

And as you live remote in the Country, I will give you some Account of what is generally said on this Occasion; for though I am in general an Enemy to Refinement, and Suppositions not grounded, or at least strongly corroborated, by Matters of Fact, yet this I think, is not unsupported. They say it is evident that our Ministry was resolved on making a Peace, that they were resolved on enhancing the Value of the Peace, by some Events for which they were determined to make Way, previous to the Peace; that they accordingly concerted Measures with the——for——of *Maastricht*, that this is evident not only from their strange Inattention to the strong Instances made by *Bathiani*, in his Letter of the 31st of *January*, offering to undertake its Defence at the Peril of his Head, but when *Chanclos*, contrary to their Expectation, by a Measure in which he was not warranted, put the Town in some State of Defence, great Opportunities of relieving the Place were unaccountably lost, and Orders at last sent the Governor to surrender the Town, though still ready and willing to defend it. So far Things seem to be clear, for nothing can be more idle than
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