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Foreign.

LONDON, Feb. 20.

Princess of Wales.—Yesterday at one o'clock, a full meeting of the Cabinet Ministers took place at the Secretary of State's office, for the consideration of the subject of the Princess of Wales's letter; it is supposed it was determined whether any and what measure should be adopted in consequence.

Much has been said, and more insinuated respecting a Billy Faucett, whose name stands connected with what is termed "Delicate Investigation." We have in a former paper informed our readers that in the course of the investigation the parentage of a child of that name came under the consideration of the Noble Commissioners, and they, having carefully examined the necessary attestations, stated in their report as follows:—

"The child, Billy Faucett, was beyond all doubt, born in Broad-street Hospital, on the 11th July 1802, of the body of Sophia Austin."

The fact was this:—Some time previously to the investigation her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, then residing at Blackheath, took under her protection, from poor parents, this child, to which she had taken a liking. The father, as the people of Blackheath in its vicinity said at the time was a blacksmith at Deptford. This child was taken into the household of her Royal Highness, and under her own eye; was frequently brought up, and taking out for airing in her own carriage. This boy, it is said, was alleged in the charges, which led to the investigation, to be a child of the Princess, and was the subject of the two main charges of pregnancy and delivery, which were fully disproved in the inquiry in the very first instance. The minor imputations, which may be thought instantly to have been abandoned, remained on record till removed by the Cabinet minutes of 21st April 1807.

In the house of Commons, March 2, the Speaker read the following letter from the Princess:

"Montagu-House, Blackheath, March 1."

"The Princess of Wales informs Mr. Speaker, that she has received from Lord Viscount Sidmouth, a copy of a report, made in pursuance of the orders of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, by certain members of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, to whom it appears that his Royal Highness had been advised to refer certain documents and other evidence respecting the charges and conduct of her Royal Highness. She is so grieved as to be unable to read it without being sensible of the aspersions which it casts upon her; and although it is so vague as to render it impossible to discover the tenor of the charges, yet, as her Royal Highness is conscious of no offence, she feels it, in herself, to be a duty to give up which she is connected by the ties of matrimony, and to the people among whom she holds a distinguished rank, not to rest under any imputation affecting her honor."

"The Princess of Wales has not been permitted to know what evidence the Members of the Privy Council proceeded in their investigation; nor has her Royal Highness been allowed to be heard in her own defence. She knew only by common rumor that such an inquiry had been instituted, until the result was communicated to her in the form of the Report. She knows not whether she is to consider the members of the Privy Council by whom her conduct has been inquired into, as a body to whom she would be authorized to apply for redress, or in their individual capacity, as persons selected to make the report of her conduct."

"The Princess of Wales is, therefore, compelled to throw herself on the wisdom and justice of Parliament, and she earnestly desires a full investigation of her conduct during the whole period of her residence in this country. Her Royal Highness feels no scrutiny, however strict, provided it be conducted by impartial judges, and in a fair and open manner before a tribunal known to the Constitution."

"His Royal Highness's wish either to be treated as innocent, or to be proved guilty."

"Her Royal Highness desires that this letter may be communicated to the House of Commons."

LONDON, Feb. 22.

Various are the reports respecting the foreigner who arrived from Paris last week. We stated that he was understood to belong to the house of Perigaux and Co. of Paris, and that it was rumored that his mission was purely of a commercial kind; some say to vest money in the British funds, the French being very low at this moment. But there are people, and those well informed, who assert that his name is Bassani, (a person who has been employed on political missions before) and that he has had three interviews with Lord Castlereagh since his arrival.

It was reported at Stockholm when the mails came away, that a treaty was negotiating between Sweden and Denmark, by which the latter power was to place 40,000 men under Bernadotte's command.

The Emperor of Russia has returned to St. Petersburg, where, on the 13th ult. he went, with his Imperial Consort, to the Cathedral, and offered up thanks for the delivery of the Russian territory from the enemy.

February 27.

