

We hear from Rippon in Yorkshire, that some Time ago, a Person who had appeared in Man's Apparel in that Neighbourhood for near 20 Years, was brought To-bed of Two Children.

Near 200 Vessels, laden with Corn, have arrived in the River within these few Days.

April 16. Letters from Lisbon advise, that the Portuguese Trade to the Mediterranean has been for some Time past greatly interrupted by Barbary Corsairs, and that a Merchant Ship from Oporto to Venice, is taken by one of them, and carried into Larache.

Advices from Dantzick of the 21st past, say, that all the Protestant Gentlemen of Polish Prussia who were in that City, were gone to Thorn, to assist at a general Assembly of Dissidents which was to be held there that Day, and to unite in a Confederacy, against that which has been formed at the instigation of the Clergy by the Roman Catholics, with the Design to oppose Force by Force. These Gentlemen, by Way of Precaution, are accompanied by their Domesticks, all well armed.

A Copy of the Articles proposed by Paschal de Paoli, and the Assembly of the States of Corsica, for an Accommodation with the Genoese, has just been transmitted hither by his Majesty's Consul at Leghorn.

Some Letters from Genoa say, that there has been almost a total Revolt of the Subjects of the Republic in the Island of Corsica, where several strong Holds had been voluntarily delivered up to the Malecontents.

They write from Hamburg, that a Number of Recruiting Officers were arrived there, and at Altona, Bremen, &c. to enlist Men for the Prussian Service.

There is now living in London the most extraordinary Person to be met with perhaps in this Age or Nation. A poor Man brought up to a mean Employment, with a large Family of Children, hath, by the mere Dint of Industry, attained to a considerable Degree of Knowledge in the learned Languages, and almost every other Part of Literature. He has read almost every useful Author in English; and so great is his Knowledge in History, that, from his own Memory alone, he can repeat the most material Facts in the Histories of most European Nations, and is equally conversant in ancient History; as also with the whole Frame and Constitution of the Feudal Laws.

Advice is received from Lisbon, that the Crew of an English Ship having put into Rio de Janeiro, had been seized by order of the Portuguese Governor, on Suspicion of being Pirates, their Officers on Examination, not agreeing together how they came possessed of the Ship and Cargo.

They write from Minorca, that the Crew of a Xebec of Barbary had lately landed at St. Augustine's Bay, on the Coast of that Island, and plundered several Houses, but were at length repulsed by the Country People, and obliged to retire with considerable Loss.

It is said that our truly great Patriot, whose Zeal for the Public Good never slumbers nor sleeps, having always, agreeable to his declared Opinion, looked upon petty Country Boroughs as the rotten Part of the Constitution, is now mediating a Law to deprive them of the Privilege of sending Members to Parliament; in lieu of which the Burgeesses and Freeholders in every County, are to elect as many Members for the County at large, as now represent both County and Boroughs. This will, in a great Measure, be laying the Axe to the Root of Bribery and Corruption at County Elections.

Tuesday Night the Question relative to the Affairs of a certain great Company was decided in favour of the Public, by a Majority of 57.

Private Letters received over Land from the East-Indies, inform, that the Dutch have lately established a new Settlement and Factory on the Island of Borneo, in the Asiatic Ocean.

April 17. They write from Leghorn, that the Corsicans were fortifying the principal Sea Ports of the Island, capable of such Defence, with very strong Booms and Chains, in order to prevent the Approach of the Enemy. It is added, that Paoli's Fleet actually consists of Seventy Sail of armed Vessels, Two-thirds of which were purchased from other European Powers.

A few Days ago a fine new Frigate, pierced for 36 Guns, Swedish built, arrived at Rochfort from Stockholm, laden with Ship Timber and Naval Stores, for the Service of France. Several more of the same Force are said to be nearly finished at different Ports of the Baltic.

