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HERE can be no doubt that the operations on the part of our ally were wisely directed to the coast of Georgia. The only other object that could be pointed out was New-York. But, we have seen that this was not more important; and, it may be added that the accomplishment of it was much more uncertain. There were a body of near fifteen thousand men who could be speedily drawn to that garrison. They were well supplied with provisions by the arrival of the Corke fleet just before. The entrance from the Hook to the city was liable to be rendered difficult by obstructions sunk in the channel. On the land side there was but one narrow approach by reason of the river which flows upon the north, and the bay on the east of it. All these circumstances, at the same time that they called forth the boldest exertion, would render it a matter of great uncertainty to reduce it. In Georgia a less considerable body of the enemy, less supplied with provisions, more divided in their force, and more unexpectedly to be attacked, were circumstances that rendered the attempt practicable, and seemed to justify our most sanguine expectations of the success of it. Nevertheless the enterprise in the state of Georgia was not easy. There were not less than between two and three thousand of the best troops of Britain, with a body of refugees, prompted by every motive of hatred, avarice, and revenge, to make a desperate resistance. There were a regiment of slaves disciplined, and two thousand of the same people employed as pioneers to throw up works of defence for the enemy. The soil of Georgia, and the neighbourhood of Savannah especially, was favourable to throw up works, being a light floating sand at top with a layer of stannous clay at a small distance underneath, and to a great depth. The ball might sink in this without shaking the wood of which it was constructed.

The Count on his first arrival had expected to remain eight days only. Acting on a large line he could not divert longer for the sake of an individual object. Besides from the shelving nature of the coast, shallow to a great distance, he was under the necessity of anchoring his fleet twelve miles out at sea, where riding in an unsafe road, he was every moment in danger of being driven by the north-east blast, on a lee shore. These circumstances rendered his stay inconvenient, and at the same time, hazardous.

It was the hope of the Count, by the assistance of our army, to have reduced the enemy by a coup de main, and to have put an end to the war in that state at once. Disappointed in this hope by the strength of the works of Savannah, and by the junction of the force of the enemy from the garrison of Beaufort, and still possessing the most anxious desire to accomplish the object for the service of these states, he was induced to continue a much longer time. Finally the storming of the works which became eligible was unfortunate. Nevertheless the honour of the Count and of those engaged in the enterprise, American and French officers and soldiery, is the same that it would have been, had an event of a different nature taken place. What is there in success that can change the nature of an action? Bravery discovered in a gallant enterprise is still bravery independent of its circumstance. The virtue of those who fought at Savannah is of the same nature and rose to the same level with those who succeeded at Stony-point. It is an appreciation that the unenlightened minds of men will not believe this, which is the cause of that bragging which noble minds feel when they are disappointed in an enterprise. The noble mind of the count d'Estaing, no doubt, feels much of this, as his reputation lies in some measure with the people of different manners, language, and former connection. He may be led to conceive that ancient prejudices may arise against the nation; and that our estimation of himself may be affected from his want of success in this instance; but want of success is always unpopular. General Lincoln entering with sympathy into the

feelings of this brave man, his fellow officer, seems to be conscious of the same apprehension. It is his hope that he (the Count) will be consoled by an assurance, that though he has not succeeded according to his wishes, "we regard with high approbation his intention to serve us, and his want of success will not lessen our ideas of his merit." It will be a just ground of consolation; for I do not hope, but am persuaded, that the people of America are too generous and sensible, to suffer the least false colouring from a want of success to obtrude itself upon their fancy. The people of America are not unacquainted with the former character of this officer. We have heard the testimony which our enemies the British have given of his conduct. In a history of the late war, periodically published in Britain, and supposed to be written by the celebrated Mr. Burke, he is called "the lively adventurer d'Estaing, and in the East-Indies is said to have done more with two ships under his command, than all the other armed force in that quarter." We ourselves have been witnesses of his activity from the first moment of his appearance on the Delaware, to his sailing to New-York, to Rhode-Island, and to Boston. The storm which ensued was that only which rescued the whole fleet of lord Howe from his power. We are not unacquainted with his victories in the West-Indies, with the gallant manner in which he fought against superior numbers, and risked his person on the island of St. Lucia. We have heard the fame of his martial prowess in the naval engagement off the island of Grenada. We acknowledge, we admire, we approve his attention, his patience, through every unavoidable delay of winds, tides, and shoals, in the debarkation of his troops in Georgia. We entertain a high sense of his noble valour in determining an assault upon the works of the enemy, when this, or, to abandon the enterprise, became the only alternative. We know that few instances amongst men have equalled that gallantry of spirit with which he placed himself at the head of his column, and led on the attack, risking his person equal with the meanest grenadier, and performing at once, as is said of the best officers, the function of a brave soldier, and a gallant chief-tain. Advancing to the very berms of the works, it was not until after an hour's heavy conflict, amidst a shower from artillery and small arms, that he deigned to desist and to draw off his troops, who, with my brave countrymen, companions in the same danger, still retreated regularly, keeping a steady countenance upon the faces of the enemy, on whose minds such was the impression left by the headiness and perseverance of the assault, that they ventured not to pursue, but the repulse brought off their wounded from the field of battle, and encamped that night, within a small distance of the town of Savannah.

