

Perhaps, notwithstanding all the Reason we have had, of late, to be satisfied with the Measures of a wise and prudent Administration; notwithstanding all the just Encomiums so freely made on the Conduct of our Commanders, and the Intrepidity of our Troops; if Partiality to ourselves were entirely laid aside, we should find our late Success no less owing to a providential Concurrence of fortunate Circumstances, than either to ministerial Wisdom or military Valour.

In like Manner, were our real Situation duly attended to, notwithstanding the Advantages we have gained of the Enemy, we should, perhaps, find little Reason for our immoderate Triumph. Perhaps also, those Advantages would be found less decisive, and the Enemies Losses less irreparable, or at least much less ruinous and intolerable, than we now are apt to flatter ourselves they are.

Respecting the Means of our Success; it would be an invidious Task to enter minutely into Particulars, and might be construed into a malevolent Design of depreciating the Merit of many, to whose gallant or prudent Behaviour, in their respective Stations, their Country is so greatly indebted.

But, without disparaging the Conduct of any of those, who may have deserved well at the Hands of their Fellow-Countrymen, without casting the least Soil, by Reflection, on the Lustre of their Characters, it may be justly asserted