

# The Gentleman's Magazine;

LOND. GAZETTE  
 GENERAL EVEN.  
 Lloyd's Evening  
 St. James's Chron.  
 London Chron.  
 London Evening.  
 Whitehall Even.  
 The Sun—Star  
 London Packet  
 English Chron.  
 Courier—Ev. Ma.  
 Courier de Lond.  
 London Herald  
 Daily Advertiser  
 Times—Briton  
 Morning Chron.  
 Public Ledger  
 Gazette & M. Post  
 Oracle & Pub. Ad.  
 Morning Advert.  
 18 Weekly Papers  
 Bath 3, Bristol 5  
 Birmingham 2  
 Blackburn—Bury  
 CAMBRIDGE 2  
 Canterbury 2  
 Chelmsford  
 Chester, Coventry



Cumberland  
 Doncaster 2  
 Dorchester Journ.  
 Derby, Exeter  
 Gloucester  
 Hereford, Hull  
 Ipswich  
 IRELAND 38  
 LEICESTER  
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 Liverpool 3  
 Maidstone  
 Manchester 3  
 Newcastle 2  
 Northampton  
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 Nottingham  
 OXFORD  
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By SYLVANUS URBAN, Gent.

Printed by JOHN NICHOLS, at Cicero's Head, Red-Lion Passage, Fleet-street; where all Letters to the Editor are ORDERED to be addressed. POST-PAID. 1797.

211. *An Account of the Origin and Progress of the Society for the Promotion of Industry in the Hundreds of Ongar and Harlow, and the Half-hundred of Waltham, in the County of Essex.*

ELEVEN parishes approving the plan proposed by J. Conyers, Esq. of Coppéd-hall, Nov. 21, 1794, and three others afterwards joining them, it was ordered to be carried into execution, the said parishes subscribing annually in the proportion of 1l. per cent. on their respective poor-rates, and 5s. from each individual, for premiums of cloathing to industrious children, sums on apprenticeship, service, or marriage, in proportion to such premiums; other premiums to good overseers, and to such persons as have brought up four or more children, born in wedlock, to the age of 14, without parish-relief; and for spinning, knitting, and needle-work. These three last had, in 1796, amounted to 73l. and the balance in hand to 92l. Similar institutions had been set on foot, with success, in the district of Lindsey, co. Lincoln, in the county of Rutland, at Shrewsbury and at Glasgow. At Hamburgh, the experiment has been equally successful. The aggregate of the expence for a year, where the inhabitants are estimated at 110,000, and where no beggar is seen, but the poor are actually relieved, and their children carefully instructed, does not exceed 140,000l.; while the sum annually raised in Norwich, which contains, perhaps, less than 40,000 inhabitants, is 24,000l.; the inference is obvious.

“An Address to the Publick, on the Propriety of establishing Schools for Spinning and other Work, and appointing Teachers in every Parish,” is printed for the benefit of this society; also, “Tables for the Use of such Schools.”

212. *A Vindication of the Lord Bishop of Landaff's "Apology for the Bible;" in a Series of Letters to Mr. A. Macleod. By John Jones, Author of "A Defence of the Mosaic Creation."*

WE agree with the Vindicator when he says, the following letters have been published, not because Mr. M. merited a reply; but differ from him in opinion that the “Apology for the Bible” merited a Vindication. Our opinion of Mr. M. may be seen vol. LXVI. 1022, and of the “Apology for the Bible,” *ib.* pp. 580, 636. We mean no, how-

ever, to check the praiseworthy endeavours of any defender of Revelation.

213. *Letter from Thomas Paine to George Washington, President of the United States of America.*

WOULD it be any breach of Christian charity to compare this wretched Drawcanfir, or the man who assumes his name and lends him his pen, to that “roaring lion who goes about seeking whom he may devour?”

214. *A Letter to the infamous Tom Paine, in Answer to his Letter to Gen. Washington. By Peter Porcupine, Author of "A Bone to gnaw for the Democrats," &c.*

PETER PORCUPINE seems to think the *infamous* Tom Paine of consequence enough to influence the public opinion in respect to the Americans, and his impudent assertions entitled to an answer. They are as follow: that their treaty with Britain justifies the French seizure of their ships; that the President ought to have demanded his release from a French prison; that the federal constitution is an unconstitutional instrument, which he threatens to get altered; and that Gen. W. has neither talents nor virtues as a statesman or general; and that any other man might have done what he did for America. Peter has given him a brief but trimming answer, and Tom is here judged out of his own *writings*; and we have the satisfaction to find that Peter's countrymen have set up all their bristles or quills against the impudent allegations of the French Republick; and that there are men among their governors who promise to do as much for them as their late president.

