

numerous meetings of the populace which took place in various parts of this country.

A. Yes, under pretence of petitioning the legislature for a reform of parliament, immense multitudes assembled in London and other large towns, and the inflammatory speeches, which were there delivered, excited the turbulent part of the populace to acts of violence.

Q. At what places did this spirit of insubordination chiefly manifest itself?

A. In London, Manchester, Derby, &c. ; in consequence of which the Parliament passed a Bill for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus\* Act, and some of the most active ringleaders were apprehended under warrants from the Secretary of State.

Q. What was the consequence?

A. Several were tried on charges of High Treason, and acquitted; others were found guilty, and executed; while the greater part, after having been confined for a considerable length of time, were liberated, and the Suspension Bill was repealed.

Q. What tragical event in the history of the country took place in 1817?

A. The death of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. On the 5th of November this accomplished and amiable princess died after having given birth to a still-born son.

Q. How did the public feel on this melancholy occasion?

A. So unexpected and calamitous an event, happening at a moment when the whole nation was elated with the prospect of having an heir to the throne, the offspring of their beloved princess, filled the heart of every one with unexampled grief.

Q. Was not her funeral observed with great solemnity?

\* The writ of *Habeas Corpus* is the great barrier against arbitrary imprisonment, as by it a prisoner may compel the courts of law to show a cause why he should not be set at liberty.