

ra, or a ballet at Versailles. A poetical aristocrat who feels for the decadence of his country, laments this fatal change of manners in the following pathetic and affecting lines :

" Autrefois, dans la France,
 " La presence d'un duc faisoit taire un marquis ;
 " Devant l'homme à la cour admis
 " Un gentilhomme de province
 " N'auroit osé rester assis.
 " Un bourgeois respectoit le noble le plus mince ;
 " Les plus grands imposoient toujours aux plus petits ;
 " Et c'étoit un ordre admirable :
 " Mais l'aujourd'hui dans ce Paris
 " C'est un despotisme effroyable ;
 " Tout le monde y dit son avis "

How different is our situation at this moment ! How triumphant the contrast ! By the auspicious exercise of the prerogative, the British and Irish peerage have been liberally increased during the present reign.—As birth, fortune, and desert are not fastidiously deemed indispensable qualifications, the gratitude of the new peer to the crown is insured, as he can only ascribe his promotion to the gracious favor of his sovereign, and the benign influence of the minister. Thus the pride and arrogance of assuming merit are effectually checked ; and a courtly complaisant race of nobles gradually formed ; all actuated by the true spirit of aristocracy, and implicitly devoted to the crown ; always ready to support its prerogatives, and maintain the splendid privileges of their own order, against vulgar prejudice, and popular encroachments.

For though the lords derive their honor from the crown, the fountain of all honor ; still as they are only trustees, they should be ever ready to resign it with alacrity on any great political crisis. By a spirited exertion, founded on this generous sentiment, a few noble peers, [if report is to be credited] gallantly despising reproach and obloquy, and disdaining to be bound by too rigid and scrupulous an adherence to their word, saved the king, the church, and the nation, by voting against the East India bill in 1783.

On the same maxim, a desertion of friends, party, and principle, may sometimes be considered as a political test, and as a just, fair, and constitutional claim to a pension and peerage ; being a sort of feudal homage, and the most unequivocal proof of profound duty, loyalty, and attachment. Surely even the malignity of faction must admit, that the elevation of soul which indignant virtue inspires, could alone induce any person to act what is commonly, but very erroneously, deemed a dishonorable part in politics.—Would the most unprincipled administration abandon such an intrepid convert, to be vilified, traduced, and exposed to the bitter taunts, and contemptuous sneers of a calumniating opposition ? No : let a man of such heroic merit never be consigned to disgrace ; let him be ennobled by a title, and enriched by a Pension, in order to excite a generous emulation in others, and as the only adequate reward and consolation he himself can relish.

I have also, Sir, often reflected with singular satisfaction on the pleasing mode in which civil suits were carried on in France ; where even the decisions of justice were biased by the gentle influence of manners and customs, & blended with their social system of policy. The *President* was usually solicited in person, by his noble or fair clients, and their state of the case was listened too with the most polite respect and attention. As gallantry and law were happily united, ladies with great condescension visited the judge at his own chamber.—When beauty pleaded her cause irresistibly in private, what a faint impression could even the eloquence of an Erskine make in open court ? Sometimes an amorous proposition, expressed with the utmost delicacy, drop'd from the judge, and if favorably received, *le proces étoit gagné*. A French critic has produced a specimen of elegant wit, addressed by a judicial magistrate to a charming suitor, on this nice point, equally honorable to himself and the jurisprudence of his country : The *equivoque* of a legal term is happily preserved ; for as the author was a lawyer, he remembered the profession in his poetical rapture, and rested his claim to reciprocity on a *double entendre* :

" Vous avez chez moi libre accès,
 " J'en demande chez vous un autre.
 " Si je ne gagne mon proces,
 " Vous ne gagnerez pas le votre." &c.

But the barbarous spirit of democracy has interrupted this tender intercourse ! This sentimental mode of conducting law-suits ! Judicial magistrates will no longer be permitted to purchase offices. A previous study and long practice in the courts will be esteemed indispensable qualifications for the bench ; and consequently young men will be excluded, on whose generous feelings the tears and solicitations of the fair never fail in exciting the warmest emotions.—Inexorable *bourgeois* juries will be established, who may presume to judge both of the law and fact ; no deference will be paid to birth, rank, or riches ; and an accomplished courtier, perhaps a favorite of his sovereign, will be treated like one of the *canaille*.

