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The object of the Military Committee, just mentioned, was to prepare a plan of co-operation with the invader, or of insurrection, if forced to it, before the invader came. The hope of succours from France, though so frequently frustrated, was still kept sanguinely alive, and to the arrival of an armament in April they, at the beginning of this year, looked with confidence,—the strongest assurances having been given by M. Talleyrand to their agent at Paris, that an expedition was in forwardness, and would be ready by that time.

On the 28th of February Lord Edward's friend, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, was, together with Quigley, the Irish priest and others, arrested, on their way to France, at Margate; and a paper being found on Quigley, addressed to the French Directory, inviting earnestly a speedy invasion of England, the whole party were, on the 6th of March, committed to the Tower, on a charge of High Treason. In consequence of this arrest the office of the Press newspaper,—a journal which had been in the year 1797 established in Dublin, for the express purpose of forwarding the views of the