

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for scanning. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of scanning are checked below.

L'Institut a numérisé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de numérisation sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coloured covers /
Couverture de couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> | Coloured pages / Pages de couleur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Covers damaged /
Couverture endommagée | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pages damaged / Pages endommagées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Covers restored and/or laminated /
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pages restored and/or laminated /
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cover title missing /
Le titre de couverture manque | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coloured maps /
Cartes géographiques en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pages detached / Pages détachées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black) /
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Showthrough / Transparence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coloured plates and/or illustrations /
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Quality of print varies /
Qualité inégale de l'impression |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Bound with other material /
Relié avec d'autres documents | <input type="checkbox"/> | Includes supplementary materials /
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Only edition available /
Seule édition disponible | <input type="checkbox"/> | Blank leaves added during restorations may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from scanning / Il se peut que
certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une
restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais,
lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas
été numérisées. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin / La reliure serrée peut
causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la
marge intérieure. | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Additional comments /
Commentaires supplémentaires: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Continuous pagination.
Includes some text in French. |

THE BRITISH-AMERICAN REGISTER.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 5th FEBRUARY, 1805.

CONTENTS—Debates on the Quebec Bill 65. *Papiers d'Etat*, 71. *Harangue de Sa Majesté*, ib. *Resolves of the House of Representatives of the United States* ib. *Nouvelles Etrangères* 72. *Account of Newfoundland* 76. *Speech of M. de Montesquieu* 78. *Meteorological Table* ib. *Poetry* 80.

DEBATES ON THE QUEBEC BILL.

House of Commons, June 3, 1774.

The House in Committee on the Quebec Bill.

Mr. Baker moved: "that General Murray be examined." Notice was given that the Gentleman was in the House: he was sent for by the Sergeant but was gone. Mr. Baker again made a motion: "That General Murray be ordered to attend the Committee on Monday."

He was seconded by T. Townshend: who said the Minister himself had avowed that General Murray coincided in opinion with Maseres; and he believed that when the General was sent for, the Noble Lord knew that he was not in the House.

Lord North rose in a terrible passion: he said he did not care what the Honble. Gentleman thought or said of him: If the General had been in the House he would have heard him; but he would oppose his being ordered to attend on Monday on account of the delay which it would occasion.

Col. Barré insisted on the importance of General Murray's evidence: the General had been the first Governor of the Colony after it was taken; he must be well acquainted with the character of the Canadians and how they liked the English law.

Captain Phipps, Mr. Fox, Mr. Dempster, Governor Johnstone, Mr. Burke, &c. followed on the same side; the House divided at eleven

o'clock, for the motion 36, against it 90.

June 6: The House in Committee on the Quebec Bill.

Governor Johnstone, after stating his objections to the principle of the Canada Bill, and to the extension of Canada (which was no less than eleven millions four hundred thousand acres more than as claimed by France) read a list of propositions, which appeared to him to be contained in the Bill, amongst which were,

That a state of slavery is better than a state of freedom:

That the Popish religion is better than the Protestant:

That juries are unnecessary, and therefore to be refused:

That monopolies are useful to trade:

That it is easier to go up a river than down a river:

That French laws and commercial regulations are preferable to English:

And that the constitution, which our ancestors had framed with so much wisdom, and established at the expence of so much blood and treasure, is to be destroyed by their wiser sons.

Mr. Burke spoke against the Bill; but confined himself to the point of ascertaining the limits of New York: and proposed the following to be the boundaries of Canada against that province, viz. by a line drawn from a point on the East side of Lake Cham-

plain in 45 deg. N. latitude, and by a line drawn in that parallel West to the river St. Lawrence, and down that river to Lake Ontario, and across that lake to the river Niagara, and from Niagara across Lake Erie to the North-west point of the boundary of Pennsylvania and down the west boundary of that province, by a line drawn from thence till it strike the Ohio. After some debate this passed. The limits of Quebec were next carried along the Ohio to the Mississippi. Governor Johnstone spoke against the annexing the Illinois to Canada. There was another debate on annexing the coast of Labrador to Quebec. The objection was begun by Sir Charles Saunders, who deduced from it the loss of the fishery to the Americans. Lord North gave an account of the sea-cow and seal fishery on the Labrador coast, and shewed, that from the sedentary nature of it, it could not be conducted upon the same principles as the Newfoundland fishery. Upon this clause the House divided: 83 for it, and 49 against it.

June 7. The House in Committee on the Quebec Bill. The second enacting clause of the Bill being read which revokes all laws and ordinances made for the settlement of the province since 1764, and ordains, that they shall cease and determine on the 1st. of May 1775, Mr. Burke moved, that that part of the clause should be left out. He was seconded by Governor Johnstone. A debate now ensued, but the Committee divided, Ayes 91 Noes 51. Proceeded to the third enacting clause relative to the establishment of the Roman Catholic religion and the provision to be made for the clergy of that persuasion; carried without a division. A motion was then made to adjourn, it being past eleven o'clock, but the friends of the Bill insisting to go on, a debate arose and the Committee divided; for proceeding 75, against it 31. Several of

the most strenuous opposers of the Bill now quitted the House, and the Committee proceeded, with very little interruption, through the two next clauses, the 4th and 5th. The House rose at one o'clock in the morning.

June 8. The Committee was wholly occupied in debate on the manner in which the Bill had been conducted in which Mr. Townsend and Mr. Burke and Col. Barré attacked Lord North with all the force of their abilities and wit.

June 10. Sir Charles Whitworth, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill, with the amendments which had been made.

Mr. Mackworth moved, "That a clause should be added, allowing of a trial by jury, at the option of either or both of the parties." He recommended the clause as a security for the English in Quebec against the French laws.

Lord North opposed it. He recapitulated part of the evidence that had been produced at the Bar, and said Governor Carleton had informed the House, that the Canadians had a dislike to the English laws in general; that it was his opinion, that giving the Canadians their old system of laws would be the only means of making them a happy people; that M. Hey, the Chief Justice, had said it was his opinion, that the Canadians at first, might have been brought to like the English laws, but since they had been so indulged, they expected now nothing less than a repeal of the whole of the laws by which they are governed at present; and that the Noblesse of the country thought trial by jury was humiliating and degrading to them as it subjected their property to the decision of barbers and taylors; that Mr. Maseres had, to be sure, said, that juries, he believed, would be liked under proper regulations, but the people of Canada did not choose

to give their time and attendance for nothing; that *Mons. Lotbiniere*, on a question being put to him, Whether he did not think the English laws the best for the Canadians in general? said, "I make no doubt but your laws are good and wise, and make you a happy people, but I do not think they are suited to every climate." His Lordship afterwards entered much upon the subjects of juries, and said, the Canadians could have but a bad opinion of English juries, when a grand jury there had presented the Roman Catholics as a nuisance; he said, the Canadians, in their petition to the Throne, had desired to have the whole of their ancient laws restored to them which this Bill was meant to do; that in his opinion, the trial by jury was not necessary there: and that by what he had been informed, the French laws were sufficient to protect property without it; that people had very industriously circulated a report that he had made a ministerial question of this; he would assure the House, upon his honour, he had not; that, after once fixing the Government of Quebec, in the hands of this nation, it was a matter of indifference to him what law or religion was established, so it made the people happy; that the British merchants staying their property would not be secure without English laws, let gentlemen recollect that British merchants trade to all parts of the world, and think their property secure in Portugal or Spain, where they know the Roman Catholic religion is the religion of the land, and that the number of old or English subjects in Canada were so few in number, that the cries of 150,000 ought to be given way to in preference of 350.

