

ships of war, being supplied with cannon, arms, powder, ball, and all warlike stores, from the royal arsenals and store-houses, both on the ocean, and in the Mediterranean. I gave the names of the ships and the other particulars at the time. Was this a clandestine supply?

Much miscellaneous matter has been produced, as usual, on this first day of the session. The honourable gentleman, who moved the amendment, has taken an opportunity of painting in their true colours the last race of our kings, whom he called the accursed Stuart race, the bane of England. I honour those genuine whiggish principles, in which I believe him sincere and determined. No man, Sir, execrates the memory of those tyrants more than I do. Yet one remark in the present moment I cannot forbear. The Stuarts lost every thing for themselves only, their crowns, or their lives. The empire remained entire, unbroken in every part. Nothing was lost for us. Under the third prince of the Brunswick line, administration has already lost us half the British monarchy, and the rest seems mouldering away. Nothing appears stable, or secure, except the ministerial majority in this house. In the late glorious reign, the bounds of the empire were enlarged in every quarter of the world, under the auspices of a brave, martial, humane, and heroic sovereign. We are now ignominiously driven out, not only from some of our late acquisitions, but from the greater part of our ancient possessions. The enquiry into this sad reverse is surely our duty as the grand inquest of the nation.

Some remarks, Sir, were made by the honourable gentleman, who seconded the amendment, on the late publications from the families of two noble earls. He thought it clearly proved from the letter of the son, that the father, so long suspected of guiding the measures of the state, no longer possessed any controuling power, or even secret influence. He avowed an unbounded respect, and a kind of family regard to the noble lord. I have the misfortune of differing in this instance very widely indeed with the honourable gentleman. I hold the public character of the noble lord in utter abhorrence; not from any personal injury, not from a national prejudice, but from his demerit as a minister. He made the ignominious peace of Paris.

*Ex illo fluere ac retro sublatia referri
Spei Danaum; frastra vires.*

He boasted of that peace in a great assembly. I heard him declare that he gloried in it, and wished it might be inscribed on his tomb-stone, here lies the man who made the peace of Paris. The expression was more striking than original (it), but the species of pride, which is founded in deep criminality, must be allowed to be of the first cast. He lost us Newfoundland, passed the odious excise on cider and perry, by which the excise-man got access into private houses, violated the national faith with the king of Prussia, was guilty of scandalous profusion of the public money in negotiating a loan of three millions and a half for 1763, and advised a cruel proclamation, by which he persecuted the brave free Africans, as I believe he has since done the Americans. These, Sir, are the grounds of hatred, which I have always avowed. I agree with a late great statesman, that he has brought the king and kingdom to ruin. As to his influence being at an end, would to God, Sir, it was! Is the heir of that noble family being lately created an English peer, a proof of the father's now retaining no influence? Is the lieutenantancy of a considerable county given to the same nobleman to be admitted as evidence that his power is extinguished? I give no private anecdotes. I only state public facts, from a paper, which in such

things only can be trusted, the London gazette. I rejoiced, Sir, that the heir of that noble family was created an English peer, for I thought that the young lord's unspotted reputation, intrinsic merit, and great as well as amiable qualities, would reflect back more honour than he could receive from a modern peerage of this country, but I was persuaded that he owed his English peerage no less than his birth to his father.

A brave, but unfortunate general, Sir, urges us to an enquiry into the causes of the failure of the late expedition under his command, and he asks a parliamentary inquest. I am likewise for that enquiry. At the close of the last session he made the same request, which was refused by the same majority, to whom he now prefers his petition. I have a high esteem for a parliamentary inquest, but there is a higher tribunal, that of the people, our constituents, ever ready to do justice to the oppressed and injured. As an Englishman, let him appeal to the people, and constitute the English nation the judges of his conduct and honour, in every point in dispute between him and administration, or even royalty. He observes that the time will come for an enquiry. It will certainly come in this mode, whenever he chuses to publish the papers, which he furnished to, and are now withheld by ministers, papers of the utmost importance, according to his declaration in this house, to the state, to parliament, and to the public.

The amendment moved to the address goes still farther, and takes larger ground, including however that of a late American commander. It proposes to enquire into all the late fatal councils, which have brought on a dismemberment of the empire. The justice of the nation calls loudly for it, and therefore my feeble voice shall be for that wise and necessary measure.

L O N D O N.

WESTMINSTER, July 5.

THIS day his majesty came to the house of peers, and being in his royal robes, seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, Sir, Francis Molyneux, knight, gentleman usher of the black rod, was sent with a message from his majesty to the house of commons, commanding their attendance in the house of peers. The commons being come there accordingly, his majesty was pleased to give the royal assent to

An act for removing certain difficulties with respect to the more speedy and effectual manning of his majesty's navy for a limited time.

An act for augmenting the militia.

And one private bill.

After which his majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious speech.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
THE many great and essential services you have rendered to me and to your country, during the course of your attendance in parliament, demand my most cordial thanks.

I have seen with entire approbation the zeal you have manifested for the support and prosecution of the just and necessary war in which I am engaged, nor am I less sensible of your attention to the present state of the kingdom of Ireland: my paternal affection for all my people makes me sincerely anxious for the happiness and prosperity of every part of my dominions.

Hitherto the events of war have afforded the court of France no reason to triumph on the consequences of their injustice and breach of public faith; and I trust by a spirited and prosperous exertion of the force you have put into my hands, that ambitious power may be brought to wish that they had not, without provocation, or cause of complaint, insulted the honour and invaded the rights of my crown.

