

Britain and Ireland declare how open we are to the devastations of an enemy ; there is scarce a great town contiguous to the coast, that might not be burnt and plundered by a handful of men. The militia, indeed, are a respectable body, though I cannot compliment them so far, as to suppose them superior to a French army ; but they are wholly employed between France and the capital: What is to become of the rest of the kingdom in case of a descent ? Are Bristol, Liverpool, Manchester, Norwich, Newcastle, Exeter, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, to be sacrificed, because a violent Minister chuses to sack and burn the coasts of America, and wreak his disappointed vengeance upon the naked towns ; because his Generals and his army have not been able to conquer the troops in the field ? But the West-India islands are the most exposed to be the victims of this predatory war, to which we have challenged our enemies ; nothing can be more defenceless than they are in all respects ; a few shopkeepers in the towns, in the country, the owner of the plantation