ry alliance? If this be the general principle, as it most unquestionably is, why did this government forbear to make it a ground of war? I have already touched upon the reasons. They believed that Spain rather submitted to adverse circumstances than acted from choice. They believed that she looked to circumstances that might enable her to escape from the thraldom in which she was kept, and to pursue a course more suited to her interests and to her dignity —Let me state, however, by the way, incontestible evidence of the controul at this period exercised by France over the government of Spain. Mr. Frere, according to his instructions, insisted that the convention with France of the 19th of October should be communicated. It was refused, and the alledged reason was, "General Bournonville is displeased at it." The court of Spain admit the justice of the demand, but plead the resentment of France as the result of her compliance. Could any government in this predicament be estimated neutral! Ministers, however, were still desirous of making even yet an amicable arrangement with Spain; but the right of war was fully reserved; Spain was reprieved only from compassion, though the sentence of just hostility, a sentence founded on national law, reason, and common usage, was in full force against her. The indulgence of Great Britain could not be considered as connivance, even if such a construction had not been formally protested against it was meant as *mercy*, and was no more to be construed into a relinquishment of the right of punishment, than the reprieve of an offender, which only suspends the execution of judgment, is to be held as an acquittal of his crime. Meantime, the hostile spirit of Spain became more manifest." Mr. Pitt here went into a long account of the armaments, and the manning of French vessels in Spanish ports, the condemnation of prizes, the imprisonment of British sailors, &c. &c. and above all, the vague and shuffling explanations of the Spanish ministers when taxed with these infringements of neutrality. He applied to the detention of the plate ships, the arguments so often adduced, and finished with moving the customary address.

The order of the day was then moved for resuming the debate of the Spanish papers, agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Raine rose at the same moment, but the speaker having declared that the latter gentleman had first caught his eye, he was allowed the customary precedence.

He began by apologising to the House for intruding on their attention in preference to the other right honorable member who had offered himself to their notice. But he was anxious to seize that opportunity of delivering his sentiments, which, in all probability, he could not expect to obtain so readily at a subsequent hour. The right honorable gentleman who opened the discussion had chosen to confine his view of the subject principally to one topic; he felt himself called on to adopt another course. He wished first of all to say that he considered the seizure of the Spanish frigates as an act utterly contrary to every idea of national honor. Indeed the perusal of the voluminous papers on the table, left on his mind a strong impression that the measure was little better than an act of piracy. In this light he felt himself bound to view it, whether he looked to precedents, or whether he reflected on the spirit of the law of nations. He was aware that a right honorable and learned gentleman opposite [Sir J. Nicholl] had attempted to produce several precedents to justify the measure, but he could not allow that they were cases bearing on the question; they were drawn unquestionably from a high authority, but they did not refer to analogous events. He did not deny that there were cases where hostilities might be commenced without a positive declaration of hostilities. But while he admitted this, he maintained that there were no cases where hostilities could be commenced without a declaration, while important discussions were pending betwixt two nations. Any doctrines of the last century, to a contrary import, had never been generally adopted by the best lawyers, or attempted to be reduced to practise. There was, indeed, one instance which in many respects bore a considerable resemblance to the case in question. The resemblance was, however, a very awkward one, and one which was not to be defended. The case was the nefarious attempt made on the Dutch Smyrna fleet in the century before last. It was well known that this was a measure advised by that cabal, none of whose actions were transmitted to succeeding times with greater reprobation. But even here the Dutch were not so much taken by surprise as the Spaniards had been, when their frigates were seized. It was true, that there were no discussions going forward betwixt the two countries. But the Dutch government were jealous of the dispositions of the government of this country, and when the fleet was attacked they were on their guard, and beat off the attacking squadron. The hon. member after illustrating his idea on this point, sat down by declaring his complete acquiescence in the address.

Mr. Banks declared his intention to support the address. He was convinced of the good faith and moderation which had marked the whole of our negociation with Spain. On our parts was requisite vigilance, circumspection and jealousy; on the part of Spain we had a right to expect candour and openness of communication. He saw much appearance of contrary qualities on the part of the Spanish government, and an unaccountable backwardness to withhold all reasonable explanation. At first Spain was pacific, and, perhaps, at the time the rupture took place she acted under a controul which she could not resist. At the same time this charge was manifest, and therefore he supported the address.