Serjeant Glynn recapitulated the parts of the evidence which the noble Lord had so ingeniously selected; he said, the noble Lord had laid great stress on the imprudence of the grand jury presenting the Roman Catholics

as a nuisance, and seemed to think, for that reason, they ought to have the trial by jury taken away; did the noble Lord never recollect, that the British House of Commons had committed equally flagrant acts of injustice; and that, if the reason for abolishing held good in one point, it ought in the other: yet he sincerely hoped that that House would never be taken away; for, bad and corrupt as it was believed to be by ignorant people, it still remained some safeguard to the nation; he afterwards launched forth into the praise of juries, and mentioned many particular circumstances where juries had been found extremely beneficial to the welfare of the publick; he afterwards stated the account of the seizing the papers of *Mr. Wilkes*, the General Warrants, &c. &c. He said, all State causes would be carried as desired, was it not for juries: he mentioned the affair of *Hampden* concerning Ship-money, and concluded with saying, that the 10th day of June 1774 would be handed down to posterity as a day when the Members of a British House of Commons preferred Popery and French laws to the established religion and laws of their own country; and, at the same time, that trials by jury, which their forefathers accounted a blessing, they deemed a curse.

The *Attorney General* said, he did not agree with the Honorable and Learned Gentleman, that whoever was against the allowing a trial by jury in that Bill thought the mode a curse; far from it; he had himself, in many cases, often thought the trial by jury a great blessing; yet it would be highly imprudent, unparliamentary, ridiculous, and absurd, to establish a clause at the end of the Bill (as it must be), which clause would entirely repeal that clause in the body of the Bill which allows the Canadians all their ancient laws; or would

any body say, that trial by jury was one of their ancient customs, or assert that it was necessary; that, as for the petitioning Canadians, they only desired to have their ancient laws and customs restored to them; and that he by no means thought an optional jury any thing like an English jury; that, by the former, any party that thought he could gain a preference in his trial over the other, would adopt it; and that it must be allowed, that where the option was liked by one, it would displease the other; besides, the evidences at the Bar had declared, that the Canadians were averse to the form of an English jury, especially in that part which obliges them to be unanimous in their verdict; and that, if you took away that part, in his opinion, you destroyed the whole; that he believed the learned Gentleman had been wrong in giving praise to a jury in the case of Mr. Hampden, for no jury was consulted on that case.

Mr. *Dunning* said, that as to the Learned Gentleman mentioning that he by no means approved of optional juries, had we not, every term, instances in the Court of Chancery, where it was in the power of the Lord Chancellor to appoint a jury, if he thought proper? That, as to the establishing the French laws in Canada, who had we fit to administer them? Had not the two learned and respectable gentlemen at the Bar, Mr. *Hey* and Mr. *Maseres*, informed the House, that they by no means thought themselves capable of learning the French law sufficiently to administer it with justice; and if such learned gentlemen as them had not abilities sufficient to understand it, sure he was, that no person the Minister could produce was capable of undertaking the task, so as to do justice to the people and honor to himself; he said, the noble Lord had been repeatedly called upon to declare the author of the Bill; let the author now

stand forth and clear himself; but he would be bold to say, no man would dare to own a Bill which was meant to establish Popery. Could the noble Lord say the Canadians had not desired not to have a jury? He then entered very fully into the nature of juries; said they were fit in all cases; that he had known many instances where juries had found for the Crown, and that he could wish to see juries established throughout the world, as they were a check upon the evil judges, and consequently if they were not so good judges of law, they were judges of fact; he said, as to the people of Canada being negligent of attending to serve on juries, it was the case here; there was scarce a term passed but jurymen were fined for non-attendance.

The *Solicitor General* said, he could not agree with the Learned Serjeant, that the supporters of the Bill deserved the appellation of traitors to their country; that he had no objection to a jury hereafter being established there, but let it be left in the power of the Crown, and if they saw it was necessary, they could at any time adopt it; but this was not the time, when the people were so much enraged against the proceedings of juries in that country; that as the jury which Mr. *Maseres* had formed for that country, in the pamphlet he had published, he by no means thought it like an English jury, for it was to be formed of an odd number of people, thirteen, sixteen, or seventeen, and a majority of those people to be decisive, and the jurymen to have 5s. per day allowed them for their attendance. He said he never would allow that the Canadians were fit persons to serve upon a jury, they understood nothing of its form, and therefore were not judges enough how to act upon it; that as to cases of revenue, we had had two instances of their deciding different to an English jury;

that a jury in England had found for the Crown, they in Canada had twice, on the same trial, found for the defendant; and the witness at the Bar, Mr. Hey, had informed the House that he had often been put to trouble, because he never could get the Canadians to give a special verdict.

Mr. B^{yng}—The noble Lord had given them such of the evidence as he thought proper, and mentioned the equality of the numbers of the two sorts of subjects; that as to the numbers, it was a matter of indifference to him whether they were 360 or 360,000, they had equally a claim to compassion; that he thought it proper, that wherever an English colony was settled, English laws ought to be established; that he did not approve of the clause now offered, because he thought it not sufficient, yet he would gladly accept of it as part of a good thing, and he made no doubt but the Canadians would, when they became used to the nature of it, love it, and wish to have it in its full extent; that General Carleton had informed them that the Canadians were a docile people; had we any occasion to go to Canada to look for docile creatures? No! there was a sufficient number always to be seen on the opposite side of the House, docile enough to do any thing the noble Lord, their leader, should direct them to do.

Governor Johnstone spoke highly in favour of juries, and recommended the clause.

Right Hon. T. Townshend spoke against the whole of the Bill, and much in praise of juries; and recommended the clause offered in a strenuous manner, setting forth, that the English residents there had not gone to that colony, had they not been invited by his Majesty's royal proclamation; but those who advised him to break his promise, would ad-

vise him to do any thing that was bad.

