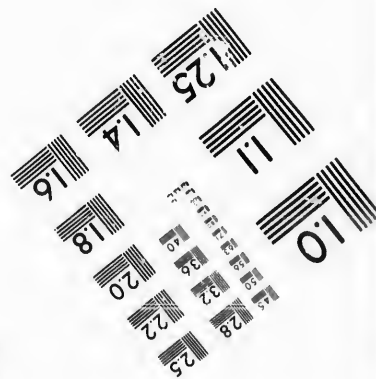
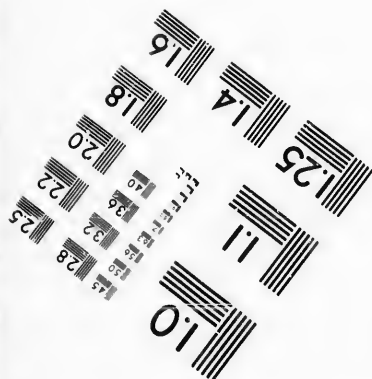
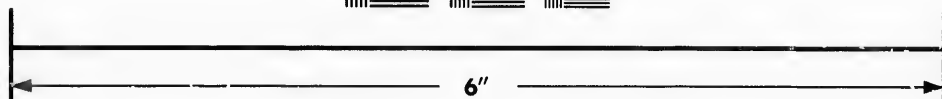
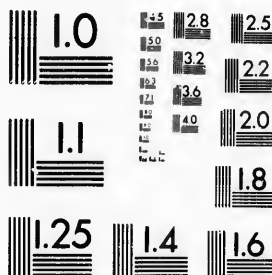


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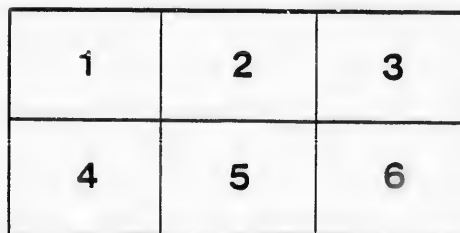
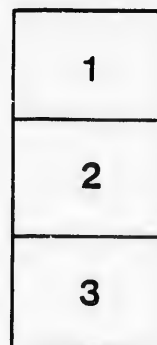
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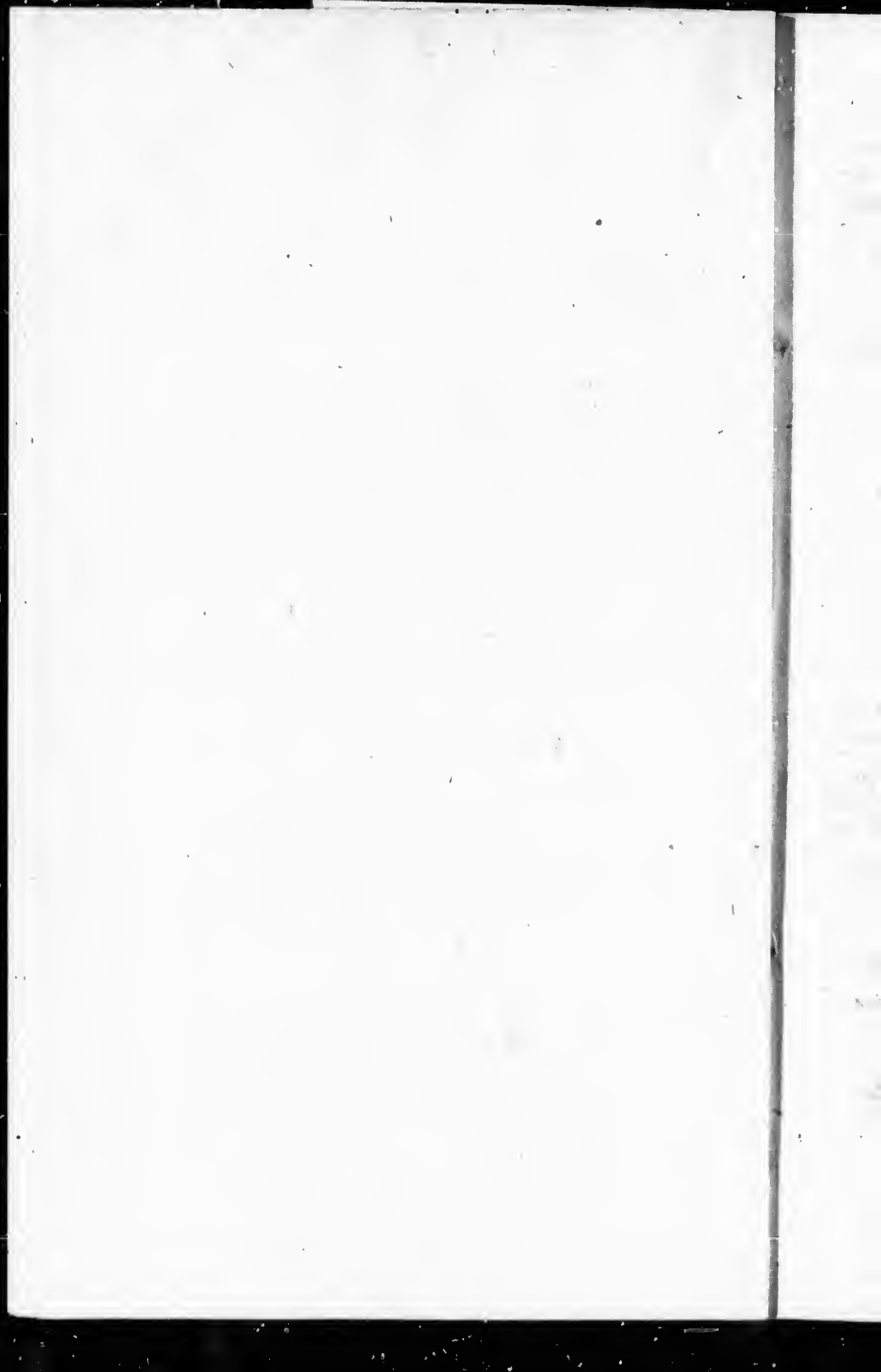
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n à



A
SECOND LETTER

TO A

Right Honourable Patriot,

ON THE

GLORIOUS VICTORY obtained over the
BREST FLEET 1759.

And an HISTORICAL ACCOUNT of that at
LA HOGUE, 1692:

The Ancient and Present State of the *Venetian* and
British Navies:

T H R E E S C E N E S;

Wherein are introduced,

Two of the greatest Names in France:

The Respective Cases of the HIGHLANDERS
and IRISH ROMAN CATHOLICS:

The late and present State of the BRITISH COLONIES:

OBSERVATIONS on the Grandeur of the Nation, its extensive
Commerce, Banks, Opulent Merchants, &c. and the Cha-
racters of two *high Critics* and the Malicious Practices of
the Petty Ones.

By MR. GROVE OF RICHMOND.

————— We must not stint
Our necessary Actions, in the Fear
To cope malicious Censurers —————

SHAKES.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. BURD, at the Temple-Exchange, Fleet-Street.

M D C C L X.

Where may be had the FIRST LETTER
on the Glorious Success at Quebec.

* * In this Letter are several CURIOUS PARTICULARS relat-
ing to the Battle off BELLE-ISLE, never before published.

[Price One Shilling.]

THE [illegible] OF [illegible]

BY [illegible]

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THE [illegible] OF [illegible]

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A

SECOND LETTER.

THE extraordinary defeats and great disappointments the Gallicans have met with from the Britons in all quarters of the globe, during the course of the ever memorable year 1759, have restored the ancient lustre of THE BRITISH ARMS, and been *as glorious to his Majesty's reign* as it has been disgraceful and tarnishing to those of *the French and their king*.

Such mortifying and grating strokes of the reverse of fortune has put that ambitious crown upon forming several projects, in order to be revenged on the *British nation*, and as the chief part of *her veteran troops* were thought by them to be employed in Germany, *the Indies and elsewhere*, France blazed abroad, that she was determined to invade us with two armies, and land them at one and the same time, *and by that means carry fire and sword into the hearts of Great Britain and Ireland*. In a word, it was said they intended to lay all waste, and make desarts of *these kingdoms*, as they passed on, in the same manner as they had projected, to have dealt with his *Majesty's Hanoverian dominions*, had they not received a most glorious

B

foil

foil (by which the *British* infantry gained immortal honour) ON THE PLAINS OF MINDEN *.

These

*The confederacy which the French entered into with the Empire, the Austrians, Russians, Swedes, and others against his Majesty, as Elector of Hanover, the King of Prussia, and the Landgrave of Hesse, was the most dangerous that ever was formed to destroy the rights of mankind, save that at Cambray in the year 1509, against the Venetians.

One of our *public spirited* writers states in part the cause of that confederacy, and at the same time gives us a masterly character of the King of Prussia, all which follows.

“The checks which the Prussian arms have lately received, certainly deserve the attention of Britain. His Prussian Majesty’s alliance with us was spontaneous. He first enquired the grounds of our quarrel with France, and upon enquiry, being entirely satisfied of the justice of our cause, embraced our friendship. He saw himself in danger from an alliance which was founded solely in ambition, and he knew that the confederacy formed against him, had views of attacking Hanover, from the same unjust and violent spirit, in order to make all bend before the confederates, and he judged rightly, that Britain would not tamely see the electorate oppressed by the arms of a vindictive monarch, who had indeed avowed he had no motive to attack that country, but its belonging to the King of Great Britain. Thus it appears, that repelling the injustice intended by common enemies, was the basis of this alliance. Could there be a more noble connection?

In

These grand projects seemed for some time to be what the French had actually in view, and the more to convince all Europe, that this was really there intention, a great many of their ship-carpenters were for several months closely employed in building a surprizing number of flat-bottomed boats in their ports, to be made use of as transports, and it was given out in September last, that they were ready to put to sea; and to make it appear the more probable, a considerable number of

“ In the progress of the war, we have had innumerable specimens of this great monarch’s vigour and vigilance. Oppressed by numbers, deserted by those whose cause he supported, attacked on every side, he was not discouraged, much less destroyed. His prudence suggested to him such dispositions of his forces, that, with all their superiority, the enemies found themselves every where opposed, and where danger pressed most, thither resorted the King in person. The shame of being not resisted only, but vanquished in so unequal a dispute, kept the allies united. Resentment held together those whom ambition originally connected. The perseverance of our hero was equal to his resolution; their new schemes were broken, and that they might not reproach each other, he beat in pitched battles every one of the allies. Every post brought us news of his impending destruction by Austrians, French, or Russians; every succeeding post acquainted us with his triumphs over these vain-glorious invaders, till fame seemed to grow hoarse with sounding the praises of Frederick the Great. Such is the ally that Britain adopted, of such an ally, Can Britain ever be ashamed?”

of their best troops marched to those different ports, to be ready to embark upon the first notice.

Whilst the French were thus boasting and acting, the writer of the Brussels Gazette (thinking to raise a general consternation in Great Britain and Ireland) published several magnifying accounts of the grand preparations the French were every where making, to invade these kingdoms; nor did he omit declaring, that the large fleets fitted out at Brest and other ports of France, were designed to convey the transports with the troops to the places where they were to land; and withal insinuated, that the Brest fleet was at last become resolutely bent to sail; and in the first instant, to search out and chastise the English for their daring presumption; in having hovered so many months at the mouth of their harbours, which prevented their fleets sailing to join each other during the summer. *But it is to be observed, hornets are mischievous when they fly abroad, and consequently are best in their nests.*

As soon as our most gracious Sovereign had received undoubted intelligence of the design of the French, proper steps were immediately taken without noise or bluster, to defeat the schemes of our inveterate enemies, which, however, did not divert his Majesty from pursuing the measures that had been before concerted between him and his allies, *for the good of the common cause.*

The lords of the admiralty, to their honour be it said, have been very vigilant in discharging their duty; and what is remarkable, they have not forgot, after the example of their *royal, grateful, and benevolent master*, to reward merit (where the parties have been friendless) whenever it had appeared, which is a strong evidence of their *being brave and wise ministers*; in fact, we may now, without

without vanity, boast, *that we have the best admirals, the best officers, and the best seamen in the world*.*

The ancient and present state of the Venetian and English Navies.

* In the 14th century, the Venetians made a much more considerable figure at sea than the English, or any other state, and was at the time the league at Cambray was signed in 1509 justly, esteemed the greatest maritime power in Europe.

This league will be memorable as long as time lasts, it is no extraordinary thing to see several states combine against one that is more powerful than any, or all of them, either to set bounds to her greatness, or to bring down her exorbitant power, but it very rarely happens, that several sovereigns should confederate together, with design to destroy it, which was the purport of this famous league concluded between the emperor, the pope, and the kings of France and Spain, when the Venetians thought themselves from any danger; but what followed ought to teach all states and kingdoms, not to be absolutely secure, but to fear even where the greatest human prudence tells them no change can happen.

That illustrious and renowned *republic* had never been in so flourishing a condition as at the time of forming that league; the fleets that the republic then maintained was strong, and well supported, and made, as it were, one continent, of the several parts of her dominions. The *arsenal* from whence they were fitted out, might justly have been reckoned among the wonders of the world.

The carpenters, in building of those ships, had a peculiar art that other nations were ignorant of, (which

One step, among many others, that their lordships took to baffle, and render abortive the French schemes,

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

[which Heaven be praised our own has now] inasmuch, that every thing belonging to navigation was made and performed there in greater perfection than any where else; their *seamen* were the most experienced in Christendom [as the British are now most justly accounted] and those states who formerly disputed the empire of the sea with the Venetians, were fallen into decay [and so have those who disputed that point with Britain] nor did the Turks then understand any thing of sea-fights.

To such a pitch was the flourishing and extensive trade of Venice arrived at that time [as the British is at this time] that they were commended and envied by most of the other nations of Europe [so are the English at this day] and immense sums were continually running into their treasury, arising from the duties laid on their merchandize, [and so does good round sums into that part of the British treasury, which is very justly and rightly appropriated, for the better support of the honour and dignity of the crown, under the title of the civil list, and by that means, it the better enables the king, out of his privy purse, to reward such faithful servants, as have deserved well of his sacred majesty and country.]

Those large revenues enabled the government of Venice to give their soldiers greater pay than any other princes and states could do [as Great Britain can at this time] and that made the best commanders

schemes, was that of sending out Commodore Duff, with directions to endeavour to destroy the flat-

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

manders and soldiers to court the service of St. Mark, it being the highest ambition of the *Italian generals* to command the *Venetian forces*.

Nor was the public rich by impoverishing the subject [*which is now the case in Britain*] *silver plate*, which was very rare in Europe before the discovery of the West-Indies, was so common among the Venetians, that their enemies made it the subject of their invectives. The two last ages have not produced more *sumptuous and noble palaces* than the Venetians had at that time, so that we might truly say of the *republic*, what the poet has said on another occasion,

*This thy gay morn; but e're the day decline,
Clouds gather, and adversity was thine.*

All the misfortunes that usually happen to those *states*, which fortune seemed to have abandoned, fell heavy on the *republic*, whether by chance or by treachery, is uncertain, but their *arsenal* was set on fire, and a great part of it burnt down; and those who used to take arms for their defence, lifted themselves in the service of their enemies.

The next violent shock they met with, was that of being defeated in the *ever memorable battle of Agnadel*, where *Lewis XII. king of France*, commanded the army in person, and soon after they lost all their dominion to the single city of Venice; and in truth, they have not to this day perfectly recovered those

flat-bottomed boats, that lay at Quiberon, which service, tho' the commodore could not accomplish, owing

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

those severe strokes of adversity, seeing their dominions are not so large as before they lost the battle, by several provinces; and it is remarkable, that they have not latterly made so considerable a figure among the Christian maritime powers, as they did in the 14th, and the beginning of the 15th century; but when the Turks became considerable at sea, they always maintained their ancient reputation in the different engagements they had with them and other infidels upon the ocean.

England being a *peninsula*, almost surrounded by the sea, there was a necessity of having maritime forces, as her neighbours grew *potent*, she was obliged to encrease those forces, in order to repel any sudden attempt of an enemy, or otherwise quit her ancient claim to the *sovereignty of the Narrow Seas*, and by that means suffer her *merchants to be abused*, and their traffic to be interrupted.

