

uncommon on board a Ship crowded with a Number of Men, many of whom in the present Cafe, were taken from the Jail in Holland.

Effectual Precautions have been used to prevent a Communication of the said Fever, to the Crews of any of his Majesty's Ships at this Port, or to any of the Inhabitants of this or the neighbouring Towns. The ready and powerful Assistance afforded by Admiral Geary to the proper Officers of the Customs, upon this Occasion, is highly meritorious.

Letters from Gibraltar mention, that Five Spanish and Four French Men of War of the Line, lately passed the Gutt, and appeared to be bound to some Port to the Northward.

We hear the Admiralty Office has received Advice, that the Malignity of the Fever on Board the Dutch East India Ship at Portsmouth abates Daily.

A Bill, it is said, is intended to be brought in, to take away the Charter from the Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

We are informed, that the Authors of the intended Assassination of her Imperial Majesty the Czarina, have been happily discovered. This wicked Conspiracy, after tracing it through a Variety of Labyrinths, has at last been fixed upon the House of Bourbon. The French King's Ambassador at St. Petersburg has been fully proved to be charged by his Court with this Commission. In Consequence of this Discovery, the French Ambassador, now at Petersburg, is a close Prisoner in his own House, where he is guarded Day and Night by a military Detachment, and most probably, in a few Days, will be sentenced to the Punishment due to so black a Crime, which in that Country is the Knout.

A Correspondent informs us, that Debates in the Lower Room of the Robinsion Society Yesterday were agitated with great Warmth. Mr. Barry spoke near an Hour and an Half, Mr. Buck near an Hour, and Mr. Dodgewell finished the Opposition of the Day. The chief Charge brought against the Managers was, that of their supinely enjoying themselves at their Country Seats, during the Summer, instead of immediately beginning those Preparations for Blows, which they are now in such a Panic about: That War had been meditating by our Enemies ever since the Conquest of Corfica, which, by the least spirited Measures here at Home must have been prevented, and very thankfully so by the French, who would at last have been glad of any Pretence to have saved the Blood and Treasure which that Conquest cost them: That we are not prepared in any one Part of the World for a Stroke from the Enemy: Gibraltar, Minorca, the Fisheries, defenceless; and no Dependence on the Colonies for their hearty Support, as in the late War. Mr. Barrington talked of Faction and Sedition; which the Buck of the Society took to himself, and threatened to bring before them during the Season, in a regular Manner, a new Representation of St. George's Fields, which, from Materials he had procured, he was enabled to do. Mr. North acquitted himself by observing, that had he prepared for Blows Three Months ago, Mr. Bourbon and his Family would have done the Start of them; but that, as it is, we have the Start of them, and every Advantage we could have had sooner. Mr. Barry was very confident that he smelt War, but nothing more than a very strong Smell of it appeared from any Thing that fell in the Conversation of the Day.

A very pathetic Eulogium was, we hear, spoken in a certain Assembly Yesterday, on a lately deceased popular Commander, by Col. Barre. His Description was so just, and his Language so elegant and affecting, that it drew Tears from almost every Eye.

Lord North, in Answer to a Hint that had been thrown out, that it was absurd to employ one Branch of the House of Bourbon to mediate our Differences with the other, assured a certain Assembly on Tuesday last, "That England wanted no Mediator; that she was able to settle her own Disputes, and resent any Injuries offered to her; and that he was certain the Gentleman who entertained that Opinion, must have collected his Information either from News-papers or Coffee-house Politicians."

Mr. Dowdeswell pledged his Honour in a certain House on Tuesday last, that he would at least once, in every Session during this Parliament, move that Assembly to restore to the People their Rights which had been violated in the Determination upon the Middlesex Election.

We hear, that on the Arrival of Mr. Potter from Madrid, all the Papers relative to the Spanish Dispute (including the last Message) will be laid, by Order, before an august Assembly: Before which Time neither the Lord Mayor (as was promised) nor the Publick, need expect to hear the least Syllable about the Matter from Authority.

