

before that time the prices were from 30l. to 30 guineas.

Same day the sessions began at the Old Bailey, when Henry Sterne, otherwise Gentleman Harry, was brought to the bar, and tried for stealing from the person of the Duke of Beaufort his Grace's George, set with diamonds. His Grace deposed, that on the 4th of June, on returning from the levee at St. James's, he found himself surrounded by a great number of persons, the meaning of which did not instantly occur to his mind; but on putting down his hand to feel for his George, he missed it. On calling out very loud to his servants, they came up. One asked, if he could fix on any person? But his confusion was so great that he could only point to a man in Black who had stood near. In little more than a minute he saw his servant seize on a person whom he had not remarked before, and on whom he was told the George was found. His Grace produced the George, which, he said, had been in his possession ever since it was taken out of the prisoner's pocket. Being asked by counsel, if he was sure the prisoner was the person who stole the George, he frankly owned, his suspicions rested chiefly on a man in Black.

Thomas Webb, servant to the Duke, declared, he seized and searched the man in Black, but found nothing; but in seizing the prisoner and putting his hand in his pocket, he pulled out the George. He admitted, that he had not seen the George taken from his Grace; but he swore positively to the taking of it out of the prisoner's pocket. In this he was supported by

Shepley, the gate-keeper at Cleveland-row, who saw the transaction.

The prisoner, being called upon for his defence, said, he had no witnesses; but left his case entirely to his counsel. He addressed himself to the jury, and hoped that nothing they had read in the papers to his disadvantage would prejudice their minds against him.

In this he was seconded by the Judge, who observed, There were two separate crimes charged in the indictment; one, a robbery on the highway; the other, *privately stealing from the person*; but it was for the jury to judge, whether it came in proof that his was the hand that stole the George; if not, they must quit him of privately stealing, which would of course clear him of the capital charge. After a quarter of an hour's consultation, the jury brought him in *Gilty of stealing, but not privately*.

At a meeting of the Medical Society in Crane Court, Dr. Lenthall stated some particulars relative to a slow fever, which had lately fallen under his observation, occasioned by children's leaving school and mixing with other company; a consequence not unfrequent on mixing ships companies, and in recruiting regiments.

Two papers were afterwards read to the

Society, both on the nature, property, and consequences of thunder and lightning; with observations and remarks on the different effects of the electric fluid; the first by Dr. Hawes; the other by Mr. Parkinson, a young medical gentleman of Hoxton-square.

An officer of the Sheriff of Middlesex seized a cart load of the property of Sir John Macpherson, and sundry other trunks and packages belonging to him, by virtue of a warrant from the Sheriff of that county, grounded upon an order of the Court of King's Bench, in Easter Term 1781, to force an appearance from Sir John to Mr. Petrie's action against him for 41,000l. in consequence of which the late Governor General of Bengal immediately entered an appearance.

Major General Meadows attended the Directors of the E. I. Company, and was sworn into his Office of Gov. General and Commander in Chief of Bombay.

Saturday 15.

The entertainments closed at the Haymarket theatre for the season, with the Opera of Inkle and Yarico, and the Farce of the Rump.

Sunday 17.

This day stocks fell considerably, on the report that his Most Christian Majesty, as friend and ally to the republic of Holland, had called upon his Britannic Majesty, as guarantee to the constitution of the republic, cordially to join his Most Christian Majesty to repel any force that may be employed by any power whatever to compel the United States to measures contrary to their long-established Constitution; that their present unfortunate disputes may be settled by mediation.

Friday 21.

St. James's. This day his Excellency the Marquis Del Campo, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary from the court of Spain, had his first private audience of his Majesty, to deliver his credentials.

This evening, at nine o'clock, the Lords of the Admiralty signed warrants in the usual form, to impress seamen for his Majesty's service, which were issued at one in the morning with the utmost secrecy. It should seem, that the necessity for men is urgent; for, besides sweeping both sides of the river, they strip every vessel of all hands, except the captain; nor would any remonstrances save either mates or apprentices. Before nine o'clock on Saturday morning they had impressed upwards of 2000 men, none of whom were examined, as was usual by a regulating captain. Press warrants have since taken place at every port in the kingdom; and it is supposed that before the end of the present month 20 ships of the line will be manned.

Two sloops, the *Pythias* and another, are ordered out to sea; and the captains are not to obey their instructions until they are in a certain latitude West of the Lizard.

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