

From a late London paper.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

A GENERAL meeting of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county of Oxford having been advertised to be held at the Star inn, in the city of Oxford, on Wednesday last, to consider of a subscription, I thought it my duty to attend, in order to deliver my sentiments upon the occasion; but being prevented from doing so, by finding that the meeting was intended for those only who would subscribe, and that the sense of the county was not to be taken, I send you a copy of those sentiments which I should have delivered, for your publication, that the county might know my reasons for not subscribing.

I am, Sir, your very humble servant,
Cobtham, July 30. ABINGDON.

HAVING upon a former occasion not only objected to the addressing the throne with my life and fortune, for the purpose of carrying on the wicked plot of government that had been formed as well against the liberties of our once fellow-subjects in America (now alas! by such means no more our fellow-subjects) as against the constitution of this happy country (unhappy in its submission to such measures) but did, on the contrary, unite with many others, of the same opinion with myself, in petitioning his majesty to avert the evil from us; and as the self-same reasons that then influenced my conduct, to far from being removed, still exist in redoubled strength, I shall I trust stand in need of no apology for myself, in declining to give any aid or assistance to the plan of subscription that has been set on foot, and is now before us.

I am aware, indeed, of the general argument, "of the present necessity of union," and of the particular application of that argument to me, "that I am opposing the efforts of this country in its own defence;" but I am disturbed by neither argument, nor am I to be moved by them.

With respect to the first argument, the situation in which we are, is the very description of the situation in which government meant to place us. I have heard the doctrine avowed. "You will have, it is said, a French and Spanish war, and then self preservation will force us to unite. So that government having in the beginning acted wickedly and unwisely, in the end the whole nation is to become partakers of their guilt. This may be good modern policy for ought I know, but I am sure it is such logic, and such morality, as the university of Oxford will not teach, nor the county set the example of.

With respect to the second argument, "that I am opposing the efforts of this country in its own defence," I say God forbid! I would have every nerve and sinew brought into action; but it should be first to remove our domestic enemies, and then to crush our foreign foes. It is not France nor Spain I fear. They are open enemies, and are in our front. It is our secret enemies, and those that hang on our backs, that rouse my apprehensions: enemies by whose stratagems and machinations we shall lose the only thing worth fighting for—the liberties of this country.

I have thought it necessary to say so much upon the present occasion, in discharge of the duty which I owe to my country and to myself. The rest I leave to yourselves.

LONDON, Aug. 25.

On Friday last orders were sent from the War Office to the 1st and 2d troops of life guards to immediately collect all their horses that were at grass and in the marshes, and to hold themselves in readiness as soon as they had brought them to town, to march at an hour's notice. Accordingly on Friday and Saturday morning all their horses were collected and brought to the stables in Riding House lane, near Marybone; and they have since prepared their arms, &c. and are ready to march on the shortest notice.

Yesterday it was currently reported, that the combined fleets of France and Spain had taken an English ship bound for Quebec, laden with military cloathing, stores, &c. and having besides 200,000l. in specie on board.

How refined is the policy of nations, and with how courteous an etiquette our naval, as well as our military commanders, now conduct themselves!—Monsieur d'Orvilliers, with great complaisance, kept his distance, while our Leeward Island fleet arrived safe in port; and *par grace* Sir Charles Hardy did not interfere with their homeward bound West-India fleet; afterwards, the French admiral bearing the Jamaica fleet was arriving, engaged himself in a *Sans Sui* party.

while they got into port, while Sir Charles Hardy, with an unusual English courtesy, permitted twenty-five sail of merchantmen from Leoganne to get into Brest, and fifteen into Rochelle; Sir Charles afterwards conceiving d'Orvilliers had an inclination to divert himself with a *partie quare* at Plymouth, and take the change of air a few days, permitted the *conge*, while he amused himself off Scilly; and when Monsieur understood Sir Charles had an inclination of returning to his old station, he very courteously withdrew to make room for the English admiral.

Extra of a letter from Dublin, Aug. 17.

"We hear that a number of transports are purchased by order of government, to be sunk in the entrance of Corke harbour, as apprehensions are entertained that the French intend to land in some part of the west of Ireland, and as Corke is the most opulent quarter, and seems to promise them most plunder, no doubt remains but the enemy may mark it as their place of destination.

"A letter received last Wednesday by a gentleman positively mentions, that the intentions of the French are to land either in Bantry or Galway bay, and the united fleet is to form a chain from Cape Clear to the land's end, to make itself entire master of the British and Irish seas."

We shall probably be informed from France next week, of the proceedings of the combined fleets in the English channel, and of the numerous captures which they have made; for we cannot well have an account ascertained for some time from any other quarter, when besides the Ardent, we shall read the capture of the Ramillies, of 90 guns; the Marlborough, of 74; the Seaforth of 32 guns, with two hundred thousand guineas on board for the pay of the troops in Canada, two of her convoy, one with soldiers cloathing, the other a rich storeship, and the Alert cutter, and a variety of ships of different denominations, which detail will be wound up with a boast, unfortunately too well founded, of their triumphant entry into, and possession of the Channel, and of the ignominious flight of the British fleet. Can any man who has a grain of spirit in his composition anticipate this probable account for a moment, without burning with indignation at the name of Sandwich.

