THE OXFORD University and City Herald

AND MIDLAND COUNTY CHRONICLE.

No. 1.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1806. *Price Sixpence.*

TO THE PUBLIC.

ON the commencement of a periodical publication, it is usual, by way of introduction, to make such observations as may explain the principles on which it will be conducted, to say something which may elucidate the nature of its design, and to solicit the support of its Readers.

From the PROPRIETORS of this PAPER a similar method of proceeding may perhaps be expected, and gratitude, as well as interest, forbids us to disappoint the expectation of the PUBLIC and of our NUMEROUS FRIENDS, from whom, during the whole time we have been preparing our work, we thankfully acknowledge to have received the greatest encouragement; the continuance of which, we are sensible, must depend on our strenuous and unremitted exertions.

WE beg leave to assure our Friends and the Public, that the OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND CITY HERALD will be conducted in the most liberal manner; and that neither expence nor trouble will be spared in endeavouring to make it generally useful.

IN our POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, the substance and matter of the FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE which may have arrived during the week will be given with accuracy. SHIP-NEWS, DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE, DEBATES IN PARLIAMENT, and the PROCEEDINGS OF OUR COURTS OF JUSTICE, will be stated with precision, with freedom, and with impartiality.

No less attention will be paid to PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES; to obtain a correct account of which, we must request the assistance of our Friends, and shall be always happy to defray the expence of their being communicated to our Publishers as early as possible.

To the Gentlemen of the UNIVERSITY we are under considerable obligations for the extreme readiness they have shewn in promoting our design, and for their kind promises of future assistance. We beg leave to say, that ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS from them will be highly acceptable, as well as any NEWS which may more particularly concern their respective Societies, such as PROMOTIONS, DEGREES, ELECTIONS, &c. Intelligence of this nature will claim the earliest insertion, and in a great degree remove that objection of locality, to which every Provincial Paper is more or less liable. Interesting to the whole of the British Empire, for in most places there is some person resident who either is, or has been, a Member of the UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, or who has friends or relatives there: and this interest will be, if possible, still farther increased by our noticing all occurrences which may take place in the UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

To our many FRIENDS in the CITY and NEIGHBOURHOOD of OXFORD we are no less thankful. Their support we will always endeavour to deserve by attending to their wishes. Any advice which may conduce to forward our plan will be received with gratitude.

To our FRIENDS in the COUNTRY we shall think ourselves particularly obliged by any information relative to AGRICULTURAL CONCERNS, and the STATE OF THE DIFFERENT MARKETS. The prices at MARK LANE on FRIDAYS will be procured by Express, and regularly given in our Paper; for to matters of such extreme importance we shall always be desirous of paying every attention in our power.

The commercial world, and persons who by means of advertising may wish to secure publicity to their concerns in the Midland Counties, are respectfully informed, that all ADVERTISEMENTS with which our Paper may be favoured will be printed with correctness, and displayed to the utmost advantage.

In a word, we are determined to exert ourselves to the utmost to render this Paper in some degree worthy of the UNIVERSITY and CITY whose name it bears, and hope our exertions will not fail in obtaining the reward to which we anxiously look forward,—that of the PUBLIC APPROBATION AND APPLAUSE.

*** Our Paper will be sent, free of postage, to every part of the kingdom.

FOREIGN NEWS.

HAMBURGH MAIL.

Constantinople, April 9. The French agent Rosey, who was sent from hence about the end of last summer, we now learn, had a mission to Tahali Cha, the King of Persia; but upon his return he was the misfortune to be attacked and murdered a few miles from the Turkish frontier. The perpetrators are unknown.

St. Petersburgh, May 7. General Von Essen is appointed to the command of the troops in Persia; the Bagrathion had been mentioned at first. It is thought, that about the end of May his Majesty will set out upon a tour to several of his provinces. On his tour, enamoured with the second Order of St. Andrew, have been presented by his Majesty to several ral officers who distinguished themselves in the late war.

Ratisbon, May 6.—A courier, who arrived the day from Memel, brought orders that all the vessels there should be suffered to depart without molestation and also signified that they should enter that port in future without apprehension.

May 17.—The Russian Baron Krudenor arrived here from Dresden; he is to remain during the absence of Baron Alopeus, and to discharge the functions of the Russian Envoy. The Court of Charlottenburg is gone into camp. His Majesty will exercise them in several new manœuvres. Gen. Kalkreuth is in a state of convalescence. The garrison of this city has this moment received orders to hold itself in readiness to march at an hour's notice; its field pieces are already collected. Our journal of this day repeats the intelligence in our last, respecting the evacuation of the Moulds of the Cattero by the Russians. The Prince of Hatzfeld has set out for Hanover.

Copenhagen, May 13—The equipment of some of our ships of war is talked of. On the 29th ult. an attempt was discovered to set on fire the town of Dronthein, which would have endangered the whole place. Two hundred dollars reward have been offered for the discovery of the criminals. There has been a great fire in the island of Nordstrand, which has destroyed, among other buildings, the very ancient Catholic Church.

Griefswald, May 17.—Yesterday his Swedish Majesty was pleased to dispatch his First Adjutant, Major Chapman, with a flag of truce to Berlin, and a letter to his Prussian Majesty. His Majesty has distributed medals among the subaltern and private concerned in the late affair in Lauenburg.

Altona, May 20.—The military preparations in Prussian Pomerania do not appear to correspond with those of Sweden: some divisions of Prussian artillery have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march. Prussia appears desirous to wait till Sweden shall commit the first hostilities.

Prussia has excepted the ports of Emden and Lubeck from those that are shut against the English, and free entrance and departure is to be permitted at these two ports to all English vessels.

