in touching a dice-box after such an excess.

This however only strengthens my former remark, that, drunk or sober, there are few or no instances of a prince being successful at play, against any of the trained youths of the age, who have devoted the whole of their early days to the studies of boxing, cocking, horse-racing, and hazard.

Be this as it may, my object is to extenuate, not defend errors, which all prudent men, and every well-wisher, like myself, of royalty, must be sorry for.

At the same time, my respected Fellow-Subjects, there is, we all know, no resource in bankruptcy for any member of the Royal Family; let me therefore hope, that an act of oblivion will be passed, in favour

of all of them who may have heretofore transgressed, by every generous Briton !

At the same time, when contrasted with the debts of the dashing staymaker, who failed for a sum nearly five times greater than those of this son of the King of England, the debts of His Royal Highness must appear trifling indeed.

As I wish for a fair contrast between the Prince and the Merchant, and *vice versâ*, I must now state, that, whilst a debt of £60,000. appears against His Royal Highness, at the expiration of, and accumulating during a period of sixteen years, there also appears to have been a debt of £250,000. contracted by the staymaker, in almost as many months. The ephemeral mercantile reign of this man, after he stepped out of his vocation, lasted however, in all, about two years, or thirty months ; but I consider that he was dead in trade before that period, as, long previous to his going into the Gazette, he made a hard struggle to get his creditors to accept five shillings in the pound, in full of all demands. A few wise men among them took his offer ; and, judging from what I have seen in similar cases, I am satisfied in my own mind, that his other creditors may be very thankful, should they, at the expiration of two or three years, get half-a-crown in the pound.

To the honour of their liberality, however—and what people upon earth are so liberal as Britons ?—

even this man, after being rather roughly handled, got his certificate ; and in order to make up for lost time, has now opened three shops instead of one, in his old trade.

Let him take care, however, that instead of attempting to extend his charities to the ladies of La Plata, he now give more ear than he has ever yet done, to the cries of the naked and hungry at home ; and learn to practise the admirable lessons of our immortal Teacher : to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and do unto others as he has been done by. That he may treasure up these maxims, and never hereafter offend against them, I am under the necessity of telling him a story of himself, which cannot be contradicted in a single point.

Sometime early in the year 1810, the magnanimous staymaker finding to his cost, or rather, I should say, that of his creditors, that the brown girls in Trinidad and Curraçoa, as well as the Lady Pampas's of Buenos Ayres, could not be prevailed upon to array, rig out, and incase themselves in his stays, corsets, or farthingales, called his creditors together, as before stated, and offered them five shillings in the pound, *in bills at twelve months*, on debts amounting to £250,000. Yes, my Countrymen ! and, at the very moment that this speculator was making such an offer to his own injured creditors, he absolutely put an execution, for thirty pounds, into the house

of a worthy, distressed, afflicted artist, with a wife on the point of laying in, and eight helpless children besides! And this was done, because half a year's rent was a fortnight over due.

It is almost impossible to believe this tale of depravity; but it is true—sacredly true: for I myself was one of the persons who assisted in relieving the distracted wife and perishing family, from the clutches of this dæmon.

He knows me not, he never saw me; but at that time I made a solemn vow, which I now keep, that some day or other I would flagellate him publicly.

If I am warm, my respected Fellow-Subjects, it is not to be wondered at; and though I have named the other parties, at least so far designated them, that they will easily be recognised; I will not even stain my paper with the initials of this unchristian man; for whilst a friend of my own was protecting the unhappy father, who was obliged to fly from home, I, at his desire, went to comfort the wan, woe-worn, distracted wife, and there beheld such a scene of distress and misery, as I will not attempt to describe: and all occasioned by this merciless, speculating, whalebone-hearted man monster, who had himself failed for a sum of money, equal in amount, to one half the debts of one of the greatest Princes upon earth, the Regent of Great Britain.

When bidding adieu to this man, for ever, I will merely ask him one question, in my own words, addressed, when first written, to a dying miser, not to a living staymaker :—

“ Didst thou e’er wipe the trickling tear
“ From sorrow’s madd’ning blood-shot eye ?
“ Or, didst thou e’er the soul prayer hear,
“ Blessing thee e’en in agony ?”

Though I have confined myself in the illustration of the proposed contrast, between the debts of Princes and Merchants, to the names at first singled out, it does not proceed from want of speculative mercantile matter, to have contrasted with seventy Princes ; and having mentioned an anecdote, in which I was myself a party, of the merciless being, contrasted with His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, I am happy to have been furnished, accidentally, with an anecdote or two of that illustrious Personage, by a respectable merchant, which do great honour to his heart, though perhaps in his present embarrassed situation, his conduct may be questioned on the score of prudence.

The first is, his having obtained, a few months ago, a commission in the army for the son of a distressed half-pay officer, and fitting the young man out at his own expence.

The second does him still greater credit—and my friend Mr. ——— assures me, that he had it from the

lips of the party himself: an officer ordered on foreign service, who, by a difference with a brother, had been suddenly deprived of expected aid, and knew not what to do.

He had once met with His Royal Highness at the mess of the —— regiment, and having a wife and two young children, their distress made him resolute, and he instantly waited upon him, and stated his case.

“ I am very poor myself,” was his answer, “ but you must be assisted, my good fellow ;” and, opening his writing desk—“ here is all that I have,” says he; “ take it in God’s name ;” and put £— in bank notes, into the officer’s hat. It saved him from great distress, and upon the anecdote being mentioned to his brother, it brought about a reconciliation. The officer is now abroad, and his family comfortable, under his relative’s roof. I now dismiss the subject, which I may perhaps justly call, that of the comparative errors in money matters of the illustrious members of one of the first families upon earth, and a number of persons, even viewing as a whole, the highest individual among them, who neither from birth, education, or incipient means, had any title whatever to be so classed or contrasted.

The last contrast however which I have laid before my respected Fellow-Subjects, strongly proves, that unbounded mercantile speculation, whilst it uniformly leads to the destruction of property, also in almost every instance, as in that of the merciless staymaker,

for example, destroys the best and finest sensibilities of the human mind ; and also proves, that the distress or ruin of thousands, is as little thought of, by dashing speculators, and avaricious monopolists, as by the hoarding miser ; who, though possessed of half a million of money, perishes himself on a miserable pallet, perhaps for want of proper aliment and aid—shunned, detested, abhorred, and execrated, by every human being.

Mere hearsay anecdotes of any of the Royal Family, I will not mention, else I could fill a volume with similar stories of the Prince Regent, and his Royal Brothers ; but what is within the scope of my own knowledge, I feel entitled to record, as not being unconnected with the subject under discussion, and I will only speak to facts, which I can prove.

The infamous, base, and dastardly conspiracy of Wardle and Co. against His Royal Highness the Duke of York, has now, I trust, as to any bad effects, not the smallest hold upon the public mind ; as it is evident, that every thing which the assassins had to say against him, was brought forward upon that occasion.

In opposition to their contemptible falsehoods, I may be permitted to narrate an act of beautiful, kind-hearted, and generous attention, on the part of this Royal Personage, which, if not of great importance in itself, still strongly stamps a trait in his character.

About fifteen years ago, a very near connexion of

my own, a lieutenant-colonel in the army, was killed in battle. Upon an application being made to His Royal Highness, by the late Lord Grey, he for once broke through his own regulations, and appointed his son, a boy of eight years old, an ensign in the regiment to which his father had belonged : and the poor youth unfortunately died a few years afterwards.

A sister of my relative's, whose husband, though not killed, had died in the service, goaded on by the necessities of her own numerous family, and inspired with hope, from the manner in which her brother's had been treated, boldly determined, from the bosom of her humble retirement, to lay her case, without any introduction, before the Son of her Sovereign. "God for ever bless him!" said the lady to myself, "his answer saved me from despair: a small addition was made to my own pension, a trifle was settled upon each of my four daughters (but still of great consequence to us as a whole), and having asked an ensigncy for my youngest boy, then only eight years old, His Royal Highness condescendingly answered, that he was sorry he could not, in a second instance, trespass upon his own regulations; but that till the young gentleman reached fourteen years of age, at which period he should be provided for, he desired my acceptance of a half-pay ensigncy, worth about £30. *per annum*, to assist in his education."

He reached fourteen years of age; and having

then determined upon a different profession, the promised ensigncy was, on application, given to one of his cousins.

Proud am I also to say, that two others of the sons of the lady in question are this day an honour to the service, as well as to their own connexions. One of them, for his gallant conduct in many a hard-fought day, has lately been made a field officer ; and the other is treading hard upon his brother's heels. May God protect and preserve my dear and valued young friends ! They were brought into the army by York ; were trained, patronised, and promoted, by Moore ; and are this day fighting the battles of their country, under Wellington.

If for a moment I am led away from my subject by such recollections, I am sure I shall meet with forgiveness from the only class of readers whose opinion I care for ; and those who have more pleasure in listening to a story of defamation, may peruse the records of the infamous conspiracy of Wardle and Co. as contained in the Political Register, with notes and illustrations by William Cobbett, the apostate.

When reflecting upon the various expences, as to public charities, to which the sons of the Sovereign are exposed, it strongly strikes me, that it may be considered as fully equal to a second income tax ; as they are expected to take the lead in every thing of the kind :—and I believe they have been seldom or

never known to disappoint such expectations, when properly founded.

Independent of any other situations which they may hold, the income of each of the Princes is £18,000. a year ; from which £1800. *per annum* is to be deducted for the above tax, which it seems not to be generally known is paid by every one but the Prince Regent *. The sum of £16,200. *per annum*, then remaining, is certainly when clear a handsome income ; but after equerries, secretaries, &c. are provided for, including a good table, horses, &c. for all these gentlemen, as well as for their general household, it will be found, that the lord of the mansion must keep a sharp look-out after his other expences.

Instead of a pension, as is now the case, being allowed to the Princes—a word which always sounds grating in the ears of an Englishman—had a sum of £100,000. been settled upon each of them, at the periods of their respective births, and this money invested in land, as well as the annual rents thereof, and to have accumulated in the hands of trustees ; they would, at the age of twenty-one, have each possessed a real freehold property nearly equal, *in annual re-*

* This was written on the 7th of January ; and Mr. Adam has since then stated to the House of Commons, that the income tax has been paid by the Prince Regent, for many retrospective years, to the enormous amount altogether of £175,000. And His Royal Highness also pays £4,000. a year, as taxes for Carlton House.

turns, to their former pensions ; and the terra firma, the landed estates of each individual prince, including accumulations, would this day by my calculation have at least been worth £500,000.

They would by this means have been placed, to a certain extent, upon the same footing as the other great landed proprietors, with whom they are in the habit of associating—for instance, the Dukes of Northumberland, Portland, and Buccleugh, and the Marquisses of Stafford, Hertford, and Earl Grosvenor. These nobles are possessed of princely fortunes, because their incomes arise from land ; which in every case has doubled, and in many instances, trebled and quadrupled in value, within these last thirty years. And the aggregate income of these truly great, good, and honourable noblemen, amounts to upwards of one million of pounds sterling *per annum* ! What think ye of this, infamous calumniators of the extravagant, uncharitable, pensioned, race of Brunswick ?

The article of timber also, considered as a part of landed property, has risen three hundred *per cent.* since the year 1780 ; and upon large landed estates, may perhaps, in many instances, be found equal to portioning the female or junior branches of the proprietors.

But mark also, my respected Fellow-Subjects, the situation of the Royal Family, in many other points besides the one above stated, which I shall return to

by and bye. Look well, for example, at the Marriage Act, and you will there discover the root and cause of much evil ; in fact I consider it as the absolute bane of the Royal Family : producing great evil to its members, without a single good consequence arising from it to the country.

We in fact either drive the Princes abroad, to seek for helpmates in Germany or elsewhere ; expect them to act like Josephs, Grandisons, or anchorites, in the midst of infinite temptation at home ; or, if they behave like other men, we constitute and appoint these high personages, by Act of Parliament, destroyers of decency and public morals ; by the only alternative we leave in their power, which though openly practised by, and encouraged at the courts of Solomon the Wise, and Napoleon the Destroyer, never has been in any shape countenanced, by the virtuous, lamented, suffering Sovereign of Britain.

Weak minds may entertain fears of the return of scenes of civil commotion, similar to those which occurred between the rival Houses of York and Lancaster, but I for one, with the freedom of opinion which is the birthright of every Briton, declare that I laugh to scorn all such visionary terrors.

