

on the great Empress of that Country! Yet, what has been the Event? The Trade of France has been destroyed by it; Marseilles is totally ruined; the Levant Trade, in all Probability, irrecoverable, and even the Turkish Empire on the Brink of Extermination, while this boasted and regretted Minister of France has been obliged to send a Charge d'Affaires to Petersburg, to deprecate the Empress's Vengeance, and to flatter her in a Manner still more abject than his former Affronts were insolent."

It has been strongly reported, that an Outlawry against the disobeying Printers was intended to succeed to the King's Proclamation for apprehending them; but the Lawyers say that no such Process can take Place.

It is now asserted that the Printers intend to surrender themselves to the Lord Mayor.

It is the Opinion of many, that the Parliament will not be prorogued till after Easter Term, which ends the 7th of May; several Matters of Importance being yet to be taken into Consideration.

Bets are laid of Twenty to Five, that Press Warrants are again issued out before the Expiration of one Month from this Time.

The King of Prussia has notified in Form to the States General, that the Reports propagated concerning his Designs upon Dantzic and a Part of Poland, were void of all Foundation; that the great Force which he has spread along the Confines of Poland, was merely to prevent a Communication of the Plague, and that his Views are, in all Respects, pacific.—Veracity is not the most splendid of his Majesty's Virtues.

When the News arrived at Paris of the Death of the King of Sweden, Orders were issued for discontinuing all publick Diversions for Three Days, in Compliment to the young Princes then resident in that Capital.

The Revenge and Reasonable Men of War are ordered to sail from Chatham to Portsmouth; and it is thought they are intended to join the Fleet now at the latter Port, which is shortly to sail for Bengal, under the Command of Admiral Harland.

A Writer, treating of the legal Possession of Falkland Island, says, "when an Island remains neutral, any Nation has a Right to annex it to their Crown, though it might not have been discovered by them; for it is not a bare Discovery that gives Possession, or it would be impossible that there should be a known neutral Island in the World; yet I believe no Person will dispute but there are many Hundreds. Lord Anson, in his late Voyage round the World, put in at these Islands; and thinking they might be of great Utility to Great-Britain in Time of War with Spain, for our Ships to Wood and Water, took Possession of them with the usual Ceremonies, which I apprehend gave us legal Possession; and nothing but that, and the planting a Colony there, would give Possession to any Nation whatsoever."

To the PRINTER of the LONDON CHRONICLE.

Mr. Maclean found himself attacked in the falsest and most ungenerous Manner, in the Morning Chronicle of Saturday. On Sunday he traced the Abuse, by a Friend, to Mr. Wilkes, and demanded that Satisfaction which one Gentleman owes to another, but which was refused him. To-day, Tuesday, he finds himself obliged to lay his Case before the Tribunal of the Publick, conscious that in every Incident of his Life he has acted from the Dictates of Honour. Please therefore, Mr. Printer, to insert in your first Chronicle the following Letter, written to Mr. Wilkes, and delivered in the most private Manner by that Friend, but to which he pre-emptorily refused making any Answer.

S I R, Jan. 27, 1771. A Letter in the Chronicle of Yesterday occasions you this Trouble. I have called upon the Printer, who has desired to be excused shewing me the Manuscript before he has spoken to the Writer; he has, however, acknowledged, that it came from one of your Friends, but not from you; i. e. not in your Hand-writing: As there is not One Word of Truth in the whole Performance, as far as it relates to me, and as I can so easily refute every Part of it by your own Letters, I am totally at a Loss to account for the Folly of the Attack; though the Ingratitude of it does not surprize me. Ungrateful Attacks from you and your Friends are now become common. Like cherished Vipers, you sting the Bosoms which afforded you Warmth, which gave you Life; rescuing you from the cold and deadly Hand of Poverty, Distress, and Contempt. Is it because your ungenerous Soul cannot brook an Obligation, that you recoil on your Benefactors? But when such a Friend as Fitzherbert could not escape the malevolent Shaft of your Satire, I need not blush to be made the Butt of it. To no Two Men have you owed so much; to no Two Men have you made so base a Return!

