

which the report entirely cleared her, there were others of a minor import, implying improper levity of conduct in a personage of her rank and dignity, respecting which the commissioners stated, that they "must be credited until they shall receive some decisive contradiction; and, if true, are justly entitled to the most serious consideration."

The princess, upon being furnished with a copy of this report, and its accompanying depositions, wrote several letters to the king; and those letters contained her defence against those minor charges with which the lords commissioners had left her tarnished. In the performance of this task, she had recourse to the legal advice and assistance of Mr. Spencer Perceval, the late chief justice Gibbs, and the present master of the rolls, sir Thomas Plomer. In the letters to which we allude, her royal highness, after a most able refutation of all which had been urged against her, concluded with a prayer to be restored to the presence of his majesty at court, and thus to be cleared in the eyes of the world.

The king, having the defence of the princess before him, and also her demands of justice at his hands, referred her letter to his cabinet ministers, and required their opinion and advice to what he ought to do in the case.

The Whigs, who were then in power, felt some difficulty as to the course which they should pursue; but, at length, on January 25, 1807, they came to a resolution in the form of a cabinet minute, in which, after adverting to the subject submitted to their consideration, they concluded by stating, that "they have agreed humbly to recommend to your majesty the draft and message, which if approved by your majesty, they would humbly suggest your majesty might send to her royal highness through the lord chancellor. Having before humbly submitted to your majesty their opinion that the facts of the case did not warrant their advising that any further steps should be taken upon it by your majesty's government, they have not thought it necessary to advise your majesty any longer to decline receiving the princess into your royal presence. But the result of the whole case does, in their judgment, render it indispensable that your majesty should, by a serious admonition, convey to her royal highness your majesty's expectation that her royal highness should be more circumspect in her future conduct."

The king, agreeably to the advice of his cabinet, sent a message to the princess, through the lord chancellor Erskine, containing the admonition recommended in the minute of the cabinet above alluded to.—The message was sent on the 28th of January, 1807. The princess, upon receiving it, immediately wrote to the king, intimating to him, that she would wait upon him at Windsor on the Monday following. The king, the moment he received her letter, wrote back that he preferred receiving her in London, upon a day subsequent to the ensuing week. To this letter the princess returned no answer, and waited of course, to hear from the king. Thus every thing appeared to be satisfactorily settled, and the princess was about to be restored to society, when, at the request of the prince of Wales, all further steps were suspended—that is to say, the receiving of the princess by his majesty was put off, until the prince should be enabled to submit to the king a statement which he proposed to make to him upon the papers relating to the princess's defence, after consulting with his own lawyers.

To be continued.

Foreign Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, July 3.

The marquis of Lansdown brought up the report of committee upon foreign trade, but did not enlarge upon any of the results to which the inquiries of the committee had led, or upon any specific plan that was to be recommended. The noble marquis, in general terms, adverted to the great importance of the various subjects comprised in the report, and expressed the anxious wish of the committee, that some measure, as far as any measure was practicable, should be founded upon their report. He mentioned particularly certain alterations and arrangements respecting duties which appeared necessary for giving consistency and effect to existing measures. The report was ordered to be printed.

The earl of Harrowby presented the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the charges against her majesty, which was as follows:—"That the

committee have examined, with all the attention due to so important a subject, the various documents laid before them, and they find that those documents contain allegations supported by the concurrent testimony of persons in various situations of life, residing in various parts of Europe, deeply affecting the honor of the queen, and charging her majesty with an adulterous intercourse with a foreigner in her majesty's service—and attributing to her majesty a continued series of conduct highly unbecoming her majesty's situation and character, and of the most licentious description. The committee have so deeply felt that the character and honor of the crown, as well as the moral feeling of the country are involved, that they are of opinion, that it is indispensable that this matter should become the subject of a solemn inquiry, the necessity of which they most deeply deplore."

The earl of Liverpool rose to give notice, that he would to-morrow present a bill to the house, in consequence of the report of their lordships committee. He would not then enter into the details of the measures to be proposed to the house; but he was persuaded that their lordships were disposed to consult the convenience of the illustrious person concerned, as to the time to be allowed for the collection of evidence.

Earl Gray said, he had stated it on a former occasion, and he would now repeat it, that his only wish was for strict and impartial justice; but in stating that, he must also repeat his objection to the proposed course of proceeding, and protest against the injustice of it. A proceeding which would not even meet the object of the accusers. His great objection was, that the charges were not brought forward by the responsible ministers of the crown, but by a committee of that house, which must eventually sit in judgment upon her majesty's conduct. The charge was, that of an adulterous connection with a menial servant; a charge more abhorrent to every one in that house, or the nation, could not be brought forward. That charge called imperiously for inquiry the moment that it was known to exist, in order to protect the honor and dignity of the crown. But by whom was that charge told, but by ministers who were themselves willing to continue her majesty in her dignity as queen; to allow her a pension; and to instruct their ministers at foreign courts to enable her to be received there, provided she would live abroad, in the state which had been described in the report.

