

LONDON, March 17.

The grand Expedition Fleet is ready for sailing, when the Troops are embarked. The Place of Rendezvous is Plymouth. We are informed that a Company of Miners from Woolwich, with proper Officers, have, on a few Hours Notice, embarked on board the Vanguard, Capt. Swanston, for Louisbourg, to destroy the Fortifications, and render that Harbour defenceless.

This Day the Thunderer, a fine new Ship, of 74 Guns, will be launched at Woolwich, the Command of which, we hear, will be given to Captain Speke.

Last Wednesday the Draughts from the Regiments in the North, set out for Shields to embark for Germany; as did a Draught from the Royal Volunteers. When they were drawn out to be ballotted, four Times the Number offered to go voluntarily.—Such is their Spirit to serve their Country.

It is now said that two Battalions of the First Regiment, one Battalion of the Second Regiment, and a Battalion of the Third Regiment, making together upwards of 3500 Men, will shortly be sent to Germany, to join the Allied Army, besides 18,000 other Forces, which will be sent from England and Ireland.

March 26. Yesterday the Subscribers to the Eight Millions, to be raised by Four per Cent Annuities for the Service of the present Year, paid in their third Payment of Ten per Cent at the Bank of England.

We hear that 500 Highlanders were landed from on board some Ships in the Downs last Wednesday, who marched for Dover and Folkestone, in their Way to Portsmouth.

The free Gift of 16 Millions of Livres, which the Clergy in France have consented to give the French King, amounts to about 700,000 l. Sterling.

The following Lists of the Armies are handed about in Germany.

ALLIES.

100,000 English, Hanoverians, Prussians, Hessians, and Brunswick Forces, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. 70,000 under the Command of the King of Prussia. 10,000 under Prince Henry of Prussia. 15,000 under General Fouquet. 15,000 under General Manteuffel.

65,000 Men.

OF THE AUSTRILIANS, &c.

100,000 Austrians, and Troops of the Empire. 100,000 French, Saxon, and Wirtemberg Troops. 100,000 Russians. 25,000 Swedes.

155,000 Men.

March 21. Private Letters from Berlin say, that his Majesty proposes to act immediately, and with the greatest Vigour. The Terms of Peace mentioned at Vienna are entirely in the Style of Victory. A prosperous Blow may possibly inspire a little Moderation. Prince Henry has provided Magazines, and every other Requisite for the next Campaign, with the most amazing Dispatch and Vivacity.

The Master of a Ship arrived last Friday from Bremen brings Advice, that on the 22d Instant, when he was coming out of the River Weser, nine large English Transports, with British Infantry on board, arrived there from the North of England.

On Saturday the Court Martial having finished examining the Witnesses in Favour of Lord George Sackville, his Lordship desired the Favour of the Court to adjourn till Wednesday; on which the Court was cleared, and they consented to his Lordship's Request; when his Lordship will point out the Defence of his Charge, and enforce the Validity of his own Defence; after which the Judge Advocate will sum up the whole Evidence, and give a Charge to the General Officers who compose that Board, in order for their Determination to be laid before his Majesty.

The Tyrrel, Gill, from the Coast of Africa, but last from Antigua, to Liverpool, with Sugars, Teeth, and Gold Dust, was taken by a Bayonne Privateer, and carried into St. Jean de Luz; she is said to be worth 100,000 l.

A Xebecque of 20 Guns, from London, last from Gibraltar, was taken off Sardinia by two French Frigates.

There is a Report that the Duke de Broglie had attacked Prince Ferdinand's Army, and had been repulsed with considerable Loss.

Also that on the 10th of March, Prince Henry marched with 30,000 Men to attack the Russians.

Thursday the Fame and Achilles Men of War sailed from Plymouth for Louisbourg, who have on board a Company of Miners to destroy the Fortifications of that Place.

April 2. We hear from Dunkirk, that they have received Orders from Court to begin working again on the flat-bottomed Boats.

Yesterday Morning another Party of Dragoons marched over London-Bridge for Gravefend, in order to embark for Germany. The British Cavalry when together will consist of three Regiments of Horse, and nine of Dragoons, all esteemed as fine Troops as any in the Field.