I have already acquainted you with the hostile step which has been lately taken by the court of Spain. Whatever colour may be attempted to be put upon that unjust proceeding, I am conscious that I have nothing to reproach myself with: it has been followed by the clearest demonstrations of the loyalty and affection of my parliament to my person and government, for which I repeat to you my warmest thanks; and I consider it a happy omen of the success of my arms, that the increase of difficulties serves only to augment the courage and constancy of the nation, and to animate and unite my people in the defence of their country, and every thing that is dear to them.

The advanced season of the year requires that I should afford you some rescess from the public business; and I do it with the less reluctance, as by the powers vested in me by law, I can have the aid of your advice and assistance within fourteen days, should any emergency make it necessary for me to convene you before the usual time.

Gentlemen of the house of commons,
The various and extensive operations of the war have unavoidably occasioned uncommon ex-

pendence, and brought additional burthens on my faithful and beloved people, which I most sincerely regret. I cannot sufficiently thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me, and for the cheerfulness and public spirit with which the large supplies of the current year have been granted.

My lords and gentlemen,
It is impossible to speak of the continuance of the rebellion in North-America without the deepest concern; but we have given such unquestionable proofs of our sincere disposition to put an end to these troubles, that I must still hope, that the malignant designs of the enemies of Great-Britain cannot long prevail against the evident interests of those unhappy provinces, and that they will not blindly persist in preferring an unnatural and dangerous connection with a foreign power, to peace and re-union with their mother country.

Then the lord chancellor, by his majesty's command, said,

My lords and gentlemen,
It is his majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the 5th day of August next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 5th day of August next.

BY THE KING.
A PROCLAMATION.
GEORGE R.

WHEREAS we have received intelligence that preparations are making by our enemies to invade this our kingdom, the safety and defence of which require our utmost care, and wherein by the assistance and blessing of God, we are resolved not to be wanting; and to the intent that they may not, in case of their landing, strengthen themselves by seizing the horses, oxen and cattle of our subjects, which may be useful to them for draught or burthen, or be easily supplied with provisions: we have thought fit, and do by this our royal proclamation, by the advice of our privy council, strictly charge and command the warden of the cinque ports, his lieutenants and deputy or deputies, and all and every the lieutenants and deputy lieutenants of our counties, and all sheriffs, justices of peace, mayors, bailiffs, and all and every other officers and ministers, civil and military, within their respective counties, cities, towns, and divisions; that they cause the coasts to be carefully watched, and upon the first approach of the enemy, immediately to cause all horses, oxen and cattle, which may be fit for draught or burthen, and not actually employed in our service, or in the defence of the country, and also (as far as may be practicable) all other cattle and provisions to be driven and removed to some place of security, and to such a distance from the place where the enemy shall attempt, or appear to intend to land, so as that they may not fall into the hands or power of any of our enemies; wherein nevertheless it is our will and pleasure, the respective owner thereof may suffer as little damage, loss or inconvenience, as may be consistent with the public safety; and we do hereby further strictly charge and command all our subjects to be aiding and assisting to the execution of this our royal command.

Given at our court at St. James's the 9th day of July, 1779, in the 19th year of our reign.
GOD save the KING.

July 7. On Thursday evening last, an express arrived at the admiralty, and to the ministers of state, from Sir Charles Hardy, with an account of his having taken a frigate, going from France to count d'Orvilliers's fleet, with dispatches, from the captain of which we learn the following particulars: That, on the 4th of June, a signal was made from Ferrol, for the sailing of nine sail of Spanish ships of the line, besides frigates; that the above ships effected a junction with the French fleet, under the command of the count d'Orvilliers, on the 12th (the 16th the rescript was delivered in London, by count d'Almadovar) which made their united force forty-two sail of the line. Sir Charles adds, from the superiority of the French and Spaniards, he makes no doubt but they will venture an engagement, and that he is determined to give them battle. He further advises, that he was then off Ushant, in chase, and in sight of the enemy; that all his fleet was well, and the officers and men in the highest spirits, and that he hoped to be able, in the next dispatches, to give such an account of the united fleets of France and Spain, as would be highly satisfactory to his Majesty and his country.

The Culloden is fitted to join the grand fleet in Torbay, and in a few days will follow the Resolution, Terrible, Sandwich, Formidable, Ark Royal, Arrigant, Marlborough, and Ajax, with the Princess Amelia.

(c) The original expression belonged to another case, a Mr. Thomas Scot, one of the Tyrannicides, who was executed at Charing Cross, October 17, 1660. In the second volume of the state trials is an account of his trial and execution.

Sir Theophilus Biddolph sworn.
Council. Pray tell my lords and the jury what you have heard the prisoner say, touching this business of putting the king to death.

Sir Theophilus Biddolph. I did hear him confess that he did sit as one of the judges of the late king, and that he was so far from repenting of the act he did do, when he died, that a tomb-stone, might be laid over him, with this inscription, here lies Thomas Scot, who adjudged to death the late king. Page 331.

At his execution the sheriff interrupted him. Mr. Scot said, I shall say no more; but this, that it is a very mean and bad cause that will not bear the words of a dying man. Then he prayed, wherein he said this is my prayer, if say again, to the praise of the free grace of God, I bless his name, he hath executed me in a cause not to be repented of. I say, he could be well repented of. Page 309.