

one Moment on the Danger which hangs threatening over it.

To avoid every minute Particular, let us begin with examining the Conduct of our Navies.

No Man, I believe, will presume to deny that a true Intelligence, of what employs our Enemies, is necessary to all Ministers who would successfully oppose their Machinations; and though it may be difficult to obtain a sure Knowledge of that Expedition which a Fleet is destined to go upon, it must be an easy Task to be ascertained of the Number of Ships they are equipping. The Bosom of one Man only may be conscious of the Intention of a naval Armament, when Thousands must know the Number which are arming. The Minister may be incorruptable, and the Secret impossible to be penetrated. Amongst the Multitudes employed in preparing this Force, many may be found, and infinite Ways contrived, to know the Number of our Enemies Ships. Without this previous Knowledge, on what Basis can it be presumed we oppose the Fleets of our Enemies? Yet this necessary Information, so easily procured, must