Mr. Burke, in a very long speech, the first part of which was a keen, pointed vein of humour against the Ministerial gentry, who just then came into the House in great numbers, said, he should not then have arose, only he thought he now seized a happy moment when he should carry his point, for the House had filled, all of a sudden, with people who had not heard any thing that had been said against the Bill, no not even from its being first agitated in the House; that they had now come with good English dinners in their bellies, which would, he trusted, make them good-humoured, and by being thus full of English meat, would undoubtedly be for English laws; that he should have been afraid to attack such a body of power and wisdom as the other side of the House contained, had he not fortunately observed, that the noble Lord, and his two great oracles of wisdom and order, had all differed in their opinions; that finding them at variance, he thought the moment would be fortunate to his cause; the one was for a jury, only now was not the proper time; the other against any jury at all; and a third that it could not be inserted in the Bill. He divided the people concerned in the Bill under three heads: first, the English merchants; second, the English subjects; and thirdly, the Canadians; he said they all deserved support; and though the noble Lord, and his supporters, had so industriously always made use of the number 360 as suitable to their cause, let them only recollect what all the evidence at the Bar agreed in, which was, that the English subjects were possessed of upwards of two thirds of the whole trade; did the noble Lord think then that they were a body of people to be minded? That as to their numbers being small, the noble Lord might re-

collect that there was an old vulgar saying, "that one Englishman was always worth two Frenchmen," that, in this case, he thought them preferable to fifty Frenchmen; that he would be willing to give a Canadian every indulgence in his power, but not grant that indulgence at the expense of the English; that if these Noblesse were the only persons (as they appeared to be by the evidences at the Bar) that were against the English laws, he would sacrifice them, and all the Noblesse of England and other countries, but he would make the majority of the people happy. But the reason the Noblesse did not like the English laws, was on account of the manner in which they had been represented to them; namely, that they were a string of religious and civil persecutions, which would entirely hinder them either from exercising their own religion, or from having any share in the government of their own country; that, remove those prejudices which the Noblesse had imbibed from misrepresentations, and he would be bound to say that they would not only admire our laws, but petition to have them; that, as to the Noblesse hating juries, because it trusted their property to their inferiors, it was a principal reason why he would give the Canadians a jury, in order to protect their property from the arbitrary proceedings of the Noblesse, who, in all countries, always wished to have the poor under their controul; that as to the English laws not being esteemed by the French, he could produce mountains of books, wrote by Frenchmen, on the justness and excellency of our laws, where they approved of the trial by jury as one of the greatest excellencies our Constitution produced; that the noble Lord had invited him, and others, to come and offer their opinions, setting forth, that the Bill was imperfect, and he wished to alter it, yet

he had not attended to what had been offered; that, in the Committee, when he meant to propose a clause, the noble Lord told him he might do it with propriety on the Report, and that their would be no other obstacle in his way, than that ~~the~~ would oppose it; he said he was greatly obliged to the noble Lord for his candour, for it had spared him much trouble, having intended to offer several clauses, which he should, with great justice, be called obstinate, was he now to attempt it, when he knew there was such a glorious triumvirate of power and wisdom formed against him; that he sincerely believed the French were in awe of us, yet he could not help thinking but that they must be astonished, that a people who had such powerful arms should have such weak heads. He strongly recommended the state of the merchants as an object of the noble Lord's attention, setting forth, that their property was always in a fluctuating state, and that they run great risks of their whole fortune, to benefit Government as well as themselves.

On the question being put, it passed in the negative; 88 to 4.

Right Hon. T. Townshend proposed a clause to make it a temporary Bill, and to limit its duration to seven years. This produced a short debate, but it passed in the negative without a division.

Mr. Dempster proposed a clause for giving notice of all laws to be passed, which likewise passed in the negative.

Mr. C. Fox proposed a clause to secure to the religious orders their rights and properties, as a corporate body claiming under the capitulation; which shared the same fate with the preceding.

Lastly, when all the clauses were

rejected or agreed to, and the SPEAKER was reading over the Bill, Mr. Dempster moved, that a clause should be inserted that the Canadians should on claiming it, have a right to the benefit of the Habeas Corpus Act. A division was the consequence of this motion; when the numbers were 76 Noes, 21 Ayes.

June 13. Mr. Cooper moved that the Quebec Bill do pass. Mr. C. Fox opposed it upon the ground of its being a Money-bill. The House divided, Ayes 56, Noes 20.

No other publick business. The Bill went back to the Lords, and the Commons adjourned.

On the 22d of June the King put an end to the session.

PAPIERS D'ETAT.

La très-Gracieuse Harangue de Sa Majesté aux deux Chambres du Parlement, le 23e. Novembre, 1802.

“ Milords et Messieurs,

“ Il m'est très-flateur d'avoir recours à votre avis et à votre assistance après l'occasion récente qui a été donnée de connoître les sentimens de mon peuple.

“ La prospérité intérieure du pays a réalisé nos espérances les plus vives. Nous avons éprouvé la faveur de la Divinè Providence par le produit d'une récolte abondante: l'état des manufactures, du commerce et du revenu de mes Royaumes Unis est florissant au delà de tout exemple; et la loyauté et l'attachement qui se manifestent pour ma personne et mon gouvernement donnent les indices les plus fortes de la juste idée que l'on a des bienfaits sans nombre dont nous jouissons sous notre heureuse Constitution.

“ Dans mes correspondances avec les puissances étrangères, j'ai été guidé par une sincère disposition de maintenir la Paix; néanmoins il m'est impossible de perdre de vue ce système de politique, sage et reconnu, par lequel les intérêts des autres états sont liés avec les nôtres; et, en conséquence, je ne puis regarder avec indifférence aucun changement essentiel dans leur

condition et force relatives. Ma conduite sera invariablement réglée par une due considération de la situation actuelle de l'Europe, et par une sollicitude et surveillance au bien-être permanent de mon peuple. Vous conviendrez avec moi, je me le persuade, qu'il nous convient d'adopter ces mesures de sûreté, qui sont les mieux calculées pour offrir la perspective de préserver à mes sujets les bienfaits de la Paix.

“ Messieurs de la Chambre des Communes,

“ J'ai ordonné qu'on vous présentât les estimations pour l'année suivante; et je me repose sur votre zèle et libéralité pour pourvoir aux différentes branches du service public; et c'est avec la plus grande satisfaction que je puis réfléchir que cet objet peut être entièrement accompli, sans aucune addition considérable aux fardeaux de mon peuple.

“ Milords et Messieurs,

“ Je contemple avec la plus grande satisfaction, les avantages immenses, qui ne sont que s'augmenter, résultants de cette mesure importante qui a uni les intérêts et consolidé les ressources de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande. L'amélioration et l'extension de ces avantages seront pour vous des objets sans relâche de vos soins et de votre attention. Le commerce de mes sujets, si essentiel au soutien du crédit public, et de notre force maritime, recevra de votre part, j'en suis persuadé, tout l'encouragement possible; et vous vous empresserez de prêter votre assistance, pour procurer, aux transactions mercantiles, dans toutes les parties de mon Royaume Uni, toute la facilité et l'aifance que peut permettre la sûreté du revenu public.

