

Feb. 6. It is now certain that the French Fleet are going to Canada.

Last Saturday the following Ships were ordered to be fitted out for the Sea, viz. The Barfleur, 2d Rate, and Lancaster, 3d Rate, for Pendants at Chatham. Ramilles, 2d Rate, Graston and Chichester, 3d Rates, at Portsmouth. Ipswich, 3d Rate, at Plymouth. There are in Commission, besides the above-mentioned, 41 Ships, the greatest Part of which are the Line of Battle. No Ship under 60 Guns, is esteemed to be of the Line of Battle.

On Tuesday the Somerset, of 80 Guns, and some more Men of War, were put into Commission.

It has been said in some of the Foreign Gazettes, that the new Treaty between France and Spain relates only to Commerce; but we now hear that it is nothing less than an Alliance Offensive and Defensive.

The Reports concerning the Difficulty of impressing Men, are so far from being true, that from the great Number of Volunteers who daily offer themselves, the proper Officers have been enabled to discharge all such as they apprehend may prove at all inexpert when abroad. These Reports owe their Rise chiefly to the sham Press Gangs, composed of a Gang of Thieves, who take this Advantage of extorting Money from poor Fellows, that fall into their Hands. Many of them have already been detected.

We hear that there have been near 3000 Men pressed, and about one Third of them refused.

February 6. Last Night the Russian Ambassador gave a most magnificent Ball at Somerset-House, at which his Majesty and the Royal Family were present, who had a Number of Tickets presented them to be disposed of at their Pleasure. The Royal Family, and the principal Nobility, first paid a Visit to the Dutchess of Norfolk, who saw Marks the Beginning of the Evening at her Grace's House in St. James's Square, where a kind of Portico covered with Canvass, was erected from the Door, to the Footway, for the Accommodation of Chairs setting down the Ladies, over Cover, so as not to be exposed to the Populace. From thence to Somerset House the Succession of the Chairs continued for a considerable Time with out Interruption. It would fill this Paper to display the Grandeur of the Entertainment, or the Brilliancy of the illustrious Assembly, who vied with each other in Richness of Attire. The Princess of Wales appeared in a rich blue Habit; Lady Augusta in a white Italian Dress, with a black Cap splendidly ornamented with Diamonds; the Prince of Wales in rich Pink, dressed after the Manner of Tancred, with a large Plume of Feathers on his Head; a celebrated Countess appeared in the Character of Eve; the Fruit Pendant to her Fig-Leaf was composed of Diamonds of the largest Size; a noble Lady shone in the Habit of a Nymph, which was embroidered over with Stars studded with Brillians to the Amount of 100,000l. value. In a Word, few Exhibitions of this Kind have equalled, none excelled it. The Number of Persons were above a Thousand.

Feb. 8. By a Letter from Portsmouth we are informed, that they go on vigorously in Marine Affairs; the Terrible, one of the French Ships, being cleaned and sheathed last Wednesday, in eight Hours and three Quarters, by Torch and Candle Light; an Instance of Expedition hardly to be paralleled; she is 74 Guns, and takes more sheathing Board than any of our first Rates.

Feb. 11. Letters of good Credit assure, that we shall speedily hear of a Reigning Prince in Germany abjuring the Protestant Religion to embrace Popery.

Several Regiments are ordered over from Ireland, which are expected in a few Days.

February 8. We hear that new Credentials have been sent to Mr. Porter, the British Minister at Constantinople, accompanied with a Letter, wherein his Majesty congratulates Osman on his Accession to the Ottoman Throne, and assures him that he will eagerly embrace every Opportunity to cultivate the good Understanding that has subsisted so many Years between the two Crowns.

According to the last Letters from Constantinople, some People look on the filial Tenderness of the new Sultan for his aged Mother as a Mark of a good Heart. Others observe, that we must not pronounce precipitately concerning the Temper of Princes brought up in the honourable Prisons of the Seraglio, where they make it their whole Study to render their real Characters impenetrable, and to assume an Outside the least capable of giving Umbrage to the reigning Prince. It will not be till after the new Sultan hath had Time to look about him, and to study the political Map of Europe and Asia,

that we shall be at Liberty to speak of his Manner of Thinking. The Death of Count Desalleurs, the French Minister, which happened a little before that of Mahomet, leaves a clear Field for the Russian and Imperial Ministers to keep the new Sultan in the Principles of his Predecessors.

February 11. On Sunday there was a numerous Appearance at Court of Sea Officers, who all seemed to vie with each other in shewing their Loyalty to their King and Country.

We hear there will be a Bill brought into Parliament for the registering of Seamen.