In truth, those who command the sea, commands the trade of the world; he that commands the trade commands the wealth of the world, and consequently the world itself.

Histories mention a great fleet of Julius Cæsar, and of King Edgar, consisting of three thousand six hundred sail, a fleet of Lewis, son to Philip king of France, of six hundred sail, that arrived at Sandwich, to assist the English barons against King John; but these, doubtless, were but as so many cottages to castles, in respect to our present maritime forces.

As

owing to their being well secured from any attempt that could be made from the sea; yet he executed

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

As to our *nation*, her chief attention for some ages was principally to that of preserving what she insisted upon as her right, the *sovereignty* of the British *seas*, which extends round the whole island, [i. e. England and Scotland] which is now very justly stiled GREAT BRITAIN.

About the reign of Edward the IVth, a book was published, in the introduction to which, the author shewed both the utility, and the necessity England was under to preserve the *sovereignty* of those seas. In this piece, he explains the device on our *gold coin*, called *nobles*, thus,

*Four things our nobles sheweth unto me,
King, ship, and sword, and power of the sea.*

Mr. Campbell [in his Naval History] when he enters upon the reign of Henry VII, says, *We are now coming into brighter times, wherein that spirit of commerce, which this author so earnestly wished for, began really to appear; and when there seemed to be a contest between private men and those in the administration, who should serve the public most.*

He admits the *Venetians* were before that time by far the most general traders in Europe, and had their *factors* in most of the northern kingdoms and states; for the better managing their affairs in England, many of them were settled, particularly at London and Bristol; and in the last place dwelt John Cabot, citizen of Venice, who, having heard

executed his other orders with so much activity and diligence, that he blocked them up so effectually

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much of Columbus's expedition, applied himself to king Henry VII, and proposed to sail in pursuit of *new discoveries*, in case he met with due encouragement: upon this, the king granted him and his three sons a *commission* to discover unknown lands, and to conquer and settle them; in which commission he allowed the *adventurers* many privileges, but with this single restraint, *That the ships they fitted out should be obliged to return to Bristol*. What Cabot proposed was to find out a north-west passage to the Indies. Columbus took the hint from the *Portuguese*, as to the way they proceeded in making their first discoveries, so that by sailing east he came to the west-coast of the Indies.

Cabot happily took another course, that was, by steering north-west: he had the good fortune on the 24th of June, 1497, to discover land; this he called *prima vista*, that is, first seen; in a word, his discoveries was of so great consequence, that when he came back, the king conferred on him the honour of knighthood; and what is very remarkable, it was said he was the first that discovered the continent of America.

The great discoveries that Cabot made in this voyage, spurred Columbus on to proceed with more expedition in what he had in view than he first intended, for fear the other should get the start of him.

In

tually there, that they were deterred from venturing out, and failing to any other port.

Whilst

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

In four years after Cabot's first voyage, 1502, Henry granted his letters patent to Hugh Elliot, and Thomas Ashurst, merchants of Bristol, for settling colonies in the *new discovered countries*, and assiduously attended to the *promoting commerce*.

Experience demonstrates, that there are certain seasons remarkably favourable to particular arts, the *fourteenth century* was certainly so, as to the *new discoveries* which made the Portuguese in process of time more rich and powerful than their neighbours. This naturally raised an emulation amongst *great men*, insomuch, that the thoughts of all the *wits in Europe* were turned to undertakings of the above kind, which has been of great use to posterity, and by that means, and our conquests in the present war, we have now a *grand empire* in that part of the Indies, stiled NORTH AMERICA.

No sooner did that magnificent prince HENRY VIII. mount the throne in 1509, but building large ships was brought into use; one in particular was of so large and beautiful a structure, (being 1000 tuns,) that it was stiled *Henry Grace de dieu*, or the *Great Henry*, and was at that time, the admiration of the people. Certain it is, that man of war was of the greatest burthen, and the largest vessel that had ever been before launched in England [*there now is a print of this admired ship to be seen in the London Magazine*] in

Whilst Duff closely attended to his duty, the renowned Hawke kept a watchful eye after the motions

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truth, both trade and navigation was encouraged in the beginning of this reign.

Edward the VIth succeeded his father on the 20th of February, 1546. In his reign there was an engagement between the English and French, upon this occasion, the latter had attacked Jersey and Guernsey. Commodore Winter was sent to sea with a small force (for in fact we had no great force at that time) in order to succour those islands; which, though he was greatly inferior to the French in number of ships, yet he engaged them, and defeated their fleet. This so nettled that court, that they forbade the mentioning of it, upon pain of death. *In short*, through this bold enterprize, Winter preserved both those islands.

QUEEN MARY succeeded Edward VI. During her short reign, there was little or no improvement in our trade or navigation, and it may truly be said, it ended inglorious, for in her time we lost Calais.

Q. ELIZABETH next mounted the throne; *there never perhaps was a kingdom in a more distressed condition than England on the accession of this Queen*, but it soon made a very different figure; *her Majesty* encouraged trade both at home and abroad, and in her reign our colonies and plantations were greatly promoted, and of course became beneficial to navigation. One of our new plantations was titled VIRGINIA, (*now famous for tobacco*) out of respect to the *virgin Queen*. The Spaniards in her
time

motions of the so much boasted *Brest fleet*, which had been often reported to be failed long before it

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

time projected the *conquest of England*, and for that end, fitted out a grand fleet, and named it the *Spanish Armada*. The famous Sir Francis Drake commanded the English fleet, who met the Spaniards, and in an engagement totally defeated them, and by that means put an end to the intended *invasion*.

This Princess pursued the blow, and carried on the war against Spain with so much conduct and success, both in Europe and America, that the English became every where a terror to the Spaniards; and the very name of our chief commanders, such as Drake, Rawleigh, Cavendish, and many others, struck an awe upon them, as do those of Anson, Boscawen, Hawke, Holmes, Saunders, Durel, Osborn, Broderick, Rodney, Hardy, Coates, Howe, Harvey, Keppel, Lochart, Duff, Gilchrist, Andrews, and many others, strike the like awe upon the French, whenever those gallant sea commanders names are mentioned.

Still it is to be observed, that before the above happy deliverance from the Spaniards, in the 24th of this Queen, upon a general muster, there were found at that time but XIII *ships of war*, and but one hundred and five ships of considerable burthen belonging to the subjects in general; a small number indeed! In 1600, her Majesty had then but *thirty-six ships of war*, and *thirteen or fourteen pinaces*. The biggest ship was then 1000 tons, carried 340 *seamen*, 30 *soldiers*, and mounted 30

guns,

it durst to venture, though it was confidently affirmed the latter end of October last, every thing
was

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

guns, the lesser *ships of war* were of 100 tons, carried 40 or 50 *seamen*, and 7 or 8 *soldiers*. The *pinaces* of 30 tons, carried 18 or 20 *seamen*, and 2 or 4 *guns*. So small was the royal fleet in those days. But then our neighbouring nations were weak at sea, and generally engaged in wars upon the continent.

It was in this Queen's reign that Sir Francis Drake sailed round the world in three years, wanting twelve days, [and in his present Majesty King George the II's reign, the right honourable the Lord Anson performed a very memorable voyage, the particulars of which were so great and extraordinary, that it has furnished materials for a volume, published some time past]. Cavendish and Forbisher, two others of our great seamen, performed very remarkable voyages, and made some material discoveries, which have proved of great service to their country.

JAMES I, when he came to the crown, found the nation very intent upon encreasing her shipping, and consequently her trade and navigation. In the 8th year of King James, the Londoners built a ship of 1200 tons, and called it the *Trade's Encrease*, which, being lost in the East-Indies, his Majesty caused to be built another ship of 1400 tons, and gave it to Prince Henry, and was by him named the *Prince*.

In short, during this reign, our plantations abroad were greatly improved, and other new colonies

was ready, both for the embarkation and the fleet's sailing, and only waited the last orders for that purpose. In

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

colonies planted, so that the people found from experience the benefit that occurred to the kingdom through those pursuits.

King CHARLES I. at his accession to the throne, found both the *royal navy*, and the trade of his *people*, upon a very respectable footing; and so flourishing was *his Majesty's fleet* in 1628, that the celebrated Waller addressed the following beautiful lines to the King.

Where'er thy navy spreads her canvas wings;
Homage to thee, and peace to all she brings;
The French and Spaniards, when thy flags appear,
Forget their hatred, and consent to fear.

Again,

Ships, heretofore, in seas, like fishes sped,
The mightiest still upon the smallest fed.
Thou, on the deep, imposest nobler laws,
And by that *justice* hast remov'd the cause
Of those rude *tempests*; which for rapine sent,
Too oft, alas, involved the *innocent*.
Now shall the ocean, as thy *Thames*, be free,
From both those fates, of *storms* and *piracy*:
But we, most happy, *who can fear no force*,
But winged troops, or Pegasean horse.
'Tis not so hard for greedy *foes* to spoil
Another *nation*, as to touch our *soil*.
Shou'd Nature's self invade the *world* again,
And o'er the centre spread the liquid main;

Thy

In the mean time, the French king and his court used every means in their power to raise the necessity

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

*Thy pow'rs were safe, and her destructive hand
Wou'd but enlarge the bounds of thy command.
Thy dreadful fleet would stile thee Lord of all,
And ride in triumph o'er the drowned ball.
Those tow'rs of oak, o'er fertile plains might go,
And visit mountains where they once did grow.*

During Oliver's protectorship, our fleets were very formidable to the different powers of Europe; in his time Jamaica was conquered, and the famous Blake was admiral, who took care that all nations should pay homage to the English flag where-ever it appeared.

King CHARLES II, upon his restoration, found the royal navy, and the trade, and navigation of his subjects, well secured, and in a flourishing condition. This caused the harmonious Denham to celebrate the RIVER THAMES in the following lines.

*Thames, the most lov'd of all the ocean's sons,
By his old fire, to his embraces runs;
Hasting to pay his tribute to the sea,
Like mortal life to meet eternity.*

Again,

*Finds wealth where 'tis, bestows it where it wants,
Cities in d ferts, woods, in cities plants :
So that to us nothing, no place is strange,
While his fair bosom is the world's exchange.
O could I flow like thee, and make thy stream,
My great example, as it is my theme!
'Tho' deep, yet clear, tho' gentle, yet not dull;
Strong, without rage, without o'erflowing, full.*

King

necessary funds, in order to carry on with spirit and resolution their projected expeditions; and the letters

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

King JAMES II's reign was short; neither he nor his *royal brother* took that care of the *navy* as might have been reasonably expected from them.

When King WILLIAM and Queen MARY came to the crown, our trade (notwithstanding the troublesome wars *THEY* were immediately engaged in) surprizingly encreased. We had then, and now have, a great trade to Turkey, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Baltick, the east and west Indies; in fact, our *fish trade* would have been looked upon as considerable, if the Dutch had not had a much greater. However, the red-herrings at Yarmouth, the pilchards in the west, and the cod-fish trade in Newfoundland, and New-England, were at that *time*, and are now, valuable articles. Mr. Prior celebrates these useful blessings thus.

Let Britain's ships export an annual fleece,
 Richer than Argos brought to ancient Greece:
 Returning loaden with the *shining stores*,
 Which lye profuse on either India's *shores*.
 As our high vessels pass their watry way,
 Let all the naval world due homage pay,
 With *hasty reverence* their top-honours lower,
 Confessing the asserted power.
 To whom by fate 'twas given with happy sway,
 To calm the earth, and vindicate the sea.
 Our prayers are heard, our master's fleets shall go,
 As fast as winds can bear, or waters flow.

D

New

letters from Paris confidently asserted, that the *generals*, who had been named for some time, to head their armies, were upon the point of setting out,

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

*New lands to make, new Indies to explore,
In worlds unknown to plant Britannia's power.
Nations yet wild, by precept to reclaim,
And teach 'em arms, and arts in WILLIAM's reign.*

Queen ANN, at her coming to the crown, found the nation just entering into a new war with France. We had in 1704 the following vessels of war.

First rate VII. Second rate XIV. Third rate XLIII. Fourth rate LVIII. Fifth rate XXIII. Fire-ships XI. Yachts XIII. Besides Bomb-vessels and Cutters. The line of battle ships, in all, CXX. So that if this list is compared with that in 1600, there will then appear a most astonishing encrease of our men of war, and that in little more than a century. Now, to follow this observation still further, we shall see in little more than half that time, yet a more astonishing encrease of the royal navy. The last year, 1759, we had,

First rate IV. Second rate XIII. Third rate LXXIV. Fourth rate LIV. Fifth rate LXVI. Sixth rate L. Sloops XLVIII. Armed hired ships XX. Yachts VII. Bombs XVII. Fire-ships IX. Besides, there are new *ships of war* now upon the *stocks*.

out, to take upon them their respective commands; and this was in the middle of October last. The

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

In commission in 1759, line of <i>battle ships</i>	-	129
Frigates and Cutters in commission	-	202
Out of commission line of battle ships, &c.		43
	In all	374

In a word, Great Britain and Ireland are justly esteemed the principal *countries* for trade and commerce in Europe: indeed, they are the best situated for that purpose, because they have such *fine ports* and *safe harbours*. Great Britain in particular is at this time provided with such large quantities of naval stores, and conveniencies for building and repairing ships of all sorts, that she is not to be equalled by any nation in Europe.

We trade to most parts of the *globe*, and have cash and stock enough to carry on all the commercial business in the world, (i. e. by having such a grand *bank* and rich *bankers*, and stores of *mercantile goods*, and such a prodigious number of ships ready to put to sea at all times.) We have, besides rich companies of merchants, many private one who are vastly rich, and have a deep knowledge in the mysteries of trade and commerce; and what is still very remarkable, many of those merchants have had such a noble and liberal education, both at home and abroad, that they not only understand and speak the languages, but the interests of kingdoms, and [as it has been said] are well qualified to manage the affairs of the state, and consequently able to speak

The French being in this situation, I have found three other scenes in the Dramatic piece, which

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

in the most illustrious assemblies, *whenever the safety and welfare of their king and country require their attendance.*

Mr. Campbell, speaking of the great discoveries made by Columbus, for the benefit of the Spaniards, sums it up thus. "We have," says this judicious author, "no reason, either to blame King Henry VII's conduct, or to repine at that of Providence. The Spaniards have purchased Mexico and Peru too dearly at the expence of their naval power. We are really richer by virtue of our northern colonies, which have so prodigiously encreased our industry, our commerce, and our shipping ----*."

As this is really the case, it shews of what important consequence it was to these kingdoms, The conquests we have made from the French the last year 1759, in regard they lye upon the back of our valuable *provinces*; for whilst in possession of the *places* we have *conquered*, they were continually, either themselves or their confederates, the Canadian Indians, annoying our frontiers, which by the present conquests, and what we may yet acquire, will be entirely prevented, and our planters there will be as secure on the frontiers as those who live in the interior part of the provinces,



* See the Lives of the Admirals, printed for Mr. Waller in Fleet-street.

which will, as I take it, suit very well; and as the French king is remarkably fond of hunting, the

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

provided we have the wisdom to keep what we have purchased at the expence of so much blood and treasure. For should they recover, by treaty or otherwise, what they have lost, we shall again be exposed to the same injuries and insults that we for many years before had met with from those perfidious people. We are well assured, that the French have had for a long series of years, a view of conquering our provinces upon the continent of North America, and to have had their capitol* in

* The dangerous state which some of our colonies were in, through the encroachments of our most inveterate enemies, have many years since been represented in the most strong terms to †††††, by a worthy general officer, what he said was disregarded by †††††, says that officer; *He will in time find to be truth what I have urged, though possibly [which God forbid] it may be too late: that time has come, and the whole nation saw with horror, the dangerous situation of our affairs in America, at last a body of forces were sent there, to endeavour to cure, or at least stop the growing evil. The person's name who commanded them, it is now of no use to mention, other than it will not be amiss to remember the expences the nation were put to, and that this commander not only fell in the attempt, but the expedition miscarried.*

Happy for Britain (after two or three other mistakes) there were other commanders appointed; some were sent from Great Britain, and others were born in our colonies: these commanders behaved with so much prudence and valour, that they have gained immortal honours, and have in a great measure delivered his Majesty's American subjects from the calamities they then laboured under*.