Vienna, May 10.—A part of the French troops, to whom a passage has been granted into Dalmatia, are already on their way. Sixteen thousand head of oxen have been purchased in Hungary for the French army in Dalmatia. The Russian ship of the line which cruises near Trieste lately obliged two French privateers that approached, to retire, in consequence of giving them a full broadside.

FROM THE FRENCH PAPERS.

Paris, May 15. The following persons were this day presented to his Imperial Majesty: M. de Trechese Walburgh, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of Wurtemberg; M. de Scuffi, the Minister of the Elector of Saxony; Counts Sickingen and Bassenhein; Baron de Hathaufen and M. Souza Holstein and Souza Botelho.

Madrid, April 17.—The Grand Inquisitor, the Archbishop of Tarragona, has been exalted to the dignity of Patriarch of the Indies and Spain.

The day before yesterday, Marquis del Socorro, Captain General of Marines, was interred with the honours due to his rank. Five hundred prisoners arrived at Barcelona in cartels. They are part of the regiment of Castile, taken by Admiral Nelson, on their passage from Barcelona to Mahon.

Bourg, (Department of l'Ain) May 12.—Two women who arrived at Lyons from St. Lambert on the 25th April, passed that night there. On the following morning they pursued their journey, over mountains covered with snow. In consequence of a thick mist, they could not see two steps before them. After having walked a long way, they perceived they had gone astray. They wandered for upwards of three hours, over rocks and brambles. Having reached the summit of the mountain, they were descending to the other side, which was a perfect precipice. These two unfortunate women, who became entangled among the rocks which overhung the precipice, were almost within two yards of destruction, when they halted, either through fatigue, or a forewarning of their danger, and exclaimed—"Oh, God, help, help!" A man of the name of Claude David Russet, who lived at the other side of the precipice, cried out to them, "Stir not a step, or you are dead." By a bye-path he soon reached the top of the rock, and there found the women, speechless through terror; he instantly endeavoured to place one out of danger, but as he was assisting her, she fainted away. David Russet took a small bit of sugar out of a bag which he had, and introducing it into her mouth recovered her. He instantly proceeded to help the other woman, but he had scarcely advanced three steps, when the ice which had been collected under his wooden shoes caused him to slip; he disappeared, and was found dead at the bottom of the precipice.

PRIVATE LETTER FROM HOLLAND.

Hague, May 21.—"By a courier arrived here on Monday last, from our Deputation at Paris, we learn that the long pending negociation is at length terminated. If our negociators have not been able to retain our independence, they have at least made the best bargain possible; we are, it is said, to receive Prince Louis, not as King, but as Captain and Admiral General, Stadtholder, &c. their High Mightinesses to remain on the present footing; the interest of the National Debt to be paid as usual; the system of taxation not to be altered; the religion of the country not to be changed; and the constitution to remain the same. The present Pensionary to continue second in command, if it shall please him, which is not very likely, he having for some time past kept himself in marching readiness. In order to humour the Cabinists, who had expressed their apprehensions that the Catholics would profit by the proposed political change, the Bonaparte family being professed friends of that Church! it seems that Prince Louis has graciously promised the Deputation, that he will cause his son to be educated in the principles of the Protestant religion. Such are the reports here: while from France they write, that the Government has expressed its ardent wishes to the Deputation at Paris, to see the ancient Republican give way to a Monarchical form of Government. Sooner or later we shall certainly be king'd. The stocks have risen about one per cent. on the report that the National Debt is not to be expunged."

HOLIDAY SPORTS.

The Amusements of the Season in the Metropolis and its environs were this year supported with the usual spirit.

At Walworth Common there was a grand display of Cudgel Playing. A weal dressed man in *mourning*, entered the lists, and it was not until he had beaten all his opponents *black*, that it was discovered the *white garlands* a disguise, for the haughty hero was in reality a private in the Life Guards, thoroughly versed in the exercise. A Jingling Match excited much merriment, and the honourable trophy of a *flatland smock* was carried off by a *Hackney coachman*, who seemed well entitled to repr sent a *fashionable Suite!*

Gooseberry Fair, held on Tothill Fields on Monday, and Tuesday, for the second time, eclipsed all other Whitsuntide fairs, for gaiety and fun, in the vicinity of the metropolis. The [illegible] in crowds, so irresistible was the attraction of the bill of fare which the inhabitants of Westminster had prepared for them. Various prizes were put up for running, walking, and playing at single stick for, in the true spirit of old English pastime. On Monday there were eight candidates for the prize of a gold laced hat, destined for the best player at single stick. They were to contend on the principle of a main of cocks, the winners of each battle, to play together until only one remained unvanquished.

The honourable rivals of this partiane were three brothers, of the name of Withers, and an old Life-guardsman, named Chapman; the latter had obtained every prize he had contended for, and had beat the famous Blackskin. Mary, very desirous in the art, came from the country to oppose them; but the brothers and Chapman triumphed over their opponents. At length it fell to the lot of two of the brothers to play together; but they declined, and Dick, the youngest, was forced upon to sustain the honour of the family against Chapman. They contested the point, as the others had done, on a stage erected for the purpose: their blows fell as heavy and thick as if they had been threshing corn; but each guarded his head so dexterously, that no blood was drawn, and night coming on, they retired by mutual consent, amidst the applauses of the spectators.

Tuesday there was a donkey race, and cures run by ladies for chemises, besides other *regular* sports, not mentioned in the bill of fare.

At a bear baiting in Tothill Fields, one of the bears, having broke loose, rushed upon a person of the name of Shaw, whom he tore very much with his paws, and would have devoured him, but for the interference of the people.

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