

ANECDOTE.*King George IV.*

NEARLY forty years ago, his present Majesty, then Prince of Wales, was so exceedingly urgent to have £800 to an hour, on such a day, and in so unusual a manner, that the gentleman who furnished the supply, had some curiosity to know for what purpose it was obtained. On enquiry, he was informed, that the moment the money arrived, the prince drew on a pair of boots, pulled off his coat and waistcoat, slipped on a plain morning frock, without a star, and turning his hair to the crown of his head, put on a slouched hat, and thus walked out. This intelligence raised still greater curiosity; and with some trouble the gentleman discovered the object of the prince's mysterious visit.

An officer of the army had just arrived from America, with a wife and six children, in such distressed circumstances, that, to satisfy some clamorous creditor, he was on the point of selling his commission, to the utter ruin of his family. The prince by accident overheard an account of the case. To prevent a worthy soldier from suffering, he procured the money, and that no mistake might happen, carried it himself. On asking at an obscure lodging-house, in a court near Covent-Garden, for the lodger, he was shewn up to his room, and there found the family in the utmost distress. Moved at the sight, he not only generously presented to them the money, but told the officer where he might apply in case of future exigency.—He then took his leave, without the family having the least idea to whom they were obliged.