In those days of darkness, vassalage, and superstition, there were kings, nobles, and priests, who had their exclusive powers, rights, and privileges ; but even for a long time after the convention of Runnymede

(though thank heaven that act existed), the rights of the people were trampled under foot by all the three orders of tyranny. If the foundation stone of British liberty was unwillingly laid by John, it certainly was neglected and forgotten by many of his successors ; and it may be aptly said, that to Henry the Seventh we owe the building of the walls, and to the glorious Revolution, which by the *vox populi* placed the House of Brunswick on the Throne, the covering in, finishing, and furnishing, the matchless fabric of the British Constitution.

May this dynasty, this kingdom, and this constitution, exist united, thousands of years after the code of the Destroyer has been burnt by the hands of the public executioner ; and the ashes buried in his grave, dug by the hands of brave, oppressed, resuscitated Frenchmen !

Here there is now a People, in reality by far the most powerful of the three estates, and on whom the other two greatly depend, as no measure whatsoever can be carried into effect without the approbation of their representatives. And whatever difference of opinion there may be about particular points, such as pensions, sinecures, rotten boroughs, &c. ; was a King of England to attempt any tyrannical innovation, directly emanating from the throne, there cannot be a doubt as to what would be the result.

Every thing considered therefore, the Marriage Act

seems unnecessary, both from the situation of this country and the world at large, and greatly tends to estrange the Royal Family from the body of the people, by cutting off every outwork and ramification of connexion between the two parties.

Recurring to the subject of another part of this statement, I have now to mention, my respected Fellow-Subjects, that had the Princes possessed landed property instead of pensions, another advantage would have been enjoyed by them, in common with the higher classes of society, and in fact of every member of the community but themselves—that of having something to bequeath to their own connexions, and thus cementing family affection, by mutually depending interests. The Act before-mentioned also deprived the present generation of the opportunity, if they had been so inclined, of improving their property, by having married some one or other of the great heiresses, who have of late years added such splendid accessions of fortune to the noble families of Stafford, Portland, &c. Had the Duke of York, for example, instead of being united to the amiable daughter of the King of Prussia, married the Countess of Sutherland, who is still a most lovely woman, but whom I, when an Edinburgh high-school boy, remember gazing at from a distance as a perfect divinity. Yes, my countrymen, had His Royal Highness married this lady, still one of the brightest ornaments of the British court, he

would this day have been the proprietor of one of the finest estates in Scotland ; and as in all probability he would also have been the happy father of a numerous race, I am satisfied in my own mind, that in this supposed case, we never should have heard a word of any of those errors, which have been seized upon with such malignant avidity, and worked up into such hideous shapes and forms, by his infamous, despicable, and cowardly enemies.

Suppose also that His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent had married the niece of the late Lord Melville, this excellent Prince never would have been a day behind hand in his payments ; and his losses would not have been much felt, had he received with her hand, as the Duke of Portland did, four hundred thousand pounds.

I have not looked into the Act itself, but I believe it is possible for any of the Princes to marry a subject, if the consent of the Sovereign, and of the two Houses of Parliament, should be previously obtained.

We have seen however in one instance, that His Majesty did not approve of such connexions ; and in fact, the very passing of the Act shews the wish of the three estates, particularly the first, to discountenance them altogether.

Sincerely however do I hope to see this Act of Parliament annihilated ; as I consider it, both as to mo-

erals and means, to be a curse to the whole Royal Family, and the nation at large.

Unless in the instance of our excellent Queen, what mighty good have our foreign matrimonial alliances ever done for England? Excepting also most pointedly, a blood connexion in the female line, having placed the present dynasty on our throne, by the people's will; because the male heir, a tyrannical bigot, was driven to resign, and expelled from the kingdom he was unfit to govern. Mary's Philip, who (heaven be praised!) could neither beget sons or daughters, to propagate the infamous persecuting race, fitted out an armada to punish and conquer us! Charles the First married a princess of France, who I am afraid added fuel to the fire of that virtuous monarch's ideas, with regard to the accursed doctrines of passive obedience and non-resistance, which brought him to the block!

Charles the Second's Portuguese bad bargain was ugly, unwise, and unfruitful: and her husband, never at any time possessed of much principle, became an abandoned profligate, and ruined by his own example the morals of his reign.

Our good Queen Anne was the wife of a worthy Danish Prince; but the foreign grafting did not suit our soil; and their children died young. Our lamented Princess Matilda was sacrificed to a weak contemptible fool, who knew not how to appreciate the value of his

amiable, beautiful, martyred consort: and his silly son, forgetting his maternal stock, is a slave of the Destroyer, and Britain's mortal foe.

Whilst mourning the fate of her brave lamented hero, the honoured widow of Brunswick may thank heaven that she was born a British Princess, and is again returned to her native land. Happier, I am much afraid, in her deep affliction, than the Princess Royal, her niece; though if quantity is to make up for quality, Her Royal Highness, now Her Majesty of Wirtemberg, is married to one of the greatest kings in the world.

As for a connexion which took place seventeen years ago, it cannot be called a foreign one, as it was an union of relatives the nearest in blood that the law admits of:—and therefore perhaps the whole United Kingdom the more ardently wishes to witness the reunion of two of the highest personages upon earth. I have no vile jest to utter; no base sarcasm to play off; no party purpose to answer. Every throb of my heart is my King and my Country's; and my very soul is in unison with what I consider to be the opinion of all the worth and virtue in the land; as a circumstance which would more certainly raise a *pro patria* party to back the Regent, and identify him with the people, than any other possible occurrence. And then farewell to the pestilential, overwhelming, aristocratic influence of either this or that party in the state, who

would all be hewed to pieces by the union of Prince and People. Then we would soon again have Wellesley, Grenville, and Perceval united ; and oblige not only them, but all the real effective talents of soul and body in the kingdom, to stand at the helm, or tug at the oar, for the salvation of the universe.

Though the sacred nature of my sentiments will be evident to every one, I am afraid of the very appearance of officious intrusion ; and pause, nay even tremble, when I touch upon the delicate, affecting, and afflicting subject :—yet inspired by virtuous feeling, by fervent loyalty, and by as pure patriotism as this day exists in any British bosom, truth compels me most respectfully but firmly to say : Prince and Princess of England ! bury past disputes in oblivion. And if there should be any such persons, banish those around ye both who encouraged open separation ; they could neither be the friends of your high rank, and its attendant weighty and serious obligations, of your august Family, or of the British People.

Like the asps of Egypt, parasites, sycophants, and slaves, pour forth their venom in the dark : whilst real friends, instead of re-opening and cauterizing sores nearly healed, would have poured balsam into every green wound.

Such Friends would say at this time :—Prince Regent of England ! now shew the goodness and magnanimity of a noble mind, fit and worthy at this aw-

ful crisis, to rule over the greatest kingdom in the world. Princess, adopted Daughter of England ! now bend with the humility of a chastened spirit, and of a wise and virtuous woman, to your protector—to your husband—to the father of your child !

Be reconciled in reality ; or at least appear to be so. Be reunited if possible ; and if impossible, because sincere reconciliation may at first be wanting, yield to appearances in the public eye, should there even exist a continued private separation.

Then because ye acted correctly, wisely, and greatly, ye would have peace in your own bosoms, and live happily. And should your virtuous, suffering Father and Sovereign, ever wake from the sleep of reason, his joy at seeing his children reunited, might greatly aid in banishing for ever, the illusions of dis-tempered fancy, and restore him to himself, to his family, and to his people. And then during the remainder of his calm, tranquil, retired life, Britain's restored Vespasian, would delegate to his coadjutor in empire, a British Titus, the government and protection of one half of the universe. All the real friends of their country would rally round ye. The brave, the wise, and the virtuous. All party spirit would disappear, except that constantly watchful, guardian spirit, which is so necessary to prevent the assumption of improper power, by either King, minister, or people. And then also would rejoicing Britain, be the most

gladdened kingdom in the world. Whilst ye would live here esteemed, honoured, and respected ; and when called to your great account in heaven, your names on earth would live for ever in a people's gratitude, because ye had sacrificed private feelings, perhaps too much indulged at first—to reason, to reflection, to the precepts of religion, and to a nation's wish and happiness.

My love of King and country, respected Fellow-Subjects, has again led me astray ; and perhaps weak minds may think me too bold : but is there one generous, spirited, loyal Briton, who does not participate in my feelings ? and mentally exclaims—would to God the visions of this man could be realized !

Well, my Countrymen, I think that all this may possibly happen ; and *I will not for many months to come, abandon the hopes of our venerable Sovereign's recovery.* He has often been considered to be on his death bed, but *dum spiro spero*, whilst there is life there is hope ; a motto which is but little attended to by that great proprietor of dungeons, bastiles, and *châteaux en Espagne*, Sir Francis Burdett, who seems also to consider Old England to be in a dying state, when he torments himself and others, with his fears and horrors, about a rupture with America. I think it probable that the event may not take place ; and if it does, America in my opinion will rue the day, if we act with promptness, vigour, and good policy.

So far I wish for peace, and deprecate war with that country, because it must divert a part of our force from our great object, the salvation of Europe, and the destruction of the tyrant ; without which, we never can have peace on earth. No Napoleon !—

BRITAIN, where liberty will ever reign,
 Still spurns the tyrant and his galling chain ;
 Though all the world around her madd'ning rise,
 To arms, my sons ! her dauntless genius cries.
 Who trembles then ? not one—nought can appal
 Our bands by sea and land, who conquer all ;
 Though e'en the son should arm against the sire,
 And proud Columbia with her foes conspire,
 Vain the attempt, and ev'ry effort vain,
 To wrest from her the trident of the main.
*But O that wisdom could those ills compose !
 Which fill religion's cup with bitter woes ;
 In one pure faith all Britain's sons unite,
 Their creed the same, the same each holy rite,
 The same their dauntless valour in the fight !
 Then would loud Pæans rise on ev'ry gale,
 And shouts of joy o'er faction's yells prevail.
 Then would the sons of England's generous land,
 With heart and soul hail glorious Ireland !
 Then would ascend one thought, one prayer, one mind,
 To bless the sovereign, liberal, virtuous, kind,
 And sects united, peal with panting breath,
 Hosannas to the man of Nazareth !*

But thou, destroying fiend—by fools call'd great,
Thy hour draws near ! as preordain'd by fate !

God for our sins has sent thee here below,
 And thou hast fill'd this world with death and woe :
 Thy mission done, like Lucifer's of old,
 To whom by Eve man's happiness was sold,
 Thy spirit then shall seek its native hell,
 And with congenial fiends for ever dwell.
 Fiends, who at different periods visit earth,
 And give to wond'rous revolutions birth !
 But yet from evil good does oft arise,
 As is his will, who arch'd the heavenly skies.
 And e'en on earth the blood which thou hast shed,
 Must nightly drop on thy unhallowed head ;
 Whilst ghosts of murder'd millions 'fore thee rise,
 Plain to thy sight, unseen by other eyes ;
 For conscience is the mirror of the mind,
 And shews *himself* to all of human kind !
It is the living light God plac'd within,
The prop of virtue, and the scourge of sin:
Fiend ! fell Destroyer ! what thy pangs shall be !
When plung'd at last in vast eternity ! !

I have so often permitted exuberant feelings to break in upon the subjects under discussion, that leaving the cause to be judged of by my respected Countrymen, I shall now return to make a few concluding remarks upon the Marriage Act ; and whilst reflecting upon it, my attention was forcibly arrested by the case of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, which in two different ways, supports the opinions I have hazarded, and the arguments I have made use of, on so novel, and so important a subject. Yet at the same

time that I consider it to be a wrong Act, there must still be some bar to prevent improper marriages, and it might only require to be altered in some such way as the following, viz. That in case any one of the Royal Family should marry without the necessary sanction, his or her issue should be for ever excluded from all right to rank in the line of heirs to the sovereignty ; and should lose their princely titles, merely classing in life as private individuals ; but should nevertheless be considered perfectly legitimate, in the eyes of the church, and of the world, as to the succession to property, and all the other invaluable rights of Britons.

This would destroy any bad effects, and preserve the morals of the Royal Family pure and unsullied ; but as I have said before, the Act in its present form drives them to commit deeds of immorality, and thus, *volente volente*, they set a bad example to the whole British Nation, and can only plead in their defence, that they err and go astray by Act of Parliament.

In the case of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, we have every reason to suppose, from his domestic habits, that had there not existed those impediments to any of the Royal Family marrying, he would not this day have been single.

