

LORD AND LADY BYRON.

[From the Morning Chronicle of April 20.]

On Thursday evening, we received the following Letter from Sir Ralph Noel:—

"Mivart's Hotel, Lower Brook Street, April 18, 1816.

"Sir—observe with the greatest dissatisfaction in the manner in which you have inserted, in the Morning Chronicle of to-day, the unqualified contradiction I gave you yesterday of the paragraph in your former Paper, which stated the existence of a conspiracy against Lord Byron's domestic peace. I did not say that—I knew of no conspiracy against Lord Byron's domestic peace, at I told you, in the most decided manner, that I knew of no conspiracy of the kind had ever existed; and that the report was utterly false; and I gave you a word of honour, that the step taken by Lady Byron was the result of her own unbiassed judgment, and that her parents and friends interfered only when called upon by her to afford her their support. In the necessity of the step, indeed, her friends fully concurred; but in the suggestion of it she had no concern. Having given you this assurance in the most solemn manner, I called upon you to contradict the paragraph on my authority; and in the evening we received the following letter from him, in reply to that of the Editor, which we publish without an additional word. If, as we fear, the publication of all the particulars of this domestic quarrel should follow, our readers will judge by which of the parties it has been provoked.

"I have the honour to be, With perfect respect for yourself, Sir, your faithful servant, J. A. PENNY.

"Strand, April 18, 1816.

"Sir Ralph Noel, Bart. &c. &c."

Yesterday afternoon, we saw that Sir Ralph Noel had printed a copy of his letter in The Courier; and in the evening we received the following letter from him, in reply to that of the Editor, which we publish without an additional word. If, as we fear, the publication of all the particulars of this domestic quarrel should follow, our readers will judge by which of the parties it has been provoked.

"I am, Sir, your humble servant, RALPH NOEL."

"Penny, Esq."

"P. S. My friend, Colonel Doyle, who was present with me, concurs in his recollection of the words having been the sentiments which I expressed."

To this letter the Editor returned the following answer:—

"Thursday evening, 11 o'clock.

"Sir—On coming to my office, I find your letter, containing an advertisement on the paragraph inserted in my Paper, as the result of the conversation last night, and I should have no hesitation in publishing it according to your desire, if I were not morally certain that it would lead inevitably to the publication of the whole Correspondence, from Lady Byron's first letter, dated from Kilkenny, to the last document, prepared for legal proceedings, necessary. I stop it, therefore, for publishing the same would be to reflect on the propriety of our duty, to this extremity; and, in the mean time, beg leave to say, that I published the result of a long conversation that passed between us, and of the detail, from motives of the most anxious concern for all parties. You certainly said, in the first instance, that 'no conspiracy had ever existed against the domestic peace of Lord Byron,' to which you did me the justice to recollect I answered, 'that you could speak to this only from the best of your own knowledge and belief,' and that I perfectly acquitted you of all participation in it, but that I remained fully convinced, from circumstances within my own knowledge, that no conspiracy had ever existed against the domestic peace of Lord Byron, and that you appeared to me perfectly to acquiesce in the way that I put it, which was, that I had your authority to declare, that no conspiracy, to my knowledge, existed against the Noble Lord. I did not wish to aggravate the unhappy difference by going into all the conversation which took place, nor state the impression which was made on my feelings by your declaration, that Lady B's son, from her husband was the result of her unbiassed judgment, a step which I said, from respect to the lady, I could not have supposed possible; my own ideas of the conduct of a noble-minded woman being so contrary; and such conduct being at the same time so inconsistent with the domestic intercourse.

"If I had gone into the whole detail, I must have stated the question put to you. Why no reply was made to the application made to your family to speculate the charges against Lord B. that he might have an opportunity to vindicate himself from the calumnies so industriously propagated against him? To this you answered, that Lady Byron acted in this respect on the advice of Dr. Lambton! What—a wife and head present a noble and dignified character, which the world has treated with great spirit and truth.—A poet's pen could not be imagined;

bold but not obtrusive; bespeaking placidity with firmness; the features regular, and composed with the utmost complacency and quietude. From the aspect and proportions of the head and figure, it leads one to suppose, that the illustrious original may be of an active disposition, and in stature somewhat exceeding six feet. The decorations of his various orders of distinction are suspended from his dress; the tout ensemble of which, in unison with the bust, are so happily executed, as cannot fail inspiring every British heart with an ardent curiosity and desire to behold the husband of their future Queen. Mr. Bell has obtained, by Royal permission, a most correct and admirable drawing of this bust—and a fine spirited Print of which will be given the first of May, in the next monthly Number, viz. No. 83, of La Belle Assemblée. It will be executed with spirit and merit, equal to those very fine Portraits which were given in the three previous Numbers, viz. No. 80, Miss O'Neill, of Covent Garden Theatre; No. 81, the Princess Charlotte of Wales; No. 82, Madame Lavolette; all these most now prove the most attractive Prints that ever were published.

