

public view, their ignorance, insufficiency and treachery to your M.....y and the nation.

"I have been the innocent and unhappy victim of revenge. I was forced by their injustice and violence into exile, which I have never ceased to consider, for many years, as the most cruel oppression; because I could not longer be under the benign influence of your M.....y, in the land of Liberty.

"With a heart full of zeal for the service of your M.....y and my country, I implore, Sire, your clemency. My only hopes of pardon are founded in the great goodness and benevolence of your M.....y; and every day of freedom you may be graciously pleased to permit me the enjoyment of, in my dear native land, shall give proofs of my zeal and attachment to your service.

J. WILKES."

24. Yesterday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, ended at Guildhall the poll for representatives of this city in parliament, when the numbers stood thus:

For the Rt. Hon. Tho. Harley,	3729
Sir Robert Ladbroke,	3678
Mr. Alderman Beckford,	3402
Mr. Alderman Trecothick,	2957
Sir Richard Glyn,	2823
John Patterfon, Esq;	1769
John Wilkes, Esq;	1247

The common cryer proclaimed the poll ended, and summoned a common Hall to morrow at nine o'clock for the sheriffs to make their declaration.

The crowd was so great yesterday at Guildhall, that several persons were greatly hurt; the iron gates belonging to the Hall were broke to pieces, the lamps therein were likewise demolished, and other damage done: Some of the mob mounted the hulkings, bid defiance to the constables, and swore they would choose representatives for themselves. Mr. Wilkes upon this departed the Hall as soon as possible, in hopes that the clamour would then cease; having first addressed the livery as follows:

Gentlemen, and Fellow citizens,

"The poll being now finished, I return my sincerest thanks to those disinterested and independent friends, who have so steadily and generously stood forth in my favour: The want of success, out of our power to command, has not in the least abated my zeal for your service. You cannot be unacquainted with the various circumstances which have contributed to it. My friends were of opinion that I should wait the dissolution of the last slavish and venal parliament, while the other candidates had been for many months soliciting your interest. Ministers influence, assisted by private malice, has been exerted in the most arbitrary and unconstitutional manner, and by means of the basest chicanery and oppression.

"But tho' disappointed, I am not in the least dispirited: On the contrary, I reflect with pride and gratitude on the many instances of regard and affection I have received from the livery of London.

"I beg leave to make my best acknowledgements to the sheriffs, who have shewn the utmost candour and impartiality during the election, accompanied with a dignity of character becoming their station in this great metropolis.

"And now, gentlemen, permit me to address you as friends to liberty, and freeholders of the county of Middlesex, declaring my intention of appearing as a candidate to represent you in parliament: and still hoping by your means to have the honour of being useful to you in the British senate.

Gentlemen of the livery,

"I recommend it to you in the strongest manner to exert yourselves to preserve the peace and quiet of this city."

According to private letters from Senegal, there is advice, that the French had offered a powerful Prince on the African coast, a very large sum of money to exclude the English from trading in any part of his dominions.

March 26. A greater number of gentlemen, (noblemen's sons) are expected, we hear, to be called up to the House of Peers at the meeting of the next parliament, than has been known since the reign of Queen Anne.

It is assured that not more than six thousand of the London Livery polled in the course of the last election.

It is said that Mr. Wilkes is in possession of an annuity for life, generously granted him by a disinterested friend, which is a sufficient qualification for a seat in parliament for a county.

March 29. Last Saturday Lord Baltimore was tried at the assizes holden for Surry, before the Hon. Mr. Baron Smythe, for a rape upon Sarah Woodcock, and acquitted; and at the same time Mrs. Griffingburg and Mrs. Harvey, were tried as

accessaries to that felony, and also acquitted. The trial began about 7 in the morning, and continued till near 3 next morning.

The late remarkable trial of ***** and two women, came on exactly at half past seven in the morning, and lasted till three the next morning. Twelve out of twenty four jurymen were objected against by the prisoners. In the course of the trial the prosecutrix gave evidence, that she was not prevailed upon for the first two nights of her confinement to undress or go into bed; and that on her arrival at the country house she was peremptorily told by the two women, that she must at all events that night go to bed to ***** that she was forcibly undressed by them, and put to bed to him accordingly. That afterwards in the state of despair in which she found herself, she consented to whatever was desired of her, except what was criminal. Upon the return of the jury, ***** was ordered to hold up his hand, and the foreman answered to the usual question, not guilty. Upon the same questions being put concerning the first woman, the foreman answered guilty; but their verdict of not guilty including all three prisoners, they were all acquitted.

Another prosecution is carrying on in the same cause for the seduction only, which will be tried in the court of King's Bench.

Miss W***** was under examination 4 hours and an half, and afterwards cross examined two hours; during all which time her testimony was the most consistent, steady and sensible, that ever was known, which drew tears from many of the audience.

We hear that Sir William Trelawney, Bart. will set out this week for Portsmouth, to embark on board the Jason man of war for Jamaica, of which place he is appointed Governor.

Several dispatches of importance, were sent away yesterday to North America.

Some letters from Leghorn say, it was currently reported there, that a body of English troops were expected to arrive about the month of June next in Corsica.

Yesterday morning Sir W. B. Proctor, Mr. Cooke, and Mr. Wilkes, the candidates for the county of Middlesex, set out for Brentford, when the election came on for Knights of the Shire for that county: the latter was in a coach drawn by six long tail horses; and was attended by an amazing number of people to the place of election, which was held in the middle of Brentford Butts, a temporary booth being erected there for that purpose, in which were fifteen poll books, one for each division.

