

We hear that Sir Edward Hawke's Squadron, after having lain some time before the port of Cadiz, and blocking up there a fleet superior to his own, was blown off by a brisk gale to sea, which prevented his being joined by Commodore Coates; and consequently saved the whole Spanish Squadron, and the fleet under their escorte, from being destroyed.

On Thursday last Commodore Moyston sailed from Spithead to the westward, with his Majesty's ships Hampton-court, Pr. Frederick, Salisbury, Assistance, Tyger, and Intrepide, with the wind at north.

His Majesty's ship the Panther of 50 guns is order'd for Cape-Breton, and is to take under convoy the storeships bound for that place, Newfoundland, &c.

April 14. Letters from Paris by way of Holland advise, that one of their men of war, of 80 guns and 600 men, from Cyprus in Turkey, is taken by an English man of war.

Admiralty Office, April 1. On the 29th past his Majesty's sloop the Falcon, commanded by Capt. Saumarez, arrived in Plymouth sound. He gives an Account, that Capt. Harrison, commander of his Majesty's ship Monmouth, took the 21st of March last, the Roflan, a French privateer of 22 guns and 270 men, belonging to Bourdeaux; but before Capt. Harrison had shifted all his prisoners, the privateer sunk, with about 9 of his own men and 100 French.

April 4. Capt. Coates, commander of his Majesty's ship Edinburgh, of 70 guns, having been sent to sea with the said ship, together with his Majesty's ships the Eagle, the Windsor, and the Princess Louisa, of 60 guns each, and the Inverness of 24 guns, in order to join Sir Edward Hawke, has sent the Inverness to England with the following advice: That on the 7th ult. being in his station off Cape Cantin, looking out for Sir Edward Hawke, he fell in with a fleet of the following Spanish ships; viz. El Sobervio of 74 guns, Leon 74, Colorado 70, Oriente 64, La Pastora 64, Brillante 64, El Rosario 60, Xavier 54, La Galgo 54; having under their convoy about 27 merchant ships, with which they sailed from Cadiz four days before: That the men of war drew up into a line to receive him; but not being strong enough to attack them, he endeavoured to cut off as many of the ships under their convoy as he could; and accordingly five of them were taken, three being Register ships, bound to Vera Cruz, and the other two bound to Carthagena. That the Spanish men of war continued to lie to in a line, and did not endeavour to retake the said ships; and Capt. Coates observing that the ships under their convoy steer'd away to the westward, scatter'd, and in confusion, as soon as it was dark he detached the Eagle and Windsor, both very good sailors, to pursue them, and endeavour to cut off any which separated from the men of war.

A few days ago there was a general meeting held of the principal persons concerned in the undertaking of the discovery of a north west passage, when a very full and particular account was laid before them, as well of the expences attending, as discoveries made by the last expedition; the probability there is still of finding such a passage, and; in short, the complete state of their affairs, after which, and some free debates upon the several points proposed, it was unanimously agreed to continue the said glorious design, as a mark of the firmness and publick spirit of the subscribers, their regard for the encouragement offered by the legislature, their glorious zeal with regard to the interest of their country, and their willingness to contribute to the improvement of useful knowledge, and the benefit of mankind in general. A most singular and laudable instance of a generous turn of mind, which cannot fail of edifying the present age, and drawing the wonder of posterity.

Letters from Holland by the last mail say, that the negotiation for the ransom of the Dutch who are now prisoners in France, meets with so many obstructions, that all sorts of concluding seems to be over for the present: But that the longer this affair remains in suspense, the less advantageous it will be to France; for, according to the Lists that were sent to the Dutch Council of State last month, the number of those prisoners is so reduced, that at the beginning of the present year, they were not computed at above five thousand four hundred.

His Majesty has promoted Commodore Lee to be Rear Admiral of the Red Flag.

On Monday Night Prince Henry, Son to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, had the Misfortune to break his Thigh at Leicester House.

The Triumph, Hilton, from New-York for London, is taken and carried into St. Maloes. The Monmouth, Man, from New-York, is arrived at Haverfordwest. The Friendship,

Bruco, from Boston, at the Orkneys. The Neptune, for Bristol from New England, in Ireland; but as yet we have no news of Capt. Rous in the packet that sailed the beginning of January last.

