

two to one; and the other in the West Indies, where he had a majority of six ships. Victories of this kind almost produce themselves: they are won without honour, and suffered without disgrace, and are ascribable to the chance of meeting, not to the superiority of fighting; for the same Admiral under whom they were obtained, was unable in three former engagements to make the least impression on a fleet consisting of an equal number of ships with his own, and compounded for the events, by declining the actions*.

To conclude, if it may be said, that Britain has numerous enemies, it likewise proves, that she has given numerous offences. Insolence is sure to provoke hatred, whether in a nation or an individual. The want of manners in the British Court may be seen even in its birth-days and new-years odes, which are calculated to infatuate the vulgar, and disgust the man of refinement: and her former overbearing rudeness, and unsufferable injustice on the seas, have made every commercial nation her foe. Her fleets were employed as engines of prey, and acted on the surface of the deep, the character which the shark does beneath it.—On the other hand, the Combined Powers are taking a popular part, and will render their reputation immortal, by establishing the perfect freedom

* See the accounts, either English or French, of three actions in the West Indies between Count de Guichen and Admiral Rodney, in 1780.