

the Noble Lord had not communicated his information to the House and the Country at some earlier period. He could not divine why the Noble Lord should have kept such satisfactory information so long to himself; for it would have been satisfactory to the House and the Nation to learn that the Government had been so mindful of the sufferings of the Protestant Patriots. It now appeared that the Government had been long interfering—that these patriots had really been objects of sincere consideration with Ministers, and yet, notwithstanding all the complaints of that House and the kingdom, the Noble Lord had preserved dead silence. He could not account for such extraordinary proceeding, but as he was not aware what course was to be adopted in future, he must press his motion, except the Noble Lord would give assurance to the House that would be satisfactory.

Mr. W. POLE trusted that this would be a lesson to the Hon. Member not to be too forward to trouble the House with motions, without previously making some enquiry as to the necessity of it.

Mr. BROUGHAM did not know what value to set upon the Right Hon. Gentleman's delicate language. Had he known, or had the House known what the Noble Lord had communicated that evening, the House would never have been troubled with his motion; and the fault was rather with the Noble Lord, who, in spite of all the complaints that had been made in that House, had never stated what the Government had done.

After some further observations from Lord Castle-rough and Mr. Tierney, the House divided on the question, Lord C. refusing to give Mr. T. any satisfactory answers, as he saw the Opposition did not know what to do with their motion.

The numbers were—For the address, 42—Against it, 123—Majority against it, 81—Adjourned.

MARCH 26.

A petition from the City of London, for the retrenchment of public expenditure, was read.

Mr. PONSONBY expressed his satisfaction at finding that the City of London was affected, as he thought the House and the Country must be, by the conviction that every retrenchment ought to be effected, under the present circumstances of the country, that could possibly be made; the House had put an end to two odious taxes; but they had done nothing towards putting an end to those expences which these imposts were intended to support.

The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

MARCH 26.

Mr. Croker moved for leave to bring in a Bill to transfer the business of the Transport-Board to the Naval Victualling Board. In answer to a question from Mr. Weston, Mr. C. stated, that this removal was a measure of economy; and that an arrangement was now in progress, respecting the treatment of Lunatics from the Navy. The motion was agreed to.

PARIS, FEBRUARY 23.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

SITTING OF FEB. 22.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and General Police, who was introduced into the Chamber while M. de Serres was at the Tribune, after that Member had concluded his speech, requested to be heard. He ascended the Tribune, and in a tone which announced the profound emotion he was about to communicate, and with a voice sensibly altered, expressed himself in nearly the following terms:

"Gentlemen, the King has charged us with a communication to you, which must deeply touch your hearts."

A profound silence now prevailed. The Chamber seemed to anticipate the object of the communication—a sentiment of emotion was impressed upon every countenance.

Count de Cazes continued—"The death of the Just is never lost to posterity. It always conveys grave and salutary lessons. Providence had permitted that a written trace of the last thoughts, the last wishes formed for his people, by a Monarch, whose name is for ever consecrated in the remembrance of mankind, should be preserved: It was its will that the Testament of Louis XVI. should exist."

"But this melancholy consolation had not been granted to us, among the touching recollections left by the most august and most unfortunate of mothers, of wives and of Queens, the descendant of Maria Theresa, that Princess worthy of the son of St. Louis, is worthy,

to share his crown and his martyrdom.—God alone had heard the voice of the dying Queen: her august daughter did not collect the expression of her last wishes. Twenty three years have passed away since that writing was traced at the last hour of the most beloved, as well as the most unfortunate of Sovereigns. But Providence has at length permitted that it should be presented to the august daughter of our Kings, and bring some consolation to her sorrows, even while it renews them. This letter is recognizable by the hand writing of the Queen, the characters of which were never more firmly and correctly formed, as if to shew the calmness of her Soul at that awful moment. It is not signed, but its authenticity is guaranteed by a testimony which inspires horror. The testament of the victim is signed by her murderers.

"This Testament breathes the tenderness of a mother, the dignity of a Queen, the firmness of a philosopher. It is worthy of being heard, along with that august and sacred testament which merited the being read in the pulpit of truth after the word of God."

Count Cazes here read the following: *Letter from the Queen of France Maria Antoinette, to her Sister, Madame Elizabeth.*

Oct. 16, Half past Four.

"I write to you, sister, for the last time: I have just been condemned; not to a shameful death, it is only so to the guilty, but to go and rejoin your brother, innocent as he was I hope to shew the same fortitude as he did in these last moments.

"I am calm as one is when one's conscience does not reproach us. I feel deep sorrow at abandoning my poor children—good and tender sister, you know I lived but for them and you—by your affection you have sacrificed every thing to be with us. In what a situation do I leave you! I learnt, by the pleadings in my case, that my daughter separated from you. Alas! poor child, I dare not write to her—she would not receive my letter. I know not whether this even will reach you. Receive for them both my blessing.