But I did not sit down with an Intention to rail against you; I sat down to demand Satisfaction. The Bearer will settle Time, Place, and Weapons; of all which you have the Choice; and I have only to add, that if you will deign to return One Obligation for all those you have so often acknowledged, it will be by giving as much Dispatch and Facility as possible to the Settlement of this Account. I am, Sir, your most humble Servant, L. M. To J. Wilkes, Esq;

S I R, Prince's Court, Tuesday, Jan. 29. I Desire you to print the following State of Facts. Mr. Maclean says, that "Sunday he traced the Abuse (on him in the Morning Chronicle of Saturday) by a Friend, to Mr. Wilkes." I declare, Sir, on my Honour, that I was, and still am, entirely ignorant of the Author of the Account referred to in that Paper, nor was I directly or indirectly concerned in it. I call upon Mr. Maclean to prove the Charge, and to justify every Part of his Letter. I am sure that no Man in his Senses, who has read the Account in

the Morning Chronicle of last Saturday, ever suspected me to be the Author. I likewise defy him to prove me in any Moment of my Life guilty of the base and mean Sin of Ingratitude. I do not complain that Mr. Maclean has brought a railing Accusation, but I ave that he has made various false Charges against me. I am, Sir, your humble Servant, JOHN WILKES.

Major Maclean, who has often been at Mr. Wilkes's House in Prince's Court, called alone upon him Sunday Noon, Jan. 27. He talked in the usual friendly Way of common Occurrences, and among other Things mentioned a long Article in the Morning Chronicle of Saturday, which he said greatly reflected on Mr. Lauchlin Maclean, and added, that Mr. L. Maclean was in doubt whether he should contradict it or not, and that the Article was false and infamous. Mr. Wilkes observed, that it must be left to every Gentleman's own Opinion, whether he would or would not contradict any anonymous Authors; that the Publick in general gave them little Credit. The Major then said, that as Mr. Wilkes must certainly know several Particulars in that Account to be false, he hoped that he would contradict it for his Friend Mr. L. Maclean. Mr. Wilkes replied, that in the very same Account he too was most injuriously treated, that he did not mean to contradict it for himself, and therefore would not do for another; that he knew nothing about the Writing or Publication of that Paper, and that every Gentleman must act for himself. The Major afterwards mentioned, that he believed the Paper was wrote by some Friend of Mr. Wilkes; To which Mr. Wilkes answered, that he was of a very different Opinion, but that not a Line of it came within the Sphere even of his Guess as to the Author, and that the Major might tell Mr. L. Maclean this from him, as a private Friend. The Major then gave Mr. Wilkes a sealed Letter from Mr. L. Maclean, nearly the same as the foregoing, and desired an Answer. Mr. Wilkes replied, "If I had known that you had a Letter, I would not have said so much, but I desire you to inform Mr. Maclean of the Conversation which has passed between us before you mentioned a Word of any Letter." Mr. Wilkes heard nothing more from Mr. Maclean on the Sunday. The Monday Morning both the Publick Advertiser and the Morning Chronicle gave Notice, that the Copy of Mr. Maclean's Letter to Mr. Wilkes "came too late for this Day's Paper, but shall have a Place to-morrow."

S I R, Buckingham Street, Jan. 30, 1771.

MR. Wilkes having given a very false Account of what passed between him and me relative to Mr. L. Maclean in your Paper of this Day, I find myself under a Necessity of desiring you will do me the Favour of inserting the real State of that Matter. It is with great Diffidence I venture to address the Publick; but Two such Motives as a Regard to my own Character and Fidelity to my Friend have got the better of it: For was there the smallest Foundation in Truth for the Story Mr. Wilkes has trumped up, I must have acted diametrically opposite to my Instructions. I know not what Mr. Wilkes means to insinuate by saying, that "I have often been at his House in Prince's Court." If he means to insinuate that I ever had a Friendship for him, or even an Acquaintance with him, he means to deceive the Publick, or more properly to do me a Mischief. I disclaim him, and all Concern with him; and if I have ever had a Difference with my Friend L. M. it has been for his having been duped by that Man. But instead of bringing my Visits to Light, Mr. Wilkes ought to have suppressed them; for they were but Three in all, and for the sole Purpose of bringing him to settle some Mode of Payment of the Half of a Debt long due to my Friend, in which I was so far from succeeding, that I found him always evasive and trifling. And if my Impressions of Mr. Wilkes were bad before these Visits, I must own they have been much worse since. The Publick I hope will excuse the Mildness with which I treat a Man who has so grossly misrepresented me. It would be inconsistent with my Profession to treat, as he deserves, one whom I have experienced within these Three Days to be so devoid of the first Principles and Spirit of a Gentleman. I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant, ALLAN MACLEANE.