The learned gentleman then adverted to the supposed convention between this country and Spain, relative to the admission of a communication on the part of Spain, of pecuniary subsidy for military and naval succours. He denied the existence of any such convention, and affirmed that even no such understanding could be made out from the papers before the House. Spain may have made use of words he admitted, that might have been construed into such a meaning, had any other document at all countenanced it. But certainly we were not accountable for the words which the Spanish government might think proper to make use of, as we ourselves had never admitted that any such negociation for neutrality ever subsisted. So far were government from having entered into any negociation on the subject of the treaty of St. Ildefonso, that they had even no official information on the subject, and though he could not say that they knew nothing of it, he very much questioned if they knew its contents. That such a treaty did exist, they must no doubt have had some knowledge —as such an act done at Madrid, however, much care might be taken by that government to prevent its measures from transpiring, could not remain long a secret. But the amount of the contingents was but imperfectly known, as also the precise stipulated sum in room of these contingents. The refusal of Spain to explain herself fully on this subject, was a clear proof that they had stipulated too much, and that the whole treaty was of such a nature as she was certain could not meet with the concurrence of this country. Such at least was the suspicion which the circumstances of the case sufficiently warranted.

But not only had they refused categorical explanation on a head of such essential importance; they had gone still farther, and rendered the subsidy, if possible, more hostile to this country, by converting this month's subsidy into a loan transacted at Paris. The hon. gentleman then entered at some length on the hostile nature of the armaments in the ports of Spain, the existence of which, he maintained, at the different periods referred to in the documents, notwithstanding they were denied by some gentlemen sitting near him. He argued from the superior power of France, that a treaty between that country and Spain must necessarily preponderate in favor of the former, and must therefore be unfavorable in an equal proportion to this country; for whenever two Powers, he maintained, of unequal strength formed an alliance, whether offensive or defensive, it might easily be guessed of what nature were the terms. The ostensible reason that had at last been assigned for the armaments in the Spanish ports was to enable the government to suppress an insurrection in Biscay. This certainly was a very sufficient ground for armament, but had it been the real cause, why should Spain have been anxious to conceal it from this country? It was for this reason that he considered this allegation as a mere pretext, and was induced to think that the armament had a very different object. It was not unlikely that it was designed to form a part of a combined expedition against England. The hon. gentleman, after some other remarks, concluded by expressing his regret for the melancholy event that had accompanied the attack and seizure of the frigates. No man lamented that catastrophe more than he did, but between the measure and its accidental consequences, it was only fair to make a distinction. It was a measure of precaution. As such it was necessary; and as such, Spain must be answerable for the consequences. It was much to be regretted, however, that the force employed on that occasion had not been greater, and by that means prevented all resistance by crushing every hope of success.

Mr. Johnstone went at great length into the merits of the question, examining and comparing the dispatches, with the other documents in detail. On a subject so extensive, he said, he should not have detained the house, had he not found that not only in that house there were many, but that there were a large proportion also of the public favorable to the war. This might be owing, in great measure, to the martial spirit of the country, but it was a general observation also, that a Spanish war in this country was generally popular, independently of the grounds on which it rested. The treaty of Ildefonso he affirmed, was nothing more than a transcript of the family compact, and yet in the war with France it was not thought fit on that account to go to war with Spain. The honorable gentleman attached less blame to his Majesty's late ministers in this business, than to the present government. He thought, however, lord Hawkesbury to blame in not employing a more proper person to represent his Majesty's government at Madrid, he meant a person of higher birth and more weight in the country. In regard to the subsidy, the noble Lord in the dispatch of the month of August, had not expressed his disapprobation, and for his own part he would maintain that it was more expedient for this country to permit Spain to give that subsidy to France, than to have gone into a war on that account. The subsidy, it had been said, was more than an equivalent for the stipulated succors, but tho' three millions was the sum stipulated, gentlemen ought not to forget that one million of that sum went to the payment of a debt due from Spain to France, leaving a sum only of two millions, as an equivalent for the contingents, which he did not think more than enough for the quota of ships and men stipulated, and certainly a much smaller sum than we should think necessary for such an armament. The argument, therefore, that the allowance was too much, fell to the ground. It would now be proper to consider in what light England viewed that subsidy, and for this purpose they had lord Hawkesbury's letter and opinion on the subject. Lord Hawkesbury had acted with the greatest wisdom in remonstrating, but no one he believed in his Majesty's cabinet at that time entertained the remotest design of making that subsidy a cause of war. Were they to judge from the letters of Mr. Frere, it would appear that that honorable gentleman took his instructions rather from his right hon. friend, than from the Secretary of State. The hon. gentleman animadverted at some length on the manner in which in the correspondence the different complaints had been taken up and dropt, and particularly that of the subsidy. Mr. Frere, after having taken time to consider of the demand of M. Cevallos, of a full explanation, on the grounds of complaint, drops all idea of the subsidy, and only states the armament and the sale of prizes as the grounds of remonstrance. The silence, therefore, on the subject of the subsidy might fairly be regarded as an abandonment of the principle, and on no pretence could it be afterwards alledged that it was the system of government to make war on the ground of subsidies. Spain, he contended, was extremely fair in her explanations, and it was evident that the answer of that government, in respect to Portugal, rejected the terms proposed by England. From the face of the correspondence, therefore, it was evident that, in the month of May, we had abandoned all idea of a war with Spain on the grounds of the subsidy. Here then we come to the armament, and here the right on the side of England was not to be denied should the case be sufficiently made out. But the probability was, that this armament was for the purpose for which it was stated. There were at least good reasons for saying it was not intended against England. The governor of Ferrol had stated that its object was a secret commission, and here the report stopped; whereas it ought to have added also, in the words of the governor, that the ships were not half manned, and therefore could give no uneasiness to any power in Europe. It was not unlikely that the governor of Ferrol would have told, as a mere cover to the real design, that this armament was intended to quell the rebellion in Biscay, had it been the intention of Spain in contravention to her former faith, to unite those ships with the French fleet in any combined expedition against this country. That no such declaration was made, although nothing could have been more favorable to such designs, must be attributed to the honest and ingenuous intentions of the court of Spain. That the object was not immediately avowed, however true, might be attributed, on the other hand, to an honest feeling, which was not by any means unnatural.

