

Paris, January 5. We learn from Quesnoy, and French Hiennault, that an Earthquake happened there the 27th of last Month, which threw down the Barracks in that Town, by which 600 Men were killed and wounded.

Cádiz, Dec. 12. Of the Loss of the Western Islands, and the Damages done to the Isle of Madeira, we have as yet receiv'd but an imperfect Account, and by no Means a Confirmation; the following Relation, however, of the Master of a Vessel, bound to the American Islands, who was spoke with by a Ship in its Return to Old Spain, gives some Reason to fear the fatal Consequences of the late Earthquake have extended far South-Westward. About an Hour after the Sun had passed the Meridian, in Lat. 25 N. Lon. 40. being writing in the Cabbin, I heard a violent Noise, as I thought, in the Steerage; of which while I was asking the Reason, the whole Ship was put into the strangest Agitation imaginable; and seemed, as it then came into my Head, as if the whole Ship hung on a String tied to the Top-Mast. At this instant, looking out at the Cabbin Window, I saw Land at the Distance of about a Mile; alighted at which, I ordered the Lead to be thrown out, conceiving it possible we might have struck: But coming on Deck, no Land was in Sight, but a strong Current crossed the Ship's Way, which made to the Lee-ward. In about a Minute the Current return'd with great Impetuosity, and within less than a League, three ragged-pointed Rocks throwing up Water of various Colours, resembling liquid Fire, afforded a most wonderful Prospect, which lasted about two Minutes, ended in a black Cloud which ascended very heavily; after which no Rock was to be seen, nor indeed, in a few Minutes, any unusual Agitation in the Water, tho' the Cloud we could perceive undissipated, it being extremely clear Weather for several Leagues.

Frankfort, Dec. 18. We learn from the Palatinate, that the magnificent Castle of Bruschal, where the Prince Bishop of Spire hath his Residence, was so much shaken by the Earthquake on the 11th instant, that it was every Moment expected to tumble down.

Bern, Dec. 20. They write from St. Maurice in Valais, that the Shocks of an Earthquake continued, in the large Borough of Brigue, from the 1st to the 15th instant. Most of the Houses were thrown down, and Half of the Steeple of the great Church. The Jesuits and the Nuns, as well as all the other Inhabitants, were obliged to retire to the open Fields. During the more violent Shocks, several Chasms were observed in the Earth, out of which issued a Quantity of Water bubbling up as if there had been Fire under it.

L O N D O N .

December 2. It is said the King of Portugal concludes his Letter to the King of Spain in the following Words: "I am without a House, in a Tent, without Servants, without Subjects, without Money, and without Bread."

December 6. A few Days since the Light-House at Eddystone near Plymouth, took Fire, and was entirely consumed, but the People in it were saved.

December 10. It is rumoured that Macnamarra with seven Sail of the Line, and three Frigates, is put to Sea; in order, as it is supposed, to join the Toulon Squadron, and make some grand Push.

Extract of a Letter from Plymouth, dated December 2. "A 20 Gun-Ship arrived here To-day, which says she was chased by two French Frigates, on which the Weymouth weighed Anchor: I just now saw her crowding all the Sail she could, and 'tis expected some others will sail To-morrow.

"There is a Report that Macnamarra is at Sea; if so, it may produce some Sport.

"There are above 30 Sail of the Line here; and we have 4500 French Prisoners, and 100 Sail of their Ships are in this Harbour only."

December 20. We hear from Bourdeaux, that seven large Ships are freighted at that Port, with Provisions for the French Settlements in North-America, and that they are resolved to venture their Run thither, whatever English Men of War may be in the Way.

Six large French Prizes have been taken by our Cruizers, with a Swedish Ship loaded with Cannon and other Stores, bound for France, and sent into the several Out-Ports.

January 1. We hear from Bourdeaux, that about 300 Barks freighted with Wine, Spirits, &c. had failed for Rochefort, Brest, Toulon, and other Ports, for the Use of the Men of War fitting out.

This Week the several Prefs-Gangs have picked up several Hundred Men in the Out-parts of

the Town, who were Yesterday sent down the River in Tenders.

January 2. We hear that Orders are given for a Regiment of Hussars, consisting of 900 Men, to be forthwith raised.

Intrinchments are going to be made round the Dock-yard at Chatham, for which Purpose several Officers and Engineers are arrived; and on Wednesday Morning all the Inhabitants, from the End of Smithfield Bank, beginning at the Sign of the Old Barn, and so on to the Hill-House, were ordered to quit their Houses in thirty Days, they being at the Expiration of that Time to be pulled down. The Men belonging to the two Regiments quartered at Chatham and at Maidstone are to be allowed 6d. per Diem over-and-above their proper Allowance, and Yesterday they were to begin, all the Utensils, &c. being ready.

