

rounded the general's house and made him prisoner, not suffering any person to speak to him, and declaring, with the most horrid imprecations, that if he did not sign their discharges that night, his house should be about his ears before morning: after a variety of language of this sort, the general was obliged to comply with their demands, and let them all at liberty that evening.

April 12. An approved method of inoculation. "A lancet, moistened with the matter of the small-pox, is gently introduced in an oblique manner, between the cart and true skin, and the finger of the operator is applied on the point to wipe off the infection from the lancet when it is withdrawn. Neither platter, bandage, nor covering, are, in any respect, necessary. This method of producing the disease seldom fails."

April 15. On Friday last a number of sailors assembled at Chatham, to chastise those officers who had used them with severity whilst at sea; several houses were searched to no effect; but one midshipman, who was the object of their rage, unfortunately fell in their way, and his life fell a victim to their rage.

April 18. The ships of admiral Hughes were paid one dividend of prize money, for the capture of Trincomale, at Madras, the 10th of October; the warrant officers shares amounted to 130l. each.

Extra of a letter from Paris, April 3.

"We learn that M. du Chillau is dead of his wounds. We expect every day the arrival of the captains turned out of their ships for disobedience of orders, and sent back to France by M. de Suffren."

"It is affirmed that the count de Grasse accuses twenty-six of his captains, who saw his signals and answered them, but did not obey them."

"A requisitorial on the conduct of M. de Tronjo'y proves, that this captain, instead of taking care of the preservation of the king's domains in India, was busy in carrying on a traffic for wine, from Constance or the Cape. In consequence of this conviction he is struck off the list. It is said he wanted to complain, but his friends advised him to be silent."

The reinforcements for the French and British squadrons being all arrived in the East-Indies, which they are expected to have been by the beginning of October, at farthest; those under Sir Richard Bickerton to join admiral Hughes at Madras; and those under the chevalier Froment, to join le Baillie Suffren at Trincomale; the two fleets will be very powerful. The British will consist of 17 sail of the line including the Isis, of 50 guns: the French 16 sail of the line including le Flamand, and another ship of 50 guns each. So that there are very great expectations of another conflict, no less obstinate and bloody than either of the two last, before any account can be received in the eastern world of a cessation of hostilities having taken place among all the belligerent powers.

Yesterday afternoon as a barber's apprentice was looking in at a print-shop window near Temple Bar, a chimney-sweeper's boy observing the print of the coalition, instantly clasped him round the neck, and exclaimed, come, my boy, let you and I have a coalition of our own.

An honest tradesman in Cornhill, remarkable for his fidelity and tender attachment to his wife, having to his great surprise, caught her in bed with his apprentice a few mornings ago, charged her with the profligacy of her conduct in the most pointed and severe terms: the woman listened to him with great composure for some time, and then coolly told him, he ought to have known, that since the coalition at the west end of the town, there was nothing left to blush at!

April 20. Friday a large body of sailors with a flag before them marched to St. James's, with a petition to his majesty for the payment of their wages and prize money, when they were referred to the lords of the admiralty for redress.

Yesterday the Park gates were all shut and fastened by order; but some of the tars found means to scale the walls, or climb over the gates, and got into St. James's Park; but on the appearance of the guards armed, they withdrew peaceably, without any bloodshed, or any mischief done.

Extra of a letter from Plymouth, April 13.

"This forenoon arrived his majesty's ship St. Michael, 72 guns, from Gibraltar, after a passage of 22 days; she left the troops healthy and well, and has on board a number of Spanish deserters, and also some hundred soldiers. General Elliot and the duke de Crillon had an interview on the isthmus before the ship sailed; the latter made a present of a fine horse to general Elliot."

April 21. Building materials of every kind are going to be sent out to Gibraltar to rebuild the town for the accommodation of its inhabitants: but it will be raised upon an entire new plan, from a hint of governor Elliot.

April 23. A report was current on Monday, that news had arrived by the way of Holland from the East-Indies, of our having had another action with Mons. Suffren, in which Sir Edward Hughes had proved decisively successful, having taken three, and sunk four of the French admiral's squadron. We have not been fortunate enough to have it ascertained to us that this information is well founded, but think it our duty to lay before our readers the following accounts given by different evening papers. One of them states, that Sir Edward Hughes sailed from Madras, after putting his squadron into circumstances of repair as much as was practicable, on the 17th of October, and on the 31st was joined by Sir Richard Bickerton, with five ships of the line from England, which made his squadron equal to 17 sail of the line, with these they attacked the French fleet, which were only 16 sail of the line, the same ships that were in the engagement in September. Whether the action was fought off Trincomale, or whether the French was returning to the southward, is not yet known, but the action is said to have been decisive; and it is more than probable the recapture of Trincomale from the French may succeed.

Monday about noon, says an evening paper, intelligence was received by government, of another battle having been fought between admiral Hughes and Mons. Suffren, in the East Indies; when a most bloody conflict ensued, in which the enemy were totally defeated. This news was immediately sent to the king at Windsor.

April 24. Lord Northampton is to be the lord lieutenant of Ireland, in the room of Lord Temple, and Mr.

