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When we consider that the West-India islands of the enemy, are the most vulnerable part of their dominions, and that the ravishment of some of these from the British crown, might induce them to think of peace, it may be asked, why it is that France has not sent the whole force she could spare from the securing her own safety in Europe, rather to these islands, than to the continent? It is because her views in that case, might be construed to be ambitious of extensive conquest, while in the present case, it must be evident, that her object simply is the independence of America.

There is no doubt but the powers of Europe are awake and attentive to every operation. Nothing but the firm persuasion of the disinterestedness of France, in all respects, save in freeing herself from the haughtiness of Britain, has produced that contentedness amongst these powers, which is visible in the calm state of their councils, and in every memorial which has appeared from them. But should the least circumstance favour the insinuations of our enemies, it is possible the jealousy of these powers might be kindled, and destroy that confidence in the good intentions of our ally, which exists at present.

Besides; the reducing the West-India islands would not so effectually contribute to terminate the war, as the expelling the enemy from these states, and the being able to resist their invasion, should they again return. While they hold the continent, they will consider the islands secured by it; the fortune of the lesser territories following the possession of the greater. But driven from the states, they will be sensible how vain it is to clamber still against the rocks, and beat by the surges, to endeavour to regain the hold they have once lost.

Moreover, it is the language of warm friendship in our ally, that not contented with her operations in our favour elsewhere, she has thought proper to send a land force immediately to the seat of war, and to unite her arms with ours, on our own soil. It is her earnest desire, to expel the invaders from our coast; and there is great ground of hope, that with our strenuous co-operations, it may be accomplished, even this campaign.

AN ANTI-ANGLICAN.

P A R I S, April 24.

COUNT d'Estaing is set out for Madrid, and it is said he will go from thence to Cadix immediately, to take upon him the command of the grand fleet, which, with seven men of war expected from Toulon, will consist of 39 sail of the line; after which he will also take the command of the two divisions under the command of the count du Chaffault and Mons. de Beugainville. Count d'Estaing will hoist his flag on board the Terrible of 120 guns, but pierced for 120; there will be three ships of that force in the fleet. All the privateers have orders to be at Brest by the end of this month. These amazing preparations, together with those on the coast, make it imagined that the long intended invasion of the British dominions will certainly take place this campaign, count d'Estaing commanding the fleet, and count de Malbois the land forces. It is also said, that the count de Rochambeau will second the operations of the fleet with his army.

L O N D O N, May 15.

On Saturday se'nnight, captain Gowland arrived in London from Calcutta with dispatches for government, which he brought by sea to Baffora, and from hence by land through Aleppo, Asia the Less, Constantinople, and Vienna. In his way from Baffora to Aleppo, being accompanied only by six guards, a servant, and an interpreter, he was attacked three times by the wild Arabs, against whom he defended himself, but within a day's journey of Aleppo, he was surrounded by a hundred barbarous people called Rafawans, by whom he was plundered of his money, cloaths, and other effects. Captain Gowland saved, however, his dispatches by sit-

ting upon them, and swearing he would only surrender them with his life. The object of the dispatches is to bring the complaints both of the British and native inhabitants of Bengal against the supreme court of judicature. The English law in particular, of arrests and bail, is so totally contrary to the ideas of the people of the east, that it is regarded by them as in the highest degree odious and oppressive.

May 18. There remains a good deal of public business for parliament yet to do, but as the most material steps towards finishing it, have already been taken, it is not imagined that the house will sit much longer; especially as opposition in the lower house at least mean not to attempt any new parliamentary manœuvres this session.—Mr. Burke is as anxious to get rid of his bill, as the minister can be, being heartily tired or rolling the stone of Sisyphus up hill.

By a gentleman just arrived from Dublin, we are informed, that the spirit of volunteering begins a little to cool; and that they are removing into the principal towns of Ireland, a sufficient number of regular forces to mount guard, and do the other duties of the military, which some months ago were all performed by the volunteers.

Orders are gone to Portsmouth for the ships that lie there, to come up immediately to Spithead, and take in their provisions; that they may join the grand fleet.

Robert Maon, Esq; a lord of the admiralty, who, it is expected, by those who pretend to be in the secret, will succeed to the command of the fleet, is the second in the list of vice admirals of the red; he formerly commanded the Mediterranean station, and is said to be a very brave and experienced officer.

The main view in appointing a commander in chief to the channel fleet, is to choose a man who is beloved by the seamen, and in whom they can trust. No old courtier, no stern martinet, will be obeyed with alacrity in the hour of action. The men may fight indeed for their own honour, but they will exert themselves beyond the strict boundary of duty, when under the command of a man they love for his humanity, and venerate for his bravery.

