

LONDON GAZETTE
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Embellished with Views of the Roman Wall at WROXETER, in SHROPSHIRE; and of the Antient Church of St. MARTIN, Canterbury.

By SYLVANUS URBAN, GENT.

Printed by NICHOLS, SON, and BENTLEY, at CICERO'S HEAD, Red Lion Passage, Fleet-str. London; where all Letters to the Editor are desired to be addressed, POST-PAID.

METEOROLOGICAL DIARY for December, 1812. By Dr. POLE, Bristol.

Days, Mo.	M. 8 h.	G. heal.	Inches. 20ths.	WEATHER.
1	49 51		29-17	cloudy, light rain
2	41 49		30- 2	cloudy
3	48 52		30- 3	cloudy, evening light rain
4	47 49		30- 2	cloudy in general
5	45 46		30- 2	lightly clouded
6	35 39		30- 8	mostly cloudy, evening clear
7	27 31		30-11	lightly clouded
8	21 27		30- 6	mostly clear
9	15 27		30- 1	clear
10	14 25		29-17	very foggy, clear upwards
11	28 33		29-18	morning cloudy and foggy, afternoon clear
12	23 27		30- 0	cloudy at times
13	17 28		29-15	clear
14	17 31		29-14	mostly clear
15	25 29		29-11	mostly clear, high wind
16	23 24		28-18	cloudy, high wind, light snow
17	27 29		28-13	cloudy, light snow or rain all the day
18	28 28		29- 3	snow almost the whole of the day
19	29 35		29- 8	cloudy, some rain
20	33 34		29-11	cloudy, some very light rain
21	29 31		29-15	cloudy, afternoon rain
22	32 33		29-16	cloudy, very foggy
23	28 31		30- 2	cloudy, afternoon light snow
24	30 33		29- 9	clear, evening cloudy, very light snow
25	30 31		30-12	cloudy
26	29 31		30-12	cloudy, afternoon very light rain
27	30 32		30-14	light snow in the night, day cloudy
28	29 36		30-12	mostly cloudy
29	41 44		30-10	cloudy, some very light rain, windy
30	43 46		30- 6	cloudy, very light sprinkling rain
31	41 43		29-19	cloudy, frequent light rain

The average degrees of Temperature, from observations made at eight o'clock in the morning, are 30-77 100ths; those of the corresponding month in the year 1811 were 35-51 100ths; in 1810, 38-32 100ths; in 1809, 37-94 100ths; in 1808, 33-10 100ths; in 1807, 31-55 100ths; in 1806, 44-44 100ths; in 1805, 37; and in 1804, 33-50 100ths.

The quantity of Rain fallen this month is equal to 48 100ths of an inch; that of the corresponding month in the year 1811, was 2 inches 15 100ths; in 1810, 5 inches 24 100ths; in 1809, 2 inches 63 100ths; in 1808, 1 inch 52 100ths; in 1807, 2 inches 5 100ths; in 1806, 6 inches 39 100ths; in 1805, 3 inches 77 100ths; and in 1804, 1 inch 45 100ths.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE for January, 1813. By W. CARY, Strand.

Height of Fahrenheit's Thermometer.					Height of Fahrenheit's Thermometer.						
Day of Month.	8 o'clock Morning.	Noon.	11 o'clock Night.	Barom. in. pts.	Weather in Dec. 1812.	Day of Month.	8 o'clock Morning.	Noon.	11 o'clock Night.	Barom. in. pts.	Weather in Jan. 1813.
Dec.	°	°	°			Dec.	°	°	°		
27	32	34	31	30, 47	cloudy	12	34	37	34	29, 60	foggy
28	30	36	36	, 45	cloudy	13	33	38	34	, 50	small rain
29	39	46	43	, 15	cloudy	14	34	37	33	, 62	cloudy
30	43	47	42	29, 90	fair	15	34	38	50	, 79	cloudy
31	42	45	42	, 81	small rain	16	30	43	34	, 90	fair
J. 1	40	46	40	, 83	cloudy	17	33	37	32	30, 15	cloudy
2	42	47	42	, 99	cloudy	18	29	34	32	, 04	cloudy
3	39	42	39	30, 26	fair	19	32	33	32	, 08	sleet
4	40	43	38	, 12	cloudy	20	31	34	30	, 17	cloudy
5	38	42	40	, 01	cloudy	21	32	35	33	, 24	cloudy
6	40	48	40	29, 70	wind and rain	22	31	33	32	, 39	cloudy
7	41	46	42	, 60	small rain	23	26	33	33	, 19	cloudy
8	47	50	36	, 55	fair	24	30	34	29	, 30	cloudy
9	34	41	35	, 70	fair	25	28	35	33	, 40	foggy
10	33	38	32	, 90	fair	26	34	38	34	, 6	cloudy
11	33	36	33	, 86	sleet and rain						

THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE,

For JANUARY, 1813.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 15.

SEEING a Letter in your Magazine for December 1812, signed "N.S." with a conjecture respecting the Author of *Junius*, namely, that it was William Earl of Shelburne, afterwards first Marquis of Lansdowne,—I desire to give some reasons which militate against that conjecture.

I grant that there are some circumstances in its favour: that he was certainly a man of superior talents, as well as knowledge and information; and that he was well acquainted with public men and the public measures which were transacting within the ten years when Junius wrote, namely from 1762 to 1772 inclusive; that he was also, according to Mr. Park's opinion, quoted by you, an orator, a liberal patron of the arts, and a most amiable man in private life; that he had an accurate knowledge of the history and constitution of his own, and of the state of other countries; and that he was a profound politician. I believe also, that he was a sincere lover of his Country; friendly to Ireland, in which he had a large property as well as in England; and very hostile also to every species of oppression either in public or private life. Nor do I think it can give the least offence to the friends of that illustrious Nobleman, by endeavouring to place on his brow a sprig of that laurel which the ablest writer of the age might have proudly worn.

I admit too, that Lord S. was, from the first to the latest period of his life, a man of great ambition; and that he got the best information, both at home and abroad, of what was passing in the world. I admit also, that it is not inconsistent with the opinion of his being the Author, that his name might have been used in such terms as could not have been by him, *unless for the purpose of setting suspicion at rest*,—an observation which applies equally to

Lord George Sackville, and to any other of the numerous persons who are conjectured to be the Author.

I know that, notwithstanding the great merit of that Nobleman in public life, and the great services that he has rendered to the State, not only by his liberal endeavours on many occasions to serve his Country, but by many of his actions, particularly by effecting a Peace in the Autumn of 1782 both with France and with the United States of America, at a time when this Country was in the greatest difficulties, and in a great dilemma, owing to the violence of parties having in the Spring of that year tied up the hands of the Sovereign, and consequently of the Country, from carrying on an *offensive* war with America, so that it was impossible to proceed with the war except under the greatest disadvantage;—I am aware that, notwithstanding this eminent service, which produced the famous Coalition between two great Statesmen, who had for ten years never agreed upon any thing before, the Noble Lord has been ever since loaded with the most unmerited calumny by the numerous partizans of those two great men, who thus made him a sacrifice. I also know that, from a certain too great forwardness of manner, and precocity of discourse, a great degree of insincerity and duplicity has been imputed to him; whereas those who have known him well bear ample testimony to his many distinguished virtues.

The principal idea of "N. S." in attributing the "Letters of Junius" to the Earl of Shelburne, is from a comparison of the *fac-simile* letters published by Mr. Woodfall, with a short note from his Lordship, in which, he says, there are some shades of resemblance. This alone, he confesses, would be an insufficient ground for the supposition he has adopted. In 1763, he was sworn of the Privy Council,

Council, at the age of 26, and made First Lord of Trade. In July 1766, he was appointed Secretary of State in the Southern Department, and resigned with Lord Chatham in Oct. 1768.

It is well known, that the Author of Junius assumed that name long before he wrote in the "Public Advertiser" under that title, which was in January 1769. He had written to Mr. Woodfall under different signatures since April 1767, and probably had written in other Newspapers previous to that time.—It has been seen that Lord S. had been in several high situations since the year 1763, besides having been Aide-de-camp to his Majesty in 1760; and, having been an M. P. before, he succeeded his father as Lord Wycombe and Earl of Shelburne in May 1761. Being appointed Secretary of State in July 1766, with the Earl of Chatham Lord Privy Seal, the Duke of Grafton First Lord of the Treasury, and Lord Camden Chancellor;—it is a strong proof of their opinion of his principles as well as his abilities, and very unlikely he should so soon have taken up his pen to decry them individually and collectively; in which latter capacity he himself was involved. Besides, Lord S. was a man of an immense property both in England and Ireland; and it is not likely he should descend to the situation of an anonymous scribbler in a Newspaper; being a man too of a very high mind, as well as of great personal spirit and courage, as he evinced upon more than one occasion. That his abilities were not unequal to this work, if he had condescended to have engaged in it, must be allowed; but it was by no means compatible with the dignity of his character.

With regard to the similarity of hands, it is certainly a very fallacious ground; I myself having seen many score letters of that Nobleman to different persons, and all very different from any of the *fac-similes* given by Mr. Woodfall.

I wish, Mr. Urban, I could give assistance, in my conjectures concerning this anonymous Writer; though I by no means agree with him in all his positions. He certainly must have had very authentic as well as minute information of every thing going on in the political world; but I do not

think he is one of the first-rate characters he is supposed to be, as Lord George Sackville, Mr. Burke, &c.; though he might have had information from many or all of them at different times, and may have been connected with some of them in politics.

I ought to apologize for this long Epistle; and therefore will subscribe myself for the present, JUNIUS.

Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 7.

YOU well know the great moralist Dr. Johnson's opinion both of Junius, and of the tendency of his writings; and you well recollect that he offered him battle; yet, whatever was his reason, Junius never returned to the field, but laid down his arms.

His celebrated Letters have run through many editions; the last of which, by Mr. Woodfall, you have with great impartiality reviewed; and have likewise admitted in the front of your Magazine for December, an interesting Letter relative to the supposed Author.

Really, Mr. Urban, I could not help imagining I saw your old acquaintance the Doctor with your book close to his eye, exclaiming, "What! has *Sylvanus* quite forgotten me? that Junius engrosses so many pages of his Miscellany.—Ah! he appears again, and on my *old ground* too, now I no more can meet him!"

G. W. L.

Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 19.

FROM the singular coincidence of the two following Letters (the first of which has appeared in "The Morning Herald," and the other in "The Morning Post," Jan. 15,) with that in your last Volume, p. *499, (which neither of the Writers appears to have seen) you will perhaps think them worth transcribing. It will be candid, at the same time, to insert the subsequent letter of refutation.