As far as we can judge also, the connexion which has so long subsisted between His Royal Highness and a most deserving woman, never would have taken place, had the Act been worded in the way I have pre-

sumed to suggest. The sanction of the Sovereign as to marriage, could not have been looked for ; and as she when addressed would have known, that he *had an alternative* in his power, which might in some degree, if yielded to, have lessened him but raised herself ; and as it is possible this might have been insisted upon, his refusal would probably have ended the treaty ; or had she consented unconditionally, then a proper degree of stigma would have attached to her conduct. As the case now stands however, the conduct of either party is scarcely darkened by a shade of immorality. His Royal Highness had *no* alternative ; and cruelly situated as this interesting woman was, strong temptation assailed her, to shelter herself under the protection of a royal personage, rather than remain in her former situation, which she had never sought for, but was driven to.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the numerous children, the fruits of this connexion, are most cruelly situated. They have all of them met with great attention from His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, who has always been understood to speak in the most favourable terms of their maternal protector. Yet even the influence of this great and illustrious personage, could not have introduced the daughters of the Duke of Clarence to society, under the wing of their mother, had the connexion not been brought to a close, and the parties possessing separate abodes.

As the case now stands, the dispute which led to this result, may be considered as a fortunate one, as the difficulty will be done away ; and though living with their mother, the daughters of the Duke can, at his own house, be introduced to Ladies A. and B. and by this means associate with their Royal Father's connexions, friends, and acquaintances.

The hardship of the Princes being merely pensioners for life will also appear very great in this case. Had His Royal Highness possessed a landed property, accumulating until he reached twenty-one years of age, he would have been enabled in some way or other to have provided for the whole of his numerous progeny ; but as things now stand, they cannot possibly expect any thing considerable from their Royal Father : and the other Princes being placed in the same situation, no bequest can be expected from any of their relatives.

Though new matter has presented itself as I have advanced, yet when I began this address to the public, I had no intention whatever of taking notice of any other point than a comparison between the debts of the Seven Princes and those of the Seven Merchants, with whom they are contrasted ; and my object was to prove, what a mere nothing the debts of all the Royal Princes amounted to, contracted during a long series of years, compared with those of an equal number of mercantile men, contracted in *about as many months* ; not in regular business, but either in unbounded specula-

tations, or in advances to speculators. I declare that I have never intentionally erred in my statement ; and from thence it will be seen, with what tender and truly British generosity, mercantile men, even when faulty in their conduct, are almost uniformly treated by their creditors in the hour of misfortune. Whilst should any member of the Royal Family deviate in the smallest degree from the exact line of propriety, or get embarrassed in his finances by some unguarded act, he is assailed with the bitterest sarcasms ; and the debts contracted in his earliest days, are collected and arranged before him in his maturer years, as never-dying mementos of his errors, frailties, and misfortunes.

I am perfectly aware, that the debts of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent were once paid before ; and as far as my information goes, I do not believe any application need be made to Parliament to pay his present debts, but merely to do him justice, and make good the arrears he is entitled to, and he will not then owe a shilling in the world.

As for the debts of the other Royal Personages, I am perfectly aware of the difficulty of giving them effectual relief in the present state of the country ; but it may perhaps be *possible* to place some of them in such situations abroad as that they may be able to apply the amount of their pensions, to pay off debts

at home, which I trust they are all inclined to do, when able.

The truth is, we have taken wonderful pains to make foreign princes comfortable, and in some points neglected our own Royal Family. Witness our kindness to the ungrateful Court of Sicily, and our former pensions or subsidies to the King of Sardinia, Prince of Brazil, &c.

Of this latter personage, I wish not to say much ; but I am certainly of opinion, that if the Court of Brazil does not take care what it is about, or should intermeddle too much in the disputes of Buenos Ayres, it may perhaps raise a commotion in its own territories not easily allayed : and in that case, I suspect, there would be no great desire in recuscitating Portugal, to bend its neck again to the galling yoke of hypocrisy, imbecility, and inquisitorial priestcraft.

I know many persons will consider as Quixotic, the opinions I am about to express, as to the mode in which a number of the Princes might be provided for, comfortably for themselves, honourably for the nation, and I trust happily for the universe. And though the idea is *tout à fait à la Napoleon*, and in fact borrowed from him, yet I fervently hope to see it put in train, and the Dæmon overwhelmed by the reaction of his own system.

The Viceroyalty of Ireland, and the Governor-Generalships of India and Jamaica, I shall suppose

out of the question, as they are necessary sugar-plumbs for poor great men, who have out-run their fortunes and wish to repair them, only giving in exchange, two or three rotten boroughs to the minister of the day.

But passing these, why might not His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent for instance, be appointed Governor-General of Portugal; and if things go all right in that quarter this ensuing campaign, which I think they will; why not let him, if the Portuguese people chuse it, look a little higher by and bye; giving remuneration elsewhere to the present *supposed locum tenens* *.

And should things go all wrong in Sicily, why might not the Duke of Sussex be appointed Viceroy, who I am told, speaks almost every European language, and particularly the Italian, like a native. And in case his old friends the Sicilians, with whom he has had many a convivial day, and whose great favourite he certainly is, take it into their heads to make him a King, in a year or two, why not indulge the wishes of a people struggling and determined to be freemen? giving them on our part, into

* If inclined to reform his system of government, why not as well as Brazil, make him King of Paraguay, Lima, &c.? as it is absolute madness in Spain to expect the retention of such distant kingdoms; and by this means the erection of republics would be prevented, to which I confess myself to be a determined foe.

the bargain, the Ionian Islands ; besides all the inestimable blessings of our glorious Constitution.

Was that once the case, all the Islands in the Archipelago would pray for his rule, and arrange themselves under his banners. And I am perfectly satisfied, that the English King of Sicily, at the head of 40,000 loyal exulting freemen, would soon put an end to the reign of our brother-in-law Murat the butcher ; and in all human probability, *in due season*, assist in dashing the iron crown from the head of the Destroyer.

The Sicilians are no doubt Roman Catholics ; but this need not present any difficulties ; as the King might enjoy his own, and every religion be tolerated *but the Jewish*. I do not know whether the present Sovereign of that oppressed Country, has any marriageable daughters or not ; but if so, His Royal Highness might marry one of them ; and as our William the III^d. did, mount the Throne of his father-in-law, by the will and command of a People determined to be free ; and the children might be brought up in the religion of the Country, which, in proportion as the principles of liberty and of the true christian religion are better understood, will every day be more and more purified from the dross of superstition and monkish bigotry.

In Sicily also, if there is another daughter, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent might get a political helpmate, upon the same terms as his Royal Bro-

ther, if not able to find a marriageable Brazilian Princess.

As for His Royal Highness the Duke of York, I much question whether any kingdom upon earth would tempt him to relinquish his present enviable situation, as Commander-in-Chief of the bravest army in the world. Which he has in fact re-created, re-modelled, and perfected.

I shall suppose however, that things go on tolerably well in the South of Europe; and in that case, no man of observation can doubt, but that a hurricane would burst forth in the North, to the dismay, and which I trust would end in the fall of the Destroyer of millions of suffering mankind!

Then would be the period to address our old allies in Holland, in some such language as the following: Dutchmen! for years past we have fought with you most reluctantly; but it was the will of your Tyrant, and neither of us had any alternative. If you wish to be free, will it, and it is done. We offer you every aid in our power; and if you agree to the principles of a free trade, we will restore to you Batavia, and except the Cape of Good Hope, all your foreign possessions; protecting you by our fleets, and aiding you with all our strength. You gave us formerly a Sovereign who, assisted by the public will, saved us from anarchy, slavery, and destruction. In return we offer you the same. If perfectly agreeable to your

wishes, the British Nation and its august Ruler, present you one of his brothers, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, to be your freely-elected King ; and with him all the blessings of that inestimable Constitution, which but for that great and glorious man, yours and our William the III^d. might for a long period of time, have been trampled under the feet of arbitrary power.

Nay further, to cement the ties between us still more strongly, one of your own countrymen, descended from the same race as our former King, shall receive from her Royal Father at the altar the hand of the heiress to the British Crown. I need not proceed with this address any further ; the objects aimed at are obvious ; and when the Destroyer should be employed, warring with his slaves against the slaves of the North ; for alas ! my countrymen, this is his vantage ground, that except ourselves he has no really free people to contend with : then I say, when perhaps his beaming eagles were even planted among the ruins of Petersburg, would be the propitious period for mighty England to unfurl her hallowed standard—the union cross ! (retained by her alone of all the Nations of the Earth), on the shores of Holland ; rousing the people to dash from them, as their forefathers did of old, the vile chains of slavery. Shouting with one voice :—To arms, Batavians ! to arms !—Liberty, Victory, or Death !

I had just finished the last sentence, when taking up a newspaper of the 4th of the present month, I perceived that the palsied, inefficient, dilatory Junta of Cadiz had applied to this country to guarantee a loan of four hundred and fifty thousand pounds, which as I understand it, was to be borrowed from their own Merchants; and which I sincerely hope will not be granted, till they make a change in their system, and act like men in their senses. Why do not they oblige every person who has property, to come forward with it in defence of his besieged habitation? What is become of the many millions of dollars lately brought from their still attached settlements in South America? Where is the plate of their churches? Where that of the numerous rich individualy of Cadiz? What imbecility and lurking treason there is here!

Was the Destroyer master of Cadiz, he would find millions of dollars in a week: and I certainly think, that if a dozen heads were lopt off, *à la Napoleon*, in that City alone, every man would produce his store, and the wants of the starving and naked Defenders of their Country, be instantly supplied.

Is it to be borne, my respected Fellow-Subjects, that the governors of this brave people (though who they are I know not*) should be so sunk in folly, apathy,

* This was written early in January, and things are apparently turning out just as I expected; and happy am I to see that the virtuous Infantado is placed at the head of the Spanish government.

and imbecility, as to be sending away troops and supplies to South America, and be constantly raving about their possessions in that quarter of the world; when but for the assistance of this liberal country, they would not have had a foot of territory in Old Spain.

Ferdinand the VIIIth. indeed! Ferdinand the last, say I, rather than that this brave and glorious people should sink under the yoke of the Destroyer!

Resembling *our* Stuarts in many respects, what have their present race of Kings ever done for them? Nothing—worse than nothing; sinking below mediocrity the character of monarchy; and by giving up the government of the country to priests, fools, and knaves, rivetting closer and closer the shackles of tyranny and superstition.

The Destroyer, bad as he is, has burst some of the links of the chain, though without meaning to do them any ultimate good; but if they are determined to be free, not all the legions of this Dæmon can overwhelm them, if they well purify their ranks, be guided by our counsels, and dismiss that contemptible jealousy of our designs, which so evidently pervades the minds of many of their bigotted ungrateful leaders.

But there is not an hour to lose, and all Spain must rise in arms the moment that Badajoz falls, and then Marmont's legions must fly or surrender.

Again I must say in my own words:

- “ O for that sword of living fire !
- “ Which, blazing in the van of fight,
- “ The seraph arm'd with heavenly ire,
- “ Flash'd 'gainst the madd'ning fiends of night.

- “ That sword with withering force should beam
- “ 'Gainst him, the foe of human kind ;
- “ Who dares indulge the despot dream,
- “ To crush each noble free-born mind !

- “ O for some great Iberian name !
- “ Which might with England's NELSON vie ;
- “ Rival on earth his deathless fame,
- “ And live in immortality !”

Palafox, Romana, and Albuquerque are no more ! they were indeed great men, and possessed heroic spirits. Of the warriors that remain, Ballasteros, as far as we can judge, is one of the few fit to assume the reins as dictator—“to ride in the tempest and direct the storm”—leaving the choice and election of a King to a period of peace ; but if they trifle much longer, the opportunity of salvation may be lost. Yet I have uniformly said (and I am one of the most fervent well-wishers of the Spanish cause), that if proper measures were adopted, I would not despair, was Cadiz their only strong hold, surrounded and besieged by 60,000 Frenchmen.

Then would they learn to appreciate properly the sterling value of British friendship ; and then perhaps might they be induced to appoint (under the Dictator in his civil capacity) the immortal Wellington, Generalissimo of the armies of Spain.

Were this the case, and the brave Spanish peasantry formed into regiments, under mixed British and native officers, I should have no doubt of the result. The Preserver of Portugal would prove the deliverer of the whole Peninsula ; and then would be the period to create a government, new model their laws, and elect a sovereign.

If Ferdinand the Seventh should be in being, no doubt he would be most happy to return to his old situation ; and should he have perished, there are some Princes of the exiled race of Bourbon, and several Austrian and other Roman Catholic German Princes, who have got very good lessons from adversity, and would probably on that account make tolerable kings.

The truth is, my respected Fellow-Subjects, that Europe, not even excepting Britain, has been asleep, whilst another Mahomet has been realizing his visions.

What we conquer we ought to consider as our own ; not with any view to selfish aggrandizement, but to bestow with the *vox populi* upon the most deserving, and pass by bigots and fools, even if they could trace their lineage to the days of Priam.

