

LADY HESKETH AND "JOHNNY OF NORFOLK" 157

Horrors that are going forward in Ireland, where they are doing their best to imitate their dear friends the French.

In April of the same year she had urged her correspondent to

draw for one hundred pound at three-days sight, and the sooner the better, for you don't know what might happen, or how soon a few guineas may be necessary to carry you out of the way of the French devils, who I really believe will land in as many parts of the kingdom as they can, to create the greater degree of confusion; and though I trust we shall finally be preserved from their machinations, yet as no money will be to be had for some time should any disturbance really happen, it will be proper for every one to keep a few guineas by them. They are very difficult things to get, I know, and I don't think that even here at Bath I have been able to get more than ten or twelve for about three months, all notes being changed by other notes, and as *those notes* will be perfectly useless in case of anything happening at the bank, gold will be your only resource. I beg, therefore, when you get your money, you will by gentle degrees, turn as much of it into gold as you can. You must do it in a careless manner, and not with any earnestness, but pay *all* with paper, and never give a guinea to a tradesman while you have a note in the world—by that means you will pick up as I do, two guineas here, three there, and so on. I advise you also to take care to pay all your debts, unless they should be very large, and then I don't know what to say. I believe I do not owe a shilling in the world, except what I shall pay to-morrow morning in my weekly book, and tho' by this means one cannot possess much money, one has the comfort of knowing it is all one's own; which otherwise it could not be you know.

Lady Hesketh was as patriotic as she was loyal, and she was delighted with the Anglophile writings of the Swiss, Mallet du Pan.

When you get the *Anti-Jacobin Magazine* [she says in a letter dated December 1798] you will find there extracts in English from a French work of "Mallet du Pan," which comes out twice a month I think. When you read what he says about *us* you must be proud of being an *Englishman*, if you never were so before. I will treat you here with a little short extract, which I think will make you hold up your head, and strut about like *Ancient Pistol*! After saying that he left the Continent under the idea that England was on the brink of Ruin, and that France with her gunboats was going to complete her destruction, he writes in these words, "How was I surprised on landing in England to find that a war, the most terrible that any Empire was ever exposed to, produced a thousand times less risk, trouble, sadness and fear than the charms of Peace, in which all the competitors for concord with the French