

The Raleigh Minerva.

Vol. 19.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1817.

No. 1116.

RALEIGH, (N. C.)

PRINTED WEEKLY, BY A. LUGAS.

Terms of subscription: Three dollars per year, one half to be paid in advance. No paper to be continued longer than three months after a year's subscription becomes due, and notice thereof shall have been given.

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FOREIGN.

THE STATE OF THE United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, at the Peace of Paris, November 20, 1815.

After so violent a convulsion in Europe, with its natural effects, a war of two and twenty years' continuance, it is a very reasonable wish, to inquire what has been its real consequences to Great Britain and Ireland.

Of the People.—In every inquiry of this kind, the people are the chief object: whether they have increased, or diminished, throughout so long a struggle, is a question of great importance. During the war of 1756, it was disputed, between Brakenridge and Foster, whether the people had increased, or diminished, and what was their amount? but without any decision.

Of the domestic enterprizes of the People of the United Kingdom.—The best evidence of these enterprizes, together with their extent, and of their increase, is the Journals of Parliament. From this record, we know many Acts of Parliament have passed, season after season, for making local improvements of every kind, during the last thirty years, of which there have been so many periods of distress, hostilities.

In the first period of eight years, when the peace ended in 1792, and the first war began, there were passed, Acts of Parliament, for local improvements, 750. In the subsequent period of war, which ended with 1801, the number of such laws, for such local improvements, amounted to 1,124.

These enumerations evince clearly three points: the first, that the energy and enterprize of the people continued to increase, without interruption, during those long periods of warfare; secondly, that the people, making those local improvements, turned their energies upon the improvement of their several districts; and thirdly, that the undertakings of these vast enterprizes found the means, and money, to carry them into effect, in their own industry, their reproductions, and consequent wealth.

Of the Agriculture of the United Kingdom.—During the present reign, at least 3,000,000 acres of waste, or common land, have been enclosed, and brought into cultivation. Of those local improvements, there were 1,591 Acts of Parliament passed, for dividing common lands, for draining wet lands, and for inclosing open lands: these facts alone demonstrate, that the United Kingdom has been much improved in its surface, during the last thirty years; and, consequently, is much more valuable, as a collection of farms. A Board of Agriculture was instituted to establish, for ascertaining the state of husbandry in every district; for energizing the husbandmen; for instructing all those who are connected with lands; for their reports evince a very improving agriculture every where, within the Kingdom; and a very active spirit of improvement, upon better principles, appears to have gone forth in all parts of our country; hence, by a necessary progress, the body of the people, either as land-owners, or occupiers, became more skilful, more enterprising, and more opulent; of consequence there was more land cultivated, with more knowledge, and more capital: so that from more cultivation, more skill, and more capital, thus employed in agriculture, there were more of the products of land brought, every season, to market, from an improved husbandry, at home. But, since the demands of war have ceased, the prices of those products have fallen: this is a natural consequence; as price is always settled by the vibrations of supply and demands; the supply being greater, and the demand less, the prices must necessarily be less.

Of our Foreign Trade.—The next object of inquiry is, whether our commerce has kept pace with the progress of our agriculture, during our long enduring wars. The average of the three years 1755-56-57, shows the amount of the value of our exports, when the war of 1756 began, to have been, £12,371,852. The value of the exports, when the war of 1793 began, appears, from the average of three years 1793-4-5, to have been 24,753,867. The value of the exports when the war of 1803 began, will appear, from a 3 years average, ending with 18 5, to have been 33,614,932. The greatest year of exports, during the war, was that of 1809; amounting to 50,301,763.

But this vast amount was far surpassed by that of 1814, amounting to £ 56,591,514.

From the Custom-house accounts, which have been made up to the 10th of October, 1815, there is reason to believe, that the exports of 1815 have even surpassed the vast export of the preceding year. Such, then, was the prodigious augmentation of the foreign trade of Great Britain; while the British traders, owing to their capital and enterprize, and to the protection of the British fleets, in some measure engrossed the whole traffic of the commercial world; though the nation was embarrassed, but not obstructed, by the great demands, and smaller supplies of bullion, owing chiefly to the convulsions of the American countries, and the continental system.

2ndly. With regard to the trade of Ireland.—The value of the whole exports of Ireland in 1701 was only 779,109. In 1751 1,854,605. In 1811 4,19,526. In 1809 5,739,843. In 1814 7,139,437.