The people every where are our friends, or will be so to the last man, if *we will declare and act upon a fixed system* : giving them the choice of a king, between the members of our Royal Family, their own if they like them, or any other ; *but at all events giving them freedom.* In this case who can doubt, but that the freemen of Europe would, in a few campaigns, overwhelm all the slaves ; nay, that the slaves themselves, would turn against and overwhelm their great master, and his satellite legion of honour, when they found that by so doing, they could give liberty to their native land, and peace to the universe.

That I may not however be thought to treat lightly so serious a subject as the dethroning of a Monarch, however weak or worthless ; I have to mention, that I borrowed the idea from the Destroyer himself in the way I shall now relate :

I was in Edinburgh some years ago, and one day when dining with a very respectable gentleman of that City, he mentioned several anecdotes of the Great Personage, which he had been either told by Lord Lauderdale, or the well-known Mr. D. Stewart, who went with his Lordship to Paris, upon the famous Fox Embassy, to solicit, as Mr. Whitbread wishes us to do at present, *for pardon, peace, and perdition.*

I was much struck with one of these anecdotes ; a custom he was said to have, when in good humour, of talking in apparent joke and familiarity with his family.

of great events, and how easy it would be to dethrone this or that King, and place another on his throne.

When reflecting upon the cause of all this, it appeared at once very obvious, that the whole proceeded from the want of a *single people* on the continent of Europe, in the sense Britons fortunately understand *that word*.

Could it therefore be effected, I think we may be certain, that all *the people* on the Continent would be happy, exult, and rejoice with all their might, to see the ancient dynasty of Brunswick opposed to a set of upstart puppets of yesterday, and placed upon the thrones of one half of Europe: provided the Princes carried to their respective Kingdoms, the inestimable blessings of a constitution similar to that of this country; to be amalgamated with their own laws, in such way as suited their habits, feelings, and opinions.

Thinking as I do on this subject, and indulging in the same vein of reasoning, planning, or visioning, as the Destroyer; and supposing the ground-work laid, and Holland emancipated, I think there would be no great difficulty in placing another son of Britain upon the throne of Hanover and Westphalia, with the perfect approbation of the surrounding nations, who would be sensible that he was only getting back his Royal Father's territories, with such addition as they had themselves agreed to bestow upon the brother of their enslaver.

As to Austria, in spite of the now existing ties, and her apparent lethargy, I think she would have no objection to see one of her Archdukes King of Italy; and this is a part of the proposed arrondissement, which is a favourite expression of the great robber's, when giving directions for decorating a cabbage-garden, or parcelling out an empire—Germany or Russia for instance—amongst his mushroom, ruffian, unprincipled band, of dukes, princes, marshals, and other butchering satraps.

Was the tide of fortune once fairly stemmed, it would soon turn, and run strongly in a contrary direction; and Britain might then perhaps find opportunities of doing many other good things to the nations of Europe; always understood, that my reasoning proceeds upon the sterling British principle, that *the vox populi is on every such occasion to be decidedly consulted.*

In short, my respected Countrymen, let us suppose such a wise, well-regulated, time-cemented constitution as that of our blessed native land, was possessed by all the nations of Europe; and I almost think, that when once in fair and full operation, something like a Millennium might be expected. Though if it only should produce universal peace in our own days, few of us, I presume, would puzzle our brains to find out whether the prophecied period was arrived or not; leaving that solution to the experience and

enjoyment of future generations, and to the wise, wonderful, and from age to age developing system of the God of Christianity !

At the same time believing, as I do, with all my heart, my soul, and my strength, in every thing recorded in the blessed tablet of our faith, the Holy Bible—I do think that some such period is to arrive : and I cannot help supposing that there will previously be produced a great change in the minds of mankind ; which can only be gradually brought about, not by miracles, but by wise and virtuous governments being established all over the world. And looking around me, though I see and lament considerable specks, blemishes, and even fractures in our own admirable system, yet they are merely like recording stains of blood, upon some such hard-fought glorious field as Talavera, and remind us by comparison, that human wisdom is as fallible as our frail bodies are mortal.

Yet when compared with any other constitution, it appears to be the most perfect, that ever was reared or enjoyed by any nation upon earth. Possessing within itself, the most combining facilities, in case of requiring it to be repaired, embellished, or strengthened, by additional bulwarks.

In opposition also, to the idea of the Millennium being to produce universal peace, it is singular to remark, that we have uniformly found the nations which

have long cultivated what are called the arts of peace, to have been invariably deprived of a great proportion of the nobler virtues.

The character of the peaceful Chinese, injured no doubt in its most essential points by the dismal darkness of paganism, appears to us a compound of every thing that is base, mean, vicious, and contemptible.

Even in Europe, the nations of Italy in particular, though of late years they have produced poets, and painters, and musicians of great excellence—nay even statesmen of celebrity—have, from the absence of war, at least of wars any way interesting to the people, and also from the dominion of inquisitorial priestcraft, and the increase of luxury and voluptuousness, imperceptibly lost all the proud pedestals, on which their ancient warriors stood erect, in the temples of Fame, Victory, and Virtue !

No doubt the boasted Medici encouraged the arts and sciences above all other men of their age, and were surrounded by the wise, the gay, the witty, and the accomplished—but there were few warriors in their trains : and like some of the Kings of France, and our Charles the Second, by the profligacy of their own lives they destroyed virtue in all around them.

No Millennium therefore for us, my respected Countrymen, if we are to run such a risk as the possibility of banishing future Pitts and Nelsons, Abercrombys, Moores, Wellesleys, and Saumarez's, from our re-

cordova temples ; and instead of such as them, introduce among us, by cultivating exclusively what are called the arts of peace, all the fascinating, seductive, and overwhelming profligacy of the Medicean age, and school, and system.

Though the race of warriors appears to be almost extinct in Italy, yet some brave spirits now seem to be crawling forth from the mouldering dens of monkish bigotry ; and did they but possess such a government as that of Britain, the youths of Calabria would, I doubt not, ere long, rise in the scale of man, and again create by their heroic valour, fit subjects for the recording pen of the historian, for the most inspired frenzy of the poet, and for the most brilliant, blazing, magic colouring of some modern Raphael. May they soon fight in a better cause than they do at present!—not to rivet their own chains, and assist in enslaving the world, but hilt to hilt against the Destroyer and his legions !

After this digression, my respected Fellow-Subjects, permit me to present you with a new set of kings, *versus* their mock majesties—the Destroyer's puppets, now acting for a year or two, their allotted parts, upon the continental theatre. And as the Dæmon, by producing his phantasmagoria, first suggested to me the possibility of fighting him ere long in his own way, and with better weapons, I shall therefore first introduce their mock majesties to your notice.

Heaven grant in its mercy, wisdom, and justice, that whilst he shares the fate of Macbeth, my patriotic vision may be realized, like that presented to the tyrant's blood-shot distorted eye, when the ghost of the virtuous Banquo pointed to the appalling scene, representing the future greatness of the descendants of that infamously murdered friend.

Then indeed we might expect peace upon earth, and good-will amongst all men for a great number of years.

Emperors and Kings created by NAPOLEON the Destroyer.

Emperor of France.—Napoleon the First, and the last.

Son of a petty Corsican attorney.

Ditto of Italy. . . . ditto . . . ditto.

Ditto of Holland. . . . ditto . . . ditto.

King of Spain.—Joseph the First, and last.

King of Westphalia.—Jerome, ditto, ditto.

King of Naples.—Murat, the butcher, the First, and the last.

King of Sweden.—Corporal Bernadotte the First, and the last.

King of Wirtemberg.—Frederick the First. Son-in-law of our virtuous Sovereign, but a tool of the Destroyer's, and unfit to rule a kingdom.

King of Denmark & Norway.—Frederick the Seventh. Certainly not created by, but nevertheless a tool of the Destroyer's, and one of Britain's bitterest foes.

I do not mention the *King of Bavaria*, as I really know very little about him ; and he has got so many slices from other kingdoms, that at the resurrection of the continent, I dare say there will be a good deal of tugging and squabbling, about the legs, arms, and other members, which may be found in his possession ; and as even in continental law a receiver is as bad as a thief, the Emperor of Austria may perhaps be inclined to regard him in that light ; in which case, exit *Bavaria à la Napoleon*.

No others seem worth noticing ; and with the exception of the two relatives of the Royal Family of Britain, their mock Majesties before mentioned are all adventurers of yesterday, *kingified* by the Destroyer.

Though I also consider the Kings of Denmark and Wirtemberg as deserving of being dethroned, or rather I should say unfit to rule, in a supposed different state of things, yet their case may be reserved for future consideration. As it is possible also that there may be a shortcoming of British Princes, to fill such vacant thrones in Europe as might suit them, I propose, that the Lord High Admiral of England should be kept at home ; both because he is the faithful, sincere, and long-tried friend of his illustrious eldest brother, and because from certain symptoms of late, it is possible he may wish to get married ; and though he has missed £70,000, a year, he has I hope too much good sense, not to take one half the sum, or even one

half of that, with a good English wife, to secure in case of need, successors to that crown, which it is my firm opinion, if things are properly managed, will ultimately give sovereigns to a great part of the universe.

It may perhaps likewise be good policy in the ruler and ministers of the British nation, to reserve two Princes, to be appointed on some future day, sovereigns of two valuable dependencies of our own too extended empire. One for instance to be Emperor of India, and the other King of Canada; but this most important subject must be reserved for future discussion.

I now come to the Kings suggested to be recommended in proper time to the different people of Europe, by the British government and nation, for their fair, free, and unbiassed election. Carrying with them, if accepted of, all the inestimable blessings of peace and liberty, of reconciliation and alliance; to last as treaties say for ever; but in reality, until such distant period of future years, as may be marked, by the wise, omnipotent, eternal God, for letting another Destroyer loose upon his own fair creation; to punish his erring children, and recal them to virtue, to happiness, and to himself.

Emperors and Kings to be recommended by Britain, with the acquiescence of Russia, Austria, &c. to the different nations of Europe, viz.:

Emperor or King of France.—An Emperor or King to be elected by the people. The ancient dynasty however to be strongly recommended, as its members must have been taught much wisdom, by the awful and useful lessons of adversity. And from what they have witnessed in this land of freedom, must be fully aware of the blessings of a limited monarchy, both to the Sovereign and to the subject.

King of Spain.—Ferdinand the VIIth. or in case of his death, any other Prince the people may choose to elect.

King of Portugal, Madeira, and the Azores.—Edward the Ist. giving indemnity elsewhere to the present supposed *locum tenens*.

King of Sicily, Naples, and the Ionian Islands.—Augustus the Ist. giving indemnity, or a liberal pension to the present race.

King of Holland and the Netherlands.—Frederick the Ist.

King of Hanover, Westphalia, &c.—Ernest the Ist.

King of Italy.—An Austrian Prince.

Popedom.—A Pope or Bishop of Rome. To be a kind of spiritual head of all the christian churches should they ultimately coalesce. But to have no power of interference, and the Inquisition monarchism and all abuses to be put an end to.

King of Poland.—A Russian Prince.

King of Sweden.—Gustavus restored.

King of Denmark and Norway.—Adolphus the 1st. should it be necessary.

King of Wirtemberg, &c. &c.—William the 1st. if necessary.

I shall say nothing of Prussia, &c. whose interests would of course be attended to, as well as the succession to the different thrones, in case of the failure of issue.

Upon the whole, my respected Fellow-Subjects, I trust that you will think the proposed kings fully more respectable than those of the dreadful Destroyer, who I firmly believe will at last be tumbled from his throne, most probably by Frenchmen themselves, in order that the ways of God may be manifested and justified unto man. As I said before, the Kings of the Continent of Europe, have not had hitherto a single people at *their* backs, whose interests were identified with the crown's; and from this cause, all their misfortunes have arisen; and could the blessings of peace be restored to all nations by some such plan as the one I have presumed to suggest, I think kings would be much wiser, and people certainly much happier than they have ever yet been.

In fact, without some decided system is *opposed* to that of the Destroyer, *this war presents no visible point of termination*; and did he once get possession of Spain and Portugal, it would only make him more

determined upon attempting, with additional means, the destruction of this country ; which, America excepted, (and *I abhor the present jaundiced hue of democratic republican liberty*) is alas ! alas ! the only refuge upon earth, where a free man can give vent to the ebullitions of a virtuous free-born mind !

