

princes are the greatest on the peninsula of India: they are in our interest, and most of them owe either the acquisition, or depend for the preservation of their power upon our arms; by which means our company is become, in effect, arbiter of the commerce and policks of that great and opulent coast, extending from the Ganges to Cape Comorin; and in a great degree also of the other, from the same cape to the mouth of the Indus. Thirdly, during the course of our successive successes, and the main-sailors have removed from the French to our dominions, where they will have at least an equal share, and superior protection, and it will be difficult, if not impossible, to bring them back.

Admiral de Belleile were to be released to those former powers, and the fortifications and harbour of Dunkirk were to be demolished agreeable to the stipulations of former treaties.

This is the general outline of the treaty. The particulars given here will serve to point out the spirit, and the general effect of that provision, which has given rise subject to much political controversy, and which nothing but indulgence will suffice to remove again perfectly, nor any thing but facts can deny to be productive of many very great and essential advantages to this kingdom.

This treaty, while it remained in agitation, formed a great crisis, not only in the affairs of the nation, but in the fortune of the new ministry. Towards the latter end of the summer Mr. Fox was called in, and received their support. Though he continued in his old system of minister, he undertook to conduct the affairs of government in the house of commons. Mr. Grenville, whose employment would naturally have engaged him in that task, resigned the office of secretary of state, and was appointed first lord of the admiralty. His great experience and known parliamentary abilities of Mr. Fox seemed to give new life to the affairs of the administration. A more vigorous and determined conduct was from that time adopted. Many of those, who were not perfectly attached to the new system, were immediately removed from their employments; and measures were taken to clear every department of every friend of the duke of Newcastle.

The spirit of these proceedings seemed to augment that of

* Def. tr. art. viii. and xii.

† Def. tr. art. xiii.

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