The Artificers in Chatham Dock work with the utmost Diligence on the Royal Sovereign, Namur, and Devonshire, which Ships are all to be in the Water the 25th of March without fail.

January 3. Orders are given for an Augmentation in the Guards from seventy to ninety Men per Company.

Gloveson, near the River Wye, in the County of Hereford, Dec. 23. Last Thursday Night, about Nine o'Clock, we were alarmed here by a terrible Shock of an Earthquake, attended with a great rumbling Noise; and our Fright was such that we thought the World was at an End. About a Quarter of a Mile from hence, it sunk an Acre and a Half of Land into the River Wye, swallowing up all the Trees and every Thing that grew thereon.

January 5. The Persons who lately contracted with the Government for building a Number of Twenty-gun Ships, have Orders to finish them with the utmost Expedition.

There is Advice from Malaga, that five French Men of War have lately appeared in the Straights.

January 6. We hear that a Fleet will sail in a very short Time from Spithead.

January 16. Private Letters by Yesterday's French Mail say, that the Regency of Algiers has declared War against France. They also tell us, that we may expect to see in a few Days something like a Manifesto (though not a formal Declaration of War) or an Exposition of his most Christian Majesty's Motives for ordering his Men of War and Privateers to take English Ships, by Way of Reprisals for the Ships taken at Sea by the English.

We hear that an Express, by Way of Memorial, has been received from France; the Contents of which are so arrogant, abusive, and insulting, that it was immediately return'd without any Consideration thereon, and with this Answer only, "That its Contents were such as merited not the Notice of the British Nation."

The Earthquakes of the 18th and 19th of November were so severely felt at Fez, that more than 3000 Persons were destroyed. Not one House is left standing at Mequenez: And it is reckoned that 4000 Moors and 8000 Jews, who lived in a separate Quarter, are buried there. According to the last Accounts, frequent Shocks continued, and astonishing Noises were daily heard in all that Part of Africa.

We are informed that the Court of France has made great Offers to the King of Prussia, to induce him to act offensively against Great-Britain.

January 17. We hear that Orders are given for all Sea-Officers to repair on board, and that 20 Ships of the Line will sail directly to scour the Channel, and protect the homeward-bound Ships.

Several Letters Yesterday from France advise, that a Declaration of War was daily expected to be made against Great-Britain.

It is confidently reported, that the French Admiral is sail'd with a Fleet to North-America, having 4000 Soldiers on board.

By the Accounts hitherto received, it appears, that the Earthquakes have continued for the Space of Sixty-one Days, that is, from the first of November to the 31st of last Month, inclusive; in which Space of Time they have been felt with more or less Violence, from the Eastern Shores of the Atlantic Ocean to the Heart of Germany, and from the frozen Clime of Iceland almost to the Tropic of Cancer; taking a Range of about 4000 Miles from East to West, and about 2000 from South to North.

January 20. It is pretended that Letters have been received from France with Advice, that a Declaration of War against Great-Britain is actually in the Press.

According to divers Advices, the Earthquakes on the first of November had more dreadful Ef-

fects in the Kingdom of Morocco than even in Portugal. Besides the Cities of Mequenez, Fez, &c. which are almost entirely swallowed up, 'tis said a third Part of Salee is destroyed.

A Vessel laden with warlike Stores for Philadelphia, fell down the River on Sunday, in order to proceed on her Voyage.

A large Quantity of Naval Stores is ordered to be shipped with all Expedition for Gibraltar, as also for Antigua and other Islands in the West-Indies.

A definitive Answer has been given to the Court of France, in Relation to the present Armaments, which terminates not at all in their Favour; and we are told from good Authority, that the King of Prussia has given the most solemn Assurances, that if the Russian Troops are hindered a Passage into Germany, so neither will he permit any French Troops towards those Quarters. It is expected that France will soon declare War; Want of Power has probably prevented it so long.

Dublin, December 30. Translation of the Earl of Chesterfield's Letter to the Gentlemen of the Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Letters at Paris, on his being elected a Member of that Illustrious Body.

GENTLEMEN,

WE seem naturally prepared to receive Honour or Disgrace when conscious we are worthy of them; but without meriting or even expecting to find ourselves raised to the one, or exposed to the other, the Effects must be Sentiments confused and inexpressible. They surprize the Soul and stifle equally the Voice of Gratitude or Complaint. These Sentiments, Gentlemen! you have compelled me to prove. To be associated to the most illustrious Academy in Europe, astonishes and confounds me. What could be the Motives of your Choice? I search, and find as few as I have Words to express my Acknowledgments. Hath Self-Love lent me her Illusions? She cannot make me forget the Degree of Merit that might justify your Preference, or prevent my Fears that this Choice may appear as your first Error. From what Principle could a Stranger, whom the Sea, still less than your distinguished Talents hath separated from you, deserve this Honour? Is it due to that Politeness so natural to your Nation, which manifests, or rather expands, itself over all others? No, Gentlemen! Distance was favourable to me; and perhaps Fame, never an exact Messenger, and often unfaithful; who magnifies equally all Objects, and who seems to acquire new Force by the Length she runs, hath improperly communicated my Love of Science, which, disposed to Indulgence, you have undoubtedly too easily credited.

