

MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, April 6, 1758.

FROM THE MONITOR, NUMBER CXX.

WHILST notorious and recent Facts continue glaring in the Eyes of an injured and deluded People, how vain must be the Effort, how fruitless the Hope to stifle the reasonable Clamour raised against bad Men and bad Measures, by delusive Harangues, subtle Cautions, on plausible Excuses? If the best concerted Measures, and the most meritorious Commanders in our Fleets and Armies have been suspected of Remissness in the Discharge of their Duty: How much more reasonably are those Men, whom the Confidence of their Sovereign had invested with the execratory Command of the late Expedition, to be censured after the unexpected and ignominious Event!

"In the first Action at Sea with the French, after the Revolution, who could behave with greater Courage and better Conduct than the Earl of Torrington? Yet he was so persecuted by the shattered Dutch, and their Court-Faction, that notwithstanding, upon Examination, before the Privy-Council, he proved, beyond Contradiction, that he had done all in his Power to annoy the Enemy, and to save the Fleet from a superior Force; he was put under Arrest and confined for several Months, till a Court-Martial cleared up his Reputation with the Public.

"Admiral Russell's Victory at La Hogue was not sufficient to protect his Character from Imputations of Neglect to improve the Advantage of the Battle, only because he returned into Port to refit his damaged Ship, and to recruit his Stores of Provision and Ammunition, at a Season when it was hazardous for the heavy Ships to remain on the Coast of France. The Ministry impeached him in the House of Commons; and though he proved, by his Actions, that he did not deserve such Treatment, and was publicly acquitted and thanked by that House, the King removed him from his Employments.

"The Loss of the Smyrna Fleet off Cape St. Mary's filled every Mouth with Exclamations, that the Nation was plundered and abused, and that after immense Sums were drained from the Subject, they were idly squandered away in chimerical Projects, or embezzled by the Agents of the Court.

"The King opened the next Sessions with these remarkable Expressions.—*I am always glad to meet you here; and I would heartily wish that our Satisfaction were not lessened at present, by reflecting upon the Disadvantages we have received this Year at Land; and the Miscarriages in our Affairs at Sea. I think it is evident, that the former was only occasioned by the great Number of our Enemies, which exceed ours in all Places: For what relates to the latter, which has brought so great Disgrace upon the Nation, I have resented it extremely. And as I will take Care that those who have not done their Duty, shall be punished; so I am resolved to use the utmost of my Endeavours, that our Power at Sea may be rightly managed for the future.*

"The House of Commons entered strictly into an Examination of the Commanders in Chief, to find out the Cause of those Miscarriages; but for want of Unanimity, their Efforts proved fruitless.

"Capt. John Norris's Inactivity at Newfoundland, when he should have fought the French Squadron under M. Pentz, was censured by Parliament as a high Miscarriage, to the great Disgrace of the King and Kingdom; and it was resolved that the said Miscarriage was owing to the Admission of the Land Officers into the Council of War on that Occasion, who overruled the Commodore, when he proposed the Attack of the Enemy, richly laden and weakly manned.

"Sir John Munden was accused of wilfully permitting the Enemy's Ships to escape him in the Bay of Biscay, and of want of Courage to follow them into the *Greyne*. A Court-Martial acquitted him honourably; but the Queen found it necessary to break him.

"Vice Admiral Graydon felt the Effects of a parliamentary Enquiry, in a most sensible Manner. He was not only censured for neglecting the Opportunity of destroying *Du Cassé's* Squadron; but removed from all his Employments, and his Memory is loaded with the foulest Imputations; though he pleaded his Instructions for his Conduct.

"There has never been a Miscarriage in the Army, but the Blame was immediately fixed on the Commanders. Who could have managed better than Lord Galloway, or Lord Peterborough? Yet they were obliged to render a severe Account of their unavoidable Losses.

"Thus it appears that the People are never to be appeased in their Complaints, but by a fair Proof founded on Facts. And that the great Glory acquired by our Arms is owing to a watchful Eye upon the Conduct of the Officers intrusted with the Fleet and Army.

"On the contrary, Enquiries and Censures have always been followed with Victories. I do not mean such as those brought upon the Actions of Torrington and a *Russell*, but Enquiries void of Malice, Envy, and Personality; not ministerial to screen Government Defects; but such as begin with Things, and end with Men.

"The People are not more eager to enquire into Miscarriages, and the Conduct of their Officers, than the Brave and Unfortunate are to put themselves upon the Judgment of their Country. They, like Gold out of the Fire, come more refined out of a fair and equitable Enquiry. Men that have nothing to fear, nor to hide from public View, will always advance their Reputation by a faithful Narrative of their Actions before the Guardians of Liberty. And they who, when called upon to answer for their Conduct, seek Delays and take Sanctuary under any other Protection than their own Innocence, can never be acquitted of public Censure.

"Let the true Cause of our late Miscarriages be detected in the Parliament; and there is no doubt, but the Nation will be satisfied either with the Punishment of the Guilty, if there be any deficient in their Duty; or with their Acquittal, can they make it appear unavoidable.

"But it will rather help to inflame and irritate, than to satisfy the universal Clamour, should the People be put off with a Narrative of pretended Difficulties, which were never tried; and of the Authority of Resolutions of a Court-Martial, which contradicted the Royal Instructions. For, as the Matter stands at present, every Voice is ready to ask, Why did not the Commander in Chief imitate the brave *Talmash*, who, in a similar Expedition against the same Coast, but in much worse Circumstances, told such another Council of War, when they advised him not to Land, *This Advice comes too late: The Honour of the English Nation is at Stake: And therefore I must and will Land: I know that I sacrifice Myself and the Men; but it is necessary, and must be done, that both our Enemies and Allies may know, that even desperate Undertakings cannot daunt English Courage.*

"The single Question is this. Was not the Honour of the English Nation at Stake in the Event of the late Expedition? Did they, who conducted this Armament, and in a Council of War resolved not to do what was necessary, and ought to be done for the Support of that Honour; without so much as hazarding the least Danger on the Enemy's Coast; do all in Power to maintain that Honour? If not their Actions

"must condemn them, before every impartial Tribunal."

