

A SKETCH  
 OF THE  
*Life and Character of His Royal  
 Highness the late*  
**Duke of York.**  
*With an Account of the FUNERAL.*



GLASGOW ·  
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1827.

## SKETCH.

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**H**IS Royal Highness Prince Frederick, second son of George III., and brother to his present Majesty, was born on the 16th of August 1763. When he was but seven months old he was elected Bishop of Osnaburgh, a nominal office, to which the Elector of Hanover has the power of influencing the election alternately with another European Power. On the 25th July 1771, His Royal Highness was installed a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, in company with his two brothers, the Princes of Wales and Cumberland, in presence of the Sovereign. The education of His Royal Highness under the paternal eye of George III, was strictly attended to; and the pictures which are left us of the domestic life pursued under His Majesty's sanction are such as to convince us of his paramount regard for the blessings of a tranquil life. During their childhood, the Prince of Wales and the subject of our memoir were remarkably attached to each other. They studied together, and played together, and were noticed as being extremely devoted to each other's society. They slept in the same room, in separate beds, on the ground floor, in Buckingham House, looking to the gardens. Their summer residence was on Kew Green. The grounds at the back of this House extended to the banks of the Thames; at one part was an extensive grass plot, where they used to amuse themselves by playing at single-wicket, and cricket. They were both of them remarkably active, particular-

ly the Duke. It was here that His Highness, used frequently to order two of the attendants to raise a garter to the height of his mouth, from which he retreated, and then sprung over it. He could repeat this exertion several times without failing.

The early years of the life of His Royal Highness were spent in comparative tranquillity and privacy. Nothing deserving of any particular notice occurred till the period when he was created Duke of York and Albany. This event took place on the 27th of November 1789. This very year was marked by a circumstance so remarkable in the history of the Royal Duke as to require a particular mention. We allude to the affair of honour with Colonel Lennox, afterwards Duke of Richmond. This dispute originated in an observation of His Royal Highness, viz. that 'Colonel Lennox had heard words spoken to him at the Club, at Daubigny's, to which no gentleman ought to have submitted.' This observation being reported to the Colonel, he asked His Royal Highness, at the parade, what the words were he had submitted to hear, and by whom spoken; the Duke gave no answer, but ordered him to his post. Colonel Lennox then wrote a circular to every member of the Club, requesting to know whether any such words had been used to him; and their silence was to be considered a declaration that no such words could be recollected. As no answers were returned, the Colonel requested His Royal Highness to contradict the report; but he having declined to do so, the Colonel sent him a challenge. The parties met at Wimbledon Common. The Duke of York was accompanied by Lord Rawdon; Colonel Lennox by the Earl of Winchelsea. The distance was twelve paces. On the signal

being given, Colonel Lennox fired, and the ball grazed his Royal Highness's curl. The Duke having refused to fire, the affair terminated."

This transaction excited a great deal of interest. His Majesty was so affected by it, notwithstanding its fortunate termination, that he abstained, in a great measure from his usual amusements. The Duke of York appeared the least concerned of the Royal party, and the following singular occurrence will demonstrate the feelings by which different members of the Royal member were influenced on the occasion:—

‘In consequence of the recovery of George III. from his lamentable indisposition, the King's birth-day, in 1789, was celebrated with unusual splendour. The King, however, was not present during any part of the day, owing to the shock occasioned by the duel so recently fought between the Duke of York and Colonel Lennox. In the evening a most splendid ball was given, and notwithstanding what had so recently happened, and the established etiquette, that no person should stand up at country dances who had not danced a minuet, Colonel Lennox appeared in the circle with Lady Catherine Barnard. This the Prince of Wales did not perceive until he and his partner, the Princess Royal, came to the Colonel's place in the dance, when, struck with the impropriety, he took the hand of the Princess, just as she was about to be turned by the Colonel, and led her to the bottom of the dance. The Duke of York and the Princess Augusta came next, and they turned the Colonel without notice or exception. The Duke of Clarence, with the Princess Elizabeth, came next, and His Royal Highness followed the example of the Prince of Wales.