But the evil will not stop here : not only the soft intercourse which has been just described, will no longer be tolerated, but all the delicacies of *politesse* will be abolished, and ancient rusticity revived. " The ideas which the Greeks formed of politeness, must have been very different from ours," says Mr. Hume, in quoting this passage from Menander : " It is not in the power of the Gods to make a polite soldier." The reason is obvious.—The turbulent spirit of licentious equality diffused among the Grecian republics, inspired a contempt for those finer social arts, the original invention of which even Mr. Dutens admits to be modern. They disdained to acquire that respectful address, that delicate adulation, and honourable subserviency to the pleasure and inclination of others, in which the very essence of true politeness consists. Such a sensitive plant shrinks from the rude hand of democracy, and can be only cultivated to its utmost perfection under the genial influence and cheering beams of court sunshine. The author of *Esprit des Loix*, who saw this finely exemplified in his own country, remarks, with patriotic exultation, " that politeness and arbitrary power made an equal progress among the Romans." The converse of this proposition is likewise true. The French will soon lose that boasted superiority which has so long excited the envy and emulation of Europe. Even the Dutch, under the protection and auspices of the Prussian monarch, will speedily be drilled into more refinement, and excel them in every graceful and elegant accomplishment. As amiableness of character is attained by the agreeable art of concealing the boisterous sallies of passion, and restraining the disgusting bluntness of sincerity, politeness and dissimulation are indissolubly connected, and always flourish under the protection of royalty. This exterior varnish pleases the eye, though it disguises the heart ;—as painting glass, beautifies it, but renders it less transparent.

(To be continued.)

MADRID, May 25.

COUNCILS have been held here of late, occasioned by the numerous couriers from London, Lisbon, and Paris ; but there is not the smallest appearance of any intention in our Court to give up its claims to the exclusive navigation of the Southern Ocean.—Portugal, in consequence of the family marriage which took place lately, abandons Great-Britain to join our cause.—The preparations for war go on with more vigour than ever.

LONDON, JUNE II.

The French patriots are greatly elated with a recent victory over the aristocracies, in the French Netherlands—the regiments of Vintimille and all the regulars in the garrison of the place, have entered into a voluntary union and confederacy with the national troops at Douay. And thus the hopes of the royal party are diminishing in every quarter !

The best opinion amongst the principal merchants concerned in the Spanish trade here is, that if we demand of the court of Spain a restitution of our shipping and a partial trade to the south west coast, both will be granted ; but if we demand an exclusive general trade, it would be in fact giving up the keys of Mexico and Peru, and for the preservation of those places they will risque every thing.

The speculative politicians, who look to our quondam possessions in America, for assistance at the present crisis, will be deceived, if we are to trust to the best informed men from that country. They look on European differences with too much *sang froid*. They have a debt only of fifteen millions, which as they quaintly say, they can discharge while they sleep, and that therefore their best victory is to be found in neutrality.

JUNE 19.

The bodies and skeletons found in the dungeons of the Bastille, were deposited on the 1st inst. in St. Paul's church-yard. The funeral ceremony was accompanied with solemn pomp.—The bier was borne by twelve of the workmen employed in the demolition of that fortress, and the pall supported by those who had disinterred the corpses : they had their tools conspicuous with a label containing these words—" Tremble, ye enemies of public good !" On the coffin were placed a chain and bullet, found very near one of the victims. The battalion, and almost all the citizens of the *De la Culture*, attended this funeral.

JUNE 22.

The expenditure of the British armaments amounted, on Friday last, to one million one hundred and forty-eight thousand pounds sterling.

SWEDES AND RUSSIANS.

Further particulars of the taking *Revel* by the Swedes.

