

The following excellent Composition is taken from the ALBANY REGISTER.

THE EXIT OF OLD AGE; OR, REFLECTIONS ADAPTED TO THE CLOSE OF A WELL-SPENT LIFE.

HUSH, hush, my friends, Why stand you round me weeping? You shock my fortitude—too weak already: Save that dear infant, he may long be useful: My day is over. With pleasure and with pain I, in retrospect, View my past life: I see a thousand failings; Yet here and there a man, that when an orphan Fed at my table. My door was ever open to the stranger; My heart to the distressed; my hand was ready To reach a morsel to the poor and needy; If but a morsel. The sick I visited; I felt the anguish I could not heal; but kindness was a cordial: Their earnest looks acknowledged my compassion: They bless'd me aying. These feet, unable now to bear the burden Impos'd upon them by the law of nature, How nimbly have they mov'd this active body, When sorrow call'd me. A mental touch of the Benevolent Spirit Moulded my texture to these deeds of mercy: With pleasure I have sooth'd the sobbing bosom, Sunk by oppression. Indulgent Heav'n! not greater was thy glory Of pow'r and wisdom, sung at the creation By morning stars, than four score years' experience Proclaims thy goodness. From thee this wondrous frame of mine proceeded, By thee to feeble age it is protracted, To thee it gravitates as to the centre Of its existence. Let uncreated love's mysterious mantle, Woven to cover naked human nature, Hide what the child, the youth, or man has acted That Angels would blush at. Farewell, a long farewell, to sin and sorrow: Now Death's cold hand is reaching me a potion To cure the maladies of human nature; Age is the last one. If in the nurse's arms we are not smother'd, Yet first or last death will rock o'er the cradle; As there the young—here the old infant tumbles Into his coffin. Good night, my friends! When this last nap is over, (I rest in hope) awaking from my slumber, I shall arise and with you a good morning In Life Eternal. J. T.

Foreign Affairs.

PARIS, JAN. 4. PART of the plan of the Committee of General Defence is, to station a number of small vessels on the coast between Calais and Dunkirk, to intercept the British traders, and perhaps occasionally to harass the coast of England. These vessels will be supplied with a powerful artillery, and will discharge red hot shot; and their force will be such, as to render it necessary for the British Government to keep a large Squadron in the Downs.

Some of the English Admirals, if they should go to war, will not like the present French mode of fighting. They will not find their squadrons so easy a conquest as they have been. You may depend on it, that the character of the nation is essentially changed, and that it is chiefly the fierce republican spirit, with which they are actuated, that has rendered their armies invincible to the German mercenaries.

NATIONAL CONVENTION. MONDAY, Jan. 14.

Bouzot denounced the Council General of the Commons, for having issued a decree of shutting up the Play-houses, and other places of public entertainment: He moved that this decree be annulled.

Quinette observed, that there was a decree extant, which charged the Executive Power to take all possible measures of safety during the judgment of Louis Capet.

The Assembly called for the order of the day.

A letter was read from M. Bertrand, the Ex Minister, who complained, that the Minister of Justice had not delivered to the Official Defenders of Louis XVI. certain papers, which he had addressed to them.

The Minister of Justice said, he had delivered those pieces into the hands of the Commission of twelve.

A member of this Commission declared, that the pieces had been presented to Malesherbes, but the latter would not make any use of them.

The Convention called for the order of the day, being

The final judgment of Louis XVI. Lehardi moved, that it be previously decided by a nominal call, if the Decree that is to be pronoun-

ced on the fate of Louis shall be sanctioned by the nation at large.

Another proposed these questions:

1. Is it compatible with the interest of the State, that Louis be deprived of his dignity?

2. Is it proper that he should suffer death, or should he be imprisoned for life?

3. In either case shall appeal to the people take place?

Coulthon and Gauthier moved, that the following two questions be first put:

1. Is Louis guilty of high treason and conspiracy against the Liberty and Sovereignty of the Nation?

Louvet moved, that in order to show a proper respect to the opinions of the different Members, it should first be decided, whether or not the appeal to the sovereign people should take place?

Cambaceres was of opinion, that the Convention ought to pronounce a judgment in ipso facto; he expressed at the same time his doubts, if the Convention had such a power vested in them; he therefore moved, that, to avoid all difficulties, the Convention should make an appeal to the Primary Assemblies, to consult them, whether or not it is their wish that the Convention should judge Louis, and pronounce sentence upon him?

