

ruining each other, to gratify France the common enemy of both, this common enemy raised to mighty a fleet, as to be able afterwards to dispute with us the empire of the ocean. Put it should not be forgot, that during these Dutch wars, we acquired the provinces of *New-Holland* and *New-Sweden* in *America*, now called *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, which united our Northern and Southern provinces on that continent, and were a more valuable acquisition than we have ever since made and held, when our hero was a land commander.

When the duke of *York* came to be king, he kept to himself his former office of Lord High Admiral, and executed the business of the navy with only the assistance of a secretary: But his reign was short, passed without foreign wars, and was so much devoted to the darling scheme of restoring Popery, that this best seaman of all our monarchs did not, on the throne, make any addition to our naval glory.

Come we now to the three last wars, in which *land* was the element of our darling heroes; and in which, the plains of *Flanders* have drank to plentifully of the blood of our soldiers. In the first of them we had nothing to boast, except that we prevented the exiled king from being again thrust in upon us, and made somewhat of a stand to the progress of the *French* arms in the *Netherlands*. But by the partition treaty which followed it, we laid the foundation of the second war, as you plainly shewed on a late occasion. And what did we in this second war? Why, after an unparallel'd series of victories, we obtained an insufficient barrier for the *Dutch*, a few out-lying portions of the *Spanish* monarchy for the emperor, and for ourselves the property of *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahon* in *Europe*; besides a few cessions (that have hitherto turned to little account) in *America*. Our exploits in the third war are too recent to need a particular enumeration. The *Dutch* barrier, lost by the war, will be imperfectly restored by the peace. *Parma* and *Placentia*, granted to the Imperial house as an equivalent for *Naples* and *Sicily*, are again dismembered from its dominions to satisfy an enemy; and a large part of the *Milanes* is cut off to reward a friend. All these losses to our *Allies* have been sustained with an unreasonable expence to us, who, for want of a naval hero, have in the mean time no sensible acquisition for ourselves.

Contemporary with king *William*, the duke of *Marlborough*, and his R— H—, the nation had indeed a glimpse of some characters, which seemed to be endowed with all the qualities requisite for acquiring the reputation of naval heroism. But it was not for a *Ruffel*, a *Reck*, or a *V—*, to eclipse the glory of a monarch, a favourite captain general, or a beloved —. Had king *William*, in person, won the victory of *La Hogue*, the sea, from that time forwards, would doubtless have been his favourite element. If the duke of *Marlborough*, in 1704, had commanded the fleet before *Malaga*, instead of the Confederate army upon the *Dunube*, the future prosecution of that war, for the recovery of the *Spanish* monarchy, had been made in a great measure by sea; the operations had been directed against the remote branches of that monarchy, where our own future advantage, as well as the grandeur of the house of *Austria*, might have been provided for, and in the last instance I have taken notice of, if either his

H— the D— of C— had commanded in the *West Indies*, or admiral V— had been as much a favourite at C—t as he justly was with the people, the reduction of *Porto Bello* and *Fort Chagre* had not sufficed to our glory, nor been an adequate sufficient sacrifice to the resentment of our injured merchants. Probably we had taken, but certainly we should have made an attempt on the *Havanna*, if not another on *Carthagena*. When *Porto Bello* was open, *Panama* could scarce have been eight years unattacked. It would have been thought inglorious that *St. Augustine*, at the end of nine years war, should remain in the hands of the *Spaniards*. We could not have been three years in possession of *Louisburg*, continually solicited by the people of *New-England*, and have suffered *Qubeck* to remain all the time unmolested. May we not esteem it the kingdom's misfortune, that at his setting forth the fall pursuit of glory, the land, rather than the sea, was open for the element of his R— H—?

