

of the Navy, that those who wanted Judgment, or Honour, or both, upon the whole, did not want Cunning in a single Particular. They took good Care that our Coasts should be well guarded at Home, and that if any Action of Eclat occurred, it should be where it might come more immediately to the Ear of the People; concluding, that however defectively Affairs were managed at a Distance, which they had a thousand Arts to evade, and which required Time to prove, we should be soon acquainted with any Thing in our Favour. Thus we saw our Coasts covered with small cruizing Vessels, and a sufficient Number of large Ships to answer any sudden Emergency; which seems to indicate, that either something worse than Ignorance prevailed abroad, or that every Transaction at a Distance, was calculated to coincide with the main Point in View, and attending to that lost Sight of our Honour, our Engagements with our Allies, our Trade, and our Plantations. But this Thought may be turned too often, and shall therefore be concluded with this single Remark: That though it was resolved to have a Peace, it is to be wished that we had come at it a more rational Way, by exerting ourselves properly, and commanding it, rather than by weak and unprecedented Conduct obliged to beg it. This I am vain enough to believe every Body will agree with me in; and that a brisk and spirited War would not only have saved us many Millions, but crowned the End with Glory.

I wish