

PRIVATEERING IN THE LAST CENTURY.

BY HENRY MOTT.

FROM this neutral "loop-hole" we may look out upon the world and watch the course of events, and we take this opportunity of expressing our unbounded satisfaction at the peaceful solution of the differences of opinion which had arisen between England and the United States. We regard it as a new starting point in civilization, that two such nations can adjust their troubles, without an appeal to the sword, and thus proclaim to the world that the game of nations settling their differences by war is now ended.

By way of contrast we give a copy of an advertisement which we extract from *The Edinburgh Advertiser*, February 13th, 1781 :—

"The Hawk Privateer of Leith, commanded by Captain Nicoll Currie, is now fitting out with all expedition, and will soon sail on a cruize against the enemies of Great Britain.—She is a Brig of about 120 tons burden, sails fast, and will mount ten or twelve guns besides swivels, and has excellent accommodation for Men.

Seamen and Landmen desirous of making their fortunes have now a favourable opportunity, and will meet with encouragement to enter themselves on board the Hawk, by applying immediately to Captain Currie at his home in Leith, or on board the Privateer.

Captain Currie hopes that if any of those brave lads who have formerly sailed with him are now at home, they will immediately resolve to join their old Ship-mate, and pursue their fortunes with him.

N. B. A person who can speak and read the French and Dutch languages, will meet with good encouragement by applying as above."

The Hawk! Fit name for a ship engaged in such a traffic,