The faithful watch-dog of England, the stern, inflexible, strong-minded Whitbread, bow-wows and barks about the dreadful situation of the Country. Yet any night upon looking over his tablets, what has *he* done to assist in saving it from destruction ? Take the third day for example of the present session of Parliament. Why, that day he drew such a desponding picture of its situation in point of corruption, &c. as I thought could only have existed in the mind of some ignorant, profligate, gin-drinking sign-post painter ; who after having spent the whole of the sabbath in the interior of one of those infamous receptacles, where the Political Register, the Examiner, and the Statesman are taken in, for the destruction of many an otherwise virtuous and satisfied mind, had produced a false, infernal, miserable daubing of England's miseries, as represented, and dwelt upon with such malignant delight, by that renegade from Pitt, truth, and true patriotism, the apostate Cobbett.

Whitbread's picture did I say ?—no, no ; the profligate sign-post painter's, infuriated by politics, who I presume intended it to decorate the political assembly

room of the gang of thieves, where he had spent the polluted holy sabbath. As to the second exploit of the worthy Patriot upon that day, it was above all praise.

After the direful preparation of several months, and a collection of stores, as if he had been going to storm Gibraltar, he had absolutely the undaunted courage, to attack the Regent of England, for having acted like a true friend, an honest man, and a great Prince, in rewarding *in the only way in his power at the time*, a zealous, honourable, and faithful servant, who had served his Country during the American war, and his Royal Master by night and by day for nearly twenty years*.

A sovereign is the father of his people, Mr. Whitbread; and you may thank heaven that you had a father before you, who was an honour to the land; else you, Sir, even you, with all your brilliant talents, might have this day been the friend of a Prince, and a placeman or pensioner, to the great and dreadful loss of your country; which whilst it renders merited justice to your manly and estimable private character, regards with surprise, astonishment, and sorrow, some late specimens of your political insanity.

With what heartfelt pleasure do I now turn to address you, wise, intelligent and virtuous Mr. Per-

* My opinion is by no means changed by the decision of the House of Commons, as to the evident disrespect of the mode in which the matter was brought forward.

ceval. Go on, Sir, pursue as you have ever done, the steps of the immortal William Pitt, and like his, your name shall live for ever in the recollection of your grateful country ! Highly as that country thought of your private virtues, it did not till lately properly appreciate your powerful political mind. And I am perfectly satisfied, that in proportion as your policy, principles, and public conduct, are more deeply investigated by men of vigorous, unbiassed, and reflecting minds, so much more firmly will the opinion I have now ventured to express with regard to you be sanctioned, confirmed, and ratified, by that of applauding Britain. Go on, Sir ; the soul of the land is with you, and will be so more and more every succeeding day ; until, it is to be hoped, your present prudent, proper, and manly opposition, to the improper, bullying, and at this moment imprudently urged demands of a faction in Ireland, *shall be done away*, by a change of circumstances in the awful situation of the world, and by sincere repentance on the part of the offenders.

The conduct of the Roman Catholic leaders has indeed been in every respect reprehensible ; as they have dared to attack the most sacred bulwark of Britain, its religious Constitution, in a manner so ungrateful, disloyal, and almost rebellious, that I am rather inclined to believe, that Ireland is at this moment inundated by a horde of the friends, spies, and agents of our mortal foe.

How could the patriotic Grattan shew his venerable head at the last imprudent dinner meeting of the party? What meaning did young Stanhope's speech convey — but that His Royal Highness the Duke of York approved of such assemblies? which it would be libelling that Royal Personage to believe for a moment.

Mr. Lancaster too! well meaning, virtuous, but unwise man: what had he to do there? thus lending a destroying maul to his antagonists, to crush his infant system; just as poor Marr's innocent little cherub was murdered in its cradle, by a stolen weapon. Yet I doubt not but that in the world to come, this excellent man will stand as high as his old, worthy, and enlightened friend, Dr. Bell; or as his antagonist, the Reverend and respectable Dr. Marsh; who I must say however, appears to me almost as anxious to lay the foundation stone of a bishoprick, as to defend the corner stone of the church of England.

Besides Messrs. Grattan and Lancaster, many other persons might be mentioned, who were present at that imprudent meeting, whom I will not name, or animadvert upon; as I trust that ere long, with the exception of the tools and spies of the Arch Fiend, they will all blush for and repent of their conduct, and with one heart and soul, agree to postpone the correction of all political and religious abuses, real or imaginary, till such time as the fell Destroyer is himself destroyed.

A period, virtuous minister of England, which I firmly believe with you, Marquis Wellesley, and your other coadjutors, in the great work of the salvation of Europe, will at last arrive. But in all human probability, oceans of blood must flow before his fall, and the much prayed for time of completion, is only known to the wise disposer of events, and recorded on the tablets of eternity !

Yes, Mr. Perceval, be undaunted ! and I dare to think, that the united loyal men of England, Scotland, and Ireland, as they bravely, firmly, and successfully resisted a bigotted English tyrant, will unanimously join with me in swearing by the throne, that they will stand by here, and by the throne of that great Being, who shall judge them hereafter—one and all, they will swear—never to lay down their arms, till Britain has conquered tyranny, or perished in the contest !—Be firm, Sir—be resolute—be inflexibly determined ! and were a hundred such party-spirited politicians as Grenville, Grey, and Whitbread, arrayed against the ruler of the land, and the system now adopted, the population of the three United Kingdoms will support the throne and the constitution, with the last drop of blood in their veins ; in fighting the battles of virtue against vice, of freedom against slavery, and of heaven itself against hell, and its chosen representative upon earth—Napoleon the Destroyer !

I shall now, Mr. Perceval, respectfully take my leave .

of you for the present, as I will also of one of your honourable, well-meaning, but short-sighted opponents, when I have again conversed with him a little on political topics.

Peace, Mr. Whitbread ! how is it to be obtained ? but by sacrificing as the Carthaginians did at the end of the second Punic War—the honour, the character, and the bulwarks of their country. They behaved like cowards, fools, and madmen, and deservedly perished a few years afterwards, because their tyrants willed it. But even had they been able as a nation, to have crawled through other two centuries of dishonourable existence, would you, Sir, for one moment compare Carthage to London ? or a gang of plundering pirates, to the great, the grand, the glorious British Empire ?

Peace, Mr. Whitbread !—accursed be the thought ! yet when I tell you the causes which I have for wishing that your desires could be realized, you will I am persuaded allow, that I must speak from the deepest and most heartfelt conviction, in daring, upon nearly every point of foreign and domestic policy, to oppose the opinions of an almost unknown, humble, but determined man, against yours and that of all your powerful party ; including the noble-minded christian Grenville, the brave, magnificent, but too generous Moira, your excellent relative Lord Grey, the virtuous Lansdowne, and many other great and respectable worthies of Britain.

Yes, Mr. Whitbread, war has torn from the dear wife of my bosom, five brave brothers and a brother-in-law ; of whom five out of the six have perished on service ; two of them when they fell, under the command of your glorious father-in-law, who was the firm friend of merit, and had appointed one of my lamented relatives, then commanding a battallion of grenadiers, deputy quarter-master general to his army, a fortnight before he was killed.

Whilst these sacred ties have been wrested from us, Sir, and many of the parties if they had not fallen, would now have been general officers : we have also a brother of my own, two sons, and eight united nephews, in the service ; and many of them at this moment in the front of the battle.

Peace would restore to me and mine these dearest heart-blood ties of life ; war tears them from us, and every moment exposes them to destruction. Wealth I have none ; for the consequences of war, and the debts of villanous speculators, whom I unfortunately assisted, have plunged me into misery, and nearly deprived me of life ; and with the pride of honest unhumbled poverty, I blush not to own, that whilst I was stretched in a burning fever on the bed of expected dissolution, my numerous suffering family was saved from destruction by a noble-minded youth, whose name and connexions are well known to yourself. And so high is my opinion of, and respect for your private character,

though so totally differing with you on public matters, that I most solemnly assure you, that but for my illness, I had singled you out from all the world, and intended to apply for aid direct to yourself.

After this sacredly true statement, respected Fellow-Subject, I care not a straw should the language of truth speak daggers to your public conscience ; and I must plainly tell you, that your stake in the question of peace or war, is an absolute nothing, in point of mind, feeling, and principle, compared to mine.

In case of the Destroyer conquering Britain, your immense property would remain in perfect safety, because, acting upon false principles, you have ever been (unintentionally I allow) one of his most useful friends. Nay, so much so, that in case of such a dreadful event taking place, you might perhaps in time, be even raised to the dignity of a prince of *vassal little Britain* ; and like your departed friend, when at Paris, have the honour of kissing the blood-stained hand of a murderer, and sharing the festivities of his unhallowed orgies, with the christian Talleyrand, the polished Massena, or the friend of Burdett, that emblem of peace and fraternity, the lamb-like Marechal Suchet.

Whereas I, humble as I am, with tens of thousands of even humbler men, might probably have the honour, however undesired, of sealing our faith with our blood, on the same scaffold which put an end to the existence of the last scion of the race of Bruns-

wick, and stifled the last expiring sigh of heaven-descended British liberty !

You are surrounded by friends, one of the leaders of a powerful party, and rioting in wealth and prosperity. I have through life met with severe misfortunes, and am at this moment steeped to the lips in adversity. Yet even thus situated, Sir, I will not cease to think and say, that the man who at any time quarrels with Providence, and despairs of his own fortunes, is a weak contemptible fool ; but that the man who despairs of his country, and preaches such accursed doctrines—if he were possessed of the combined talents of a Cicero and a Cæsar—produces by his conduct as bad effects upon the public mind, as if he was an abandoned Catiline !

You are prosperous, respected, and ought apparently to be happy, Mr. Whitbread ; yet you seem only employed “ *in nursing your wrath to keep it warm.*” And did I think of Old England’s situation as you appear to do, I should be in danger of putting an end to my existence with a pistol.

My private situation, however, is not more opposite to yours than my public opinions ; as I can see in my mind’s eye, nothing but an opening blaze of glory, as likely to be the lot of my beloved country.

Whilst you tremble, or else for party purposes pretend to do so, and utter false prophecies of impending ruin, I feel perfectly undaunted ; and as I have

been in the army, speak the language of the country, and am much attached to its cause, should my services be accepted of in Spain, all that I now possess—blood, muscle, marrow, and immortal spirit, either is or shall soon be pitted in that awful contest, which must either exalt Britain as a nation, to the highest pinnacle of human power, or make her crouch with the rest of the crumbling world, at the footstool of the Destroyer*.

Look at the list of honorable deaths I have laid before you. Look at eleven of my dearest relatives almost in the cannon's mouth: and when I tell you that two remaining sons of my brave brother's, Co-

* Whilst such are the patriotic sentiments of my soul, what was my sorrow at reading in that excellent independent newspaper, the Times, of the 20th March, the following recorded expression of Lord Grey, in the House of Peers, the evening before, on Lord Boringdon's motion:—"It is not want of feeling, my Lords, which made me at any time doubt of the ultimate success of our enterprises in the Peninsula. But my communication with the highest statesmen, has taught me *the vanity of all hope of final resistance to an enemy, possessed of such armies and of such means!!*"

Glorious shade of the great Lord Grey! look down in pity on thy erring children; and whisper to both the baron and the brewer, in their melancholy midnight dreams, that the statesman they so often allude to upon earth, has not as yet reached your region in heaven; and that you are informed by Nelson and others, that it is only owing to the intercession of Pitt and Melville, that he has even been received into the lowest of the million mansions on high.

lonel ————— are on the point of going into the navy; and that three others of my own, (though, alas! now too young to fight for their country!) are intended for the army, in case the Destroyer's destruction, and universal consequent peace should not take place, before they are fit to shoulder a musket.—When I tell you all this, Mr. Whitbread—six brothers-in-law perished! and a brother, five sons, and ten nephews devoted to the service of their country; you will I trust be silent with regard to your patriotism. And fervently do I call upon Almighty God, to witness the truth of the following declaration to you, in the face of our mutually beloved native land; which after a serious and awful examination of my afflicted heart, I solemnly record! That I would rather hear, that all those dear relatives had perished in one battle, and their corsees been left a prey to the vultures of Heaven! than that ever peace—shameful, ignominious, annihilating peace, should be made *on any terms whatsoever*, with a monster, whose name sickens my very soul! The murderer—the assassin—the destroyer of mankind!

If, Sir, a few tears have trickled down my cheeks, at the picture I myself have drawn, and which I trust will never be realized; they are those of a British, not of a Roman Father.

Brutus was in my opinion a savage murderer, as he condemned his children to death for a criminal act,

which from that very sentence, the tenets of his pagan faith must have taught him, was consigning them to eternal perdition. O, what a monster was this much boasted Roman! Because not enlightened by the doctrines of christianity!

