

able Gentleman had given every guinea then about him to afford them an immediate assistance, and opened a subscription for further aid, as the poor wretches might absolutely perish before the laws could properly interfere for their relief.

The presentments for the jails of the county of the city of Dublin for the last three years, with each year particularly specified, were ordered to be laid before the House.

A committee was appointed to enquire into the causes why the provisions in the act respecting the regulation of jails, were not complied with. After which the House adjourned.

*Extract of a letter from Bombay, Oct. 31.*

Every thing in India, as far as relates to ourselves, continues as when I wrote you last in perfect peace and tranquility, and the affairs of the Company wear a promising appearance. The Marattas, united with the Nizam, have crossed the Krishna, in order to bring Tipoo Saib to action, who we learn is prepared to receive them with a very large army. The general opinion seems to be, that Tipoo, from his great superiority in point of artillery, will be an overmatch for the Marattas and the Nizam, though their courting him to action argues a confidence in their own strength; and it is certain they are greatly superior to him in cavalry, which his father, with all his great abilities, often experienced, even to the total defeat of his army. To the hard terms held out by the Company to their creditors for the liquidation of the India debt, about 700,000l. has been subscribed at this presidency: those who have subscribed have been compelled to it by necessity, many of them being in England, where they must have their money, and others, the executors to deceased persons; under these circumstances, however, only one quarter of the debt is subscribed for at this presidency, so that the bad policy of this measure, nor to say the injustice of it, must appear evident. If the Company had given the fair and just exchange of 2-3ds, which the rupee here is always worth, and a proportionate rate at the other presidencies, the whole debt to the amount of five millions, would at once have been reduced from an interest of 8 or 10 per cent. to 4 or 5, and the Company would have supported that credit and confidence in this country which they ever till now possessed. The creditors who have been driven to subscribe to the terms, talk of petitioning the Company to raise the exchange of their bills, since it must be done ere they can hope to liquidate any more of their debts.

The creditors complain very loudly of having to this day received no interest on their bonds, although the interest on the bond debt at Bengal has been punctually paid.

Men say, Mr. Hastings is unaccountably indifferent in the midst of apparent danger; that he makes no efforts to counteract the manoeuvres of his enemies; that he employs no advocates, and manifests no solicitude to ward off the coming blow, and to interest the minds of the publick in his favour. The observation is certainly just, and the inference does Mr. Hastings honour. The man who feels no guilt, trembles before no accuser. Indifference in this case is a superior kind of boldness, it is a proof of courage in the conscience. But timidity never yet formed a distinguishing trait in the character of this extraordinary man. Accustomed for a series of years to the extremes of publick difficulty and danger; elevated to a situation that made him responsible for the loss or preservation of India; initiated in, and habituated to the cares of government, and long reconciled to the misconceptions which are inseparable from public interpretations, Mr. Hastings looks forward with confidence and peace of mind to the day of final decision, when judgment shall be pronounced on his publick conduct in that still, small voice which is exempt from the prejudices of passion and of party, the voice of justice and of candour, the voice of consideration and reason. The man who so firmly and nobly withstood an host of foreign enemies in India, is not to be intimidated by domestic foes at home. He knows that his first crime, in the opinion of some men, is that of having saved the settlements. He knows that had he abandoned the country, the company, and the nation at large, he might have been rewarded for his treachery. But having saved our Asiatic possessions, the last best stake, the most valuable appendage of the empire, Mr. Hastings remains firm under the conviction of his claims to national gratitude, and confides that the malignity of his enemies will be defeated.

*Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, April 3.*

Arrived his Majesty's ships Adventure and Carysfort from the River; Dove, White; Bewley, Jarvis; and Caesar; Sparshot, from London; and Jonge Peter, Duynks, from the Texel.

Yesterday came here the Duke of Gordon and his son, and this morning visited some of the men of war in the harbour.

Yesterday arrived a mail from Jamaica, brought to Falmouth by the Grantham Packet in 40 days.

The Warren Hastings, Larkins, for the East-Indies; Integrity, Gibson, and Euteria, Featonby, for Montreal, sailed from Gravesend on Monday last.

The Maryanne, from Jamaica to St. Domingo, got on the Reef at Port Royal; and it is feared will be lost.