The Right Hon. the Lords of the Admiralty, have been pleased to appoint Richard Tyrrell, Esq; to the Command of the Ipswich, of 70 Guns; a Gentleman who gallantly distinguished himself for the Protection of our Trade in the West Indies during the late War; and Nephew to the late brave Sir Peter Warren.

A great Number of Hands are employed at Woolwich, in making up Cartridges, Grape Shot, &c. with all Speed.

A considerable Number of Hands belonging to the Tower have engaged themselves to serve as Armourers on board his Majesty's Ships of War now fitting out; and 'tis said they have great Encouragement.

February 13. Private Letters from Brittany inform us, that two Ships of the Line, and several Transports, with two Thousand Land Forces on board, sailed some Days ago from Port l'Orient for the East Indies.

We hear that Admiral Moflyn is to hoist his Flag on board the Monarch Man of War at Portsmouth.

It is reported, that 4000 Marines are to be raised forthwith; and that five Men of War are to sail directly for the East Indies.

To-morrow the Medway Man of War will be launched at Deptford, the Command of which is given to Capt. Peter Dennis.

The Scheme of a Lottery has been given away at the House of Commons to raise the Government 500,000l. in which Scheme are 54 Prizes of 10,000l. each. The whole Lottery to consist of a Million of Tickets, at One Guinea each.

We hear that Orders are issued at the War Office, to have Sir Peter Haller's and Colonel Danbar's Regiments made to consist of 1000 Men each Regiment, to be equal to the other two Regiments of Shirley's and Pepperell's, gone on the same Expedition to North-America. And, that

Orders are likewise issued to make the four Regiments at Nova-Scotia to consist of the like Number with the Regiments above-mentioned. Also, that

It is a Matter determined, that 40 Independent Companies of Marines be forthwith raised, to consist of 100 Men each Company, and that every ten Companies are to be commanded by a Major, which will save a great Expence in regimenting them.

The four Regiments of Marines which are to be raised, are to be under the Direction of the Admiralty, independent of the Army, and are to be stationed at Portsmouth, Chatham, &c.

February 15. We hear great Numbers of Warrants are lodged in the Office of the Sheriff of the County of Middlesex, to be given to the Constables and other Officers to impress Marines for his Majesty's Service.

A Company of the King's own Regiment of Foot embarked on Tuesday at Chatham for the Nore, to do Duty on board the Culloden Man of War, which rides there, as the Receptacle of pressed Men.

A great Number of the Cadets in Woolwich Yard are appointed Officers in the Train of Artillery, and upwards of 100 Shipwrights are ordered into that Yard to forward the Men of War, &c.

Sir Edward Hawke is gone down to Portsmouth to hoist his Flag.

Three Companies of the Train of Artillery are to be sent immediately to the East Indies, the Command of whom is to be given to Capt. Chalmers.

Many Ships are arrived at all the Out Ports; and we hear that a Number of Seamen have voluntarily entered on board his Majesty's Fleet.

However uncertain the Question may be, whether War or Peace will be the Issue of our present Naval Preparations, it is not to be doubted, from the uncommon Vigour and Expedition with which they are pursued, that we shall be able in a few Weeks, to exhibit, for the Glory of Old England, a Fleet, sufficient at once to alarm Europe, and strike Terror in our aspiring Neighbours.

The Commissions in the forty Companies of Marines which are to be raised, are to be signed by his Majesty, or the Duke, but the Lords of the Admiralty are to clothe and station them at the Dock Yards, to serve as Sailors on an Emergency; Lieutenants of Marines on Half Pay, are to be put on whole Pay, and employed in this Service.

We have the Pleasure to acquaint the Public, that of the Navy Debt of Fourteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, one Half of it will be paid directly.

Wagers of One Hundred Guineas to Five, are offered at St. James's End of the Town; that there will be no War between Great Britain and France, for two Years to come.

BOSTON, April 7.

The Public is advised to beware of Counterfeit Dollars, many such being abroad. They are cast in Sand, or Chalk, but so well done, that unwary People may be deceived by them. They are much lighter than the true Ones, of a blackish or dead Colour, and will neither ring nor jump when dropt on a Board or Stone, as the Silver Ones do.

A few Days ago, three Men belonging to Norton, were taken up and committed to Goal for making and uttering Counterfeit Dollars, and all their Tools and Implements seized. One of these ingenious and industrious Fellows is said to be a flaming New-Light Teacher, who, no Doubt (according to the Cant of the Set) will plead a Revelation in Excuse of his Crime.

The Master of a Kessel from Virginia informs, that soon after he came out he spoke with a Sloop of War bound in with Dispatches for the several Governments, &c.