* See the first letter.

Se-

the first scene is laid that that prince had appointed a great hunting match in a forrest, near the

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

in a more convenient situation than where Quebec now stands, but God be praised, we have, instead of losing any of our valuable provinces, turned the

Several dutiful and loyal subjects have lately asked, What has been done for one of the bravest and gallantest of men that ever drew a sword, we mean, say they, lieutenant general James Oglethorpe. Why, says a bye-stander, the impartial historians in future times will relate, what posterity will scarcely credit, i. e. the undeserved treatment this gentleman has met with.

I have, for my own part, heard it averred, and I believe it to be truth, that the gallant regiment he commanded (which was composed of English, Scotch, and Irish) did more real service whilst the general was at the head of them, than others have done with whole a——s. How it came to be broke, and upon what occasion, some now living (I believe) well know.

In the reign of Ferdinand of Spain, there was a gallant officer, named Gonsalvo, who had done the Spanish nation infinite services in many respects, insomuch, that he acquired the title of the GREAT CAPTAIN, yet he was left at last without employ or recompence the remainder of his days, and no other acknowledgment was made for the signal services he had done the state, than that of a magnificent funeral, at the expence of his master after his death. So fickle and dangerous is the nature of fortune, and the favour of courts; ill services deserve punishment, and good services, by the envy of competitors, often go unrewarded. Yet the names of truly great men cannot die. Gonsalvo got immortal glory abroad, and his memory is revered through the dominions of Spain, as appears from their histories.

the sea-coast, that he might be at hand to give orders, as affairs should arise; and which pastime was

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the tables upon them, and by conquering their chief city Quebec, and other strong holds, added a vast tract of land to our former acquisitions: So that we are now in a fair way of driving the French intirely out of North America, (which, God grant) some noble personages, as well as many other faithful subjects, are well satisfied, as long as the French have a foot of land behind our frontiers, the planters, who inhabit those parts, will never be perfectly secure in their properties -----

We have an instance in history, how dangerous it is to live near powerful monarchs. The Spaniards and French being equally prone to dispose their innocent neighbours of their rights, in order to aggrandize themselves, came to a resolution in the fourteenth century, upon no other motive than avarice, to conquer the kingdom of Naples, which they very easily accomplished, after which they divided it between them. Some short time after they fell out about one of the towns, each insisting on a right to the place. Commissioners were appointed to settle the matter (much like those who were appointed at the conclusion of the last war, to settle the limits between the British and French dominions in America, which, if fairly done, the French must of course have restored to us several tracts of land they had unjustly usurped, but the sequel shewed they did not intend

was (according to the poet) calculated purely to
alleviate the great trouble and anxiety Madam
Pomp-

State of the VENETIAN and ENGLISH Navies.

tend to do either one or the other, notwithstanding we were so obliging as to send our commissaries to meet theirs in the city of Paris) some time was spent to no purpose; in the conclusion, the French and Spaniards came to blows, and the latter having beat the former in three or four battles, the French were drove out of the kingdom of Naples, and were never able afterwards to recover their share of it. And as we are well assured of the restless and ambitious designs of the French, and of their being the first aggressors in this war, by unjustly detaining part of our rights; therefore I repeat it again, that many think it will be for the interest of Britain not to suffer the French (if possible) upon any pretence whatsoever, to have one foot of land in North America, seeing they have already made such a bad use of what they had there.

Upon the whole, the subjects of these kingdoms, are bound by duty, and gratitude to acknowledge his most sacred Majesty, and his late royal father's paternal care, in causing a most glorious attention to be particularly had to the preserving and encreasing the royal navy, and it must be with like duty and gratitude admitted, that these beloved sovereigns have always been graciously pleased, not only to protect our trade and navigation, but also to encourage every useful branch of our manufactures, which will certainly make their names to be revered, and respected by the people in general to latest posterity.

Pomp---d---re was under, upon account of the great losses France had sustained, and therefore, without further ceremony, I shall here introduce it.

S C E N E I. *A forrest by the sea-side.*

Enter L---s K---g of F---, the D--p--n, Madam Pomp--d--r, M---rf---l B---isle, lords and attendants.

K. L. For you, P---d---r, is this sport prepared,
To drive all gloomy sadness from your mind;
Beauty, like yours, should suffer no eclipse,
But cheer the world with one unclouded day!
Where is my son, the D---n?

P---d---r.-----As your majesty
Set out, I heard his horses were preparing;
He cannot long be absent.

B---isle.--- Here he comes. *[Horn sounds.*
That is his horn! or I am much deceived.

Enter D---n.

D---n. A day of pleasure wait my gracious sovereign!
[To the king]
On you, lady, may every earthly bliss
Attend, that Heaven can give.

P---r.-----I thank your highness,
And could my humble wish with Heaven prevail,
Safety and joy should ever wait your steps.

K. L. Sound to the chase! arouse the nimble deer,
We shall, we guess, have pleasing pastime here.
[Exeunt omnes.

E

Be-

Before this grand company sets out for the chase, FANCY makes the Brest fleet sail, which, according to direction, was only to parade along the coast, after they had received advice that admiral Hawke was drove from thence by a strong gale of wind, and was presumed to be then at anchor in Torbay *.

Upon this, the Brussells Gazette tells its deluded readers,

M---t. The Brest fleet sails triumphant on the ocean †.

C---l---d. In what pursuit honest Mons. *M---t*?

M---t. To search for, — and drub the English; Then land their troops — and conquer Britain.

C---l---d. But HAWKE is near, he'll soon cool their boasting;

The *Fox* must tremble at the LYON'S ROAR.

The French have for many ages made it their business to boast of actions, the contrary to which has been so notoriously known, that whatever they say makes not the least impression upon the sensible part of mankind; for who can be ignorant, that France has usurped upon all her neighbours, and that her main design has been to enslave all Europe. But when you read her declarations of war, when you peruse her manifestoes and letters, when you hear her ministers harangue, then who but other princes aspire to make themselves master's of the world? Experience has fully satisfied every considerate man, that the French make no scruple to disguise the truth when it is for their interest. *Our nation*, says Michael Montaign, with his usual freedom, *has been a long time upbraided with this vice.* For Salvianus of Marseilles, who lived in the reign of the

* November 10.

† November 14.

Emperor Valentinian, asserts, *That lying is no crime among the French, but a manner of speaking**; — pray what would he have said had he been now alive, to read Monsieur M---b---t's and other different accounts, which the partizans of France have from time to time related of the actions of the French, Austrians, and Russians, where-ever Great Britain and her allies have been concerned?

The following epigram has depicted the actions of M---t extremely well.

On the author of the BRUSSELS GAZETTE.

The devil near Brussels discarding his train,
Met *Falschhood* of late, at the gate of Louvaine.
Old Scratch seem'd a friar, plump, leering, alert,
And *Falschhood* appear'd in the form of *Maubert*.
These two having mumbled their *Aves* together,
Said Mabby, I'm now at the length of my tether;
The French and the Flemings I've strove to amuse
With letters and comments, plans, projects and
news:

Like a congress of statesmen, I've juggled and ly'd,
Invented, evaded, affirm'd, and deny'd:
My fictions experience hath still contradicted:
And at present I'm held as a liar detected:
The Brussels Gazerte, which so long I have written,
Is on all sides detested, despis'd, and besh-t-n:
Our people, now beggar'd and beaten, complain,
And believe the reverse of whatever I feign:
For your empire on earth, father Satan, I grieve,
It must fall when our arts can no longer deceive!

E 2

Since

As a certain person seems to be the first who has made no scruple to disguise the truth, and abuse worthy gentlemen in his Rev—ws.

Q—Whether, instead of the *Lyon or Sovereign of the learned world*, he should not be stiled the *Father of abuse*, and consequently a disgrace to the republic of letters, and discourager of publishing learned works? — See the first letter, p. 27, 28, and 29.

Since people discredit whatever you say,
 Cry'd Satan, to dupe them we'll chuse a new way;
 Your tongue, my dear Mab, a new talent must try;
 Henceforward speak truth: they will still think
 you lie *.

British Mag.

SCENE II. *The forrest.*

A violent storm. Enter several huntsmen in a dispersed manner, and after them L. K. of F. the D—n, P—d—r, M—sb—l, B—l—isle, lords and attendants.

K. L. The game has took the uplands, and
 escaped,
 For the discordant skies forbid all chace,
 How loud it blows, I wish my fleet is safe.

D—n. Ne'er from the heavens a fairer morn-
 ing beam'd,
 Nor followed by a more tempestuous noon.
 The welkin seems inflam'd, we must retire
 And seek some better shelter.

P---r

* This black gentleman was in London some time since, and professed an esteem for the British nation, and as large numbers of the French were entertained in the services of the great, I suppose Monsieur, having a high opinion of himself, expected nothing less than an employment in one of the secretaries, or in some other lucrative office, which, however, he could not obtain. For our state ministers know better than to employ any *renegado* whatever, and by that means our affairs are now transacted with as much secrecy as those of our neighbours. As M—t did not find the encouragement he expected, he thought proper to quit the kingdom [but not till he had run in debt, which he forgot to pay; in one place he left a note of his hand, in English, wherein he promised to pay the debt at a certain time which his creditor would be glad to receive] in short, from what has since happened, we may truly say, his departure from hence, was a happy deliverance to Britain indeed!

P---r. ————— O ye powers
That watch the valiant in the hour of fate,
Now spread your wings, and guard your noble
fleet.

K. L. ————— Be not so fad.

P---r. We hope our fleet's return'd.
For o'er the main, as far as sight can stretch,
No sail appears to view — You know at parting,
(Tho' our Brussels trumpeter asserted otherwise)
C—flans was ordered — only to coast the shore
For fear of Hawke.

B — isle. This tempest is ill omen — How it
rages!
And howls destruction thro' the sylvan scene.
Lo! here appears a fragment of its ruin!

*Enter admiral C—flans in a tattered, wet, and
miserable condition.*

K. L. What dismal object thus confronts our
fight.

Say, who art thou?

Con. I am not what I was!

Oh, would the yawning earth but lend a grave
To hide a wretch just rescued from the deep.

K. L. — *C—flans!* — but 'tis impossible
Thou can't be he — Oh, say! where is my fleet?

Con. Go, bid me brave again the boisterous
furge,

Thro' which I lately struggled — bid me leap
The rocky cliff — or rush amidst the flames
Of burning *Ætna*, when it blazes highest:
All would I rather chuse than give an answer
To that heart-piercing question.

K. L. ————— Say, is it destroyed?
And end my fears at once?

Con. ————— Many souls are fled
To heav'nly bliss —

P---r

P—r. Where thine will never come.

D—n. The fleet destroyed! Oh heavy stroke of woe.

B—isse. Destroy'd, heav'ns forbid, or how did he escape?

Con. How much I honour'd your service, Heav'n can witness.

I cannot speak, — reflection over-powers me,
And my heart shudders at the painful thought.

K. L. Speak, I command thee: at thy strong persuasion

I sent my fleet to sea—in an ill hour!

Con. “How shall I speak, when ev'ry word's a
“wound

“That strikes me to the soul?—We went on board,

“All full of joy, and wafted by the breeze,

“We ploughed the surface of the smiling sea;

“When suddenly the skies were overcast:

“And from the north, the storm arising loud,

“The English then appearing *—heav'n what
“confusion,

“What ghastly terror sat on every brow—

“To see 'em, Lyons-like, tear all our sails.

“Their cannons bor'd our ships that sunk en-
“tomb'd. “While

* Dryden makes an Indian prince describe ships at sea thus.

Pr. The object I could first distinctly view,
Was, tall straight trees, which on the waters flew:
Wings on their sides, instead of leaves, did grow,
Which gather'd all the breath the wind could blow,
And at their roots grew floating palaces,
Whose out-blow'd bellies cut the yielding seas.

Rr. Came they alive or dead upon the shore?

Fr. Alas! they liv'd, too sure, I heard them roar.
All turn'd their sides, and to each other spoke;
I saw their words break out in fire and smok.
Sure 'tis their voice, that thunders from on high,
Or these the younger brothers of the sky.
Deaf with the noise, I took my hasty flight;
No mortal courage can support the fright.

" While some the angry waves, like mountains,
 " Now whirl'd us to the skies, now sunk us low,
 " As Neptune's oozy bed —————
 " At length our other shatter'd, beaten, ships,
 " Left to the mercy of the raging ocean,
 " Were driven by the English on the shore.
 " In vain I strove to save your ROYAL SUN *,
 " She perished in my fight — next a wave
 " Threw me half drown'd, and senseless on the
 " shore."

P—r. Be dumb, stop there, for thou hast said too much.

D—n. Oh! what a shock is this!
 This is a day of singular distress,
 And awful Heaven, seems angry with us all.

B—isse. The king is mute with grief, the dart strikes deep.

K. L. The fleet's destroy'd, thou say'st?

—————Break up the meeting. *[Scene closes.]*

ONE of our poets has furnished Lewis XV.
 with some smart complaints, (which Fancy sup-
 poses to have been spoken) to B—isse as follows.

—Thy pernicious wiles
 Have laid my kingdom desolate; my crown
 Sits heavy on my temples; *mark the streets*
Humming with the rumours of my bad success†.

In

* See an account of the victory at La Hogue.

† So did the people of London, some years since — whilst the *poor ballad singers*, in the dark corners of the streets, were humming in doleful *dities* the unhappy condition of Britain — but now the passengers as they pass on — hear them chaunting in melodious voices *songs* in honour of his Majesty, in praise of his ministers, and of the bravery of his generals, officers, soldiers, and seamen. In fact, we hear no more of these unhappy creatures being sent to Bridewell for singing *sedition libels*.

In vain has Maubert written forged lies
 To blind my people; see my merchants broke,
 My stocks all bankrupt, and my finances
 Beyond repair, irreparably sunk;
 Disorder'd my police, and fleets destroy'd,
 Oh! wayward fate of Paris! late so gay,
 The seat of pleasure, and the scene of taste;
 The theatre of every thing polite; ---
 My noblesse, nay, the princes of the blood,
 Nearly affected, feel the wrath of heav'n
 Pour'd daily on my state---my foe provok'd,
 Justly provok'd, and irritated fresh
 By frothy menace, waves the angry sword,
 Which flashes dire resentment in my face---
 Fruitless a war-----

-----Will they now resign, or cede,
 Cape-Breton, Louisbourg, or rich Quebec?
 My Guadaloupe, and Pondicherry too,
 Are in their hands; Goree and Senegal,
 Du Quesne, and Niagara, are their own;
 Ticonderoga and Crown Point are theirs;
 Marigalante owns the British sway.
 And will they cede these conquests for a peace?
 Restore these millions for a poor Mahon?
 Oh! vain presumption! I am Britain's dupe,
 And must of force, in what she stipulates,
 Soon acquiesce---Behold my very plate
 Forc'd from the churches, to coin ready cash,
 To pay my armies, and my flying fleets;
 A poor parade---mere pageantry and shew!
 Paid they must be, tho' paid for doing nought!

What will become of Paris and Versailles?
 For GEORGE will literally soon be said
 To be the *king of France* in terms express:
 Perhaps another Marlborough soon will rise,
 And with a cannon ball, at Paris' gates
 Knock boldly, and demand my throne and state----
 Let me not think on't. [Exit in a hurry.

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renowned admiral Hawke, in a letter to Mr. secretary Cleveland, dated from on board the Royal George

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

This gave occasion to several *discourses* upon the allusion of those words of the *second Psalm* ; as also to sharp and stinging replies upon the contrary allusion.

King Charles II. and king James II. held a close correspondence with Lewis XIV. this occasioned the French to lay hold of so favourable an opportunity to encrease their naval power ; which they so effectually did, that in the beginning of king William's reign, they were become very formidable at sea. — In truth, they did not forget the contemptible figure they made in Oliver's time. — Even the French confess, that they learned from the maritime powers, the benefit of having a considerable fleet on the ocean ; which was so much improved, that in the space of 20 years they found themselves able to encounter either nation. — In 1681, the French had XII men of war, from 120 to 70 guns ; XXI men of war, from 70 to 56 guns ; XXXIV men of war, from 50 to 40 guns ; XXVI men of war, from 40 to 30 guns ; XX from 28 to 18 guns : in all CXIII. Light frigates from 20 to 16 guns XXIV. Bomb vessels and fireships VIII. Barks X. Flutes XXII. Besides gallies XXXII. In a word, their fleet was in a still better condition at the beginning of the war in king William's reign ; so that every one may see with what disadvantage (considering the unsettled state of the three kingdoms)

George, off Penris-Point, November the 24th,
1759.