Now, it is quite evident to all, who are capable of reasoning on such subjects, that it required, both in Ireland and in Britain, more people and industry, more capital and enterprize, to export the cargoes of 1809 and 1814 from both, than the cargoes of 1801, and of 1751: and, whence did Great Britain and Ireland derive all those augmentations of enterprize and capital, of industry and people? The answer must be; from their own powers of reproduction, under a happy constitution, and a mild government.

The fifth object of inquiry must be with regard to the shipping, which were necessary for exporting those vast cargoes:—

	British Tons.	Foreign Tons.	The Total Tons.
The quantity of tonnage, British and foreign, which were required to transport the exports of the years 1755-56 and 57, were, upon an average of those years	496,254	16,456	512,710
The quantity of tonnage, British and foreign, which were necessary for exporting the cargoes of the years 1793-4 and 5, were, upon an average of those years	1,255,939	262,558	1,518,498
The quantity of tonnage, British and foreign, which were necessary for exporting the cargoes of the years 1803-4 and 5, were, upon an average of those years	1,474,520	589,414	2,063,934

The whole shipping, which transported the greater export of 1814, amounted to 2,117,268. It is thus apparent, that shipping were successively found, for transporting these vast cargoes, as our trade augmented from various causes.

The six object of inquiry must be, what was the whole amount of shipping, which belonged to the British dominions, in the following periods; as the same were registered under the direction of the law. There were registered

Year	Ships	Tons
In 1785	14,43	1,343,473
In 1792	10,079	1,349,146
In 1802	20,568	2,138,635
In 1814	24,418	2,616,905

Such, then, was the gradual but extensive increase of our shipping, since the year 1792; and such their general amount, at the end of 1814.

VII. Of Bullion and their Exchanges.—The seventh object of inquiry must be respecting of bullion, exchanges, and the collateral questions, arising from these economical topics.

What I published in 1811, on those litigated topics at that period, I see no reason to change: what I wrote was derived from the experience of the commercial world, and from the practice of daily business; what I then foretold, has actually occurred. I then said, that what had happened before, as to the price of bullion, and the fluctuation of exchanges, would again happen, when the commercial pressure of the continental system were removed. That system, and its all hor, are both undone for ever. Commerce, and exchanges, have already begun to run in their usual channels. The exchanges have become favorable; and the prices of bullion have fallen to five per cent. above the mint price of 3l. 17s. 10d. though the countries of bullion are agitated with the effects of independence. In another country of agitations, the exchanges are, indeed, unfavorable, owing to the decline of prices, in all the products of agriculture. I do not learn that the Doctors in Political Economy have any other prescription for such a disorder, which is not infrequent in Ireland, than patient perseverance in well doing.

VIII. Of the Finances of the Country.—While the inhabitants of the United Kingdom appear to possess in a greater degree than formerly, all the enjoyments of a free, intelligent, and enterprising people, is not the state much embarrassed with debts? Yes: every war, since that of the Revolution in 1688, has left the public more and more in debt. When, in those several debts of successive wars were summed up, in January 1786, a debt was found to be due, by the public, of 238,231,248l. Mr. Pitt, who then, happily, conducted the affairs of this country, not only made the annual income quite equal to the national expenture; but, provided a sinking fund of a million, for the gradual payment of that debt. The Parliament, who effected his measures of finance, and the people who heartily concurred with him, have covered themselves with glory. The sinking fund was strengthened by annual grants of money: it was energized by various measures of finance; and the sinking fund, as its management had been wisely established, was providently applied to its real object; so that before December, 1813, the whole of that vast debt was completely paid off, and a surplus remaining in hand of 20,000,000l. Here, then, is an example of a very large debt being paid off, by a sinking fund, when conducted under prudent management; and this example is one of the resources of the state. After liquidating that debt, and sustaining the public credit, throughout the pressures of such a war against the nation, and its commerce, there remained on the 1st of February, 1815, a sinking fund of 11,324,760l. the sheet-anchor of the state.

But the war of 1793, as it was the longest, and conducted on the largest scale, having other nations to sustain, has involved the state in larger debts than all our former wars had created. The public, on the 1st of February, 1815, owed a funded debt of 649,760,905. And an unfunded debt of 68,580,324. But to these must be added the debts contracted for the various expenses of the year 1815. And then the undecredited debt for Great Britain, for Ireland, for Germany, for Portugal, and for East India, will amount to 819,145,385.