“ De soutenir l'honneur du pays, d'encourager son industrie, d'améliorer ses ressources, et de soutenir les véritables principes de la Constitution dans l'Eglise et l'Etat, sont les plus grands et principaux devoirs dont vous avez à vous acquitter, et pour lesquels vous êtes appelés. En les remplissant, vous pouvez compter sur mon soutien uniforme et cordial; désirant, le plus sincèrement, de cultiver une harmonie parfaite et une confiance entre moi et mon Parlement; et de promouvoir au plus haut point le bien-être de mes fidèles sujets, dont je regarderai toujours les intérêts et le bonheur comme inséparables des miens.”

Resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States of the 7th January, 1803, on the Subject of the Interruption of the Navigation of the Mississippi.

RESOLVED. That this House receive with a sensibility the information of a disposition of certain officers of the Spanish Government at New Orleans to obstruct the navigation of the river Mississippi, secured to the United States by the most solemn stipulations:

That, adhering to that humane and wise policy which ought ever to characterize a free people, and by which the United States have always professed to be governed; willing, at the same time, to ascribe this breach of compact to the unauthorized misconduct of certain officers rather than to a want of a good faith on the part of his Catholic Majesty; and relying with perfect confidence on the vigilance and wisdom of the executive, they will wait the issue of such measures as that department of the government shall have pursued, for asserting the rights and vindicating the injuries of the United States: Holding it to be their duty at the same time, to express their unalterable determination to maintain the boundaries, and the rights of navigation and commerce through the river Mississippi, as established by existing Treaties.

NOUVELLES ETRANGERES.

ALLEMAGNE.

Vienne, le 17 Septembre.—La famille royale vient d'être plongée dans la plus grande tristesse par la mort inattendue de l'Archiduchesse Marie-Louise, née princesse de Naples, épouse du grand duc de Toscane. Cette princesse est morte hier, vers six heures du soir d'une couche malheureuse, après treize heures de souffrance. L'enfant qu'elle a mis au monde est également mort. S. M. l'Empereur est venu aujourd'hui de Bade dans cette capitale, pour consoler son auguste frère, profondément affligé de la perte de son époux chéri, et pour donner les ordres nécessaires pour la sépulture de la princesse défunte. Plusieurs courriers ont été expédiés aussitôt pour différentes cours, et un gentilhomme de la cour a été envoyé à Naples pour annoncer ce triste événement.

Vienne, le 28 Septembre.

L'Empereur de Russie a reconnu la justice des réclamations de notre Cour, à l'égard du plan d'indemnités qui se discute à Ratisbonne, et le Comte de Saurau, notre Ambassadeur, est traité avec une faveur et une distinction marquée. L'Empereur a manifesté à notre Cour, le désir que la mission de M. le Comte de Saurau fût prolongée; et en conséquence, on a envoyé un courrier qui lui ordonne de rester à Pétersbourg.

Le changement de Ministère en a produit un dans la politique de la Cour de Pétersbourg. Depuis que M. le Comte Alexandre de Woronzow est à la tête du département des affaires étrangères, on a remarqué des dispositions plus favorables à notre Cour, et aux demandes qu'elle fait à la Diète de Ratisbonne. Plusieurs courriers sont arrivés ici, et on les dit porteurs de dépêches très-satisfaisantes. On fait aussi qu'il a été dépêché une escadre au Péripotenciaire Russe à Ratisbonne.

Notre Cour n'a point encore nommé de Ministres auprès de la République Italienne, non plus qu'auprès du Roi d'Étrurie, ni de la République Ligurienne.

On croit que l'Empereur se rendra, le 8 Octobre, à Presbourg, pour clore la Diète de Hongrie.

FRANCE.

Paris, le 9e Octobre.

A une des dernières présentations, qui ont précédé le voyage de St Cloud, parut dans le salon, un capitaine des gardes du Roi de Naples: il portoit son uniforme, qui est le même que celui des gardes du Roi de France. Le Consul, qui étoit assis dans la pièce voisine, l'entrevit dans une glace. Soudain les traits s'altèrent; il s'élança de son fauteuil, saisit le bras de M. Duroc, et s'écria, dans son trouble: "Que vois-je? les Bourbons!"—M. de Luchay, qui vint au même instant prendre les ordres pour l'ouverture de l'audience, fit cesser la méprise. Le Consul la retarda de quelques minutes, pour composer son visage, qui parut à la foule plus riant qu'à l'ordinaire: mais les personnes qui s'étoient trouvées assés près de l'appartement pour entendre l'exclamation, ne furent point dupes de cette sérénité affectée. Sans doute, le Consul se rappellait avec quelle promptitude et quelle facilité on détrône les despotes et les usurpateurs, s'étoit imaginé que la contre révolution venoit de se faire dans le palais, et qu'un officier des gardes de Louis XVIII venoit l'inviter à se ranger parmi les spectateurs d'une scène dans laquelle il se préparoit à jouer le premier rôle.

M. Bacrie, envoyé d'Alger, qui, après avoir négocié ici le accommodement de cette puissance avec le Consul, s'étoit rendu à Londres, en est revenu dernièrement. Il n'a quitté l'Angleterre que lorsque les quatre premiers millions, qui, d'après les conventions, devoient être comptés par le Gouvernement François, ont été payés. Il reste deux millions, pour lesquels le Dey a accordé un suris de deux mois.

Une négociation de la même nature est entamée pour la République Italienne.

M. de Fontanges, ancien archevêque de Toulouse; M. de Latour Dupin, ancien archevêque d'Auch; M. de Mandols, ancien grand-vicaire de M. l'évêque de Marseilles, et actuellement de M. l'archevêque de Paris; M. Bailli, ancien grand-vicaire de M. l'évêque d'Evreux: viennent d'être nommés, le premier, évêque d'Autun, le second, évêque de Troyes; le troisième, évêque de la Rochelle; et le dernier, évêque de Poitiers.

Paris 18 Octobre.

Il n'en faut beaucoup, qu'on soit ici en mesure de commencer la guerre. L'effectif de l'armée est de deux cents quarante mille hommes, épars dans toute la France, surtout dans le voisinage des ports, et presque aussi nécessaires pour contenir les non-contensés de quelques pays, que pour fournir des renforts aux armées que dévore le climat des colonies. Il seroit très difficile de réunir maintenant, sur la frontière, du côté du Rhin, un corps d'armée capable de prendre l'offensive en Allemagne. Il n'y a d'ailleurs ni argent, ni provisions.

M. Duroc sera, dit-on, nommé ambassadeur à Berlin, et remplacé par M. Louis Buonaparte qui réunira les doubles fonctions de commandant général de la garde de son frère, et de gouverneur de ses palais.

Paris, 10 Octobre.—Dans toutes les époques où le despotisme a pesé sur les peuples, les spectacles ont été livrés aux factions. Sous quelques Empereurs Romains, on se battit souvent dans le Cirque pour des histrions et des bateleurs, sous Buonaparte on se bat pour des actrices.