"I hope one day, when they will be older, they will be able to rejoin you, and enjoy all your tender care. Let them both reflect upon what I have never ceased to instil into them, that the principles and exact execution of their duties are the first bases of life, and that affection and mutual confidence will constitute the happiness of it. Let my daughter feel that at the age she is, she ought always to assist her brother with the counsel which the greater experience she will have and her affection may suggest to her, let my son in his turn, administer to his sister all the solicitude and services which affection can inspire: finally, let them feel that in whatever position they may be, they cannot be truly happy but by their union. Let them take example by us. How often in our miseries has our affection afforded us consolation—In happiness we have a double enjoyment when we can share it with a friend. And where can any be found more dear and tender than in one's own family.

"Let my son never forget the words of his father, which I repeat expressly—Let him never seek to revenge our death!

"I have to speak to you of something very painful to my heart. I know how much pain this child has given you. Forgive him, my dear sister; think of his age, how easy it is to make a child say what one pleases, and even what he does not understand. A day will come, I hope, when he only will feel more deeply the value of your goodness and tenderness for both.

"It remains for me to confide to you my last thoughts I would have written them at the commencement of the process; but, besides that, they would not suffer me to write, the march of events has been so rapid, that I have not had in reality the time.

"I die in the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman religion—in that of my Father's in which I was brought up, and which I have always professed, having no spiritual consolation to expect—not knowing if there still exist any priests of our religion; and even the place where I am would expose them too much, if they once entered it.

"I sincerely ask pardon of God for all the faults I may have committed since I was born. I hope, that in his goodness, he will receive my last wishes, as well as those I have long put up, that he will receive my soul in his mercy and goodness. I ask pardon of all I know, and of you, sister, in particular, for all the pain I may, without meaning it, have caused you.

"I forgive all my enemies the ill they have done me; I bid adieu here to my aunts, and all my brothers and sisters.

"I had friends, the idea of being separated from them for ever and their troubles, are one of the greatest

griefs I have in dying. Let them know, at least, that to my last moment, I thought of them.

"Good and tender sister, farewell! May this letter reach you! Always think of me! I embrace you with all my heart as well as my poor, dear Children. O! my God! what agony it is to quit them for ever. Adieu! Adieu!

"And now I will resign myself wholly to my spiritual duties. As I am not free in my actions, they will bring me perhaps a priest; but I protest here that I will not say a word to him, and that I will treat him as a perfect stranger."

Conformable to the original writing, entirely the hand-writing of the Queen Maria Antoinette.

The Minister of Police.

(Signed) Comte de CAZES.

After the letter had been read, it was long before the Minister was able to proceed. His own emotion as well as that of the assembly prevented him. A long silence intervened before he was able to resume his course.

"Gentlemen," said Count Cazes, "the King directing us to make this communication, authorized to state, that in making choice of us for that purpose, was his desire to honour the Deputy as much as the Minister. His Majesty wishes that you should see this communication, a proof of his desire to mix all his feelings with those of his people, and to make you participate in the consolation she receives, as he shares your hopes and your cares.

"I deposit on the Bureau a certified copy of the Queen's Testament. His Majesty has directed me to state, that he has ordered a *fac simile* to be taken, a copy of which will be delivered to each of the Members of the Chamber."

At these words the whole assembly rose up amid cries of *Vive le Roi*.

M. Laine—"Gentlemen, what an affecting interruption has the communication which has just agitated our hearts made in our political discussions, and how much cause have we to put a rein on those passions which subvert States, and which plunged France in all the calamities of which the reading of this Royal Letter recalls the remembrance. The emotion I feel is too powerful to allow me to pursue this idea. However, the expression of the last sentiments of our Queen raises us to ideas much higher than any connected with politics; it elevates our souls towards religion, and reminds us that religion is alone capable of being the powerful support of Government.

What a security for nations, when it fills the hearts of Kings! What peace, what happiness for Sovereigns if it penetrate into the hearts of the people as well as into Royal hearts! But I perceive, I anticipate the expression of your sentiments: we ought to be moved, and have more time to express them worthily. I propose, Gentlemen, that an humble address be presented to the King, which if it be his pleasure, shall be carried up to him by a Deputation of twenty five Members. Did the transport of your hearts require an example, I should tell you, what I have just been informed, that the Chamber of Peers had voted an Address to the King, which is to be presented by a Grand Deputation."

A general cry of—*To the vote! To the vote!* The whole assembly quickly stood up.

The President repeated the motion of M. Laine which was unanimously adopted, with cries of *Vive le Roi!*

The President then gave the Ministers an acknowledgement of the communication having been made to the Chamber, and a certified copy of the letter was ordered to be deposited in the archives of the Chamber.

The President—It does not appear to be the wish of the Chamber to continue the discussion with which was previously occupied.

A Cry from all sides—No! No!

The President then announced that the interrupted discussion should be resumed to-morrow, at noon and proposed that the Chamber should now resolve itself into a Secret Committee, in order to give effect to M. Laine's motion.

The Chamber went into a secret Committee accordingly.

JOHN WOLHAUPTER,

HAS removed his Shop at the upper end of MAJESTY'S Fuel-Yard, near New-Wharf. Patent Levers, Horizontal and plain Watches, carefully repaired—his Wedding-Rings stamped (I. W.) warranted fine Gold.

Frederickton, 7th May, 1816.