Our early Years decides our Taste; I owe mine to the Tincture I then received of her amiable Lights, which aggrandizes all States and embellishes all Ages: My Heart searched after and respected her, but, unhappily too much dissipated in my Youth, I had not Power sufficiently to cultivate her Beauties, and in my riper Years, immersed in a Torrent of public Affairs, I viewed, running by with too much Rapidity, that precious Time which the Study of Letters had better employed. My Desires were all I could grant, and my Desires were strong. Why am I obliged to confess, that the Altars they raised were, perhaps, like those in Athens, consecrated to an unknown Divinity? Returning, tho' too late, to myself, I search for Support in Age, and Joys in Retirement. You, Gentlemen! have abundantly supplied me; you please and instruct: I find the Genius and Beauties of charming Antiquity snatch'd from Oblivion, enlightened, ornamented, and, I fear not to add, equal'd by your own.

The bright Days of Literature commonly begin like the feeble Dawn of the Morning, but your Infancy seem'd as a Body conscious of its own Weight, and of its Use one Day; it was the Infancy of Hercules! Whilst your Academy seem'd only attentive to immortalize the Monarch that gave it Being, they still extended their Views and prepared for more arduous Works: They threw their Eyes on the Ages past, and, as if in them deposited, gave to future Times, all their glorious Actions and perfect Models of true Taste.

Wisdom and Glory thus happily united, Genius and Talents in a few Years so multiplied, that it became more difficult to limit the Number of Members, than worthily to fill up Vacancies; but when my Name is to appear on your List, may not a dangerous Revolution be feared; and must not you, by my Election, authorize the Complaint, that this Age has degenerated? No, Gentlemen! this is the Common-place of Pride, Envy, and Malice;

Malice; yet the Heart for it is much easier than contemporary, or, contiguous Merit. The Choice, but they can not pity; so many illustrious Kingdom, by your Example; yet they may not receive more Lustre than me with a Ray, with most perfect Esteem faithful, and most obliging.

London, 1755.

WILLIAMS

By an Express from Fort Cumberland, continue to make great killing and capturing their Plantations.

B O S T

Friday last his Majesty's Guns, Capt. Kirk, and Parker, of 50 Guns, and We hear the Lynn has 50 and the Woolwich 100, Cloathing, &c. for the Spithead on the first of came under Sail, 18 Men Oiborn, in the Somerset, in the Dreadnought; joined by Admiral West seven Sail of the Line, about 100 Sail of Men East-Indies, West-Indies America; and the whole they were almost 150 Leagues, when Admiral the Fleet to separate; with Admiral West confid with their Heads to the Townshend, with the Merchantmen made Sail ing two Men of War who stood their Course.

'Tis said the Lynn, took a French Ship from sent to England, and the large Ship bound to which is ordered to this laden with Sugar, Cotton

N E W Y O

Four Bras Twelve pounders were landed here on Thursday

Friday last passed by for a large Sloop deep loaded with

Sixty odd Recruits landed Philadelphia; and Recruiting Office all the adjacent Places to command meet with great Success by this Government to each ab into the Service for the Expedi ing allowed FIVE POUND same Cloathing, Pay and Pro employed in the like Service

Yesterday a Number of Y Regiment of the New-Jersey City in their Way to Albany.

By several People that arriv last, we have the following A ten Mohawks were arrived the as far as Crown-Point, and the Scalp of a French Officer, who Fort. During the Time they observed about 300 French order, as they supposed, to ma tians; and it is imagined, w Lieutenant Catling, of Conn near Fort Edward, and that Great Carrying-Place, about th we expected to give our Read in this Week's Paper. What from some Letters, and verbal

That about the 18th of M and Indians attacked, and cut the Carrying-Place, and cit greatest Part of the People; t commanded about 35 Men th Firing, he detached a Party t did not return agreeable to his Detachment, which so weaken ber of the Enemy that lay in all to the Sword, blew up th Garrison whilst the rest of t our People, whom they killed arrived at Fort Williams, th pear by the following Letter.

Extract of a Letter from Fort "These may serve to inform Yesterday about 11 o'Clock. Th Lanfang's Provisions, were att by a Body of French and India in here, either killed or taken Pr undernab. The Fort at Wood of Lanfang's Men, or the Red now the Commissary arrived from the 20 Battos sent there by Cap to their great Joy, and that the bearty. All Lanfang's Provisio Powder that was in the Garrison burst. John Davids, Henry