The dance proceeded, however, and Colonel Lennox and his partner danced down, but when they came to the Prince and Princess, His Royal Highness led his sister to the chair by the side of the Queen. Her Majesty then, addressing herself to the Prince, said, 'You seem heated, Sir, and tired.' 'I am heated and tired, Madam,' said the Prince, 'not with the dance, but with dancing in such company.' 'Then, Sir,' said the Queen, 'it will be better for me to withdraw, and put an end to the ball.' 'It certainly will be so,' said the Prince, 'for I never will countenance insults given to my family, however they may be created by others.' At the end of the dance, her Majesty and the Princesses withdrew, and thus the ball concluded. The Prince, with his usual gallantry, afterwards explained to Lady Catherine Barnard the reason of his conduct, assuring her ladyship that it gave him much pain to be obliged to subject a lady to a moment's embarrassment. It is now well known that the severe measures taken by His Royal Highness to discourage the practice of duelling, have almost succeeded in banishing it from military society. Amid the political agitations of the year 1791, the marriage of His Royal Highness to a Princess of the House of Prussia, served to cement more closely the relations which the Courts of St James's and Berlin had found it their interests to contract, with the view of counterpoising the inordinate ambition and mighty projects of the restless Empress of Russia. The treaty touching this alliance was signed at Berlin on the 26th of January, 1791, by Sir Morton Eden on the part of the King of England, and three representatives on behalf of his Prussian Majesty.

The King, in his speech on the opening of Parliament, on the 31st January, 1792, communicated to both Houses the important change which had taken place in his family, and invited the Commons to consider of the means of enabling him to keep his engagements with his brother of Prussia. The House, in consideration of his matrimonial connexion, voted him an annuity of L.25,000, in addition to his then income of L.12,000 a-year.

The marriage of His Royal Highness with this amiable Princess took place at Berlin on the 29th of September 1791. On the arrival of the Royal party in England, they were re-married at St James's on the 24th Nov., and on the 23d of December received at court. The Duchess was nearly four years younger than her husband, in person she was below the ordinary female stature, and of an extremely delicate figure; her complexion was fair, her hair light, her eye-lashes long and nearly white, and her eyes blue. By the Duchess His Royal Highness had no issue.

From his earliest age His Royal Highness was destined to the profession of arms, the study of which formed an essential part of his education. In pursuance of this object, and for the acquirement of the French and German languages, he was sent by the late King to the Continent, in the year 1780, and continued abroad until 1787; his established residence during that period being Hanover, from whence he made excursions to various parts of Germany, visiting Vienna, Berlin, and other capitals, and also attending the reviews of the immortal Frederick, and acquiring a minute knowledge of the theory and practice of Prussian tactics, at that period considered the model for the imitation of every military man.

The Duke of York entered the service on the 1st of November 1780, as Colonel in the army, was appointed shortly after to the command of the Horse Grenadier Guards, and, in October, 1784, to that of the Coldstream Regiment of Guards. He returned to the Continent in 1791, for the purpose of serving as a volunteer in the Prussian army, in the event of a war with Russia, which, however, did not take place.

It was not long after his return to England, that His Royal Highness was called into actual and severe public services. Troops were embarked for Holland, and His Royal Highness was selected for the command of a small corps of British troops, destined to co-operate in the defence of Holland, which had been invaded by a French army, under General Dumourier.

The Duke having, upon this occasion, been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General, proceeded, with a brigade of guards, and some artillery, which landed at Helvoet Sluys, on the 1st of March, and the successes of the Austrian arms having soon after removed the war from the frontiers of Holland, he joined the allied Austrian and Prussian army.

The first military operations, in which His Royal Highness assisted, occurred in the neighbourhood of Tournay, and near St Amand and Vieogne, in the month of May, in the course of which he was promoted to the rank of General. In the subsequent battle of Famars, on the 23d May, he commanded a principal column of the allied army, and bore a distinguished share in the success of that brilliant day, the result of which was, the investment and siege of Valenciennes. The direction of this operation was en-

trusted to His Royal Highness, while the Prince of Coburg covered it on the side of Bouchain and Cambrai, on the left bank of the Scheldt.