St. Peterburg, April 13. Sunday the 5th Instant was married by Banns, in the Parish Church of Upot-

tery, in the County of Devon, William Rowland, and Mary Matthews, by whose Marriage there is a Boy, whose own Mother is become his Grandmother, his Father is become his Brother, and his Sister is become his Mother.

We hear several Petitions have lately been presented to the Boards of Treasury and Plantations, for opening a Trade to the Island of Corsica.

Yesterday there was a full Board of Trade held at the Plantation-Office, where many of the American Merchants attended with their Petitions.

We are assured, from good Authority, that on Monday last the Petitions and Complaints against his Excellency Major General Murray, Governor of the Province of Quebec, were dismissed by an Honourable Board, as groundless, scandalous, and derogatory to the Honour of that Gentleman.

We are informed that the National Debt, as it stood on the Commencement of the present Year, amounts to 130,842,412 l. 19 s. 1 d. Farthing, and the Annual Interest or other Charges attending the same, is 4,707,223 l. 7 s. 4 d.

NEW-YORK, June 8.

Saturday Evening last we had a sudden, but short Gust from the North-West, attended with Thunder, though not hard, yet the Lightning was so extremely smart and violent, as to set Fire to the Grist-Mills of Abraham Schenck, Esq; at Bushwick, on Long-Island, which soon consumed the whole; with a large Quantity of Grain and Flour.

A Cow in Jew-Alley was struck dead by the Flash.

The General Assembly of this Colony has voted the Sum of 3000 l. to be granted to his Majesty, for furnishing the Troops quartered within this Province with Necessaries; and we hear they have appointed Robert R. Livingston, William Nicoll, and William Smith, jun. Esqrs. Commissioners for settling the Boundary Line between this Province and Massachusetts-Bay.

PHILADELPHIA, June 4.

Extract of a Letter from London, April 11, 1767.

"During Lord Chatham's Stay at Bath, the public Business went on very heavily, when George Grenville did not fail to avail himself of his Absence, and was very assiduous in his Opposition, though without much Effect.

"The Land-Tax, however, hath been carried, to the Surprise of the Opposition themselves, for Three Shillings in the Pound instead of Four Shillings. And you will probably think it strange when I tell you, that this is a very unpopular Reduction of that Tax; for every Body, who knows any thing of the Matter, are sensible, that a Diminution of the Public Revenue of 500,000 l. a Year, when the national Debt is so great, and several Millions of it yet unfunded, is by no Means favourable to public Credit. But so it is, People in general do not like it, and conclude that this Deficiency must necessarily be made up by some other Tax, perhaps not so agreeable, and in a Way more prejudicial to Trade.—You will see in the Papers One or Two Addresses to Members in Praise of this Measure, but they are all penned by Grenville, or his Friends, and are by no Means the general Sense of any Part of the Country.—This is the first Time this Tax hath been carried against the Court, since it was first imposed in King William's Reign.

"Lord Chatham hath now been in Town for this Month past, but is really in so poor a State of Health, that he is able to attend no Sort of Business whatever. His Journey to Town, it seems, checked the Gout, and has thrown him into a Sort of constant Hectic Fever, which he cannot get rid of. In short, it begins to be apprehended, and I am afraid upon very good Grounds, that his Life draws near its Period; and what Effect that will have upon the Ministry, it is impossible to say. In the mean while, the several Members of it are far from being unanimous among themselves, or attached to their Leader, whom they often suffer to be abused in the House of Commons, without putting in a Word in his Defence. This is really somewhat singular; for in all former Times, at least as far as I know, the Ministry for the Time being, and while they remained a Ministry, always hung together, appeared to draw one Way, and to be of one Mind. But this is far from being the Case at present. The several Members of it often differ as much as the Ins and Outs used to do; and it is just now equally difficult to account why they have kept together so long, or to guess who shall compose our next Administration; for Changes have been long talked of, and now more than ever.

