

LONDON, Aug. 31.

The States General have admitted the hereditary Prince of Orange to a seat in the Council of State, and they have intimated at the same time, that if the Stadholder shall appoint him a general in their armies, they will allow 10,000 florins a year of extra pay.

PARIS, Aug. 16.

M. Dupre has published, "A justification of the Duke of New Orleans," but the tide of popular opinion runs so strongly against the prince, that it is impossible to turn it by cool reasoning.—"Epaminondas, (says the author, at the conclusion of his pamphlet) was condemned by his ungrateful countrymen for having defeated their enemies; and Louis Philippe Joseph, Duke of Orleans, is condemned for having saved the empire of France."

M. de Gazeles, who fought a duel with M. Bar-nave, is in a fair way of recovery.

Since the National Assembly's decree, which suppresses all titular and borrowed names, with all the DES that can be found in the French families, the players have resumed their humble appellations; La Rine, Dugazon, Fleury, and Beau-lieu, are now called Manduit, Gourgaud, Mesnard, Thierriet, and Bremond. Why should you be ashamed, gentlemen, to be called by your family names? M. Guignard, (St. Priest) Madame Bruard (Genles and Silley) and many other persons of distinction, have set you the example. Were Moliere and Voltaire alive, they would certainly sign their letters Poedelin and Arouet. Let your conduct in life be blameless, and reflect that Garrick, Larkain, Baron, and Brigard never altered their names.

Avignon has published, in a manifesto, the reasons for leaving the papal yoke; the pamphlet contains but thirty-two pages, but abounds with curious anecdotes respecting the administering justice under that ecclesiastical government. Two men having had some words in a public street, began to fight; an honest fellow passing by, was lucky enough to persuade the antagonists to desist. The Attorney General, incensed at the loss of a criminal suit at law, had the mediator arrested, for having interrupted the course of justice: To obtain his liberty, he was obliged to pay the expenses the affray would have produced in court. For ten crowns, a debtor at Avignon, can obtain a respite for five years, which was a quinquennial brief; for the same sum the creditor obtained another brief, that annulled the respite. The debtor could procure himself, for ten crowns more, another delay, at a different tribunal; so that the debtors and creditors were incessantly feeding the greedy leeches of justice—the former to pay, the latter never to be paid.

"The general confederacy, says the author of a spirited pamphlet, should be renewed every twenty-five years, beginning from the present one; and take the place of those jubilees, not evan-gelic, but papal, to which we have too long submitted. It is no longer the time to amuse and seduce the people with indulgencies; the enthusiasm of liberty, an attachment to their country, and the virtues and courage of patriotism must be inculcated to them."

M. l'Abbe Raynal, the celebrated historian, has been restored, by a decree of the National Assembly, to the rights of a citizen, of which he had been deprived by an arret of the Parliament of Paris, in 1781. Lewis the XVIth. notwithstanding the arret, had recalled the Abbe about two years ago, but his religious tenets were always an obstacle to his being re-instated.

ST. GEORGE'S (Grenada) Aug. 20.

The following is the translation of a letter received by his excellency general Mathew, from Don Joseph Maria Chacon, governor of Trinidad.

Island of Trinidad, Sept. 4.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR,

I HAVE the pleasure to communicate to your Excellency that the custom of acknowledging and declaring, for free, the fugitive slaves from the other Antilles, in this island, has ceased according to the directions given me in the Royal Order, which I have received, dated at Aranjuez, 17th of May last.

As his Majesty's intention is to stop the flight of negroes, of that and the other islands who came to this government to enjoy their freedom, I thought proper (exclusive of the publication I ordered the 28th August last) to acquaint your Excellency of this circumstance—in order that being informed in your government that the fugitive slaves from thence can have no manner of protection here, that they may abstain from running away from their masters, to whom, such as henceforward may come here, will be returned, in case they are reclaimed, and the property regularly proved.

I wish for occasions to shew your Excellency, the honor of being, most excellent sir,

your attentive and respectful servant,

JOSEPH MARIA CHACON.

His Excellency Edward Mathew, }
governor-general of Grenada. }

SEPTEMBER 24.

On Sunday last a Spanish brig arrived here with a cargo of Logwood, and ten thousand dollars on board. This is the first vessel of that description that has come to an entry at this port, agreeable to the late amendment in the free-port act, by which it is expected that the valuable trade with the Spaniards will be greatly advanced, as it is no longer confined to vessels of any particular burthen.

LABOUR.

Palma negata macrum, denata reduct opimum.—HOR.

—To sink in shame, or swell with pride.

As the gay palm is granted or deny'd.—FRANCIS.

THE multitudes that support life by corporal labour and eat their bread in the sweat of their brow, commonly regard inactivity as idleness; and have no conception that weariness can be contracted in an elbow-chair, by now and then peeping into a book and musing the rest of the day: the sedentary and studious, therefore, raise their envy or contempt, as they appear either to possess the conveniences of life by the mere bounty of fortune, or to suffer the want of them by refusing to work.

It is, however, certain, that to think, is to labour; and that as the body is affected by the exercise of the mind, the fatigue of the study is not less than of the field or the manufactory.