S I F,

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

doms) England entered into a sea war with France.

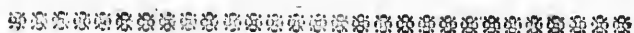
The compass of this note will not permit me to enter into a detail of the losses we at first sustained in our engagements with the French fleets from 1689 to 1692, my chief design is only to attend to what passed before and at the memorable battle at LA HOGUE; which leads me once more to observe from Mr. Campbell, —*That it was evident to the whole nation, that in respect to our honour and interest in the war, the management of affairs at sea was chiefly to be regarded; and yet by an unaccountable series of wrong councils, the management of those affairs was in reality less regarded than any thing else.*—(But heaven be praised, the case is quite otherwise now.)

In the spring of the year 1692, the king gave the chief command of the fleet to admiral Russel, afterwards created earl of Orford; (who was a near relation of the duke of Bedford.)—At this time, according to bishop Burnet, he was far from being in great favour, upon the account of his attachment to the earl of Marlborough, (afterwards the famous JOHN, duke of Marlborough) who had then fallen under the displeasure of the court. The English affairs being in this unhappy situation.

Lewis XIV. came to a resolution to employ those forces that were still left. King James, in order to answer a particular purpose, that was to invade

S I R,

“ In my letter of the 17th, by express, I desired you would acquaint their lordships with my



The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

England, by landing them and other troops on the coast of Suffex; and tho' this service made it necessary to draw together a great number of transports, as well as a very considerable fleet, yet he had both in readiness before it was so much as suspected here.

By the beginning of April nothing was wanting to the execution of this design, but the arrival of count de Estrees's Squadron of 12 men of war from the Mediterranean, which was to convoy the embarkation, while the count de Tourville appeared in the channel with the grand fleet, which was ready to put to sea.

In the mean time the friends of king James II. were not idle in England; whatever misfortunes that unhappy *prince* had sustained, and how slender his hopes might be of a restoration, he had at this time a great number of well-wishers, who desired nothing more than his re-establishment; and as every thing was just ready for the invasion, which he apprehended was designed to be in his favour; previous to this, that monarch published a declaration, after which he set out for LA HOGUE, attended by some lords of his party, where the troops designed for the embarkation lay; (*consisting of 14,000, English, Scots, and Irish; and to these troops, the French king proposed to add 6000 of his own, and so make the whole army 20,000 men; in which were 4 regiments*

my having received intelligence of *eighteen sail* of the line and *three frigates* of the *Brest squadron*,

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

giments of horse, and 1 of dragoons) and having taken a review of them, hastened every thing for the intended expedition; but the weather proved so tempestuous, that Estrees's squadron met with considerable damage in passing the Straits of Gibraltar, which obliged him to put into a port in Spain to refit. This, and other accidents delayed their purpose, till intelligence of the danger was received in England: on this emergence the queen * discovered great steadiness and prudence. Orders were immediately issued for equipping the *fleet*, and assembling the *militia*; a camp was formed at Portsmouth, and a proclamation published for apprehending all suspected persons.

The English fleet, under the command of admiral RUSSEL, consisted of two squadrons, the RED and BLUE.

The RED consisted of II first rate, VI second rate, XVI third rate, and IV fourth rate; in all XXVIII. RUSSEL admiral, DELAVAL vice, and SHOVEL rear-admirals.

The BLUE consisted of III first rate, V second rate, XVII third rate, and V fourth rate; in all XXX. ASHBY admiral, ROOKE vice, and CARLER rear-admirals. ‡

The Dutch consisted of IX first rate, X second rate, IX third rate, VIII fourth rate; in all XXXVI.

* King William was then in Holland.

‡ Besides 6 frigates, 4 hospital ships, 2 yachts and 20 fire ships, guns 4170, men 27590.

dron, being discovered about twenty-four leagues to the N. W. of *Bellisle*, steering to eastward ; all

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

XXXVI. This fleet was commanded by admiral ALLEMONDE, &c.

The French fleet, commanded by count TOURVILLE, consisted as follows :—The *van* XXVI ships from 90 to 60 guns ; the *center* XXV ships from 104 to 54 guns ; the *rear* XII. from 94 to 54 guns ; in all LXIII. besides frigates, &c.

On the 19th of May these fleets met, and the confederates were in good order by eight in the morning, having the Dutch squadron in the van, the red in the center, and the blue in the rear. The French, according to their usual way, bore down upon the fleet with great resolution ; about eleven Tourville, in the *Royal Sun*, began the fight with admiral Russel ; he plied his guns very warmly for above an hour ; after that he had enough of it, and began to tow off in great disorder. This day's action lasted six hours, and in the second day's engagement, admiral Carter and colonel Hastings were killed. In the conclusion the victory declared for the English and Dutch, by the French running away in a fog ; which was so thick, that the enemy could not be seen for some time : as soon as it cleared up, the French admiral was discovered towing away northward. Russel made the signal for chasing ; Shovel got to the windward of Tourville's squadron, and engaged them ; but the fog growing darker than before, they were forced to anchor ; when the weather cleared up,

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The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

our fleet discovered the French *closely following their flying admiral*.—*The English pursued them the best they could* (and so did the French follow their flying admiral Conflans, in the late engagement ; and the English closely pursued them) in this pursuit the French lost four men of war, and some of their flying ships made for Conquet Road.

The 21st of May, it proved so dark and foggy, that it was eight of the clock before the Dutch discovered some of the enemy crowding away westward.

On the 22d the English continued the chase ; about eleven the French admiral ran ashore, and cut her masts away, and by that means, Tourville escaped to the land ; (*which was the very same fate that attended Conflans in his engagement with Hawke*) another part got to Cherburg ; and those at that place, and at La Hogue, endeavoured to secure themselves, whilst others run thro' the Race of Alderney into St. Maloes. Sir Ralph Delaval burnt at Cape de Vic, the Royal Sun, of 104 guns ; the Admirable, of 102 ; and the Conquerant, of 83 guns ; with six lesser rates.

A gentleman at White-Hall, in a letter to his friend at the Hague, dated June the 9th, gives an exact account of the burning the French ships (says the letter writer) “ The seamen employ-
“ ed to burn the ships, performed their duty
“ with

to the accompanying list, of four ships of 80,
 six of 74, three of 70, eight of 64, one frigate of 36,
 one

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

“ with all the bravery and resolution imagina-
 “ ble, tho’ the enterprize was no less difficult
 “ than dangerous ;” and withal he took notice, after
they had made themselves masters of several of the
enemy’s ships, they used their cannon to drive them
from their platforms ; — and concludes with
 saying, “ We have destroyed above one and
 “ twenty of their large men of war, besides two
 “ frigates, and several of the smaller vessels ;
 “ and had it not been for the foggy weather,
 “ few of the rest had escaped :” (*and had it not*
been so short a winter’s day, admiral Hawke would
have treated the Brest fleet in the same manner.)—
 Another account says, “ That on our side, we
 “ did not lose one single vessel, except fireships
 “ that were spent in the action.”—(*Nor did we*
lose one ship in the action with the Brest fleet, save
what were destroyed by running ashore in the close pur-
suit after the run-away enemy.)

Sir Ralph Delaval, in a letter to the earl of Nottingham, then secretary of state, gives an account of the burning of that part of the ships (before-mentioned) which was performed under his direction ; and in that letter there are two remarkable clauses, which shews him to be a brave officer, and a friend to those who deserved well of their country.

“ Indeed, says the admiral, (speaking of the captains of the fireships) *so brave was the attempt, that I think they can hardly be sufficiently*
 rewarded ;

one of 34, and one of 16 guns, with a small vessel to look out. They sailed from Brest the 14th instant ;

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

rewarded ; and doubt not but their majesties will do them right."—The other follows :

" My Lord, I hope you will excuse me, if I presume to pray you well use your interest with the queen, that a reward may be given to the three captains of the fireships, and several others ; for greater zeal, and greater bravery I never saw."

The same day, Sir Ralph so gallantly acted his part, vice-admiral Rooke destroyed 13 ships of the line at La Hogue. These were part of Tourville's own squadron, and who was a melancholy spectator from the shore of their destruction ; as was also king James's army. — That prince wrote his ally Lewis XIV. a moving letter on this subject ; in which he ascribes the French king's loss to his unlucky star ; and adds, " For which, I request your majesty, no longer to concern yourself for a prince so unfortunate as me ; but permit me to retire to some corner of the world, where I may no longer obstruct the course of your usual prosperities and conquests."

There were some letters from the fleet, which say, there was not above 42 of the English, and very few of the Dutch engaged ; not but that the whole fleet burned with an eager desire to have come to blows with the French, in which they were prevented by a hasty flight (and so were some of our fleet disappointed in the late engagement, owing to Conflans's hasty flight) the prisoners

instant, the same day I sailed from Torbay. Concluding that their first rendezvous would be at Qui-

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prisoners taken in the engagement assured the English, that the French lost between five and six thousand seamen killed and wounded.

But according to the printed relation of this battle in France, Tourville did not engage with above forty-four large ships; admiral Russel does not make them exceed fifty: nevertheless, their fleet was much stronger, according to their own account; for, if we believe the list they first published, it amounted to above seventy large or capital ships; which they afterwards contradicted, and then they made their fleet to amount to no more than sixty-three.—It is no doubt but the French acted upon this occasion, agreeable to their old method of puffing, in giving us at first a false list of their fleet, with a view to make it appear more terrible to the English nation.

However, this is certain, if the French could have commanded the wind, so that Estrees could have joined Tourville, their fleet would have been equal, if not superior to the *confederates*; besides, they had got the start of them, and were in a condition to put to sea sooner than either the English or Dutch.

Now, as the wind proved contrary, and other unforeseen accidents happened; pray let me ask why did Tourville engage alone without Estrees, against so superior a *force*, as the French talk of? it was Tourville that began the attack; and therefore,

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Quiberon, the instant I received the intelligence I directed my course thither with a *prest* sail.

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

therefore, it is likely he was spurred on thro' the vanity of his heart, and the contempt he had of his enemies ; for the reason I shall presently mention.—But it proved fatal to the French, tho' fortunate to the confederates ; and shewed heaven favoured the latter in that ever memorable day of battle.

But observe ! a moment of time (i. e. in about six hours) pulled down the work of many years ; by which, France fell under the lowest circumference of the wheel ; and it was a long time before she recovered herself, notwithstanding her boasting that she would then instantly put to sea again with seventy capital ships.

Never did *victory* prove of more solid advantage ; it put an end to the fears of an invasion, and by burning and dispersing the fleet, the exorbitant pride of the French were greatly lowered. (*As it has also been by the late victories gained over them by our gallant admirals.*)

Yet Sir, after all, was you to read the French accounts of this victory which they published your honour would think it to be an inconsiderable business, and scarce worth mentioning. But they that read those flams, and saw the *admiral* running one way, the vice-admiral another, and the rear-admiral following them ; the one with four *forlorn ships*, another with *two*, would be a little stumbled in their belief, to see *such a rout and dissipation of a royal navy*, and yet hardly any

sail. At first the wind blowing hard, at S. by E. and S. drove us considerably to the westward.
But

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

harm done. — Yet, when we recollect the French are the best people in the world at *romancing*, then the fable may be swallowed well enough. — But, let them romance as long as they please, the English and Hollanders were never a jot the less *victorious*.

It was worthy of remark, that upon the news of our naval victory, king William caused all the artillery in his camp at Bethlem to be drawn up to the top of the hill upon the right of the way, that looked towards Namure, and placed the Dutch artillery upon the same hill to the left; after which, the whole *army* got under arms, and then the general joy was expressed by a triple discharge of all the *cannon* and *small arms*, upon this glorious occasion. — It was observed at that time, that the French king, who was then with his army, to gloss over the inward perplexity of his mind, upon hearing the roaring of the cannons, feintly said, “ HERE IS A MIGHTY “ PUDDER INDEED ! ABOUT BURNING TWO “ OR THREE SHIPS.”

The French would not allow the bravery and conduct of the English and Dutch to have any share in their loss; but attribute it all to chance. (*It is likely they may say the same both of Boscawen and Flawke, in the late engagements with their fleets.*)

We must acknowledge, says one of the writers of that time, *that the winds did not favour M. Tourville.* Still, we may say of the French fleet,

But on the 18th and 19th, though variable, it proved more favourable. In the mean time, having

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fleet, what was said of Phillip the II'd's Invincible Armada, *that the courage and conduct of Sir Francis Drake, contributed no less to the ruin of that fleet, than the tempest: (and so we may justly say of admiral Hawke.)* As to admiral Russel, he understood to make his advantage of that circumstance as well as Sir Francis; *(and if our then admirals fought with the wind on their side, that was no blemish to their valour.)*

Pray let me ask another question, since the French have complained so much! why did not Tourville delay the engagement? *(or in other words, why did he not run away; as Conflans has since at the fight of Hawke?)* perhaps the wind might have changed, and Estrees joined him, and by that means it might have been the better for him: suppose neither had happened, it would at least have delayed his ruin. It is said, indeed Tourville could not help fighting, because he had received a positive order from his master; but, when was that order given? it was before the English and Dutch fleets joined; had that not happened, it was looked upon that the French were more than a match for the English; for a reason very obvious, that is, Tourville thought that some of the English would not fight, owing to their old attachment to the unfortunate James; and having once prepossessed himself that he was right in what he thought: it is very likely, he hurried himself

having been joined by the Maidstone and Coventry frigates, I directed their commanders to keep

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

self into the calamity that ensued. A Dutch writer has made himself merry upon this occasion, in saying, *It will be recorded, that the French admiral had frolicked away the fortune of France; believing his master had gained over the principal port of the English (thro' his unhappy ally) and had got the winds in a bag.*

Since the ministry of Richlieu, the French kings have been told, *that puissance in arms requires that they should be not only powerful by land, but potent by sea*; and the prince that reigns at present followed that maxim; yet God be praised.—He has met with so many severe checks that it will take up many years to put his marines upon the respectable footing they were in at the beginning of the present war.*

The

* A gentleman some few years since, paid a visit to a N—— L——, who is remarkable for being of an open and communicative temper; in discourse, his l—— spoke with great affection for his native country; and at the same time took notice of the artful designs of the French, after this manner:

“ I am, says his l——, lately returned from France; “ whilst I was there I made it one part of my attention “ to gather what curious particulars I could of the then “ political system of their government; and in which I “ so far succeeded as to obtain a piece in French, which I “ have now in my hand, filed a memorial, (this he “ shewed

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keep a-head of the *squadron*, one on the *star-*
board, and the other on the *larboard bow*. At
half

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The greatest *politician* that ever was in France
was wont to say, *that the sea was such an inheri-*
ance,

“ shewed to his visitor) wherein the memorialist observ-
“ ed, addressing himself to the French king ; ‘ All your
“ m——y’s rapid conquests will avail you nothing, if you
“ are not *powerful at sea*, and that you can never be, un-
“ less your fleets are able to cope with one particular
“ neighbour ; I mean, *the daring islanders.*’ However,
“ continues the memorialist, ‘ I see, with pleasure, the
“ methods your m——y’s m——rs now pursue, by which
“ in all likelihood it will in the end answer what
“ France has had chiefly in view for above a century ;
“ (i. e. that of giving laws to all Europe) in case some
“ means can be found to prevent a rupture with those
“ people till the year 1760 ; after which time, (if your
“ ministers continue, as they have hitherto done, encreasing
“ your naval power) you will be able to chastise, and in
“ process of time, to crush those dangerous enemies upon
“ the element ; and then, all will be your own.”

His l—— at last observed, with concern, the
unsettled state of our colonies, and the perfidious actions
of the French : and as he was going to ——, the gentle-
man followed him thither, where his l—— spoke to the
same effect ; from all which, the gentleman said, it fully
appeared, to him he had the true interest of his country at
heart.