La comparaison entre les anciens baladins et les interprètes modernes du génie de nos poètes dramatique est exacte, et j'avoue que je ris quelquefois du fanatisme très-sérieux que notre théâtre produit : souvent même il m'arrive d'en gémir ; car ce fanatisme accélère la décadence de l'art : l'admiration stupide, l'aveugle enthousiasme sont les enfans de l'ignorance. Aujourd'hui un début est une affaire d'état ; on dit que le sort de tous les citoyens en dépend ; on dispute sur le mérite d'une actrice avec autant de chaleur que sur la forme d'un gouvernement ; et l'on fait plus de façons pour recevoir une comédienne, que pour accepter une constitution.

HOLLANDE.

La Haye, le 15 Oct.—La protection, dont le Premier Consul vient d'assurer notre Directoire, est-elle désintéressée ? On en doute ici assez généralement, et on ne varie que sur les motifs, et le montant des demandes d'argent dont elle est le prix. Quelques perionnes disent que le Premier Consul, embarrassé de satisfaire aux engagements qu'il a pris, par le traité d'Amiens, avec l'Angleterre, pour les dépenses des prisonniers François, demande à notre Gouvernement un million sterling. D'autres portent la somme à un million et demi, et disent que les indemnités, que l'on doit donner à notre république sur la frontière d'Allemagne, ont été évaluées à cette somme.

GRANDE-BRETAGNE.

Londres, 12e Oct.

Tous les événemens, dont nous avons été témoins depuis quelques années, font naître une ne reflexion bien triste : c'est que le principe de

la Monarchie se perd en Europe. A quoi faut-il l'attribuer ? A une cause qui n'a pas été aperçue dans son origine et que nous indiquons, au risque de ne pas plaire à tous nos lecteurs.

Le principe de la Monarchie s'est insensiblement altéré, à mesure que le gouvernement des monarchies est devenu ministériel.

On a cru pouvoir introduire dans la monarchie les formes des gouvernemens mixtes, et on n'a pas aperçu que, dans ceux-ci, la distribution des pouvoirs modifioit l'exercice de l'autorité suprême, sans enlever le principe de son action ; et que le seul danger que court la constitution de ces états, est que la balance des pouvoirs ne soit rompue par la partie monarchique. Ainsi, dans les gouvernemens mixtes, l'autorité tend naturellement à se concentrer. Et c'est ici le lieu de faire remarquer la sagesse admirable du parlement d'Angleterre, qui a senti que, s'il étoit nécessaire, lors de l'établissement de la constitution, de restreindre la prérogative royale, il n'étoit pas moins nécessaire, aussitôt que les bornes ont été posées, de donner à ce ressort du gouvernement, tout le jeu dont il a besoin pour la grandeur et la prospérité de l'empire, et pour le maintien de la constitution.

C'est une opinion presque généralement reçue que les monarchies tendent au despotisme. Montesquieu a dit que "les monarchies vont, par une pente insensible, se perdre dans le despotisme, comme les fleuves dans la mer." C'est une autorité grave que celle de l'auteur de *l'Esprit des loix* ; elle est pour nous d'un plus grand poids que pour la plupart de ses admirateurs sur parole ; et nous pourrions dire, comme il dit quelque part, en parlant des Romains : "Nous nous sentons forts, quand nous avons pour nous l'auteur de *l'Esprit des Loix*." Mais, loin de penser que les monarchies tendent au despotisme, nous sommes d'opinion que dans la monarchie, le pouvoir, par sa nature, ne pouvant s'exercer que par ceux auxquels le monarque le communique, le ressort du gouvernement se relâche insensiblement, au lieu de se concentrer.

L'action du gouvernement se complique et se ralentit ; elle éprouve des résistances inégalementes ; la nature même de la Monarchie s'altère ; et on n'aperçoit le mal que lorsqu'il est sans remède. L'état ne peut plus être ramené à son principe que violemment, et par des secousses. Nous n'avons qu'à jeter les yeux autour de nous pour nous convaincre de cette vérité.

Les souverains, qui se sont souvent montrés si jaloux de leur autorité vis-à-vis de leurs sujets voudront-ils se mettre dans la dépendance du chef d'un gouvernement étranger ; Reconnoi-

tront-ils la mission divine du Consul ? S'ils avoient le secret de leur force et de sa foiblesse, ils épargneront à leurs sujets, le scandale de voir un soldat, assis sur le trône de son maître distribuant des couronnes, fondant des Républiques tributaires, partageant une partie de l'Europe à son gré. Si les princes, auxquels la Providence a confié les destinées de la plus belle partie du monde, veulent qu'elle soit indépendante, elle le fera : ne désespérons donc point qu'ils le voudront.

Depuis que La St. Dominique appartient à l'envoyé de Dieu, les officiers de santé, c'est-à-dire, en langue mortelle, les chirurgiens, s'avisent de prédire l'avenir. Pour plaire à leur maître, ils ont déclaré que la maladie *devoit* cesser entièrement, dans le courant de Fructidor (c'est-à-dire du 18 Août au 18 Septembre 1802.)

En notre qualité de journalistes qui n'adorons, qui n'admirons même pas l'envoyé de Dieu, qui ne voyons en lui qu'un homme ordinaire, et qui lui disons la vérité sur le passé et le présent, nous lui observerons qu'il est à notre connoissance : que le commerce de France ne pouvant envoyer ni denrées ni marchandises dans la colonie, elles y sont importées par le commerce étranger, et que M. le capitaine général, ayant mis un droit de 60 pour cent, sur les marchandises étrangères, il est impossible qu'elles se vendent à bon marché dans la colonie.

Nous observerons encore : que M. le capitaine général a mis un impôt de soixante millions sur une colonie, qui, d'après les tableaux publiés par ordre du gouvernement consulaire, ne produisoit sous le gouvernement de Toussaint l'ouverture, que dix-huit millions. L'impôt excède donc la production de quarante-deux millions seulement, à moins que les incendies, qui ont suivi le débarquement de l'armée Française, n'aient quadruplé la production. C'est un de ses bienfaits de la Providence, du genre de ceux que l'envoyé de Dieu annonce de temps à autre, à ses sujets, à ses alliés à ses voisins, et à ses ennemis.

On trouve dans une gazette de la Haute Allemagne, un article assez intéressant sur les forces militaires des principales Puissances du Nord. Suivant cette feuille, l'armée Russe est composée en ce moment d'environ 480 mille hommes de troupes régulières, non compris 70 mille de troupes irrégulières, telle que Cosaques, Tartares, Géorgiens, &c. Cet état est tiré de l'almanach de la cour et d'autres pièces authentiques. La maison d'Autriche a une armée de 320 mille hommes, dont 52 mille de cavalerie. Cette puissance emploie tous les moyens possibles pour engager la nation Hongroise à porter les forces nationales de ce Royaume à 80 mille hommes sur le pied de paix, et à 100 mille sur celui de guerre. On fait que jusqu'à présent la Diète de Presbourg n'a pas consenti à cet accroissement, dans l'état militaire de la

Hongrie. Les forces de la Prusse s'élevaient en ce moment à 275 mille hommes, dont 45 mille de cavalerie ; le prince du cabinet Prussien est de porte l'assésif de son armée jusqu'à 300 mille combattans.

