

An express arrived here, about midnight, for General LENOX; we know not the exact information which was consequently received; but infer from the General's dispatching a messenger soon after for Lewes, with orders for six companies of the South Gloucester and Dorset Militia, there stationed, to march immediately for Hailsham, which is but a few miles from Pevensey Level, that it regards the operative designs of the Enemy.

JANUARY 3.—The PRINCE, accompanied by General Lord HUTCHINSON, &c. left us at eleven o'clock today, for St. H. FEATHER TONNAUGH'S, at Up-Park.

The CLIPS, this morning from one extremity of the town to the other, were completely filled with all ranks and descriptions of spectators, to behold a considerable part of the Gun-boats of this place practice with their 18-pound cannonades, in firing at a cask in the offing, previously moored there for that purpose, and floating on the water. The shots altogether were with astonishing accuracy directed; many of them apparently fell within a few feet of the object, discharged from a distance of nearly half a league; so that had it been as large as one of their own boats, it would inevitably have been sent to the bottom. Many parties in row-galleys were on the water, and gave a pleasing diversity to the scene.

While this exercise for national defence was going on, another course of people, not quite so respectable as the former, were gratified (if any gratification can be obtained from so sanguinary and inhuman a diversion) by a bull-baiting at the little village of HOVE. The only particular of this transaction, which has as yet reached us, is of an Officer of the 4th Dragoons, who has a bull-dog of his own, wagering 100 guineas with an Officer of the same Regiment, that his dog pinned the bull in the space of two hours; which wager he won, as the dog fulfilled his task in something less than ten minutes.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.

Yesterday the 47th Regiment of Foot landed from England: they are billeted in this City for a few days, previous to marching into the interior.

Tuesday John O'Rourke, brother to the Rebel General of that name, who was executed some time since, was apprehended at the house of John Walsh, a publican, beyond Rathpob, by a party of the Newcastle Cavalry, commanded by Sergeant WILSON, who conducted him to the Castle, where he underwent an examination, and from thence was sent to Kilmainham. O'Rourke kept a public-house, the Golden Ball, in Thomas-street, but fled on the night of the 23rd of July last.

Sunday morning last about one o'clock, three men came to the first barrier gate on the South wall near the Pigeon-house, at which a centinel stands; being challenged by the Soldier, who we understand is one of the Highlanders, they said they were going to the Packet to sail for Holyhead, and requiring to be suffered to pass through. While the sentry was in the act of opening the gate, one of the three persons fired a blunderbuss, which it appeared was loaded with slugs, at the Soldier, which wounded and tore him desperately in the left arm from the wrist to the elbow; the assassin was so close to the poor man that the wadding of the piece struck his clothes. The three barbarians, notwithstanding that two other centinels instantly came up, and fired in the direction they heard them run, made their escape. The three shots had the effect of alarming the whole of the Army stationed there, who were immediately at their posts. The Conservators of the Peace of that district, we hear, stopped three fellows that morning, somewhere near Ringsend, who were, it is believed, the desperadoes, and not knowing of the savage act, were not so circumspect as they otherwise would have been. The poor Soldier lies dangerously ill, and will not suffer amputation, though his life cannot be saved without it. To nothing can this horrid act be attributed, but to the attention that the party of the Army stationed there very properly paid to Vessels which had been wrecked near the place, by resisting some efforts to plunder.

DUNDEE, DEC. 30.—Yesterday the 14th battalion of Reserve marched from Dadohope Castle barracks, on their route to Ayr; and at the same time the Berwickshire Militia marched for Edinburgh.

His Excellency the Earl of MOIRA having accepted the offer of service transmitted by the 5th Forfarshire Volunteers, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel MYLNE, that regiment was yesterday ordered on permanent duty, by Major-General MACDONALD, and quartered in Dundee.

The 5th Forfarshire Volunteers were yesterday inspected by Major-General MACDONALD, at their parade in the Meadows. Their appearance was much to the credit of themselves and their officers; more especially when it is considered that they have only been three months embodied, and that during a season, the inclemency of which made it impossible to exercise.