Yours, &c. INVESTIGATOR.

1. "JUNIUS.—It is said, that the Author of the celebrated Letters under this signature has been positively ascertained; and that they were written by the Marquis of Lansdowne, father of the present Nobleman who bears that title. The secret, it appears, was not discovered by its connexion with any political affairs; but by some verses in the possession of a Lady, who had a copy of them before they

they were transmitted to the Printer for publication, and the hand-writing of the Marquis is ascertained without the possibility of a doubt. It is well known, that the Marquis was long suspected of being the Author; and it is by no means improbable that he wrote the letters in conjunction with his intimate friends Dunning and Colonel Barre, the one supplying the legal knowledge, and the other many of the bitter sarcasms which were spread through them, and which are quite in the manner of the Colonel, who also probably furnished the military information. Junius's declaration, that he was the sole depository of his own secret, is entitled to little confidence; as he could fully rely on the fidelity of such associates, particularly as they were as much interested in the concealment as himself."

2. "On the leaf preceding the title-page of a very curious old book which lately came into my possession, the following memorandum is written; which, if true, discloses a secret that has long held the literary world in suspense:

"The Letters commonly called *Junius*, which have made so much noise in the world, were the production of Malagrida, well known in the political circles as the *Jesuit*, whose principles and abilities exactly qualified him, morally and literally, for such performances. This intriguing Statesman was but young when he set out on this career; and his *petty* name corresponded with the signature which he assumed. (Signed) J."

"There are many of your Readers, who will perfectly understand this designation; which, if correct, and I have every reason to believe it to be so, renders it highly probable, that the Author, while living, *durst* never disclose his name. CENTINEL."

"*Lincoln's Inn, Jan. 18.*

3. "For a decisive refutation of the conjecture contained in your Paper of this day, as well as in the last month's Gentleman's Magazine, that the Earl of Shelburne (designated by the nick-name of *Malagrida*) was the Author of Junius's Letters, it would be quite enough to read the character given of that Nobleman by Junius, in one of his best letters, under the signature of *Atticus**, in vol. III. p. 173, of Woodfall's new edition. But, in addition to this, it may be truly observed, that his Lordship's style, either of public speaking or of writing,

bore no resemblance to that of Junius; and lastly, that their hand-writings were equally dissimilar. A. P. R."

Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 16.

WHEN we consider the general opulence of the inhabitants of this truly fortunate Country,—fortunate in escaping the horrors of Revolution and foreign invasion, the scourge of three-fourths of the world;—it is very natural to wish that England might be equally distinguished for the cultivation of the *Fine Arts*, as it is for all the useful and necessary comforts of life, for manufactures, commerce, and arms.

The Readers of your widely-circulated pages must observe with pleasure, that a new æra has occurred in regard to one part of the subject now under consideration. The general taste which has prevailed of late years for travelling and exploring the rich scenes presented to our view in all parts of the Empire, in the ruins of religious houses and castles, frequently situated in places abounding with all the luxuriance of rocks, mountains, wood, and water, has insensibly formed numerous artists, amateurs, and admirers of topographical delineations; whose ideas being ardently directed to the subject, a correctness of judgment was generated, which led to a power of discriminating on the merits of each effort of the pencil and graver offered to public view; and the result is, that even mediocrity will not satisfy now, where error and coarseness formerly met with approbation. This may be exemplified by referring to any tour, county history, or work of that nature, published previous to the year 1760, and comparing the miserable bird's eye views (composed of objects little less ludicrous in their arrangement of perspective than Hogarth's plate to illustrate such errors) engraved in a raw style almost without shading, and perfectly innocent of every graphic charm, with the rich and correct engravings of recent time, abounding with touches that evidently spring from the same source whence originate the noblest traits of the pencil.

It is sufficient for the present purpose, to draw the attention to these facts, and the very numerous engravings

* On this part of the transaction, see vol. LXXXII. p. 500.—EDIT.

ings of cathedrals and religious and castellated ruins, to shew the truth of the preceding remarks; and it will incontestably prove, that a taste for the Arts has arisen, which, if properly encouraged, will in due time spread into all the ramifications of which they are susceptible; and here we may refer for an example to the grand and expensive engravings of public events so greatly multiplied within the last thirty years, which do honour to England, the artists, and the liberality of their purchasers.

A rich source still remains for the universal improvement of our knowledge of the Fine Arts, in the treasures we possess of many of the finest works of the antient masters, honourably procured by purchase from their original possessors, and now forming different and most valuable collections in the houses of the noble and the opulent. The Italians long since offered us an inviting example, by perpetuating their best pictures with the graver; and the French deserve honourable mention for their graphic copies of various cabinets in their own country; nor must it be forgotten, that the English have made solitary attempts in this way, and of great excellence, but want of encouragement from the publick paralyzed their efforts.

It cannot but be acknowledged, that no more certain way is practicable to improve the judgment in drawing and colouring, than by a minute and critical examination of the Works of the celebrated Continental Painters, whose labours are an aggregate of all that is excellent in art, or attainable by man. That examination being in a great measure necessarily denied to the publick at large, it was highly desirable that some measure should be resorted to in order to obviate this difficulty; and fortunately for the future hopes of the artist and his admirers, and of the country, a liberal spirit of enterprise has suggested, and in part accomplished, a plan, by which numbers of the community will be supplied with close and accurate copies in engraving of all that is estimable in this way in England.

Had the patronage afforded to the undertaking alluded to been less brilliant and imposing, it would have been no great proof of despondency

to have feared an abrupt termination of the labours of the artists employed; but when the King, Queen, and six other members of the Royal Family, and Ferdinand the Fourth of Sicily, appear, with a long list of the noble and affluent, as patrons and subscribers, it is only reasonable to look forward to the completion of the design. Longman and Co. Booksellers, White and Cochrane, Cadell and Davies, and P. W. Tomkins, are the Publishers. W. Y. Ottley, esq. F. S. A. conducts the series from the Marquis of Stafford's collection, and remarks on each picture, which he arranges according to schools, and in chronological order. And thus the generous and patriotic spirit of the Marquis enables the proprietors to offer the publick the contents of his superb gallery, under the title of "*The British Gallery of Pictures. First Series.*"

The second Series consists of Engravings of the finest Paintings of the old Masters, selected from the most admired productions of Raffaello, Giulio Romano, Andrea del Sarto, Correggio, Parmigiano, Baroccio, Tiziano, Giorgione, Annibale Caracci, Dominichino, Guido, Salvator Rosa, Reubens, Poussin, Claude Lorraine, Teniers, Ostade, Rembrandt, Gherard Dow, Paul Potter, Cuyt, &c.; and those are derived from various collections of Noblemen and Gentlemen, whose public spirit keeping pace with that of the Noble Marquis just named, has permitted copies of them to be taken. This Series is accompanied with descriptions historical and critical by Henry Tresham, esq. R. A.; the executive part under the management of Mr. Tomkins, Historical Engraver to Her Majesty. Those impressions which are coloured are done from the copies in a manner so truly rich, faithful, and original, that they are as nearly equal to the picture as it is possible the different branches of the Arts employed will permit; and the amateur will undoubtedly appreciate them accordingly.

As it is incumbent upon each individual of the State to promote, as far as in him lies, the honour of the Country, a description of this splendid National Undertaking must prove acceptable to those who have not yet seen it, from one who is in no manner known to the persons employed in its execution.

execution. It is dedicated to the King as Patron, the Prince of Wales Vice-Patron, the Earl of Dartmouth President, and the rest of the Noblemen and Gentlemen Governors of the British Institution for promoting the Fine Arts in the United Kingdom; and the dedication (with the rest of the letter-press beautifully printed) is composed in the following elegant terms:

“The utility of cultivating the arts of elegance, the delight they afford the human mind, the importance they maintain in the empire of commerce, the splendour they diffuse round a throne dignified by the protection of genius and the support of virtue, were considerations which impelled us to solicit the privilege of laying at our Sovereign’s feet *The British Gallery of Pictures*; a work commenced under the Royal patronage, and with permission humbly dedicated to your Majesty, &c.”

The task assumed by the undertakers is almost Herculean, but by no means unattainable, as is confirmed by the vast works recently achieved both in Literature and the Arts by persons less favourably situated in respect to patronage. Well, indeed, however, may the task be termed Herculean, which is to comprise a Series of descriptive Catalogues of the Picture-Galleries of these Kingdoms, illustrated by small engravings of the principal Pictures contained in them. The Pictures destined to compose one plate are selected from the same school, and from the same collection; and that no obstacle might arise to disconcert this part of their plan by the intervention of small collections and perplexing subdivisions, the Conductor has divided the Italian Painters into two great classes, under the denomination of the Schools of Upper and of Lower Italy.

As the Schools of Lower Italy revived the Art of Painting, that class is assigned the first place in the Catalogue, including the Works of the Painters of Florence, Siena, and every other part of Tuscany, with those of Rome and Naples. The almost inseparable connexion of these Schools makes the arrangement the more appropriate. The Schools of Bologna, Parma, Milan, Genoa, and Venice, and all the States North of Tuscany, compose the Second Class of Upper

Italy. The Schools of Germany, Switzerland, Flanders, and Holland, form the Third Class of the Catalogue. The Works of the Spanish Painters will be the Fourth; the Fifth the French; and the Sixth will contain a selection of the best Works of the British School.

And now, Mr. Urban, with your permission this subject shall be resumed and concluded in your next Number.

A TRAVELLER.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 14.

THE underwritten was copied some years ago from a brass plate upon a very old tomb in St. Peter’s Church-yard, Dorchester. Some of the verses seem to have been imitated by Pope, and may perhaps be not unworthy a place in your Magazine.

“D. I. O. M.

Maria Gollop,
uxor D. Johannis Gollop, filia D. Philippo Stanly,

hujus Dorcestriæ Mercatorum,
annos 29 nata, octenis nupta,
Strodæ in Netherbury, amœnæ sedis
Gollopensia,

raptim mortua Mæi 25, 1687,
eodemque mensis die sepulta quo mari-
tata,

tribus filiis unâ hic sepultis
totidemque apud vivos feliciter relictis,
mortalitatis exuvias lætè deponens,
lætioresque resurrectionem piētissimè
expectans,

Flebilis hic recubat fati sub tegmine:
nunquam

Fecerat heu! mœstos ni tumulata
suos.

Urbanæ pietatis erat mentisque capacis,
Innocisque placens moribus, uxor
amans;

Sacra dies thalamo fuerat, quæ sacra
sepulchro;

Digna viro vixit, mortua digna Deo.”

Yours, &c.

