

The royal yacht is in dock, repairing and ornamenting for his Majesty's reception.— Sir Hyde Parker, is appointed to command the Squadron ordered for the convoy.

Lord Camden agrees to hold the presidency of the Council till the regency, in consequence of his Majesty's journey to Hanover being settled.

#### CRIMINAL CONVERSATION.

There was an action lately tried in the Court of King's Bench, to recover in damages a satisfaction for criminal conversation. The plaintiff was a gentleman of considerable fortune, and the defendant formerly his steward.

Several witnesses were examined on the part of the plaintiff, by whose testimony it appeared, that he intermarried with his wife about two years ago, a short time after which, the defendant came into his service in the capacity of a steward, and boarded and lodged in the house. That about May last, several familiarities were observed to pass between the defendant and his mistress, which gave birth to suspicions that an illicit intercourse had subsisted between them; two of the servants accordingly formed a resolution to conceal themselves in the night, for the purpose of making a discovery. A few nights afterwards, the defendant was observed to enter his mistress's room while she was in bed, and continued there for several hours, when he softly returned to his own apartment. This was communicated to the plaintiff, who turned them both out of the house. Upon cross-examination it appeared, that the plaintiff was sixty seven years of age and his wife under twenty one; that he seldom slept at home, and when he did, was generally intoxicated by liquor. That he had several times said to his wife, he had no doubt but she had made him a cuckold, and that it gave him no concern, for he never thought there was a modest woman to be found in the whole world.

The council for the defendant addressed the jury in a speech distinguished for its elegance and sarcastic wit. He appealed to the jury, whether from the plaintiff's own evidence, this was a case which gave him any claim to damages. It appeared, he said, pretty evident, that the plaintiff, an aged man, married to a beautiful young lady, was sensible of an indisposition, or incapacity to comply with the terms upon which a lady always contracts matrimony. A drunken husband was at all times a very unwelcome companion, but a drunken old man must be intolerable. He contended that the conduct of this plaintiff amounted to a dereliction of his wife, and was an implied consent to an adulterous connection.

The learned judge, in pathetic language lamented the depravity of the times, which gave birth to so many causes for criminal conversation. His Lordship said it was the province of the jury to consider the conduct of the plaintiff to his wife, as well as the behaviour of the other parties; for the husband's conduct might be such in these actions as sometimes to cut them up by the roots, and at others to diminish the damages to a mere nominal sum. It appeared in this case, that much blame belonged to the plaintiff, but the defendant was not justified by his misconduct. The jury, therefore, would give such a verdict as they conceived justice demanded.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, FORTY SHILLINGS damages.

#### CHARACTER OF THE FRENCH.

From *Sherlock's Letters*.

IN England the French have few friends: But they have one; and that one am I. They could not, I acknowledge, have a feebler advocate—but while I have a tongue to speak, or a pen to write, wherever I go I'll do them justice.

Let every man who knows that nation speak of it as he found it; if he lived in their intimacy for years (as I did) and if he found them ill-natured, ill-mannered, treacherous, and cowardly, let him speak his mind. I quarrel with no man who judges for himself, and who speaks the truth. But let the indulgence I grant, be granted to me again; and let me be permitted to tell the world, that, however other men may have found them, I found them good humoured, good natured, brave, polished, frank, and friendly.

They were my friends, faithful and just to me, But Brutus says they are perfidious; And Brutus is an honourable man.

I speak not to disapprove what Brutus spoke; But here I am to speak what I do know.

I found them all animated with a desire to please, and always ready to do me every ser-

vice in their power. I owe them a thousand obligations. I had faults, they corrected them—I wanted knowledge, they informed me—I was rough, they softened me—I was sick, they visited me—I was vain, they flattered me—I had need of counsel, they gave me the best advice; every man has need of agreeable company; and every man may be sure to find it in France.

#### OF THE LADIES OF FRANCE.

By the same.

WHEN a French lady comes into a room, the first thing that strikes you is, that she walks better, holds herself better, has her head and feet better dressed, her cloaths better fancied and better put on, than any woman you have ever seen.

When she talks, she has the art of pleasing personified. Her eyes, her lips, her words, her gestures, are all prepossessing. Her language is the language of amableness; her accents are the accents of grace. She embellishes a trifle—the interests upon a nothing—she softens a contradiction—she takes off the insipidness of a compliment by turning it elegantly; and, when she has a mind, she sharpens and polishes the point of an epigram better than all the women in the world.

Her eyes sparkle with spirit—the most delightful sallies flash from her fancy—in telling a story she is inimitable—the motions of her body, and the accents of her tongue, are equally genteel and easy—an equable flow of softened sprightliness keeps her constantly good humoured and cheerful—and the only objects of her life are to please and be pleased.

Her vivacity may sometimes approach to folly, but perhaps it is not in her moments of folly she is least interesting and agreeable.—English women have many points of superiority over the French—the French are superior to them in many others. I have mentioned some of those points in other places. Here I shall only say, there is a particular idea in which no woman in the world can compare with a French woman; it is in the power of intellectual irritation. She will draw wit out of a fool.