PERTH, DEC. 30.—In consequence of the sudden removal of a company of the Berwickshire Militia, which have been stationed here some time, the Volunteers are doing the duty of the place.

On Monday morning the 10th instant, a fishing-boat, four men in it, set out from the North Queensferry, in the midst of a strong squall and heavy sea, against the advice of all on shore.—They had not got far out, when James STEIN, while setting up the mast in the boat, was swept overboard along with the mast, by a great wave, which nearly filled the boat with water. The other men threw out their oars to him, but in vain, as he was past recovery, and by the want of the oars, they only rendered their own situation more dangerous. They, however, were with difficulty got ashore, but Stein perished.

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THAMES POLICE OFFICE.—Wednesday a shopkeeper, at Deptford, was charged with having in his possession a quantity of rope-yarn and other goods, suspected to have been stolen, as to the defence of the party accused was, that as his house was contiguous to the water side, and some men having the property upon them, who he understood were pursued by the Officers, threw the property into his shop, as his wife informed him, he being absent at the time. This defence being inadmissible, and the Prisoner being suspected of being a common receiver, he was adjudged in the penalty of 10l.; the rope-yarn being King's stores, under the value of 20s. He was further convicted in the penalty of 5l. for the other property, and the goods forfeited. He paid the fines and expenses, with costs.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—Wednesday two Publicans, named Sturges and Brown, and a Poulterer of the name of Lloyd, were brought before the Sitting Magistrate, charged by the Society for the Suppression of Vice, with keeping their houses open on the Sabbath-Day, during divine service.

William Collins, who had been sent round by the Committee, saw persons drinking, during divine service, at the house of Mr. Sturges, the Blue Posts, Tottenham-court Road. He saw some men smoking only at Mr. Brown's house, but stated that his doors were open.

Sturges stated to the Magistrate, that as the Highgate and Hampstead stages were continually passing, it was impossible for him to avoid opening his doors, and consequently he should feel himself obliged to accommodate the passengers. Persons frequently sent parcels to go by the stages during Divine Service, and as most of them were provisions for dinner, he could not deny them admittance.

Lloyd, the poulterer, observed, that he frequently received orders from different Noblemen and Gentlemen to send different articles of poultry on the Sabbath Day, and he had had the honour of serving his Worship on that day. If he disobliged his customers, he might as well shut up his shop, unless it was a general practice throughout the trade.

The two publicans were liberated on paying the costs, and the poulterer was fined 5s.

MANSON-HOUSE.—Tuesday the Inquest of the Ward of Lime-street, gave information to the LORD MAYOR, of having discovered a great quantity of meat in the shop of John Bley, in Leadenhall Market, which was exposed to sale in a putrid state. The LORD MAYOR, in consequence, ordered the Officers to seize the meat, when Mr. HOLDSWORTH, the City Marshal, with proper assistants, carried away a cart load of it, consisting of several cwt. of different sorts, part of which was produced at the Mansion-house. His Lordship did not chuse it should be buried, as it would even create a distemper among dogs; as such he ordered it to be burnt in Smithfield, which was accordingly done at five o'clock on Wednesday morning. Although at so early an hour, a prodigious concourse of people assembled to witness the scene; but the smell being so obnoxious, the greatest part of them fled hastily away. Some of the Inquest Jury, who gave the information, were butchers of that market, and thought the present method would be a caution to the trade in general; and that the salesmen would find, that they were answerable to justice for selling the carcasses of such kind of meat. Bley is to be indicted for the offence.

FEMALE SHARPER.—On Saturday morning last, the following singular circumstance took place in a respectable private house in the neighbourhood of Carey-street.