Valenciennes having capitulated on the 28th of July, the Duke of York joined the main army, and co-operated, on the 7th and 8th of August, in the movements against the enemy's positions of the Camp de Cesar, Bois de Bourbon, &c, upon the line of the Scheldt, from all which they were dispossessed, or retired, although without material loss.

The Prince of Coburgh, after these operations, laid siege to Quernoy, and subsequently invested Manbuege, while the Duke of York continued his march in the direction of Orchies, Tourcoing, and Menin, with the British, Hanoverian, and Hessian troops, to which was added a body of Austrians, under the orders of Lieutenant-General Alvintzy.

The object of this separation was the siege of Dunkirk, which had been determined upon by the British Cabinet, and which was viewed with regret, not only by the Austrian Chiefs, but also by His Royal Highness, who had remonstrated against it, as far as he could; at the same time, when he found his representations unavailing, he proceeded with the utmost zeal to the execution of a measure, from which may reasonably be dated the subsequent reverse of fortune on the French frontier. The Dutch troops were to cover the march of His Royal Highness's army by the frontier of West Flanders, but having, on the 18th of August, been driven with loss from several posts, which they occupied during the passage of the British troops through Menin, His Royal Highness ordered the Brigade of Guards to their



support, which occasioned the action of Lincelles, in which that corps so greatly distinguished itself.

After this His Royal Highness proceeded, without farther interruption, to Furnes, whence he advanced with a part of his force, by Gyveldt, towards Dunkirk, while F. M. Freytag, with the remainder, took the direction of Bergues and Mount Cassel, in order to cover the operations of the siege, and after a succession of severe and sanguinary actions, fought by the besieging and covering armies with success, though without any positive effect, the principal of which occurred on the 24th of August, (when the gallant General D'Alton fell,) and on the 6th and 8th of September, the Duke of York found himself under the necessity of raising the siege, and retiring to Furnes, on the night of the 8th of September, in consequence of the covering army being driven from Bambecke, Roesbrugge, Rexpoede, &c. on the 6th, and defeated on the 8th, by General Houchard, near Houdschoote, by which His Royal Highness's left flank and rear were exposed, and his communications rendered insecure. His Royal Highness had contended with perseverance against numerous and increasing difficulties, arising from the rapid accumulation of the enemy's means of resistance, the delay on the part of the British Government in forwarding the necessary ordnance and stores, and the neglect in providing any means of naval co-operation, even such as might secure His Royal Highness's positions from molestation by the enemy's small craft on the coast. The retreat was effected in good order, and without any other loss than that of the heavy iron ordnance, which, being on ship carriages, could not be removed, and the army re-assembled at Furnes and Dixmude.

The Duke of York returned to Tournay, in which place and the neighbourhood, he continued until the close of the campaign. On the 22d and 26th October the enemy were repulsed in some attempts upon his advanced posts, near Baisieux and Cysoing. On the 28th October, His Royal Highness made an attack upon Lannoy, in co-operation with a movement which General Walmoden undertook, by his direction, against Menin, which the enemy had occupied. The result of these operations was the evacuation by the enemy of Menin, and their abandonment of the investment of Ypres, and of the siege of Nieuport, which they had been encouraged by his Royal Highness's march to Englesfontaine to undertake. In the defence of Nieuport, part of a detachment which had landed at Ostend, under Sir Charles Grey, as a temporary reinforcement to the Duke of York's army, had co-operated.

On the 29th of October, a very brilliant attack and surprise of the enemy and fortified port of Marchiennes, in which they lost more than 2000 men, was executed by General Keay, under the orders of His Royal Highness. Some trifling affairs in front of Tournay, and on the Lys, towards the end of November, terminated the campaign in West Flanders. The army went into winter quarters, the Duke of York's head quarters being at Gheht, whence, attended by General Mack, he proceeded to England, to concert the plan and measures for the ensuing campaign, with the British Government.