Soon after two pamphlets were published, the first stiled
The man’s mistaken, who thinks the taxes so grievous, as to
render the nation unable to maintain a war : in which no-
tice was taken of what his l—— had said : the last was
stiled, *The groans of GREAT BRITAIN :* and among
other interesting matters, there is stated in it, the mischiefs
that is natural to be expected from great men keeping in
their service French valets, whilst we were at war with
France.

half past eight o'clock in the morning of the
20th, Belleisle by our reckoning bearing E. by
N.

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*ance, that all sovereigns pretended to have the
greatest right to it ; but to speak all in a word,
the best title to that dominion is force ; which the
French at the battle of La Hogue found, and
now know it from dismal experience to be truth :
so it is hoped they will hereafter give over all
thoughts of any sovereignty there ; and let Great
Britain enjoy the empire of the ocean, who has,
as it is plain to all Europe, the best right
to it.*

History relates, that the Turks lost in the
year 1571, two hundred gallies, some taken, and
some sunk ; which was the greatest victory that
had ever been heard of before that time.—In
the year 1638, all the force that Spain could
croud upon the ocean, was reduced to ashes by
the fleet of Lewis XIII. But the engagement
of Gattari was nothing in comparison of that
which was fought in St. George's-channel, in
the month of May 1692 ; and since off Belleisle
in 1759.

Admiral Russel's account of this victory is
very short, but concise ; and there has been also
published several relations of this memorable
event, both in general histories, and detached
pieces ; that from the admiral is contained in a
letter, dated May 20, as follows :

“ Yesterday, about three in the morning,
Cape Barfleur bearing W. by S. distance seven
leagues, my scouts made the signal for seeing an
enemy

N. † N. the Maidstone* made the signal for seeing a fleet. I immediately spread abroad the signal

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enemy, the wind westerly, the French bore down to me, and at eleven engaged me, but at some distance,† (*French like.*) We continued fighting till half an hour past five in the evening, at which time the enemy towed away with all their boats, and we after them; (*the Brest fleet acted the same part, when Hawke followed them.*) It was calm all day; (*the case was otherwise when Hawke engaged.*) About six there was a fresh engagement to the westward of me, which I suppose to be the blue: it continued calm all night: I can give no particular account of things, but that the French were beaten; and I am steering away for Conquet Road, having a fresh gale easterly, but extremely foggy: I suppose that is the place they design for.—*If it please God to send us a little clear weather, I doubt not but we shall destroy the whole fleet.—I saw in the night three or four ships blow up, but I know not what they are; as soon as I am able to give you a more particular relation, I will not be wanting.*

Bishop Burnet gives us this singular relation of the victory.

“On the 19th of May, Russel came up with the French, and was almost twice their number, yet not above half his ships could be brought into the action, by the winds. Rooke, one of his admirals, was thought more in fault; (*in this the bishop was mistaken, for the admiral was in no fault; he behaved in the action as became a faithful subject, and a gallant officer.*) The number of ships that engaged: our men said, the French

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shewed

* The brave capt. Diggs commanded her. † See page 55.

signal for a line a-breast, in order to draw *all the ships* of the *Squadron* up with me. I had before sent

The Victory at LA HOGUE, 1692.

shewed neither courage nor skill in the action ; *(so they said of the French, in the engagement off Belleisle ; and yet the French cannot help boasting of their courage, as well as their skill in maritime affairs.)* The night and a fog separated the two fleets, after an engagement that had lasted three hours : the greatest part of the French ships drew near their coasts ; but Russel not casting anchor, as the French did, was carried out by the tide so next morning he was at some distance from them : a great part of the French fleet sailed thro' a dangerous sea, called, The Race of Alderney, Ashby was sent to pursue them, and he followed them some leagues, but the pilots pretending danger, he came back : so 26 of them, whom if Ashby had pursued, by all appearance, he had destroyed them all, got into St. Malles.—*(Here the bishop is again mistaken, for Ashby was afterwards questioned in parliament for this supposed offence, and was very honourably acquitted.)* Russel came up to the French admiral, and the other ships had drawn near their coasts : Delaval burnt the admiral, and his two seconds ; and Rooke burnt 16 more before La Hogue.”

I shall here take the liberty to look into one part of our high critic's *little compleat history*.

Dr. you say, “*Tourville might have avoided an engagement, had he not received a positive order to fight.*” We say, this order came to him before the English and Dutch joined, and as he had not fought before that junction, he might have avoided the battle, if he pleased : but as to that, we have already assigned the cause of Tourville's plunging himself into the calamity that ensued.

sent the *Magnamine* a-head, to make the land.
At three quarters past nine she made the signal
for

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ensued.—You urge, Tourville bore down alongside Russel's ship, and fought with great fury: but where was this hero, good Dr. when he fought in a fury? why, according to your account, it was at a small distance: * and then you tell us, *this was a very mortifying defeat to the French king, who had been long flattered with an uninterrupted series of victories*; but if we believe what the Grand Monarch said at Namure, it was so far from being mortifying to him, that he made a meer joke of it.—Yet it was such a joke, as to make good the old proverb, *ill jesting with edge tools*.§

Here follows the advantages that was said the English might have gained from the victory at La Hogue. *They might hinder the French from fishing; put an absolute stop to their commerce; make their merchants pay what duties they pleased, by making themselves masters of the mouths of their great rivers; and land, without opposition, upon their islands, and upon their coasts.*—And, pray why may we not do the same at this day.

In a word, this close-laid mischief of an invasion in 1692, ended with the heaviest blow the naval power of France had felt for years: and in like manner the close-laid mischief of an invasion in 1759, has ended with another severe stroke, which has reduced the naval power of France to a much lower state than it ever was before.

H 2

The * But admiral Russel says expressly, the French engaged at some distance; (see page 53) any one may guess at the doctor's reason for adding the word *fury*, and his putting the word *small* instead of *some*: in truth, Conflans in the late engagement acted in part as poor Tourville had done before him.

§ See page 43.

for an enemy. Observing, on my discovering them, that they made off, I *threw out the signal* *for*

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The queen (Mary) was so well pleased with the gallant behaviour of the fleet, during the whole action, that she was graciously pleased to send 30,000*l.* to be distributed among the officers and seamen, as a reward, in part, for their faithful services.—*A very laudable act indeed!*

Hear the inimitable Prior upon this occasion.

I.

The French SALMONCOS throws his bolts in vain,
Whilst the true thunderer asserts the main;
'Tis done! to shoals and rocks his fleets retire.

Swift victory, in vengeful flames,
Burns down the pride of their presumptuous names;
They run to shipwreck to avoid our fire,
And the torn vessels that regain their coast,
Are but sad marks to shew the rest are lost:
All this the mild, the beauteous queen has done,
And WILLIAM's softer half shakes Lewis's throne.

II.

MARIA does the sea command,
Whilst Galia flies her husband's arms by land:
So the sun absent, with full sway, the moon
Governs the isles, and rules the waves alone,
So Juno thunders when her Jove is gone:
Ió Britannia, loose thy ocean's chains,
Whilst Ruffel strikes the blow thy queen ordains:
Thus rescu'd, thus rever'd, for ever stand;
And bless the counsel, and reward the hand.
Ió Britannia, thy MARIA reigns.

The French, after they had sustained this memorable loss, and finding their gasconade of putting to sea a large fleet, was laughed at in England; whilst they were making great pre-
pa-

for the seven ships, nearest them to chase, and draw into a line of battle a-head of me, and endeavour to stop them till the rest of the Squadron should come up, who were also to form as they chased, that no time might be lost in the pursuit. That morning they were in chase of the Rochester, Chatham, Portland, Falkland, Minerva, Vengeance, and Venus, all which joined me about eleven o'clock; and in the evening the Sapphire from Quiberon-bay. All the day we had very fresh gales, at N. W. and W. N. W with heavy squalls. M Conflans kept going off under such sail as all his Squadron could carry, and at the same time keep together, while we crowded after him with every sail our ships could bear. At half past two, P. M. the first beginning a-head, I made the signal for engaging. We were then to the southward of Belleisle, and the French admiral headmost; soon after led round the Cardinals, (Rocks so called) while his rear was in action. About four

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parations for carrying on the war the next campaign with still greater vigour; they ceased not to tempt Old England with new offers of peace: upon this the following lines were wrote:

“ La France lui promet beaucoup :

“ Ma's c'est pour fraper mieux son coup,

“ Et pour mieux lancer le tonnerre :

“ Le France veut la Paix, pour mieux faire la Guerre.

*Lavish of promises, the faithless France
Seeks to disarm his dreaded puissance;
That when those promises his hands have bound,
He may the deeper, and more surer wound:
And that his darted thunder may not err,
He sues for peace, the better to succeed in war.*

four the Formidable *struck*; and a little after, the Thesee and Superb were sunk. About five the Heros *struck*, ¶ and came to an anchor, but it blowing hard, no boat could be sent on board her. Night was now come, and being on a part of the coast, among islands and shoals, of which we were totally ignorant, without a pilot, as was the greatest part of the squadron, and blowing hard on a lee shore, I made the signal to anchor, and came to in 15 fathom water, the island of Dumet bearing E. by N. between two and three miles, the Cardinals W. half S. and the Steeples of Crozie S. E. as we found the next morning.

In the night we heard many guns of distress fired, but blowing hard, want of knowledge of the coast, and whether they were fired by a friend or an enemy, prevented all means of relief.

By day-break of the 21st, we discovered one of our ships dismasted ashore on the Four, (a large sand-bank) the French Heros also, and the Soleil Royal, which under cover of the night had anchored among us, cut and run ashore to the westward of Crozie. On the latter's moving, I made the Essex's signal to slip and pursue her; * but she unfortunately got upon the Four, and both she and the Resolution* are irrecoverably lost, notwithstanding we sent them all the assistance that the weather would permit. About fourscore of the Resolution's company, in spite of the strongest remonstrances of their captain, made rafts, and with several French prisoners belonging to the Formidable, put off, and I am afraid drove out to sea. All the Essex's are saved (with as many of the stores as possible) except one lieutenant and a boat's crew, who were drove on the French shore, and have not since been heard of: The remains of both ships
are

¶ To the Magnamine, commanded by the noble and brave Lord Howe.

* The brave capt. Obrien commanded her; as did capt. Speke the Resolution.

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are set on fire: We found the Dorsetshire, Revenge and Defiance* in the night of the 20th put out to sea; as I hope the Swifture† did, for she is still missing. The Dorsetshire and Defiance returned next day, and the latter saw the Revenge without. Thus, *what loss we have sustained has been owing to the weather* not the enemy, seven or eight of whose line of battle ships got out to sea, I believe the night of the action.

As soon as it was broad day-light of the morning of the 21st, I discovered seven or eight of the enemy's line of battle ships at anchor between Penris-Point and the Villaine; on which I made the signal to weigh, in order to work up and attack them; but it blowed so hard from the N. W. that instead of daring to cast the squadron loose, I was obliged to strike the top-gallant-masts. Most of those ships appeared to be aground at low-water; but on the flood, by lightening them, and the advantage of the wind under the land, all except two got that night into the river Villaine.

The weather being moderate on the 22d, I sent the Portland, Chatham, and Vengeance‡ to destroy the Soleil Royal and Heros. The French on the approach of our ships, set the first on fire, and soon after the latter met the same fate from our people. In the mean time, I got under way, and worked up within Penris-Point, as well for the sake of its being a safer road, as to destroy, if possible, the two ships of the enemy which still lay without the Villaine; but before the ships I sent a-head for that purpose could get near them, being

* These three ships were commanded by the captains Dennis, Stort, and Baird.

† Sir Thomas Stanhope commanded her.

‡ These were commanded by the captains Arbuthnot, Lockhart, and Nightingale.

being quite light, and with the tide of flood, *they got in.*

All the 23d we were employed in reconnoitring the entrance of that river, which is very narrow, and only twelve foot water at the bar at low-water. We discovered at least seven, if not eight of the line of battle ships about half a mile within, quite light, and two frigates moored a-crofs to defend the mouth of the river; only the frigates appeared to have guns in. By evening, *I had twelve long-boats, fitted as fireships, ready to attempt burning them, under cover of the Saphire and Coventry**: but the weather being bad, and the wind contrary, obliged me to defer it, till at least the latter should be favourable: IF THEY CAN BE BY ANY MEANS DESTROYED, IT SHALL BE DONE.¶

In attacking a flying enemy, it was impossible, in the space of a short winter's day, that all our ships should be able to get into action, or all those of the enemy brought to it. The commanders and companies of such as did come up with the rear of the French, on the 20th, behaved with the greatest intripidity, and gave the strongest proofs of a true British spirit. In the same manner, I am satisfied would those have acquitted themselves, whose, bad going ships, or the distance they were at in the morning, prevented from getting up. Our loss by the enemy is not considerable: for in the ships which are now with me, I find only one lieutenant, and 39 seamen and marines killed, and about 202 wounded. When I consider the season of the year, the hard gales on the day of action, a flying enemy,

the

* These were commanded by the captains Strachan and Barilem.

¶ These words seem to be spoke from the heart, and well becomes so gallant a commander as Sir EDWARD is universally allowed to be.

the shortness of the day, and the coast we were on, I can boldly affirm, that what could possibly be done, has been done. As to the loss we sustained, let it be placed to the account of the necessity I was under of running all risks to break this strong force of the enemy: Had we had but two hours more day light, the whole had been totally destroyed, or taken, for we were almost up with the van when the night overtook us.

Yesterday came in here the Pallas, Fortune sloop, and Pluto fireship. On the 16th I had dispatched the Fortune to Quiberon, with directions to capt. Duff, *to keep strictly on his guard.* In his way thither she fell in with the Hebee, a French frigate of 40 guns, under jury masts, and fought her several hours. During the engagement, lieutenant Stewart, 2d of the Ramillies, whom I had appointed to command her, was unfortunately killed; the surviving officers, on consulting together, resolved to leave her, as she proved too strong for them. I have detached captain Young to Quiberon-bay with *five ships, and am making up a flying squadron to scour the coast to the isle of Aix, and if practicable, to attempt any of the enemy's ships that may be there.*

I am, Sir, &c."

The British fleet consisted of 24 men of war, and that of the French of about 25 men of war, great and small.

I have had the pleasure to receive several very remarkable and curious particulars relating to this ever memorable victory, from one who was an eye-witness. — Some part of which, I shall here take the liberty to lay before your honour.

The Brest fleet sailed the 14th of November, bearing away for Quiberon Bay; Sir Edward
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Hawke

Hawke was then under sail at Torbay, and directed his course towards Quiberon; before which place commodore Duff lay, with his small squadron.

On the 16th, at night, a victualler, dispatched by the Juno and Maidstone men of war, first informed the admiral that the Brest fleet was sailed; upon this news, capt. Campbell being present, our brave commander was heard to say, **THANK GOD, THEY ARE OUT AT LAST;** and immediately made the signal, the wind blowing hard S. by E. and S. directing his course with a prest sail.

The 18th the fleet drove to the northward of Ushant.

The 19th the fleet was steering to the S. E. in pursuit of the enemy; this day the Maidstone and Coventry frigates joined the admiral, and were directed to keep a-head.

On the 20th, about ten minutes after nine in the morning; the Maidstone made a signal to the Royal George, of seeing the enemy in the N. E. quarter; this news was communicated as fast as possible to the rest of the fleet, with orders for every ship to get ready for action.—The truly honourable and brave capt. Keppel, of the Torbay, was then near the Royal George, and after he had received his orders, he addressed himself, as I am informed, after this manner to the ship's company.—*Gentlemen, I have sailed with you some time, I believe you know me. I shall trust to you; the enemy is near, if we can do more than any other ship in the fleet. I shall be happy; if I fall, I am convinced the next in command will use you as I have done:—pray let me have NO NOISE; to your quarters, my brave boys.*—A resolute sailor, cried, *we will have a cheer;* which was repeated
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three times with, the greatest joy, and then every man returned to his duty; which being heard by the people of the Royal George, and they taking it as compliments to them, returned the salute.