J. K. M.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 26.

FINDING that Mr. Nelson has left untouched the following subject, I earnestly request from some of your numerous Readers, who are friendly and well disposed to the prosperity and success of our Church Establishment, their information upon a subject of some novelty in the order of our ecclesiastical discipline, where there is evidently a clashing of interest.

The simple question which I have to propose is, in what manner, as a

son of the Church, and a liege subject of the State, I may divide the twenty-four hours on the 24th day of February next; so that I may religiously observe the solemn Fast of that day, religiously also observe the Festival of St. Matthew, and rejoice with loyal joy upon the commemoration of the Birth-day of the Duke of Cambridge.

Yours, &c. ECCLESIAE PERSONA.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 12.

IF that excellent Scholar and elegant Draftsman the Rev. Michael Tyson, B. D. who was presented in 1778 to the Rectory of *Lamborn* in Essex, and died in 1780, has any Epitaph in that Church, the communication of it, through the very useful medium of your Magazine, will be esteemed a singular favour.

Allow me also to ask for any biographical particulars of Robert

Houblyn, esq. the Collector of a famous Library sold a few years ago by Leigh and Sotheby.

Yours, &c. CARADOC.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 14.

CAN any of your numerous Correspondents favour me with the Christian name and place of residence of *Burton**, father to *George Burton*, esq. who married — *Wright* of *Tissington*, co. Derby, between 1650 and 1660? It is supposed that the latter resided some years at *Bakewell*.

Yours, &c. B. B.

* Probably *George Burton*, a younger brother of *William* the Historian, and of *Robert*, author of "The Anatomy of Melancholy." He was lord of a moiety of the manor of *Bedworth*, in the parish of *Higham*, co. *Leicester*, and died in 1642, æt. 63. See the History of that County, IV. 635.—EDIT.

A METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, kept at CLAYTON, in Hackney.
From Jan. 1st to 21st, 1813.

Day of Month.	Thermometer.		Barometer.		Hyg.	Evap. 100ths of inch.	Rain. 100ths of inch.	Wind.
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.				
Jan. 1	45	40	30.05	29.82		—	—	S.
2	44	35	30.21	30.15	1.58	—	—	S.
3	40	33	30.55	30.30	1.54	—	—	S.
4	40	35	30.55	30.22	1.30	—	—	S.
5	41	41	30.20	30.05	1.50	—	—	S.
6	52	41	29.55	29.75	1.70	—	—	S. W.
7	45	45	29.75	29.52	1.55	10	—	S.
8	46	28	29.52	29.35	1.40	—	—	S. W.
9	40	29		29.72		—	—	W.—N. E.
10	38	23	29.95			—	—	N. E.
11	37	29	29.80	29.70	1.30	—	—	S.
12	35	30	29.80	29.75		—	—	S.—S. E.
13	35	32	29.65	29.55		—	—	S.—S. E.
14	38	52	29.71	29.61		—	—	S. E.—E.—N.
15	40	27	29.95	29.82	1.30	—	—	S. E.
16	41	33	30.10	29.95		—	—	N. E.
17	34	26	30.25			—	—	S. E.
18	32	29	30.12	30.04		—	—	S. E.
19	31	29	30.30	30.10	1.30	—	—	S. E.
20	33	30	30.35	30.30	1.30	—	—	E.
21	32	30	30.45	30.35		20	—	E.

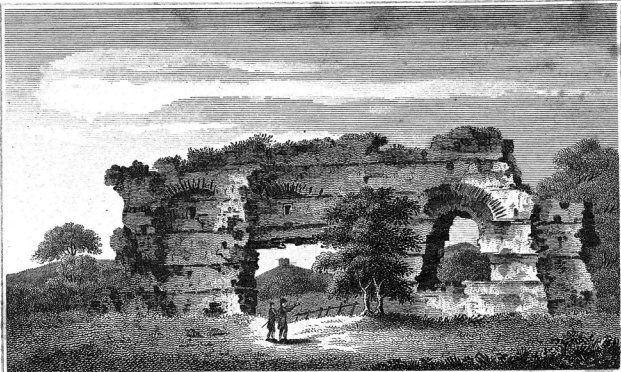
OBSERVATIONS.

Jan. 1. Clouded and foggy. 2. Foggy and cloudy; some large indistinct features of *Cirrocumulus* early. 3. Thick fog in the morning. 4. Cloudy and foggy. 5. Cloudy and foggy; the Barometer fell at night, which became warmer with S. W. wind, so that the minimum of the Thermometer happened 11 P. M. and the heat increased through the night. 6. Cloudy and misty, with wind from the S. W. 7. Foggy and calm, windy and rain by night. 8. Foggy morning; fair day. 9. White frost, followed by rain. At night, about 7 o'clock, a *Lunar Halo*. 10. Clear frosty day. 11. Frosty and cloudy. 12. Cloudy and snow. 13. Some rain in the middle of day. 14. Cloudy. 15, 16, and 17. Cold and snowy. 18. Cloudy and snow. 19. Cold and cloudy. 20. Cold East Wind*. 21. Cold windy day, and cloudy; a little snow by night.

Clayton. 22d Jan. 1813.

THOMAS FORSTER.

* The diurnal range of the Thermometer has been very slow for several days.



D. Parker delin. Sep. 1831.

J. Bassett sculp.

To WILLIAM HUTTON Esq. F.A.S. whose Historical & Topographical Works have tended so much to illustrate our National Antiquities, this View of the ROMAN WALL at Wroxeter, com. Salop. is respectfully inscribed by D. Parker

Mr. URBAN, *Shrewsbury, Oct. 14.*
HAVING often been solicited by my antiquarian friends to make a drawing of the Roman Wall at Wroxeter, co. Salop, I have at last complied with their requests; and I do not know a more eligible repository for it than Mr. Urban's. This very curious remain of antiquity is situated in the Hundred of Bradford South, about five miles South East of Shrewsbury. The wall represented is 24½ yards long, and about 7½ yards high. The drawing shews the South side of the wall; the North side has a smoother surface, with rows or strata of Roman brick; under the second, fourth, and sixth strata of brick are holes, as for scaffolds. Roman coins are often ploughed up, chiefly of the lower empire, and are usually called *Dindars*, probably a corruption of *Denarii*. Several urns have been discovered three or four feet below the surface; also tessellated pavements, and sepulchral stones, inscribed, two of which are preserved in the library at the Free-schools in Shrewsbury, and another since discovered is placed against the vicarage house for the inspection of the curious. As I anticipate a hope that the venerable Antiquary to whom I have inscribed the view, will visit this spot, and favour the publick with the result of his observations on this once famous city, which has never yet been properly noticed; I shall withhold any further observations for the present. Where can be found a person more qualified for such investigation, than he who walked 601 miles to ascertain the boundary of the Wall which once divided England and Scotland? Yours, &c. D. PARKES.

Mr. URBAN, *Bedford, Dec. 16.*
IN the Commentators to whom students in Divinity are usually referred for the history of the Canon of Scripture, no mention, that I recollect, is made of any version of the Psalms containing a greater number than one hundred and fifty. The Bishop of Lincoln (Tomline), in his Elements of Theology, vol. I. p. 100, speaking of the Book of Psalms, says, "The Hebrew copies, and the Septuagint Version of this book, contain the same number of Psalms: only the Septuagint Translators have, for some
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reason which does not appear, thrown the 9th and 10th into one, as also the 114th and 115th; and have divided the 116th and 147th each into two." His Lordship does not make the least allusion to an extra Psalm, which is in my copy of the Septuagint version, Cantabr. 1665. The title to that Psalm describes it, as "*written by David's own hand, on conquering Goliath in single combat*;" but it adds that this Psalm is *εξωθεν τῷ αριθμῷ*, meaning, I suppose, beyond the canonical number of 150.

As this Psalm is not to be found in our translation of the Bible, nor in the Psalter of our Liturgy, I presume it is generally deemed apocryphal. To those of your Readers who have not an opportunity of reading it in the version of the LXX, I send the following attempt at a literal translation, having only ventured to supply a supposed ellipsis (*of of me and to me*) in the third verse:

PSALM CLI.

"Written by David's own hand, when he had fought with Goliath in single combat."

1. I was * the least among my brethren, and the youngest in my father's house: I was the shepherd of my father's flock.

2. My hands formed instruments of musick; and my fingers played on the psaltery.

3. And who shall speak (of me) unto my Lord? The Lord himself, he hearkeneth (unto me).

4. He sent forth his messenger, and took me away from my father's flock: and he anointed me with the oil of his unction.

5. My brothers were tall and beautiful: but my Lord delighted not in them.

6. I went out to meet the Alien: and he cursed me by his idols.

7. But I having drawn out his sword, cut off his head: and I took away the reproach from the sons of Israel.

To Readers of the Bible I need not point out the coincidence of each verse in this Psalm with the History of David. The word *ὑψιστος*, in the beginning of the second verse, is the same that is used in Ps. cl. 4, and in Amos vi. 5.; and the Prophet, probably alluding to this Psalm, says:

* γ, I, μικρος, little, small.

“Ye who invent to yourselves instruments of musick (*ὄργανα*) like David.”

On referring to Calmet's Dictionary, since writing the above, I find that he says this 151st Psalm is not to be found either in the Hebrew, the Chaldee, or the Vulgate; but that it is in the Syriac, in most of the Greek versions, in the Arabic, in the Anglo-Saxon, and in the Greek Liturgies. Calmet adds, that he has given a Latin and a French translation of it at the end of his Commentary on the Psalms: as I do not possess that Commentary, I wish some of your Readers would send a copy of those translations for insertion in your Magazine; as I have some doubts as to the exact meaning of the third verse.

3. Καὶ τις ἀναγγελεῖ τῷ Κυρίῳ μὴ;
Αὐτὸς Κύριος, αὐτὸς ἠσάκεν.

3. And who shall announce to my Lord? The Lord himself, he hearkeneth.

Yours, &c. ΦΙΛΗΠΠΙΟΣ.

Mr. URBAN, Bedford, Dec. 21.

IN looking over a French Prayer-Book, printed at St. Brieuc in 1798, for the use of Roman Catholics, I was struck by the translation of the Lord's Prayer contained in it; and I would beg the favour of some of your Readers who are well versed in Hellenistick Greek to inform me, whether the word *Βασιλεία* is not better rendered, as they have done, by the word *Règne* (reign, or government), than it would have been by *Royaume*, (kingdom):—whether *ἄρτος ἐπιβίσιος* is better translated there, *le pain dont nous avons besoin chaque jour*, than it would have been by *pain quotidien*, daily bread:—and whether *μὴ ὑποσχεθῆς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμὸν*, will admit the sense there given, *ne nous laissez point succomber à la tentation*; suffer us not to yield to temptation.

