

by her stipulating that *Hostages* should be given for the performance of it.

The Expedition against this island was indeed laying the ax to the root of the tree ; and the reduction of it would have given Canada its death wound ; our failure therefore in this important attempt may well occasion a *public* concern.

The aim of the writer of the Bristol letter is, to throw the blame of it upon the *Ministers*, and to justify the conduct of the General and Admiral in *abandoning* the Expedition, as he says they did, on the 4th of August.

He begins with saying, “ Our *Ministers* were certainly informed, long before Mr. Holbourn failed from Spithead, that Beaufremont’s Squadron was ordered to join the French fleet at Louisbourg, but slighted the information, *because they knew better* ; That one would think their fatal mistake concerning the *Naval Force*, that was to be sent against *Minorca*, would have cured them of their *Self-sufficiency* ;” that “ *We do every thing by halves*, and so do *nothing* effectually ;” that “ indeed our *Naval strength* is so injudiciously divided and parcelled out, that it is as easily broken as a large sheaf of arrows taken out one by one ;” and proceeds to observe, “ That the *Naval force* sent to take Louisbourg was not only too *small*, but dispatched too *late* in the year.”

As to his assertion, “ *that we do every thing by halves*, and to do *nothing* effectually,” I think it may be remarked, with regard to our *Land Forces*