A Letter from Hamburg, of the 22d of March, says, "We are attentive to the Turn that Affairs may take. On one Hand, Preparations are making for the most vigorous Prosecution of the War; and on the other, nothing is talked of but Negotiations for a Peace; but we are afraid there will be much Blood spilt before a Suspension of Arms is agreed to. We foresee that the Negotiations will meet with so many Difficulties, that we expect nothing but the Failure of every Resource will induce the Parties at War to make a patched-up Peace.

"Prussia, who, one should think, would be the first exhausted, has yet scarce touched the Treasure left by the late King. His present Majesty is such an Economist, that the foreign Subsidies, and the Taxes paid by his Subjects, are sufficient to support the War. It is doubtful whether an English Fleet will come to the Baltic; but this will soon be known."

Extract of a Letter from Paris, dated March 22.

"There can be no Doubt but that M. Lally has been defeated; and that the Success M. Lally landed at Pondicherry are not more than sufficient to support themselves against the English; which makes us very uneasy, not knowing what Situation our Affairs are in, in that Country."

Extract of a Letter from Cassel, dated the 23d ult.

"We expect this Campaign to be the bloodiest that has been this War. On the 18th a Body of the Allies re-entered the Bishopric of Fulda, and advanced to Schleuten, where they halted; and since, we hear, there has been a Skirmish between a Party of the Allies and the French, in which the latter were defeated, but the Particulars are not known. It is added, that the Allies had laid aside their Design of invading the Circle of Franconia, but are determined to keep Possession of Fulda."

April 7. Orders are sent to Woolwich to prepare 100 of the best Pontoon Men, to be forthwith draughted off from the Royal Regiment of Artillery, to hold themselves in Readiness to embark for Germany.

On Saturday there was a Cabinet Council at St. James's on Affairs of Importance, when the Court Martial laid before his Majesty the Proceedings on Lord George Sackville's Trial, with their Opinion thereon.

We hear another Reinforcement of Ships, and a Regiment now quartered in Scotland, are destined for the East-Indies.

April 9. Admiral Saunders is going to Sea immediately with 14 Men of War of the Line.

The following preliminary Articles for a general Pacification, are handed about in Holland.

I. That France shall withdraw her Armies from Germany.

II. That Britain shall likewise recal her national Troops from that Country, and discharge those of the Allies at present in her Pay.

III. That the French shall entirely evacuate Canada, and absolutely and irredeemably cede that Territory to the British Crown; that all Encroachments in North-America shall be, bona fide, evacuated and delivered up; and that new Limits and Boundaries betwixt the Settlements of both Nations, in that Quarter of the World, shall be marked out by Commissioners, on both Sides, appointed for that Purpose.

IV. That the Fortifications of Isle Royal, or Cape Breton, shall be demolished, and the Island entirely abandoned by both Nations; and that the settling there of any of the Natives of Britain or France, or those of any other Country, bearing a Commission from either of those Crowns, shall be understood as a Declaration of War.

V. That the Possession of the Islands of Guadaloupe, Marigallante, &c. be confirmed to Britain; and the West India Isles, commonly called the Neutral Islands, be abandoned by France, as stipulated by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

VI. That the Island of Minorca be yielded to France.

VII. That Senegal and Goree, on the African Coast, be ceded to Great-Britain.

VIII. That the English East-India Company shall be indemnified for the Demolishing of Fort St. David's, and the Bombardment of Madras.

IX. That all the Ships taken before or since the Declaration of War, shall remain the Property of the Captors.

X. That the Prisoners of War on both Sides shall be exchanged, one for one, and as after the said proposed Exchange, there will remain in Britain upwards of 20,000 Prisoners, France shall, in Consideration of their being set at Liberty, make Payment of the Sum of _____ as their Ransom.

XI. That France shall give Hostages for evacuating Canada and the Neutral Islands, and for Payment of the Sums, &c.

April 11. By Letters from Quiberon, we have Advice, that Ad. Boscawen arrived there the 15th of March, in the Royal William, as did the Torbay the 17th, since which he has hoisted his Flag in the Namure, which with other Ships had got upon that Station.

A French Privateer of 36 Guns, and 400 Men, is taken by some of the Men of War, bound to Quebec.

April 12. All the Officers of the Guards, who are to go abroad, are ordered to be ready at an Hour's Warning.

The Draughts from the Royal Regiment of Artillery have likewise received the same Orders.

Extract of a Letter from Dantzic, March 16.