His Royal Highness returned, in the month of February 1794, from England to Courtrai.

The army had been considerably reinforced by drafts from the British regiments, and by addi-

ditional corps of Hanoverians, Hessians, and Darmstadt troops, taken into British pay. The troops under his command moved successively to Tournay, St Amand, and the Plains of Cateau, where the greater part of the allied army was united, under the command of the Emperor, on the 16th of April. On the following day a general & successful attack was made on the enemies' positions at Vaux, Premont, Marets, Catillon, &c., and Landrecies was immediately invested. His Royal Highness commanded the right wing of the covering army during the siege. A detachment of cavalry from his corps gained a considerable advantage on the 24th of April, near Villers en Canchia, towards Cambria; and on the 26th, His Royal Highness completely defeated, near Troixville, with great slaughter, and the loss of 35 pieces of cannon, a corps of 30,000 men, which, under the orders of General Chapuy, attacked his position. General Chapuy was taken prisoner, with a considerable number of officers and men.

On the 10th of May, the enemy, in considerable force, attacked the Duke of York's position in front of Tournay, but H. R. H., by a judicious and well executed flank movement of the cavalry, defeated and drove them across the Marque, with a great loss of men, and 13 pieces of cannon.

The general attacks of the 17th and 18th of May, were the result of the assembly of the Allied Forces. The circumstances attending them, the failure of the operations, and the share which his Royal Highness's Corps had in the events of those days, and in the loss sustained, are generally known.

His Royal Highness's Corps was left to contend against the entire force of the enemy, who were enabled to assail it in front, flank, and

rear. Every exertion of gallantry was unavailing against such fearful odds, so disposed; and the retreat was with difficulty, and with a loss proportionate to the arduous nature of a contest, maintained against large masses of troops, whose attention was to have been engaged by the Archduke Charles on the one side, and General Clerfayt on the other. It is proper to mention, that in this affair of Tournay, the English army was quite surrounded by the French, and no resource was left but to cut their way through an enemy infinitely superior in numbers; this was no sooner thought of than measures were adopted for the purpose. The French, however, not daring to oppose so brave a band, made a lane for them to pass through, and coolly received them on each side with showers of musketry.

In this movement, H. R. H. the Duke of York narrowly escaped being made prisoner. Accompanied by an Austrian General and two other officers, he reached a village which had been taken the preceding day from the enemy, and supposing it still in the hands of the allies, they rode through it at full gallop. In turning the corner of one of the streets rather sharply, they discovered that the village was then in the hands of the French, and a column of the enemy facing them; the latter, supposing the Duke was at the head of a body of troops, at first fled, after having fired a volley at them; which killed the Austrian General by the side of His Royal Highness. Recovering, however, from this error, the French pursued the Duke and his two companions until they came near a river. The Duke threw himself off his horse, and so did one of the officers, and they waded through the river, the third taking the water with his horse.



All this was done under the fire of the French, who had brought a 6-pounder to bear on them. On the other side of the river, the Duke fortunately met with a led horse of Capt. Murray's, which he mounted, and thus arrived in safety at Tournay.

The allies resumed their positions in front of Tournay, the left wing being formed of the troops under the Duke of York's orders. Upon this position, or rather the right and centre of it, General Pichegru made a formidable attack on the 22d, for which he had collected nearly 100,000. The village of Pontechin, on the right, was taken and retaken several times in the course of the day, and was alternately disputed by Austrians; Dutch, and British. The Duke of York having detached Major-General Fox's brigade from the left, to the support of that point, the effort made by this brigade decided the contest, and the village remained in the possession of the Allies.