The last, Gottenburg mails, among other in-

teresting articles, have put us in possession of a series of interesting documents, connected with the state of the relations between Sweden and France. Not a doubt can now remain in the breast of any rational being, that war—open, un- disguised war—will now be waged by Sweden against France. The documents with which we this day present our readers relate to the dismissal of the French Ambassador from Stockholm; an event which was attended with circumstances unprecedented in the annals of diplomacy. This ambassador, Monsieur de Cabre, refused to leave Stockholm until he was "ordered by his august emperor." This is the first time that the right of removing an ambassador was attempted to be confined to the person who sent him. A Swedish police officer conducted M. de Cabre, out of the country, and he travelled, therefore, like a felon, for whom no passports were necessary.

A private vessel has arrived from the Baltic, with advices two days later than those received by the last Gottenburg mails. We are again informed by this opportunity, that Denmark was about to join with Sweden and Russia against France. The circumstance is highly probably—the following is one of the letters alluded to.

HÄLSINGBORG, Feb. 13.

"Four commissioners are employed busily at Copenhagen, in concluding a friendly treaty—the one is Swedish, another Danish, a third British, and the fourth Russian."

"Austria has declared her purpose, which is to maintain her neutrality, protecting her territories at the same time by an army of 300,000 men."

By the same vessel we have received accounts from Altona of the Russians having completely invested Danzig, having crossed the Vistula and Nogat, at all points, on the ice. They had previously beaten and driven into the fortress, the shattered remains of the French fugitives collected by Grandjeu. The few surviving companies of the Imperial Guards fled in the direction of Posen.

March 3.

The chancellor of the exchequer has given notice, as may be seen in our parliamentary report, that he would, on Wednesday next, move that the house do resolve itself into a committee to consider the general state of finance. This, we presume, is preparatory to his giving notice of what amount of exchequer bills he means to fund, and in what stock. It has been expected for some days, in consequence of which the funds generally have been upon the decline—Consols were, this morning, about 30 for Mandy.

Five Gottenburg mails are now due, but although considerable anxiety prevails, it is un- mixed with any apprehensions as to the continued success of the Russians. The last letters, received from Danzig, are dated on the 18th of Jan. the day after the gates were closed, and they certainly afford strong grounds to believe, that the surrender actually took place on the 27th of that month, as reported. The garrison was described as consisting of troops of all nations, who acted with no fidelity, and on one occasion, where an officer was ordered under arrest for calumniating the French the soldiers positively refused to seize him!

Private accounts from Berlin, received by the same opportunity, state the Russians continued to advance without opposition. Gen. Steinheil with one corps is at New Stebin; Wittgenstein at Rugenwalde, in Prussian Pomerania; and Platoff with his brave Cosacks, has entered the March of Brandenburg. We rejoice to hear, that the Russian troops observe the strictest discipline and are every where received with exultation by the inhabitants. No preparations whatever were made to defend Berlin, on the contrary the inhabitants were unreserved in expressing their wish for their approach.

A vessel arrived in the river yesterday from the French coast. No expose of the state of the empire has yet been published; and it is reported, that the conscription now meets with more serious obstructions than ever. At Paris it was whispered, that the state prisoner, alluded to in a late article from Vienna, was prince Schwarzenberg who had been charged by Bonaparte with causing the ruin of his army. Other reports stated him to be Murat, king of Naples, who had been arrested on his way to Italy, by order of Bonaparte. The only objection to the probability of the latter statement is, that the mysterious personage spoke nothing but Latin to his keepers! We believe that it is only since his elevation to the Throne, that Murat was taught to sign his name!

The army at Alicant amounted, with all its reinforcements of Italians, Calabrese, Sicilians, &c. to 25,000 men; of which number 9000 were English and Germans. The total of the forces that had arrived from Sicily, was 19,000—Suchet had about 20,000 effective to oppose them, and it was reported that Soult had detached 8000 more men to join him. There was no immediate prospect of operations—the British had no cavalry, and the rivers on the east coast of Spain were impassable. Lord W. Bentinck, remained in Sicily on the 16th of January.

March 3.

By a majority of forty it was decided last night in the house of commons, that the claims of the Catholics to a participation in all those rights which belong to the citizens of a free country, should be referred to a committee. This decision will be hailed by every enlightened mind, as a proof of the progress of reason and common sense throughout the whole community. Let the same liberality and moderation prevail in the future discussions on this important topic, which have marked the present, and the result will be cordiality and union throughout the empire. The repeal of

all the remaining disqualifying statutes which exclude dissenters from any of the common rights of citizens, is what will then be wanting to secure the effectual and triumphant co-operation of the irresistible energies of a free and happy people in defence of our common privileges.