I also beg leave to point out an expression in our Prayer-Book, taken from the Romish Liturgy: “*Domine, non secundum peccata nostra facias nobis, neque secundum iniquitates nostras retribuas nobis*; where all ambiguity would have been avoided by translating literally, *deul not with us according to our sins, &c.* instead of *deal not with us after our sins.*

In the Litany “*ne memineris iniquitatum nostrarum antiquarum*,” our sins of old, our former sins, is most unaccountably rendered, the sins of our Fore-fathers; the Compilers of our Liturgy seem to have read the passage *nostrarum antiquorum*.

In the Nicene Creed, the original has “*et unam sanctam, Catholicam, et Apostolicam Ecclesiam*,” *je crois une Eglise sainte, Catholique, et Apostolique*. Our Translators omit the word *holy*, and supply the ellipsis by “*I believe in*,” but I think it would have been better left unsupplied, as believing *in* one Catholic Church admits a sense not intended; that of confiding in the infallibility of the Church. The manner in which the French translation supplies this ellipsis is not liable to this objection: “*Je crois une Eglise*,” &c. meaning only, “*I believe in the existence of*,” &c.

In the 95th, or Invitatory Psalm, the 10th verse in the Vulgate is: “*Quadraginta annos proximus fui generationi huic*,” *I was near*, alluding to the Jehovah-Angel accompanying the Israelites in the wilderness. This is a material difference from the Hebrew and Septuagint: “*Forty years was I grieved with.*”

In the Te Deum of St. Ambrose, it would, perhaps, have been better also to have translated literally, “*Tu, devicto Mortis aculeo*,” the sting of Death, rather than the sharpness of death. It is a quotation from St. Paul, speaking of our Saviour's victory over Sin, the sting of Death.

In examining the Liturgies of the Greek Church, from whence a great part of ours is taken, a strong proof occurs of the spuriousness of the disputed passage in 1 John, v. 7, 8. Towards the end of the *Μυστικὴ θεωρία*, composed by Germanos, Patriarch of Constantinople, about the Eighth Century, and forming part of the Greek Ritual; when he speaks of the custom of using *hot water* in the mixed elements of their Eucharist, as representing the blood and water flowing from our Saviour's side at his Crucifixion, he quotes the three witnesses of St. John in these words: *τρεῖς ὁμοίαι μαρτυροῦντες, τὸ Πνεῦμα, τὸ ὕδωρ, καὶ τὸ αἷμα, καὶ οἱ τρεῖς ἓς τὸ ἓ ἑνί.* thus clearly proving, that the Patriarch of Constantinople, a firm believer in the Trinity, did not admit

the passage about the heavenly witnesses into his Canon of Scripture; nor is it even now to be found in the authorised copies of the Eastern Church. My copy of the Greek Liturgy is printed at Rome, anno 1526.

Yours, &c. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΣ.

Mr. URBAN, Dec. 31.

YOUR work affords in many places considerable help towards a better Translation of the Bible; and it would seem that our own alteration of language in a lapse of centuries, with an acquired knowledge of Oriental customs, demands one loud enough.

The 8th v. 3d c. of Zephaniah is but weakly rendered into English, and no wonder; the venerable scholars employed must have been inspired in those days, to forestall elucidation by Missionaries and Travellers. In a Hebrew Primer sold by a classical Dealer, a change of words has been ventured on by the Compiler; with what greater perspicuity, your Readers must be left to judge.

The Bible can be compared with this Primer, which gives us,

“Therefore wait ye for me, sayth Jehovah, until the day of my rising to the prey: for my determination (is) to gather the nations for my assembling the kingdoms to pour upon them my indignation, (even) all the fierceness of my anger:” &c. &c.

That portion of this verse following *anger* in both, as now translated, has no relation to this especial commination at all. The words might become a separate verse, or might be tagged to any other verse of the chapter with equal propriety.

In the East Indies, a district of many miles round is beat up for game and beasts of prey. These, at length, get enclosed within toils, and to such secure places the Prince with his courtiers goes to kill, &c. Now, customs in India reign invariable; what the grandsires did, is a rule for the living generation, and most probably ever will be for those to come.

I take occasion to call the command in this verse *The Original Royal Hunt*. Our Hebrew words literally explain the mode; *viz.*

“Therefore wait ye with me, sayth THE LORD, until that day I rise to the prey: for my determination (is) to collect multitudes, to gather me up the

kingdoms to pour upon them mine indignation, (even) my whole fierce wrath, as though in the fire of my jealousy all the earth was about to be devoured.”

This said Primer begins with various testimonies to enforce the study of Hebrew. Which (I pray) of the parties cited can have derived his knowledge in that tongue from the labour-in-vain hammering at a dead consonant? That mode, as here recommended, may be fairly likened to the false Religions of the world; in all which whatever is found good or praiseworthy had been picked up from true believers; but how, or where, the idolaters never could understand. Great scholars too of quick parts (this Compiler may be one) make the very worst elementary teachers; being accustomed latterly to long strides, their own original creeping steps from AB ab, to BY by, seem totally forgotten. Pupils are put by these Gentlemen to lessons themselves could never have mastered in such a way; for where do we read of any human being (I will except Adam, Moses, and perhaps his brother), taught languages by intuition, or means divine? Yours, &c. P.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 1.

YOUR Magazine has preserved so many valuable particulars of eminent scholars, that I flatter myself you will not refuse admission to Four Letters, of which I send you the originals, addressed to the famous Dr. Busby. Yours, &c. M. GREEN.

1. “SIR, *Homelacie*, June 27, 1663.

You are now engaged. The acceptance of the Cider in the wooden vessell, puts a necessitie upon you not to refuse these ten dozen of the same Apple in glass-bottles, which this bearer is to present you with. For, since I have just cause to feare that yours hath endured the same mishap which others have felt that I sent up at the same time, I would vindicate; and these bottles desire to be admitted to pleade for their kindred. And how can that generous and most eminent person, who yeelds himself to be the Guide of Life by seasoning the tender years of this Nation, give such an example as to refuse to receive the plea of an innocent thing, which desires to shew the failing comes not from viciousnes in nature,
but

but from some externall violence of cask, or carriage, or the like? Therefore wee knock boldly at your cellardoor, and request onely to bee heard, that is, to bee tasted. Accompanying it with the heartiest wishes that an obliged reall freinde can breath, and resting yours affectionately to serve you.

God bless my Grandsonne *, and reward you for him. J. SCUDAMORE."

2. Cùm sub tuo moderamine (Vir Reverende) tam diu bonis literis institutus, tanti viri sanctioribus curis summoque favore intimiùs fruebar, pudet, fateor, post tot exactos annos pro tantis beneficiis jam primùm gratias retribuere; timeremque ne ipsa gratiarum actio, cùm tam sera sit, indicium ingratitude videretur, nisi cognovissem tantum tuum esse erga tuos candorem, ut hinc colligeres potiùs non posse ingratum esse animum, qui beneficiorum quæ tot ab hinc annis contulisti, firmiter semper religiosèque retinet memoriam. Pateor olim in animo esse, semperque me ab illo favoris tui memori incitari, aliquid tibi meæ gratitudinis specimen offerre, minimeque in hoc distulsem tempus nisi tam ingentia tua in me merita sic deterruissent, ut putaverim me non omnino posse, nisi post diuturniorem in Academiâ moram felicioresque in studiis progressus, aliquid tibi offerre quod videatur illis aliquatenus dignum; et profectò conscius adhuc, quàm minimè possum hoc præstare, diuturniore silentio credo me ingratiè usurum, nisi tuis donis quæ nuper mihi misisti sic prioribus beneficiis accumulasti nova, ut eligerem potiùs tibi quocunque modo meam proderè tenuitatem, quàm pro his meam gratitudinem ulterius non agnoscere, ni, dum meæ tenuitati addam etiam ingratitude, duplici nomine fiam tuo favore indignus. Precor igitur ut hæc grati animi officia eadem quâ solitus eras in me tua conferre beneficia acciperes benignitate, quæ quanta sunt non aliundè cupio æstimari, nisi quatenus exprimunt meam gratitudinem, quæ qualis sit satis inde apparere potest, quòd eligerem potiùs per hæc, quàm indignus sum tanto tuo favore, apertè indicare, quàm post tot accepta beneficia non præstare. Sed cùm levia

hæc non possint exprimere, quanta tibi debeo, gratulor meæ fortunæ me a Decano munere dignum putari, in quo mihi data est occasio, etiam per industriam ulterius indicare, quanto in precio habeo tuum favorem, in quo, quid à nobis actum sit, quamvis à Reverendo viro cui has meas commisi literas possis plenius informari, nonnulla tamen immatura mea in illotantamina, primitiasque laboris tibi mitto, quæ, quamvis hoc legendi genus quatenus à Decano doctus tuis legibus prohibitum ulterius non exerceo, spero tamen ostendent me, si non præstitisse, saltem tentasse aliquid quod in aliorum utilitatem tuumque honorem conduxisse videatur. Hæc qualiacunque sunt tibi humiliter offero, quæ tamen prius fuere tua, spero que me per illa aliquatenus indicare quantum cupio per omnia grati animi officia videri semper esse tui favoris studiosissimus.

HUMPH. PRIDEAUX."

3. REV. SIR, *Wells, Aug. 28, 81.*

It is now a month since I came hither, to Wells; and, having taken some prospect of our Church affairs, I thought fitt to let you know how ready I am to execute any of your commands. I find all here in peace; were it not for one Dissenting Brother, who (I feare) will never be otherwise; and at the last Chapter (as they tell me) flew out, and declared he would never more come to their meeting. I am to try what I can do with him against our next Assembling at Michaelmas. The two junior Canons (Mr. Dutton and Mr. Sandys) will (I hope) prove usefull men in the Church.—Sir, you need not doubt of having right done you the next Audit, in respect to your former arrears, when the desperate debt was so unhandsomely assigned you for payment. As for what Dr. Fane owed you, his wife declares that she hath administered to the summe of many hundreds of pounds beyond what she needed, in paying severall debts more than she was bound to: One and twenty pounds (as I thinke I formerly told you) she acknowledgeth to be due to you, and hath given in to the Church a remnant of her Husband's bookes, in lieu of that summe; which (it seemes) the Canons thought best to lay hold of, whilst they were to be had. They are now layd aside in the Audit-house till

* James Scudamore, King's Scholar, 1661.