On the 20th June, General Pichegru advanced towards Mandel, and obliged General Clerfayt to retire upon Deynse. This movement of the enemy, by bringing them nearer to the Scheldt, rendered the Duke of York's position in front of Tournay no longer tenable, and his Royal Highness quitted, on the 24th June, with all the British, and a part of the Hessian troops and encamped between Renaix and Oudenarde. The enemy attacked General Clerfayt near Ghent, but were repulsed. These movements occasioned the interruption of the communication with Ostend, where Lord Moira had arrived from England, on the 26th June, with a reinforcement of 5000 infantry. His Lordship, however, determined to effect a junction with His Royal Highness's army. On the latter day Ostend

was vacuated by Colonel Vyse, whom Lord Moira had left there with a brigade of British troops, which were embarked and removed with the artillery and stores.

His Royal Highness's army was encamped, and cantoned between the Waal and the Leck, occupying the line of the former river as far as the island of Bommel, in which Dutch troops were stationed. In this position the army continued unmolested, until His Royal Highness's return to England, which took place early in December.

In February, 1795, his Majesty was graciously pleased to nominate the Duke of York to the situation of Commander-in-Chief, an office, at that time not less important than it had become arduous, from the deplorable effects of the inefficiency and abuse which prevailed in every branch and department of the military service. There existed no positive system of discipline, no rule of promotion.

In September, 1799, the Duke of York was called from the immediate duties of his official situation at home, to assume the command of an expedition undertaken by the British Government, for the deliverance of Holland, at a period when there was reason to hope that the success obtained by the Austrian and Russian armies in Germany and Italy would prevent the French from offering any vigorous resistance in Holland, especially if the attempt to emancipate that country should be supported by the inhabitants, as there appeared just grounds to expect.

Preparations were made early in the summer for this enterprise, for which it was intended to assemble 30,000 British troops, who were to be joined of the coast of Holland by 17,000 Russians.

On the 13th of September 1799, the day on

which His Royal Highness landed in Holland and took the command of an army of 36,000 men, of whom 17,000 were Russians. On the 19th of the same month he attacked the French near Alkmaer, but, in consequence of the want of discipline or courage of the Russians, he was obliged to retreat. On the 3d of October he again attacked the French and succeeded in defeating them. At length, after further unavailing efforts on the part of our army, suspension of arms was agreed on, and finally the British troops embarked for England, and prisoners were given up on both sides.

Upon his return to England, the Duke of York again directed his time and attention to the amelioration of the military system; each successive year afforded fresh proofs of the benefits arising from his unabated exertions, and it must be admitted, that owing to these, and the many wise regulations established by his Royal Highness, the British army, at this moment, offers a model of perfection to every military nation.

In sketching the principal events of the life of his R. H. there is one passage which will be briefly stated, viz The unfortunate connection with Mrs. Clarke. Rumour at first began to be busy respecting his official purity. The vague charges which were thus set afloat soon embodied themselves in the defined shapes of pamphlet, letters, &c. Insinuations were circulated that such was the influence exercised by Mrs. Clarke over his Royal Highness, and so notorious was that influence, that ladies and gentlemen of the highest rank became her suitors for military promotions—even Divines of the Church, had considered her as the fountain of preferment.

On the 27th of Jan. 1809, Col. Wardle introduced the subject in the House of Commons, and submitted five cases of corruption to the House which he was prepared to substantiate. The first case was that of Torryn. He paid Mrs Clarke L.500 on being promoted to the rank of Major or more correctly speaking, this sum was paid to a silversmith on Mrs Clarke's account, in part payment of a service of plate which had been ordered for herself and his R. H. The second case was that of an exchange which was effected between two colonels (Brooke and Knight) and for which Mrs Clarke received L.200. The third case was of a different description, that two most meritorious officers, who mutually wished to exchange, were prevented from doing so, in consequence of their inability to make the presents which were expected. The fourth case was more important than any of the former. A Major Shaw had, after repeated negotiations, obtained from Mrs C. the assurance that he should receive the appointment of Dep. Barrack-master at the Cape, on paying her L.1000. He ultimately received the appointment, but was enabled to make good to Mrs Clarke no more than L.500. The Lady complained to the Commander-in-Chief, and the unhappy defaulter, instead of going out to the Cape, was kept at home, and reduced to half-pay. The fifth case was that, in 1804, Col. French was appointed, through Mrs Clarke's influence, to conduct a levy. He was to pay over to her a guinea of the bounty of each man, together with the sale or patronage of commissions to a certain extent. A loan was also to be raised by the same party for the use of the Duke, for which he was to obtain a considerable sum of money from Government for