For interest thereon	£. 29,681,664
For management thereof	294,946
For the sinking fund	14,131,548
The total annual charge thereon	44,294,037

Another resource of the state is, the clearness wherewith the public accounts are stated, and the publicity which is given to the incumbrances, and means of the community.

The people of the United Kingdom, during the reign of King William, could not have moved under the weight of such incumbrances. But, the much more numerous people of the present times, who are better instructed and usefully employed, with an agriculture infinitely superior, with manufactures vastly more extensive and profitable, with a foreign trade, and shipping, beyond all comparison greater, move with ease under such incumbrances. We have seen with what facility, notwithstanding the pressures of war, the people executed such numerous and various works, for the local improvements of their country, which, considering their vastness and utility, emulate the Roman labour: hence we may infer, that time is one of the resources of the state.

We inquire from what source the people of the United Kingdom have derived such vast and increasing wealth, we shall find, that it was not owing to conquests, or mines; but to the perfect safety, which they derive from their salutary laws; to the energetic industry, which is urged and rewarded by that sense of safety; to the immense commerce, domestic and foreign, of inspired people; so that, from those causes originate those prodigious productions of opulence, which appear, at successive periods, to the astonishment of the world; and which have indeed commended writers to maintain, that the resources of such a people are inexhaustible, while fostered by circumspection.

NEW YORK PORT, AUG. 7. Latest arrival.—Last evening arrived the ship Tea-pant Brown, in 43 days from Liverpool, which she left on the 21st June. By her we have received London dates to the 19th, and Liverpool to the 21st of that month; both inclusive. Extracts will be found in the proper columns. The quantity of American flour received at Liverpool for one week previous to her sailing amounted to no less than 45,994 barrels and 1,992 half barrels.—The market was glutted, and the article consequently dull.

The fifth report was made to parliament on the 19th of June, which relates entirely to the Irish Civil Estimates. The committee doubt the advantage of charitable institutions, as they tend to draw together into the capital large bodies of people desirous of partaking of temporary support; but recommend no reduction at present in that kind of support which these institutions may afford.

The opening of the "Waterloo Bridge," across the Thames, took place on the 18th June. The prince regent, and the principal nobility of England, walked over the bridge on that day for the first time, and paid toll. The London papers say that this bridge is superior to the others which beside the Thames, and is consequently the finest in the world. The Duke of Wellington had arrived in England, and attended at the ceremony.

We have received the London Courier, containing the particulars of Watson's trial, during each day, but they are too long for publication. We have only room for the following.

Trial for High Treason.—The Morning Chronicle of the 10th, contains the arraignment of Messrs. Arthur Thistlewood, James Watson, sen. Thomas Preston and John Hooper, in the court of King's Bench, Westminster, June 9, for high treason. The trial excited extraordinary interest: after mentioning sundry arrangements, the Chronicle states the following particulars.—While the officers of the crown were thus attentive to the performance of their duty, the Solicitor of the prisoners, Mr. Harmer, and their friends were not less exertive in their arrangements. Inquiries were set on foot as to the character and principles of the jury-men summoned. Subscriptions were raised to defray the expense of the defence; and yesterday, for the first time, the following placard was posted about the town in large letters.

State prisoners.—To the friends of humanity and justice.—The wives and families of the four persons confined in the tower, under charges of high treason, have in consequence of this confinement been deprived of all means of support, and have been left for the last four months to experience the greatest distress and embarrassment. They appeal to the friends of humanity and justice for pecuniary aid and the known liberality of the country, that it would not allow helpless wives and innocent children to become the victims of severe privation and want.

They forbear, at this crisis, remarking on the situation of their husbands and fathers, or expressing the affliction they have endured in being thus painfully separated from their dearest connections, because they hope a jury of their country will shortly do them every justice, which will be their best appeal.

On Saturday morning, Thistlewood and Watson were visited in the tower by their counsel, Mr. Wetherell, and on the same day, Preston and Hooper had an interview with their legal advisers, namely, Mr. Edward Lawes and Mr. Rigby for the former, and Mr. Holt and Mr. Starkney for the latter. During Sunday Mr. Watson was visited by his two brothers and three of his daughters, who seemed deeply affected at his situation. Thistlewood, at the same time, saw his wife and son (the latter, about ten years of age,) and Preston his two daughters.

This morning, soon after seven, sir Nathaniel Conant arrived at the tower, having been preceded by several Bow-street officers. A troop of life guards was likewise in attendance.

