

## MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestic.

TUESDAY, November 11, 1746.

THE LORDS PROTEST, on a Motion to address his Majesty for the keeping our Forces at home, 'til the Dutch have declared War against France.

*Die Veneris, 2do Maii, 1746.*

HE order of the day being read, for taking into consideration the several papers presented to this house the 28th of April last, pursuant to their lordships address to his majesty of the 2d of the same month.

The said papers were also read.

Then,

It was moved to resolve, That an humble address be presented to his majesty, most humbly to represent to his majesty, as the opinion and advice of this house, That carrying on the war in Flanders, at so vast a disproportion of expence to this nation, while the states of the United Provinces, notwithstanding the innumerable lots of the greatest part of their barrier, and notwithstanding the very great efforts which this nation has made, have not only avoided declaring war against France, pursuant to treaties, but are actually negotiating for themselves at the court of France, in a measure tending more to exhaust a nation, long and grievously burthened with debts and taxes, and to destroy the public credit, than to weaken the power of the common enemy, which can best be effected by this nation where itself is weaken'd least, by a vigorous exertion of our naval strength, and by enabling (as far as the circumstances of the nation will permit) those powers upon the continent, who are more nearly interested in it's defence, to imitate the magnanimous conduct of his majesty's good ally the king of Sardinia, carrying on the war as principals in defence of their own concerns; and to maintain the liberty and independence of Europe against the ambitious views and attempts of France. Which being objected to, and long debate thereupon, The question was put upon the second motion? And it was resolv'd in the negative.

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*Testis.*

1st. Because it appears to us to be a measure repugnant to the most fundamental interests of this island, to engage Great Britain as a principal; and, in effect, as the only principal, in a war in the Netherlands; the consequences of which are not only the increase of taxes, and of debts, but such immense exportations of specie abroad, as this country cannot support, without ruin; sustain.

2dly. Because we have experienced and feel the mischiefs arising to this nation from the undue influence of foreign interests on the continent, whereby we have been unnecessarily embroiled in endless jealousies and contests, and engaged in unprofitable treaties and fruitless subsidies, until after intervals hardly to be distinguished, of peace without economy, and war without effect, scarce any trace remains of all the efforts which this nation has made upon the continent, except that of a debt of sixty millions, exhausting the landed, distressing the trading interest, creating new powers and interests dangerous to

the constitution, sapping the credit, and preying upon the vitals of our country.

3dly. Because the means for carrying on the war have been expended, and still appear to us, not only burthenform to the nation, but insufficient to the national end; and the opinion ought to be the re-establishment of peace, and the conduct of the war, throughout the several changes of administration at home, seems to us to have been unaccountable, from the unavailing victory at Dettingen, to the slaughter of our gallant countrymen at Fontenoy.

4thly. Because we have still less reason for concurring in this measure, when we reflect upon the conduct of our allies, Italy having been well nigh lost by the inattention of the court of Vienna, and the barrier in the Netherlands having been unaccountably given up by a conduct of the Dutch, for whom we want a name, as we want reasons for the ineffectual and contemptuous succour which they sent in our domestic distress; and part of which (even such as it was) they withdrew, when the danger appeared greatest.

5thly. Because, after those ministers who first engaged us in this measure, and declared the concurrence of the Dutch essential to it's success; and after a new-form'd administration had so explicitly declared that concurrence to be the necessary condition of continuing that measure; after not only the conduct but the very words of the Dutch (as contained in the memorial which has been laid before us) manifest their disaffection, or their disinclination to any cordial or effectual concurrence; and after it is become notorious, that at this very time they are treating for themselves at the court of France (if we may not rather infer, from their conduct, that they have already secured to themselves that protection which their ancestors disdain'd): After all these considerations, we hold it inexorable to concur in charging our poor and exhausted country with new and immense expences, which not only common sense, but experience has pointed out to be in this conjuncture ineffectual. A conjuncture, in which even they, who advise his majesty, did not flatter us with much hopes of success.

6thly. Because the prodigious expence which this nation sustains in support of this measure for the hire of foreign mercenaries, bears no proportion between us and our allies, either with regard to their, and our interests, to speculations observed in former wars, or to our present abilities; and must inevitably be (as we apprehend) a growing expence, if the present measures are pursued.

7thly. Because we have seen part of the British forces left useless abroad; at a time when an additional military strength was thought wanting for our domestic defence; and that want supplied by foreign mercenaries, which alarms us greatly, from the reflections we cannot avoid making on the fatal consequences which may be produced to this country, if a prerogative shall ever be established for bringing over into this country foreign mercenaries in British pay, even during the sitting of parliament and without previously consulting that parliament in a matter so new, and so essential to the honour, and to the safety