But the labour of the mind, though it is equally wearisome with that of the body is not attended with the same advantages. Exercise gives health, vigour, and cheerfulness, sound sleep, and a keen appetite: The effects of sedentary thoughtfulness are diseases that im-bitter and shorten life, interrupted rest, tasteless meals, perpetual languor and causeless anxiety.

No natural inability to perform manual operations, has been observed to proceed from disinclination; the reluctance, if it cannot be removed, may be surmounted; and the artificer then proceeds in his work with as much dexterity and exactness, as if no extraordinary effort had been made to begin it: but with respect to the productions of imagination and wit, a mere determination of the will is not sufficient: there must be a disposition of the mind which no human being can procure, or the work will have the appearance of a forced plan, in the production of which the industry of art has been substituted for the vigour of nature.

Nor does this disposition always ensure success, though the want of it never fails to render application ineffectual, for the writer who sits down in the morning fired with his subject and teeming with ideas, often finds at night, that what delighted his imagination offends his judgment and that he has lost the day by indulging a pleasing dream, in which he joined together a multitude of splendid images without perceiving their incongruity. (To be continued.)

From WEBSTER'S DISSERTATIONS on the ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

OF MODERN CORRUPTIONS in the ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION.

I PROCEED now to examine a mode of pronouncing certain words, which prevails in England and some parts of America, and which, as it extends to a vast number of words, and creates a material difference between orthography and pronunciation, is a matter of serious consequence.

To attack established customs is always hazardous; for mankind, even when they see and acknowledge their errors, are seldom obliged to the man who exposes them. The danger is increased, when an opposition is made to the favorite opinions of the great; for men, whose rank and abilities entitle them to particular respect, will sooner dismiss their friends than their prejudices. Under this conviction, my present situation is delicate and embarrassing: But as some sacrifices must often be made to truth; and as I am conscious that a regard to truth only dictates what I write, I can sincerely declare, it is my wish to inform the understanding of every man, without wounding the feelings of an individual.

The practice to which I allude, is that of pronouncing d, t, and s preceding u; which letter, it is said, contains the sound of e or y and oo; and that of course education must be pronounced education; nature, natyure; and superior, superyior: From the difficulty of pronouncing which, we naturally fall into the sound of dzh, tsh, and sh: Thus education becomes edzhucation or ejucation; nature becomes natshure or nachure; and superior becomes superyior.

How long this practice has prevailed in London, I cannot ascertain. There are a few words, in which it seems to have been universal from time immemorial; as pleasure, and the other words of that analogy. But I find no reason to suppose the practice of pronouncing nature, duty, nachure, juty, prevailed before the period of Garrick's reputation on the stage.

On the other hand, the writers on the language have been silent upon this point, till within a few years; and Kendrick speaks of it as a Metropolitan pronunciation, supported by certain mighty fine speakers*, which implies that the practice is modern, and proves it to be local, even in Great Britain. But the practice has prevailed at court and on the stage for several years, and the reputation of a Garrick, a Sheridan and a Siddons, has given it a very rapid and extensive diffusion in the polite world. As the innovation is great and extends to a multitude of words, it is necessary, before we embrace the practice in its utmost latitude, to examine into its propriety and consequences.

The only reasons offered in support of the practice, are, the English or Saxon sound of u, which is said to be yu; and euphony, or the agreeableness of the pronunciation.

But permit me to enquire, on what do the advocates of this practice ground their assertion, that u had in Saxon the sound of eu or yu? Are there any testimonies to support it, among old writers of authority? In the course of my reading I have discovered none, nor have I ever seen one produced or referred to.

Will it be said, that yu is the name of the letter? But where did this name originate? Certainly not in the old Saxon practice, for the Saxons expressed this sound by eu, or eo: And I do not recollect a single word of Saxon origin, in which the warmest sticklers for the practice, give u this sound, even in the present age. Kendrick, who has investigated the powers of the English letters with much more accuracy than even Sheridan himself, observes, that we might with equal propriety, name the other vowels in the same manner, and say, ya, ye, yi, yo, as well as yut.

* Rhetorical Grammar, prefixed to his Dictionary, page 32. London: 1773. † Rhet. Gram. 33.

U in union, use, &c. has the sound of yu; but these are all of Latin origin, and can be no proof that u, had, in Saxon, the sound of eu or yu.

The whole argument is founded on a mistake. U in pure English has not the sound of eu; but a sound that approaches it; which is defined with great accuracy by the learned Wallis, who was one of the first correct writers upon English Grammar, and whose treatise is the foundation of Lowth's introduction and all the best subsequent compilations.

This writer defines the English letter u in these words, "Hunc sonum Extranei fere assequenter, si diphthongum in conentur pronunciare; nempe i exile literæ u, vel w preponentes; [ut in Hispanorum ciudad, civitas.] Non tamen idem est omnino sonus, quamvis, ad illum proxime accedat; est enim in sonus compositus, at Anglorum et Gallorum u sonus simplex."—Gram. Ling. Angl. Sect. 2.