The India fleet, which was to sail under command of the *Sterling Castle*, will we understand, be dispatched at the *Lovisa House* on Saturday next, and proceed on their voyage under the protection of a ship of war specially appointed.

BREITEN, Feb. 2.

The night between the 17th and 18th of last month, at one o'clock, a troop of French grenadiers attempted to seize the person of the king by passing the malices of the Palace of Charlottenburg where his majesty had been on that day—the attempt however, miscarried—the king having been informed of the plot thro' prince Ferdinand early enough to save himself by flight, with two of his adjutants, and to his own great arms, Potsdam. There, when he arrived he ordered the drums to beat, as a pursuit was apprehended. His majesty, in consequence of this event, set out on the road to Silsia with 6000 troops of his guards, after having declared the crown prince of age, and given him his benediction. The rage of the people is arrived at its highest pitch, and some bloody scenes are expected. The Russians advance in great force—they are distant on this place only from 25 to 30 leagues.

The publication of the following letter has excited strong sensations in the minds of the people of England, and has given rise to much controversy in the halls of ministry and opposition.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

Copy of a letter from her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

"Sir—It is with great reluctance I presume to intrude myself upon your royal highness, and to solicit your attention to matters which may, at first, appear rather of a personal than a public nature. If I could think them so—if they related merely to myself—I should abstain from a proceeding which might give uneasiness, or interrupt the more weighty occupations of your royal highness's time. I should continue, in silence and retirement, to lead the life which has been prescribed to me, and console myself for the loss of that society and those domestic comforts to which I have been so long a stranger by the reflection, that it has been deemed proper I should be afflicted without any fault of my own—and that your royal highness knows it."

"But, Sir, there are considerations of a higher nature than any regard to my own happiness, which render this address a duty both to myself and my daughter. May I venture to say—a duty also to my husband, and the people committed to his care? There is a point beyond which a guiltless woman cannot with safety carry her forbearance. If her honor is invaded, the defence of her reputation is no longer a matter of choice; and it signifies not whether the attack be made openly, manfully and direct—or by secret insinuation, and by holding such contact towards her as countenances all the suspicions that malice can suggest. If these ought to be the feelings of every woman in England who is conscious that she deserves no reproach, your Royal Highness has too sound a judgment, and too nice a sense of honor, not to perceive, how much more justly they belong to the mother of your daughter—the mother of her who is destined, I trust, at a very distant period to reign over the British empire."

"It may be known to your Royal Highness, that during the continuance of the restrictions upon your royal authority, I purposely refrained from making any representations which might then augment the painful duties of your exalted station. At the expiration of the restrictions, I still was inclined to delay taking this step, in the hope that I might owe the redress I sought to your gracious and unsolicited condescension. I have waited, in the fond indulgence of this expectation, until, by my inexpressible mortification, I find that my unwillingness to complain, has only produced fresh grounds of complaint; and I am at length compelled, either to abandon all regard for the two dearest objects I possess on earth, mine own honor, and my beloved child; or to throw myself at the feet of your Royal Highness, the natural protector of both."

"I presume, Sir, to represent to your Royal Highness, that the separation, which every succeeding month is making wider, of the mother and the daughter, is equally injurious to my character, and her education. I saw nothing of the deep wounds which so cruel an arrangement inflicts upon my feelings, altho' I would vainly hope that few persons will be found of a disposition to think lightly of these. To see myself cut off from one of the very few domestic enjoyments left me—certainly the only one upon which I set any value, the society of my child—involves me in such misery, as I well know your Royal Highness could never inflict upon me, if you were aware of its bitterness. Our intercourse has been gradually diminished. A single interview weekly seemed sufficiently hard allowance for a mother's affections. That, however, was reduced to our meeting once a fortnight; and I now learn, that even this most rigorous interdiction is to be still more rigidly enforced."

