

Brussels, April 14. All the passengers arrived here from Lille report, that a body of 40,000 French troops are assembling in the neighbourhood of that city, whose destination was variously talk'd of; but the general opinion was, that they are intended as auxiliaries to his Prussian majesty; and the letters from that place unanimously assert, that the levying of troops, and other preparations of that nature, were carrying on with the greatest diligence.

From the Westminster Journal, April 15.

"There is now certain advice from Courlard, that two thousand soldiers are actually arrived near Mittaw, the capital of that province, and that more troops are upon their march to join them. It is expected that the Russian auxiliaries, who are crossing Poland in their return from Germany, will stop in the same country, and that a Prussian army will form upon it's frontiers.

The professions of pacific inclination, and great good will towards every neighbour, run as high as ever in all the courts that are busy in hostile preparations. At the same time there is a rumour that an acien has already happened in Finia'd, betwixt the Russians and Swedes, which proved to the advantage of the former: But of this we ought for the present to suspend our belief.

According to some advices, the courts of London and Versailles, so lately reconciled with each other, are to use their utmost efforts in conjunction, to preserve the peace among their Northern allies; But whether this mediation is to be carried on in the way of negotiation only, or by sending assistance to the two opposite parties, does not hitherto appear to be fully agreed upon.

Letters from the Netherlands mention the drawing together a large body of troops about Lille, which must have occasioned very strange conjectures, if they had not at the same time insinuated, that his most Christian majesty was going to assemble the 40,000 men, which he is bound by treaty, in case they are demanded, to furnish for the service of the king of Prussia.

It seems to be confirmed that the young pretender is actually gone to Poland, and that not merely to hunt after a fortune, but to receive a spouse already provided for him, of the house of Raczvil, one of the first families in that kingdom.

The count de Richcourt, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from their Imperial majesties at the court of Turin, having received letters from Vienna, appointing him to go to London with that character, will soon have his audience of leave, in order to set out for that court. The trading part of the king of Sardinia's subjects, and the foreign merchants, express great satisfaction for the advantages and privileges which his majesty has granted for establishing a free port at Villafrauca, Nice, and St. Hospice, by which means we hope to see trade become more flourishing in this country.

L O N D O N.

April 10. On Wednesday arrived at Spithcad, rear admiral Forbes, in his majesty's ship the Superb, from the Mediterranean.

April 15. They write from the Sound, of the 12th instant, N. S. that Capt. Anderson of Dantzick, in his way to the Sound, saw two ships burning, one of which was consumed, and the other he left on fire, not being able to give them any assistance. He could not discover what country they were of, only one was a three-masted vessel.

Notwithstanding many have insinuated that the affair of Tobago, &c. would prove a bone of contention, to disturb the tranquillity intended by the present peace, we are well assured, that the French court hath declared, that all things, with regard to the islands of Tobago, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent, and Dominico, shall remain on the neutral plan agreed on in the year 1731, between the right hon. the earl of Waldegrave and the French ministry.

They write from Paris, that the earl of Suffex and lord Cathcart are preparing for their return to England. And that 'tis the princess of Tellemont, a Polish lady, niece to the queen, that has brought about the match between the young chevalier de St. George and the princess de Radzivil.

Yesterday 7. night as a fellow was walking along Bishopsgate street, dress'd like a countryman, with a box under his arm, and staring at the houses as if he had never seen one in his life, was attack'd by a lady, who ask'd him what he had to sell? To which he whisper'd, that he was a smuggler, and had a box of tea, which he would sell her cheap: Which the lady bought, and gave him a Guinea for. When

appear'd to be a dead cat nail'd therein; which was a pretty joke.—*This was not a raw countryman.*

April 16. We hear that the trade to Africa will be laid free and open to all his majesty's subjects, whatsoever, without being taxed with any duties for the support of the forts and settlements; that all who trade thither will be united in an open company, under proper regulations, without any joint stock or power to trade as a corporation; and that the forts and settlements upon that coast will still be maintained, as marks of our possession in those parts, and be put under proper management and direction.

The lords of the admiralty have appointed his majesty's ship the Triton, now sitting out at Sheerness, for North Carolina, under the command of Capt. Marriot Arbuthnot, which will in a few days, sail for that station.

April 18. Yesterday morning, between one and two o'clock, came to the India house the purser of the Swallow Packet, Capt. Hutchenon, arrived in the Downs from Bengal in four months and some odd days, and brings an account that the Admiral Vernon, Capt. Cock, and the Hebracote, Pierce, who were bound to China, hearing that seven sail of French men of war were cruising in the straits of Sundy, put back, and went to Bencoolen, and from thence to Batavia. Capt. Hutchenon left at the cape the Benjamin, Capt. Mead, from Bencoolen, homeward bound; and left St. Helena the 15th of February, where was the Essex, Capt. Jackson, from Mocha, homeward bound.

The True Brothers, and the Anna Maria, arrived at Bristol from Jamaica, bring advice that the Cesar, Capt. Sparks, from Bristol, bound to Jamaica, was taken and carried into Domingo: After being detained there some time, the French deliver'd her up, and the Captain proceeded on his voyage, after receiving 3000 pieces of eight, to make up the loss he had sustain'd.

April 20. By several private letters from France there is an account, that the marquis de Maurepas is disgraced, and his posts taken from him, and ordered to retire to his country seat; to the great surprize of all people who have heard it in that kingdom.—The reasons given for this extraordinary event, as 'tis said, is owing to his being the principal director of the settlement at Tobago, &c. without any direction from court; whereby the general tranquillity would have been disturbed.

The French ambassador is expected at this court by the 15th of next month.

April 20. His majesty has been pleas'd, under the great seal, to recommend and authorize all his loving subjects within his majesty's kingdom, to advance, by way of Loan, to the States General of the united provinces, the sum of one hundred thousand ducats, and to appoint John Gore, and Gerard Van Neck, Esqrs; Trustees for taking the same; and for taking the security for payment of the principal and interest thereof.

B O S T O N, June 19.

We hear that the French are building a fort at St. John's, within the limits of Nova-Scotia, under the protection of three vessels of force, which if true, is a fine spot of work at this time when we are talking of a strong settlement in that province.

June 22. Yesterday arrived two vessels from Louisbourg, in one of which, came several officers of col. Shirley's regiment. We hear some of the French transports are come to Cape-Breton, but none of the people, 'tis said, will be permitted to go on shore, until the French governor's arrival. A ship is also arrived from Newfoundland, which came from England with supplies of bread, &c. for the garrisons.

June 20. Last tuesday evening arrived at Nantasket, his majesty's sloop Vulcan, Capt. Smek, from Portsmouth in England, but last from Louisbourg, as a packet; by which we learn, that the encouragement given to carry on the settlement of Nova-Scotia, extends to the two American regiments, and to that purpose governor Hobson had received orders to retain such of the said troops as are not disbanded at Louisbourg, till the arrival of the transports from England, and with them to proceed to Nova-Scotia, in order to settle there, if they see cause.

N E W Y O R K.

June 19. By a vessel last week from Coraço, we hear, the Spaniards on the Spanish main near Coraços, have lately made an insurrection against the Biscayniers, (who by patent from the king of Spain, have engrossed the trade of those parts) and drove all their companies vessels off, demanding and establishing to themselves a free and open trade.