Aujourd'hui que la première question qu'en fait on s'abandonne, est Celle-ci : " Auront nous la guerre ? " Nous hazarderons nos conjectures.

La conduite de la France, à l'égard de la Grande Bretagne, depuis un an, a-t-elle été hostile ? Les faits décident la question,

Entre la signature du traité préliminaire et du traité définitif, le Comte s'est déclaré Président de la République Italienne. Les Ministres de S. M. se crurent vraisemblablement trop engagés pour faire de cet événement un motif de rupture ; la paix d'Amiens fut signée.

Depuis ce traité, le Consul a révélé à l'Angleterre que l'Espagne a cédé la Louisiane à la France ; qu'il avoit ravi la Toscane au Grand Duc, et avoit fait un Roi d'Etrurie, afin d'incorporer l'Isle d'Elbe à la France ; et il vient de déclarer qu'il se verra forcé d'incorporer aussi la Suisse, si elle ne consent pas à être tributaire. Enfin, depuis ce traité, il a partagé l'Allemagne, suivant ses convenances et ses caprices, sans consulter le Roi de la Grande-Bretagne, Electeur de Hanovre.

Depuis ce traité, il a insulté grièvement le Roi de la Grande Bretagne et son gouvernement ; et, tandis qu'il enchaîne la liberté de la presse sur les moindres actes de son administration, il a déchargé la licence sur celle de ce pays-ci. et a autorisé son journal officiel à publier que S. M. auroit décoré du ruban de son ordre, celui qui auroit commis un assassinat.

Cette conduite de la France est-elle hostile ? Il n'est pas un homme de bonne foi qui hésite à déclarer que le moindre de ces griefs, suffisoit pour provoquer la guerre. En les accumulant, le Gouvernement François n'a point laissé d'alternative aux Ministres de S. M. et nous ne craignons point d'être contredits, en n'affirmant qu'il n'existe pas un *sujet Britannique* qui eut consenti à signer un traité de paix, par lequel la Grande Bretagne auroit consenti à l'incorporation du Piémont, de l'Isle d'Elbe, de la Suisse, de la Louisiane ; et au partage actuel de l'Allemagne.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Albany, 20 Jan'y. A road from the Mohack River by the head of the long falls on the Black River, is now completed from the long Falls to the St. Lawrence : it is well bridged and causewayed ; and at proper distances, upon the road, families are settled for the purpose of accommodating Travellers : Persons Travelling to Upper Canada will find the road much better and more convenient than any other leading to the St. Lawrence.

OBSERVATIONS ON FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EVERY person in this country, who is acquainted with the present aspect of Public affairs in Europe, must feel, a very considerable degree of anxiety; and at this distance from the scene of action, with only Newspaper information for data, it is impossible to form any reasoning, upon which we can place reliance.

It however appears certain that Peace or War is at the disposal of the present ruler of France: for no one can suppose that Great Britain, after having delivered up her conquests, after having dismantled her navies and disbanded her armies, would seek to renew a war which she consented to close, in the moment of victory, only one short twelve-month ago. On the other hand, it is difficult to imagine what could induce General Bonaparte to wish for the renewal of a war, from the termination of which he has reaped, and if we are not misinformed, he still reaps great advantages. He is ambitious; but his ambition has not been without prudence: cunning may even be considered as no inconsiderable trait in his character. An ambition so tempered, will not account for a desire to renew the War: He sits on the throne of one of the most powerful Empires of Europe, he disposes of it as his pleasure, and his influence extends over the fairest portion of the Continent. Does he still desire that the remainder of Europe should bend at his nod? If he were to blot Austria out of the list of Nations, he would then be the natural enemy of Prussia; where he to subdue Prussia, he must encounter Russia; and here the Sons of the North might again overwhelm an Empire already sinking under its un-

weildy bulk and the weight of its vices and its crimes. Does he hope to wrest the trident of the Ocean from Britain? the experience of centuries, and the interest of the remaining independant powers of the Continent, who can never quietly see the same power that menaces them by land enjoy also the Empire of the Ocean, ought to convince him of its impracticability.

These considerations have induced some to believe that he is rather actuated by prudence than by ambition; that prudence which points to self preservation, and which of two evils bids us chuse the least. He is surrounded by discontented officers; men who have been his equals and who cannot brook a Superior; the people whom he amused with the title of "Sovereign," have felt his power, and know that they have a master; a master who can offer to the people of France none of the advantages which they would enjoy under HIM whose throne he has usurped. Under these circumstances it may reasonably be supposed that Bonaparte has determined to follow the steps of the Revolutionists who went before him; to seek for internal security, in foreign war.

That he intended to risk a Continental war at least, at the moment he determined to interfere in the affairs of Switzerland will hardly be denied; and the subsequent taking possession of that Country by French troops is an evidence of it: for it is impossible that, after the stipulations of the Treaty of Luneville, Austria can quietly see the French in possession of that country. It was by treacherously taking possession of Switzerland during the negotiations at Radstadt in 1798, in the same manner as has been done at present during the sitting of the Diet at Ratisbon, that France was enabled to stop the Progress of

the Archduke in the subsequent Campaign; it was the possession of that Country, that enabled France afterwards to succour Italy, by throwing an army into the heart of Germany. Without the possession of Switzerland, the Campaign of 1799 would have brought the allies on one side, into the South of France, and on the other, they would in all probability have conquered Alsace and regained the Netherlands; and latterly without the possession of Switzerland, Bonaparte would never have gained a battle of Marengo.

But to determine whether he will persist in his intention at the expence of a war with England, would require a greater knowledge than we possess of the internal state of France. Whatever may be the result, we have this consolation, in common with all the King's subjects: we have nothing to fear, from a just and necessary war. When it comes, every Briton will be ready to meet it; and while he risks his life for the honour of his King, and the preservation of his Country, he will be animated by a conviction that he is fighting for his own personal liberty, and the Liberties of the World.

ACCOUNT OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

Newfoundland, in North America, has ever been esteemed one of the most valuable possessions of the British empire, whether considered as a nursery for seamen, or as a great source of national wealth, arising from the exchange of fish for the various productions and luxuries that spring up in the Mediterranean, &c. It is situated on the northern coast of America, and its external features bear a near resemblance to that of Ireland, nor indeed does it vary much from it in size. But the comparison will no

farther hold good, the one being prolific to an extreme, and the other barren beyond credibility.

In the year 1494, this island was discovered by the famous John Cabot; it is divided from the coast of Labrador by the Straits of Belleisle, on the north; and by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, on the west. The most southerly part of the island is Cape Rare, in lat. 46. 45. N. The most northerly in lat. 51. 30. N. and Cape Raye its westernmost point in 47. 35.