"As while I do not venture to intrude my feelings as a mother upon your Royal Highness's

notice, I must be allowed to say, that in the eyes of an observing and jealous world this separation of a daughter from her mother, will only admit of one construction, a construction fatal to the mother's reputation.

Your Royal Highness will also pardon me for adding, that there is no less inconsistency than injustice in this treatment. He who dares advise your Royal Highness to overlook the evidence of my innocence, and disregard the sentence of complete acquittal which it produced—or is wicked and false enough still to whisper suspicions in your ear,—betrays his duty to you, sir, to your daughter and to your people. If he counsels you to permit a day to pass without a further investigation of my conduct, I know that no such examiner will venture to recommend a measure which must speedily end in his utter confusion. Then let me implore you to reflect on the situation in which I am placed; without the shadow of a charge against me—without even an accusation—yet treated as if I were still more culpable than the perjurers of my suborned traducers represented me; and held up to the world as a mother who may not enjoy the society of her only child."

"The feelings, sir, which are natural to my unexampled situation, might justify me in the gracious judgment of your Royal Highness had I no other motives for addressing you but such as relate to myself; but I will not disguise from your Royal Highness what I cannot for a moment conceal from myself,—that the serious, and it soon may be, the irreparable injury which my daughter sustains from the plan at present pursued, has done more in overcoming my reluctance to intrude upon your Royal Highness, than any sufferings of my own could accomplish; and if for her sake, I presume to call away your Royal Highness's attention from the other cares of your exalted station, I feel confident I am not claiming it for a matter of inferior importance either to yourself or your people."

"The powers with which the constitution of these realms vests your Royal Highness in the regulation of the Royal Family, I know, because I am so advised, are ample and unquestionable. My appeal, Sir, is made to your excellent sense and liberality of mind in the exercise of those powers, and I willingly hope, that your own parental feelings will lead you to excuse the anxiety of mine, for impelling me to represent the unhappy consequences which the present system must entail upon our beloved child."

"Is it possible, Sir, that any one can have attempted to persuade your Royal Highness, that her character will not be injured by the perpetual violence offered to her strongest affections—the studied care taken to estrange her from my society, and even to interrupt all communication between us? That her love for me, with whom, by his Majesty's wise and gracious arrangements, she passed the years of her infancy and childhood, never can be extinguished, I well know; and the knowledge of it forms the greatest blessing of my existence. But let me implore your Royal Highness to reflect, how inevitably all attempts to abate this attachment, by forcibly separating us, if they succeed, must injure my child's principles—if they fail, must destroy her happiness."

"The plan of excluding my daughter from all intercourse with the world, appears to my humble judgment peculiarly unfortunate. She who is destined to be the sovereign of this great country, enjoys none of those advantages of society which are deemed necessary for imparting a knowledge of mankind to persons who have infinitely less occasion to learn that important lesson; and it may so happen, by a chance, which I trust is very remote, that she should be called upon to exercise the powers of the crown, with an experience of the world more confined than that of the most private individual. To the extraordinary talents with which she is blessed, and which accompany a disposition as singularly amiable, frank, and decided, I willingly trust much; but beyond a certain point the greatest natural endowments cannot struggle against the disadvantages of circumstances and situation. It is my earnest prayer, for her own sake, as well as her country's, that your Royal Highness may be induced to pause before this point be reached."

"Those who have advised you, sir, to delay so long the period of my daughter's commencing her intercourse with the world, and for that purpose to make Windsor her residence, appear not to have regarded the interruptions to her education which this arrangement occasions, both by the impossibility of obtaining the attendance of proper teachers, and the time unavoidably consumed in the frequent journeys to town which she must make, unless she is to be secluded from all intercourse, even with your Royal Highness and the rest of your Royal Family. To the same unfortunate counsels I ascribe a circumstance in every way so distressing both to my parental and religious feelings, that my daughter has never yet enjoyed the benefit of confirmation, although above a year older than the age at which all the other branches of the Royal Family have partaken of that solemnity. May I earnestly conjure you, sir, to hear my entreaties upon this serious matter, even if you should listen to other advisers on things of less near concernment to the welfare of our child?"

"The pain with which I have at length formed the resolution of addressing myself to your Royal Highness, is such as I should in vain attempt to express, if I could adequately describe