Quinette was for judging Louis, and referring his sentence to the Sovereign people in the Primary Assemblies.

The Mountain became extremely clamorous, and wished that Louis should be immediately sentenced to suffer death, that his sentence should be pronounced, and afterwards referred to the ratification of the people.

After many tumultuous debates, the discussion was finally closed, and the following three questions adopted, on the motion of Barriere.

1. Is Louis guilty or not guilty of High Treason, and of attempts against the general safety of the State?

2. Shall the appeal to the people take place?

3. What punishment shall he suffer?

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15.

Bouzot moved, and the Convention decreed, that every member who should vote on the questions terminating the judgment of Louis, should have his name inscribed in a book destined for that purpose, and that the different names should afterwards be sent to the 84 Departments.

Here Manuel, one of the Secretaries, read the first question, on which the Members of the Convention were to vote, viz.

“Is LOUIS Guilty or not Guilty of High Treason, and of attempts against the General Safety of the State?”

The nominal call began, Mr. Sales read the names, and each member ascended the tribune.

The following members then voted.

Bouzot. I vote that Louis be imprisoned with his family, till all the nation shall unite to decide his fate.

Lanjuinas. Louis is guilty.

Boudron. I declare Louis is guilty.

Vandelicourt. Legislators, I do not choose to be a judge in criminal matters.

Lalande. Louis is neither guilty nor not guilty.

Osselien. I know that Louis paid his guards at Coblentz: I do therefore pronounce him guilty.

M. Egalite, guilty.

Danton. Yes, he is guilty.

Compte. Speaking as a Legislator, Louis is guilty; as a judge I won't speak.

Montaignut. Louis is guilty, say more than guilty.

Faure. Louis is guilty in point of the law respecting Royalty, and I do declare him guilty.

Delayhe. To put the question, whether Louis is guilty or not guilty, is to ask if we are ourselves guilty. I do declare Louis is guilty.

Barnard des Sablons. Louis is guilty and not guilty.

Morrison. I can answer none of the questions proposed.

Noel. I once had a son. He died in defence of his country. I do not think that a father who bewailed a son slain, can be the judge of him who is accused of being the author of his wretchedness.

Maure. Guilty on my honor and conscience.

Corea Fustier. Guilty.

Valady. I cannot pronounce, for I am no judge.

Fauchett. As citizen I am convinced of his guilt; as legislator I declare him guilty; as judge I have nothing to say.

Dubois. As a judge I do declare Louis is guilty; but we ought to appeal to the people.

Laumont. I can never believe that the Convention have all powers vested in them; upon the present matter I shall be silent for ever.

Lariviere. I did never vote that the Convention should judge Louis, so cannot vote on the business in question.

Doulcet. I vote for the safe custody of Louis and his family, till the termination of the war; take care that he may have no successor; and when the war is once terminated, let the decree of his fate be submitted to the people.

Meynard was of the same opinion.

Chambon. I vote for the appeal to the people; I also vote that the abolition of Royalty and the establishment of the Primary Assemblies be likewise submitted to the people.

Baralion. I will be no judge; my conscience does not allow it.

Julien. I am invested with unlimited powers; and in virtue of my Legislative capacity, I do declare that Louis is guilty.

LONDON, JAN. 12.

The combined armies destined to act against France the ensuing spring will, it is said, amount to more than 300,000 men. The Austrian and Prussian troops will be each under a separate command.

It was, yesterday, reported, at the public offices, that the French had ordered thirty-five sail of the line, and more than twenty frigates to be prepared for the sea.

The cloaths and other effects of the late King and Queen of France, found at the Thuilleries, on the 10th of August, were to be sold by auction in Paris, last Monday.

The term of Lord George Gordon's confinement expires in the course of this week.

Mr. Secretary Dundas's new Militia Bill, is nothing more than to supply an extraordinary defect in the last—which left out the usual clause to compel parishes to provide for the families of Militia men, when called out on actual service.

The Lion man of war of 64 guns, Captain Sir E. Gower, which sailed some time since with Lord Macartney and his suit on board, in company with the Hindostan East Indiaman, as a storeship, is bound with the partner, to the port of Yselcuph, in the yellow sea, which is the nearest to Peking, the capital of China, from whence it is distant less than thirty leagues.

An old Scotch Peer's advice to his son is strongly to be recommended to our present young men—to be underbored, underhoused, and underdressed.