In the mean time, the *Magnamine* was sent to make the land, and orders was given to the whole fleet, *not to quit the ship they should fall in with, till taken or destroyed.*—The admiral was on the quarter-deck at seven in the morning, and continued there till seven at night, giving his orders, with the utmost coolness and resolution; about half an hour after one, Sir Edward sent for his steward, to bring two bottles of wine upon the quarter-deck, and after drinking a glass himself, *wishing success to his majesty's fleet,* he ordered the gentlemen, stationed there, to have two glasses each.*

The signal being given for a general chace in the N. E. quarter, and the ships that was headmoſt to form themselves as they joined.—When the French saw us, they were all in a cluster, and seemed to be in the utmost consternation; at first, they made a feint, as if they were bearing down to engage us, and formed three different times; whilst we endeavoured to get up to them as fast as possible: ¶ the *Warspite*, Sir John Bentley, fired the first broadside at the enemy, and began the engagement; and in a few minutes the *Magnamine*, *Dorsetshire*, *Torbay*, *Defiance*, *Resolution*, and *Revenge*, followed his example; being the headmoſt ships

I 2

* At one time there was to be seen, both fleets, with their colours flying; the French *white* *sartin*, and ours made a gallant figure: which was indeed a very glorious sight, because, the sun then shone very bright.

¶ The morning of the engagement our admiral was joined by commodore Duff, with the other frigates under his command, being all ten.

of our fleet: for the French, were obliged, in some sort, to engage; because they could not run away. The admiral, in pursuit of the enemy, received the fire of 14 ships, occasioned by their tacking and attempting to get off.—One said to the admiral, *Will you receive the fire of these ships, and not return it*; he very calmly replied, NO, NO, HAVE PATIENCE; WE WILL RETURN IT PRESENTLY; and then spying the French admiral's ship, (*like another Ruffet*) he called out to the master, and asked him, DO YOU SEE THAT SHIP WITH A WHITE FLAG AT THE MAINTOP-MAST-HEAD?—YES, SIR, replied the master; CARRY ME. (says our glorious admiral) A LONG-SIDE THAT SHIP: the master instantly endeavoured to put his orders in execution.

In the interim, the Superbe, a French man of war of 70 guns, and 800 men, came (as Sir Edward was pushing on towards the French admiral's ship) along-side the Royal George.—Captain Campbell, commander of the ship, enquired of the admiral, *how close he would please to engage*; Hawke gallantly said, AS CLOSE AS YOU PLEASE, SIR. The above Superbe's guns, at that time, bore on the Royal George, and began to fire at her, who returned the compliment; and in less than six minutes (after the Royal George had given her a second broadside) she went to the bottom; or in other words,

The guns so bor'd her, that she sunk entomb'd.

The Magnamine, (lord Howe) as well as the others that engaged, strictly obeyed the admiral's orders; but as she was just engaging the Le Heros, of 74 guns, and 815 men, she had the misfortune of losing her foretop-sail-yard, the Frenchman took this opportunity of getting away under all the sail he could carry: but, my lord,

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lord, (true to his country) immediately followed him ; as did likewise the brave capt. Lockhart, in the Chatham : the Magnamine gave the Le Heros two broadsides, whilst the Chatham raked her ; after this she struck to the Magnamine ; it being near dark, and the sea running high, no boat could be sent to take possession of her ; and by that means, in the night, she split her cables, and ran ashore. ¶

The Theseé shared the same fate as the Superbe had done, by being sunk entomb'd.

The Formidable engaged the brave Speke in the Resolution, and was forced to strike, and possession was taken of her before it was dark.

The Essex and Resolution were afterwards lost upon the rocks, in pursuit of the enemy : but the night put an end to the chase for the then present time. The French admiral in the Soleil Royal, anchored among our fleet that night ; but in the morning, as soon as she was perceived, ran ashore in a sandy bay : seven or eight of the enemy's ships got up the river Villaine.

— Here follows a just account, as it is affirmed, of the French losses in this engagement.

Five ships burnt, or taken on the day of action.

Eight forced up the river Villaine, whereof the Inflexible is absolutely lost : and in a word,

the

¶ This was certainly a base action in the French. In short, where a ship strikes her colours, and begs quarters of an enemy, and granted, and afterwards runs away, in breach of the rules of war : such deserve no mercy when they fall into the hands of their enemy a second time. It is said, lord Howe has claimed the ship ; but what answer his lordship has received, we don't know ; this I am sure, I shall always respect his lordship for the favours he bestowed on my near Kinsman Andrews, late captain of the Defiance, who was kill'd in the engagement where admiral Byng commanded. This admiral expressed his surprize, saying, he wondered what the captain was at, being then engaged with the enemy. Happy would it have been for the admiral, had he followed the example of so brave a man.

French acted in this engagement much after the old sort ; I mean that at the battle of La Hogue.

Two (the Juste and Northumberland) supposed to be wrecked, or at least one of them

Lord Howe, capts. Keppel, Bentley, Campbell, Speke, Baird, Young, and others, particularly distinguished themselves in this action ; and that to the entire satisfaction of our renowned admiral, and were severally thanked in the most affectionate manner, when they came on board to pay their compliments to the admiral after the action : in fact, it would fill a volume to relate every particular, as to the officers, seamen, and marines gallant behaviour in, before, and after the action ; and therefore, upon this occasion, we may justly say with the poet,

*But how shalt thou describe the brave men round ;
Or point one great, where numberless are found :*

In truth, we may however say, it was in one respect, a happy circumstance for the enemy, that the battle was fought in a short winter's day ; for if there had been one hours daylight more, their whole fleet would have been entirely ruined

The French, according to their usual custom have endeavoured, as much as possible, to make this victory appear to be a small and an inconsiderable affair : but those who are well acquainted with their old practice, laugh at them, and treat them as they have formerly done their neighbours.

For the present let us leave the admiral pursuing and distressing his vanquish'd enemy ; and return to the French court, which fancy pretends to be now at Versailles.

SCENE

SCENE III.

Enter the D—n, meeting B—isle.

B—isle. What news ?—— *how bears the king
This new affliction.*——

D—n.——— *In heavy mood
He wanders thro' the palace : sudden starts
Of wild emotion marks his troubled brow ;
And shew his soul is deeply discomposed.*

B—isle. This loss is most afflicting to be sure.

D—n. I'll to the king.——

(Exit D—n and B—isle.)

Enter King, alone.

*Oh my unhappy state ! the wrongs I've suffered
Falls back severe ; and like a Partbean dart,
Festers within my breast, and pains me deeply :
Since heaven withdrew the cup of blessing from me,
To plunge me in a wild abyss of woe.
Who is there ?*

(Enter Pom—d—r.)

P—r. —— My gracious lord.

K. L. O P—d—r !—— *how hard's my case ;
It drives me to despair !——
But majesty is not exempt from change :
Ev'n monarch's have been cast from empire,
To mingle with the meanest of mankind.*

P—r. My sorrows for your loss, can know no
period :

For your sake, I vow, Sir, a life recluse ;
And in a cloyster mean to end my days.

K. L. Talk not of vows !—— *thou art our
fav'rite still,
The ornament and glory of our court ;
There shalt thou shine in beauty's sov'reign pride.
A convent was not made such charms to hide.*

(Exit M. P—d—r.)

K. L. *alone, (pauses.)*

K. L. So, now I find some ease! returning reason
Resumes her throne;—my sadness is abated.
Once more I am myself, a king and father.
Who is there?

Enter M. Brog—o.

Brog. My gracious sovereign.—

K. L. You Brog—o, shall immediately for
Germany.

Brog. With pleasure I embrace this fair com-
mission.

Enter D—n.

K. L. Welcome my son, I just was wishing you :
L—d Brog—o, by my order, is about
To set out for Germany.

D—n. Dear father, give me leave to go with
him.

Brog. Your highness asks what prudence must
deny :

England has our fleet ;—she has got too much.

K. L. “ No, Lovis, hold ; thy suit cannot
be granted ;

“ Should any chance befall thee, I were hopeless :

“ I must not risk my all—my past misfortunes

“ Have taught me wisdom, and have sunk my
pride !

“ Thou art my people’s pledge ; nor dare I
lose thee :

“ —Oh ! what a faithful counsellor is distress !

“ So the sad pheasant, in the secret wood ;

“ Who oft by snares or force has lost his brood,

“ Grows cautious still the more, as more distress’d

“ And stands himself the guardian of his nest :

“ O’er his dear offspring keeps a watchful eye ;

“ Nor trusts them from his sight, till taught
to fly !

(Scene closes.)

I have, Sir, with great pleasure, in my first letter, mentioned many dutiful and loyal addresses that have been presented to his Majesty upon the glorious success that attended the British arms, both by sea and land, during the course of the last year, some of them from North Britain, take notice, in the most respectful terms, of the wisdom of his Majesty's ministers, in causing to be raised so many forces among the Highlanders, which has had a very happy effect in one of those addresses, are these remarkable words :

" The wise and generous policies, which have been pursued with regard to the north parts of this island, have produced most visible and happy effects; they have broke the force of ancient prejudices, struck at the root of disaffection, and united your subjects in warm attachment to your sacred person and government."

There are in another address from the ministers and elders of Lothian, the following words, which seems to me to have been spoken from the heart.

" We think ourselves called upon by the present occasion, to congratulate your Majesty on the happy domestic consequences of a late measure of government, the employing the inhabitants of North Britain in the public service, we can assure your Majesty, with the greatest truth, that this well-placed confidence has pulled up the root of disaffection in this part of the kingdom, and united to your Majesty and your royal house, those hearts which blind and ancient prejudice had estranged from both. We offer up our prayers to God for the everlasting prosperity of your reign, never did your subjects entertain more just and grateful sentiments of your Majesty's government. No discontent is known, no murmurs are heard, except

“cept the murmurs of zeal and loyalty, in the
 “breasts of the most faithful subjects. Impatient,
 “while invasion is threatened, of their own de-
 “fenceless condition, and most desirous of being
 “furnished with, and trained to arms, that they
 “may be enabled, (if opportunity presents) to
 “give the noblest proofs of their attachment to
 “your Majesty’s person, and to the constitution
 “and government of their country.”

I own to your honour, that I have, with
 pleasure, read some accounts from Ireland (for a
 reason I shall instantly mention) wherein are related
 the duty and loyalty which the *Roman Catholics* of
 that kingdom in their addresses, express for his
 Majesty, and their zeal and readiness to join with
 the protestants, their fellow subjects, in defence
 of our most gracious Sovereign and their
 country, against our inveterate enemies the
 French, and as they and we own ourselves to be
 the subjects of one and the same prince, the com-
 mon father of all his people; howsoever, we may
 differ in religious sentiments, it is incumbent upon
 the community in general, of every denomina-
 tion, to be united, and by that means they
 strengthen the hand of government, and better
 enable his Majesty, (through the blessing of God)
 to defeat the wicked projects and designs of such
 who live under an arbitrary government, who by
 losses and disappointments; are become desperate,
 and that makes them endeavour to disturb the
 happiness of a free people. The address from the
 Roman Catholics of Cork to his Grace the Duke
 of Bedford, the Lord Lieutenant, has in it the
 two following interesting paragraphs.

“We are truly sensible, (say they to his grace)
 “of his Majesty’s paternal care and tenderness
 “for his kingdom of Ireland; and it is with
 “the deepest sense of gratitude, we acknowledge
 “the

“ the protection and indulgence we have experienced under his Majesty’s most mild and auspicious reign.

“ With the greatest indignations, do we hear of the threatened hostile invasion of this kingdom, (particularly intended against these coasts) by an enemy, who, grown desperate from repeated defeats, may possibly make that attempt as a last effort, vainly flattered with the imaginary hope of assistance here from the former attachments of our deluded predecessors. But so inconsistent are such schemes with our principles and intentions, that we assure your grace, in the most solemn manner, we will, to the utmost exertion of our abilities, with our lives and fortunes, join in the defence and support of his Majesty’s royal person and government, against all invaders whatsoever. And will be always ready to concur in such measures, and to act such parts in the defence of this kingdom, in common with the rest of his Majesty’s subjects, as your grace in your great wisdom shall be pleased to appoint. And we think ourselves particularly happy, to be under the direction and command of so known an assertor of liberty, and so important and distinguished a governor as your grace.”

To this address his grace (agreeable to his innate disposition) in a letter to a noble lord, returned a very affectionate answer, wherein his grace expressed his sincere thanks for the address, and that he would endeavour, by all means in his power, to cultivate, during his administration, their disposition of zeal and loyalty, of which they had set so proper an example.

In the address from Waterford are the following loyal and dutiful expressions.

K 2

“ We

“ We do declare, that we are ready, at the ha-
 “ zard of our lives and fortunes, to repeal and fru-
 “ strate all such attempts (invasions) in any man-
 “ ner, and by any means his Majesty shall be gra-
 “ ciously pleased to require of us. And we hope
 “ to demean ourselves so dutifully to his Majesty
 “ upon every occasion, as may recommend us to
 “ his royal clemency, and conciliate the minds
 “ of our protestant fellow-subjects to us, that we
 “ may live happily united with them in Christian
 “ love and charity, under the government of the
 “ most indulgent prince, the common father of
 “ all his people. At the same time that we make
 “ this solemn and unfeigned tender of our duty
 “ and fidelity to his Majesty, permit us humbly
 “ and thankfully to acknowledge the wisdom and
 “ justice of your grace’s administration, which
 “ th^t it may be as easy as it is honourable, is our
 “ sincere desire.”

In the month of December last, there was a
 dangerous and insolent multitude assembled before
 the parliament house in Ireland, which tended to
 the disturbance of the public peace, which has
 been happily suppressed.

Upon this occasion, the sober and regular part
 of the Roman Catholics expressed their abhorrence
 of such riotous acts, and in a paper which they
 caused to be read in all their chapels in Dublin,
 they say,

“ Lest any among you should be so unhappy,
 “ as to suffer yourselves to be led astray by the
 “ wicked example of others, we once more take
 “ this public method of expressing our horror and
 “ detestation of all riotors, and disturbers of the
 “ public peace, and strictly forbid you even to be
 “ spectators of such assemblies, as we are deter-
 “ mined to declare any of our communion, whom
 “ we can discover to join in those tumultuous
 “ mobs,

“ mobs, enemies to our holy religion, and to treat them with the utmost severity in our power.”

Having thus far humbly presumed to lay these two different matters before your honour, I hope you will permit me to speak (though with the greatest duty and submission) what I know concerning the Roman Catholics of Ireland, and an observation I have made in respect to the Highlanders.

You must know, Sir, the reason why I was pleased when I read of the Roman Catholic addresses was:—Some few years since my affairs called me to the remotest part of Ireland, and as my natural disposition is to converse with all degrees of persons, I frequently fell in company with many Roman Catholic priests, gentlemen, merchants, and traders of that profession. As I passed towards and in the city of Dublin, and I must confess it was a sensible pleasure to me to hear, how respectfully they spoke of his Majesty and the royal family, and of their readiness to do every thing in their power to promote the interest of the government, and the welfare of their native country. ---- *For, says many of them, the old attachment we had to a certain family, and the French, are now at an end; and as we are, from sad experience, fully convinced how much our predecessors have been deluded and deceived by those people, our pretended friends, it has made us determined to have nothing more to do with them, other than what arises from unavoidable necessity.*---They also took notice of the lenity they had met with from those whom his Majesty intrusted with the administration, in respect to their being permitted the free exercise of their religion.---But when I discoursed with those whose inclination led them to arms, they expressed great uneasiness *that they should be debarred from serving in the army upon account of their religion.*---- *That is*
the

the cause, continue they, that you find so many of our countrymen in foreign services.—When I heard what they said it gave me a concern, that in a country so famed for liberty as Britain, there should be any such law or custom still subsisting (however necessary it might have formerly been) so to deprive his Majesty of the services of any of his subjects, who voluntarily offer themselves for that purpose*.

And I am sorry to say to your honour, that our nation has found from sad, nay, almost fatal experience, the injury and prejudice we have suffered by it, if losing battles may be termed such, thro' these unhappy men being employed in the armies of our inveterate enemies; and what is still a very shocking circumstance, they have been obliged sometimes, (where the command has so fell out) to fight near relation against near relation, and sometimes father against son, and son against father.

