

the duty of the court to check such unprovoked and unjustifiable licentiousness as this, as well from the regard they had to the distribution of justice, as from a wish they entertained, as guardians of the police, to promote decency of conduct and propriety of demeanor.

The sentence of the Court, therefore, was that the Reverend Philip Withers do pay a fine of fifty pounds; be imprisoned in Newgate one year; to enter into recognizance as security for his good behaviour for five years, himself in five hundred pounds, and two securities in one hundred pounds each. He was immediately taken into custody and conducted to Newgate.

Dec. 5. An order has passed the Privy Council taking off the Prohibition of the 25th of June 1788, on the importation of Wheat into this kingdom from the United States of America.

A negotiation is reported to be again set on foot to accommodate the dispute between the Turks and the Imperialists; the mediators mentioned are the Courts of London, Madrid, and Berlin.

The Court of Vienna has appointed Commissioners to treat with the Patriots; they are two in number, and men of high reputation. The first in the commission is the Prince de Ligne, who is with the army near Belgrade, with the rank of General; the other is Count de Cobenzel. All those whose persons had been secured by government have been set at liberty, and assurances have been given that in future no person shall be imprisoned but by the regular operation of the law.

The States of Flanders have assembled at Ghent, and the magistrates of that city have actually taken an oath to be faithful to the nation. To encourage desertion amongst the Emperor's troops, and to prevent the destruction of prisoners, rewards have been offered by proclamation of 30 florins for every Imperial private soldier who shall surrender himself, to be brought alive to the Magistrates, and three florins (three sous for his firelock, and the half for his sword.

The above States have already resolved to make good to the citizens of Ghent the losses sustained by them in houses and property in consequence of the obstinate and bloody attacks kept up within their walls from the 13th to the 17th of November. The number of houses destroyed during that period by shells, or by the fire of the Imperialists, is stated at 120.

Monday being St. Andrew's day, the Royal Society held their Anniversary Meeting at their apartments, in Somerset place, in the Strand, when the President Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. in the name

of the Society, presented the gold medal (called Sir Godfrey Copley's) to Mr. W. Morgan, for his two papers on the value of reversions and survivorship.

The President on this occasion delivered the customary discourse on the subjects contained in Mr. Morgan's papers.

Afterwards the Society proceeded to the choice of the Council and officers for the ensuing year, when on examining the ballots, it appeared that the following gentlemen were elected of the council:

Of the Old Council: Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. Charles Blagden, M. D. Henry Cavendish, Esq. Charles Combe, M. D. George Fordyce, M. D. Francis Duke of Leeds, the Rev. Nevil Maskelyne, D. D. Constantine John Lord Mulgrave, Sir William Mulgrave, Bart. Joseph Planta, Esq; S. Wegg.

Of the new Council; John Campbell, Esq; Edward Whitaker Gray, M. D. William Mariden, Esq. the Rev. John Michael, B. D. John Paradise, Esq. Sir Lucas Pepys, Bart. J. Rennell, Esq. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Knt. F. Russell, Esq.

And the officers were, Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. President; Samuel Wegg, Esq. Treasurer, J. Planta, Esq. and Charles Blagden, M. D. Secretaries.

Afterwards the Members of the Society dined together as usual at the Crown and Anchor Tavern in the Strand.

On Saturday evening last, at the Essex Head, Essex-street, Strand, an Inquisition was taken, and continued by adjournment until the Monday following, before James Armstrong, Esq. His Majesty's Coroner for the Liberty of the Duchy of Lancaster, in the County of Lancaster, in the County of Middlesex, and a very respectable Jury of Freeholders, summoned of the same Liberty, on view of the body of Mrs. Catharine Loader, the wife of John Loader, late of Stonehouse, in the county of Devon, Esq. who in a fit of phrenzy, on the 23d of November last stabbed his wife in the neck, and afterwards attempted to destroy himself by stabbing himself in several parts of the belly.

It appeared in evidence, by the examination of a great number of credible witnesses, that Mr. Loader was formerly a Quaker at Halifax, in Nova-Scotia, and had been superannuated from thence by the age of 60 years; that he had been married to his wife at Hoxton; that he was a very affectionate, and took a fondness to King's College, on purpose to be near his wife; and the love and tenderness which he bore him, was the sole cause of his being discharged from thence; that they had been married about three years, and had lived together in the utmost harmony