On Sunday Morning I received a Note from Mr. Maclean, desiring to see me before I called on Mr. Wilkes, which I was to have done by Appointment, relative to the settling some Mode for the Payment of a Debt due to Mr. M. from Mr. Wilkes. I went immediately, and found him writing a Letter, which was directed to Mr. Wilkes; He told me, "that he had been with the Printer of the Morning Chronicle, in which Paper he had been abused the Day before, who said that the Publication complained of came from a Friend of Mr. Wilkes, from the Bill of Rights; but not from Mr. Wilkes himself." Mr. M. then read the Letter, and said, "This is an Affair of some Delicacy, and must be submitted entirely to your Discretion; for on the one Hand I am determined not to put up with Insult, and on the other I do not wish to embroil myself with any Man, but above all with such a Man as Mr. Wilkes; that the Delivery of the Letter to Mr. Wilkes would therefore be conditional; for if he (Mr. Wilkes) should agree to contradict the Points complained of, then it might be reasonably presumed he did not countenance the Publication; On the other Hand, should he positively refuse to contradict Assertions which he must allow to be false, no Reason could then be assigned for such Refusal (considering the Obligations he lay under) but his being at the Bottom of the Matter himself." Mr. M. further said, that for his own Part he had no Doubt of Mr. Wilkes's being at the Bottom of it, because there was a Misrepresentation of a Fact, which Fact could be known to nobody but to Mr. Wilkes or himself. He then read me a Paragraph from a Bundle of Mr. Wilkes's Letters lying before him, which convinced me of the Truth of his

Assertions. He then added, "I repose myself entirely on your Discretion: If Mr. Wilkes will contradict the Assertions complained of, I shall give myself no further Trouble about him; if he will not, you may conclude him the Cause of the Publication, in which Case I will have nothing to do with Subalterns, while I can bring it home to the Principal." This is the Purport as near as I can recollect of the Discourse between Mr. M. and me, prior to my going to Mr. Wilkes, and I concluded from it, that Mr. M. was very averse to the Letter being delivered, in Case he could obtain a proper Disavowal of Untruths from Mr. Wilkes. He even directed me to keep the Letter back as long as possible, in order to try every other Means of obtaining Redress.

I then went to Mr. Wilkes, who beginning to speak upon Money Matters, I told him that I was not authorized to enter upon that Subject; and asked him if he had seen the Morning Chronicle of Saturday? He answered that he had. I then said that it contained much false and gross Abuse of Mr. M. In this Opinion Mr. Wilkes agreed with me, adding, that no Man in England had been so much abused as himself, but that in these Times no Man was safe from the Press. I then asked him what he intended doing in this Matter? He replied, that he could do nothing in it, as he had made it a Rule not to pay any Regard to anonymous Writers. I told him, that as Aspersions had been thrown on Mr. M. which he knew to be false, it was his Duty as a Gentleman to contradict them; that had any Man been abused in the same Manner, in a Matter wherein I was as much concerned as Mr. Wilkes was in this, I should think myself bound as a Gentleman and a Man of Honour to contradict it; and therefore did not see how he could avoid doing it. He gave me the same Answer as before, viz. that he was resolved never to take any Notice of anonymous Writers. I replied, if that was the Case, that I could not help looking upon him as being in the Knowledge of that Publication. He declared he was a Stranger to the Paper or its Author; that Mr. M. might contradict it himself; he would not. I observed that Mr. M.'s contradicting it would not be to the present Purpose; that he (Mr. Wilkes) was the only Person that could contradict it properly; and further said, that from comparing one Circumstance in that Paper with a Paragraph in a Letter from him to Mr. M. I was firmly convinced that no Man could have given the least Hint of that Matter (which was most grossly misrepresented) except Mr. Wilkes or Mr. M. and that therefore Mr. M. must look to him alone, as he had resolved to have nothing to do with Subalterns. Mr. Wilkes again repeated his Ignorance of the Paper, or its Author. I then told him, that I looked upon what he had said as a mere Evasion, and gave him Mr. M.'s Letter. When he had read it, I desired an Answer. He said he had none to give, but desired me to tell Mr. M. what he had said before he knew I had a Letter for him, viz. that he was totally unacquainted with the Paper or its Author; and this he was sure would satisfy Mr. M. and that he would not have said so much, had he known of the Letter before. I desired him to think better of it, as it was a serious Affair, and the Letter required an Answer. He repeated that he would give none but what he had given before he received the Letter, which he was sure would satisfy Mr. M. I then assured him that it would not, nor did I see how it possibly could, as nothing could be satisfactory to Mr. M. but Mr. Wilkes's contradicting the Abuse, or giving such an Answer to the Letter as it required from one Gentleman to another. Upon his still refusing to give any Answer to Mr. M.'s Letter, I departed, fully convinced, that though he might not have had an immediate Hand in the Publication, he was at the Bottom of it; and in this Opinion I still continue, and ever shall.