He had heard that report with feelings of dismay and horror; and in the same degree he feared the consequences of such a proceeding. What should be said to ministers, who were in possession of the only proofs on which the charges rested, and yet had slept upon them for a year, and had never taken measures to bring them before the public, until the queen had come boldly to meet those charges which now kept the public mind agitated in the extreme, without proper proof or inquiry? Ministers appeared to him to have compromised the honor and dignity of the crown, and the peace of the country, by the course they had adopted. It had been said that her majesty should have time given to prepare her defence; but, in his opinion, nothing could be worse than promulgating such opinions of her conduct so long before the possibility of her rebutting the accusations, and upon the authority of that house. How was her majesty to know what witnesses she was to bring over? The name of that menial servant was not even mentioned; and it must be three months at least before she could enter on her defence. He trusted that a distinct list of the charges, the times and the witnesses, would be furnished to her.—That, at least, justice required; and he concluded by protesting against the proposed course of proceeding.

Lord Harrowby said, that if any injustice had been done to the queen, the house was at least an accomplice in such injustice. He would assure the house, had it been possible, by allowing her majesty to remain in this country, to preserve the public peace, no sacrifice would have been too great.

Lord Carnarvon expressed his astonishment at the intention of ministers to shorten the duration of parliament, while matter of such deep interest was pending, in order to celebrate a coronation. He called upon ministers to postpone that solemn rite.

Lord Darnley also recommended the postponement of the coronation.

Earl Gray said, that if the charge was, as now, of a long adulterous intercourse, it admitted of no compromise for the honor of the nation. It was not a question of family difference; it was a matter dishonorable to the queen—disgraceful to herself—and destructive of the best interests of the country!—The noble lord had said that the wish was, that her majesty should live abroad in comfort—in comfort!—no; but, it was intended to give her fifty thousand pounds a year, in order to enable her to carry on the alleged adulterous intercourse abroad.

The earl of Liverpool denied that ministers had ever represented these matters as mere family differences. Assuming the evidence on which the report was made to be true, it was fit, upon every principle of public expedi-

ency, that she should be induced if possible, not to come to this country. This was desirable on account of the situation of the parties—the safety and tranquillity of the country! It was the duty of statesmen to look to all this, and it was proper that ministers should endeavor to avoid all this; and they had done so: but the ulterior conduct had been forced upon them by her return—and if they had not adopted that conduct, the public morals must have been endangered.

Lord Holland declared that he could not see the distinction between her majesty's being abroad or in this country, with respect to the propriety of inquiry. He knew not how their lordships could reconcile to their minds the extravagant offer of 50,000*l.* to her majesty before her arrival in England. With respect to the coronation, it would be decent and proper that the pageantry and rejoicing of such a celebration should be postponed.

London, July 6.

In the house of lords yesterday, a deal of routine business was transacted. Lord Dacre presented the following petition from her majesty:

"Caroline Regina. The queen observing the most extraordinary report made in the house of lords by the secret committee, and now lying on the table, represents to the house that she is prepared, at this moment, to defend herself against it, as far as she can understand its import. The queen also states, that there are various matters touching the same, which it is absolutely necessary, with a view to her future defence, to have stated in the present state of the proceeding. The queen therefore prays that she may be heard by her counsel touching such matters."

Lord Dacre then urged the propriety of counsel being heard on behalf of the queen, and said that if the petition was agreed to, he should vote that counsel be called in.

Lord Liverpool stated, that after he had obtained leave to bring in the bill, he should move that a copy be presented to the queen, and then the petition might be regularly taken into consideration.

The petition was strongly supported by lord Grey and other noblemen on the side of the opposition, but the motion of lord Dacre that counsel be heard, was negatived without a division.