Col. French. The last case related to Capt. Mal-  
 ng, who, through the influence of Mrs Clarke, was  
 appointed to an ensigncy, and to the rank of Lieut.  
 and Capt., he being all the while acting as Clerk  
 in a public office, without ever having handled a  
 word even for the sake of form. The present Duke  
 of Wellington was then a member of the house,  
 and warmly espoused the cause of the Duke. Af-  
 ter some Debate the House agreed to receive the  
 evidence that might be adduced by the accuser, in  
 a committee of the whole House. On the 9th of  
 March, the case being closed, Mr Wardle moved  
 an address, in which, after reciting substantially  
 the nature of the evidence, and the inference to be  
 drawn from it, he expressed an opinion that the  
 Duke ought to be removed from his office. This  
 notion gave rise to a long debate. Several amend-  
 ments were proposed, one by the Chancellor of the  
 Exchequer, declaring the innocence of the Duke:  
 another by Mr B. Bathurst, declaring him to be  
 guilty, at the same time acknowledging his great  
 official services. On the 17th, the Chancellor of  
 the Exchequer proposed some amendment. How-  
 ever, whilst these debates were about to close, his  
 R. H. waited on the King, and tendered his resig-  
 nation in a written document, which commences  
 in these terms;—‘ The House of Commons, after  
 a long and full investigation of the merits of certain  
 allegations against him, passed a resolution of his  
 innocence; he might now approach his Majesty,  
 and venture to tender to him his resignation of  
 the chief command of his Majesty’s army, as he  
 could no longer be suspected of acting from any  
 apprehension of the result, or be accused of having  
 shrunk from the extent of an inquiry, from which,  
 painful as it had been, he trusted he should appear,

even to those who had been disposed to condemn his conduct, to have met with the patience and firmness which could arise only from a conscious feeling of innocence.' In his retirement the Duke used to console himself in the society of his friends. In the meantime the charge and the proceedings on it made a sensible impression. Thanks were forwarded from various places to Col. Wardle. Some of those addresses were characterised by very strong language, and no doubt must have been to Col. Wardle more than a counter-balance for the charges of Jacobinism, conspiracy, treason, &c. which were levelled against him in and out of the House.

While the unprejudiced part of the community deplored the retirement of his Royal Highness, the whole army deeply participated in that feeling; but the habits of subordination, which had been so essentially promoted by the personage whose misfortune they regretted, and which were, upon this occasion, enforced by his advice to those corps which expressed a desire to address him, taught them to bear it in silence, confident that the time was approaching when the merits of prejudice would vanish before a conviction of the truth.

That day at length arrived, when the wishes of the country at large were eagerly met by the Illustrious Heir Apparent, and the Duke of York once more consented to fill the high situation to which his extraordinary merits so justly entitled him.

During the interval of his Royal Highness's retirement, the office of Commander-in-Chief had been filled by General Sir David Dundas, whose study it was to conform, in all respects, to the system and the regulations established by his R. H.

The Duke of York's commendable selection of

those holding official military situations, under his immediate direction, was truly praise-worthy, and although some of them were early distinguished by his friendship, it must be observed, in proof of the assertion, "that private favour had not influenced the choice;" that General Brownriggs, his first Military Secretary, became first known to him by his meritorious discharge of the duties of Deputy Quarter-Master-General, in Flanders, in 1794, and that the distinguished individuals, who successfully filled that office, were not personally known to his Royal Highness until some years after he became Commander-in-Chief, and then owed their appointments to his *official* sense of their value.

The Duke was regular in his attendance to business, to which the greater part of every day was devoted. Every arrangement, the most minute, was submitted by the heads of departments for his sanction; the memorial of every officer—the petition of every soldier, engaged his personal attention, nor were any suffered to pass unnoticed.