When Sedition was openly stalking in every part of the Kingdom, domestic traitors, desirous of keeping Englishmen unprepared to repel the meditated attempts against the country, impudently asserted in their conversations, as well as in their publications, that every fear was merely ideal, and that neither sedition or insurrection existed in any part of the British Empire.—Equally in defiance of all truth, and equally for the traitorous purpose of putting Englishmen off their guard, it is now asserted that government are not vigorous in their preparations for war, and that they are endeavoring to hold out an idea of peace; the direct reverse is notoriously the truth—preparations were never more vigorous—and Lord Grenville's answer to the Would-be Ambassador, is a decisive proof that Administration neither hold out an idea of the pro-

bability of, or wish for, peace with modern France.

Lord Amherst is appointed commander in Chief of the British Army. Official Particulars of the recent action at Hock-Heim, between the French and the combined Prussian and Austrian armies.

Head Quarters, Hockheim, Jan. 7, 1793.

Yesterday afternoon his Prussian Majesty, accompanied by his Serene Highness the Duke of Brunswick, arrived here, from the action which took place at Hockheim. His Majesty honored the Theatre with his presence, and went afterwards to the ball given by his Royal Highness the Prince Royal of Prussia.

All we know of the action is, that it was very smart on both sides.

The French troops stationed at Cassel, under the command of Gen. Neuwinger, wanted to force their way to Hockheim, but the Hessian and Prussian troops contested this passage with that valour which they are so renowned for.

Prince Hohenloe, whose headquarters are at Weisbaden, arrived likewise in the field of battle, and attacked the French in the flank, which forced them to make a precipitate retreat to their entrenchments at Cassel. On this occasion the Prussian General Wolfrath had his horse shot under him.

When the King of Prussia entered Hockheim, twelve Frenchmen, who were concealed in the tower above the town-gate, fired down with muskets and carabines upon his Majesty, who was then very close but providentially escaped without being hurt. A Hessian detachment immediately rushed into the tower, and cut those murderous French banditti in pieces.

The French left 300 men dead and wounded on the field. The Hessian Chasseurs have suffered considerably.

This afternoon 160 Frenchmen, and 12 pieces of cannon, were brought in here, preceded by 12 trumpeters, as trophies of the engagement.

More prisoners are expected tomorrow.

A French Colonel has just been brought in prisoner.

JANUARY 19.

The executive government of France displays its usual consistency in calling on the United States of America to fulfill the treaty defensive and offensive, entered into by them with Louis XVI. while his deposition from the throne is considered by that very government as a ground for violating every treaty they have unfortunately ratified with the powers of Europe. A very little attention, however, to the affairs of the American States, since the last peace, will dissipate every idea, that they can so far forget their best interests, as to take a part in the dissensions of Europe. All the advantages which could be derived to them from becoming parties in a war, would be the casual, partial and dishonorable gain, which might result to individuals from privatizing expeditions; and the loss, in such cases, would be, the infinite benefits, both civil and political, which an infant state must derive, in a very pre-eminent degree, from the blessing of peace. The never failing care and commanding influence of Mr. Washington, which have hitherto preserved his country from the misery of feuds among its people, will, we doubt not, be effectually exerted to save it also from the calamities of war with other nations.

JANUARY 21.

Our learned and eloquent Secretary of State sets out, in his elaborate rescript, with saying that he shall give M. Chauvelin no credit, but as he is accredited by the King of France. No such personage being now in existence, what degree of credit can be given him? He would then, it seems, in no sort whatever treat with a minister from the Republic of France; in his own high-mindedness, and high-mightiness, not allowing that country to alter its government, when the majority of it think it fit. What would Oliver Cromwell not only have said, but have done, had Mazarine refused to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Republic of England? He would have destroyed with his fleet all the sea ports of France towards the Mediterranean.

In the Irish House of Lords, the motion for an address to his Majesty on the speech at the opening of the session, was made by the Earl of Westmeath, and carried unanimously. The motion for an address to the Lord Lieutenant was made by Lord Viscount Dillon, and opposed by the Duke of Leinster; on which Lord Portarlington said, he was sorry to differ from the noble Duke, with whom he had so long agreed; but in the present instance he felt that it was as necessary in Ireland for Parliament to unite and resist the enemies of the Constitution, as it was in England, where the party was laid aside to save the country. He knew not of any parties in this country, but if there were, he was sensible that they should give place to the more important consideration of the public safety.