Some keen-sighted Politicians pretend to have unravelled One or Two Mysteries in a late Speech. Extraordinary Supplies are earnestly sought for, to defray the publick Expences in equipping our Fleets, which shews that there is not the least Hope of having these Expences (as Lord North intended) from Spain; and at the same Time proves, that some more extraordinary Work is expected.

A Correspondent asks, Why were not all Lord North's Messages and Remonstrances directed to that great Man the Governor of Buenos Ayres, who, according to the Tenor of a late Speech, was the Aggressor, and not the Spanish Ministry.

It is certain that there is a Junction of the Toulon and Corunna Fleets, consisting of 24 Sail of the Line.

We are assured that the French King had lately sent Agents to Amsterdum, to negotiate a Loan on publick Security; which was refused universally, on so brittle a Foundation, as the Dutch termed it.

A Letter from Gibraltar says, that Two Spanish Frigates, belonging to the Fleet stationed at Carthage, continually follow the British Squadron in the Mediterranean at a Distance, to observe their Motions.

Tuesday the Robinsion Debates commenced for the

Winter Season; when both the Upper and Lower Societies were extremely full. The former transmitted, as usual, some Propositions to the latter, which being read by the Chairman, were afterwards largely and lamely expatiated upon by Mr. Greville, from whom little could be heard or understood, except a Motion for the Thanks of the Society for the above Propositions. He was seconded very audibly in the sermionising Way by Mr. Ap-Rick. Considerable Objections however to these Thanks were raised on the other Side of the Room, particularly by the great Performer Mr. Barry, who poured forth his Eloquence for above an Hour by the Glass; in the Midst of which a Thunder Storm broke forth, that almost shook the Room; but happily a Calm soon succeeded. In the Course of this Oration, much Freedom was taken with a certain Insinuation, that the late hostile Proceedings were the Act of the Governor of Buenos Ayres. He desired to be informed if it was certain that this Governor had acted from his own Motion, and not from the Instruction of his Court: In which Case he must have taken upon him to warn the English from Falkland's Island; afterwards to threaten them with a Force that should oblige them to leave the Place; and lastly, actually to send that Force; and all this without receiving Orders to do so from the King his Master. He added, with great Pleasantry, that he had formerly been well acquainted with this Governor, who was at that Time an Officer in a superior Command, and had great Merit: "But little (says he) did my good Friend Don Francisco ever dream of arriving at this Pitch of Honour, and being considered by the K. of G. B. as his Enemy." But the Repentment of the K. of G. B. it seems, was levelled for Two Years together against a wretched Libeller, and now against the poor Governor of Buenos Ayres; against John Wilkes, Esq; just come out of the King's Bench Prison, and my old Acquaintance Don Francisco.

In the Course of this Oration, the not-orious Mr. Berrington having been a little freely dealt with, for sending some unintelligible Orders in the last War, Mr. Berrington declared, that since he had been in Office, he had written Letters upon Letters, Hundreds of Letters, and Thousands of Letters, nay, he believed he might even say an Hundred Thousand Letters, without the least Fault having been found with any of them, except indeed One, about some Doings in St. George's Fields, which the Voice of Faction and Sedition had formerly misrepresented in that self-same Robinsion Society.

The Gentleman at whom this last Stroke was aimed (Minheer Burkenhoof) started from his Seat, returned the Blow with great Fury indeed, and swore by all the Gods, that he then pledged himself to bring St. George's Fields into that Assembly Room, by Ways and Means he had lately procured, and which, he seemed to threaten, should confound his Antagonist, and astonish that Society. Much more was added in the menacing as well as the flowery Way.

It is remarkable that no Amendment to the Proposition was moved; so that the Thanks of the Society, as usual, passed by a very great Majority.

Tuesday Mr. Burke and Col. Barre convinced the Members of a certain great Assembly, that they were as firm in the Cause of Freedom as ever, by their animated Attack upon the unaccountable Proceedings of the Premier, who was observed several Times to turn pale and gnaw his nether Lip.

