

Cases, and their Apprehensions, which were too fatally verified by the Events. War, Sir, is in itself so big with Horror, so productive of Destruction, so fruitful of Evils, that it has been always the Study of the Great and Good to devise a Variety of Means to lessen, or at least to alleviate them. How comes it then to pass, that in the present War, in which there are no Circumstances could lead a Man to suspect more than ordinary Animosities in the Combatants, such different Methods should be practis'd.

Which of your Gazettes would, in plain Terms, have told us, that one of your ablest Ministers has been charged to stain his great Capacity to the utmost, in order to induce a young Prince to Perjury, who himself has but just opened his Eyes to the mischievous Practices of self-interested Ministers, who, under Presence of supporting Claims that have been over and over renounced, have brought his Country to the Brink of Ruin? And this, by affirming the greatest Falshoods with the utmost Solemnity. Such as, that the Army of the Allies had been totally ruin'd in the late Engagement: That your Loss had been but 4000 kill'd and wounded, whereas they had lost 14000. From whence he inferred that this was the Time for him to revive those Pretensions, which his most Christian Majesty, now victorious and triumphant, was ready and willing to support.

It were extremely easy for me to draw together abundance of Facts of this Nature, but that I would not exercise your Patience too much, which in all Probability, I have put sufficiently to the stretch already. Give me Leave, however, to conclude, that tho' it is highly unlikely any of your *Paris* *Admirals* should have let us into these Secrets, even if suffered to go on, as for some Years they have done: So, on the other Hand, it was far enough from that Penetration, for which some of your Ministers have been famous, to believe such an Edict could keep them from our Knowledge altogether. As it is you have them represented clearly and fairly, so as to be a Judge yourself of their Consequences, and of the Importance of refusing them, if that be in your Power. But permit me to add, before I close this Dispatch, that I think I have fully justifi'd my Sentiments on this Subject, and prov'd that the Edict of the Parliament of *Paris* is, in regard to foreign Countries, altogether superfluous and useless; though, as the Edict itself well observes, it may stop the fatal Effects of an improper Knowledge in the *Galic* Provinces. But miserable sure must the Conduct of that Ministry be, which must have Recourse to Banishment and the Gallies, to hide their Conduct from the Eyes of their Fellow Subjects; and who owe their own Safety to nothing but the Ignorance of Prince and People.

I am, Sir,

With Submission and Respect, &c.

B R E D A, October 21.

GENERAL Keith has had the honour to dine with the king; and viz enter'd into his service, having been declar'd by his majesty field marshal general of his armies. He is to have a regiment and a pension of 150,000 crowns a Year.

Edinburgh, October 15. By the Elizabeth, of Dunbar, arriv'd on tuesday last wth Sir John Erskine, with Wines, &c. we have the following account, viz. That his Majesty's ship the Nightingale, of 20 guns, John Ferguson commander, cruising off the coast of Portugal, about 90 leagues, had fallen in with and taken a French ship called the *de Dauphin Royal*, mounting 22 carriage guns, and having 30 men on board, after a very smart engagement which began at eight o'clock at night, and continued till six next morning, when she struck; she had been out nine days from Bourdeaux, and was bound to St. Domingo; there were passengers on board all gentlemen, who were put ashore at Lisbon. She is reck on'd a good Prize.

Newcastle, October 17. On Sunday, September the 21st, the Nancy, of Shields. Capt. Hunter (by mistake call'd the John and Thomas; Capt. Bland) about 7 leagues off Timmouth castle, was attacked by a French cogger privateer, of 8 carriage guns, 32 swivels, and 96 men. The engagement began at 12 at noon, and lasted till one at night; in which Mr. Hunter had a carpenter and a seriant kill'd, and one man wounded in the leg. The privateer had 25 men kill'd, and 11 wounded. At nine at night they board'd the Nancy, and threw some fire down the gratings and hatchway, which oblig'd Mr. Hunter's men to call for quarter. The captain of the privateer had order'd his men to give no quarters; and the Frenchmen accordingly us'd the English very unmercifully, 'til stop't by the French lieutenant.