This I declare, to the best of my Recollection, to be what passed between Mr. Wilkes and me, and I immediately returned to Mr. M. and told it to him. When I left Mr. M. I went to Capt. Alexander Maclean, who was waiting for me at a Coffee-House. I told him every Word of what passed, which I made him take down in writing as I dictated to him. ALLAN MACLEANE.

S I R, Bridge Road, Jan. 31, 1771.

IT is very embarrassing to find proper Words for a Second Letter to a Man who has made so poor an Answer to the First. If I had a Difficulty in the Matter of resenting the unmanly Attack upon me, it arose from the Apprehension that I should be drawn into a publick Discussion of private Injury. Averse however as I am to this Method of doing myself Justice, I find that Mr. Wilkes will afford me no other. For this Reason I embrace it, and for this Reason only. But as the Subject is too copious for a News paper (in which I shall no more reply on this Head) I shall reserve what I have principally to say for a future and separate Publication, if necessary; contenting myself at present with a few Observations on Mr. Wilkes's rapid Performance of Yesterday.

Mr. Wilkes declares that "on his Honour he was and still is ignorant of the Author of the Account referred to, &c." I do not believe him. The Proof demanded of him was so reasonable, that his Refusal to comply with it placed the Negative on a much more solid Footing than his "on his Honour" placed the Affirmative. Besides, Mr. Wilkes's Honour has turned out a false Jewel, that bears no Price as a Pledge. Can any Man blame me for not being contented with this Sort of Satisfaction, when the Letter in which I have been abused offers to bring Mr. Samuel Vaughan as an Evidence to prove a positive Lie by an Affidavit? And has not the Printer acknowledged that the Paper complained of originated from a Friend of Mr. Wilkes in the Bill of Rights; that it was not intended to have made its Appearance for some Time; and that the Person who brought it to him was afraid to be known, because, being dependent, the Step he had taken might do him much Harm? In such a Case could I require a more moderate Satisfaction? I was accused by an anonymous Writer of having given

Money to Mr. W... Would m... this a mere... as Mr. W... I had not... have been... on G... a Promp... without a... and refus... honest Rele... him as the... mark for... Mr. Wilkes... by the fame... I say it was... same rough... write at all... Mr. Wilkes... my Letter... means by "ju... a late Perform... says, "He will... his Pen, which... justify." I thoug... heved him to b... all Manner of... me that I was m... (says) ever suspe... not differ with... gards myself; p... had any thing... eluded to believ... Man, who has... with him, will... as well as myse... "false," what... indeed, who w... Language of... me to prove h... the base and... mach while M... however, I sh... that in any O... One Instance... without Numbe... Major Macle... Does Mr. W... brought a Peac... with him? "C... might shock... Malice prepen... an Injury. If... have called o... should not ha... Devotion on h... the same Acc... Let any Man... in Question, ... There is not... jurious to hi... from whence... alone are tou... But is it not... stab in the... that they m... Key to the P... I am,

A N... ARRIV... Ship Iab... Elizabeth, L... Cantons of S... Ship Lord B...

The Print... anonymo... it their... know th... of their... Pieces, in... incurred... more the... as well... plants... now the... tice, the... seem to... individua... be print... trust th... they be... Secrecy... them ju... receive... ever S... merely... shall be... trust i... and im... been,

All... To... A S... ously end... that I ha... fraudulent... I find my... trouble y... with the... came at... your next... ously, in... John Han... and mys...