The candidates were put up at half an hour past eleven o'clock, when the shew of hands were almost general for Mr. Wilkes, and for Sir William Bouchamp Proctor, there was a very great shew, but for Mr. Cooke very few: whereupon the two former were declared to have the majority; but a poll being demanded by the friends of Mr. Cooke, the same began at one o'clock, and it was agreed that the books should be closed at eight.

Last night at the close of the poll, the numbers were, For Mr. Wilkes, 1213
Sir William Bouchamp Proctor, 749
Mr. Cooke, 643

This morning the poll was agreed to be opened again, and finally to close at two.

The insatiation was so great for Mr. Wilkes, that every person was obliged to declare for him, and have blue cockades, before they were admitted to poll.

The mob behaved in a very outrageous manner at Hyde Park corner, where they pelted Mr. Cook, son of the city marshal, and knocked him from his horse, took off the wheels of one of the carriages, cut the harness, and broke the glasses to pieces; several other carriages, with the friends of Messrs. Proctor and Cooke, were greatly damaged. The reason assigned for these proceedings is, that a flag was carried before the procession of Mr. Wilkes's antagonists, on which was painted, 'No Blasphemer.'

A prodigious concourse of people assembled at Brentford, who would not suffer any coaches to enter the town without 'No. 45.' and the words 'Wilkes and Liberty' on them.

Several flags were flying with the motto, *More meat and fewer cooks.*

Letters from Leghorn mention, that a fresh misunderstanding had happened between the Genoese and Corsicans, on occasion of the former refusing to deliver up certain prisoners claimed by the latter.

By letters from Cheshire, Shropshire, and Lancashire, we learn, that there is as fine a prospect of a plentiful harvest this summer, as has been known in those parts for many years past.

A liveryman of London, asking a friend of Mr. Wilkes, whether he thought it would not have been more prudent for Mr. Wilkes to have thrown up the poll sooner, as by carrying it on to the end, he shewed how small a part of the livery he had on his side? He turned it off with a smile, and said, "Mr. Wilkes only wanted to have it in his power to say, that there were above 1000 honest men in London.

'Tis computed that no less than 47 lives have been already lost by the general election.

'Tis thought there will be more complaints to parliament, on account of improper returns at the present election, than have been known since the revolution.

We are credibly informed, that orders have been sent over to his Majesty's governors in America, for the future, to send over annually a true state of the trade and manufactures of their respective colonies.

March 30. Mr. Wilkes went privately to Brentford on Sunday, and on Monday morning, at 8 o'clock appeared at the Booth in Brentford Butts. The Sheriffs made their appearance at 9 o'clock; but Sir William Beauchamp Proctor and Mr. Cooke did not arrive before 1 o'clock. The freeholders were frequently impatient, calling out for the poll, and Mr. Wilkes as often addressed himself to the public, requesting their patience until the appearance of all the candidates. After holding up of hands, the books were opened at half past one, from which time the books were fully employed until near 5 o'clock, when the freeholders slackened, and, half an hour after five, no freeholders offering to poll, it was proposed by the Sheriffs to close the books, at 6 o'clock, and open them next day at 9 o'clock, finally to close at 2 o'clock. At same time, the Sheriffs sent to Mr. Cooke, who was at a house contiguous, for his concurrence. No answer being received, four other messengers were sent, one after another, without any answer, until past 7 o'clock, when the Sheriffs were informed Mr. Cooke was gone for London. The Sheriffs then went round to every book, and finding no person polling, made a proclamation at each corner of the booth, for freeholders to come and poll, or that the books would be finally closed. After waiting some time, and three several proclamations, without any freeholders appearing to poll, the books were sealed up, when the Sheriffs adjourned until Tuesday morning, at 9 o'clock, to cast up the books, and make their return, when the numbers were for

Mr. Wilkes,	1292
Mr. Cooke,	827
Sir William Beauchamp Proctor,	807

When the two former were declared duly elected.

We can assure the public, from the best authority, that altho' the crowd was greater than ever known on the like occasion, yet was the whole poll conducted with the greatest regularity and order, and that there was not the least insult or violence offered to any of the electors that polled for either party; and it is very remarkable, that through the whole poll, not one freeholder that polled was in the least intoxicated with liquor.

To the gentlemen, clergy and freeholders of the county of Middlesex.

Gentlemen,

"Most gratefully sensible of those generous and patriotic principles, which have induced you to elect me your representative in Parliament, I intreat you to accept of my best endeavours to express the joy, which inspires me on so interesting, so affecting an occasion. The personal regard you have shewn me, indeed, confers on me an obligation, the due sense of which I too cordially feel to find words to describe. I cannot however forbear congratulating you, as the most distinguished of Englishmen, on the honourable proof you have given, that the genuine spirit of independency, the true love of our country, for which the county of Middlesex has for ages been so eminently conspicuous, still glows in your breasts with unremitting ardour, still shines forth with undiminished lustre. Let the sons of venality bow the knee to the idol of sordid interest. Let them call their pusillanimity prudence, while they ignominiously kiss the rod of power, and tamely stoop to the yoke, which artful ministers insidiously prepare, and arbitrarily impose. You, gentlemen, have shewn that you are neither to be deceived nor enslaved. In proving yourselves enemies to ministerial persecution, the eyes of the whole Kingdom, of the whole World, are upon you, as the first and firmest defenders of public liberty. Happy shall I think myself, if, fired by your example, the efforts of my warmest zeal may be deemed an adequate return for the favours you have bestowed on me; but however insufficient my abilities, my