On Saturday last, a Sloop with a Company of Colonel Pepperell's Regiment, bound from Piscataqua to New York, put in here by Reason of bad Weather; and, we hear, she is to proceed on her Voyage the first fair Wind.

Last Night came too, off Spectacle Island, the Store-Ship with Money, Clothing, Ammunition, &c. for Col. Shirley's Regiment.

NEW-YORK, April 14.

Extract of a Letter, dated London, Feb. 10, 1755. "CHARLES HARDY, Esquire, is appointed Governor of New-York, and will leave England some Time next Month. His Baggage is to be put on board Captain Miller, if in Time; but as Things are circumstanced, it is not known when Miller or any of the other Vessels in your Trade will leave London, as no Work can be done, and no Lighters to be had for Want of Men. Insurance for these Parts is risen to Four per Cent."

By an Act passed the last Session of Assembly in Boston, the Inhabitants of that Province, are forbid holding any Correspondence with the People of Louisbourg, &c. for four Months, commenced the first Day of March last; and all Masters that are known to trade there, contrary to the Intent of said Act, is to have one of his Ears cut off, he publicly whipped 39 Lashes, render'd incapable of ever holding any Place of Honour or Profit in that Government for the future, his Vessel and Cargo to be forfeited, and the Owner or Owners thereof, to forfeit 500l. and be also disabled from holding any Place of Honour or Profit in that Government.

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.

We hear that the New-Jersey Assembly have agreed to raise Five Companies for his Majesty's Service, and given Fifteen Thousand Pounds for the Support of them.

ANNAPOLIS.

Thursday Evening last, his Excellency our Governour, with the three Northern Governours, and Gentlemen who accompanied them, returned to Town from Alexandria; and on Friday and Saturday, the Governours SHIRLEY, DE LANCEY, and MORRIS, and other Gentlemen, went over the Bay, on their Return to their respective Governours and Homes.

Tuesday Morning last, very early, his Excellency Governour SHARPE set out from Town for Frederick-Town.

The Sloop Elizabeth, Capt. John Bennett, beinging to Mr. Rutland, (who sail'd from hence lately for Barbados) met with terrible Weather just after she left the Capes, and is put into Lewes in Delaware, with the Loss of her Mast, but the Cargo not damag'd.

This Day arriv'd off West-River, the Ship Baltimore, Capt. Robert Wilton, in six Weeks and three Days from London; with whom came Passenger the Reverend Mr. THOMAS THORNTON;

Capt. Chew, and Capt. Johnson, for this Province, sail'd with Capt. Wilton.

From the Public Prints brought by Capt. Wilton, we have the following Advices, viz.

LONDON, February 24.

It is rumoured, that the Terms of Accommodation now on the Anvil, are, That the French deliver Ten of their most capital Ships of War, into the Harbour of Portsmouth, as some Attonement for their innumerable Invasions and Insults, since the Peace of Aix la Chapelle.

We hear that Orders have been dispatched from the Lords of the Admiralty, and likewise from the Council-Chamber, to the Magistrates of most of the

the Corporations in lead all their Affair Sailors and Landmen able and qualified for

Every true Briton Country and Liberty cannot have a more's Eye of his Mind, the and warm Zeal which and Low, Rich and Juncture.

Extra of a Letter On Wednesday

George, a first Rate Commission in this given to Roger Martin the Prince George, George Bridges Rodney has the Command of Capt. Rodney's

His Majesty's Ship Spithead in a few Days

The St. George, Grafton, Chichester, of War, and Hornet Sea with the utmost

This Day the Ship and several more Ships for the same Purpose

In the Dock-Yard house, Bakehouse, C work extra.

February 25. The the 24th of last Month Paris with Dispatches making in England Duras, the French of the King the same which they seem to Admiralty Office; and to the Spanish Navy, have received Orders respective Stations.

Extra of a Letter The successive A

don, and the Account Naval Preparations m foned the dispatching Admiralty Office to Br greater Number of Shi

We are to add to Coast of Coromandel that when this Ship expected the Arrival

France with Troops still uncertain, in Mar they should have W Mr. Dupleix being d English would seriously

Madras, with Instru this Step was not atten pected from the last the Field: So that h

Arrival of the new R more Weight to the the English in the Pot the Loss of the last Co

Capt. Mof, of the expected home from M oldest Captain, will co going to America.

Feb. 26. The follow of the Armament fitting

G

Royal George 1 St. George

Prince George Ramilles

Monarch Grafton

Chichester Elizabeth

Ambuscade Blandford

Hornet Sloop The above eleven

Greenwich Romney

Newcastle These three are do

commissioned. Terrible

Captain Fougneux

Anson Nottingham

Arundell These six are

All these Ships mark now, and never out of