

2nd division, same result.

3rd division. Here it must be remarked that that worthy person John Willson, speaker of the commons, was somewhat puzzled. He said he saw golden apples in the bill; much that he liked, and something which he could wish to see altered, although by no means wanted to lose the bill. He begged some one nearer to take the responsibility off his shoulders, and whined so piteously as to induce Mr. White, who was opposed to the bill, and voted against it at the last, to join the administration party for once, in order to get the bill out of committee, one way or the other. So the 3rd division (41 members being present) carried the bill to a third reading. Mr. Willson, did not had the power to have thrown it out altogether, nor did he state a wish to do so. How he and Mr. McDonald voted in committee is not recorded.

Mr. Attorney General moved for the third reading of the bill to be on the Monday following, and was supported by the court party above enumerated, and by Mr. Atkinson who was pleased to join them.

In the interim, Thompson, of York's constituents were very earnest with him not to vote away their rights, inasmuch that he left the house for a few days, and the vote on Monday, was 19 to 19. The Speaker decided against the passage of the bill, and would have lain over had not Mr. Rolph (very properly) moved for its being placed in the order of the day. This was done, and then Mr. Rolph moved that Messrs. McBride, Wilkinson, Peterson, Baby, and himself of course, should be a select committee to report on the bill; which proposal, whether dictated by folly or prudence, included no legal character in the assembly, except himself, and was (no wonder) rejected. On Tuesday, Thompson came back from Toronto, and the vote was 20 to 20; on 20 to 20, and then Mr. McDonald reported progress, and the matter was deferred until Burnham should come up with his key: on Friday he was present, and the bill received a lift. On Monday, York Thompson, and Burnham, were both at their posts; and, strange to relate! McBride, who had voted for preserving the people's rights all along until this day, and who even promised to me on the latter part of the previous week, to use his influence to turn Thompson and Clark, rose up and (having obtained more light) advocated the Attorney General's measure and voted for it too; that as Wilkinson was sick, and Atkinson against the people, the vote stood 22 for, 18 against the bill, and so it passed, to the infinite vexation of every sincere well-wisher of good government and the honour of old England. I did every thing I could prevent its progress, by alarming the country thro' the news, by placards, and by private letters; and I sent a placard into the house on the morning of this vote, which the Attorney General replied to in his place, being fearful that it might prove a stumbling block to some of his dupes; but he found his arguments more convincing within hours than without, as the sequel proved. The Speaker ordered the school-fellows, Messrs. Attorney General, and John Clark, to carry the bill to the Lords, and they did so.

CAPT. MATTHEWS.

Kings naturally love to hear prerogative magnified: yet on this occasion the king did nothing to say in defence of the administration. But when May, the master of the privy purse, asked him in his familiar way, what he thought now of his Lauderdale, he answered, as May himself told me, that they had objected many damned things that he had done against them, but *there was nothing objected that was against his service.* Such are the notions that many kings drink in, by which they set up an interest for themselves, in opposition to the interest of the people: and as soon as the people observe that, which they will do sooner or later, then they will naturally mind their own interest, and set it up as much in opposition to the prince: and in this contest the people will grow always too hard for the prince, unless he is able to subdue and govern them by an army."—[Bishop Burnet's History—Reign of the 2nd Charles—Maitland, Duke of Lauderdale's Terrible Persecutions.]

The private informer, upon whose doubtful testimony, Maitland, Hillier, and Robinson, attempted to ruin this truly independent Englishman, on the plea that he had called for Yankee Doodle, in a temporary theatre; occupied by some strolling players from England and the States, and who has been stated in the public prints, without contradiction, to have been Vankoughnet, had for a time the malignant satisfaction of ending his purpose gained. A report, however, was made on the subject, by a committee of parliament, and after due investigation, in the course of which they were ri-