On our part; and on the part of our ally, all was done that could seem to ensure success. The behaviour of the count d'Estaing was in all respects great and worthy every praise. There is no danger that the issue of the enterprise will at all lessen our ideas of his merit. Bravery unfortunate, like beauty in distress, becomes the proper subject of tragedy, and finds its way to the human heart. We admire distinguished valour when it is surrounded with success; but in a reverse of situation, when it seems to fall under our dominion, and to solicit our protection, we not only admire, but we love also. Hence it is that we are more interested in behalf of Pompey on the strand of Egypt, than when rich with the glory of many wars, and exalted by the panegyric of Cicero, he was sent to finish the campaign against Mithridates. I have no doubt but that, from this moment the count d'Estaing will become doubly the favourite of America. The wounds which he has received, the blood which he has shed in our service, will be remembered by us. He has displayed a most heroic valour tempered with prudence, and the troops under his command have acted with the greatest courage. The Americans have believed, I will say with equal bravery, and in my opinion no greater praise can be given to mortals. They were repulsed, but the columns drew off with unbroken ranks, more than what the balls had made, passing through them. When I consider the hazard and the boldness of the charge, and

the patience, and fortitude with which the issue of it was borne, I forget that it was not a victory. Arrayed in the splendour of martial virtue discovered by the assaults, it rises to a conquest. I am sure the effect of it on the minds of the enemy will be equal to such, and that dismayed and beat down, they will not, for a long time, dare to renew their incursions.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

A L G I E R S, July 12.
EIGHT privateers belonging to this regency, that sailed from this port upon a cruise on the 24th of May, are returned with four Spanish prizes, two of which were bound to the West-Indies. On the first inst. arrived here an ambassador from the emperor of Morocco, with some dispatches to our dey, the contents of which have not yet transpired. A Danish frigate of 18 guns, which arrived here on the sixth of June, brought from the court of Copenhagen the usual presents; which consist of 400 barrels of gun-powder, 4000 balls, of 24lb. 4000 ditto, of 12lb. and 36 large tables; on the 12th of the same month the above frigate sailed for the West-Indies. The Swedish consul has delivered his majesty's presents in specie.

MADRID, July 25. Since the issuing of the royal ordinance relative to the consumption of goods the growth or manufacture of Great-Britain, and the dominions thereof, the merchants of neutral nations settled at the chief places of the kingdom, as well as those of this city, have presented a petition to his Catholic Majesty, in which they set forth, that having had no intimation of any disagreement between the crowns of Spain and England, and not in the least suspecting a prohibition of English goods, they had lately laid in large quantities, and had still orders in England lying to be executed; and that if their case is not taken into consideration, the most fatal consequences would follow. The deputation have received orders to attend at the Escurial for a decisive answer the third of the month of August, so that we eagerly wait for a determination.

HAAGUE, Aug. 15. Our letters from Madrid, of the 16th of July, mention, that Don Paruelo who commands a detachment of Spanish xebecs before Gibraltar, had attacked a parcel of English privateers which were united in one little fleet, in hopes that he should be supported if the enemy should prove too strong for him as soon as he made a signal; but no succour arrived upon his signal, he was obliged to retire to Ceuta with the loss of one xebec, some officers, and upwards of 100 men: the privateers took their prize into Gibraltar, as they did also some vessels from Barcelona, laden with provisions and uniforms for the camp at St. Roch.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 23. In several of the provinces all is tumult and confusion, since the presentation of the memorial by Sir Joseph Yorke to the states general. French specie, French gold, and even French threats have been most profusely lavished, and three of the seven provinces are actually in their interest. On the other hand Sir Joseph Yorke behaves with great firmness and spirit, and has repeatedly demanded a categorical answer, which their high mightinesses have as yet evaded; but it is hoped by the moderate part of the people, they will espouse the cause of Britain. The French have even offered some of their frontier towns, and great privileges of trade, which has had vast influence upon the minds of the people. They have likewise attempted, by promises and presents, to gain over the stadtholder, but in that they have entirely failed, as he has a great fondness for the English, and particularly for their ambassador, who is often honoured with being along with him, on private parties of pleasure. Several American agents are here now, among them two or three who are well known in London. It is this moment said that their high mightinesses are again met on the British memorial, but it is feared it will come to nothing, at least for a month or so, ere which there will have probably been an engagement between the English and the French and Spaniards. I hope best verfed in the political secrets here, say, that the states general will give the definitive answer to Sir Joseph Yorke before November.

* The intermediate numbers will be published.