"The East-India Affairs are still canvassing before the House of Commons, but are yet no way

settled. It is agreed, however, on all Hands, that they are to share their Territorial Revenues with the State, but how this will be liquidated no Body yet knows. It is a Question, indeed, which, the more it is canvassed, appears the more difficult to discuss. Lord Chatham's Opinion, if he has really formed any, has not yet transpired. Perhaps he may soon declare himself, and at once make a Demand upon the Company for such a Sum Yearly, as will make a splendid Addition to the public Revenue, once more raise his own Reputation, and facilitate whatever other Schemes he may now have in Contemplation, if, in his present debilitated State, he is able to meditate any Thing for the public Good. In a little Time we must know.

"The King's Brothers have got 8000 l. a Year each voted them, to which Grenville made some Opposition, upon this Ground, that the Act which gave the King 800,000 l. a Year, in place of his Civil List, expresses, that it was given to enable him to provide for all the Royal Family.

"Lord R-----m, and his Party, have lately, I find, made some Advances to George Grenville, and offered to put themselves under his Direction; so that you may expect soon to hear that they are actually agreed.—It is also whispered by some, that the Parliament will be dissolved at the Close of this Session; but this I think by no Means likely.

"Yesterday I was present at a long Debate in the House of Lords, which lasted Five Hours, upon a Motion made by the Duke of B-----d, concerning North-America.—The Case was this; among the Papers laid before the House from that Quarter, was an Act passed by the Assembly of Massachusetts-Bay (at the Requisition of the Secretaries of State here) for raising Money to make Compensation to the Sufferers by the Riots occasioned by the late Stamp-Act, in which was likewise inserted a Clause, containing a full Pardon to the Rioters; which is considered here as a Piece of great Presumption in them, and altogether unprecedented. For, according to the British Constitution, all general Acts of Pardon, Indemnity and Oblivion, never take their Rise in either House of Parliament, but are sent from the King, are read only once in each House, and are immediately accepted, and passed precisely as they come from his Majesty.—Governor Bernard's Letter, accompanying this Act, was read; upon which the Duke of B-----d moved that the House should Address his Majesty, to take the Validity of that Act into his Royal Consideration, and if it should be found to be null and void, that he would be pleased to take such Measures as he should think proper, to support the Dignity of his own Prerogative, and the legislative Authority of this Kingdom over the Colonies, or Words to this Effect.—In the Debate which ensued; the Lords appeared to be all of one Opinion, in regard to the Impropriety and Absurdity of the Act in Question; nor do I remember any Thing urged in Extenuation of the Conduct of the Massachusetts Assembly, but by one Lord, who said, he imagined they meant nothing insolent in this Procedure.—Some objected to the Words of the Motion, as recommending to His Majesty to take into Consideration the Validity of a Bill which was obviously illegal; the Lords in the Ministry alledged there was no occasion for this Address, as the Bill was before the Attorney and Solicitor General, and would be rejected by the Privy Council of course. The Method of proceeding with American Bills is briefly this; they come over to the Secretary of State, and are by him laid before the Board of Trade, who generally refer them to the Attorney and Solicitor General; and they report their Opinion to the King in Council, who either approve or reject them.—Some were inclined to censure the Governor who passed the Bill; but the Generality were of Opinion, that he had acted with great Propriety and Spirit during the whole Contest about the Stamp-Act.—Some Reflections were thrown upon the Ministry, as if they had been dilatory in this Matter, which they, on their Part, endeavoured to wipe off.—All seemed disposed to do every Thing that could conduce to bringing the Colonies back to their Duty; and a Hint was thrown out, as if some Plan for that Purpose was in Agitation with the Ministry, which would be laid before the House in due Time.—Lord M-----d, in a very pathetic Speech, set forth the Necessity of a strict Union between this Country and her Colonies; that he was for supporting the legislative Authority of Great Britain over them, by all possible Methods, under every Administration; that Unanimity among ourselves; and Vigour in the Ministry, were never more wanted; that if ever so many independent Governments should shake themselves loose from their Mother-Country, the Consequence

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