215. *Expostulatory Letter to George Washington, of Mount Vernon, in Virginia, on his continuing to be a Proprietor of Slaves. By Edward Rushton.*

THIS letter was actually transmitted to the person to whom it is addressed, and returned, under cover, without a syllable of reply. The writer's observation on it is, that “men in power, who are seldom addressed but in the sweet tones of Adulation, are apt to be disgusted with the plain and salutary language of Truth; and that the President has evidently been irritated.” Our remark is, that if every man, whether in or out of power, was to answer every

every impertinent application, the world would not contain the books that would be written on public and private controversy, and the war of opinion would never be terminated. Men will claim the liberty of holding their own opinions; and men will also claim the right of obtruding them on others as long as they are men.

216. *A general Address to the Representatives of Great Britain, on important national Subjects agitating at the present Period. By an Elector, M. A.*

THIS medley (we had almost said chaos) of topics, treated in too desultory a manner (by a writer whom, though we guess at, and persuade ourselves to be well-intended, yet we cannot help considering as in the very novice of authorship), begins with the general duties of the House of Commons, and gets through the negotiations for peace to taxes, London docks, and a piteous tale of East-India crimping. His language is too flowery, not to say occasionally inflated.

217. *A Discourse on the Necessity and Duty of enlightening the Human Race, delivered in the Church of St. Mary, Whittlesea, on Wednesday, March 8, 1797, being the Day appointed for a General Fast. By George Burges, B. A.*

WE have already met with Mr. B.; and the object of this fast-sermon is, to bewail the ignorance of the bulk of mankind all over the world. How this ignorance is to be removed, and the veil taken off the face of the human mind, he does not point out; and there lies the whole difficulty; for, light, like liberty, let in too strongly and suddenly on the mind's visual ray, will produce a contrary and fatal effect. A general and sudden influx of knowledge will but bewilder and perplex the mind unprepared for it.

While we perfectly agree with the preacher that war is an evil, we as widely differ from him that our country, or its governors, are to blame for the part they have taken in the present war, or the consequences which have followed on it. War is Murder; but who has committed the most bloody and inhuman murder, Great Britain or France? or has the former done more than arm herself against the encroachment of a Revolution founded on murder, and professing the most sanguinary ambition for its object? The question

then between us and the writer of the preface to this discourse is, Whether Great Britain, or any other power, while it has the means, should not exert them to the utmost, to stem the overflowing torrent, or sit quietly waiting its turn to be revolutionized? How great are the incongruities of men! One while the nation is torpid and palsied; another, it is too much awake and alarmed. But, waving the discussion of a question on which there may still be a diversity of opinion, we proceed to the discourse itself. From Pl. x. 10, Mr. B., after stating the depravity and wretchedness of a very large portion of the human race, urges the necessity and duty of *enlightening* it. Is there not a set of *illuminators* already sprung up in Europe for this very purpose? and have not their doctrines been listened to with too much avidity, till the favourite doctrine of Liberty has well-nigh driven Religion, Morality, Science, and Happiness, out of Europe? Even in our own country let us look to the many new institutions for general education, and see how opinions are divided about it; how Sunday-schools, which have been in general fashion, have been patronized as the best means of instructing those wretched vagabonds who cannot be spared from six days labour, as well as of making their bodies clean one day in seven; how free-schools, which public and private liberality provided on the dissolution of monasteries, have sunk by the negligence of trustees and parish-officers; how schools of all sorts and denominations have multiplied, and how new colleges have risen and fallen, as in a moment. While the great business of education is yielded, by the ignorance, idleness, and dissipation, of parents, to every pretender to instruction, or every person, of either sex, who commences teacher for a livelihood before they have learned the rudiments of knowledge, what hope can we derive from public or general instruction? Charity in this, as in other instances, begins at home: a ministry might be founded for the instruction of Africans, and employed for the bettering their condition; but we ought first to be well convinced that men's understandings are *equal*, before we apply one mode of teaching indiscriminately. Religion is rightly recommended by Mr. B. as the foundation of instruction. "The fear of the Lord," says an older