† Elected to Oxford, 1666.

till your pleasure be knowne concerning them: If they be worth that money, I thinke it is the utmost. If you please to have them prized and sold, the money shall be accounted to you. There are severall of them which are not in our Library; which if you please to have added to the Catalogue of your Beneficence, you will still enlarge the Churches obligations to you: The rest may either be exchanged for others which we want, or else sold, as you shall give order. This should have gone by Dr. Creighton, but his Majestyes sudden resolutions for Newmarket hath turned his course immediately that way. I perceive Dr. Holt is very slow in making up his accounts with you, but he saith he will do it speedily. He is now no lesse than 4 yeares behind in paying the Augmentation which our Church made to the Vicarage of Mudford; we summoned him lately about it, and he hath promised satisfaction; as he hath likewise to James Williams, to whom he hath not yet payd the 5*l*. you were pleased to appoint the last yeare for his paines in overseeing the reparations of your house. I thinke I did then, at the request of Dr. Creighton and other Canons, propose to you the entertaining of Mr. Greene for your Vicar, who is a man usefull in the Quire, poore, and having divers children. I am now desired to renew the same petition to you: You know, Sir, it is what the Charter requires of us all; and no man ever declined it, but Dr. Fane, toward his latter time, whose Nobility privileged him to do any thing that was ignoble.

I hope the next dividend (by helpe of Sir John Sydenham's fine, when it comes,) will give encouragement to all your charitable intentions; and if you designe any thing to be distributed to the poore, here is Mr. Hobs, an old poore vicar, whose wife now lyes at charge for the use of the Bath, desires me humbly to recommend his case to you. In whatsoever you please to command me, I am, Rev. Sir, your most faithfull and obedient servant,

RA. BATHURST."

4. "SIR, *Ch. Ch. Oxon, Jan. 13, 86.*

THE Common Prayer Bookes, and Explications of the Church Catechisme, which I bestowed as your gift on the children in St. Peter's

parish, according to your orders transmitted to me by Dr. Hickman, were acknowledged by their parents with such affectionate expressions of gratitude towards you, for that addition to your greater bounty, annually dispensed to your Lecturer on their behalfe and for their benefit; that I esteemed myself obliged bound to return theirs, together with my own most humble thanks to you, for the continuance of your generous charity to them, and most oblidging favours to myseffe. I have found so good effects of it on the children themselves, in an apparent forwardness, and ingenuous emulation who shall give the most perfect account of the Catechisme before the congregation, and in bringing their bookes with them to Church, and repeating distinctly the responses throughout the whole Divine Service, as emboldens me to sollicite your farther charity to be bestowed on Bibles, or what other good practicall bookes of Christianity you shall please particularly to appoint, for those who are more adult; and on Explications of the Church Catechisme and Common Prayer Bookes, as before, for the younger sort, who want them. If you shall be pleased by any hand to send me your commission for this purpose, I will faithfully and punctually observe your instructions. I will go on to do my best endeavour to establish that people in a sound beleife of the Articles of Christian Religion; and to prevail on them to shew the sincerity of their faith, by a sober, righteous, and godly conversation.

That God would be pleased long to continue you in health and prosperity, as a most eminent instrument of his glory, and great public good to this Church and kingdome; and hereafter reward your labors and charity with eternall happiness in the life to come, shall ever be the most hearty prayer of, Sir, your most faithfull, and most humble servant,

RICHARD OLD."

Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 5.

AS you have ascertained the Poetical Inscription on the Monument to Mrs. Mason, in Bristol Cathedral, and that also in Prose to the memory of Lady. Palmerston in the Church of Romsey, Hants; I willingly

sell on terms below all precedent; thus giving their Merchants a decided advantage over all competitors, if not ultimately the trade of the world. But, on the other hand, we are constrained to allow, an evil arises from these improvements, of the greatest magnitude, nearly commensurate with the benefits achieved; viz. the immediate distress and want of work for the labouring poor, without any prospect of alleviation; as all the advantage arises from dispensing with their services; in other words, by doing with twenty hands what used to employ an hundred, leaving the remaining eighty a dead weight on the community, to be maintained by the same manufacturers, under the denomination of parochial poor, instead of industrious workmen. From this circumstance we are led to deduce the following inference, that, however plausible and specious the machine system may appear in theory, its practical effects as to national prosperity, cannot be fully realized till some remedy is found for so dreadful and extensive an evil, an evil nurturing every bane to improvement, and undermining our fairest prospects.

Under these convictions, and animated by sincere affection to my country, I beg leave through the medium of your Miscellany, to suggest a few hints to those whose philanthropic zeal and public spirit, combined with political power, may fit them for maturing a plan at once to ameliorate the condition of the unemployed manufacturing poor, and to render that physical strength, which is at present useless, if not dangerous, subservient to the well-being and prosperity of the state.

Some of our first agriculturists are of opinion that the growth of corn in this country, of late years, has not been equal to the consumption; and also that the enclosure of lands on a large scale has been disadvantageous to individuals, however beneficial to the publick, from the insufficiency of private capital, where the returns must inevitably be slow, though eventually profitable and sure. It is therefore proposed, as a radical cure for one and all of these evils, to cultivate our WASTE LANDS, whether in the possession of the Crown, or otherwise (not as a private speculation, but

under the immediate direction and support of Government), by employing the superabundant population of the manufacturing districts, under similar regulations, and organized in the same way as foreign colonies, with only this difference, that in Settlements abroad, the whole expense must unavoidably fall on the Treasury; whereas in this case a great proportion might be raised from the parishes relieved, as with apprentices, distant paupers, &c. independent of the important advantage derived from the increased value of the land.

Thus might our poor be immediately employed, who otherwise, from idleness and wretchedness, may become the easy dupes of the factious and disaffected, the greatest quantity of land be brought into cultivation in the shortest possible time, when, from the unhappy state of the Continent, and our relations with America, no foreign supplies can be relied on; and our manufactories, gradually emancipated from the enormous burthen of parish rates, would alone present with renovated vigour the fair side of that picture we before alluded to, while the helpless poor would themselves be benefited under the existing laws in their behalf, in drawing their future support from cultivated land, instead of embarrassed trade. GERMANICUS.

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 12.

PERMIT me to offer to your acceptance a few observations suggested by different articles in your last month's Miscellany.

P. 503^a. You serve the publick by admitting into your publication the observations of E. P. respecting several foolish phrases which *fashionable Simpletons* are endeavouring to bring into use: permit me to mention, in continuation, the complaints that I every now and then hear Ladies making of themselves or others, that they are extremely *unwell*, or are very much *inconvenienced* by something or other.

P. 505. If your Correspondent T. V. will consult Abp. Newcome on the Minor Prophets, or other judicious Commentators, who will open their eyes, and judge for themselves without a blind and slavish attachment to authority, he will see great reason to believe that the last six chapters attributed

tributed to Zechariah were not written by that Prophet. If many parts of the Old Testament were written in verse, as they certainly were, and that versification were a guide to those who divided them into verses, how does this militate against the idea that they might be divided into verses and chapters in modern times?

P. 510. *Biographicus* may be assured that the Lady he speaks of has an undoubted right to quarter the arms of Compton, and to transmit them, though not those of Berkeley, to her heirs; inasmuch as, for want of male heirs, she is heiress of a branch of the Compton family. His observations about several new peerages are very just: but there is no greater absurdity in any of the new creations than to see persons created Peers of Ireland with titles taken from places in England; for instance, Auckland, Kensington, Teignmouth, Hood of Catherington, Rendlesham, Milford, &c. The sons of the younger sons of Dukes and Marquisses both in England and Scotland have the title of *Honourable* given them by courtesy, their fathers having been titular Lords. I do not conceive that either Scots or Irish Peers are privileged from arrest, *quatenus tales*, unless they be of the number of Representative Peers, or, in the latter case, Members of the House of Commons: they have no duty to perform in Parliament which would be prevented by their being arrested. Surely your "Occasional Correspondent" charges Mr. Archdall, the Continuator of Lodge, with impropriety, without reason: if Richard Jones were third Viscount (and only Earl) of Ranelagh, surely Charles Jones, his next successor, at what time soever he succeeded to the title, could be no other than fourth Viscount.—For "William Baker, Member for Staffordshire," read "late Member for Hertfordshire."

P. 512. There is some mistake in the bill for curing the broken head: either the Surgeon charged for his servant 2s. or else the whole amount of the bill is but 10s. 6d.

P. 514. The pious and just "Considerations on the custom of Visiting on Sundays" were first published in 1771, as an Appendix to "Short Meditations on select Portions of Scripture, designed to assist the serious Christian in the improvement of the

Lord's-day and other seasons of devotion and leisure, by Daniel Turner, A. M." who, I believe, was a Baptist Minister at Abingdon in Berkshire, and died some years since. In his preface the author says that "most of them are the substance and chief branches, (or, in fashionable language, the skeletons) of sermons preached from the several texts at the respective heads of them;" and at the end of it he adds, that these "Considerations were communicated to him by a particular friend, from a very pious and worthy Clergyman of the Established Church*, with a desire that they might be published with the *Meditations*, as particularly agreeable to the design of them." The whole of the first paragraph, as far as the *Qu.* is printed in Italicks, as being introductory to the rest: and at the word 'Injunction,' about the middle of p. 515. col. i. is inserted the following note:

"The merciful and benevolent Creator intended the Sabbath as a day of rest for the *Cattle*, as well as for *Men*: and it is a degree of cruelty, as well as a breach of the divine Commandment, to use our *Cattle* on Sundays, except in cases of absolute necessity. And that we may not deceive ourselves by calling those cases of necessity which are not so, let every one when he is going to use his *cattle* on a Sunday, ask himself, as in the presence of God, whether he really think it is a case of such necessity as will justify his doing it at the day of judgement."

P. 557. b, line 10. For five, read six.

Will any of your intelligent Correspondents, Mr. Urban, do me the honour to inform me, what Baronet, existing in 1683, bore for his arms, Ermine, a Lion rampant, and Canton, Sable, with the arms of Ulster in an Inescutcheon on the body of the Lion? The gentleman may very probably have been connected with Hertfordshire, or one of the adjacent counties. J. B.

Errata in Vol. LXXXII. Part ii.

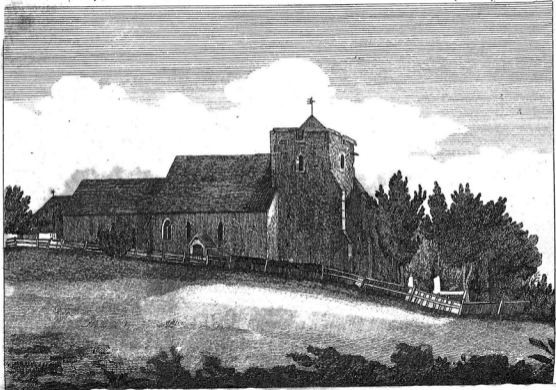
Page 321, a. line 1, for "place" read "places."—line 6, for "man" read "men."