Wyndham, of Norfolk, is to accompany his lordship as secretary.

The negotiation with the Dutch goes on but slowly owing to some claims hitherto insisted on by the states General, which this country can neither in honour, nor in prudence grant. Authentic accounts, however, say that there are the greatest hopes of those obstacles being soon removed, as the deputies of some of the provinces have been observed to relax a good deal, of late, in their language relative to the matters in dispute. This change, we are told, is an effect produced by the firmness of new ministry here, and not by any new sentiments of moderation in the councils of the republic; had there been any visible prospect, that perseverance in demand would have prevailed against justice.

Anecdote, from a late Dublin magazine. A cynical old bachelor being asked, the other day, what were his thoughts of matrimony? he replied, "It is the lottery of love, in which there are so many blanks to a prize, that I wonder Mr. Cupid has not long since been a bankrupt."

An evening paper says, that when the American commissioners, now at Paris, were founded, by order of our ministry, as to their disposition for entering into a commercial treaty with this country, without the interference of the French minister, they, without the least hesitation, declared, that though they knew congress was not bound by any treaty to France, nor to make whatever regulations in trade, which that assembly might think necessary, with any power upon earth, without the interference of any court whatsoever, still their instructions from congress were peremptory, not to conclude any treaty, political or commercial, with Great-Britain, without consulting with the ministers of the Most Christian King in every stage of the negotiation.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, April 23.

AMERICAN INTERCOURSE BILL.

Mr. secretary Fox having moved that the order of the day be read for the house's resolving itself into a committee on this bill, it was read accordingly, and the speaker having left the chair, Mr. St. Andrew St. John took his seat at the table.

The committee then proceeded to debate the clauses, and fill up the blanks, when

Sir Robert Herries rose, and said, two matters of objection to the bill as it stood, struck him, which he would take the liberty of stating; in the first place, he conceived it was not the design of the party, who brought in the bill, to place American ships on better terms than British ships, but that the benefits, advantages, and accommodation, derived under the operation of the bill, if it passed into a law, should be reciprocal. At present, as the clauses of the bill were worded, he conceived American vessels would be allowed a variety of advantages, which were not extended to British ships. Another matter that appeared to him to require some alteration was this: suppose a plague should break out in any one of the thirteen provinces of America, according to the wording of the bill, the government of Great Britain would have no authority to oblige American ships coming under such circumstances, to perform quarantine, or produce bills of health. Sir Robert said he did not mention these matters by way of opposing the bill, or throwing the least impediment in its way. The bill, he was convinced, was a measure extremely necessary, and he had full confidence in its being the intention and desire of his majesty's ministers to pass it in a shape best adapted to the peculiar circumstances to which it was to apply, and in the way least liable to objection of any kind; it was enough for him, therefore, to have suggested what struck him as worthy some attention.

Mr. secretary Fox said he was ashamed to repeat what he had been so often obliged to trouble the house with on the subject of the present bill, but as the objections started, came within the scope of the declaration he had before made, he could not avoid repeating the same answer. The present bill, he begged gentlemen to recollect, was a mere temporary measure, adapted to an occasion that pressed exceedingly, viz. the necessity of opening an immediate intercourse with America. In doing it, the object of the bill was rather to remove obstacles than to provide regulations, and therefore particular care had been taken to couch the bill in as general terms as possible: in short to avoid any thing like an adhesion to the legal situation of America and Great-Britain, and to leave it partly to the negotiation now going on, and partly to the consideration of parliament in their digesting and meliorating another bill then pending, to say what rules the nature of the case rendered most necessary, and to give those rules and regulations their due force and authority. Had the late ministry been so good in their adjustment of the provisional treaty, as to have inserted some one article or other that had a reference to a future treaty of commerce between America and Great-Britain, they would not only have done their country a very essential piece of service, but have favored the present government and both houses of parliament an infinite deal of trouble, and relieved them from a difficulty which, in every point of view that it could be considered, would be found to be of great magnitude. Had the late ministry, for instance, not only by their treaty agreed, that a cessation of hostilities should take place, in the strict and common sense of the words, viz. by the armies of the two countries no longer continuing to fight, or make war on each other, but in a more general acceptance of the term, and a more extensive sense of it, namely, that from and after the ratification of the provisional treaty, all sorts of hostilities should cease, and that the prohibitory laws that impeded the commerce of the two countries should no longer have effect on either side, in that case undoubtedly there would have been little or no occasion for the present bill. As the last administration, however, had not been kind enough in their treaty of peace with America, to have made the provision necessary to prevent the embarrassment the country now felt, it became the duty of his majesty's present servants to apply the best and most speedy remedy, that the nature of the case would admit; and as he did not doubt but that every gentleman saw the necessity of immediately opening an intercourse with America, they would join with him in thinking, that if they were to look to every possible case that might arise, (such as the case of a plague breaking out in any of the thirteen

provinces, which, though it came within the scope of possibility, was not very much within that of probability, at least, in the shortness of the time, for which the present bill was intended to operate and have effect) instead of embracing the object of the bill without delay, they would scarcely ever be able to attain it. Mr. Fox therefore hoped, if the other clauses of the bill were thought unobjectionable, it would be allowed to pass, without any material alteration.