Government have for some time been in expectation of good news from the Manillas, which it is thought will fall an easy conquest, as they are in a very weak state of defence, and no fresh troops have been sent there from Spain for some years.

Yesterday captain Wilson of a troop of volunteer light horse of Ireland, set out for that kingdom; the above gentleman has gained great repute, and likewise a patent from his majesty for a new invented blunderbuss, which fixes in the manner of a rattle to the pommel of the saddle, and carries 14 balls. It can be loaded and discharged with such remarkable swiftness that several have been already made in the Tower on the original plan.

May 24. Yesterday noon an express arrived from Plymouth, at the admiralty, with an account that his majesty's ship the Ardent taken off that town in the month of August last, was retaken, and brought in there, after an obstinate engagement, by his majesty's ship the Jupiter, captain Reynolds, in company with a frigate. Our correspondent has sent us no particulars, but that it was a warm contest, and that the frigate raked the Ardent, while the Jupiter plied plentifully along side.

B O S T O N, July 13.

By an officer from Albany, we are informed, that a few hours before he left that place, an express had arrived there from the Oneidas, giving an account that a considerable body of the enemy, supposed to be 7 or 800, chiefly savages, commanded by the noted Butler and Brant, had been discovered near the old Oneida castle, about 20 miles from fort Schuyler; and that it was supposed their intentions were to destroy that castle, and then availing fort Schuyler, to proceed down the Mohawk river, in order to cut off the remains of that defenceless, and yet important part of the country for grain, which it seems Sir John Johnson, in his late notable expedition, by reason of the haste he was in to carry off his own plate, had not sufficient time to effect.

The French army we hear have encamped on the south side of Rhode-Island, and are as fine a body of troops as ever were collected together. Notwithstanding their tedious passage of above ten weeks, we are well assured there are not 300 unfit for immediate duty.

T R E N T O N, July 16.

We learn that a large body of the militia of the state of New-York will shortly be ordered out, and that his excellency governor Clinton will command them in person.

We also hear that one thousand of militia of this state are ordered to join the continental army; and that a large number of the Pennsylvania militia are directed to hold themselves in readiness to march on a short notice, to camp.

We hear that the French squadron, M. de Ternay, came south about, in order to relieve Charles-town. Off the capes of Virginia he fell in with admiral Graves with six English line of battle ships; when a skirmish ensued, in which one of the enemy's ships in running down the line of the French, was so severely handled that the English admiral thought it most prudent to sheer off, and made the best of his way to New-York, where the damaged ship is now repairing.

We learn that on the 4th instant, a severe engagement happened in the West-Indies, between the combined fleets of France and Spain and that of the English, in which the French took two 74's, and sunk one 64, besides doing the British other considerable damage.—This account is said to be published in a late New York paper, but we have not yet been able to obtain a sight of it.

Extract of a letter from a capital mercantile house in Amsterdam, to a gentleman in this state, dated May 1, 1780.

"The friends of America in this country persevere in their attachment to the good cause, and their opponents still preserve their former sentiments; however upon the whole, the political sky, which at particular times has been much clouded over your country, is clearing up very fast.—Ireland has already a volunteer army under the most approved whig leaders, who are of their own choice. The whigs of England are associating after the example of America. Great-Britain has made herself odious to all the commercial nations of Europe by her arrogance in pretending to keep the sovereignty of the seas, and by her injustice in seizing and condemning neutral vessels, contrary to treaty. The time is now come when those nations will insist on their right to a free trade, and are determined to support the honour of their respective flags. There is already a negotiation on foot, and as good as concluded, between the courts of Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Portugal, and this republic (to which they were invited by the empress of Russia) to make it a common cause, and to form a system for the protection of their commerce to every part of the world, and not suffer it to be interrupted by any nation whatever. She has already declared her design to the belligerent powers, and requested the concurrence of our states; and though you know our motions are generally very slow, in this instance the province of Holland resolved immediately, not only to enter into the plan, but to conier with prince Gallitzin, the Russian ambassador, on the best and most effectual measures to accelerate the negotiation and to complete the plan. We believe that a Russian squadron will, for that purpose, soon be in the British channel to act in conjunction with ours, as there is not a doubt of the other provinces following the example of that of Holland. The court of Great-Britain are in great jeopardy, and seem to act irresolutely desperate. About the middle of April last, when they found the Dutch would not at any rate grant them succours, but on the contrary, were determined to assist in abridging their assumed sovereignty of the seas, to cover their chagrine and disappoointment, published a declaration charging the republic with deserting their alliance, and have suspended, till further orders, all the particular privileges in commerce it has hitherto enjoyed; the very mention of privileges, which we never enjoyed but when they pleased, is affronting in the highest degree; generally speaking, these would be called privileges with the same propriety as the British cruelties prac-