Speaking forgivingly as a christian, Sir, and feelingly as a father, I would have said to such undutiful children: "Justice has condemned you, but your afflicted parent has obtained your pardon from your generous, injured country. Merit that forgiveness—hasten to the front of the battle, and rush upon the foe.—Your watch-word, victory or death! If ye survive, your forgiving country will again receive ye into its bosom: and if ye fall, all your fellow soldiers will attest your repentance, your valour, and your honourable death. And though condemned to mourn ye upon earth, I shall enjoy the transporting, heart-soothing certainty, of being reunited to my children, in another and a better world."

From such principles, Sir, springs my offered sacrifice of blood; and Abraham never was more sincere than I am. He offered up his only son, and I call Heaven to witness, that if necessary, I offer up five of mine on the altar of their country.

Before bidding you adieu for the present, Mr. Whitbread, permit me to remark to you the glaring absurdity of expecting, that under all the circumstances of our situation, the public finances should not have been in any shape affected last year.

Mr. Perceval says, only two millions will be deficient ; but I shall suppose at once a deficiency of four millions sterling ; and can you for a moment, Sir, fancy that this temporary defalcation in the revenue is to ruin our magnificent empire ?

Reasoning with his slaves on mercantile matters, how much more justly does the Destroyer say to his council of commerce, and to give the devil his due, there is much good sense in his opinion: “ You wish,” says he, “ to acquire in three months, what ought to be the gains of the labour of a whole life-time ; for commerce should proceed at a slow and moderate pace : a battle is gained in a day, but a commercial fortune should not be acquired in less than twenty years.”

Indeed the causes of our sufferings are evident to every reflecting mind. In the first place, the mercantile men and manufacturers of the country, had extended their speculations to an unprecedented, unparadonable, and even criminal extent ; and have deservedly suffered for their folly. And another cause of deficient revenue, in addition to this former overtrading, and consequent stagnation both at home and in foreign markets, arises from the common injuries, inflicted by their general pest upon all nations, having been felt by Britain, as the most prosperous, in a ten-fold degree. Now however, matters are gradually mending ; and trade, confined to its proper channels, is assuming its natural healthy complexion ; and were

our fisheries as a source of subsistence, and our numerous internal resources more attended to, I am almost of opinion with the intelligent and patriotic Mr. Spence, that Britain *might be* independent of every description of foreign commerce, but what would necessarily flow into her harbours.

Far different however, Mr. Whitbread, is my idea and conviction, of what will *really and ultimately take place*; as I expect ere long, that is to say, in the course of a very few years, that this country will be hailed by all the nations of Europe, as their preserver, regenerator, and bountiful benefactor.—Farewell, Sir, but you shall soon hear from me again.

I now after a very long excursion, my respected Fellow-Subjects, shall return to the road I have so much wandered from ; but in fact I am a raw recruit in matters of this kind, and write the first number of Truth under disadvantages, in point of bad health and other respects, which would scarcely be credited, if related. Promising therefore in my future numbers, both more correctness and connectedness, and invariable truth, I throw myself upon the protecting indulgence of my readers, and shall endeavour to close this one, before their patience is exhausted, with a short discussion of the probable, nay certain advantages, of placing one of the Princes of Britain upon the throne of India, and creating another of them King of Canada.

All writers upon the subject of our Indian posses-

sions are of opinion, that it is altogether improbable, if not impossible, that our rule and domination over that extensive empire can last for a long period of years.

Taking this opinion as data to go upon therefore, how much better would it be for Britain, to anticipate such an event, and in fact turn the expected bad consequences of its presumed completion, into unbounded good results, by placing a British Prince upon the throne of Aurengzebe ; only reserving to ourselves, the Isles of France and Bourbon, &c.

Our commercial advantages might all be retained, by a treaty, to last for five hundred years, or, as treaties usually say, for ever ; and the expence of fleets and armies in that quarter, would thus be almost entirely done away. And this great, wise, and magnificent measure, would likewise wonderfully add to the safety and preservation of our inestimable constitution at home, by lopping off an extensive branch of patronage, both from the King and the Minister.

It would no doubt, in this case, be necessary to lay the trade entirely open ; and I trust that the enlightened rulers of the freest, most liberal, and greatest nation upon earth, will not be like the heaven-blinded mole, which burrows yards deep in the ground, that it may not even hear an innovating sound.

Was the trade of India laid open, and the future great changes I have dared to suggest, contemplated

as events which might possibly soon happen, shouts of joy would ascend from one extremity of Britain to the other, every sorrow would be forgotten, every wound would be healed ; and it would unquestionably be altogether, one of the most popular measures that ever any king, regent, or minister brought forward, in any kingdom upon earth !

In this case, the India Company must be most nobly and generously treated, that there may be no part of the community but what may participate in the general joy.

Its marine officers, I shall say, must possess exclusive privileges for a certain number of years. Its establishments, clerks, &c. be retained ; and every thing be done, consistent with propriety, to conciliate the interests of all parties.

In short, if I may be allowed to make use of a very homely comparison, instead of murdering our Indian gold-producing bird, as the story tells us was done of old—or allowing her, by inattention, to become the property of others, we should endeavour to propagate the valuable species by every possible means ; and by placing the dynasty of Brunswick upon the throne of India, a race of princes would arise in the east, who would look up to Britain as their parent stock ; and this country, as a *favoured nation*, would enjoy every advantage resulting from a fair free trade, without the expence and risk of defending such distant possessions.

All jealousy of our rule would thus be done away among the nations of India ; and looking up to a christian sovereign of their own, there cannot be a doubt, but that in the course of a very short period of time, the glorious hallowed cross, the union flag of England, would float triumphant over all the eastern regions !

Colonists would flock from every corner of Europe and America, to settle under the new sovereign ; carrying with them the arts, the industry, and all the various knowledge and information of their respective countries.

Schools would of course be founded by the government, in every city and town, not only to propagate the doctrines of christianity, but also to teach such natives as chose it, the language of that country, which had bestowed upon them, along with all the advantages of the British constitution, the inestimable blessings of a knowledge of the revealed religion of the God of Israel !—of that religion, before whose hallowed altars he himself has declared, that all the nations of the earth shall at length bend the knee, calling upon the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost !

O Britain ! beloved native land ! may this glorious work be thine ! And were but all thy children as faithful as I am—soon, very soon, would the foundation-stone of the great fabric be laid, and the promised edifice of hope arise !

Then would thy victorious union flag be hoisted in every village, and every Briton swear, on the record of our holy faith, to conquer or die for his country ! Then also would the enlightened population of thy three united kingdoms, whether Lutherans, Catholics, or Calvinists, spurning the priestcraft, hypocrisy, and superstition, of bigots, knaves, and madmen, all be melted down into the plain, simple, and only true religion—that of Jesus of Nazareth, the man of Galilee ; who most assuredly died upon the cross at Jerusalem, in order that all the human race, believing in him, might live for ever !

Christians of all sects ! why is this impossible ? But for the sectarian spirits which dwell in too many of your teachers' bosoms, how easy would it be to unite in one, all the true churches of God ! So full of enthusiasm is my mind upon this important subject, that I not only hope, but firmly believe, that the time is fast drawing near, when Protestants and Catholics—fighting together in the cause of all that is dear and sacred to free-born men—will be induced to wish, that some mode could be struck out, of amalgamating two religions, which, as far as regards the Deity, are perfectly the same.

They both believe in the Old and New Testament ; in the Father, in the Son, and in the Holy Ghost : in short, their belief is the same on every point essential

for salvation, and they only differ upon idle theories, created by man. Why may not wise and virtuous men of all persuasions therefore unite, and endeavour to overturn, in due season, the bugbear barriers which separate the two religions?

Transubstantiation, absolution, and the worship of saints, appear to be the chief disputed points ; and though I have resided and travelled in many a Roman Catholic kingdom, I never *even once* met with a single well-informed unprejudiced person, who had the smallest belief in these doctrines.

I wish however at present to say as little as possible relative to the Roman Catholic Question, yet I cannot refrain from making one or two passing remarks; as we are told, that they have entirely abandoned a leading principle of their religious tenets, that no faith is to be held with heretics. If this is the fact, it is a most important difficulty removed ; as it seemed to be a kind of fundamental stumbling-block to bigots on both sides.

Emancipation from every disability I fervently wish the Catholics to possess ; but how it is to be effected, except by an union of the churches, I cannot imagine. If they have really as a body ceased to inculcate the opinion above stated, which never was at any time acted upon by honest men, it is not impossible but that in time they may be induced to give up the other

speculative points in dispute, or at least meet the Protestants fully half way.

Then might we hope for the coalition of the two religions, with the King as the head of the new hierarchy ; and then their bishops, and dignitaries of equal rank from the church of Scotland, might all be assembled in the British senate, under the banner of that God and Saviour, whom they all believe in and worship.

Such is the grand undertaking, which ought to be attended to, and attempted to be carried into execution, in due season, by the virtuous and religious Chancellor of Oxford, instead of lending his powerful aid to overturn the sacred bulwarks of the only church in Europe, the Greek not excepted, uncontaminated by the infamous example, or artful missionaries of Mahomet the Second.

Look at France, my respected Fellow-Subjects, and its universal unlimited system of toleration. The national church without an efficient acknowledged head, and atheism, deism, and immorality the order of the day. And if we cast our eyes across the Atlantic, I suspect that from the same principles being acted upon, though without any national church, we shall find the same causes as in France fast filling the cup of irreligion in North America to the brim ; or at least producing such a relaxation of religious prin-

ciples, as must have the worst effect upon the general character of the nation.

From all such evils I hope and trust, that the wisdom of our rulers may preserve these kingdoms, and that the councils of the catholic leaders may be purged from all those infuriated factious spirits, who wish to mix the question of religion, and that of the revocation of the Union, in the same unhallowed chalice.

I am perfectly aware, that all doctrinal points ought to be tenderly handled, and only slightly touched upon by persons like myself, who have neither been educated at Maynooth, Oxford, or St. Omer's.

And as the Bible is the *only* standard of my faith, and I never read a book of controversy in my life, I am not churchman sufficient to dip into hidden mysteries, though my hope, nay my *conviction is unalterable*, that before even twenty years shall have elapsed, the two leading religions of christianity, will be rallied *as one under one standard*—the blessed union flag of England ; which, whilst other nations have abandoned the cross, and adopted fleurs de lys, griffins, eagles, &c. ; has on so many occasions, by sea and land, led our heroes to glory, victory, and immortality !

Again do I fervently pray, my respected Fellow-Subjects, that our rulers and great men, may open their eyes in proper time ; and as I said before, turn threatening evils, into good results, by early attention to the important subjects, I have presumed to touch

upon : which besides a coalition of religions at home, embrace the great and glorious measure, of converting the pagan nations of the East, as well as the followers of the impostor Mahomet, to the revealed religion of the living God.

Just as what I have written was going to the press*, I perceived that a meeting of the proprietors of India stock had taken place, when Mr. Bosanquet stated to them, the leading terms upon which it was expected that the charter of the Company would be renewed. And from what transpired at the above meeting, I am induced to dilate more than I at first intended on the subject.

His statement will I doubt not rouse many a one, but particularly the three out-ports of Bristol, Liverpool, and Glasgow, to decided exertion ; as nothing can be more unjust in apparent tendency, than a number of the clauses affecting their interests.

On the whole, the opinion I formed many years ago, and have expressed in the foregoing pages, is now unalterably fixed, as to the expediency in every point of view, moral, religious, and political, of the trade being without delay thrown entirely open to British commerce ; all territorial sovereignty abandoned ; and one of the British Princes to be placed immediately upon the throne of India.

As the case now stands, respected Fellow-Subjects,

* March 28, 1812.

no person from any quarter of the world can settle in India, without received or implied permission from the Company; and thus colonization, particularly from Europe and America, is entirely prevented.

This is one of the many dreadful consequences of selfish, apprehensive, terrified monopoly; whereas under a sovereign whose feelings were local, and whose interests were identified with his people's, the very reverse would be the case; and colonization would be encouraged by every possible means. A splendid court would be formed; and instead of a handful of less than forty thousand Europeans, thinly scattered over these immense kingdoms to keep them in slavish subjugation, there cannot be a doubt but that even in the short space of twenty or thirty years, there would be a foreign naturalized population, either of Europeans, or their children, of several millions; who by intermarrying with the natives converted to christianity, would not only rapidly promote this great and glorious object, but would also by degrees create twenty times the demand that there is at present for every article of European comfort or luxury.

This upon the score of interest alone, is a sufficient answer to the India Company's statement, of the small demand there is for British articles among the Indian nations; greatly arising by the bye, from the impossibility of any man of spirit submitting to the cramped

system, and inquisitorial regulations of the private trade.