To me it is very odd, that Britain should, upon several occasions, hire Roman Catholic troops to fight her battles and those of her allies, and yet refuse to employ her own subjects of the same religion, when it is admitted on all hands they are generally as good soldiers as any in the world.

Now let us review the case of the Highlanders, they were formerly as much disaffected to the present royal family as the Irish could possibly be at any time. Pray what has been lately the case? Why, by employing and encouraging them, it is now confessed by his Majesty's real friends in their addresses from North Britain, (as before observed) that it was a *wise measure of government* in so doing,

*I think by the laws of Ireland, it is high treason for persons to enlist any of his Majesty's subjects into foreign services.

and

and we in the south must from experience acknowledge the same, and the more so because it has been the means of rooting out their ancient disaffection to his Majesty and the royal family, which they had before, through bad leaders and bad advisers, incautiously imbibed:— This likewise might possibly have been the case formerly with the Irish *.

But, as to the Highlanders, they have all along since their being in our army behaved bravely in the field of battle, where-ever they have appeared, and I make no doubt, but in time they will be as remarkable for their loyalty and affection to his Majesty and the royal family, and zealous

* Q— Would it not have been prudent, in case the French invasion had gone on, to have issued a proclamation offering a pardon to all Irish officers, soldiers, and seamen, let them be of what religion soever, in case they immediately quitted the French service, and embraced that of their country? And also, to give the officers the same commissions and rank in our armies and fleets as they had in the French; and likewise to offer to entertain the soldiers and seamen that quitted the French service in the same manner as our own are at this day, under proper restrictions; but if they wilfully neglect, or refused to embrace that offer, that then, if they should be taken fighting against their lawful sovereign and country, they should not in such case be treated as prisoners of war, but as rebels and traitors.

I remember to have heard, and believe it to be truth, that after the battle of Dettengen, where his most sacred Majesty commanded the army in person, and under his Majesty the earl of Stairs, there was a great desertion from the Irish brigades, insomuch that his lordship, when at Hanau, seemed to think it would not be amiss to form a regiment of them, which, however, did not take place, yet they had passports allowed them to go where they thought proper, and I also remember to have been in company with some of these men in London, who seemed to regret their not being permitted to serve in our army, upon account of their religion.

lous for promoting the interest of their fellow subjects in the Lowland and South Britain, as before they were otherwise*.---Pray suffer me to ask why may we not expect the like behaviour from the Irish, should they meet with the same treatment from the government (under proper restrictions, upon the account of their religion.)----- I must confess, I like a man much better, who openly professes the religion he is really of, than I do those who pretend to be of one religion, when they are secretly of another, which they
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* The following paragraph which I read in the Gazetteer the other day, was so agreeable and pleasing to me, that I hope your honour will permit me to introduce it.

“ Last week that gallant old Highlander **M A C C O L M** **M A C P H E R S O N** (who, at the age of 70 went as a volunteer to North America) received the sacrament at St. Martin’s church preparative to his desire of taking the oaths of allegiance to his Majesty. — His intrepid behaviour at Louisburgh, &c, in 1758, and at Quebec, &c. last year, where one of his grandsons was killed fighting by his side, induced his friend, the immortal Wolfe, to give him a commission the very day before the action, in which that glorious youthful hero fell, nor was the old gentleman less respected by the rest of the brave general officers for his cheerful spirit, and activity on every occasion.”

For my own part, since the Highlanders have been employed in the army, I have taken several opportunities, both in Great Britain and Ireland, to converse with my fellow subjects, those brave and hardy men, and many of them have candidly owned to me, that the good treatment they had met with had occasioned the changing their former opinion, and that they were ready to lose the last drop of their blood in defence of his Majesty, the royal family, and their native country, whenever their service should be required, against all its enemies, which time has evinced, that what they severally said were from their hearts. — Witness their behaviour at Quebec, in Germany, and else where.

conceal only upon the account of selfish views*.

I shall humbly take the liberty to sum up what I have to say on these heads--with observing, that my lord Clarendon takes notice, that archbishop Laud, one of the ministers of state in the reign of Charles I. *desired exceedingly that the king his master should be possessed as much of the hearts of the people as was possible, at least that they should have no just cause to complain*, which was very just and noble in him. And as we have such good ministers at this time---it is not to be doubted, but they will use their utmost endeavours to remove every obstacle that has the least pretext to hinder his Majesty, *the father of his people*, from reigning in their hearts, and by that means it will effectually destroy party-distinction, and make the king the greatest monarch, and his kingdom the most flourishing in the world.

The latter end of January last, Adm. Hawke returned to his house in Westminster, after having gone thro' a toilsome, tho' a glorious campaign; when he waited on his Majesty he was most graciously received, and, as a mark of royal approbation, the King settled upon him a pension of 2000l. a year for his own life, and for the lives of his two sons, and the survivor of them.

This was not all: one of the greatest assemblies in the world returned Sir Edward, in a public and solemn manner, their thanks, couched in the most elegant and polite terms, and which, one may say, fully spoke the sentiments of the people in general, as to the grateful sense they have of the many and important services he had rendered his King and

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* Certainly a true patriot can be of no party, nor consequently for excluding any from sharing the blessings of that liberty they are willing to support. If the Romans admitted their vanquished enemies to an equal participation of their laws and privileges, how much more readily should we embrace our countrymen with both arms, and welcome the return of our millerd brethren to their duty towards their common father and mother?

country, particularly by the glorious victory obtained over the Brest fleet off Belle-Île*.

I repeat it again, Sir, that nothing can give a greater pleasure and satisfaction to all true Britons, than to find such a spirit of duty and loyalty to his Majesty's person, royal family, and government, as now prevails through Great Britain, Ireland, and all his Majesty's other dominions, in the different quarters of the world ---- which, with great submission, is a strong evidence of our most gracious sovereign's glorious discernment, in making choice of such able ministers, generals, admirals, &c. who, by their respective close attention to the different affairs of the nation, both at home and

* This victory, when it is fully considered, is certainly one of the greatest we read of in history; therefore it is a pity any incident attending so remarkable an event should be concealed. Notice has been taken of our brave Admiral's serene behaviour, both before, in, and after, the engagement; but one matter has escaped me, as to the orders given to the gunner, just before the Admiral engaged. The Admiral enquired, "Where's the gunner?" --- he appeared: "Gunner, order your quarter-gunners to fire at an object." "I have, sir." "Thank you, sir. Tell them to keep to their quarters." Next,

"To the foe his dreadful force he bends." ADDIS.

At 36 min. after two the Warspite began to engage the French rear squadron.
At 43 min. after ditto signal was made for the general engagement.

At three we observed the French fleet bear E. N. E. --- then we handed our top-gallant-flags.

At 45 min. after three the French rear admiral struck to the Resolution, and the French ship Heros struck to the Magnanime.

At 13 min. after four a French ship was overset by the Torbay.

At 35 min. after four the Royal George began to engage, and in about six min. the French ship overset.

At 50 min. after four left off firing; and soon after it became dark.

From this short sketch, any one may perceive what abundance of work was done in about two hours.

Thrice welcome, H. to Britain's isle,

To thee we safety owe;

Behold our wives, our children smile,

Now fearless of the foe.

May heaven and G. thee well reward,

Thy bravery and thy care;

May Britons shew their due regard,

In gratitude and pray'r.

Be chiefs, like thee, in war complete,

Still chosen by our King;

The poet's prayer has been heard in part; for his Majesty has settled 2000l. a year upon the Admiral.

So shall Great Britain never meet,

A *****, or a Byng.

With Albion's fame, our annals shine,

We now securely sit,

Beneath our fig-tree and our vine;

Thank Heav'n, thank Thee, and P.

Accept, great Chief, this humble lay,

A tribute justly due;

I sing but what true Britons say,

And what they say of You.

and abroad, have gained them the love and affection of the people in general, and by the above means, have raised the glory and honour of the British Empire to a greater height throughout the world, than was ever known before.

I have before spoken, and I hope, Sir, with truth, in respect to the state of the Venetian and English navies, and the present grandeur of the British nation; which leads me to speak of the temper and disposition of the people of Venice to their superiors, (when they were esteemed the greatest maritime power in Europe) and from thence draw a sort of parallel between them and the British subjects, as to their present disposition.

All those arts which owe their subsistence to the superfluity of riches, and which cannot thrive but in the midst of opulency, shined at that time in their greatest splendor in Venice [*and so they do at this time in our own Universities, and other parts of Great Britain and Ireland.*]

The government, if occasion required, could have had an abundant and infallible supply from the purses of the people, who paid a profound veneration to their superiors, and had an entire and well grounded confidence in them, [*and so have the people of Great Britain the same veneration for their superiors, and from a well grounded confidence, have freely and willingly supplied the present occasion of the state.*] Their laws were wise and good, and the execution of them was committed to none but men of known justice, probity, and goodness, [*and so would our laws be, if some method could be found to reduce them into short and under general heads, and at the same time, relieve the unfortunate debtors, and that of preventing bankrupts, after they have made a true discovery, and delivered up all their effects, suffering perpetual imprisonment,*

through the obstinacy of a few unnatural creditors; but we can with truth say---our courts in Westminster Hall were never filled with gentlemen of more known justice, probity, and goodness than at this day.]

The senate, which is the soul of the republic, was filled with men eminent for their worth and ability, and all their views and measures were just and honourable, and all their enterprizes, to the time of the treaty of Cambray, were successful, *[and so is our parliament, the soul of the British nation, which hath been filled with gentlemen eminent for their worth and ability, and many such there are at present.]* ---Subjects judge of their superiors according to the value foreign nations put upon them, *[and so do the British.]* They think that the distance between those and their Masters is a more proper station, from whence they may take a view of them, than from the low situation in which the condition of subjects has placed them.---Philip de Comines asserts, that no government was ever more esteemed than that at Venice, *[which is the present, and will be always the case, as to Britain, supposing the same wise measures of government are pursued, which has been latterly the means of making our nation so respectable abroad.]*

Many authors have written concerning the government of Venice, in all ages and in all languages, so it is said they have left nothing new for succeeding writers *[and though many have wrote concerning the government of Britain and its constitution, yet some of them are so filled with mistakes, and wrote by illiterate historians, who have copied from partial writers, and are themselves generally ignorant of the three laws, the canon, the civil, the common, as well as the martial and statute laws of England, that a complete and valuable history of this magnificent kingdom can never be expected, unless it is done at the expence*
of

of the state, witness the printing *Eymer's Fædera*,
and the *Journ. of the H. of Comm.*†]

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† A certain doctor has published what he styles a *succinct, candid, and complete History of England*.—Suffer me to return, in his own coin, some of the treatment he has measured to others. I purchased his history, and, to use the words of his brother R. G. *I have thoroughly read the reign of Hen. VIII. and dip't into other parts*; and I must confess my surprize, that this high critic should be guilty of the very same offence he has blamed others for, with this difference only, he has not indeed *ransacked* authentic pieces, such as *Gazettes*, &c. to compile his *succinct* work,—but has, on the contrary, *ransacked* the works of historians famous for copying (from Polidore Virgil's history) several scandalous invectives, to the prejudice of great and worthy men; and I am sorry to find the Doctor has too implicitly credited such blind guides, seeing he has *strung altogether* several odd materials (if untruths may be so called) picked out of those histories, and engrafted them in what the Doctor styles his *Complete History**:—Upon the whole it is obvious, that our high critic was so far misled, through the dark influence he was under, by keeping bad company, when he was writing the reign of Henry VIII. *that the boasted tenderness of his nature, and his compassion for the unfortunate*, entirely left him at that time†,—or surely he would not have penned, in that part of his compilement, so many unjust reflections as there appears.

Now, had the Doctor, on the other hand, had recourse, as a real historian ought, to the public records, state

* A NEW WAY to write a COMPLETE HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

Discover no authentic records that have escaped the notice of other historians, throw no new lights upon particular facts, nor endeavour to alter the received opinions of mankind (if they are ever so erroneous) but only retrench the superfluities of other historians, and from them compile yours; and you may, if you please, stile it A *SUCCINCT, CANDID, and COMPLETE HISTORY* of our country:—But those who believe it to be so, the Lord have mercy upon them.---See the Doctor's Plan; and, to the honour of Britain, 10,000 purchasers. *Quære*, Whether this sale was not chiefly owing to strong puffing, and fine engraving?

† See his Crit. Rev. the other Review found great fault with the Doctor's Hist. And, I am informed, they behaved to each other on the occasion like a couple of Billingsgates:—in short, a man has enough to do, that deals with such sort of men;—though it has fell to my unhappy lot.

Since all our affairs, notwithstanding we are engaged in so expensive a war, bear a pleasing aspect,

state letters, and other authenticated pieces, preserved in the public offices, libraries, and private collections, he might, in all probability, have found such materials as would have made his history valuable, *and then the tenderness of his nature would probably have shined in its full lustre.* As it is, to speak softly of the above part of the history, it abounds with gross errors and mistakes.—As to Polidore's, it is esteemed rather an infamous libel than a true history, which caused one to give him and his works (near 200 years ago) this character :

Virgilii duo sunt alter Maro, tu Polidore;
Alter tu mendax illa poeta fuit.

Or, in other words,

Two Virgils in two diff'rent ages rise;
For fiction this renown'd *, as that for lies †.

I hope, in the end, there will be no cause to make it stand thus :

Two d-ct-rs in two diff'rent ages rise,

The first for fiction fam'd *, the last for l-ss †.

Truth is truest poetry.---

COWLEY.

But after all, if the Doctor will be so good as to quit the little office he has lately taken up, of a Monthly Collector of pricked songs, pretty acrostics, tales, and what he calls criticisms, &c. and give up the Royal Licence, and return to the dignity of an historian, and, in the first instance, revise and correct his work,—I am persuaded—there are many ready to assist him, in pointing out the falsities or mistakes as far as appears to them—by which means he will gain not a superficial but a real esteem in the republic of letters, and evidence to the world, that what has passed in his History, was owing more to inadvertency than any malicious design—for most will allow, that the Doctor's is a good easy stile (like Tindal's, to whom he is greatly indebted for the translation of Rapin, tho' he has forgot to place Rapin's name in the margin of his history.)—In short, if he rejects this cordial advice, and persists in his present pursuit, he may depend on it, that some are determined to use him in the manner he uses others; that is as one farmer says to another, *You measure my corn by your bushel; surely I have a right to measure yours (when you have any) by mine.*

* Virgilius Maro. † Virgilius Polidore. * See R --- B ---. † * * * *.

aspect, and being myself chearfully disposed, I had the curiosity to look into my collection of poems, in hopes of finding some poetical flights that might suit the present time: in this I was not disappointed, because I had the satisfaction to meet with the following lines, wrote by a masterly pen*, with this observation only, that I have altered such as I thought would make them more applicable to my purpose; but those lines, where words are inserted instead of what appears in the original, are printed in italic.

Lo, we Britannia see,
Rising superior o'er the subject sea;
View her gay pendants spread their filken wings,
Big with the fate of empires and of kings:
See o'er the wa'ry main, her barks advance,
And roll their thunder thro' the realms of France.
Peace, violated maid, they ask no more,
But waft her back triumphant to our shore;
While buxom Plenty, laughing in her train,
Glad ev'ry heart, and crowns the warrior's pain.
Gay Fancy still extends the pleasing scene
And brings fair freedom with her golden reign:
Cheer'd by whose beams, ev'n meagre want does smile,
And the poor peasant whistles 'midst his toil.
Such glorious days each Briton wish'd to see,
And such, great George, each Briton finds from thee.

Hear---another of our great poets, where he has drawn a just character of the king, and cautions proud nations not to reject our sovereign's offers of peace.

Smit with my country's love, grant me to bring }
No vulgar gift, when I presume to sing }
A loyal people, and a patriot king;
A sovereign watchful o'er his subjects right,
Heaven's fav'rite image, and mankind's delight,

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Confirm'd in vigour, and in mind mature,
 Eager of battle, and of conquest fure;
 Yet half his strength he checks, half of his pow'r
 With matchless prudence, he reserves in store;
 Superior to revenge, he seeks redress
 Well-pleas'd, as heav'n first tries th' extent of }
 grace.