Page 327, a, line 43, for "1 Sam. xii. 31," read "2 Sam. xii. 31."

Page 549, b, line 25, for "dependants" read "descendants."

* See p. 20.

Mr.



Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 1.

WITH this you will receive a View of the very ancient Church of St. Martin's, Canterbury (*see Plate II.*), supposed by Mr. Cozens (in his "Tour through the Isle of Thanet, and some other Parts of East Kent,") to be one of the first Churches erected for the worship of the Almighty under the Christian dispensation in this island. It is asserted, and seemingly with good foundation, that it was built by the Roman soldiers in the second century, about the year 180; and that the present is the building then erected, no one can doubt who is conversant either in the materials or the simplicity of the buildings of that early age. The walls seem originally to have been all of Roman brick, particularly the chancel; this, and a single short aisle, and a low square tower, form the whole structure. It is still kept in decent repair, and contains a font and monument worthy the eye of the curious. The font stands in the middle of the aisle, opposite the North door, and consists of a cylindrical stone of near two feet six inches high, and as much in diameter; it is but a shell, so that the basin is sufficiently large to dip a child. The outside is embellished with four series of ornaments: the lower is a simple scroll; the next, a kind of hieroglyphical true-lovers' knot; the third, small Saxon arches, intersecting each other; the upper, a kind of facing in semicircles inverted, intersecting one another: all the ornaments are very small, and much enriched; so that it would be impossible to do justice to it, except by a drawing on a very large scale*. By the arches, it seems of Saxon architecture. In the tower are three bells. On the first there is no inscription; second, "JOHN PALMAR MADE ME 1641. A. B.;" third, "Ora pro nobis, Santa Katerina."

In the chancel is a handsome monument to the memory of John Finch Lord Finch of Fordwich, created 1640, with a long Latin inscription, which

* This curious font was well engraved by F. Perry in 1760; and is copied in a small scale in Hasted's Kent, vol. IV. Another small view of it may be found in Duncombe's Kent, No. XXX. of Bibliotheca, Pl. XIII.

(with all the other epitaphs in the Church) is printed in Cozens's "Tour through Thanet," p. 143; and also in Parsons's "Monuments in Kent," pp. 291-6. — John Finch was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons 1627; Justice of the Common Pleas 10 Car. I.; Chief Justice of the same the following year; Lord Keeper 15 Car. I.; and created a Baron 16 Car. I. He fled to the Netherlands during the troubles, continued there till the Restoration, and died s. p. Nov. 20, 1660, aged 77. His character is given in Lord Clarendon, l. 73+. Yours, &c. B.

Mr. URBAN, *Chelsea, Dec. 10, 1812.*

THE following paper is certainly a great curiosity, and worthy of being preserved from oblivion; for, first, it shews what methods were used heretofore for granting relief to the necessitous; next, it proves that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth sports on Sundays were common; and lastly, it informs us of the nature of the pastimes that were in those days in use. As to the authority of this piece, it is a transcript from the original, formerly in the possession of Sir John Evelyn, bart. J. FAULKNER.

Middlesex. To all Majors, Sherreffes, Constables, and other Hed Officers, within the Countie of Middlesex.

After our hartie commendations. Whereas we are informed that one John Seconton Powlter, dwelling within the parishe of St. Clements Daines, beinge a poore man, havinge fower small children, and fallen into decay, ys lycensed to have and use some playes and games, at uppon nine severall Sondaies, for his better relief, comforte, and sustentacion, within the countie of Middlesex, to commence and begynne at and from XXIInd daie of Maye next comynge, after the date hereof, and not to remayne in one place not above three severall Sondaies: And we consideringe that great resort of people is lyke to come thereunto, we will and require you, as well for good order as also for the preservation of the Queen's Majesty's peace, that you take with you foure or fyve of the discrete and substantiall men within your office or libertie, where the games shall be put in practice, then and there to foresee and do your endeavour to your best in that

† Collins's Peerage, by Sir Egerton Brydges, IX. 481.

behalf

behalf during the continuance of the games or playes; which games are hereafter severally mentioned, that is to say, the Shotinge with the Standarde, the Shotinge with the Brode Arrowe, the Shotinge at the Twelve Shore Prick, the Shotinge at the Tarthe, the Lepinge for Men, the Runninge for Men, the Wrastlinge, the Throwinge of the Sledge, and the Pytchinge of the Barre, with all such other games as have at any time hertofore or now be lycensed, used, or played.

Given the xxvith daie of Aprill, in the eleventh year of the Queen's Majesty's Raigne.

Mr. URBAN,

Jan. 2.

THE following antiquarian particulars were communicated to Dr. Ducarel in June 1756, by the learned and Rev. Philip Morant, the well-known Colchester Antiquary:

"A Norman gentleman founded in Jersey an Abbey in honour of St. Helerius; but the time when, is not particularly mentioned. *Du Monstier, Neustria Pia*, p. 712.—It stood in the same little island where now stands Elizabeth-castle; was plentifully endowed both in the island and in Normandy, and filled with Canons Regular of St. Augustin. But the Empress Maud, in passing from England to Normandy, meeting with danger at sea, she made a vow, that if it pleased God to deliver her from the distress she was in, she would build an Abbey in the place where she should come to land, which proved to be Cherbourg. Mindful of her vow, she sent for Robert, Abbot of St. Helier in Jersey, and committed the work to his care, as one well versed in such affairs. Thus was the Abbey built, and called *de Voto*, from the Empress's vow; and, in reward of his service, Robert was made the first Abbot of it, without relinquishing St. Helier; yet so that the two houses remained distinct and separate, although they had but one and the same superior. Soon after, it was suggested that the endowment of the New Abbey fell short of what was requisite to support the dignity of a Royal foundation, and therefore the King was moved to have St. Helier annexed to it; which was done, to the great prejudice and detriment of the island. For whereas before, the whole estate of St. Helier (which, says

Robertus de Monte, was *tripliciter ditior*, i. e. thrice richer than the other) had used to be consumed and spent within the island, the same must thenceforth be carried over to Cherbourg, after a small portion reserved for the maintenance of a Prior and a few Canons. And now it must no longer be called the *Abbey*, but the *Priory of St. Helier*; and on that foot of a Priory it stood until the reign of Henry V. when all Priors Alien were suppressed, both in England and in these Islands.—See *Ph. Falle's History of Jersey*, edit. 1734, pp. 35, 36. P. MORANT."

Dress of the Antient French. (From Velly's *New History of France*.)

SIGEBERT was buried an. 576, in St. Medard's Church, at Soissons, where his statue is still seen in long clothes, with the mantle which the Romans called *Chlamys*. This was the dress of Clovis's children, whether as more noble and majestic, or that they looked on the title of Augustus as hereditary in their family. However it be, long clothes were for several ages the dress of persons of distinction, with a border of sable, ermin, or miniver. Under Charles V. it was emblazoned with all the pieces of the coats of arms. At that time, neither ruffs, collars, nor bands, were known, being introduced by Henry II. Till his time the neck of our Kings was always quite bare, except Charles the Wise, who is every where represented with an ermin collar. The short dress, antiently worn only in the country and the camp, came to be the general fashion under Lewis XI. but was laid aside under Lewis XII. Francis I. revived it, with the improvement of slashes. The favourite dress of Henry II. and his children was a tight close doublet, with trunk hose, and a cloak scarce reaching to the waist.—The dress of the French ladies, it may be supposed, had likewise its revolutions. They seem for near nine hundred years not to have been much taken up with ornaments. Nothing could require less time or nicety than their head-dress, and the disposition of their hair. Every part of their liven was quite plain, but at the same time extremely fine. Laces were long unknown. Their gowns (on the right side of which was embroidered their husbands'

husbands' coat of arms, and on the left that of their own family) were so close as to shew all the delicacy of their shape, and came up so high as to cover their whole breast up to the neck. The habit of widows had very much of that of our nuns. It was not till under Charles VI. that they began to expose their shoulders. The gallantry of Charles the VIIIth's court brought in the use of bracelets, necklaces, and ear-rings. Queen Anne de Bretagne despised those trinkets; and Catharine de Medicis made it her whole business to invent new. Caprice, vanity, luxury, and coquetry, have at length brought them to their present enormity.

Advantages which France derived from the Aulic Monks. (From Velly's New History of France.)

AMONG other advantages accruing to the Government from so many pious foundations, it is to the skill and industry of the Recluses that France owes a great part of its present fertility. It had been frequently ravished by the incursions of the Barbarians. The eye every where met with wastes, forests, heaths, moors, and marshes; that bequeathing to the Monks estates of no produce was thought but a very small matter; accordingly they had as much land given them as they could cultivate. These worthy Solitaries, so far from devoting themselves to God with a view of living in idleness, grubbed up and cleared the land, drained, sowed, planted, and built; that these dreary wastes soon became pleasant and fruitful tracts. So opulent were some Abbeys, that they could raise a little army; and on this account the Abbots were afterwards summoned to the Assemblies in the March Field.

Mr. URBAN,
I SEND an original circular Letter from Bp. Reynolds to the Clergy of his Diocese, which commemorates a melancholy calamity at *Buckingham* in the year 1726. B.

Fire at Buckingham, 1726.

“Good Brother,—You will with this receive his Majesty's most gracious letters patent for making a charitable collection in favour of the poor sufferers by fire at Buckingham. The loss is very great! more than an hundred and thirty

families there being reduced to the last extremities!

“These poor people stand commended to the rest of the kingdom, as they have been an antient Corporation, living up to the ends of their institution, fair traders, faithful subjects, helpful to such as wanted, and, to other great towns, a very good example.

“But, besides this general commendation, they are more particularly recommended to us, and intitled to our more especial regard, on account of their proximity of relation, being, as it were, of the same household, our brethren by the same mother, of the same Church and Diocese with ourselves. And as we with them, and they with us, are hereby in a more intimate manner members one of another; so I trust that you and your well-disposed parishioners will have a more tender feeling of their present distress, and express it in a proper manner on this occasion.

“It is an unkind observation made by some, that applications of this sort are much increased of late years; but it is certain that the wealth of the Nation is, by the blessing of God, much more increased: and you, I hope, will not be wanting to inculcate the obligation hereby laid on those who partake of this happy increase, to do good, as they have opportunities, to all men, especially to those that are most nearly related to them in Christ, to those that are their fellow-servants of the same house.

“I pray God to have you and your parish under his most gracious protection, and remain your truly loving Brother,
R. LINCOLN*.

