

sence they would have discouraged the Growth of it. This some having observed a certain Degree of Heaviness in the Understandings of our Ministers, pretended to account for upon that Principle, as Bowls by the Power of the included Lead are carried in a Curve Line to their Mark ; others excused it by pretending it was done for the Security of the Capital. But the first Conjecture has since been confirmed by a late Event, which it will not be amiss to compare with the former, for by the Comparison and Concurrence of corroborating Circumstances the natural Awkwardness, and estrayed Understanding of our Ministers will appear, for in the late Expedition to Port *Lorient*, after Admiral *Lestock* had lain Wind-bound a long while at *Plymouth*, it was thought proper to send a farther Reinforcement to that Undertaking, which was ordered to embark on the River *Thames*, in order to Coast it round to *Plymouth*, for which purpose it was necessary, that the Reinforcemen should wait for such a Wind as would carry Mr. *Lestock* out of the Channel ; whereas had they marched by Land, the Roads and Weather good, they might have probably reached Mr. *Lestock* before he could have found an Opportunity of sailing. But this was during the Summer, in Winter by a strange Inversion of the order of Things, we unnecessarily seek the Fatigues and Loss of Time attending a March in bad Roads and bad Weather. However, one agreeable Reflexion occurs upon the whole, for if the Pretender could not succeed against such an Opposition, as made some People afraid the Government was be--ed ; our Security is very great ; he can have very little Chance for the future.

The infinite Loss sustained by our Merchants during the Time the *French* amused our Fleet by an Invasion, with which they threatened us from  
*Dunkirk,*