When Mr. St. Andrew St. John came to the clause giving a power to his majesty in council to issue such orders or orders as to their wisdom should seem proper during the operation of the bill, with respect to the mode of entry of American vessels, as far as regarded a dispensation with the duties, an allowance of the drawbacks, bounties, &c.

Mr. Arden rose, and after declaring, that he was a firm friend to the bill, and particularly to the support of the present clause, which he had himself suggested as necessary to be introduced into a former bill, now, for very good reasons suspended, said, he thought it would be more advisable to define, expressly, the extent of the powers intended to be vested in his majesty and council, than to leave it to conjecture and doubtful construction. Mr. Arden reasoned very sensibly on this point, and remarked, that it was undoubtedly necessary in the particular cases in question, to give very extensive powers to the crown; but it appeared to him to be by far the wisest way to express in the bill, the full extent of the powers to be vested in the crown, in order that gentlemen might not at a future period say, that when they voted for the bill, they were not aware that they gave, and that they never meant to give, powers to such an extent. Mr. Arden, after urging the necessity of this in strong terms, proposed to insert the words "duties, drawbacks, or otherwise," in the clause under consideration.

This occasioned a conversation between Mr. secretary Fox, Mr. Eden, governor Johnstone, Mr. Anthony Bacon, Mr. Thornton, and Mr. Arden, in which it was on all hands agreed, that the bill was indispensably necessary, and Mr. secretary Fox having declared his readiness to adopt any proposition not likely to defeat the aim of the bill, the amendment was adopted, proposed, and agreed to.

The clause stating how long the bill was to have effect, was next discussed, and it became a question, what the time of its operation should be. By some six weeks, and by others a month, was proposed as the period. Mr. secretary Fox said, he cared not how short it was, and if the gentlemen opposite to him could undertake to say, that the bill would be received with equal candour in the other house, and meet with as little obstruction there; in short, that it would pass the lords in as brief a space of time as it was likely to pass the commons, he would agree to limit its operation to one month, but as that was not a matter, upon which he could depend, he must propose six weeks.

Mr. Arden and the rest of the gentlemen smiled, but not choosing to undertake for the other house, Mr. secretary Fox's motion was put and agreed to.

The bill at length passed the committee. The whole of this debate, if it can be so termed, was conducted in perfect good humour; and it was agreed on all hands that it was better policy to treat the Americans generally, than to go into the question whether they were to be considered under either of the three distinctions of British subjects, aliens, or a people sui generis, as Mr. Burke had a few days since defined them.

NEW-YORK, June 6.

Extra of a letter from gentlemen in London to their friends in this city, dated April 2.

"The loyalists have, though not without difficulty and opposition, appointed agents for the several colonies, to solicit a compensation for the sacrifices made by their attachment to this country. They often sit, and from the speeches in both houses of parliament, they have reason to hope for success in some degree. They will consider those in their application who shall be obliged to seek an asylum in this country, as one of themselves."

"Notwithstanding the stipulations in the treaty respecting the evacuation of New-York, it will be impossible that it can be soon done. Some gentlemen will endeavour to prevail on the board of agents to urge the necessity to the new ministry, of keeping that place as a cautionary security for the recommendations of congress respecting the indemnification of the loyalists."

Extra of a letter from London, February 23.

"Very great subscriptions in all parts of England have been collected for buying corn and potatoes for the poor; the corn has been extremely dear, owing to the bad crops last year. To see what luxuries all ranks of people aspire to, is really surprising, for I have just seen a footman behind a coach with an umbrella in his hand because it rained; can you suppose any thing so ridiculous; and I imagine it will be of equal use to him in summer, to keep his delicate complexion from the scorching sun. All the fine town men are getting gold ear-rings like the ladies, and look like so many Indian chiefs. The duchess of Devonshire's bracelets are like a dog's collar; a piece of silver or gold plate lined with velvet, her name on one arm and place of abode upon the other."

Extra of a letter from Durrkheim, on the Rhine, received by the last packet.

"While peace is taking place in your quarter, preparations for war are making in Europe; all level at the Turk; the emperor is sending troops, ammunition, ordnance, and every other requisite, to Hungary. The king of Prussia takes part (as the papers say) and is marching 40,000 men to the same place. It is supposed this is a plan of old Frederick's, and will occasion a pretty diversion. Whether the French, although much in want of money, will remain silent spectators on this occasion, is much doubted, nay, it is asserted that they are sending 80,000 men to the Rhine; if so, they will cut but a poor figure. The emperor, the king of Prussia, and the empress of Russia, when united, may prescribe laws to the whole world."

PHILADELPHIA, June 14.

It is now confidently reported, that the British army will leave New-York in the course of the month of August. It is said that directions to this purpose were received by the last vessels arrived at New-York from England.

June 17. By learn, that 37 day last from J veral others h was hourly ex An account party of India fuges settled outrages on the people.

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PROCEED liberties of lic notice, a June, 1783

Colonel S

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