This is precisely the idea I have ever had of the English u; except that I cannot allow the sound to be perfectly simple. If we attend to the manner in which we begin the sound of u in flute, abjure, truth, we shall observe that the tongue is not pressed to the mouth so closely as in pronouncing e; the aperture of the organs is not so small; and I presume that good speakers, and am confident that most people, do not pronounce these words flute, abjure, truth. Neither do they pronounce them flote, abjoore, trooth; but with a sound formed by an easy natural aperture of the mouth, between iu and oo; which is the true English sound. This sound, however obscured by affectation in the metropolis of Great-Britain and the capital towns in America, is still preserved by the body of the people in both countries. There are a million descendants of the Saxons in this country who retain the sound of u in all cases, precisely according to Wallis's definition. All any plain countryman, whose pronunciation has not been exposed to corruption by mingling with foreigners, how he pronounces the letters, t, r, u, th, and he will not found u like eu, nor oo, but will express the real primitive English u. Nay, if people wish to make an accurate trial, let them direct any child of seven years old, who has had no previous instruction respecting the matter, to pronounce the words suit, tumult, due, &c. and they will thus ascertain the true sound of the letter. Children pronounce u in the most natural manner; whereas the sound of iu requires a considerable effort, and that of oo, a forced position of the lips. Illiterate persons therefore pronounce the genuine English u, much better than those who have attempted to shape their pronunciation according to the polite modern practice. As singular as this assertion may appear, it is literally true. This circumstance alone would be sufficient to prove that the Saxons never pronounced u like yu, for the body of a nation, removed from the reach of conquest and fear from a mixture of foreigners, are the safest repositories of ancient customs and general practice in speaking.

But another strong argument against the modern practice is, that the pretended diphthong, iu or yu, is heard in scarcely a single word of Saxon origin. Almost all the words in which d, t and f are converted into other letters, as education, due, virtue, rapure, superior, supreme, &c. are derived from the Latin or French; so that the practice itself is a proof that the principles on which it is built, are false. It is pretended that the English or Saxon sound of u requires the pronunciation, edzhucation, natshure, and yet it is introduced almost solely into Latin and French words. Such an inconsistency refutes the reasoning and is a burlesque on its advocates. (To be continued.)

† His grammar was written in Latin, in the reign of Charles III. The work is so scarce, that I have never been able to find but a single copy. The author was one of the founders of the Royal Society.

§ This sound of u, foreigners will nearly obtain, by attempting to pronounce the diphthong iu; that is, the narrow i before u or w; (as in the Spanish word ciudad, a city.) Yet the sound (of u) is not exactly the same, altho it approaches very near to it; for the sound of iu is compound; whereas the u of the English and French is a simple sound."

[Lord Anson, of nautical memory, built a Temple at his seat in Staffordshire, dedicated to the Winds: Dr. Johnson wrote a Latin Epigram, applicable to the subject: The seven different translations, by as many different hands, which follow, if they should appear of the drum-kind, flat at both ends, they will at least furnish an instance of that variety of words which may be made use of to convey the same thought.]

EPIGRAM.

GRATUM ANIMUM LAUDO, QUI DEBIT OMNIA VENTIS, QUAM BENE VENTURUM, TEMPLUM SURGERE JUBET.

TRANSLATIONS.

No. I.

SINCE to the Winds alone, he ow'd the wealthy prize,
I praise the grateful soul that bade this temple rise.

No. II.

THE grateful Anson here adores the gales,
That bore to wealth his swelling sails.

No. III.

FROM prosp'rous Winds, since prosp'rous fortune rose,
This fane is rais'd to every wind that blows.

No. IV.

THIS temple to the Wind, his gratitude has rais'd,
As the Wind gave him all, 'tis fit the wind be prais'd.

No. V.

WELL, to the Winds, may he this fane afford,
Whom their propitious breath has made a Lord.

No. VI.

HAIL, thou great soul, whom gratitude bids raise,
This offering to the Winds, which swell'd thy praise.

No. VII.

THE Winds gave Anson all, his very food,
And to the Winds, this marks his gratitude;
'Tis an ill Wind indeed that blows no good.

[At a meeting of a number of the American commanders of vessels, now in the port of London, held at the Maryland Coffee-House, in Cornhill, on the 22d day of July, 1790, for the purpose of consulting upon the measures that it might be prudent for them to adopt, in order to alleviate the present situation of seamen here belonging to the United States, the following resolutions were unanimously voted:]

1. THAT an American mariner in Great Britain, in being exposed to all the rigor of British press-warrants—in being liable to the assaults and outrages of a British press-gang—and in being eventually liable to be compelled into a foreign service (except each commander of the vessel from which he is thus forced, can trace him to that very ship, whether he is dragged for confinement, and will positively swear that he is a native and subject of the United States) must be considered in an unsafe and truly alarming condition—a situation, not only inviting to a temporary violation, but hazarding a total subversion of his most precious rights.

2. That the consequences resulting from this unprotected situation of the said citizens, are so irksome to the feelings, and detrimental to the interests of American mariners and commanders, that, in opinion of those present, since no minister or consul of their nation is on the spot, to whom, under such difficulties, they might with more propriety resort with complaints—and for redress—it is expedient that they now have recourse to some other