

Discourses on Davila.—No. 27.

WE shall now content ourselves with reciting the summary of this first civil war. After the publication of declarations and manifestoes, the two armies take the field. The Queen mother wishes to avoid a war, and procure peace: She negotiates an interview for this purpose with the Prince of Conde, but without success: She continues however to negotiate an accommodation, and obtains a conclusion of it.—The prince repents of it, by the persuasion of his partizans, and resumes his arms. He attempts in the night to surprize the royal army: His enterprize succeeds not. The King receives powerful reinforcements from Germany and Switzerland. The Prince of Conde is obliged to shut himself up in Orleans, and separate his army, which he could not hold together in a body.—He sends to demand succours in Germany and England, and consents to deliver Havre de Grace to the English, and receive their garrisons into Rouen and Dieppe. The Queen, irritated and afflicted at these resolutions, joins the Catholic party, and declares the Hugonots, rebels. The royal army takes Blois, Tours, Poitiers, and Bourges. The 15th of Sept. 1562, it lays siege to Rouen—in the course of which, the King of Navarre, visiting the trenches to reconnoitre the state of the place, was wounded in the left shoulder, by a shot of an Arquebuse, which broke the bone, wounded the nerves, and felled him to the ground as if he were dead. He was carried immediately to his quarters, where all the other generals assembled. The surgeons who dressed his wounds, in the presence of the King and Queen, judged it mortal, because the ball had penetrated too far, into the body.

The 26th of October 1562, the city was carried by assault, and the whole army entered, making an horrible carnage of the garrison and inhabitants, by putting to the sword, without any quarter, all who presented themselves armed or unarmed: The city was delivered up to be plundered, except the churches and consecrated things, which the soldiers were made to respect, by the vigilance and good discipline of the generals.

The King of Navarre, suffering under the pains of his wound, and wounded in spirit almost as much as in body, insisted on embarking on the Seine, to be transported to Saint Maur, a pleasure-house near Paris, where he often went to take the air, and enjoy the tranquility of solitude. He scarce arrived at Andeli, a few leagues from Rouen, when his fever was augmented by the agitation of the batteau, he lost his senses, and died in a few hours. He united to his high birth, an elegant person, and a softness of manners: If he had lived in other times, and under a better constitution of government, he might have been reckoned among the greatest Princes of his age; but the candor and sincerity of his heart, the sweetness and affability of his disposition, in the midst of political troubles, and civil dissensions, served only to hold him in continual agitation and inquietude. Inconstant in his projects, and uncertain in his resolutions—drawn away on one side by the impetuous character of his brother, and excited by the party of the Calvinists, in which he long held the first rank—restrained on the other hand by motives of honor, as he thought, by his natural inclination for peace, and aversion for civil wars, he discovered on many occasions but little firmness or constancy in his designs. Placed in the number of those, who lay under the reputation of seeking to disturb the state, he shared in their disgrace—and he was seen afterwards, at the head of the opposite party, persecuting those, whom he had formerly protected. In point of religion, sometimes allured to Calvinism, by the persuasions of his wife, and the discourses of Theodore Beza—and sometimes bro't back to the Catholic faith, by the torrent of fashion, and the eloquence of the Cardinal of Lorraine, he gained the confidence of neither party, and left in his dying moments, suspicious and equivocal ideas of his creed. Many thought, that, though he was in his heart attached to Calvinism, or rather to the confession of Augsburg, he separated from the Hugonots from secret views of ambition—and suffering impatiently that the Prince his brother by his valor and greatness of soul had acquired among them more esteem than himself, he chose rather to hold the first rank among the Catholics than the second among the Calvinists. He died at the age of forty-two, in a time when his prudence increasing with age, he might perhaps have surpassed the opinion which had been conceived of him. Jane of Albrecht, his widow, continued in possession of the title of Queen, and of what remained of Navarre. She had two children, Henry, Prince of Bearn, then nine years of age, and afterwards the all-glorious Henry the Fourth of France, and the Princess Catharine, then very young. Their mother lived with them at Pau and at Nerac, supervising their education in the new religion.