Mr. Hunter having in the engagement, wounded the privateer's main-mast, in crowding sail, the mast went by the board about Twelve on Monday night; after which, the Frenchman us'd his prisoners very well, and bore away for the Flein Holland, where the French privateer having been seized by the Dutch, Capt. Hunter and his men were released, and took a passage in Mr. Marshall's brig for this port.

L O N D O N, October 1.

Extract of a Letter from Litchfield, dated Sept. 19.

We have had excellent notices going at the races &c. The contention was between the well affected gentlemen and the Jacobites: The latter, we are assured, are to assemble by subscription on Wednesday the 23d instant, in order to have a general flag hunting near this place; they are all cloathed in plaid, that they may be more eminently distinguished, and prevent any mixing with them but their own party. 'Tis thought, that there should be any meetings to promote disaffection to the bet of kings, and the mischief of government's.

Our advices from Lincolnshire say, that there have died of the present raging distemper in that county and Nottinghamshire, upwards of 40,000 horned cattle. That the infection is got among the horses; and that for want of due care in curing the infected beasts deep enough, they have been rooked up by the swine, which have been thereupon seized with the infection. That the geese are likewise seized with a pestilential distemper, and in many places die 200 in a day. And that to complicate this misfortune, the people die in some villages surprizingly.

When the murrain prevailed, men us'd in the philosophical transactions, which spread itself through Switzerland, Germany, into Poland, &c. the antidote for the stung, and medicine for the sick, were the same, viz. equal parts of foot, gun-powder, brimstone, and salt, with as much water as would wash it down.

October 7. By a letter from Litchfield, we have an account of a very extraordinary flag hunting on Neegood forest, a few miles from that city, which lasted three days; that the company was very numerous, consisting of several peers, upwards of twenty members of parliament, and several thousand horsemen; and that they were remarkably dress'd in plaid waistcoat and handkerchiefs, and numbers wore white cockades.

The marquis del Puerto, ambassador from his catholic majesty to the states general of the United Provinces, has complain'd memorial, of an embarkation made in the island of Java for the South Seas, which has not only been projected, but carried in execution, and a descent made on the coast of the kingdom of Mexico, in conjunction with the English. Their High Mightinesses have refer'd this memorial to the directors of the East India company, and have promis'd, upon receiving their report, to give his catholic majesty all the satisfaction in their power.

October 17. There are advices from Lisbon by the *Indes*, that say they have accounts from the Brazils of great improvements made in those colonies, more especially in the province on the frontiers, as well towards the river of Amazon, as to that of Platé; and that not only the value of their cargoes, but the number of inhabitants in those colonies annually increase, so that as the commerce has been highly advantageous to the crown of Portugal, it is on good grounds concluded, that it will for the future be much more so: It is also hinted, that the Portuguese majesty, in order to promote a thing so beneficial to the crown, and to the subject, has resolv'd to form a new council for the direction of all matters that relate to commerce and navigation; at which the cardinal minister was to have presided, if he had not been taken off by death, which accident is a terrible must occasion some delay in the execution of this project.

We are credibly inform'd, that by a special order, all commissions in the navy, for the future, are to be cloathed in brevets from the admiral to the midshipman.

October 20. We learn by private letters from Düsseldorf, that Baron Theodore de Neuhoff lately arriv'd there with persons in his retinue; in his way to Cologne, from whence he gave out he intended to go to Holland, and after a short stay there, to proceed for England, which occasion's much speculation.

October 22. They write from the Hague, that notwithstanding the answer given to the Spanish minister, of the Republic's disapproving the Armistice made by the government of Spain, it is apprehended that their High Mightinesses may be prevail'd upon to be inclin'd to leave the baron d'Imhoff, at present governor general in the East Indies, at full liberty to act in the name of the house of Bourbon in the Indies, and in the South Seas.