About ten o'clock in the morning, a woman of rather genteel appearance, gained admission to the house, and asked to be shown some good apartments. Having seen those on the first floor, she seemed to approve of them, and wished to engage them immediately, and was politely invited into a sitting-parlour by the lady of the house. In reply to the inquiries necessary on the occasion, and a desire for a reference to some person of respectability, she told a long story, saying she was the wife of a Captain in the Navy, who had just returned from abroad, and was then at Portsmouth, whom she expected in town shortly; that she herself had been in London but a few hours, having been set down by one of the stages at the Angel Inn in the Strand; but as she did not like to live at an Inn, she wished to be immediately provided with lodgings till her husband arrived. Having complained very much of the great fatigue of the journey, she begged permission of the lady of the house to retire to bed for a few hours. Her plausible tale, and respectable appearance, gaining on the unsuspecting housekeeper, who, though not perfectly satisfied with the stranger, had no idea of the woman's real character, she ordered a chamber to be kept ready for her reception. In the mean time, to keep up appearances, she begged to be furnished with pen, ink, and paper, and wrote a letter to her husband, which she folded up, and directed to Captain Payne, at Plymouth, which a man was dispatched with to the next post-office. Having been shown to her apartment, she remained there for some hours; and about dinner time returned to the parlour, and after a few minutes conversation, said she would go back to the Inn, and return in the evening, and accordingly took her leave. A very short time afterwards it was discovered that she had stripped the bed of the room she had been in, of the greater part of the hangings and curtains, which she must have wrapped round her body beneath her clothes, and of course was heard of no more, although application was made at the above Inn, &c. There is no doubt she had hoped to meet with a better booty; but for want of a better, she took the curtains, which, however, were almost new, and were of a valuable and expensive kind. Her success in this affair will probably tempt her to put her scheme in execution elsewhere, if she has not already done so. She appeared to be about forty years of age, is about five feet six or seven inches high; wore a poked straw bonnet, with a kind of buff gown; and had altogether the appearance of a gentlewoman.

The Plaintiff is a person in inferior circumstances. The Defendant, the son of a tobacco-stuff, had married his daughter, whom Ceal had deserted, and this was an action of damages brought by Laik to recover the amount expended in her maintenance, during the absence of her husband. A great variety of witnesses were produced on both sides, and the trial was protracted, when

Mr. Justice CHAMBER made his observations to the Jury. "It is the duty of a husband, by law, to support his wife; and if it be not the legal duty, it is at least the Christian duty of a father to maintain his daughter when abandoned. This is an action for damages, commenced by a father-in-law against his son-in-law, and the rule of law is, that if the husband leave his wife, he leaves with her a credit united to her rank and degree, and to all debts agreeable to that rank and degree he is liable. It appears, in this case, that the rank of the husband was of the lowest order—that his labour was necessary for his own support—and that the wife was equally capable of procuring her maintenance by the same exertions. It will likewise be recollected, that she acted in the capacity of a servant to the present Plaintiff."

Verdict for the Plaintiff—Damages One Shilling.

DECEMBER 16.

NEWMAN V. WALTERS.

This was an action brought to recover from the Defendant the salvage of the Ship *Betsy Cairn*, and cargo, which the Plaintiff had saved from shipwreck.