The Prince of Conde, reinforced by the auxil-

iary forces from Germany, makes haste to attack Paris. The King and Queen return thither with their army, and after various negotiations the Prince is constrained to depart. The two armies march towards Normandy—a memorable battle is fought at Dreue, where the Prince of Conde is made prisoner by the Catholics, and the Constable by the Hugonots. In the first onset of this action, Gabriel of Montmorency, the son of the Constable, had been killed, the Comte de Rochefort had been thrown from his horse, and lost his life, and the Catholics, in spite of all their bravery, began to give way. The German cavalry armed with pistols, and divided into two large squadrons, having joined the Admiral in this critical moment, made a fresh charge with such fury, that they broke the Catholics, and forced them to fly. The Constable who fought in this place with great bravery, exerted himself in vain to stop and rally the fugitives: His horse fell under him, and he was wounded in the left arm, surrounded by the Germans, and made prisoner, after having seen perish at his side, the Duke of Nevers, and several other officers of distinction.

The Prince of Conde, in charging the cavalry of the Duke of Guise, was afterwards wounded in his right hand, and covered over with blood, and dust and sweat, was made prisoner by Damville, who, wishing to avenge the capture of his father, fought with desperation. The Duke of Guise remained master of the field of battle, the baggage and artillery of his enemy. The Prince of Conde was brought into the presence of his conqueror, and it was a memorable scene to see those two famous men, whom past events, and especially the last battle, had rendered implacable enemies, reconciled at once by the caprice of fortune, sup at the same table, and for want of other lodgings, and better accommodations, pass the night in profound sleep, on the same bed.

Those who first fled from this action, carried to Paris the first news of the defeat and captivity of the Constable, and threw the Court into deep mourning and great inquietudes. They were dissipated however, a few hours afterwards, by the Captain of the King's guards being dispatched by the Duke of Guise. The news which he spread, and the assurances which he gave of the victory gained by the Catholics, diminished the grief caused by the death of so many brave men, whose loss had put all France in mourning. Besides the Lords and Knights, of distinguished nobility and reputation, they reckoned eight thousand men among the slain. The Duke of Guise acquired a glory without bounds by this victory, which gave a great check to the Hugonots. The King and Queen declared him General of the army, and he took the rout to Orleans, that he might not leave his enemy the time to repair their losses.

N A M U R, Nov. 2.

AT half an hour past ten o'clock in the morning of the 30th of October the laboratory of one of the powder magazines of this town took fire in the part destined for making cartridges. It blew up, and destroyed a considerable part of the quarter in which it was situated.

Four hundred persons and a great number of children were the victims of this disaster, which does not appear the effect of chance, as twice before matches had been found evidently disposed with a design to occasion an explosion.

Some time before two patrols of Patriots, consisting of 400 men each, met in the night. Instead of crying, "Qui vive!" as usual, the commander of one of the parties spoke in German. Deceived by this the other patrol fired. The battle immediately began with fury, and, if the dawn of day had not thrown light upon this unfortunate mistake, the combatants would have destroyed each other to the last man.

Three hundred men were killed on the spot, without reckoning those that were wounded.

LONDON, Nov. 8.

A warrant has just received the Royal signature for granting 1000l. for special service to the Rev. Thomas Willis, youngest son of Dr. Willis, who was, as the public will recollect, a material assistant to his father during his Majesty's late indisposition.

A further reward of 400l. per annum, during life, has also been granted by his Majesty to the same gentleman, in consideration of his services during that period.

NOVEMBER 12.

Doctor Price on Sunday last passing Northumberland House, Charing Cross, took two handkerchiefs out of his pocket, and as he wiped his face with one, a very shabby looking fellow snatched the other from him openly, and by way of excuse said, "Doctor, you know all men ought to be on an equality; you have two handkerchiefs and I had none." A mob gathered, there was a loud laugh, and the Doctor walked away.

NOVEMBER 26.