LONDON, December 10.

The following REPORT to his Majesty of the General Officers, appointed to enquire into the Cause of the Failure of the late Expedition to the Coast of France, prepared agreeable to the Resolutions of that Board at the last Meeting, was approved and signed.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE the under written General Officers of the Army, in Obedience to your Majesty's Warrant, which bears Date the first Day of this present Month, commanding us strictly to examine into the Causes of the Failure of the late Expedition to the Coast of France, and to report a State thereof, as it should appear to us, together with our Opinion thereupon; have, at several Meetings, perused and considered your Majesty's Orders and Instructions, as transmitted to us by the Right Honourable Mr. Pitt, your Majesty's principal Secretary of State, together with sundry Letters and other Papers transmitted therewith, and have heard and examined Lieutenant-General Sir John Mordaunt, the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces, and other principal Officers employed on the said Expedition, with such Witnesses as either of them desired, and also such other Persons as seemed to us most likely to give any material Information; and in order that your Majesty may be fully possessed of every Circumstance which has appeared in the Course of this Enquiry, we beg Leave to lay before your Majesty the Whole of our Examination, as contained in the Minutes of our Proceedings to this our Report annexed: And upon the most diligent and careful Review of the whole Matter, we do, in farther Obedience to your Royal Command, most humbly report to your Majesty the principal Causes of the Failure of the said Expedition, as they appear to us, viz.

It appears, that one Cause of the Expedition having failed, is the not attacking Fort Fouras by Sea, at the same Time that it would have been attacked by Land, agreeable to the first Design, which certainly must have been of the greatest Utility towards carrying your Majesty's Instructions into Execution. It was at first resolved by Sir Edward Hawke (Thierry, the Pilot of the *Magnanime*, having undertaken the safe Conduct of a Ship to Fort Fouras, for that Purpose) but afterwards laid aside, upon the Representation of Vice Admiral Knowles, that the Barreux, the Ship designed for that Service, was on Ground, at the Distance of between four and five Miles from the Shore; but as neither Sir Edward Hawke, nor the Pilot, could attend to give any Information upon that Head, we cannot presume to offer any certain Opinion thereupon.

We conceive another Cause of the Failure of the Expedition to have been, that, instead of attempting to Land, when the Report was received on the 24th of September from Rear Admiral Broderick, and the Captains, who had been sent out to sound and reconnoitre, a Council of War was summoned and held the 25th, in which it was unanimously resolved not to Land, as the Attempt upon Rochefort was neither advisable nor practicable; but it does not appear to us, that there was then, or at any Time afterwards, either a Body of Troops or Batteries on the Shore, sufficient to have prevented the attempting a Descent, in Pursuance of the Instructions signed by your Majesty: Neither does it appear to us, that there were any sufficient Reasons to induce the Council of War to believe, that Rochefort was so far changed in Respect to its Strength, and Posture of

AS a yellow Slave, well-set, with cut Hair, near 5 Feet high, about by Name *Toby*, and is a Weaver by Trade from his Mistress kept here, on the 12th of February Instant, and took his Cloaths, viz. a Duroy Coat, a white Waistcoat, a Country Cloth Pair of long Pair of Ditto, and a Linen Cap; and the Cap it is supposed he wears; a pair of Brafs Buckles in his Shoes, one broke; he speaks good English, and is in his Speech; his Eyes much like his Lips very thick, and in his other like a Negro. It is supposed he is from the Eastern Shore, as he has before. Whoever takes up the said Slave, and brings him to the Subscriber, living upon St. Mary's, in St. Mary's County, shall receive Ten Shillings, over and above what was, if taken out of St. Mary's County, New-Port, Feb. 14, 1758. The Subscriber once more gives this public notice, that those who are indebted to him of the Store he lately kept here, at Mr. *John Winter*, and do not immediately discharge their respective Balances, or secure them in any otherwise, to the Satisfaction of *Buchanan*, who now keeps Store at New-Port, and has full Power to collect and discharge Debts, may depend on being sued, and of Time or Respect of Persons. No one has any Demands against the said Store, or likewise desired to bring in their Debts, and apply to the said Mr. *Buchanan*. ALEXANDER LOTHIAN.

TO BE SOLD, A good SAILING BOAT, a prime Keel, about 21 Feet Keel, 6 and 1/2 Beam, in the Hold; her Frame Multiberry; a good Suit of Sails, Anchor and other Materials, &c. Enquire hereof.

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IMPORTED from BRISTOL, A good SAILING BOAT, a prime Keel, about 21 Feet Keel, 6 and 1/2 Beam, in the Hold; her Frame Multiberry; a good Suit of Sails, Anchor and other Materials, &c. Enquire hereof.

TO BE SOLD OR LET, A good SAILING BOAT, a prime Keel, about 21 Feet Keel, 6 and 1/2 Beam, in the Hold; her Frame Multiberry; a good Suit of Sails, Anchor and other Materials, &c. Enquire hereof.

OFFICE in Charles-street; A good SAILING BOAT, a prime Keel, about 21 Feet Keel, 6 and 1/2 Beam, in the Hold; her Frame Multiberry; a good Suit of Sails, Anchor and other Materials, &c. Enquire hereof.