Mr. Serjeant SHEPHERD opened the cause with stating to the Jury, that the Defendant in this case was the owner of the ship and cargo in question, which together had cost him 9000l. and that he had put on board of her *George Johnston*, as commander, to navigate her to St. Kitt's. That the Plaintiff, who was well acquainted with Capt. Johnston, was a passenger; that on the 29th of March, 1802, the *Betsy Cairn* sailed from London, and on the 15th of April following (when they were off Portsmouth), having some squally weather, her Commander (who on more than one occasion during this short trip had shewn some instances both of ignorance and alarm), thought fit to make a signal for a pilot, and in consequence of which, one *Thomas Davies* came on board. This pilot was, however, suffered by the Commander to get very drunk, and about eleven o'clock the same evening, when the wind was blowing fresh, and the night very dark, the vessel struck on Chichester shoals. She continued to strike very hard, and the Captain, alarmed for his own safety, without considering either the passengers or his crew, declared she was bilged, and ordered out one of his boats, in which he, with three of his sailors, made their escape, leaving the disconsolate passengers under the protection of a drunken Pilot, and in a ship which he himself had stated to have a hole in her bottom. In this situation, in the middle of the night, with the vessel grating hard against a rock, with a high wind, a Pilot drunk, and without a Commander, were left, the ship, the cargo, the remainder of the crew, and all the passengers, who were neither inconsiderable in number or in respectability. The Pilot, who had through fear recovered from drunkenness, though not to his senses, ordered an anchor immediately to be let go, an act by which it is apprehended few vessels are got off rocks. It was not till now the Plaintiff ever interfered; and certainly it was high time, for the very act of letting go the anchor, would in a few minutes have sent them all to a watery grave; he would not let it be done; but instantly shifting the helm to hard-a-port, and trimming her sails, he, about 12 P.M. through very great exertion (as the wind was blowing hard, with a heavy sea), succeeded in getting her off the rocks. The passengers, conscious that they owed their lives to Captain Newman, requested him to continue in the command, which he did, and about 9 o'clock, A.M. the next day, moored the ship, her cargo, her crew, and her passengers, in Ramsgate harbour, in perfect safety. It was on those grounds that the Plaintiff set up his claim to a salvage of 10l. per cent. on the ship and cargo; as he considered himself the only instrument by which the property had reached a port. The Learned Counsel also stated, that on the ship's arrival at Ramsgate, Newman made a protest, setting forth the particulars of their different situations; as also did the mate, carpenter, and boatswain, who in their protest asserted, that the vessel had been saved owing to national ability and the uncommon exertion of Captain Newman.

Mr. Thomas Gardner and Mr. P. T. Tudor, who were both passengers, proved Capt. Johnston's leaving the ship; also that the mate, carpenter, boatswain, and the remaining part of the crew, put themselves under the command of the Plaintiff, and obeyed his orders.

Mr. Serjeant COCKRELL, for the Defendant, contended, that the Plaintiff was not entitled to any sum by way of salvage; for his nautical ability and uncommon exertion were not used for the preservation of the property, but for the express purpose of self-preservation.

Lord ALVANLEY, in summing up the evidence, was of opinion that the Plaintiff was not entitled to any sum as for salvage, but for a remuneration for his exertions in saving the vessel he certainly was; for the Jury would recollect, that he had the same opportunity of leaving the ship as Captain Johnston had, as there was another boat left, and that of a larger size, consequently more sea-worthy; but he had preferred risking his life to save the property of the Defendant, and most assuredly ought to be paid for such risk.

The Jury gave a verdict for Plaintiff, in 400l.

DIVIDED AT GUILDHALL,

TO-MORROW, JAN. 7.

John Corbett, of Milk-street, warehouseman, to St. Martin's, Fleet-street, tailor, to

The neighbourhood of Hammersmith has of late been kept in a constant state of alarm, in consequence of the nocturnal appearance of what credulity supposed a Ghost. For many weeks past, the church bell no sooner struck one, than a Spectre seemed to flit along the fields adjacent to Black-Lion-lane. The old and young watched its coming, but preserved an awful distance. It appeared as if covered with a white shroud. We are serious in stating, that the terror of the phantom operating upon the superstition of an elderly woman, brought on a dejection of mind, from which she never recovered. The repeated visits of this disturber of the repose of night, called forth more than an ordinary attention on the part of the inhabitants. Several of the most respectable persons in Hammersmith were anxious to discover the cause of its visitations; and as the most likely means, offered a reward of 10l. for the apprehension of the Ghost, but without success.

