

Swiss, Jan. 27. We continue clearing away the rubbish of the houses demolished by the powder magazine that lately blew up, and have been so lucky as to save the lives of several persons, some of whom have been preserved as it were by a miracle; among them we reckon a child in the cradle, whose life was saved by a large pewter dish; which like a shield kept off the stones and rubbish. We reckon in all 101 houses destroyed; and 57 persons have been found dead under the ruins, among whom there are 39 Jews; and of the garrison there were only three men killed.

L O N D O N .

June 19. We have advice from Russia, that the great city of Casan, in that empire, has lately been entirely reduced to ashes by fire.

June 20. Yesterday was carried out of town, to be deposited in his vault in the church of Beelden in the county of Kent, the corpse of Sir John Norris. This gentleman was bred in the royal navy, and died admiral and commander in chief of it, after a course of above 60 years service.

June 24. On Thursday morning his majesty held a chapter of the most noble order of the Garter, in his palace of Kensington, when his majesty was pleased to present the six vacant garters to the following persons; viz. prince George, eldest son of his royal highness the prince of Wales; the margrave of Anspach Brandenburg; the dukes of Bedford, and Leeds; and the earls of Granville, and Albemarle: And we hear they will be installed in St. George's chapel in Windsor castle, on the first of August next, by their graces the dukes of Portland and Kingston, the two junior knights of that most noble order. And his majesty was pleased at the same time to confer the order of knighthood on Henry Bellandine, Esq; gentleman usher of the Black Rod.

This morning came advice of the arrival of the Cornwall, admiral Knowles, and the Stafford, Capt. Broadie, at Spithead from Jamaica.

Notwithstanding the joint endeavours of the *Fox and Goose*, to keep peace in the North, we learn from Peterburgh, that they continue hard at work on the galleys and other vessels, with which they have resolved to augment the imperial navy.

Extracts of a Letter from Kendal, June 19.

“On the 15th instant, the hills above Kendal were quite covered with snow, of a considerable thickness. We have had a great deal of very hard frost this month; sometimes the ice was as thick as a crown piece.”

June 27. We hear that upwards of 50,000*l.* is brought over from Cadix in the Liverpool man of war, in part of payment of the sum by treaty due to England from the court of Spain; and that there is near the same sum on board, for the use of the merchants of this city.

Yesterday Sir Peter Warren, Sir Edward Hawke, Sir Charles Howard, Sir Charles Powles, Sir John Mordaunt, and Sir John Saville, knights of the Bath, were installed in king Henry III's chapel, Westminster abbey.

On Friday the Baltimore floop, Capt. Walker, having on board several gentlemen appointed to fix on proper places for establishing a fishery on the coast of Scotland, fell down the river; and is bound to Borrowstouffness, and the isles of Orkney and Zeiland, for that purpose.

We hear that his grace the duke of Newcastle has ordered a brace of bucks to be sent to Cambridge; for the feast prepar'd against his grace's installation.

The Charlotte yacht is ordered to be got ready, to carry the lords of the admiralty to review the Western coasts.

Whitehall, July 4. The king has been pleased to grant unto the right honourable George lord Anson the office and place of admiral of Great Britain, and lieutenant of the admiralty thereof; and also lieutenant of the navies and seas of his Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain; in the room of Sir John Norris, Knt. deceased.

The king has been pleased to grant unto William Rowley, the office or place of rear-admiral of Great Britain; and he admirally thereof; and of rear-admiral of the navies and of his Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain.

July 7. Yesterday morning died of a violent fever the most noble John duke of Montague. His grace dying without male the title is extinct.

His Majesty's most gracious Letter to the venerable Church of Scotland

and advancement of true religion, has induced us most readily to countenance your present meeting, with our approbation and royal authority; as we cannot doubt, but that the same principles will continue to be pursued by you, for promoting in the most effectual manner true piety, virtue, and loyalty: And you may depend on our resolution to maintain and support the church of Scotland, as by law established, in the enjoyment of all its rights and privileges.

We have already had so many occasions to be satisfied with the conduct of our right trusty and entirely beloved cousin, Alexander, earl of Leven, as well as with his fidelity and prudence, in the discharge of so important a trust, that we have again made choice of him to represent our person in this assembly; and you are so well acquainted with his firm attachment to us and our government, and with his zeal for the church of Scotland, that we have no room to doubt but he will be most acceptable to you.

The advancement of true religion and piety being the chief intent of your assembling at this time, we are convinced that nothing will be wanting on your part that may tend to the attaining those good and desirable ends. And to bid you heartily farewell.

Given at our court at St. James's the 25th day of April, 1749, in the 22d year of our reign.

By his Majesty's Command,
HOLLIS NEWCASTLE.

WHITEHALL, May 20.

On the 13th instant, the general assembly of the church of Scotland met at Edinburgh, and chose for their moderator Mr. Patrick Cuming. His majesty's commission to the right hon. the earl of Leven was read, as likewise his majesty's most gracious letter to the assembly. His majesty's high commissioner made a speech to the assembly, which was answered on their part by the moderator; and a committee was appointed to draw up a dutiful answer to his majesty's most gracious letter, which having been transmitted by the high commissioner to the duke of Newcastle, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, has by him been presented to his majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously.

His Majesty's High Commissioner's Speech to the general Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Right Reverend, and Right Honourable,

HIS majesty's most gracious letter supercedes the necessity of my assuring you of the just sense he has of your ready zeal and firm attachment to his person and government, and his constant resolution to maintain the rights and privileges of the church of Scotland as by law establish'd; and you well know, that his fatherly concern for your happiness, has at all times far exceeded the warmest expressions I could use in this place.

His majesty's annual bounty for reforming the Highlands and Islands, which he has again been graciously pleased to renew: His royal patent granted to the Society for propagating the Christian knowledge: His repeated countenance given for establishing a fund, for the provision of the widows and children of ministers, &c. are but a few of the many instances, which every member of this house will readily recall; of his majesty's pious care for the good of the nation in general, and the prosperity of the church in particular: Such continued proofs of the royal favour will, I persuade myself, meet with all the dutiful regards; which the most faithful subjects owe to the best of sovereigns; and it cannot fail to heighten your respectful sense of his majesty's great goodness, that he demands no other return but that behaviour and conduct, which is inseparable from your own true interest.

By obeying the royal call, you will pursue such measures as will at once make the nation, the church, and yourselves happy;—all the important affairs under your present deliberation will be managed with that candour and prudence, that temper and moderation, which shall prove both your glory and your strength;—and amidst that variety of sentiments, which must take place in every numerous meeting, you will still love as brethren, maintaining the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. This much may reasonably be expected from the conduct of former assemblies, which I have so often witness'd with the greatest pleasure; and I cannot omit observing, that the known character of the honourable and reverend members of this assembly, with whom I have the happiness to be acquainted, shows the justest grounds for your conduct, which

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