

*Serj.* I beg their pardon; I knew not that your lordship intended sitting so early; the instant I heard your *trumpets*, I dressed myself.

*Baron.* You was a long while about it!

*Serj.* I think, my lord, (looking at his watch) not twenty minutes.

*Baron.* Twenty minutes! I was ready in five after I left my bed.

*Serj.* In that respect, my *Dog Shab* distances your Lordship hollow; he only shakes his coat, and fancies himself sufficiently dressed for any company.

LEWIS XI's Scullion being met in the kitchen by Lewis, whom he affected not to know, was asked by the King, 'How much do you earn?' 'As much as the King. I earn my expences, and what can he do more?'

To parry off a reflection in the manner it is done in the following anecdote, requires no little degree of wit, ingenuity, and temper.

When any one blames a King for not speaking plainly, it should be remembered, it is the very duty of a Sovereign, to say that which cannot be brought against him. This principle was ingeniously turned by a gentleman in the court of Charles the second. 'Do you know,' said a friend of his, 'that a few days ago, his Majesty said you were an incorrigible fool?'—'I do not mind that,' replied the gentleman, 'for don't you know that Kings never say what they think!'

GENUINE wit and humour, from whatever quarter it comes, cannot fail of pleasing. 'If you are not hanged,' said a country justice to a horse dealer, 'I'll be hanged for you.'—'Very well, your worship,' said the fellow, 'if it should so happen, I hope you will not be out of the way!'

GOUPY attended as an assistant drawing-master at the palace of the Prince of Wales. While he was one day there, his present Majesty, then Prince George, and a very little boy, for some trifling fault was ordered to stand behind the chair as a prisoner. Goupy was commanded to go on with his drawing; 'How can I,' replied the artist, 'make a drawing worthy the attention of your royal Highness, when I see the Prince standing behind your chair, under your displeasure?' 'You may return to your seat Sir,' said the good natured Prince of Wales, 'but remember that Goupy has released you.'

As Goupy grew old, he became very poor. At the accession of his present Ma-

jesty he was eighty four.—Soon after that period, walking in a pensive mood in the Kensington-road, he observed the royal carriage, and pulled off his hat. The face of the old man caught the King's eye; he ordered the coach to stop, called the friendless artist to the door, and asked him, 'how he went on, and what he had to live upon?' 'Little enough, in truth,' replied the old man, but as I was once so happy as to take your Majesty out of a prison, I hope you will not suffer me to go into one.' 'Indeed I will not,' replied King, 'until I enquire further about your situation, you shall be paid a guinea a week.' This the poor man received a few weeks, at the end of which time he died.

THE following Anecdote, which is replete with instruction, cannot be better related than in the words of the celebrated Dr. Thomas Fuller, in his 'Worthies of England':—'It happened says he, in the reign of King James, when Henry Earl of Huntingdon, was Lieutenant of Leicestershire, that a labourer's son in that county was pressed into the wars, as I take it, to go over with Count Mansfield. The old man, at Leicester, requested his son might be discharged, as being the only staff of his age, who by his industry, maintained his mother. The Earl demanded his name, which the man for a long time was loth to tell, (as suspecting it a fault, for so poor a man to confess a truth) at last he told him that his name was Hastings.—'Cosen Hastings,' said the Earl, 'we cannot all be top branches of the tree, though we all spring from the same root. Your son my kinsman, shall not be pressed.' So good was the meeting of modesty in a poor, with a courtesie in an honourable person, and gentry I believe in both.'

IN the beginning of the reign of Peter I. the Russians used to marry without seeing each other. The parents on the man's side used to send a kind of matron to the girl's parents; the matron then told them; *I know you have goods to dispose of, and we have purchasers.* After some enquiries, and a few days spent in negotiating the affair, the parents used to meet. If the lad was agreeable to the girl's parents, the day of the ceremony was fixed. The evening before the marriage, the young man was brought to see his destined wife, who received him without speaking a word; one of her relations was engaged to converse with him. The next day, the lad used to send a present to the lady, consisting of sweetmeats, soap, and other things of the same kind. The box was never opened but