The Complaint of the Governor of Buenos Ayres, in a certain Oration, looks as if a great Personage had been advised to call the Servant to an Account instead of the Master.

Sir W. M. in a certain Club on Tuesday, observed, that what seemed most extraordinary to him in the Speech was, that the Governor of Buenos Ayres should be the only Prince mentioned to have committed Hostilities against the K. of G. B. and wanted to know what mighty Potentate this Governor of Buenos Ayres was, that dared to attack his Majesty's Dominions without Provocation? That he feared there was something covered under that Deceit; that it seemed to proclaim to all Europe the Subterfuge that the English Ministry wanted to take Advantage of, by disclaiming the Act of their Governor, and thereby evading the Stroke that ought to have been returned, before it was in their Power to repel it. As to the Mention made of our Colonies, he said that he did not like that vindictive Spirit that seemed to threaten Vengeance against the only Protestant Colony on which this Country can with Confidence rely against the common Enemy; and wished the Ministry would declare openly what was their Intention: That he had, during the Recess, Opportunities of discovering the Satisfaction with which the Accounts were received, by the Manufacturers of this Kingdom, that the Spirit of Opposition was beginning to subside in our Colonies: That our Brethren in America were again sending their Orders to their Correspondents as usual, and Commerce was returning to the old Channel; that what was now threatened against the Massachusetts Bay, would again tend to rouse that Spirit of Combination, that was now in a great Measure at rest, and which would gradually die away, if no fresh Matter of Aggravation was proposed to increase them: That, for his Part, he thought every American had as just a Title to all the Rights of English Freedom, as he himself had; and that he would as soon give his Vote for the Deprivation of his own Rights, as for that of his Fellow-Subjects on the other Side the Atlantic; that he had always opposed the Measures that had brought on the Dispute, and should ever oppose every Measure that was likely to continue it.

It was further observed on this Subject, that the Ministry had nothing to boast of with regard to the late Resolutions of the Americans to renew their Commerce with the Mother Country, who had done no more than the King of Prussia and every other wife Prince did in the Conduct of commercial Affairs. When any of his Neighbours think it Policy to lay a Duty on any Commodity that is imported into his Country, he immediately lays a greater Duty, which amounts to a Prohi-

bition of that Commodity. Just so the Americans. When, upon commercial Principles, a Duty was laid on certain Commodities that were imported into America, they immediately, upon commercial Principles, entered into an Agreement not to receive any of those Commodities. - When, upon commercial Principles, you thought proper to repeal those Duties, they again, upon commercial Principles, agreed to receive them. You still continue to retain the Duty upon Tea, to shew your Sovereignty; they still continue their Agreement not to receive that Commodity, to shew you that they deny it. What, therefore, is there in this, but the most consummate Policy, and the most determined Firmness that can animate any People whose Liberty is at Stake?

After all, the grand Question, Peace or War, was by no Means answered on this Occasion. It seemed, however, to be the Opinion, that War is to no great Distance. Mr. Barry, indeed, thought it to be very near. He is allowed to have an excellent Nose, and he declared that he smelt it.

Extract of a private Letter from Constantinople.