Tuesdays and Fridays (during the Session of Parliament), and other periods, Tuesdays only, were the days on which his Royal Highness gave audiences to Officers of every rank, who wished to approach him on business.

In the year 1820, the Duchess of York died, after having endured a lingering and painful disease. With this Lady, the Duke lived on terms of decency, but not of affection.

Shortly afterwards his Royal Highness drew the attention of the public towards him by a declaration of his intention to sit and vote during the Queen's trial.

The speech which his R. H. delivered in Parlia-

ment on the 25th April 1823, on the subject of the Catholic claims, has been too much the subject of recent commentary to require any description. Whatever were the feeling of others on the subject of it, nothing can be more certain, than that his R. H. spoke with the most perfect sincerity, and under a sacred consciousness that he was right. His R. H. in the early part of his career, as well as in the later stages of his life, showed a strong attachment to the amusement of horse-racing, and his attendance at Newmarket was punctual; but he never allowed his partiality for this recreation to interfere with his duties; and it was known that he often suffered a great degree of inconvenience in hastening his return to town that the business of his office might undergo no embarrassment. Having now brought this hasty sketch to a close it may be said—what those who were acquainted with his character well knew—that in private life he was sincerely respected and beloved as an amiable, affable, kind, and warm-hearted man. He readily lent a hand to distress, whenever it was in his power to relieve it; and it was often observed of him, that he underwent frequent struggles when cases came before him in which it was impossible for him to reconcile the granting of favour which would be inconsistent with the rigid administration of his public duty. In his official capacity his merit is attested by the state of discipline in which the army is now kept—by the fairness with which honours are granted—and by the general good conduct and sense of honour which are infused into the profession. If he had not the praise of being the originator of all those salutary regulations himself, yet he had to boast of that which



Queen Elizabeth thought the highest praise—namely, placing about him able and intelligent counsellors.

His Royal Highness had laboured under a dropsy since the month of July last, for the relief of which His Royal Highness underwent an operation on the 3d of September.

The same unclouded state of his intellects admitted of his reading the newspapers constantly, and of feeling interested in what was going on, had the opinions of his medical attendants been expressed in daily bulletins of his health, his intelligence would have recoiled upon him with a fatal force, by destroying those sanguine hopes of recovery which contributed so essentially to the efforts of art to do him good; and would have precipitated the sad event which we all now deplore. It is this consideration alone that explains and justifies the silence of the Physicians on the subject of the Royal Duke's health;—a regular statement of which would have been fairly demanded, under other circumstances, by the zealous and affectionate attachment of a loyal people to the Presumptive Heir of the Throne.

His Royal Highness expired on Friday 5th January 1827, at twenty minutes past nine in the evening. He was in his sixty-fourth year, being born on the 16th of August, 1763. His style and titles were as follows:—Prince Frederick, Duke of York and Albany, Earl of Ulster in Ireland, Bishop of Osnaburgh, a Field Marshall, Commander-in-Chief of all the Land Forces, Colonel of the First Regiment of Guards, Colonel-in-Chief of the 60th Regiment of Infantry, Officiating Grand Master of the Order of the Bath, High Steward of

New Windsor, and Warden and Keeper of New Forest, Hampshire, Knight of the Garter, and various Foreign Orders, &c. &c.

By the death of His Royal Highness, the succession to the Crown devolves upon His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, who is now Heir Presumptive to the Throne of these Realms, and in the event of his decease, without issue, His Majesty's Royal niece, Alexindrina Victoria daughter of the late Duke of Kent, will stand in that important relation to the Imperial Crown.

In the event of her death, the succession would descend to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; and after him, to his son Prince George Frederick, who is the same age as the Princess Alexindrina, there being only three days difference in the period of their birth. The Duke of Sussex, the Duke of Cambridge and his children, would ascend the Throne only in the case of death removing all these prior claimants.