The court of Spain was not forward to avow that her subjects were in such a state of insurrection. Such an avowal was not immediately to have been expected, unless it had been to serve some unfair or interested object. In addition to this, the utter want of preparation in every other part of Spain was another proof that by this partial armament she could have no such views of hostility, as had been alledged—a want of preparation and a want of vigilance, so great indeed, that the capture of the frigates, though taken not ten leagues from their own coast, was long before it was known to them. The right hon. gentleman denied also that the march of troops by land was more easy than conveyance by sea, and that therefore the latter mode, without some good reason, would not have been resorted to. A few hours by sea might accomplish this object, whereas several days might be necessary by land. He inveighed also in pointed terms against the mode in which a right hon. gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had availed himself of a double argument, resulting from an inversion of the question. It was hardly fair, he thought, thus to make a monopoly of argument, and by no means logical to impress into his service both the arguments for and against.— The right honorable gentleman argued, that it was more for the interest of France that Spain should observe the treaty, than that she should be at war with Spain; we defeated the views of France, but he did not stop here, he argued also that France, anxious to have the co-operation of Spain in the war against this country, had induced Spain to adopt such measures as rendered the war unavoidable without any wish for hostilities on our part. This mode of reasoning, he observed, was quite irresistable, as a man was sure by such means to be always in the right. He objected, in toto, to the manner in which the negociations had been carried on. In point of policy he condemned the war in which we had engaged. He wished his Majesty's ministers had weighed the evils on the one hand with the advantages on the other. The resources of France were daily rising. The loss of 2,000,000 pounds could not be to her a great object. So long as she continued to have an armed force of five hundred thousand men, she must continue to be formidable; and the additional expence to which the new war would put this country, must be more than two millions of which France has been deprived, while we had afforded a pretence to France to introduce troops into Spain, which might terminate in the destruction of that monarchy, and by this means tend to the aggrandizement of France, which it was so much our interest to prevent. Was it just, he asked, at the same time, thus to expose the interests of our ally, Portugal, and thus to enter into a war that was not justified by circumstances of necessity, without any regard to her protection or safety? The hon gentleman concluded with observing, that it was rather curious that we should break with Spain on account of the subsidy of two millions, while it was well known that Portugal had given 500,000l. to the same power, as the purchase of her neutrality, and we had said nothing about it.

(To be continued.)

To the Editor of the Calcutta Gazette.

SIR,

It is the opinion of several medical gentlemen, that the following case of St. Vitus's dance, completely cured by Galvanism, ought to be made public. Be so obliging, therefore, as to give it a place in your next Gazette.

The state of the case, by Mr. Kelly, is contained in a letter to me of which the following is a copy.

Dear Sir,

My assistance is required by Mrs. Durell, for a Miss Jane Wilcocks, ten years of age, afflicted for two or three months past, with a disease called Choera, or Dance of St. Vitus, which is a spasmodic affection of one side. The hand and foot are in constant involuntary motion. The hand is entirely useless, being unable to feed herself with it, nor has she any mode of restraining its unnatural action, than by holding it with the other. A spasm of the cheek, pulling the corner of the mouth, in quick vibratory contractions, towards the ear, has been observed to take place frequently for the last fortnight. It is a disease that has at all times been of very difficult cure, and most frequently continues, in spite of every remedy, until the age of puberty, when it most commonly ceases spontaneously. I am inclined to think Galvanism may be of service, therefore wish to try its effects in this case, but having no apparatus, must beg leave to solicit your kindness in the application of it on the occasion. Mrs. Durell humanely and tenderly anxious for the recovery of the child, says, she will send her to your house as often as may be necessary, and at such hours as may be most convenient to you. She has not taken any medicine, therefore a good subject for experiment.