"The North-eastern Parts of Europe are at present both delighted and terrified by a Species of Magnificence, with which the World has been for some Time unacquainted. The Grand Signior has at last taken the Field in Person. He is the only Turkish Emperor who has headed his own Armies since the Time of Solymann the Magnificent. When Notice was given in the Seraglio that an imperial Camp was to be formed, it may easily be conceived what was the Surprise, and what was the Tumult. As all the Preparation was new, every Officer of the Household had something to do which he had never done before, and which therefore he knew not how to do. It was observed that the Grand Signior, who, through all the Accidents of this War, had preserved a natural or affected Tranquillity, came out of his Harum solicitous and dejected, having been, as it is supposed, ruffled by the Disorder of the Women and their Attendants, of whom some were weeping and fainting, because they were selected for the March, and others furious and clamorous, because being left behind, they thought themselves neglected. But in the Courts of Eastern Princes, Fear and Repentment are idle Passions. The Order of the Master must be obeyed. The Grand Signior sets out with Pomp becoming what he titles himself, the Master of the World. The imperial Tent contains a Square of an Hundred Feet every Way, and is covered on the Outside with the costliest Tapettry. All the Furniture is of Silver, and over every Apartment into which it is divided, is a Banner interwoven with Golden Threads, and edged with Diamonds. The Crescent, which is raised high over the Entrance, is of massy Gold. Around this Pavilion are the Tents of his Women and their Attendants, into which it is Death to enter, and which are therefore distinguished from all others by a Covering of yellow Silk, and by white Plumes of Ostrich Feathers waving on their Tops. Their March is little less magnificent than their Encampment. The Waggon which convey the Women, and which are probably the same as the Harmaxæ of the ancient Persians, are covered in like Manner with yellow Silk; and the Harness of the Horses is adorned with Pearls. When the Women dismount from these Carriages, Notice is given, by a particular Sound of the Instruments of War, and the whole Army turn their Backs, that they may not look upon them. It is easy to perceive, that however this Magnificence may gratify the Sultan's Vanity, it can contribute little to his Success. The Russians will fight with more Eagerness to gain these Riches for themselves, than the Turks to preserve them for their Master."

NEWPORT, January 7.

Last Saturday arrived here Capt. Jones, in the Schooner Polly, after a Passage of 43 Days from Montego Bay, in the Island of Jamaica, by whom we are informed, that one Yarth, in a large white bottom'd Bermudas built Sloop, had turned Pirate, and captured a French Schooner with 3000 Dollars, and a large Quantity of Hides, and also robbed another. That an armed Vessel was equipped and dispatched in Quest of the Pirate, and had retaken the French Schooner, and sent her into Montego-Bay, with 12 of the Pirates on board, who were immediately committed to Jail.—That a Frigate was also failed from Fort-Royal in Pursuit of Yarth, who, it was supposed had gone towards the Bay of Honduras.

NEW-YORK, January 17.

By Capt. Calley arrived at Marblehead from Cadiz, which he left the 5th of November, we learn, that the Court of Great-Britain had demanded Six Millions of Dollars of the Spaniards, as a Reimbursement for the Expences which their late Infraction has occasioned, and for completing the Manila Ransom, but that the Spaniards would agree to pay no more than 3 Millions; on which the Messenger set out for London, having remained at Madrid only 9 Hours.

PHILADELPHIA, January 17.

Extract of a Letter from London, November 9. "We are fluctuating between Peace and War, our Ministers know not which. They have rose in their Demands upon Spain, when they found the French advising that Court to Peace. This may disgust the Spaniards so much as to make them determine upon War—we shall know in a very few Weeks."

Extract of a Letter from London, November 12.

"Our Opinion in general is changed from War to Peace; however, all is mere Conjecture till the King meets his Parliament To-morrow, when the Speech will, in some Measure, inform their Judgments; at present there is no Certainty.

"Just come from the House, where I heard the King's Speech; it is too general to form any Opinion from; but from the Manner of debating it on the Court Side, a War will be, if it can be with any Propriety."

Extract of a Letter from London

"The Right Honourable George... The 13th Instant.—It is not yet... letters will turn out... From all... it is very possible... the Course of next Summer... are probable... they will... the better we are prepared for... are likely are we to..."

Extract of a Letter from London

"There are 30 Sail of Private... ready to put to... declared, our Sea will be... we bought up all the..."

Yesterday Captain... arrived... whom came... Captains... arrived at Porto-Rico from... Captain of which reported, that... be declared in a Day or Two... which the Governor ordered... and; and they immediately set... Batteries, mounting the Gun... Preparations for War imag... Arrived at Deal, Captains Ham... Dunlop, Creamer, and Ma..."

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