### SPIRITUAL COURT.

The Proctor and Attorney of Mrs. Mary Davis advised her to apply to Lord George Gordon last week. Her case is very curious indeed. Two false witnesses, Murphy and Conolly, who remembered Mrs. Davis at Jamaica, have made oath that they saw her buried at Port Royal in the year 1771, and pretend not to know her as the same woman, to whom the deceased Captain Wheelock, of the Modeste, 64, left a considerable property; which is claimed by his other relations. Mrs. Davis is now alive and well in Camomile-street, and waited on Lord G. Gordon herself last week, who has promised to take up the affair after the holidays. His Lordship, it seems, knew her at Jamaica, and was Fourth Lieutenant in the Modeste; in which Mrs. Davis came to England. Lord Rodney and the Duke of Leeds know her also to be the same person. When Mrs. Davis herself, *viva voce*, asked the false witnesses why they had sworn that she was buried at Port Royal, which was very unlikely, as Captain Wheelock had a country-house, where they lived, near Kingston, they seemed much confounded; but their oaths are regarded as oaths, and Mrs. Mary Davis cannot get over the burial service till she appears again with more convincing arguments to the Spiritual Court.

We are sorry to find that his Majesty's Commissary for the African Settlement has sent the following Letter to Mr. John Stewart, Pall-mall.

*At Plymouth, March 24, 1787.*

SIR,

These with my respects to you. I am sorry you and some more are not here with us. I am sure Irwin\*, and Fraser the Parson, are great villains, and Dr. Currie. I am exceedingly much grieved at the conduct of those who call themselves gentlemen. They now mean to serve (or use) the blacks the same as they do in the West Indies. For the good of the settlement I have borne every affront that could be given, believe me, without giving the least occasion, or ever yet relenting any.

By Sir Charles Middleton's letter to me, I now find Irwin and Fraser have wrote to the Committee and the Treasury, that I use the white people with arrogance, and the blacks with civility, and stir them up to mutiny: which is not true, for I am the greatest peace-maker that goes out. The reason of this lies, that in the presence of these two, I acquainted Captain Thomson of the Nautilus sloop, our convoy, that I would go to London and tell of their roguery; and further insisted on Captain Thomson to come on board of the ships, and see the wrongs done to me and the people: so Captain Thomson came and saw it, and ordered the things to be given according to contract—which is not yet done in many things—and many of the black people have died for want of their due. I am grieved in every respect. Irwin never meant well to the people, but self-interest has ever been his end: twice this week they have taken him, bodily, to the Captain, to complain of him, and I have done it four times.

I do not know how this undertaking will end; I wish I had never been involved in it; but at times I think the Lord will make me very useful at last.

I am, dear Friend,

With respect, your's,

G. VASA,

The Commissary for the Black People.

\* The Agent for Africa.

*Extract of another Letter from Plymouth, dated on board the Belisarius.*

The people, in general, are very sickly, and die very fast indeed, for the doctors are very neglectful to the people, very much so.

(Signed) A. E. GRIFFITH.

If no remedy is taken to create deeper water over Margate Flats; will it be long safe for men of war and East-Indiamen to venture over them? Would the expense of creating a channel be equal to the loss of one first-rate, or a rich Indiaman?

*Extract of a letter from Gosport, March 31.*

Arrived the Adventure, of 44 guns, Capt. Pary, from the Downs.

His Majesty's ship Jupiter, Capt. Parkert, and Sibyl, Capt. Bickerton, are dropped down to St. Helens.

The convict ships, lying at the Mother-bank, destined for Botany-Bay, we hear, are ordered into harbour to be fumigated.

Arrived the Myrmidon frigate from a cruise, and is since come into harbour.

Arrived the Minerva East-Indiaman, Capt. Fairfield, from the River.

Remain at Spithead his Majesty's ships Leander and Hlysea.

Sailed the Orcites and Flirt sloops on a cruise.

*Extract of a letter from Oxford, March 31.*

The number of our Determining Bachelors, this Lent, amounts to 165.

Yesterday in full convocation the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred on the Right Hon. Lord William Russell, of Christ-Church, brother to his Grace the Duke of Bedford.

A letter from Londonderry says, that the Carlisle, Copeland, has taken on that coast and brought in there a Dutch smuggling vessel, with 140 kegs of geneva on board, 70-bags of coffee, 40 half-chests of tea, and some boxes of tobacco; they also brought in a fishing-boat, which was taking in some part of the cargo.