We have seen private letters from Vera Cruz of the recent date of 31 February. On the 31st of January an order had been received by the Spanish Authorities resident there, from the Mother Country, signed by Ferdinand VII. declaring his determination that no specie whatever should in future be bought up by any foreign powers, but that the whole should be transmitted to Spain. In consequence of this information being made known, Charles Parke, Esq. the British Commissioner appointed for buying up bullion for this Country, was preparing to leave the settlement.

The Sabina, Spanish 48-gun ship, had sailed for the Mother Country with 4,000,000 of specie.

Some German and Brussels Papers arrived on the 18th. A Bulletin respecting the health of the Emperor of Austria was published at Vienna on the 31, in which her Majesty's indisposition is stated to have taken a favourable turn.

BAGGELS, APRIL 10.—From the several muster-rolls of the Army of Occupation, it appears that the several corps are more than complete. The English contingent, fixed at 20,000 men, amounts to between 31 and 32,000. It is affirmed that the same is the case with the Russian, Austrian, and Prussian corps. All these troops are in the best condition, and have very few sick. Each corps is furnished with an uncommonly fine train of artillery, abundantly provided with every thing necessary. It is supposed that the great reviews which have been announced will take place in the beginning of May. The best understanding continues to prevail between the Russian, the English, and the Prussians.

SEYMOUR, JANUARY 31.—The plague is not yet banished from this city. Every week five or six persons die of it, and it seems that it is growing worse. This is ascribed to our having not yet had any winter, and to the uncommonly mild weather. We are much afraid that the disease has spread in Egypt, and thus we have the more reason to be alarmed, on account of our great commercial intercourse with that country.

An English frigate and a brig, and two French brigs, are stationed here, to protect their trade. They scour the Archipelago, and hence the pirates do not venture to show themselves in this neighbourhood.

By the Peace, Struthers, which arrived at Greenock on Sunday week from Rio Janeiro, we learn, that, previous to her sailing (which was on the 1st of January), an army of 8,000 Portuguese troops had assembled, for the purpose of aiding the Spanish Republicans in South America, in the extinction of the spirit of liberty and independence which has gone forth in that hemisphere. This army was to sail the instant certain reinforcements arrived from Portugal, which were daily expected.

We have the satisfaction to state, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was enabled, on the 19th, to walk through the spacious suite of apartments at Carlton-house, with the aid only of a common walking-stick.

In the Bill now before Parliament for regulating weights and measures, it is provided, that all weights not exceeding five pounds shall, in future, be made of brass, as iron small weights are liable to rust.

The new Bill for amending the Act for the relief of Creditors 'against fraudulent Devises, &c.' recites that it is expedient that the provisions of the Acts of the fourth year of the reign of King William and Queen Mary, and the fourth of Queen Anne, should be enlarged; and it enacts that devises and limitations by will of real estates shall be void as against creditors by covenant; that creditors by covenant may maintain actions against the heir and devisees; that in case there shall be no heir at law, actions may be maintained against the devisees alone; but that this act shall not extend to avoid devises for payment of debts, or for raising portions for younger children, in pursuance of marriage contracts. Relief given by statutes 3d and 4th William and Mary, and 4th Anne, against devises, in case he alien the land devised, extended to creditors by covenant.

In the evening of 221 February, the marriage contracts between the Spanish Princess and the Portuguese Princess were signed and exchanged with the greatest pomp and parade, at Madrid. Almost every dignity belonging to the Crown was present. The proxy for the Braganza family was Don Jose Luis de Souza, Ambassador at the Spanish Court. This solemnity was followed by three nights' illumination.

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The official instructions sent out by the British Government were published at St. John's, New Brunswick, on the 27th February. They bring into state, that as the Treaty of Peace lately concluded by the United States contains no provision with respect to the fisheries under the subjects of the United States enjoyed under the 3d Article of the Treaty allowed the citizens of the United States to fish upon the high seas, the privilege of fishing within the British jurisdiction, and, under certain restrictions, using the harbours for the purpose of curing, &c.; the former was permanent and could not be altered—the two latter, both fishing within the British jurisdiction, and also curing on the shores, being privileges merely concessive, had not been renewed, and of course the vessels of the United States could have no pretension to them. The instructions then point out, that the American vessels shall not be molested on the Grand Bank of Newfoundland, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or other places in the sea, but that every indulgence should be granted to the subjects of the United States who should in the first place plead ignorance of these instructions, but that for the next season these orders were to be strictly enforced.

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A similar Return states the total amount of rewards paid to Revenue Officers in Ireland, from the 1st of August, 1813, to the 1st of February, 1816, at £24,892 11s. 6d.—To Military, £20,489 3s. 3d.—Subsistence to Military, £18,466 18s. 11d.—Total, £63,341 12s. 11d.