It abounds with a vast number of harbours, some of which are very capacious, extending a great distance into the country, and interspersed with villages. The internal parts have never been perfectly explored, from the inhumanity and wanton cruelty which have been exercised towards the natives. Various methods have been adopted by different Governors to suppress this severity. Proclamations have been issued to prohibit, and threats held out to deter, but neither have yet produced much effect. If, therefore, decisive measures be not taken to put a stop to the inhumanity with which the natives are treated, there is reason to apprehend that they will be completely extinct.

At present a very little part of this island is cultivated, nor does the soil answer the expectations of those who have been at the trouble and expence of preparing it for the reception of seeds. Wheat never can succeed, as the season is too short; and oats very seldom come to perfection. In May the winter breaks up, and till the latter parts of September the air is temperate, and every thing sown during this short period of spring is very quick in vegetation. Grass is raised, and hay made, in no great quantities, and very indifferent in quality. The soil is so thin that every year it requires a supply of manure to produce what in other countries would be

regarded as very inadequate to the trouble and expence bestowed upon it. Very little then is cultivated, yet this is caused by the reason already assigned, and an other more potent, the positive prohibition of Great-Britain to suffer the least attempt to colonise. Even in the infancy of the fishery, the fatal effects of cherishing so dangerous a system was evident; but to check the growing evil it was very wisely guarded against by the act 15 Geo. 3. cap. 31. in which all fishermen are enjoined to return to England, and upon no account whatsoever to be suffered to remain in the island, and that no one through poverty might plead inability to return home, the merchant who employed the fishermen was authorized to obtain forty shillings from the wages of each person so employed, to enable him to return at the conclusion of the season. But this custom is become obsolete, yet it is much to be regretted that it is not indiscriminately enforced, as by conniving at this breach of the act, the men, unconscions of doing wrong, may remain in this inhospitable climate, too frequently a forlorn and miserable penitent, to endure through the winter, hunger, cold, and all the miseries which ever are the attendants on poverty.

The fish are caught on the Grand Bank, which is forty leagues distant from the island, and extends 400 miles in length and 200 in breadth. On this the vessels anchor, and continue till they have laden them; when they return to port to discharge their cargo, and then return to their former station. To give some idea how productive this bank must be, I need only mention that a vessel with twelve men, from April to the 15th of July, must catch, salt, and bring into port 10,000 fish, or they are excluded from all right to the established bounty. And it frequently happens that

the same men will send in 13,000 more before the conclusion of the season, making 25,000.

It would encroach too much on the time allowed me to enter into a full and elaborate statement of the advantages resulting from this trade, I shall, therefore, proceed (agreeably to your request,) to give a description of St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland.

The approach towards the island is by no means pleasing or inviting. Dark and gloomy rocks are the features which you first behold, without any thing picturesque or sublime in their appearance. At the distance of a league from this part of the shore I am now describing, you cannot discern the least appearance of an inlet to any harbour. One point, it is true, is distinguished by a white tower, but this seems to be seated on a precipice, to enable some whimsical possessor to view the waves beneath, the sea in the offing, or ships approaching the land. But as you more nearly approach, it displays to you the power of its strength, and shows that you must not enter the narrow chasm beneath unless you are a friend.

This building is called Fort Amherst, and is situated on a part of the precipice on the south side of the entrance of St. John's, which, owing to its not exceeding 500 feet across, very properly received the denomination of the Narrows. On either side, particularly the north, the rocks rise to the height of 400 feet, on the south they are not so high. Yet the view on both is very picturesque. Very few parts are left uncovered with heath interspersed with the juniper and the wild spruce. Still continuing your course under stupendous mountains, on the left you have South Fort Battery, and on the right Chain Rock with its battery; above, high-

ly exalted, are various forts frowning upon you; till you proceed under Wallace's Battery, which is seated on the summit of a rock in the form of a sugar-loaf, or cone, independant of the other batteries, and which was planted and received its name from its late gallant Governor Vice-Admiral Sir James Wallace; who, when Admiral Richery invested the island in 1796, with seven sail of the line and three frigates, defended it with an inferior force, and by his wife and judicious arrangements, added to his firmness and coolness, ultimately succeeded in compelling the enemy to abandon their project.

(To be continued)

SPEECH OF M. DE MONTESQUIEU.

The following speech of the President MONTESQUIEU, at the opening of the Parliament of Bordeaux, is copied from the "SUN" of the 13th Oct. and was translated for that paper from his posthumous works, lately published at Paris.]

May the man amongst us who would make the Laws slaves to the iniquity of his judgements, perish on the spot! May he every where find the presence of an avenging God, and the celestial powers arrayed against him! May fire burst from under the ground and consume his house! May his posterity be for ever degraded! May he seek his bread and find it not! May he be a frightful example of the Justice of Heaven, as he was an example of injustice upon the earth!

It was nearly thus Gentleman that a Great Emperor spoke; and these words in themselves so sad, so terrible, are to you full of consolation. You

* Romney, 50, Captain Sotheron, Venus, 32, — T. Graves, Mercury, 32, — Byng, Shark, 16, — J. O'Brien, Pluto, 16, — Amb. Crofton.

FRENCH FORCE. Le Jupiter, 74 Admiral Richery, Le Censeur, 84, La Victoire, 84, Le Le Beuwick, 74, Le Duquesne, 74, Admiral Allemande, Le Barrier, 74, La Revolutionnaire 74, Le Ambuscade, 36, La Felicite, 36, La Triponne, 36.

may say to the people here assembled, with the same confidence as one of the Judges of Israel "If I have committed injustice, if I have oppressed any of you; if I have received presents from one against another; let him raise his voice; let him speak against me, before the Lord.

I shall not then speak to you this day of THESE GREAT CORRUPTIONS WHICH IN ALL TIMES WERE A PRE-
SAGE OF THE FALL OF STATES; of these arts of injustice committed with a formal design, of that systematic wickedness, of those lives stigmatized with crimes, where one day of iniquity is regularly followed by another; of Magistracies exercised amidst the reproaches, tears murmurings, and fears of all the Citizens. For such Judges, for men so flagitious, shame and reproach go for nothing.

Thus, supposing in a Magistrate that essential virtue which is justice, a quality without which he is a monster in Society, and possessing which he may be a very bad citizen, I shall only speak of those accessaries which may make that justice more or less consummate: It ought to be enlightened, it ought to be prompt, it ought to be austere, it ought to be universal.

Since we have left of our savage manners, since conquerors of the Gauls and of the Romans, we have adopted their Police, since the Military has yielded to the Civil Code; since above all, the feudal system ceased to be the only Law of the Noblesse, and that by this last change, commerce and labour have been encouraged, that the riches and avarice of individuals have increased; since we have had to unravel great interests; almost always concealed, since good faith has confined itself to some affairs of little importance, while artifice and fraud are employed in contracts, our Codes have been augmented; we were obliged to call in the

aid of Foreign Laws to those that were national; respect for religion blended the Canon Law with them; and Magistracy is no longer the portion but of the most enlightened Citizens.