The Rates of Brabant are ordered to get ready for the French three thousand Waggons, before the end of the current month, and an ordonnance has been published at Brussels, forbidding all persons, under the penalty of the most severe punishment, to furnish the allies with provisions or goods of any kind whatsoever.

Last Wednesday afternoon, a Jew, eminent for his great knowledge of the Hebrew and Chaldee languages, was, after a proper Confession of his Faith, publickly baptiz'd at the Meeting-House in Paul's Alley, Barbican.

B O S T O N, May 5.

Thursday last arrived at Marblehead, a large French Snow laden with Sugar, Indigo, &c. and 'tis said, has some Thousands of Dollars on board. She came from Leogane, and narrowly escaped being taken by Mr. Knowles, who had entered the Bay, in order to attack that Place. However, she was taken soon after by a Rhode-Island Privateer, commanded by Capt. Car, who order'd her to Newport, but having stood too far to the Northward, was obliged to put into Marblehead.

By a Vessel from Jamaica, we have Advice, that in the Engagement between the Schooner Achilles (one of Mr. Knowles's Squadron, of which we lately gave an Account) and two of the Enemy's Privateers, the Commander Capt. Samuel Lowder, a Native of this Town, was unfortunately killed, as were all or most all of his Officers, and the greatest part of the private Men; so obstinately did they maintain the Combat, but were at last obliged to yield to superior Force.

And by a Gentleman just arrived from Antigua, we are told, that Commodore Pocock had taken the Island of St. Lucia from the French, demolished the Fort, and drove the Inhabitants of the Island.

Last Tuesday arrived Capt. Gardener in 24 Days from the West-Indies, who confirms the Accounts we have had, That the Dutch at Curacao, had taken, or seiz'd in that Harbour, 4 or 5 French Privateers and a considerable Number of their Trading Vessels; among the former is the famous Capt. Planche, with his fine Sloop, and her Consort, and the Commanders with all their Men were kept as Prisoners. That they had receiv'd Advice at Curacao from the Governor at Eustain, That Admiral Knowles with his Squadron had taken Petit-Goaves, a French Port of Hispaniola, not far from Leogane: The Confirmation of which News we must suspend till we have more direct Advices.

The same Evening arrived here His Majesty's Ship Port-Mahon of 20 Guns from Salteruda; She was bound hither from England last Fall, but blown off the Coast and stood away for Barbadoes, from whence she was sent as a Convoy to the Salteruda Fleet; most of the Vessels of the said Fleet which were bound to this Port are also arriv'd. We hear that two of the Fleet were taken by a French Ship of 58 Guns, bound from Mississippi to Cape Francois, one a Bermudian, the other a fine new Sloop belonging to Salem, — Calton, Master.

We hear that a few Days ago, four Men being out at some Distance from the Fort, at a Place called Wicaffet in Sheepfoot at the Eastward, were surpris'd by a large Body of Indians, who kill'd three of them, and carry'd away the fourth Captive; one of the three that was kill'd came in the Flag of Truce from Canada, where he had been for some Time in Captivity.

Yesterday an Express came from the Westward, by whom we learn, That Serj. Hawk, who was sent as a Flag of Truce to Canada last Winter with Reinboe, a young French Prisoner, was return'd to Northampton, who informs, That upon the said Reinboe's relating to the French People at Montreal, the kind Usage he met with from the English while with them, they treated him, the said Mr. Hawk, and two Men that went with him, with much Civility, and told him they would show the English Prisoners more Respect for the future than they had done before; also that the Governor of Canada assur'd him, that he would send all the English Prisoners there in a Flag of Truce to Louisbourg, as soon as the River was clear of Ice. They sent also the said Reinboe, with 5 French Men and 2 or 3 Indians to accompany them upon their Return for their Security, who came with them as far as the Head of Black River, a few Miles above No. 4. Mr Hawk bro't with him two Men, Blake and Allen, that were taken Captive last Year at Ashuelot.