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EXECUTION.—Agreeably to his sentence, James Brindley was executed in front of Warwick goal, on Thursday, for the murder of Ann Smith, in the parish of Over Whitacre, on the night of the 10th of October last. On Wednesday the Rev. Mr. Langhorne visited him for four hours, but he maintained an unwarying denial of the crime. On Thursday morning, he dictated a letter to his "Dear Father, Mother, Brother, and Sisters," in which he acknowledged his general sinfulness, but as to the murder for which he was about to suffer, he knew nothing of it. At nine o'clock the Chaplain visited him in his cell, and remained with him nearly an hour. At ten he was conducted across the felon's yard, with the other convicts under sentence of death, to the Chapel; they were followed by all the Prisoners. When the culprit was seated, Brindley had the sacrament administered to him in the most solemn manner; during which time he repeatedly said—"I am innocent—I know nothing of the murder," &c. His hand never fluttered when partaking of the holy ordinance.—At the close of this service, the Clergyman spoke to the other Prisoners, in a very forcible address, and again asked Brindley if he was satisfied to tread the world persisting in his innocence? He said, "Yes; I am innocent." Shortly after he was conducted across the felon's yard, and shook hands with all the Prisoners as he passed. The solemn procession moved to the place of execution, the Prisoner walking with a firm step. On the platform the Clergyman requested him to offer up ejaculatory prayer to the Almighty, which he immediately did; and also addressed the spectators in the following words:—"Good people, I am now going to suffer for what I know nothing about; take warning, and pray for me." The cap being put over his face, and the rope adjusted, the platform fell. The body was strongly convulsed for some time. The decedent was a stout young man and had not attained his 20th year.

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EXECUTION.—Agreeably to his sentence, James Brindley was executed in front of Warwick goal, on Thursday, for the murder of Ann Smith, in the parish of Over Whitacre, on the night of the 10th of October last. On Wednesday the Rev. Mr. Langhorne visited him for four hours, but he maintained an unwarying denial of the crime. On Thursday morning, he dictated a letter to his "Dear Father, Mother, Brother, and Sisters," in which he acknowledged his general sinfulness, but as to the murder for which he was about to suffer, he knew nothing of it. At nine o'clock the Chaplain visited him in his cell, and remained with him nearly an hour. At ten he was conducted across the felon's yard, with the other convicts under sentence of death, to the Chapel; they were followed by all the Prisoners. When the culprit was seated, Brindley had the sacrament administered to him in the most solemn manner; during which time he repeatedly said—"I am innocent—I know nothing of the murder," &c. His hand never fluttered when partaking of the holy ordinance.—At the close of this service, the Clergyman spoke to the other Prisoners, in a very forcible address, and again asked Brindley if he was satisfied to tread the world persisting in his innocence? He said, "Yes; I am innocent." Shortly after he was conducted across the felon's yard, and shook hands with all the Prisoners as he passed. The solemn procession moved to the place of execution, the Prisoner walking with a firm step. On the platform the Clergyman requested him to offer up ejaculatory prayer to the Almighty, which he immediately did; and also addressed the spectators in the following words:—"Good people, I am now going to suffer for what I know nothing about; take warning, and pray for me." The cap being put over his face, and the rope adjusted, the platform fell. The body was strongly convulsed for some time. The decedent was a stout young man and had not attained his 20th year.

WATERFORD.—The Ministers of Spain, which had been suspended during the whole revolution, has again commenced with the present year, and it to be published monthly. This and the Gazette are the only periodical works now published in Spain, and amply prove the state of mental darkness into which the country is plunged.

The Deans of all ecclesiastical Chapters in Spain have been authorized by Ferdinand to act as the official Censors of all pieces represented in the theatres.

The official instructions sent out by the British Government were published at St. John's, New Brunswick, on the 27th February. They bring into state, that as the Treaty of Peace lately concluded by the United States contains no provision with respect to the fisheries under the subjects of the United States enjoyed under the 3d Article of the Treaty allowed the citizens of the United States to fish upon the high seas, the privilege of fishing within the British jurisdiction, and, under certain restrictions, using the harbours for the purpose of curing, &c.; the former was permanent and could not be altered—the two latter, both fishing within the British jurisdiction, and also curing on the shores, being privileges merely concessive, had not been renewed, and of course the vessels of the United States could have no pretension to them. The instructions then point out, that the American vessels shall not be molested on the Grand Bank of Newfoundland, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or other places in the sea, but that every indulgence should be granted to the subjects of the United States who should in the first place plead ignorance of these instructions, but that for the next season these orders were to be strictly enforced.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.—An official Return, pursuant to order of the House of Commons, of all detections of Malt, Spirits, Pot-ale, or Worts, in process of making into Spirits, and of Grain, in making into Malt, and the quantities of each destroyed on the occasion of the seizures, in the following years, states the total seized in the six years from 1810 to 1815 inclusive, barrels of Malt, 11,081; gallons of Spirits, 36,272. Destroyed in the same interval, barrels of Malt, 67,019; gallons of Wort or Pot-ale, 3,403,153; of Singlings, 98,283; Spirits, 10,928.

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