Judges are always liable to be deceived and surpris'd, so that truth leaves in their mind the fine distrust as Error.

The obscurity in which the truth may be involved has given birth to forms. The Crafty, in the hope of concealing their malice, have divid'd a kind of art: Entire professions have been established, some to render the cases obscure, others to prolong the decisions; and the Judge has less reason to be upon his guard against the falshood of the litigant, than against the artifices of him to whom he has intrusted his interests.

It will not then be sufficient, that the Magistrate has examined the purity of his intentions; it will not be enough that he could say to his maker. *Proba me Deus et feits cor meum*: it is necessary that he should examine his mind, his knowledge and his talents: he must account himself for his studies, he must maintain through life an unremitting application, and see if that application was capable of affording his mind that extent of information, that degree of knowledge which his situation requires.

We read in the accounts of some travellers that there are certain mines in which the workman never see the day: they are a very natural image of those whose minds, from defect of the organs, are incapable of attaining any degree of penetration. Such an incapacity requires of a man that he should retire from the Magistracy; an inferior degree of capacity requires of a just man, that he should surmount it by toil and lucubrations.

It is further necessary that justice should be prompt. The injustice frequently is not in the judgement, but in the delay; the gaining of a suit

often does more injury than would a contrary prompt decision. In the present condition of things, to be at Law is a wretched condition of life: the title accompanies a man to his last moment; it descends to his posterity, and passes from one descendant to another, until the final extinction of the unfortunate family.

Poverty seems always attached to that melancholy title. The strictest justice can prevent only a part of its misfortunes; and such is the state of things, that the formalities introduced for the preservation of public order, are now become the scourge of individuals. Legal industry is become the scourge of fortune, as well as Commerce and Agriculture: oppression there looks for food, and chicane brings in the ruin of the unfortunate litigant.

Honest men, heretofore brought rogues before the Tribunals, but now, the rogues there sue the honest men. The trustee denies his trust, in the hope that timid right will soon cease to demand justice, and the ravisher acquaints the object of his violence, that it would be imprudent to call him to an account for his transgression.

TO CORRESPONDENT.

The ODE signed F. has been received, and it shall appear in the next number of the Register. We have been long aware of the Poetical Powers of the author; and we flatter ourselves that he will prove an assiduous, as we are convinced that he will always be, a valuable Correspondent.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE, JAN. 1803.

Days.	Winds.	Weather.	Barometer.		Thermo.		
			Inches.		Degrees.		
			M.	A.	M.	A.	
30		snow	S. E.	29.5 1/2	29.3 1/2	7	18
31		drift	N W	28.9 1/2	29.0	12	16
1		Fine	N W	29.6	29.6	14	0
2		cloudy		29.4	29.1 1/2	13	29
3		fleet		28.9	28.7 1/2	36	36
4		drift		29.1	29.5	5	2
5		Fine		30.0		-12	

☾ N. Moon. ☽ 1st. Quar. ☉ F. Moon. ☿ 2. N. B. This mark minus prefixed to a number denotes so many degrees below Zero.

POETRY.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

[The following little pieces, written in England, will not, it is hoped, be unacceptable to the Subscribers to this paper.]

THE PARTRIDGE'S PETITION:

[Written for the first of September]

If soft Compassion holds a Place
Oh! Man within thy Breast,
Spare then, oh! spare the Partridge race,
Nor rob us of our rest.

Oh! do not load the fatal Gun,
To take our young away,
Who scarce life's Journey have begun,
Scarce seen the cheerful day;

But let them range awhile through air,
By bounteous nature giv'n,
And all the various blessings share
Beneath the Lamp of Heav'n

Consider well the waste which war
Amongst thy Kind has made,
Then wilt thou listen to the pray'r
I offer in their aid.

Think thou beholds't the hostile plain
All cover'd with the Dead;
While weeping Friends, who yet remain,
By grief are thither led.

Here the fond Mother seeks her son,
Her Heart oppress'd with Woe.
To find their sire, their orphans run
Whose tears incessant flow.

The new made widow frantic seeks
Her Husbands dear remains.
With scalding tears bedews his cheeks,
Then raving quits the plain.

The horror which this scene displays
Should teach thee to forbear
To blast the flowers of happy days
Soon as their buds appear.

For canst thou think distress and care
To thee alone confin'd?
No: we the various feelings share
As well as humankind.

But since we're not like thee to rise,
To a new life of bliss,
Oh! grudge us not the trifling joy
Which we can find in this.

VERSES written on seeing a Sky Lark alight on a public walk during a snow storm.

WHY little songster do'st thou quit
The unrequited glade?

Why from the peaceful meadows flit
Unto the throng'd parade?

Art thou like Noah's dove bereft
Of resting for thy feet?
Are there no knowlefs hillocks left
To which thou may'st retreat?

Thou thus thou seek'st the busy town,
The haunt of humankind,
In hopes, since man through air has flown,*
Thou here may'st refuge find.

Come then, sweet warbler, live with me,
Till wintry storms are o'er:
Here, free from danger, shalt thou be,
Nor suffer hunger more.

With green turf shall thy cage be grac'd;
Thy trough each morn I'll fill,
With seeds of most delicious taste,
Thy fountain from the rill.

At breakfast thou shalt take thy stand
Upon the tea tray's brink;
Shalt eat the sugar from my hand,
And of my cup shalt drink.

And when fair spring reechoths the meads
Again I'll see thee free.
To rove where'er thy fancy leads,
Nor urge thy stay with me.

* Alluding to the Balloons.

EPIGRAMS.

Les Gages.

UN joueur de profession
Aussi mauvais payeur qu'il en fut dans la ville,
Avoit depuis deux ans un valet fort habile
Plein de zèle et d'affection,
Il ne lui payoit point les gages;
Le valet avoit beau demander de l'argent,
L'autre écludoit toujours et jouoit l'indigent,
Car les mauvais payeurs sont bien des personnages.

Le pauvre valet assigné,
Autant qu'en tel cas on peut l'être,
Vint lui demander son congé
Pourquoi t'en aller dit le maître?

Je ne t'ai pas payé tes gages jusqu'ici;
Mais tu n'y perdras rien, n'en sois point en souci;
Puis qu'ils courent toujours que te faut-il au reste?
Oui, lui dit le valet, las de se voir duper;
Ils courent en effet, et si fort malpeste,
Que je ne puis les attraper.

BARATON.

TRUTH TOLD AT LAST.

SAYS Pontius in rage, contradicting his wife,
"You never yet told me one truth in your life."
Vex'd Pontia no way could this thesis allow—
"You're a Cuckold," says she, "do I tell you
truth now."

JOURDAIN.