#### ALBANY, June 15.

The principal reason for calling together the Legislature early in July, is said to be for the appointment of gentlemen on the part of this State, to the Senate of the United States; in which honourable body we are at present without any representation. As this was the only business of any importance left unfinished at the close of the last session, and nothing of consequence, as far as we can learn, has since occurred to occasion the present call, it is reasonable to conclude that the next will be a short session.

The distress of the inhabitants in the upper parts of the country, in consequence of unequalled scarcity of grain, is truly deplorable. Many of those bordering on Lake Champlain, we are assured by a gentleman of veracity who resides in that country, have no other dependence for support than the wild roots of the earth, and the fish which they catch in the Lake.

The country bordering on the Mohawk is not in a much better situation: The Albany market, however, affording present succour, they are much relieved by the supplies of grain they daily transport from hence:—But how the lower class are situated, whose poverty prohibits their access to this mode of supply, imagination may readily picture.

Last week a poor man, just able to muster together the price of two bushels of corn, and to pay for horse hire, travelled upwards of thirty six miles to this city, ere he could purchase the grain; his family, which was numerous, he said had little or nothing to support them till his return.

At some of the mills in the country, where flour or Indian meal can be procured, many have offered produce of the season, such as butter, &c. in exchange for those indispensable articles of family consumption; but nothing would be accepted of as payment but cash.—They have therefore been obliged to the kindness of neighbours, somewhat better circumstanced than themselves, for a short loan of a few pounds of flour or meal, until their return from Albany market, when, having received cash for their produce, they were enabled to purchase at the mills, discharge their debts, and relieve their families.

The above information presents a melancholy picture to the feeling heart; and we can truly assert it is only the simple statement of facts, without the smallest exaggeration. The sufferings of multitudes of our fellow creatures, exposed to the dreadful prospect of famine, and

depending for their fortuitous meal on the accidental discovery of wild roots, must strike a dagger to the breast of benevolence!

Should the product of the ensuing season not prove very bountiful, several people of good information predict, that next spring will be extremely distressing.

#### NEW-YORK, June 20.

The friends to the constitution of the United States may rejoice in every circumstance that has attended its progress from the beginning: The opposition to it called forth in its defence and support the noblest faculties of the human mind; the full, free, and unbounded discussion of its merits and defects, has served to emblazon its preponderating excellencies in such manner, that its foundation is extended, and made more firm and durable than its most sanguine friends could have anticipated.

June 25. In proportion as knowledge diffuses itself, liberty spreads its genial rays.—The French now make themselves happy in the idea of a free press: Those generous spirits, who are burning with the flame of liberty, are now engaged in forming a scheme for the more equal representation of the people in the *Etats Generaux*, which they justly consider as the first gleam of liberty. An enlightened people, collected into an assembly by equal representation, will soon acquire, through their means, every right that naturally belongs to man.

His Excellency the President has been indispensed, as mentioned in our last; but the public anxiety may be abated by the assurance that he is now much better.

#### PHILADELPHIA, July 1.

Extract of a letter from New-York, June 25. "Last evening Major Butler, of the Senate, and Mr. Huger, of the House of Representatives, rode out in a chair. The horse took fright and ran off with them. Major Butler is much hurt, and poor Huger had his leg broken in such a manner that his life is despaired of."

#### BALTIMORE, June 23.

Late London, Liverpool, and Bristol newspapers advise, that although the Courts of Madrid and Versailles seem to be really in earnest in their pacific endeavours to put a stop to a general war, yet the hopes of peace between the three great empires of Russia, Germany, and Turkey, grow daily less and less:—that at Petersburg they speak in high terms of the vigour and activity with which they intend to prosecute the war—that the Emperor's preparations for war were in great forwardness—that every thing was preparing at Copenhagen (Denmark) for a vigorous and early campaign in aid of Russia against the Swedes, both by sea and land—that the secret committee at Stockholm (Sweden) had granted to the King every thing he could wish for prosecuting the war with vigour—that on the 1st of March the bank of that capital, paid him the first monthly subsidy of three millions of dollars—that the King had ordered the nobility to discontinue their assemblies; and had also, of his own accord, reduced the number of the secret committee from forty to ten members—that the happy recovery of the King of Great-Britain, was not confined in its influence, to his own dominions—that it operated variously on the various powers of Europe—that a generous sympathy, at least a gallant profession and shew of sympathetic joy, at the return of his Majesty's health, had been displayed by the polite and accomplished Court of France—that it may be reasonably supposed that there are other nations more deeply concerned in the salvation of the British sovereign than France; Prussia, Holland, Saxony, Hesse, Brunsvick, Poland, Sardinia; perhaps the Turks and Spaniards; and the Venetians and other Italian states for certain—that these powers seem all of them to have an interest in opposing the ambitious combinations of the Russians, the Austrians, and the French—that a chain, or in military phraseology, a *cordón*, for the protection of the political independence of Europe, was drawn from the extremity of Great-Britain across Holland, the Prussian states, and other of inferior note in alliance with the Prussians, and Poland, in which the Prussian interest now prevails, even to the shores of the Hellespont—that the political balance, in the most important circumstances, was in the same state in which it was in 1757—that if ever duration of pain was compensated by excess of delight, it must have been, when the best and most feeling of her sex (the Queen of Great-Britain) penetrated, as it were secretly, into the hearts of the people, and discovered there nothing but unbounded loyalty and love to the royal