" The Duke of Sudermania, immediately upon the failure of his first attempt on the Russian fleet, lying in the harbor of Revel at anchor, in which he lost two ships of the line, retired about ten leagues from the harbor to repair the damage

his fleet had sustained, and to prepare for a second attack before any relief could be afforded to the Russian fleet. As soon as he had refitted, he sailed for the harbor, at a league distant from which the Russian fleet was discovered ready to dispute with the Swedes the entrance. Upon a Council being held by the Duke, it was resolved to attack the Russians, and the signals being given the fleet bore down for the attack, which was maintained for near six hours with the utmost fury ; at length the Swedes broke the Russian line, which threw them into much confusion ; when the Swedes, taking the advantage of the general confusion into which the Russians were thrown, followed them with their whole force into the harbor, where, after a short but dreadful conflict and carnage, the Russian ships which remained afloat struck, and the castle and town surrendered."

CHARLESTON (S. C.) July 12.

The increase of population in this State has surpassed the most sanguine expectation. A gentleman who went from this in the year 1785, to settle in the country was the tenth person who inhabited Pendleton county ; but according to the returns made in conformity to the act for procuring a census of the people of this State, and which was exhibited to the late convention, it appears, that the number of fighting men in that county exceeds seven thousand.

AUGUST 14.

Last evening arrived the brig *Washington*, Roustan in 13 days, and schooner *Faithful*, Aaron Young, in 17 days from Aux-Cayes.

Previous to the departure of the brig *Washington*, from Aux-Cayes, a French packet had arrived there from France, with dispatches for the commandants of Aux-Cayes, Port-au-Prince, &c. which had excited much anxious curiosity among the patriots, from their import not being communicated to the public. On an express having been forwarded to the general at Port-au-Prince, the popular impatience arose to such an unbounded height, that they seized on the express, brought him back, and opened the dispatches in public, which, on being read, produced the utmost satisfaction ; containing instructions to the administration to acquiesce in the proceedings of the patriots, and to suffer them quietly to proceed in the formation and establishment of their municipal governments. The dispatches also contained orders to put the island in the best state of defence.

PHILADELPHIA, August 24.

The crops of wheat and rye in every part of Pennsylvania, have greatly exceeded the expectations of the farmer. While those grains had an unpromising appearance last spring, a quadruple quantity of Indian corn, oats and potatoes, were put in the ground, all of which promise an immense increase, so that the profits of agriculture to the State of Pennsylvania, it is computed, this fall and next spring, will be equal, if not superior to what they have been during the last

The Princes of antiquity, and particularly the Roman Emperors, had recourse to the expedient of *deification*, in order to inspire into the minds of the people reverence for their persons, and absolute submission to their extravagancies.—The *jus divinum* and sanctity of character, which some of our modern monarchs have assumed, are copies of this original absurdity, and calculated on similar principles of policy, to enslave the mind, and divest human nature of those rights and privileges communicated, by supreme power, to elevate the lot of man above the rest of the creation ; but the people have detected the imposture, and regained that rational station in society, which their fathers had impotently resigned to the iniquity and caprice of monarchs for several thousand years.

For the information of the public, a correspondent has favored us with an account of the cause of the disturbances in Hispaniola, which he collected from his letters, and intelligence received of persons from that island :

Sometime ago, the citizens of the island assembled, and chose delegates from each district, to meet at St. Mark's in assembly, with authority to make laws for the government of the island. They met, and made a number of laws—these laws were approved of by the inhabitants of the north, and disapproved of by the south side of the island ; but the Assembly attempted to enforce them, and enlisted all the King's troops, at eight dollars per month, and a bit a day wages : Seized upon a French 74 gun-ship, and a frigate which lay in the harbour, and manned them :—they also enrolled all the inhabitants of the north, and draft them by terms. Any person who is drafted, and does not turn out to enforce the Assembly's laws, is put into confinement. Any person drafted is free from arrest for debt while in service, or in going to or coming from headquarters, or for fifteen days after their return. In consequence of this law, a number of people have purchased goods from merchants and masters of vessels, and taken protection by joining the troops.