The Ravenworth and Lansdowne, arrived at Bengal the 13th of September, and the Foulis the 4th of October; the Queen was hourly expected; the Phoenix and Maship were to be dispatched from thence the 21st of November, with permission to touch at Madras; the Ganges and William Pitt direct for England the 16th of December, as were the Barrington and Oxford the 15th of January: The Queen and Walpole as soon as cargoes could be procured.

The Hillsborough and Lansdowne were to be dispatched by the Eastern Passage to China; the Foulis was intended to be sent to Botany-Bay with saltpetre, and from thence to China.

The Otter, Jameson, from Jamaica, is safe arrived at Pool, in 47 days.

A Court of Aldermen was held yesterday at Guildhall, present the Lord Mayor, Recorder, and fourteen Aldermen. No alteration was made in the assize of bread. Three persons were sworn broker, and another was allowed to act. A report of the Committee, on petition of the Keepers of Newgate, the Poultry and Wood-street Compter, and Ludgate, for a compensation in lieu of taps, was read, and the Lord Mayor desired to lay it before the Court of Common Council. A report of the Committee on the petition of the Feltmakers Company for an increase in their Livery, was agreed to. The petition of the proprietors of the free quays, and the lightermen there, was referred to the Committee who have under consideration the regulation of the mooring chains in the river.

The foreign prints mention, that a reform of the monasteries had commenced in Hungary. A rich society of Benedictines has been suppressed, the library of which was found to be in a deranged state, while the cellars were stored with ninety four thousand tons of the richest wine in Hungary.

*Extract of a Letter from Stamford, March 30.* Last week a man of Fickenote, in the county of Rutland, in the presence of his wife, cut his throat and immediately expired.

A few days ago died at Lutterworth in Leicestershire, Mr. John Hill, in the 100th year of his age.

Tuesday died, Mr. Stubbs, an eminent farmer, of the Hoobys, in the parish of Strutton. We are informed, that, at his own desire, his remains were conveyed to the church-yard in one of his waggons.

Lately died at Horncastle in this county, Mrs. Rockliffe, relict of Mr. Richard Rockliffe, surgeon, of that place. Her death was sudden. She appeared as well as usual at eleven o'clock in the morning, and was a corpse before one at noon.

*Extract of a letter from Newcastle, March 31.*

The crew's nest that has been built for some years past on the Fame of the Exchange in this town, has at length been completed, notwithstanding the very violent opposition its architects have met with from the envy and rapacity of their neighbours.

On Tuesday, as Mr. John Mande of Sunderland, one of the people called Quakers, was walking between Sunderland and Bishop-Wearmouth, he fell down and immediately expired.

Last Saturday morning, as Robert Darling of Plawsworth, near Chester-le-Street, an old man, upwards of 90 years of age, was returning home from Great Lumley, in riding the ford at Lumley old mill, he and the horse, on which he rode, were unfortunately drowned.

The same morning the body of Richard Lee, schoolmaster, belonging to Durham, was found floating in the river Wear; the body was taken out by two men who were fishing in Harbourn-haugh, not far from where the former accident happened. The body of Richardson had lain in the river for several weeks past, and had been driven down the river from Durham, where it is supposed he was drowned.

Thursday the Elizabeth, Davison, of Scarborough, laden with coals, sunk in Shields harbour, but it is hoped both ship and cargo will be recovered.

*Extract of a letter from Peterborough, March 28.*

A most melancholy accident lately happened on board the Jupiter, at Spithead: a mallet being left in the rigging, fell on the head of a young midshipman and instantly killed him: He was son of Mr. Scrimshaw, Surgeon, of Wilbeach.

A farmer who resides in the neighbourhood of N—, a very few days ago, was lucky enough to be visited by one of those peregrinating fair ones, called a running woman, who had the address to work upon the rustic's simplicity, by the stale trick of hiding money—and, as the poor fellow thought it would be a much easier mode of making a fortune, than by ploughing the earth, he very gladly consented to sow ten guineas a few inches under the surface of the earth, on condition that, at the end of three days, he should reap one hundred. The golden grain was accordingly deposited, and the amiable lady took her leave, with a strict injunction to the farmer, not to examine it before the expiration of the third day. Eager, however, to get in his harvest, he unfortunately took it up before it could ripen, when he found (such was the peculiar quality of the soil) that instead of increasing, the number of pieces had diminished, and strange to tell, the original purity of the grain, was so much blighted as to be actually changed into copper.

