

judge the best, were not ashamed to own, they thought the non-protestation and concurrence of a Hawke, a Knowles, and a Broderick, (to say nothing of the military officers, as being with equally unattainted characters more personally however concerned) were a great prejudice in favour of the resolution of returning, on taking it for granted, that nothing could be done.

I shall here say nothing to you of those over-refined politicians, who pretend to discover in the combination of conjunctures, a tenderness for H—n—r, or at least a connexion with the convention of Stade, which might either occasion an armament to be sent out, by way of amusement, on an enterprise, where it was fore-known nothing could be done that might too much exasperate France to reprisals on H——r, or an intimation to be properly given, that nothing being done, would not be the most displeasing thing imaginable. Such conjectures however countenanced by the issue itself, or by fortuitous circumstances, cannot be penetrated, at least by the public; and, without proof, it is most certainly not only unfair, but even treasonable to insinuate them.

In one point however all ranks of people united, and that was a general dissatisfaction, at this enterprise having either been so weakly projected, as not to suffer even attempt to execute