But on the score of liberty, of civilization, and of the advancement of the christian religion, how unjust, how tyrannical, how irreligious is the idea, of preventing the improvement of India, lest opinions should spring up inimical to the state of subjugation in which it is held by the Company ; whose system, like all bad ones, appears to be supported in many respects by military despotism.

As to the wonders which Mr. Bosanquet states to have been effected by this Company, it is an absolute farce to say so. The whole is the doing of the British nation, effected by British system, and springing out of the general prosperity of the British Empire, when compared with that of all other nations.

Nay, twenty occasions might be pointed out, when this great monopolizing company of kings would have perished, but for the aid of its powerful protecting parent.

Their own statement to Lord Melville is perhaps one of the strongest documents ever penned, against the renewal of the charter on any terms ; as from the hurried view I have yet had of it, it seems to prove *in toto* the reverse of what it is intended to demonstrate ; unless Britain means to acquiesce in openly avowed principles, as tyrannical in their operation over the souls, bodies, and means of every settler in, and

native of India, as ever yet issued from the iron ordinance office of the Destroyer of continental liberty and commerce.

A statement, I humbly but firmly think, which can only be compared, in the fallacy of its vicious and immoral doctrines, to those of the above-mentioned wicked upstart ; and also to the arguments formerly made use of in defence of the continuation of the infamous slave-trade. As the preventing all liberal improvement, and in fact the continued slavery and darkness of the human mind in India, is insisted upon as *the surest*, and in fact, as *the only protection* against the emancipation of twenty kingdoms and fifty millions of people, from the iron rod of galling monopolizing domination.

After a long-winded, jesuitical dissertation, the statement has the following paragraph ; to the whole of which I earnestly solicit the pointed attention of the public at large, and particularly of such patriotic men as Messrs. Perceval, Wilberforce, Thornton, Whitbread, Bankes, &c. as bearing me out in all I have said on the subject.—It runs as follows :

“ But a more serious consequence than all these
“ would still remain. A free trade to India would inevitably draw after it the residence of numerous and
“ continually increasing Europeans, whatever opposition might at first be presented to their settling in the
“ country. When all restraint as to the importation of

“ ships and goods is taken off, men must be allowed to
“ follow their property, and to remain at the places
“ where they land it, until it is disposed of. They must
“ be allowed to navigate the Indian seas, and return to
“ the same place when their business calls them. They
“ will thus insensibly, and with scarcely reasonable
“ grounds for opposition, domiciliate themselves; nor
“ would an unsuccessful trade prevent them, but many
“ would seek to indemnify themselves on shore for their
“ losses by the voyage.

“ The instances of such settlements will be numer-
“ ous; and it will be impossible for any police to fol-
“ low up the cases of individuals, and continually to
“ exercise a rigorous system of exclusion.

“ This has not hitherto been done, though attended
“ with comparatively little difficulty; and the attempt,
“ under the new order of things, would soon be aban-
“ doned as hopeless.—Colonization must in such cases
“ follow.—Large communities of Europeans will strug-
“ gle for popular rights.—New feelings with respect to
“ the mother country, new interests and attachments
“ will then spring up; and in a region so remote, so
“ rich and populous, and so accustomed to yield to the
“ ascendancy of the European character, the tendency
“ and process of these things cannot be difficult to con-
“ ceive.”

Certainly not difficult, Gentlemen of the India Com-
pany; and the writer or writers of the foregoing state

paper, ought to be canonized by every free-born Briton, for the plainness with which they have developed your system of injustice and oppression ; which seems to hold out the exact counterpart of the Destroyer's in Europe ; as existing, or in future to be applied under your superintendence, to the immense empire of India.

The dominions of the Company were a mere parish compared to what they now are, when the last charter was obtained ; and I need scarcely offer another remark upon the above most precious document of irreligious despotism, as I am persuaded that its contents will open the eyes of the whole British nation, and that petitions, springing from better feelings, and founded upon nobler motives than mere interest, will be presented from every quarter of the kingdom, against the continuance, upon any such footing as the one aimed at, of this ruinous despotic monopoly.

The whole system proposed to government for adoption is a perfect delusion ; more particularly as relates to the out-ports, which could not have the smallest share in the trade but upon losing terms ; as besides many other hardships, it is proposed that their ships should return to London from India ; where, instead of filling their own warehouses at home, storage, commission, brokerage, &c. must be paid. Nay, at the conclusion of a first voyage, the advantage of fitting out and loading from an out-port, if there is

any, would be entirely done away, and of no use ; as after being put to a heavy expence, a ship must either again be loaded in the Thames for India, or return in ballast to the port from whence she started, preparatory to a second voyage.

What think ye of this insult to decency and common sense, Gentlemen of Liverpool, Bristol and Glasgow ? Is this granting you a privilege worth a farthing more than you at present possess ? But in truth, this proposition is of a piece with the whole India state document ; and though I should prove on this point, a *vox clamantis in deserto*, I will not fail on every occasion, and by every means in my power, to hold up the renewal of this charter in the form proposed, to public detestation and abhorrence ; as destructive in its views and operations, of every principle of morality and liberty, and more particularly of the great and beneficent measure of quickly spreading a knowledge of the christian religion, by natural and self-evident means, over all the mighty kingdoms of the east.

In fact, a trade open and unshackled, is now the only thing which ought to satisfy Great Britain ; and was His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge for instance, created Emperor of India, and as I have said before, a treaty of commerce and alliance to last for five hundred years, concluded between the two great kingdoms, the intelligence would be received with peals of

joy, not only by Britain and India, but by all the nations of the civilized world.

In case of this great and glorious arrangement taking place, the interests of the Company would of course be most pointedly attended to, and our security be pledged for the engagements of our own Indian Emperor. And thus Britain as a favoured nation, would enjoy every advantage of trade which she at present possesses ; and the treaty to be formed run in some such terms as the Methuen treaty with Portugal ; by which means we would have no trouble in defending such distant possessions, as by the influx of settlers from all quarters, the English Christian Indian Emperor, would soon have an army of Europeans fit to subdue the whole eastern world, when joined to the native army made over to him by the Company.

The Directors' statement expressly says, that the trade is now become a very secondary object ; thus plainly allowing, that it is from territorial revenue they expect profit and remuneration. And yet, my Fellow-Subjects, they have as plainly confessed, that it is only by their preserving an exclusive right to this despised trade, that the kingdoms of the East can be kept in a proper state of subjection to their power.

In other words, that what would produce much good to India, Great Britain, and the whole universe, would injure their monopoly, and that therefore the horrible system ought to be continued.

Neither, as before observed, has the India Company any cause to hope that their empire can exist long, on its present footing: and a rising of the native powers, or a revolt of their army, which are events not only possible, but probable, might, if combined, which they naturally would be, annihilate this modern Babel, in a very few months.

Nay, even at this moment, a native Mahometan chieftain, called Ameer Khan, is said to be at the head of an army of 90,000 followers, gathering like a thunder storm on the Indian horizon; with every appearance of his descending ere long in a torrent of destruction, on some province of that immense empire.

He, I doubt not, would soon be put to flight; and the triumph be announced in the Company's gazettes, as another withered branch, torn from the sapless laurel trunk of Indian desolation.

But this must have an end; and a single reverse of fortune might open the eyes of all the nations of India to the means of overturning a government, founded upon principles so diametrically opposite to the interests of the soil. And Britain's best plan will certainly be, as I have before said, by wise and timely anticipation, to convert threatening evils into great and glorious results.*

* Who can doubt what the Destroyer's policy would be, similarly situated? And, by the bye, I perceive that the India state-

The Directors of the Company individually, are gentlemen who are an honour to their country ; but from whom, as a body, a fair report on Indian matters, is as little to be expected, as from a jury of twenty-four Dominican friars, impannelled upon the question of abolishing the Inquisition !

Upon principles of sound policy however, this country ought not to be desirous of a much greater extension of our manufacturing interests. Of this, my respected Countrymen, the gentlemen of Glasgow are, as they ought to be, good judges ; and must be sensible, that though the Scotch labouring manufacturers, form by far the most virtuous part of the same class of men in the British community ; yet that in temperance, religious principles, and general good moral conduct, even they in these points, are a good deal behind the agricultural and other labouring classes of the population of Scotland.

By keeping as our own the Cape of Good Hope, and the Islands of St. Helena, Mauritius, and Bourbon, with such other points as might be deemed necessary, we would have the maritime road to India entirely in

ment shews a great deal of alarm about his intentions : and, to my astonishment, in a public document, the Directors most unwisely allow, that was he to move eastward, *the consequences might be fatal, unless Britain assisted them with a great additional European army !* Does the Destroyer publish such state papers, Gentlemen of the India Direction ?

our hands. And suppose peace was concluded in Europe, which can only be brought about by the death of the Destroyer, the Emperor of India could with perfect justice plead his treaty with Britain, as a bar to any independent European settlements on the coasts of his dominions ; and also the immense gift he had received of a crown and a kingdom, as a substantial reason for the *exclusive rights* possessed by the Mother Country in various branches of trade, who would unquestionably stand in every respect on a better footing than she does at present.

In India also there would be a glorious asylum at the death of the Destroyer, and the then probable peace ; for the brave German and other foreign troops now in our army ; who would, the greatest part of them at least, enter with enthusiasm into the service of a Prince, the blood in whose veins is one half of it German : whose courage is well known, and whose unsullied private character is an honour to his august family, and to the country that gave him birth.

He is also a fervent christian ; and the hallowed cross, the rallying union flag of that church, which I firmly believe will at last spread over the whole world, never could be placed in purer or fitter hands.

From the decided opinions which I entertain as to the issue of the present awful contest, I see no cause to fear, if this glorious plan is adopted, that any impression can be made by the Dæmon upon our Indian

possessions. It is however perfectly evident, that without European colonization and consequent increasing population, the power of this country in India must at last sink under what may be called a natural revolution, brought about by some of its native chieftains.

And whatever may be said in the exposé of the Directors, of the people of India being accustomed to yield so easily to the ascendancy of the European character, we have no proof of that yielding in the wars of either Hyder Aly, or his desperate son, Tippoo Saib.

Nay it may be considered as having been a fortunate circumstance for this country, that one of the greatest statesmen she ever possessed (and who I hope ere long to see again a leading helmsman), was at that time governor-general; and the army led by a Harris and a Baird, else the contest might have been tedious, and the issue doubtful; and a reverse of fortune would certainly have turned all the native powers against us; and then, Gentlemen of the India Company, there would have been an end of Asiatic slavery and Indian monopoly.

We are now all powerful in India, and this certainly appears to be the propitious period for creating a great English Christian Empire in the East, upon a foundation of adamant; and thus will the wise and every day developing system of the God of

Christianity be advanced one step nearer perfection, by the agency of the British government and nation.

Whereas should the selfish, impolitic, unchristian policy recommended by the India Company be adopted, we in that case, if I may say so without blasphemy, would appear to be almost lending our aid to prevent, for twenty years to come, the fulfilment of this apparent ordinance of Almighty God !

Legislators of Britain ! the times are wonderful—and I most solemnly adjure such of ye as may peruse these pages, to weigh the great subject well ! And the more ye reflect, the more every enlightened religious mind will be satisfied, that the hand of the ruler of the millions of heavens is at this moment strong upon the world ; and unwisely jarring as our counsels are this day, I trust that a very few months will open the eyes of all our statesmen, to the necessity of cordial union.

The Destroyer and his vassal senate are at this moment exulting in our dissensions ; yet I firmly believe, as I have always done, that the kingdom he has usurped will pass from him in due season ; and the ways of God be justified unto man.

With regard to erecting Canada into an independent kingdom, the same general reasoning will in many points apply, as that which I have made use of, with respect to the policy of placing the dynasty of Brunswick upon the throne of India. No doubt, the latter

seems at first sight, and is in reality the greater plan of the two, because the field is more extended ; but at the same time, as from the nature of human concerns, we may contemplate the ultimate separation of Canada and Nova Scotia from this country, as a moral certainty, the best way for Britain will unquestionably be, to meet the expected exigency with wise, prudent, and liberal anticipation. Uniting in one, by a treaty to last for ever, the interests of the old and new kingdoms, and thus preventing all the expected, and certain bad effects of violent separation.

Instead of plunging into a war with our former colonies, had we wisely offered them His Royal Highness the late Duke of Gloucester as their sovereign (who if not a strongly talented man, was certainly a most virtuous one), his excellent and amiable son would this day have been King of North America ; and oceans of blood, and two hundred millions of treasure, been saved to the country. A treaty of commerce, and of offensive and defensive alliance, would also have existed between the two English nations, and none of those causes of dislike would have been heard of, which still rankle in the bosom of America, and seem likely again, joined to the intrigues of the Destroyer and his paruzans, to point the sacrilegious weapons of the children against their parents' bosom.