"We are well informed that the King of Prussia takes infinite Pains, through the Mediation of England, to induce the Empress of Russia to consent to a Peace. His Majesty offers her 2,000,000

of Crowns, Half on signing of a definitive Treaty, and the other Half within four Years. Mr. Keith, the English Minister, labours most industriously to strengthen his Party, and many of the Courtiers are very earnest to prevail with the Empress to accept of the 2,000,000 Crowns, and abandon the Court of Vienna, if she will not consent to a Peace. But the High Chancellor, whose Credit is still great, overturns in an Hour what costs the other ten or twelve Days.

April 15. The Fleets which are to be commanded by Sir Edward Hawke and Admiral Saunders, are getting ready with all Expedition.

We hear that the Transports now in the Downs, bound to Quebec, are to take on board the Garrison of Louisbourg, after the Fortifications are demolished, and afterwards to sail up the River St. Lawrence to Quebec, to join the Troops there, in order to assist in the Reduction of the Places that shall still remain in the Possession of the French.

On the 2d Inst. a Conference was held at Riswic, in Holland, where Count Golofkin resides, at which Duke Lewis of Brunswick, the Count D'Affry, the French Ambassador, and the Baron Reischach, the Austrian Minister, assisted. At this Conference and not before, the formal Answer of the Courts of Vienna, Paris, and Petersburg, to the Proposal made, on the 25th of November last, by the Courts of London and Berlin, for holding a Congress, was delivered to the Duke of Brunswick. The Substance of which Answer was, that the three Courts are ready to hold a Congress; but as they cannot treat of Peace but in Concert with their Allies, they desire that the King of Poland, as Elector of Saxony, and the King of Sweden, may be invited to it.

April 17. Yesterday the Earl Ferrers was brought up to Westminster Hall, when the Remainder of his Lordship's Witnesses were examined; after which the Lords adjourned to their own Chamber, and came in again, and the Lords Opinions taken by the Lord High Steward, when their Lordships unanimously found him guilty of the Felony and Murder; and his Lordship is to have Sentence passed on him this Day.

The following, we are told, is the Sentence of the Court Martial upon Lord G. S.

"The Court, upon due Consideration of the whole Matter before them, is of Opinion, that Lord G. S. is guilty of having disobeyed the Orders of Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, whom he was, by his Commission and Instructions, directed to obey, as Commander in Chief, according to the Rules of War: And it is the further Opinion of this Court, that the said Lord G. S. is, and he is hereby adjudged, unfit to serve his Majesty in any Military Capacity whatever."

April 19. Yesterday the Earl Ferrers was brought from the Tower to Westminster Hall to receive his Sentence, which was passed on his Lordship by the L. High Steward, about 2 o'Clock, and is as follows: That "His Lordship be taken back to the Prison from whence he came, and from thence to the Place of Execution, on Monday next, and there to be hanged by the Neck till he was dead; after which, his Body was to be delivered to Surgeon's Hall, to be dissected and anatomized." Afterwards the Lord High Steward took Notice, that the Lords, his Judges, had a Power of respiting, and therefore, that he might have more Time to prepare himself, they respited his Execution to Monday the 5th of May next.

Earl Ferrers read a Paper, in which he expressed his Concern for the Trouble he had given their Lordships, but that he had been advised by his Friends to make the Plea of Lunacy, and begged their Lordships to recommend him to the King for Mercy.

Yesterday Morning between 9 and 10 o'Clock, a dreadful Fire broke out at the House of Messieurs Barrow and Reynolds, Oilmen, in Thames-street, adjoining to St. Magnus Church, which consumed their House; also Mr. Bayley's, the Tackle-porter Alehouse; Mr. Bland's, an Orange Merchant; Mr. Williams's, a Salter; Mr. Franklin's, a Cooper; Mr. Prentice's, a Seedsman; Mr. Wood's, the King's Head Alehouse, in Fresh Wharf Gateway; all the Warehouses at Fresh Wharf; and the Roof of St. Magnus Church, which fell in, and has very much damaged the Pews, Altar-piece, &c. The Organ was removed, but the Hurry being so great, it is supposed that it is very much damaged; two Ships lying off Fresh Wharf received little Hurt, but a great Quantity of Sugar, Wine, Oranges and Lemons, and other Goods that were in the Warehouses, were entirely destroyed.

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