We are sorry to find that a dreadful distemper rages on board the Foudroyant, one of Sir Charles Hardy's fleet; inlomuch, that one of her officers, in a letter received a fortnight ago, says, "that he hopes to God they may meet the combined fleets soon, however great their superiority, for that in a few days time they would not have one hundred men able to work on board her." Similar accounts have been received from other ships, nor is it to be wondered at, considering the hasty manner in which men were collected, which surely need not have been the case, had lord Sandwich done his duty.

Count d'Orvilliers has had the misfortune to lose his only son, a very promising young man of twenty-five years of age, a lieutenant on board his own ship, about a fortnight ago, of a violent putrid fever. Mr. d'Orvilliers was so much affected, that he could not take the command for two days.

The Spaniards have detached nine ships of the line from the Cadiz squadron, four of which, and three frigates, are gone to cruise off the western isles, to intercept the homeward bound Indianes, the destination of the other five is a secret.

The combined fleets certainly consist of sixty-five ships of the line, viz. 33 Spanish, of which three are of 114 guns, eight of 80 guns, and twenty-four of 74 and 70 guns; 30 French of different sizes, and twenty frigates, and fifteen corvets belonging to the two fleets.

Lord Hillsborough will certainly be invested with the vacant secretaryship, in preference to lord Grantham and the attorney-general, the last of whom was raising heaven and earth to fill that office. The reason why lord Hillsborough succeeds, appears to be his being the only person capable of following the late lord Suffolk in the exercise of the tomahawk—Vide his lordship's *Caribbean administration*.

Aug. 31. Fifteen thousand Hanoverians, new regiments, have been ordered to be raised immediately; probably to be brought over to England, that in case of a victory at sea, great reinforcements may be sent to North-America and the West-Indies.

The Kitty and Nancy, Johnson, from Liverpool, rescued the Grafton, captain Moles, who had struck to the Dutch privateer. Monsieur made all the fall he could from captain Johnson.

Annapolis, November 10, 1779.
THE COMMITTEE of GRANTS, GRANTS and COURTS of JUSTICE will sit to do Business in the committee room, every day, from eleven in the forenoon till four in the afternoon, during the present session of the general assembly.
Signed by order of the committee,
W. H. M'PHERSON, clerk.

Annapolis, October 12, 1779.
FOR SALE.
THE UNITED STATES LOTTERY TICKETS in the third class. They go off very rapidly, from the advantage to the adventurer in this class compared with the preceding ones; the holders therefore of tickets in the second class, who purchased of the subscriber, being entitled to pre-emption in this, are requested to be speedy in their application to be new, otherwise they will be disposed of to others.
JOHN DAVIDSON.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.
House of assembly, June 22, 1779.
WHEREAS the Legislature of this state hath passed an act for calling out of circulation, and for sinking all bills of credit heretofore emitted in this state, whilst the same was a colony; and by which it is enacted, that all bills of credit emitted by law, and likewise all those emitted by an ordinance of the late provincial congress of this state, shall be brought into the treasury to be exchanged on or before the first day of January next; and that all those bills which shall not be so brought in on or before that day, shall be for ever after irredeemable.

And whereas many of the said bills may be in the hands of persons residing in the neighbouring states, which, unless timely notice be given, may not be brought in within the times limited; to the great injury of the possessors: to prevent which,

Resolved, That the printers of public news-papers in this and the neighbouring states, be requested to insert the above extracts from the said law in their papers, and continue the same at least four weeks, for the information of all persons concerned.

THE subscriber wants a number of COARSE SHOES made, for which good wages will be given; shoemakers may take them out in quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to
WILLIAM GOLDSMITH,
Of whom a good price may be had for coarse shoe thread.

October 2, 1779.
WHEREAS the late Joseph Milburn Simms, late of Charles county, deceased, did by deed, about the year of our Lord 1744, for a valuable consideration, then in hand paid, bargain and sell unto the late Edward Goodrick, late of the same county, deceased, and his heirs, in fee simple, seventy-five acres of land, called Lyac's-Delight, who was immediately put in and enjoyed the quiet possession of the same till his death; which after descended to the subscriber, as his heir at law, who hath ever since, and now has, peaceable and quiet possession of the same; but the said lands, by the neglect of the parties, were never properly acknowledged according to law, though the said Joseph Milburn Simms desired it should be on his death-bed, for the benefit of the lawful heirs of the said Edward Goodrick. In consequence of such omission, the subscriber, on coming to the possession of the said lands, applied by letter to Joseph Simms, the lawful heir of the said Joseph Milburn Simms, then in France, who sent over a proper deed and power annexed, attended with necessary affidavits, taken before the right honourable William Beckford, Esq; then lord-mayor of the city of London, under the great seal of that city, which were brought over and delivered to the subscriber by captain John Montgomery and James Campbell, who soon after failed, before making the proper affidavit the laws of this province in such cases require, as the subscriber is since informed.

I therefore give this public notice, that I intend to petition our general assembly, at their next session, for their interposition and authority to establish and perpetuate my right and title to the said land and premises.
W. CHARLES GOODRICK.