His Royal Highness was of a fair and sanguine complexion, above the middle size, of a robust and vigorous constitution, which promised a long life. In his youth he was accounted handsome, but for many years before his death he was exceedingly corpulent, and his form had lost its symmetry. Great good nature was expressed in his open countenance, which, however, had by no means an intellectual cast. His voice had little flexibility and his utterance was disagreeable.

#### FUNERAL.

Several hours before daylight, on Saturday, 20th January, the streets of the metropolis presented a scene of bustle and activity which exhibited a marvellous contrast to its wonted stillness and silence at that early period.

When the clock struck eight, the procession issued from the Palace in nearly the following order:—

Three Life Guards, to clear the way.

Eight Knights Marshalmen, with black staves.

Two Mourning Coaches and four, followed by several Mourning Coaches drawn by six horses.

The Carriage of the deceased Duke, drawn by six horses, decorated with escutcheons, and carrying his Coronet and Baton.

A Detachment of His Royal Highness's Body Guard.

#### THE HEARSE.

Another Detachment of his Body Guard.

The King's Carriage, drawn by six horses.

The Carriages of the different Members of the Royal Family, each drawn by six horses.

Another Detachment of the Life Guards.

A detachment of Lancers, 10 abreast, brought up the rear.

As the hearse and coach proceeded along, all the troops presented arms in the reverse order, the Lancers lowering their lances and banners. An immense number of attendants dressed in black, walked on either side of the hearse, and of the horses. In another line beyond them, walked twelve Yeomen of the Guard, on each side of the hearse and horses; their pikes, about the heads of which was black crape, were lowered and carried under the right arms.

Eight horsemen in deep black, with funeral truncheons; two heralds on horseback, and a troop of about 50 Life Guards, who had passed out of the park, through the iron gate by Marlborough-house, with swords reversed, under the right arms, followed. The troops here, as in other portions of the procession, proceeded two by two.

The first of the Royal Carriages, attending to form part of the Funeral Procession, next joined the line. These carriages and all the other parts of the Procession that followed came out of the Park, where every thing had been so arranged as to prevent the least unnecessary delay. This first carriage was his Majesty's town (not the state) carriage. It was drawn by six horses. Behind it were four footmen, dressed in the new Court livery, as were all the Coachmen and footmen of the several other Royal carriages, succeeding to His Majesty's carriage. On each side of his Majesty's carriage, several mourners, with funeral truncheons walked; and mourners walked on each side of the horses, some of them keeping hold of the horses' heads.

The Duke of Clarence's carriage followed, and it was succeeded by those of the Duke of Sussex, the Princess Sophia, the Duke of Gloucester, and the Duchess of Kent. They were drawn by six bay horses, each, and behind each were three footmen.

The carriage of the Prince Leopold of Saxe Cohurg followed. It was also drawn by six bay horses, and behind it were four foot-

men. On each side of these several coaches, walked mourners with funeral truncheons.

Twenty mourners on horseback came next, with large silk scarfs and bearing funeral wands.

#### CEREMONIES IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL.

At eight o'clock, according to previous concert, the procession reached its destination, and the servants, grooms, trumpets, and drums, filed without the door. The individuals in the mourning and other carriages then alighted and entered the Chapel. The hearse finally approached, and the body was immediately carried into the south aisle by ten Yeoman of the Guard, where it was placed on the bier, which was drawn close up to the door for its reception. It was then received by the Dean and Prebendaries, attended by the Choir.

The soldiers who flanked the platform, and who carried torches had previously lighted them, and thus an admirable view was obtained of the procession which was then formed under the direction of the Lord Chamberlain's Assistants, and moved down the south aisle and up the nave, into the Choir.

Upon the arrival of the Procession within the Choir, the ear was wheeled on the platform, and the Coronet, Baton, and Cushions were placed upon the Coffin.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence then took his seat upon a chair placed at the head of the Coffin; his supporters standing on each side.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex occupied a seat close to that of his Royal Brother.

The Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household took his station at the feet of the Corpse; and the Supporters of the Pall and of the Canopy, arranged themselves on each side.