*Parh-street, Westminster,
April 28, 1726.*

Mr. URBAN, *Jan. 11.*
THE Bishop of St. David's, in his “Christ the Rock of the Christian Church,” p. 49, says,

“The conduct of Sweden affords to the Papists of this Empire, not an obsolete example, but an existing proof of the duty of conformity to the constitution of their own Government. The King of Sweden has adopted a Papist for his successor. But the Crown Prince was not admitted to the high post which he holds till he had abjured Popery, and conformed to the Protestant Religion.”

This statement of the learned Prelate is not exactly correct.—Marshal Bernadotte, the present Crown Prince, was a member of the Reformed Church of Switzerland; and when he

* Bp. Reynolds.

was called to the succession of the Swedish Throne, he abjured not the doctrines of Popery, but those of Calvin; and conformed not to the Protestant Religion (in the enlarged sense of the term, as applied to a converted Papist), but to the peculiar tenets of the Lutheran Church.

Yours, &c. F. C.

Mr. URBAN, *London Institution,*
Jan. 11.

THE passage of Voltaire alluded to in Dr. Hodgson's letter to you is to be found in the "Questions sur l'Encyclopédie," at the word *Amazones*. The celebrated Author, after having related the story of some female warriors who have shewn what intrepidity their sex is susceptible of acquiring, says:

"L'histoire Arabe est pleine de ces exemples; mais elle ne dit point que ces femmes guerrières se brulassent le teton droit pour mieux tirer de l'arc, encore moins qu'elles véécussent sans hommes; au contraire, elles s'exposioient dans les combats pour leurs maris ou pour leurs amans, et de cela même on doit conclure que loin de faire des reproches à l'Arîdste et au Tasse d'avoir introduit tant d'amantes guerrières dans leurs poèmes, on doit les louer d'avoir peint des mœurs vraies et intéressantes."

Voltaire proceeds to notice several other women whose exploits are related in history, such as, Marguerite d'Anjou, wife of Henry the Sixth, the Countess of Montfort in Brittany, Jeanne d'Arc, or the famous Pucelle d'Orléans, &c. &c.

The late wars in Spain and in Switzerland might have furnished him with new instances of female bravery.

I do not recollect having met with these remarks in the *Histoire Générale* of our Author; but this communication will probably satisfy your Correspondent; and having the original work at hand, I thought that your Readers might not be displeas'd with the own words of the learned and shrewd Philosopher of Ferney.

Yours, &c. X.

Mr. URBAN, *Jan. 12.*

MOST sincerely do I unite with your Correspondent B. D. in your Magazine for December, p. 511, in lamenting the want of Churches in different parts of the King's Foreign Dominions. For perhaps more

than half a century a British Settlement has been established at the Bay of Honduras; but on June 20, 1812, and not before, the first stone of a Church was laid by Colonel Smyth, the Lieutenant-governor. In the colony of New South Wales, three Churches have been erected, at Sydney, Paramatta, and Windsor, on the Hawkesbury. But each of these is said to be too small for the population, and many more are wanted.—This evil, Mr. Urban, will never be fully obviated, till the British Government shall think proper to send out Bishops duly authorized to superintend the cause of Religion in the East and West Indies. Surely the present very respectable Bench of Bishops will not suffer the India Charter to be renewed without this most necessary provision.

The excellent "Considerations on the prevailing Custom of Visiting on Sundays," p. 514, are printed in the Works of James Hervey, M. A. Rector of Weston Favell*. Mr. Hervey died on Christmas-day 1758. U. U.

Mr. URBAN, *Hertford, Nov. 14.*

I BEG leave to correct a mistake of your Correspondent in his account of the Wycliffe family: the male line of which did not become extinct on the death of Ralph in 1606: it was continued in his uncle William, who is mentioned by your Correspondent himself to be living in 1611. David, the grandson of this William, was the last Wycliffe who was in possession of the family estates, and he mortgaged them in the beginning of the last century to Marmaduke Tunstall, esq. from whose descendants the present respectable proprietor has derived them.

I happen to be in possession of several interesting documents relating to this family, one of the most ancient in England, and the decay of which I have always considered a subject of great regret. These papers, and a degree of personal knowledge acquired from a residence of nearly half a century in the neighbourhood, have supplied me with many particulars respecting the family, which I shall readily communicate to such of your readers as may take an interest in the subject.

SENEX.

* See p. 16.

Precursor to Forest Trees and Timber, &c. addressed to His Royal Highness WILLIAM DUKE OF CLARENCE, Admiral of the British Fleet, &c.

SIR,

AS the Admiral of a Fleet indisputably composed of the most distinguished officers and seamen the world has hitherto produced, I humbly presume to address your Royal Highness on the means of supporting the Navy; the subject-matter of which, being mostly drawn from official documents and actual experiments, will shew that policy, economy, and the safety of the State, require the adoption of efficient measures to ensure a supply of good ships for the present, and a permanent succession of durable timber in future, as well as more skilful management in the preparation and appropriation of it for use: trusting that, should your Royal Highness condescend to investigate the matter, and submit the result to your august Brother, the Prince Regent, such a vigorous and wise system would be established for the permanent support of the Navy, that the Nation may have cause to feel that gratitude towards you which is justly due to James Duke of York, who, supported by his brother Charles II. not only regenerated our naval power after the Restoration, but, as Lord High Admiral, directed the principal officers and commissioners of the Navy to apply to the then most scientific and intelligent body of men in Europe, respecting a supply of timber for the Navy, which produced the most beneficial effect. The Royal Society having directed the attention of those able men Sir Wm.

Petty, Dr. Hook, and Silva Evelyn, to this subject, the valuable Works published by the latter excited such a spirit for planting, as to have been the means of principally furnishing the supply of oak timber for the Navy, until the commencement of the French Revolutionary War in 1793, when the neglect of the judicious measure pursued by James began to be seriously felt; and has put the means of supporting our maritime strength in such jeopardy, that, without the speedy and effective exertions of the Royal Power and of Parliament in directing the good sense and spirit of the Nation, our Navy is in danger ere long of becoming imbecile, and the *personal* skill and bravery of our seamen rendered abortive, from a defective and rapid decay of the *material*.—In such dilemma, I venture with great deference to examine the cause, and with humble duty to suggest a remedy; earnestly hoping that, through the exertion of your Royal Highness, the formation and construction of our ships of war with more durable materials, and the providing of an adequate permanent future supply of Timber within ourselves will be fully established; and that William Duke of Clarence will be entitled to that merit and applause of his Country for improving the Navy, which his illustrious Brother Frederick Duke of York has justly obtained for bettering the Army.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, Sir, your Royal Highness's most obedient and very humble servant,

W. LAYMAN.

January 1.

“The great decrease in Naval Timber is the more alarming, and calls the more for the attention of Government, from its being occasioned not by any *temporary* causes, but by such as must inevitably render it every day *more general and rapid*. There is no reflecting person in the kingdom who does not feel and acknowledge that the existence of every thing valuable to us as a Nation depends upon maintaining our naval superiority; and yet for more than forty years we have remained in a state of apparent insensibility, although it has been demonstrated, that the article most essential to the preservation of our Navy has been gradually diminishing, and that the causes of that diminution are of a nature not to afford the smallest prospect of a probable change, unless *the most vigorous exertions are made* to provide a substitute for those resources on which we have hitherto relied, and which we know are *in a progress of rapid decay and ultimate failure* at no very distant period. During the short time I remained at the head of our Naval concerns, I suggested the appointment of the Commission of Naval Revision, under a deep impression, that the state of Naval Timber, and other matters of essential importance to the Naval service of the Country, *required an immediate and radical investigation*. If there are any parts of the 14th Report of that Commission which it is expedient

expedient to conceal, still much useful information might be given to Parliament and the publick, consistently with such reserve. I am not aware that any good can result from such a determined concealment. If there is just cause of alarm from the increased decay and scarcity of an article so essentially necessary to the existence of the Empire, the knowledge of such an impending danger would be the strongest incitement to the publick at large cordially to concur in every measure which Government may think necessary to ward off so serious a calamity.

"If an example be wanting of the benefits to be produced by the diffusion of a knowledge of the state of timber in the kingdom, a very strong proof is to be found in the effect which was produced by the writings of Evelyn.—The vast quantities of great timber consumed by our Navy during the present reign were chiefly the produce of the plantations made between the Restoration and the end of the 16th century on private property, in almost every part of England, as well as in the Royal Forests, particularly the Forest of Dean; and which had been occasioned by the publication of the state of timber in this kingdom, and *by looking at the danger of a scarcity boldly in the face.*

"Thus it appears, that while at *this time we are experiencing* the practical good effect, and reaping the very fruit produced by the system of promulgating the extent of the wants of the Navy in former times, a line of policy is adopted (that of *concealment*) the very reverse of that which past experience has proved to have been so eminently beneficial.

"It would seem as if the successive Governments of this Country had invariably become disheartened, and had therefore abandoned all attempts to place this important branch of our naval resources upon a permanent basis, because the members of it could not hope to live to see the success of their own measures. But, if this course of policy is to govern all our actions,—if, because we may struggle through the immediate difficulties we have to encounter, and are able to ward off any imminent danger in our own lives,—we are therefore to pursue the narrow policy of neglecting to provide for posterity,—with what reproaches will after-generations load our memory! shall we not be certain of drawing down upon us the execration instead of the praises of posterity?

"It is evident, that some general system ought to be adopted for *securing a sufficient and permanent supply to our Navy*; and in promoting such an object, I think we ought all to agree, whatever be our differences of opinion in other points."—*Henry Viscount Melville to Mr. Perceval, June, 1810.*

SUPPORT OF THE NAVY.

It is a truth universally admitted, that the power, wealth, and existence of the British Empire depend on maritime superiority. The support of its Navy is, therefore, an object of the greatest national importance; and to have the means of it within ourselves, must ensure our safety in the same degree, as to rely on foreign powers for that which is essential to our strength and prosperity must be supine and dangerous.

Towards this support, timber must be considered the most essential article; and as, from misapplication in use, and the immense increase in consumption, with the neglect of home supply, Great Britain has fallen into the hazardous policy of depending on other countries for precarious and expensive supplies of perishable materials to prop her Marine; by which our ships of war have been defective, and are now going rapidly to decay, and millions have been added to the public debt, as well as the continu-

ance of such policy being at present a great chain upon our finances; it is a duty incumbent on us to investigate our resources, and establish within ourselves permanent means for supporting our Navy.

