

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