From the beginning we had other hopes: The journey to *Esmeath*, the going on board the *Victory*, the general report of this gallant Pr— was destin'd for the service of the sea, as great expectation of seeing once more a royal admiral lead on our fleets; 'til the unhappy encounter with the or some other less known accident, suddenly blasted all hopes, and the sending of an army into *Germany* called

at the head of it. But must not our hopes be again revived by the reports that are spread, and even given us in the articles of news from H—, that this darling hero is at last coming to *England*, to take possession of the post of Lord High Admiral? May we not from such an event, if it actually happens, promise ourselves great advantages in the next war against the house of *Beurbon*, which I suppose to be not very remote? At least, let us amuse ourselves with prospects a little distant, since those at hand are so very gloomy. I am, &c.

T. WISHWELL.

## L O N D O N.

December 27. Friday last the lords of the admiralty put the *Salisbury* man of war into commission, and gave the command to the Hon. George Edgewcombe, Esq;

The same day Mr. Champion, purveyor to his Royal Highness the duke of *Cumberland*, arrived in town from *Holland*, where he left his Royal Highness well on Thursday last.

The *Tavistock*, *Gloucester*, *Sheerness*, and *Nightingale* men of war, are ordered to be manned and victualled with all expedition for *Guiney* and the *West Indies*.

They write from *Copenhagen*, that his Danish majesty having missed, some years ago, an opportunity of taking general *Keith* into his service, is inclined to repair that loss by making use of marshal *Lowendahl*, who has lately purchased very large estates in the duchy of *Holstein*, with an intention to reside in that monarch's dominions.

This morning an order was given from the war office, for the reduction of several regiments lately come from *Holland*.

And there will also be a reduction of the mattresses belonging to the train of artillery.

It is said that an act of indemnity will pass this session of parliament.

Whitehall, December 27. The king has been pleased to constitute and appoint Sir *John Evelyn*, Bart. *Bryan Fairfax*, Warder *George Westby*, *Richard Chandler*, *Beaumont Hotham*, *Samuel Mead*, *Gwyn Vaughan*, *William Levinz*, and *Edward Hooper*, Esquires, to be commissioners of the customs within that part of Great Britain called *England*.

The king has been pleased to constitute and appoint *George Dunk*, earl of *Hallifax*, *Robert Herbert*, *John Pitt*, *Baptist Leveson Gower*, *James Greenville*, Esquires, *Thomas Hay*, Esq; commonly called lord viscount *Dupplin*, and *Francis Fane*, Esq; together with Sir *Thomas Robinson*, knight of the *Bath*, in the room of *Richard Plummer*, Esq; to be commissioners for trade and plantations.

### ST. JOHN'S, Antigua.

February 24. By a flag of truce arrived here from *Martinico* on Tuesday last, in three days, in which came several persons who have been lately taken by their guarda costas, on suspicion of carrying on a clandestine trade; who inform us, that they have carried in there fourteen of our vessels since last October, which have been sold with their cargoes; some of them, when taken, being three leagues off the island: That two frigates were to sail in two days; one of which was for *Tobago*, with some soldiers on board, and a good many 18 pound cannon; the other, tho' said to be going on a cruise, was supposed to be bound to the same place.

### KINGSTON, in Jamaica.

February 4. On Monday came in here a vessel from the coast with slaves, who informs, that they were so sickly on the coast, that three hundred piitoles had been offered for any one capable of acting as mate of one of the vessels there bound hither.

By a vessel arrived here from *St. Domingo*, we have an authentic account, that a sloop with flour, Capt. *Johnson* master, from *New-York*, took in four *Mulatto Spaniards*, for their passage, who villainously rose at sea, and murder'd all the crew. They brought the sloop into *St. Domingo*, and reported to the governor of that place, that they were all made slaves, bound to *Jamaica*, and there to be sold with the vessel. The sloop and cargo was sold there, and the money deposited in the king's chest, 'til their allegation is proved; otherwise they are to be hang'd, and the moneys restored to the lawful claimer. Capt. *Hall*, who formerly belonged to a privateer here, was said to be on board, and suffered. They could find nothing in the papers belonging to the said sloop, more than orders for her being sold at *Jamaica*.

The wife from the North-side, that ... ns av