

bours, 'So as, says he, 'no provisions could possibly come to the enemy †,' to this advantage was superadded, that of secrecy, which was observed the whole time of recruiting, while the artillery was providing, and magazines prepared, stocked with all kinds of necessary stores. General Braddock, and Commodore Keppel communicated constantly to each other, their views and their projects. Some pieces of cannon, of which the land army had not a sufficient number, were supplied by the latter; and, these two so necessary men, never disagreed, but in one single article, viz. The manner in which the French, who they were almost sure, would fall into their hands, were to be used. The orders of the king of England, had been to embark them all, and transport them to France. M. Keppel, who was informed of this resolution, only by general Braddock, was of opinion, the enterprize was of too delicate a nature for him to be concerned in. This excepted, the directions of the court were extremely well complied with; but, the real intent of the nation was doubtful. Commodore Keppel would gladly have it in his power to justify himself to the nation, in case it should disapprove of steps so contrary to the laws of nations. He insisted, therefore, on receiving positive orders from the general.

† See original Papers, No. 13.