Be this as it may, Britain need not fear the result, *if proper measures are adopted* ; and I cannot help

thinking, that the deadliest blow which the rank democratic party in America could possibly receive, would be by the erection of Canada and Nova Scotia into an independent monarchy.

The ties of affection on the one side, and gratitude on the other, would be cemented between the old and new kingdoms, by those of interest; and various Provinces of the United States might, in all probability, be induced ere long, by the latter feeling, to wish themselves members of the kingdom instead of the republic; as I must suppose us, of course, to continue to the former, upon principles of reciprocal advantage, the exclusive privileges they now possess, of supplying our West India Islands with various articles.

Besides all this, it is to be expected that the new sovereign would by degrees introduce among his subjects, orders of merit, knighthood, and ultimately of nobility; and it is also most natural to suppose, that the harsh features of the stern republican, would be imperceptibly relaxed, when he reflected, that his son might be created a baronet, or his daughter, then in her cradle, be united twenty years afterwards to a Canadian viscount.

This is human nature, Fellow-Subjects; and it appears highly probable, that in less than a century, the dominions of the descendant of the first King of Canada would extend from the shores of the Saint

Lawrence to the banks of the Mississippi ; his winter capital, Washington ; and his summer residence, Quebec.

Such are the speculative opinions, religious and political, which I presume to lay before my respected countrymen ; and satisfied in my own mind, that I write from the purest and most patriotic motives, I earnestly wish, and publicly solicit, to be aided in my undertaking by men of similar principles, and greater powers of mind than I possess ; which, limited as they may be at any time, are at this moment greatly weakened by severe indisposition.

From his entrance into public life, till the day that he expired, my political opinions have in every respect been founded upon the principles and practice of the greatest statesman that this country ever possessed ; and I never in the most distant degree swerved from the esteem, respect, and veneration, with which I have ever regarded both the public and private character of the immaculate WILLIAM PITT.

He lived at a fortunate period for his country ; but at a most unfortunate one for his own fame at the time, as far as it depended upon, or regarded temporary popularity—so many persons, in forming their opinion of character, being entirely guided by the first glaring blaze of success, whether in a good or a bad cause.

Had he not acted as he did, Britain might probably have been revolutionized, London laid in ashes, and

some satrap of the Destroyer, either a foreigner or a native, have this day been lording it in the land.

But though his system prevented all this, and in fact preserved the country from ruin, yet on the Continent no effort was of any avail, against the volcanic eruptions of France, aided by the imbecility of the kings, and the enslaved situation of the people they attacked.

Sorry am I to say, that the rulers of Europe appear to be still of the old leaven ; but aided by our fleets and armies, the people of Spain and Portugal have set an example, which will, I hope, ere long, be followed by all the nations of Europe ; and then the system of Pitt, in opposition to that of his opponents, will be viewed in its proper light, and its merits tried on something like even ground.

By his system, I mean shortly, his reluctance in time of war to yield to innovations at home, and his firm determination to oppose to the last, the desolating system of the Destroyer, not only as applying to the interests of Britain, but also to those of every nation of Europe.

On this subject, my own feelings are all alive ; and so hallowed is my attachment to the memory of that great and virtuous man, that sometimes, after having spent an hour or two in the evening, reflecting upon the immense plans I have presumed to touch upon. I almost fancy, with the avowed enthusiasm which is

natural to my character, that his spirit hails me from
on high, in the visions of the night !

IMMORTAL PITT ! thy soul from high
Assists me in my bold emprise ;
Thy day of glory now draws nigh,
While peals of patriot, triumph rise !

At last shall prosper thy great plan,
To free the world from tyranny,
Which erring mortals ne'er could scan,
By mightier powers reveal'd to thee

To thee—who to the very last,
Undaunted fac'd the traitor band,
Who pray that Revolution's blast,
May desolate their native land.

Who vow that He, the ruthless Fiend,
That fills the world with death and woe,
Is mankind's best and truest friend,
As tortured Lusitanians know ;
And wish on Britain's soil to see
Planted, the death-fraught Upas tree,
Of BONAPARTE's fraternity !

*Immortal Statesman ! oft I view
Thy spirit in my patriot dream ;
O aid me still with visions new !
Around me let that spirit beam !*

And then, as if with prophet's lore,
Inspir'd by Freedom's cause and thee,

My voice shall reach each distant shore,
And wake the flame of Liberty !

Then men shall see, and all believe,
The bodings of thy mighty mind ;
Alas ! that Europe now must grieve
For thee, the friend of human kind !

These are virtuous hallowed feelings, my respected Fellow Subjects ; and the heated particles created by poesy, fly off with the first ray of the morning :—and of one thing I am firmly persuaded, that he stands higher on eternity's scale, than any minister that any British King ever yet possessed.

All his soul was his country's on earth ; and yet he died a martyr to opposing factions, to sorrow, and to disappointed patriotic feeling ! and he is now another, of the many great, wise, and good men made perfect, whose spirits compose on high the watchful guard of the mighty British empire ; which after an awful, dreadful, bloody contest, is destined, according to my belief, to save Europe, and deliver all its nations from the yoke of slavery.

Till that is effected, I will dare to hope, lowly though I be, that I am one of the many on whom the immortal statesman has shed a portion of his spirit ; and to whom he has delegated a share of his guardianship on earth : and by the throne of heaven ! as these awful times demand sincerity and truth, I will faithfully discharge the great, the important, the sacred

trust! in the firm hope of the soul's everlasting reward, which, casting far from it every vestige of bigotry and superstition, fervently believes in the gospel of the Christian God, and earnestly prays to see all his children rallied under the same hallowed standard. A hope, compared to which, the golden favour of kings is as the dust of the earth, or the blast of the desert which has passed and been forgotten.

If I am heated by such subjects, and use language at any time which may appear too strong, I can only plead that it is my usual stile in conversation; and bursts warm from a heart which has been greatly affected for years past, by the extraordinary events occurring in the world; which has been purified by deep affliction and adversity; has many a life-blood stake in the contest; and whose every pulse beats high in the cause of its King, its Country, and its God!

May such ere long be the universal feeling, and may a coalition among all parties in the state, between Wellesley and Grenville, Perceval and Whitbread, and their different friends, unite as one heart and soul the whole British Population, in the cause of virtue, liberty, and religion!

Let us all believe that the Dæmon is to perish; and that, very belief, by rousing every spirit to exertion, will greatly aid its completion.

My own opinion was formed from the very moment that Napoleon appeared as Emperor of France: I

can prove this by a hundred documents, and that whatever may have been his successes, I never for a moment have varied from my opinion, as to his ultimate destruction.

No doubt the imbecility and misconduct of the Spanish government, as well as of several of its generals, has thrown a temporary shade over the history of the military conduct of that brave people ; yet I have no fears, provided Britain acts as she ought to do, as to the final issue of the contest. And from the day he attacked Spain I was convinced, *that the finger of the hand which wrote upon the wall* was pointed against the Destroyer. But as I have said in a former page, as far as we can judge from present appearances, oceans of blood must flow before his fall; and the much wished-for time of completion, is only known to the wise disposer of events, and recorded on the tablets of eternity.

Father of all! where shall this end?
 When dies the mighty Dæmon Fiend?
Fear not, O world! the time draws near,
Shall end the tyrant's blood career!
 But ere he trembles, faints, and falls,
 Death for many a victim calls,
 To join the bands in Odin's halls.
 Yet heaven at last we'll surely find,
 Protect the cause of all mankind,
 And save from wreck the human mind!

Patriots of Spain ! your bard appears,
Who laughs to scorn base traitor's fears,
And shouts to arms with streaming tears.
Mark where the red-cross streamers fly,
Rush on ! the Gallic fiends defy ;
Your spears in bloody carnage dye,
Your war-whoop—death or victory !

The opinion I have expressed relative to Mr. Pitt, gives a very certain index to the whole of my political creed ; and I am sorry to think, that at all times it has been too much the fashion, with regard to statesmen, to separate public from private virtue.

To this dangerous mode of thinking, can alone be attributed, the comparisons which have been made, between him and his great political opponent.

It is a subject I wish not to dwell upon, as my feelings are perfectly alive to the many great and generous points in the character of the latter.

This however I must say, that was it not for the respect I bear to the solemn, sacred, protecting privacy of the tomb, I could draw such a picture of the bad effects of the example of the great patriot alluded to, on certain delicate points, not only as respects individuals, but society at large, as would make a thousand worshippers of Baal tremble.

Fervently do I hope therefore, that even before the present generation shall pass away, good, correct, religious character in a statesman, may be considered

one of the best recommendations to every public situation; and that however great his talents, no one without the former may be able to obtain the latter.

Upon this principle our virtuous Monarch has invariably acted; and whatever may have been the difference of opinion, with regard to political talents, there never has been or can be but one opinion, with regard to the private virtue of those persons, who have been honourably distinguished by the designation of the King's friends.

Before concluding, I must express some regret, that the illustrious sons of Britain are not, from His Royal Highness the Prince Regent downwards, ten years younger: youth, says the great moralist, is the season of enterprise; manhood, of enjoyment; old age, of retirement and contemplation.

Though they have all reach'd the period of manhood, I am greatly deceived if any one has yet passed the season of enterprise; and if my opinion of the situation of the world should prove correct, they will soon I trust have all of them important duties to perform; as I firmly believe, that this year is rapidly bringing forward great events; and I cannot too often repeat to the highest, as well as to the lowest in the land, *that Britain must either annihilate the Destroyer and his system, or sink at last for want of proper application of the powers she possesses.*

Yet unquestionably many years of arduous exer-

tion must be expected to elapse, before such revolutions as I have contemplated, in men's minds, in religion, and in the general situation of the world can be carried into full effect.

Unless also the policy of Britain should be entirely changed from extravagant generosity, to some rational and less romantic principle, we may go on with our system of defensive war for a long period, without doing any ultimate good, either to ourselves, or to the nations in whose defence we have expended treasures, almost sufficient to buy the fee-simple of their territories.

We have preserved some of them no doubt from the yoke of France ; but if ultimately when our protection may be withdrawn, we should abandon them to the rule of their *former unreformed imbecile governments*, they will have cause to curse the hour that we delivered them from even French fraternization.

I have dared to suggest a remedy, as part of a great system, to be invariably acted upon, and publicly notified by Great Britain to all Europe ; and it is needless again to go over subjects already discussed.

I certainly, with the honest pride of a Briton, sincerely wish to see the Princes of my native land respected by all ranks of their countrymen ; as I am perfectly satisfied, that making proper allowances for the frailties of erring man, they on many occasions have been, and still often are, most infamously traduced.

My opinion of them is openly declared, originating in evident principles :—my attachment to limited monarchical government, and to the cause of truth, of virtue, and of religion. The first prompts me to honour, and look up to the august family of my Sovereign as the head of the executive branch of the government, and to spurn with British feeling, disdain, and horror, tales of misconduct of which there is no proof ; as a character may be calumniated in one line, which it might require a volume to clear up and defend. Truth and virtue lead me to lament errors in others, because I myself, during my life, have often erred, and gone astray from propriety : and religion teaches me to forgive them, as I hope to be forgiven on that day, when the uncharitable scoffer shall himself drink the cup of scorn, of sorrow, and of destruction, from the great wine-press of the wrath of the living God.

Yes, my Fellow-Subjects ; I respect the illustrious sons of my Sovereign ; and they themselves must be satisfied, that the feeling is sincere, as I wish them, either as principals or volunteers, to be placed in the front of the battle ; as at this moment the race of Brunswick ought to be—in situations of hardihood, of certain danger, and of possible death.

Many a person no doubt will at first think my opinions extravagant, and that it will be impossible to carry the proposed plans into execution. But time

ripens every thing ; and those who believe as I do, *and the number, among all ranks, is rapidly increasing*, that a new and important æra in the history of the world is fast approaching, will certainly be strengthened in that belief, when they reflect upon what has been effected by the merciless Destroyer, in a very short period. And had any one presumed, in the year 1803, to have predicted what has since happened on the continent of Europe, he would have been laughed at as a fool, or shunned as a madman.

That all the projects, plans, or speculations, which can benefit our King, our Country, and the universe, may be ultimately realized, must be the fervent prayer of every loyal patriotic Briton ; in which they are joined, in sincerity of heart and soul, by the author of Truth—the Caledonian.

FINGAL !

ERRATUM :

P. 3, last line, *for* £70,000., *read* £50,000.