

the story of Romulus is mentioned the application is most obvious. The story of Romulus, the first founder of the city of Rome, was, that the Senators *assassinated him*, and then persuaded the people he had ascended to the Gods, and satisfied their uneasiness by decreeing *his Apotheosis*, or the recognition of him as a divinity. What sort of *apothrosis* then is it that the Author wishes for Bonaparte on the morrow of his Coronation? I think, Gentlemen, it is not necessary for me to consume more time in commenting on these publications. I have conceived it my duty to prosecute them before you as libels, libels which I conceive most disgraceful to the British Press, and which would destroy the blessings of a free press, if they could be tolerated in any country. I hope I shall not be considered an enemy to the freedom of the press, because I think it necessary to prosecute such atrocious publications as the present: I say it again, Gentlemen, that even if we were at war with France, a publication, exciting to assassination and murder, would be a crime against the honest feelings of the English Law. If this would be a crime, in war, how much more strongly does it call for punishment in time of peace—how much more strongly must the horror of a British Jury be excited in the present circumstances! As to the *Moniteur* publishing scandalous libels against this country, I hope I shall not hear of that as a justification in the present case. If there is any party in France, or in any country, that will condescend to pursue any object or end by such means, let them, in God's name, have the benefit of it; but it is our duty to remove such disgrace from the justice and the law of the country we live in."

*John Gale*, Messenger to Mr. White, Solicitor for the Treasury, was the first Witness for the prosecution. He

proved his buying the Papers, which were the subject of the present prosecution, at the shop of Deboffe, a bookseller, in Gerrard-street, Soho. He bought one of them on the 16th, the other two on the 26th.

The *London Gazette*, containing the Proclamation of Peace, was then handed in as evidence.

The fact of Bonaparte's being, as alledged in the record, First Consul and Chief Magistrate of the French Republic, was admitted by Mr. MACKINTOSH, on the part of the Defendant,

*John De Boffe* said, he is a Bookseller, or dealer in French books; imports considerable quantities of them, and exports occasionally when he has orders; is well acquainted with the Defendant Peltier; was almost in the daily habits of seeing him at the time of the publication of *L'Ambigu*. He received a considerable number of them from the printers of Mons. Peltier, but Mons. Peltier never told him who was the author of them. Being asked some questions about the sale, Mr. MACKINTOSH objected, that the Witness was not bound to answer any question which might involve himself in the criminality of publishing.

Mr. FERGUSON submitted to his Lordship, that such questions as the Witness ought not to answer were not legal to put to him, and that more particular care was necessary in this case, as the Witness was a foreigner, and hardly understood English.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said, that he should give him warning that he was not bound to answer any questions that might involve himself; but if after that warning the Witness chose to do it, he was at liberty so to do.

Upon Mr. GARROW then asking Mr. De Boffe about the publication, he at first said, that if he was privi-