The poor girl has a strong claim on our humanity, for to be an unfortunate orphan is calamity sufficient, without the additional chance of dragging on a miserable and useless existence for some years to come.

A compliance with my request will oblige,

Dear Sir,

Your's respectfully,

Signed, *J. KELLY.*

Calcutta, Sep. 26, 1804.

On the 2d of October, I began to Galvanise my little patient, and continued twice a day for about four weeks. For the first four or five days, the Galvanic discharge was sent along both arms, the power from forty to fifty pair of metals. The shock was afterwards sent from the hand to the foot of the side affected. The foot, with the shoe off, was placed on a piece of tin foil, sprinkled with salt water, and laid on the floor. To this was hooked one of the conducting wires, while the patient held, or rather attempted to hold, the other conductor in her hand, for so violent, and so frequent were the motions of the hand, that I was obliged to hold it with the conductor, in mine, to prevent its flourishes from oversetting one of the piles of the battery, which once would have happened, but for the timely interposition of a gentleman present. The power employed here was from sixty to eighty, and sometimes even a hundred pair. In this manner, with some trifling variations, the operation was continued to the end. About the middle of the second week, I thought, and at the end of it, I was certain, that the motions of the hand were both less violent and less frequent. In the third week, her recovery was rapid. Before the end of it, she could both sew and thread her needle. Early in the fourth week, I had infinite satisfaction in learning from Mrs. Durell, that every symptom of the disease had disappeared, and that the health of the poor girl had not only been completely restored, but even greatly improved. About ten or twelve minutes were employed in every application, with one or two intervals of two or three minutes. From one hundred to two hundred shocks were given at each visit, and never did any patient receive with more fortitude, so many and so powerful shocks, as this good natured little girl. When I sometimes took in, by stealth, the whole battery of a hundred pair, which gives a shock sufficient to make some of the stoutest of my male friends rub their elbows, and look comically at each other, my little patient only rebuked me with a smile.

Galvanism has, with me, been also successful in six cases of Rheumatism, and three of palsy.

I shall probably take the liberty of troubling you, on some future occasion, with one or two of the most remarkable.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

J. DINWIDDIE.

Calcutta, Nov. 12, 1804.

English Intelligence to the ninth of March.

LONDON, March 6.

Government have, we understand, received intelligence that an unusual degree of activity has lately prevailed in the Dutch ports; and it is also reported that Bonaparte was last week at Bologne. If Bonaparte has seriously determined to make an attempt upon this country, we think it probable that it will be made soon, because, from the disposition manifested by some of the great continental powers, it is not very likely that he will be able long to keep so large a portion of his military force on the opposite coast of France. We confess that we should almost regret any diversion on the continent that would prevent the usurper from making his long threatened attack upon this country; because we should feel no uneasiness as to the result of such an attempt; and we should be happy to have an opportunity of proving, beyond all possibility of doubt that G. Britain is fully able to contend single-handed with France.

The Investigator sloop, which sailed some time ago on a voyage of discovery under the orders of Captain Flanders, and was afterwards wrecked on the coast of New Holland, has been repaired at New South Wales, under the direction of Governor King, for the purpose of conveying necessaries from one settlement to another.

March 7.

Mr. Sheridan's motion for the repeal of the additional force bill was last night submitted to the consideration of the House of Commons, and negatived. It produced a very warm and interesting debate.

Letters from Madrid, of the 24th of January, state that several privateers have put to sea to cruise against the English. Several small vessels have been sent to Majorca and Minorca with troops and ammunition. About three thousand people were carried off at Alicant by the late fever.

March 9.

The Channel fleet got under way from Torbay on Thursday with a favorable breeze at south east. It consisted of 16 sail of the line, four frigates, and three cutters. It passed Plymouth the same evening on its course for Brest.

Accounts were yesterday received from our fleet off Ferrol, which state that five large ships with troops on board, and two smaller vessels, had been seen in lat. 40, and long. 16, standing to the S. W. supposed to be steering a course for the West Indies. The same accounts add that the French squadron in Ferrol was ready for a start, and it was supposed they would attempt to get out while the long nights lasted. Our squadron, of course, was proportionably vigilant. Four Spanish ships were fitting out in the harbor of Ferrol, but they were in total want of stores, from the French having robbed them of every thing for the equipment of their own ships.

Frankford, Feb. 1.

Letters from Rochefort mention the sailing of five ships of the line, and of their junction at sea with 21 ships of war From Brest, which have on board 40,000 troops. This junction took place on the 13th January; the letters from Rochefort are of the 16th.