

A P P E N D I X.

for no nation, I believe, admires the virtue of loyalty and firmness more than the French.—I am indebted to stratagem for the conveyance of this; by the same means, I have written to the Minister, being deprived of pen, ink, and paper, and probably may not have another chance; I trust, should my letter to Lord George Germaine miscarry, that Col. Simcoe will use those means his judgement will best point out to inform our friends at home of our situation.

“ Suffer me, Col. Simcoe, to recommend to your humane and tender sensibility an aged and beloved parent: that, should she stand in need of your kind attention or advice, she may always have it in her power to have recourse to a friend!—But oh God! who knows, perhaps she at this moment, from an independant affluence, is reduced, by the vicissitudes of the times, to penury!—My heart, afflicted with the misfortunes of our family, can no more—

Your's, &c.

St. Maloes Castle, 26th Feb. 1782.

“ STAIR AGNEW.”

“ MY DEAR COLONEL,

Caen, 20th August, 1782.

“ APPREHENSIVE my letters do not reach you, as I have never had the honour of hearing from you since in France, and now having a private opportunity, I send you in part duplicates of those letters which I have wrote you, and which will best tend to inform you of our situation.—Your being in England is a circumstance the most happy for us, being convinced at last we have a friend. I hope this will not be subjected to any inspection, and consequently shall endeavour to be as particular to you as possible, relative to our present situation.

“ It is to the Duke of Harcourt, Governor of the province of Normandy, we are indebted for our parole here, and the present indulgences we enjoy; hearing of our situation in the castle of St. Maloes, the victims of policy, he most readily interested himself with the Minister in our behalf, and through his remarkable attention and politeness has much alleviated our misfortunes. He has not been less assiduous in endeavouring to exchange us; but alas! his powers are not equal to his good inclination. Le Marquis de Castries has referred him to the American Minister, and has informed him it was at the instance of America we were detained in France. I have the honor of transmitting to you the letter of Mr. Franklin in answer to the Marquis de Castries on this subject.