We come now to the afflicting part of the relation: a person of the name of Smith, a Custom-house Officer, with a few others, lured by the hope of the reward, determined to watch the phantom, and for that purpose provided themselves with arms, and took post in Black-Lion-lane. They were stationed there on Tuesday night last, between the hours of ten and twelve. A man of the name of Milwood, who was by trade a plasterer, unhappily had sent his wife out upon some business, and imagining she staid longer than was necessary, determined to go in search of her, in order to protect her home at that dreary time of night. The ill-fated man was dressed as usual in his white flannel jacket, and having parted with his sister at his own door, proceeded along Black-Lion-lane, where the ghost-hunters were lying in wait. Smith no sooner beheld something white approaching than he imagined it was the object of his expectations, and instantly springing forward, advanced close to the unfortunate Milwood, levelled his piece, and shot him through the head. The poor man expired on the spot, the ball having entered his mouth, and gone out at the back part of his skull. He was conveyed to the Black Lion Public-house, and there recognized. His murderer, agitated at the effect of his rashness, surrendered himself to an officer of justice, and is now in custody at the White Hart Inn, where he will remain till the Coroner's Inquest shall have returned their verdict. This accident is the general subject of conversation at Hammersmith. We trust it will appear that this rash conduct was the sudden impulse of superstitious fear; but it is our duty to refrain from any observations at present.

The following singular occurrence took place in Newcastle last week. A soldier and a woman stepped into a shop on the Quay side, and after purchasing some trifling article, requested the shopkeeper to suffer them to leave a covered basket for a few minutes. The parties not returning at the time appointed, the shopkeeper ventured to lift the covering, when to his great astonishment, he found himself in possession of a fine young child!

At an assembly of Protestant Dissenting Ministers, held at Shepton-Mallet, the 28th ult., an important question was laid before them, peculiarly interesting to the Religious Public.—Whether Defensive War be strictly consistent with Christianity? which was unanimously decided in the affirmative. It was further resolved, that with every sentiment of loyalty and patriotism, felt by the Ministers present, it is incumbent on them to recommend to their respective congregations, cautiously to avoid the profanation of the Sabbath, while learning the use of arms for the defence of their Country, by availing themselves of an Act recently made for that purpose.

On Saturday last, as some men were employed in repairing some buildings adjoining the River near Putney, it being high water, the scaffolding by which they were unfortunately gave way, by which accident two of them, father and son, fell into the water; the father, after struggling a considerable time, was drowned, but the son clinging to some weeds, kept his hold till assistance was procured. The body of the father was discovered floating on the water by some persons near the White Hart, Battersea, on Monday, and was taken to an adjoining house, where the Coroner's Jury sat on the body, and brought in their verdict—*Accidental Death.*

SHIP NEWS.

POOLE, JAN. 3.—Arrived—the *Industry*, Hally, Amy, Lander, Garland, Sinkins, Minerva, Lill, Elizabeth, Britton, Gostwick, Thomas, from Newfoundland; *Hirondelle*, Shannon, from Westmouth.

Sailed—the *Agnes*, Fleury, for Guernsey; *Det Coep* Haab, Broser, and *Providence*, Ballens, for Bilbao; *Perseverance*, Stroud, and *William*, Dunica, for Liverpool.

BIRTH.

At Dalkeith House, on the 4th ult. the Countess of Dalkeith, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

Yesterday at night, by special licence, Henry Mainwaring Mainwaring, of Peover, in Cheshire, Esq. to Miss Sophia Cotton, daughter of Sir Robert Salusbury, Esq. of Canons-barnet Abbey, Esq.

DIED.

On the 31st ult. in George's-square, Edinburgh, Miss Ann Scott, daughter of the deceased Hugh Scott, Esq. of Gala.

At Edinburgh, on the 28th ult. Mrs. Jean Jamieson, relict of the late Mr. Henry Mackay, of the Exchequer.

At Bellshill, of Kilmarnock, on Tuesday se'night, Mrs. Agnes Sheriff, relict of the late Mr. John Gordon, of Spittalby town, Jamaica.

Lately, at Crocodon, in Cornwall, John Corpton, Esq. On Wednesday the 28th ult. after a short and severe illness, Miss Brown, eldest daughter of John Brown, Esq. of Salterton, in the County of Gloucester.

On the 28th ult. near Eton College, Catherine Anna Schomburgk, wife of Alexander Wilmet Schomburgk, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy.

On Sunday se'night, at her daughter's house, in Upper John-street, Fitzroy-square, Miss Tomlinson, widow of Mr. Tomlinson, of Auckworth, Yorkshire.