The Rev. George Thomas Edlison, Chaplain to the Right Hon. Lord Liverpool, is presented to the consolidated living of Stock and Ramden Bellhouse, in Essex, vacant by death.

### ELECTION OF PEERS;

Wednesday came on, at the Abbey of Holyood-house; the election of two Peers to represent the Peerage of Scotland, in room of the Duke of Queensberry and the Earl of Abercorn; created Peers of Great Britain. The Peers, at their meeting, were attended by George Home and Robert Sinclair, Esqrs. two of the principal Clerks of Session, in virtue of a commission from the Right Hon. Lord Frederick Campbell, Lord Register of Scotland; and by Dr. Carlyle and Dr. Griever, and other proper officers.

The Peers elected were the Earl of Selkirk and Lord Kinnaird, as mentioned on Monday.

PEERS PRESENT.

Earls Buchan, voted for Dumfries and Kinnaird.

G'encain—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Kelly—Dumfries and Selkirk.  
Hudinton—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Lauderdale—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Selkirk—Dumfries and Kinnaird.  
Aboyne—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Kintore—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Hyndford—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Lords Forbes—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Salton—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Cathcart—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Lindores—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Cranston—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Napier—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Bani—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Elbank—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Colvil—Cathcart and Kinnaird.  
Kinnaird—Selkirk and Kinnaird.

SIGNED LISTS.

Dukes Gordon, for Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Queensberry—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Earls Morton—Dumfries and Cathcart.  
Eglintoun—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Cassilis—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Moray—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Galloway—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Leven—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Dundonald—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Breadalbane—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Aberdeen—Dumfries and Selkirk.  
Dunmore—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Stair—Cathcart.  
Portmore—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Hopetoun—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Deloraine—Selkirk and Cathcart.

Vice. Stormont—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Lords Gray—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Semple—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Elphinstone—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Somerville—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Fairfax—Selkirk and Cathcart.  
Kirkcudbright—Selkirk and Kinnaird.

PROXIES.

Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Duke of Rothlay, for Dumfries and Kinnaird.  
Earls Caithness—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Dyfar—Selkirk and Kinnaird.  
Balcarras—Cathcart and Kinnaird.  
Clafgo—Selkirk and Kinnaird.

Vice. Arbuthnot—Cathcart and Kinnaird.  
Lord Toppichen—Selkirk and Kinnaird.

ABSTRACT.

| For Lord Selkirk,  | 15 | of those present. |
|--------------------|----|-------------------|
|                    | 22 | signed lists.     |
|                    | 4  | proxies.          |
| Total              | 26 |                   |
| For Lord Kinnaird, | 13 | present.          |
|                    | 6  | signed lists.     |
|                    | 7  | proxies.          |
| Total              | 26 |                   |
| For Lord Cathcart, | 6  | present.          |
|                    | 17 | signed lists.     |
|                    | 3  | proxies.          |
| Total              | 26 |                   |
| For Lord Dumfries, | 4  | present.          |
|                    | 2  | signed lists.     |
|                    | 1  | proxy.            |
| Total              | 7  |                   |

In these are included the votes of the Dukes of Gordon and Queensberry.

When the signed lists by the Dukes of Gordon and Queensberry were mentioned, the Earl of Selkirk, in a speech of some length, reprobated the idea of these Peers having any right to vote at the election for the Peerage of Scotland, as they had been created Peers of Great Britain; and, by a resolution of the House of Lords in the 1708-9, no person created a British Peer since the Union could vote in an election of Scots Peers. He likewise took notice of a recent order of the House of Lords, passed in consequence of the creation of the Duke of Queensberry and the Earl of Abercorn to the British Peerage. Lord Selkirk afterwards entered a formal protest against the votes of the Dukes of Gordon and Queensberry, which was signed by every Lord present, and even by the candidates in whose favour the votes were given. To this protest the Clerks answered in substance, that they sat there officially, and were obliged to take in such votes as were presented; that they could not take it upon them to judge of the validity of such votes, it being their business merely to report what passed, and to make a return agreeably to law and conscience; and that the whole procedure would be fully stated in the minutes of election, upon which these votes had no influence.

The Clerks afterwards declared, on the meeting, that the election had fallen on the Earl of Selkirk, and George Lord Kinnaird.

Lord Kinnaird then required of the Clerks to know, whether they had reported upon the votes of the Dukes of Gordon and Queensberry; and that if they declined giving a direct answer, he should consider it the same as if they had received them. To which the