The earl of Liverpool then rose to submit to their lordships the bill of which he had given notice. In doing so, he was convinced he would best consult his own feelings as well as those of their lordships, by abstaining at the present moment from entering into any detail of the important matter to which this bill had reference. The preamble would speak for itself, and develop the charge, the allegations of which it would be the duty of those officially employed on the occasion to prove by evidence before their lordships. He had on a former night argued the propriety of instituting an impeachment rather than a bill like the present; but he was still of opinion, that when a doubt was cast upon the legality of such proceeding in this particular case, on account of the circumstances of the criminality not being that which could be established in the manner required by the common law, there was no course which their lordships could suitably adopt, except a bill of pains and penalties. The consideration then rose, by which house of parliament ought the proceeding to originate. Under all the circumstances of the case, he thought it advisable the bill should be introduced before their lordships, as their judicial habits and forms would enable them to proceed more effectually in the progress of the distressing inquiry. (*Hear, hear.*) As to the bill which he meant to introduce, the preamble would state, with as much particularity as the nature of the offence admitted, the specific charge. It would then, proceeding on the assumption that that charge were substantiated before their lordships in evidence, go to deprive her majesty of her rank and title as queen, and conclude with dissolving her marriage with the king. There were no penal consequences over and above what he had mentioned included in this bill. With the exception of the degradation of the queen from her rank, and the dissolution of her marriage, should the alleged crime be substantiated against her, it was not intended to bear more severely on the individual than the case actually called for. The charges contained in the preamble were then to be gone into, and if the house should be assured by the evidence of the correctness of these charges, their lordships would go on to the second reading.—He trusted that their lordships would discharge their duty as they had done on every other occasion wherein they had been called to exercise their judicial character, so as to secure, as they well deserved, the respect and confidence of the country. He would then propose that the bill should be read a first time; after which he would move most respectfully, that copies of the bill, when printed, should be delivered to her majesty the queen. Then their lordships would be able to postpone the second reading until the queen should be consulted as to the period in which she would prefer that the bill should proceed. It was a matter of indifference to him, if she wished it, the second

reading might be delayed, as well as intermediate proceedings, until her majesty's counsel were ready to go into her defence; otherwise, if it was her wish to proceed forthwith, it would be for their lordships to fix an early day.—He would propose that day fortnight; in the mean time he would propose next Friday or Monday for further proceedings of an intermediate nature. Their lordships had a painful and distressing duty to discharge; since his majesty had intrusted the administration of the executive government to his present servants, he (lord Liverpool) had not been called on to perform any duty so painful and distressing to his own mind and feelings.

Their lordships must endeavour, notwithstanding, to discharge that duty with firmness and resolution, but with the utmost possible lenity and mildness to the illustrious accused at the same time. If the charges which were to be advanced should after being proved, fail to convince their lordships of the necessity for proceeding with this measure, it would not be only the impunity of guilt, but the triumph of guilt. They had a straight forward course to pursue, from which they were not to be deterred, they ought not to be driven by the effects of prejudice or popular clamour. He then moved that a bill of pains and penalties for depriving Caroline, queen of England, of her rights, privileges, and prerogatives, should be read a first time. The bill was then read by the clerk.

[The bill states in the preamble that her majesty, Caroline Amelia Elizabeth, in 1814, at Milan, engaged in her service, in a menial situation, one Bartolomeo Pergami, otherwise Bartolomeo Bergami, a foreigner of low station; that an unbecoming and disgusting intimacy commenced between them; that she raised him to high and confidential situations about her person, and bestowed upon him great and extraordinary marks of distinction; that she conducted herself towards him, both in public and in private, in the various places and countries which she visited, with indecent and offensive familiarity, and carried on a licentious, disgraceful and adulterous intercourse with him, which continued for a long time during her residence abroad; by which conduct great scandal and dishonor had been brought upon his majesty's family and kingdom. The bill concludes by enacting that her said majesty be deprived of the title of queen, and of all prerogatives, rights, privileges and exemptions appertaining to her as queen consort of the realm; and that the marriage between his majesty and the said Caroline Amelia Elizabeth be dissolved.]

The earl of Liverpool moved that the bill should be printed, and copies of it delivered to the queen.

Earl Grey wished to know if any sort of communication were to be made to the queen? He put it to the noble lord whether the same information ought not to accompany the bill, to point out to her majesty the particular occasions and circumstances which were alluded to. He wished to know also if a list of witnesses were to be given to her legal advisers.

The earl of Liverpool thought that it would be time enough on the second reading to discuss the matters referred to. As to giving the accused a list of witnesses, it was wholly unprecedented in parliamentary proceedings, whether of impeachment, or on a bill of pains and penalties, and was never allowed even in criminal judicature, except in the single case of high treason. Her majesty would be allowed her choice, as to whether the accusation should be proceeded in, or be staid, in the first place, until the defence was ready.

Lord Dacre felt it necessary to move that the counsel should now be heard on behalf of the queen, that they might be enabled to state those weighty circumstances alluded to in the petition. He did so on information received very recently. He moved that the counsel should be called in.

Lord Liverpool thought that it would be better to put it off till to-morrow, when it could be done without any irregularity, and at which time he would not attempt to oppose it.