At a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons, held last night at Freemason's Hall, Lord Rawdon in the Chair, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was unanimously elected Grand Master in the room of his

late Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, in respectful attention to whose memory the Brethren appeared in mourning on the occasion.

DECEMBER 16.

Rhenwick Williams, the monster, is sentenced to six months imprisonment in Newgate; and at the expiration of that term, to enter bail for his good behaviour, for the term of seven years himself 200l. and two sureties in 100l. each.

Lord Westmoreland, by his elegant hospitalities at Dublin castle, is popular and beloved.—The factious and disappointed are awed by his virtues, and silenced by his manly and undeviating rectitude.

A correspondent is of opinion, that Mr. Sheridan's indolence, whatever may be his inclination, will not permit him to reply to Mr. Burke on paper.

Alderman Curtis has avowed himself in the house of commons, a fisherman, by which declaration (having acquired a handsome fortune as a biscuit-baker), he only meant to say, he was determined to have both loaves and fishes.

The grand Sultan is about sending an embassy of fifteen persons to the court of Berlin.

At Constantinople, something more than symptoms favorable to the cause of Freedom, have appeared—and some open resistance to despotism, has actually taken place, according to the newspapers.

Fruit seems to have been very scarce in the time of Henry VI. Apples were then not less than 1s. or 2s. a piece, and a red rose cost 2s.

Lord Abercorn's tomb in the Highlands has so extraordinary an echo that on opening or shutting the door the noise resembles a very loud clap of thunder; therefore they who are ambitious after death to have a good REPORT should make interest for interment there.

JANUARY 20.

Gavois, the wretch who cut madam Madore's throat at Paris, with a razor, was broken on the wheel at 4 o'clock on Thursday last. At two he eat a large cheese-cake, and drank a bottle of wine. At three he asked with the greatest composure, whether it was not time to march.

It is remarkable that the new years day of 1791, has not been observed at St. James's, and the ode prepared by the Laureat was forbid to be performed.

It is confidently asserted that the Spaniards will not acknowledge the new flag adopted by the French.

The Bible is now publishing in France, in their vulgar tongue, ornamented with copper plates in the English manner.

A Dutch paper mentions that Messrs. Vander Noot and Van Eupen have disappeared, the one having retreated to Hall (in the French dominions,) the latter to the Hague. It is said further that both are contemplating an embarkation for America.

A gentleman in town has received a letter from the clergyman at Botany Bay, who informs him that provisions are so scarce, that the Governor allows only two ounces of meat, and five ounces of flour per day to each person. If a relief is not speedily thrown in, the consequences may be fatal. The writer of the letter adds, that he has at different times engaged three of the female convicts as house servants, but that they have all robbed him. He has now a native girl of the place, about twelve years of age, whom he is in hopes of making a useful servant.

The latest accounts from India mention, that Lord Cornwallis had formed three separate armies to act against the tyrant Tippoo, and intended to strike a decisive blow, by attacking Arcot, the capital of his usurped dominions; but it was much feared the undertaking would prove too arduous.

By the taking of Isafisia, the great magazine and the principal depot of the stores of the Turkish army, they became masters of a vast tract on the south of the Danube, and it was supposed that they would find no difficulty in taking the town of Varna, about a day's march from thence, which is a commodious and commanding harbor on the Black Sea, and which was but slightly fortified.

If the Prince Potemkin should not think it expedient to cross the Balchan, or the great chain of mountains which forms a natural barrier to Turkey, it was in his power to transport his army by sea within a few miles of Constantinople, in a day or two, with no other obstacle than what the Black Sea, which is often dangerous and tempestuous, presented; and thereby get over the principal impediment to his farther progress.

The winter campaign of the Russian army may appear very extraordinary in this country, but military operations in those warm latitudes are most practicable in winter, and the Russians are affected by the heats in summer more than other troops; and therefore they prefer carrying on a war in the winter season.

From the little resistance which the Turks make, as the last conquest is said to have been gained without any loss, Russia may push her conquests before any other power can possibly interfere; and either take Constantinople, or dic-