

A. D.
1758.

chief is made to say, "Every operation in war
 " must appear to different men in very different
 " views, even to men of capacity, abilities and
 " experience. The greatest part of mankind,
 " the military not excepted, judge without re-
 " flection, and from trifling little views and cir-
 " cumstances, which either are of no consequence,
 " or which must often happen, in every operation,
 " by the very nature of war.—However, I am
 " convinced in the present case, that the real cause,
 " and first spring of many peoples reflections on
 " my conduct, is my success at Cherbourg: *such*
 " *is the present melancholy situation* of our country.
 " If I had acted the part of an ignorant coward,
 " and dishonest man, I should have found friends
 " and protection, where I found none.—I am very
 " far from imagining, that I have not committed
 " faults and errors. The greatest general in all
 " ages, to whom I have not the smallest preten-
 " sions to be compared, have confessed that they
 " have committed the greatest mistakes every
 " campaign.—For my part, when I considered
 " the difficulties of acting with vigour upon the
 " coast of France, with the number of troops
 " under my command, greatly diminished from
 " what they were upon the late expedition; I was
 " very sorry that his Majesty was obliged to have
 " recourse to me, and to desire me to accept of a
 " command, which had been refused by so many
 " general officers ^d."

^d See the letter from the Honourable L———t G———
 B——gh, to the Right Honourable W——m P——t, Esq;

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