After some other general observations by earl Gray, lord Liverpool, the lord Chancellor, and lord Holland, the bill was read a first time, and copies were ordered to be delivered forthwith to the queen, by a gentleman usher of the black rod, to the queen's attorney and solicitor-general, and to the king's attorney-general.

In the house of commons, lord Castlereagh moved for the appointment of a committee to examine the journals of the house of lords, in order to ascertain whether any and what proceedings had taken place in that house with respect to her majesty, and to report their opinions thereupon to the house. The motion was agreed to, and the committee appointed accordingly. The noble lord then said, that he had submitted this motion with the view which it implied; and if, from the report of the committee, it should appear that the other house had instituted any proceeding, he should then consider whether, pending that proceeding, the notice of a motion which he had given for to-morrow should not be dropped, and also whether he should not to-morrow move the reading of the order for taking his majesty's message into consideration on Friday, with a view

of moving the postponement of that order until some future day. This postponement he should feel to be proper, in order that the house might wait the result of the proceedings in the house of lords, still reserving to itself the right of taking his majesty's message into consideration, if that should be thought necessary. But until the result of the proceedings of the lords should be made known, he submitted that it would be very inconvenient to adopt any measure.

Sir E. M. Riddley expressed his hope that the house would not agree to the course proposed by the noble lord, declaring that if no other member would take the sense of the house upon the subject, he should himself feel it his duty to do so.

Paris, June 24.

The chamber of deputies is daily occupied on the budget of the expenses of the ensuing political year. Every item undergoes scrutiny, and retrenchments are made in every branch susceptible of them. The debates are frequently very warm, and, as usual, extremely disorderly. In the debate yesterday on the naval expenses, M. Boyne de Faye, recommended the total abandonment of all naval preparations.—It was true, he said, that under Louis XIV. the French navy attained to a height of splendor, but that ever since we have experienced nothing but naval disgrace and disasters. (*Murmurs.*) During the war with England only, he continued, from 1792 to 1801, we lost 47 ships of the line, 132 frigates and 161 sloops: And if in the wars which followed the losses were less, it was because we left our ships to rot in our ports. He therefore begged the chamber not to appropriate monies to build vessels to augment the naval forces of other powers; or to decay in the dockyards of the kingdom.

The prince de Broglie, and other members, condemned the policy and remarks of the preceding speaker; and the former remarked that among the great losses of the French marine, in the immortal battle of Trafalgar, glory and honor were not included.

In an estimate of the army expenses, a reduction of 60,000*fr.* was made from the pay of the marshals, and other superior officers. One of the members remarking that these officers, by their extravagant doing, set bad examples to the people; and that his motive in voting for the reduction, was to oblige them to correct this abuse.

Paris, July 4.

The city of Victoria is filled with fugitive exiles returning into Spain, and who dare not pass Burgos until the cortes shall determine on their fate. They are in a state of great wretchedness; many of them are perfectly naked. A subscription has been got up by the inhabitants for their relief, who have distinguished themselves in their behalf.

Orders have been given to the authorities of Toledo, to demolish the "Brasien de la Viga," a place for the punishment of those who were to be burnt alive by order of the inquisition, in order to erect in its place a column to the memory of the former governor of that place, Juan de Padela, who perished a victim to his zeal in defence of Spanish liberty. The column is to bear the following inscription:—"To the memory of Juan de Padela, perpetual governor of Toledo in the 16th century, the defender of Spanish liberty, restored by his fellow citizens in 1820."

By the most deplorable oversight, a terrible disaster took place on the 22d June, in the village of Gassau. The church lately constructed was almost finished; a fete had been prepared for the workmen, and it was to be preceded by a service and prayers; circular galleries had been temporarily raised, and an immense population had been collected at this affecting religious service. The sacred music was about commencing when all at once the galleries gave way, and precipitated in the fall a crowd of persons—thirty-five persons were found dead, and more than an hundred individuals had their arms or legs broken;—there is not in this populous village a single family spared—death and grief is in every house, a tomb to open or one whose death is expected. The scene which the environs of the church presented was awful—the field of battle after a combat can alone give an idea of it. Physicians and surgeons of every kind were afforded the next day; a great number of the wounded were sent to the hospital.

TURKEY.

The grand seignor and the pachas appear to be on the very point of measuring the length of their respective swords, and give dreadful note of preparation. These pachas would hardly dare, we should presume, thus to attempt to throw off their allegiance, without they had received a previous promise of support from some formidable power now remaining behind the curtain, watching the maturity of events in secrecy and in silence. We all know the hereditary ambition of Russia, and what exertions were made by Catharine to prostrate the Ottoman power. We know the vast military preparations of Alexander—his formidable armies, commanded by the best generals of the age, in a state of high and of dangerous