The home supply of oak timber has hitherto been derived either from private property, or the Royal Forests; but it appears by papers presented to Parliament, that the Comptroller of the Navy stated to the First Lord of the Admiralty, by letter dated 23d March 1802, that "the consumption is now so much more than the growth, that the article will soon cease to be supplied, if the same system is allowed to go on." And by other papers, dated the 24th and 29th of March 1804, that the Navy Board recommended to the Admiralty the appointment of "some competent person or persons as Purveyors-general in the purchase of Timber for the Navy, and that *the purchases might be made apparently on account of the agent.*" But this knowing trick, which

which without such authority could not be reconciled as the transaction of a Public Board, was strongly reprobated by the Admiralty, at which Earl St. Vincent then presided, who stated, that "the execution of a plan which may have in view any further dependence on the timber-merchants, cannot fail in the end to increase your difficulties in procuring timber, and to put the supplies entirely into the hands of the contractors, who will thereby have the publick completely at their mercy."

However, the Navy Board having, notwithstanding this remonstrance, and the pointed directions of the Lord High Admiral in 1661*, thought it expedient to confine the supply of timber for the Navy to two timber merchants only, to the exclusion of all others, and to furnish advances of the public money; it becomes a public question, without any intention whatever of reflecting upon the individual members of that Board (for many of whom I have great personal respect), or upon the timber merchants who happen to be particularly employed. My object is to examine the principle as to a home supply of timber, and effective good ships for the support of our Navy, without any regard to persons.

Home Supply of Timber.

This measure, by doing away competitors, will certainly keep down the price of the present stock of timber; but it will be the means of preventing future supplies, as the price of the production will be forced below its real value. But, though the immediate demand be answered, we may be in danger of future want,

and not feel our necessities till it is too late.

From Private Property.

The supply to be expected from private property must depend upon the profit arising from plantations of oak trees being greater than the profit to be derived from the produce of the land in cultivation, or the annual rent added to the accumulated interest thereon, from the time of planting until the trees are felled; which individuals, planting with a view to profit, will naturally do, when the annual increase in the value of a tree by its growth is less than the annual interest of the money it would sell for. And as trees, like animals, are thrifty in youth, healthy and vigorous; young oaks, until they contain about a quarter of a load of timber, will pay 7*l.* per cent. per annum by their growth, and some may pay 5*l.* per cent. until they arrive at half a load; but if left growing till they arrive at a load of 50 cubical feet per tree, the increase will not be equal to 3*l.* per cent.; and if allowed to stand till they reach 80 feet, the most thriving oak will only pay 36*s.* per cent. for standing, at the price hitherto given for timber. To yield a profit equal to the annual rent of land during the last century, taking 8*s.* 3*d.* for the average rate in the year 1700, and progressively increasing to 20*s.* 6*d.* in 1800, amounting, with the accumulated interest in that period, to 1410*l.* for one acre, the price of naval oak timber requires to be upwards of 20*l.* per load. And if the average value of the rent of land taken at present at 33*s.* per acre per annum should only increase from the year 1800

* "As to the management of affairs among yourselves, that which I shall principally recommend to you is, that there be due and timely information gotten of the quantity of each sort of goods needful in the Navy, which are to be bought, and of the prices; in both which I desire you not to rely wholly on the information of Purveyors, or any person; but to use all means to be fully informed, to make your contracts at your public meetings in the Navy-office; and in contracts of great value, to give yourselves some days for enquiring, before concluding the contracts; that so you may not be misguided by a supposed necessity of buying of any one merchant, when possibly others might furnish cheaper and better; and by this method, as the King's contracts may probably be made with better husbandry, so will it be no small advantage to his Majesty, in that it will take away all occasion of calumniating his officers, it being impossible but the least reproach, however unjust, upon officers so highly intrusted as yourselves, should, by the diminution of your authority towards your inferiors, redound very much to the disservice of his Majesty.

JAMES.

"Whitehall, January 14, 1661.

To the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy."

to 1900 in the proportion it did from 1700 to 1800, the profit of *one acre* from rent and accumulated interest will amount to 5317*l.* in the next 100 years; to equal which, if an adjoining acre was planted with oaks, and produced 50 loads of naval oak timber at the end of that period, it would require to be sold for upwards of 66*l.* *per* load.—Such is the prospect of a future supply of large oak timber from private property, when the present scanty stock is exhausted; which from demi-official information (for there never has been any regular survey) was admitted in 1802 to be only equal to 18 years' consumption for our Navy.

From the Royal Forests.

With respect to the Royal Forests, of which 115,504 acres are withheld from the Royal Family and the publick for the ostensible purpose of supporting the Navy, it appears from the elaborate Report of the Commissioners, &c. appointed by Parliament in 1788, that for 57 years preceding, the supply of timber to his Majesty's Dock-yards from these dignified wastes averaged only 1356 loads annually; which, in the proportion of timber then consumed in the construction of ships in the King's Dock-yards, is only equal to the building of a ship of 642 tons, being less than the smallest frigate of 32 guns in his Majesty's service, and is little more than half a cubic foot from an acre, which, at the average rent of what the land would have let for, cost the publick at the rate of upwards of 68*l.* *per* load, without the carriage, when the highest price given to individuals for similar timber at that period was only 4*l.* 5*s.* *per* load. And in 1802, from a greater supply being demanded, the Surveyor-general of Woods stated to the Navy Board, that "the quantity of improving timber in his Majesty's Forests is by far too inconsiderable to afford the smallest expectation of the continuance of even the annual supplies the Yards have lately had." Indeed, from the survey made in 1783 it appears, that in four forests the quantity of decayed timber exceeded the sound, and that the whole quantity of sound oak timber fit for naval purposes then standing in six of the forests out of ten, and containing

83,738 acres, was only 50,456 loads, *being not equal to one year's consumption*, even at that time, as stated by the Commissioners appointed by Parliament, although in 1788 the whole tonnage of the Navy consisted of only 413,667 tons; which in 1810 amounted to nearly 800,900 tons, and the consumption of timber was stated at 100,000 loads *per annum*, and in 1812, at 110,000 loads for hull timber, without including ordnance or masts, &c. which, at the average produce on private property of 50 loads of oak timber *per* acre, in 100 years would require 220,000 acres, of which 2,200 must be felled and planted every year to yield a supply equal to such consumption. But it is a melancholy fact, as shewn in an account laid before the House of Commons, dated November 26, 1803, that in the New Forest, of 66,942 acres, "the number of oak trees in an improving state, which may be considered fit for naval purposes, were only 8,012, containing but 8,322 loads" of timber; which, from Parliamentary records, appear not to be equal to *three months' consumption in the King's Dock-yard only*. It is true, that, owing to the energy and remonstrances of the late Lord Melville, more attention has of late been paid to this subject, and an attempt made to improve these dignified wastes by planting 32,000 acres, as stated in the House of Commons last Session. But admitting that quantity to be properly fenced and planted with oaks producing the best ship timber, and to be as carefully managed as on private property, such plantations cannot be expected to produce 16,000 loads of oak timber annually during the present century; nor can the whole 115,000 acres, after great expence, and under the best possible care, be made equal to supply the *present and increasing consumption for the Navy*. It were delusion to hold out such expectation, and the extreme of credulity to credit it (of which the late distinguished Statesman, who was most zealous in the establishing of supplies for the support of the Navy, seemed fully aware); as in his Letter to the late Mr. Perceval his Lordship says: "Having, I trust, satisfactorily shewn, that the consumption of timber for the support of the Royal Navy, as well as for other uses, is immensely increased.

creased*, since the Commissioners of Land Revenue presented their Reports to Parliament; and that there cannot be any well-grounded expectation of as much being obtained as formerly from *individual proprietors*; it is evident that the *means which it was then proper to recommend to Government for providing a permanent supply for the Navy, even if they had all been carried into effect, would now be inadequate to the increased demand.*"

The preceding statements are not made with the most distant intent to create alarm or despondency; but to prevent the supine policy of concealment, which is only applicable to a state conscious of its own weakness, to which, God be praised, this Nation is not yet reduced. But, if such system is suffered to continue, the country might be lulled into fatal security, and be left destitute of the means of supporting her naval power. The more closely this long-neglected but most important subject is inquired into, the more accurately will our deficiencies and wants be understood, and the greater exertions used to effect a remedy before it is too late.

With a view to this great national object, it is necessary to examine the present mode of construction and expenditure; in order to ascertain whether any, and what methods can be devised, to render our naval force more efficient, and decrease the consumption of materials; thereby reducing the demand for timber to our own means of future supply.

[To be continued.]

Mr. URBAN, Jan. 4.

A REGARD for the sacred cause of Truth induces me to request the insertion of the following observations in your valuable Magazine.

I have lately been engaged in reading a *Life of Milton*, written by the Rev. Dr. Symmons; and I have risen from the perusal of it with mingled sensations of pleasure and disgust. But the points to which I would at

* The consumption of timber for the whole shipping of Great Britain was stated in the before-mentioned Report to have been in 1788 equal to 208,000 loads; and in 1808 Lord Melville has stated it at 349,900 loads annually.

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present call the attention of your Readers are, the glaring inconsistency, the flagrant partiality, and the palpable injustice, which appear in this Work of the learned Doctor.

De mortuis nil nisi bonum seems to be the rule which he has laid down for the regulation of his conduct when he has to speak of the hero of his piece. *De mortuis nil nisi verum* is, I think, a much better reading; and I think so for the very good reason which Le Clerc has given, "*Nec nocet veritas mortuis, et nullum prodest vivis.*" Epistolæ Crit. p. 80.—The supposition of the learned Doctor's ignorance of the existence of a passage, such as I shall produce from a Treatise of his favourite and favoured Author, whose character as a scholar, as a writer, as a man, and as a Christian, he has so earnestly laboured to defend,—this supposition is precluded by the minute attention paid to the several charges, verbal, syllabical, and literal, preferred against this celebrated Genius, and by the anxiety displayed in the endeavour to refute those charges.

When the learned Doctor was censuring in such severe, though perhaps merited terms, the malignity of Salmasius, of Lauder, and of Johnson, a feeling of consistency, impartiality, and justice, should have prompted him to produce the passage alluded to; in which is exhibited as much fanatic malignity as ever flowed from the pen, as ever rankled in the heart of man. Was Milton's difference of opinion about modes of government civil and ecclesiastical,—was his aversion from regal rule and prelatical authority,—was the conduct of the Government under which he lived, however harsh, however tyrannical he might have felt or fancied it to be,—was all this sufficient to justify him involving an entire Hierarchy in one sweeping clause of indiscriminate damnation? Did this become a being stamped with the image of humanity? Did this accord with his profession as a Christian? Was this to walk in the steps of his blessed Master, who, after having suffered all the evil, and done all the good of which his life was capable, closed that invaluable life with a pious fervent prayer for his enemies and his murderers? But, blessed be God! damnation dwells not on the breath