

was mentioned. Lord Kenyon requested Mr. Recorder to insist, that the informations taken before justices should, agreeably to the act of Parliament, be returned to the Old-Baili or other courts, where the prisoners are to be tried. It was observed, these returns were never made, except from Bow Street. They served two purposes; first, the cause for which the prisoner was committed; and, secondly, by means of them, the judge can compare the evidence given by the prosecutor and his witnesses, before the magistrate and at the trial.

25. The following is nearly the state of Great-Britain's present connection with foreign powers.—With

Prussia	—	in alliance
Sweden	—	ditto
Holland	—	ditto
Germany	—	cool
Denmark	—	ditto
Russia	—	becoming cool
France and Spain	—	at peace

Such was not the case formerly: the noted political connexion used to be between Great-Britain, Russia, Austria, and Denmark. *Sed tempora mutantur!*

The Quadruple alliance includes offensive, as well as defensive war, and its avowed object is to oppose a bulwark against the partitioning policy of the two Imperial Courts.

The Prussian dominions every where exhibit the appearance of approaching war. In Silesia, on the frontiers of Saxony, in the Western Prussia, in Westphalia, in every part of that great monarchy, there are military movements. An army of 90,000 men is to be assembled on the frontiers of Saxony, under the command of Prince Henry; and another of 60,000, under the command of the Duke of Brunswick, will, it is believed, advance into Russian Poland. Against Russia only war will be declared; but his alliance must involve the Emperor. It is impossible that these powers should omit so fair an opportunity of embarrassing and distressing the court of Vienna.

The Algerines are very troublesome in the Mediterranean, especially to the Russians and Americans.

26. On Thursday last was effected the greatest object of internal navigation in this kingdom. The Severn was united to the Thames by an intermediate canal, ascending the Stroud, through the vale of Chalford, to the height of 343 feet, by 40 locks; there entering a funnel through the hill of Sapeiron, for the length of two miles and three furlongs, and descending by 22 locks, it joined the Thames near Lechlade.

A boat, with an union flag on her mast-head, passed laden for the first time to St. John's bridge, below Lechlade, in the presence of great numbers of people who were assembled on the occasion; and who answered a salute of 12 pieces of cannon from Boscott-park by loud huzzas. A dinner was given at five of the principal inns at Lechlade, and the day ended with ringing of bells, a bonfire, and a ball. With respect to the internal commerce of the kingdom, and the security of communication in time of war, this junction of the Thames and Severn must be attended with the most beneficial consequences, as even stores from the Baltic, and provisions from Ireland, may reach the capital and the ports at the mouth of the Thames in safety. And all the heavy articles from the mines and foundries in the heart of Wales, and the counties contiguous to the Severn, may find a secure and certain conveyance to the capital.

In short, this undertaking is worthy of a great commercial nation, and does great credit to the exertions of the individuals who have promoted and completed a work of such magnitude; at an expence of near 200,000*l*.

27. Monday the two unfortunate young highwaymen, who robbed Mr. Clarke, the Secretary of Judge Wilson, a few days since, near St. Alban's, were examined at the Public office, Bow-street. Mr. Clarke swore to the identity of their persons; after which he begged Sir Sampson Wright's permission to state, in extenuation of their offence, that they not only assured him no violence should be offered to his person, but often asking his residence, promised him that his watch and money should be restored to him within a week. He added, that from the decency of their deportment, he was satisfied in his own mind, that they were unpractised in such scenes of public depredation; and therefore, had it not been for his official situation under a great Law character of the country, he could not have prevailed upon himself to have appeared against them.

Being called upon to offer what they had in their defence, the prisoners severally addressed the bench—confessed the offence with which they then stood charged, and also acknowledged the perpetration of three other robberies; at the same time, they requested the property which had been found upon them might be restored to their proper owners, as the best restitution they had now the power of making: they said upon their examination before the Magistrates at Pinner, they had called themselves John and William Williams, that if possible they might have avoided involving