Being arraigned, the attorney general moved that the prisoners, as they insisted on the right of challenging jurors, should be tried se-

parately, which Lord Ellenborough assented.

The indictment consists of four counts and a great many specifications:

1. For compassing and imagining to put the king to death.
2. For compassing and imagining to depose the king.
3. For levying war against the king, on the 2d Dec. 1816, at the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, &c.
4. For conspiring to levy war against the king, in order to compel him to change his measures.

The trial of Watson for treason occupied seven days, and closed on the 15th of June, by a verdict of acquittal. Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough, was nearly five hours in delivering his charge to the jury, and then becoming exhausted, was assisted by Justice Abbott, in finishing the result of the evidence. His lordship concluded, by entreating that the jury would give in such a verdict as would quiet their consciences, protect the prisoner, and give him immunity from punishment if he deserved not to be visited by it; while they would at the same time, feel that they were protecting the laws of the land, and giving them, and those who administer them, effective security.

The Jury now proposed to withdraw, and an officer (Mr. Beaumont) was sworn to take them in charge during their deliberation.

Lord Ellenborough then intimated to the Jury that they might have refreshment in the box before they retired; afterward, until their verdict was given in, they could not expect to receive any.

Mr. Justice Abbott suggested to them to have some tea or coffee.

Some of the Jury wished for sandwiches and wine and water and in a few minutes after manifested an anxiety to retire and consider their verdict without waiting for refreshment.

Lord Ellenborough told them not to be in a hurry; the Court would very readily wait. Officers soon after escorted them out of Court to their room. Most of the barristers in the front seats, after the retirement of the Jury stood up, as did Mr. Watson, folding his arms. Afterwards he wrote a note to Mr. Harmer, his solicitor, then conversed with Mr. Wetherall, who was on the floor of the court, and received Mr. Harmer's answer.

The Officer, to whose care the Jury were committed, took the following oath:—

"You shall well and truly keep this Jury without meat, drink, or fire—you shall suffer no person whatever to speak to them, nor you yourself, unless it be to ask them whether they are agreed, or not."

Before the return of the Jury, great huzzaning and clapping of hands were heard in the Hall. Much surprise was apparent in the Court. Lord Ellenborough said, the Hall ought to be cleared, and Mr. Sheriff Kirby went out, as if for that purpose, but quiet was presently restored, and it was found, that the applause had been given to the Lord Mayor, on his passing through the Hall.

The Jury were absent about an hour and three quarters. Upon their return their names were immediately called over, and they were asked who was their Foreman? They replied, Mr. Richardson, who came forward. The Officer of the Court then said, "Prisoner, hold up your hand and listen to your verdict." The Foreman of the Jury pronounced in a loud voice, NOT GUILTY.

A Barrister, drawing aside the green curtain, instantly called out towards the Hall—"Acquitted." He was heard only by a small part of the company, but their plaudits immediately made it known to the others, and were re-echoed from all parts of the Hall. The intelligence spread rapidly through Palace-yard and the adjoining streets. It was impossible to walk in the neighborhood, without hearing the words a hundred times in five minutes.

Lord Ellenborough looked round the Court, as if his Lordship, in the first moments of the impression made by the verdict, seemed to think the plaudits proceeded from a part of the audience there; but his Lordship soon perceived that the utmost decorum prevailed within his doors.

As soon as silence was obtained, Mr. Watson asked permission to say a few words. One or two Gentlemen, near him intimated, that as his Counsel, Mr. Wetherall, had withdrawn, this might not be proper, but the Court appeared willing to hear him. Mr. Watson-bowing respectfully to the Jury, said, "Gentlemen, I thank you much."

Lord Ellenborough asked the Attorney-General, if he had any other charge against the Prisoner? The Attorney-General answered, "No, my Lord."

Mr. Watson was then discharged; but, as the plaudits continued in the Hall, Lord Ellenborough expressed a wish, that the Jury should wait a little time before they withdrew, and Watson, appearing to feel, that the reason of the request might extend to him, also remained in Court. When he withdrew, it was through the vaulted passage, which leads into Old Palace-yard, whence he passed, with Mr. Harmer to Millbank.

In the mean time, the carriage, which had been drawn up near the door of the Hall to convey Mr. Watson back to the Tower, if that had been permitted by the verdict, was removed, and the Horse Guards, who attended it, retired.

In Spring Gardens Mr. Harmer and Mr. Watson were recognized and cheered. On the latter quitting Mr. Harmer's house,