To win proud nations to his terms of peace;
 So let them timely shun wide-wasting war,
 And deprecate his thunder from afar,
 Or soon convinc'd shall each offender know,
 He patient pauses to secure his blow, }
 And guard his subjects, while he strikes his foe. }

The following lines, before they were altered,
 were address'd to a gentleman at the head of a
 former ministry; ---- We think, as they now
 stand, they may be truly applied to a present wor-
 thy patriot.

His state experience, and his patriot zeal,
 At once upheld the crown and commonweal:
 Succeeding times his policy confess'd,
 And felt fair virtue flaming in his breast:
 What time Britannia, queen of nations, pays
 Due vows to heav'n for great P--t's length of days;
 Peace, clad in robes, and fury bound in chains,
 Convince a thankful race, a new AUGUSTUS reigns.

Now to conclude what we have to say in rela-
 tion to the French, they are certainly in a much
 more miserable condition at present, than when
 they lost the battle of La Hogue; for, at that
 time, they had a company of merchants estab-
 lished at St. Maloes, who sent ships annually
 to the South-Sea, from whence they brought
 home a large treasure; and their inland trade was
 very

very great, by which means they were the better enabled to maintain their large armies*.

How is the case at present? Why, by sending great sums of money in specie to Vienna and Petersbourg, as well as to their armies in the empire, the French by these means are drained of their bullion; besides, all the world knows, they have not at present the above resources:—On the contrary, their inland as well as their foreign trade are in a very dismal situation; or, in other

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* I mentioned, in my First Letter, some account of Gen. Wolfe's father and mother, since which an Irish gentleman informed me, that the General's father was the son of a gentleman, and born in the county of Westmeath, in Ireland; and that it was a very reputable family, and had been long seated there.—I am also informed, that a monument will be shortly erected to the memory of the General, in the town of Westram, in Kent, where he was born; and, that a worthy and learned clergyman there has or intends to write a suitable epitaph to be inscribed on it.

From the HAWKE and the FRENCH COCK,

A FABLE. By Mr. W. HOWARD.

Triumphant the Hawke in his strong Talons bore
A stout chick * clear off, from poor Chanticleer tore,
The rest were destroy'd, or flew frighted away,
And left the brave Hawke to exult o'er his prey.
While FRANCE in despair her lost Spirit bemoans,
All Europe GREAT BRITAIN'S Supremacy owns,
And Babes yet unborn shall with Extasy talk,
Or sing, to the praise of a WOLFE and a HAWKE.

* *The Formidable of eighty guns.*

words, almost ruined. As this is the real truth of their case, it certainly behoves the French court to keep the bad news they receive, from time to time, as secret as possible, and make the people believe, that France will soon be as prosperous as ever; though they are sensible, that she has not been for two centuries in such great distress as at this juncture. The famed Tiberius affected to answer, with the most assurance in his countenance, upon such sort of occasions, "*Tanto impensius in securitatem compositus.*" And Tacitus says, "A Prince is unfit to reign, that cannot conceal his fears." It is no doubt but the French would be glad to make peace with the allies:—Should that be granted, we may humbly presume to say on the occasion,

If they would have a peace to hold*,
 There's but one way, *'tis bar/b,* *'tis true;*
 Yet Justice claims it as her due:
 Let 'em pray lest†, restore ten-fold.
 What numbers and the treach'rous sword,
 Unjustly seiz'd, must now be all restor'd.

I am,

With the highest respect,

S I R, &c.

RICHMOND
 Feb. 29, 1769.

J. G R O V E.

* The Allies.

† The French.



P O S T S C R I P T.

THE Compilers and Publishers of a Monthly Collection, stiled by them *The Gentleman's Magazine*, have acted a very ungentleman-like part by Mr. GROVE; for they have, in their Magazine for *December* last, asserted a most notorious Falsehood, relating to the FIRST LETTER to a Right Hon. PATRIOT, and have also lugged the two Managers of the Theatres into their Comment upon the Account of the Scene therein mentioned, who, by the bye, had nothing to do in the matter; and for whom Mr. Grove has a very great respect: he however thinks it proper to print what is addressed to the Reader before the Piece stiled *Constantia, or the Faithful Lovers*:

In looking over the Papers of a deceased Baronet, the original mss. of this Play was found, much injured by Time, and in all appearance left unfinished by the Author. Though it may seem to want some of the Qualifications which constitute a perfect Tragedy; yet it abounds with just Reflections, and tender Sentiments; for the Characters are drawn from Nature, and well supported: and, as the moral Design and Tendency of the Piece is to recommend Virtue and discountenance Vice, I hope it will meet a favourable Reception from the Public, who are the best Judges of what is valuable in this, as well as other Kinds of Writing, and to whose Determination I willingly submit its Fate.

Here follows what was intended for the PROLOGUE,

If Love can warm, or Virtue can endear,
Both shall exert their strongest Influence here !
From Art no visionary Scenes we bring ;
Our Author pours his Stores from Nature's Spring :
Like Shakespear, true to her directing Laws,
Rules he neglects, while Images he draws,
Whose Looks their varied Characters impart,
And speak the native Language of the Heart !

To-night you see a Prince betray'd and sold,
And Vice triumphant by the Means of Gold ;
A Monarch struggling with his Chains you view,
A Duchess constant,—and a Courtier true !
Virtue conceal'd in deep Misfortune's Guise,
To Woe superior,—and depress'd to rise !
Aided by Heav'n, emerging from its shade,
And shining in the Charms of Truth display'd.

Like some Advent'rer from a foreign Shore,
He brings you home a new-discover'd Ore,
In which some Veins of Wealth you may behold ;
Rough tho' the Mass—it has its Share of Gold :
'Tis your's alone the Min'ral to refine,
Stamp'd with Applause—and make it current
Coin !

The Piece was not rejected upon account of the Language, but its Irregularity ; yet a Gentleman of Learning belonging to one of the Theatres expressed his Approbation of the Piece and offered to modernize it, so as to make the Play fit for the Stage, if a certain Gentleman would consent to it. However as Mr. Grove apprehended this might be attended with Trouble he laid the Piece by and thought no more of it, till the unfortunate Death of the brave Gen. Wolfe.



Preparing for the Press,

DETACHED PIECES.

I. **T**HE great Utility of a well-regulated Militia, in which are introduced many Arguments in Favour of the present Scheme, which now stands fair to be carried into Execution. — HINTS in respect to the erecting Barracks in the different Parts of South Britain. To which will be added, Various Instances of the GREAT HARDSHIP Inn-keepers, Coffee-House-Keepers, and Victuallers, suffer through the present Practice of Quartering Soldiers.

For the great National Blessing in respect to the Militia, the Public are greatly indebted to the Honourable General T——ns——d in particular, besides other Patriots, for their constant and diligent Attendance in P——l——m——t, whilst the Militia Bills were depending, before they were passed into Laws.

N. B. In this Piece Notice will be taken of all the Acts that have been passed relating to the Militia.

*Abroad, a Warrior in his Country's Cause;
At home, a Tully to defend her Laws.* ANONYM.

By Mr. G R O V E,
Of R I C H M O N D.

N. B. Those who will encourage the Publication of this Piece, by sending USEFUL HINTS for Mr. Grove, to be left at Mr. Burd's, Bookseller, over-against St. Dunstan's Church, in Fleet-street, may depend on their being inserted; and those who are desirous of having the Pamphlet, when published, upon sending their Names and Places of Abode, it shall be sent to them.

II. A BRIEF of one of Master GRIFFITH'S REVIEWS with his Comments upon several Works, and Answers to each; and to which will be added a List of those who have been abused by the Monthly Reviews, By a Society of Gentlemen.

N. B. In this Piece will be an Enquiry into the Cause of granting Royal Licences for printing valuable Works. Quære, If made Use of for other Purposes, Whether the Persons, who obtain them, do not come within the Description of the Act *Relating to false Tokens and Pretences*?

If any of the Persons, who have been injured in their Characters or Properties *by the Reviews*, will state the Particulars of the Injuries they have sustained in Letters, post-paid, directed to Mr. G. Taylor, to be left at the Lodge, in Lyons-Inn, he will undertake to communicate the Letters to the Society, by whom they will be properly considered, and, if necessary, Answers will be returned to the Parties who sent the Letters.

N. B. It is said Persons injured through the Practices of the Present High Critics, and the petty ones called Village Curs, who bark because their Fellows do, are remediless both in Law and Equity, but that has not yet been tried†.

A C A S E.

MR. H—rm—n, a Gunsmith, had invented an Art of making short Guns, in order to answer the purpose of those of a greater length, which he advertised; one of the same Business published an Advertisement, wherein he ridiculed the Invention, and said H—rm—n was capable

† Since the Penning the above, one of our high Critics has been convicted of WRITING AN ABUSIVE LIBEL (against an Ad---l who has deserved well of his Country) under Pretence of Rev---ing what the Adm---l published in his own Defence.

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capable of nothing but that of shooting in a *Leather One*; upon this an Action of Damages was brought, and the Cause came on to be tried at the Sitting in the K—B— at Guildhall, London.—The Judge upon the Trial expressed high Resentment against such Evil Practices, and the Jury, without going from the Bar, gave the Plaintiff 50l. Damages, and that was all the Damage laid in the Declaration; after which Judgment was affirmed upon a Writ of Error, and the Defendant paid near 100l. cost, beside the 50l. damage;—and that made the malicious Defendant behave better afterwards.

Q. Whether the above Case is not something similar as to the Damages Persons suffer thro' the Malicious Misrepresentations of their (Properties) Works to the Public, by Persons who pretend to review them?—Be- fides, there is another Injury that Authors and Booksel- lers suffer, from the present Practice—That is, these Pretenders often take nine or ten, and sometimes more, pages out of them; and by that mangling means, it gives Gentlemen some sort of an Idea of the Perfor- mance, and too often prevents the sale of the book; which is a great Discouragement to Learning, and the publishing useful Works.—However, its hoped, Gentlemen will consider what has been said, and lend a Helping-hand to bring to Condign Punish- ment, those who injure their Neighbours, either in their Reputations or Properties by the evil Practices aforesaid.

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To the P U B L I C.

THERE has been, for some Years, Persons who have assumed to themselves the Characters of Critics, and when they act their Parts with Candor and Truth, deserve Honour.* Such Critics, says the *British Spectator*, dwell rather upon Excellencies than Imperfections, and communicate to the World such Things as are worth Observation:

* The first Essay of what passed from Time to Time in the Republic of Letters, was printed in a Journal, which was published in 1685, by Mr. Sallo in France. This was so highly approved of, by the learned World, that other Journals were set on foot, in Holland and elsewhere, in which the Authors either copied this Journal, or wrote one is Imitation of it.

Here, in *England*, when such a Work is properly conducted, it cannot fail of being of excellent Service, as every Man may think as he pleases, and publish his speculative Opinions (under proper Restrictions) without the Difficulty of obtaining a Licence from a partial Censor. In short, such is the Mildness of our Government in Church and State, owing to our Governors being fully convinced of this Maxim; — *That Truth needs neither Force or Artifice to support it*, that both Liberty of Conscience, and that of the Press, are more open and free in *Britain* than in any other Part of the World.

It is to this happy Liberty, of Conscience and the Press, that we have so many excellent Books printed in our Language, and which have enabled us to make great Discoveries and Improvements in almost every Part of Knowledge. — No *Englishman* therefore can wish to see this Liberty abridged (save where it is made use of to destroy Mens Reputations, and injuring them in their Properties) but he who envies the Glory of his Country.

Many learned Men have written Memoirs of Literature, in different Parts of *Europe*, with great Applause. Happy for *Britain* if the first End and Design of introducing such Works were now attended to. For then the Writers of Memoirs of Literature had nothing to do with Scandal or Satyr, or whatever reflected upon any one's Person or Reputation, nor were they engaged in any Party Quarrels; their Remarks were intirely confined to Matters of Learning and Ingenuity, in which they kept a due Medium between abject Flattery and rigid Censure; and when they



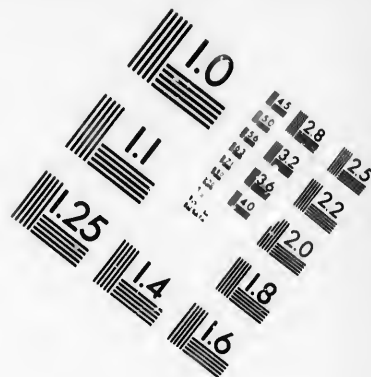
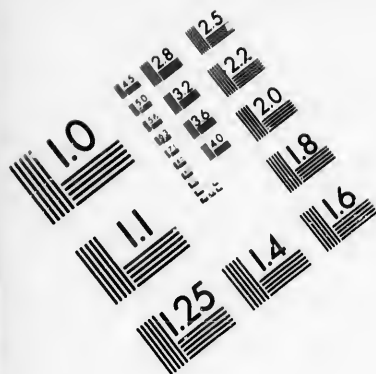
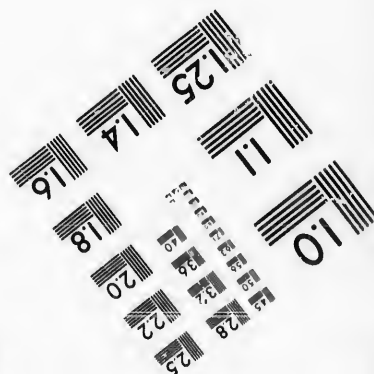
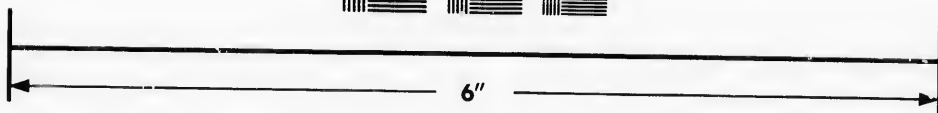
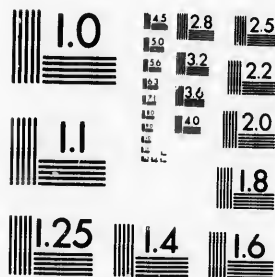


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ervation: The exquisite Words, or finest Strokes of an Author, are those which very often appear doubtful to a Man who wants a Relish for polite Learning; and they are those which a sour, undistinguishing Critic generally attacks with the greatest Violence: And that is one Part of the Practices of our present High Critics, who seldom venture to praise any Passage in an Author (except for certain self-interested Reasons) which has not been before applauded by the Public. — On the Contrary, the main Drift and Design of their Criticisms are turned wholly upon little Faults and Errors, which is so easy to succeed in [as the Spectator well observes,] that we find every ordinary Reader, upon publishing a new Poem, has wit and ill-nature enough to turn several passages into ridicule.

Now as to our Critics, they have gone beyond all that have preceded them; for under Pretence of criticising the Works of others, which they stile reviewing them, in order to lay before the Public an impartial Account of such Works, they have generally deserted what they pretended to; and, in their Comments, discovered most malicious, and wicked Dispositions, tending not only to destroy the Reputations of the Authors, but have endeavoured, as much as in them lay, (by making false and invidious Comments) to prejudice the Public so as to prevent the Sale of the Books, and consequently his Majesty's faithful Subjects, whose Properties they are, suffer great Injuries and Oppressions through

gave their Opinion of Works, it was done without Partiality; and they then were even so modest as often to desire their Readers not to look upon what they said as conclusive, but take it as their private Opinion only. In fact, they always endeavoured to avoid incurring the just Displeasure of any one. — But alas! the Case is quite different at present. Our high and petty Critics are got into such an infamous Pursuit, in respect to personal Abuse, &c. that it makes our Nation appear in a very disagreeable Light wherever, what they call their Criticisms, appear abroad. See *First Letter*, p. 27.

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through those evil Practices; and all the Recompence the Parties at present meet with, is that of being sneered at, and made the Ridicule of the weak and ill-natured Part of Mankind, to the Disgrace and Reproach of the Republic of Letters*. — Many Instances of the above Attempts may be produced; but the following true Narrative, it is hoped, will suffice for the present, to shew how basely one in particular has prostituted the High Office he has taken upon himself.

Mr. Grove of Richmond, in December, 1757, published a new Edition of *Shakespear's* Play of *Henry VIII.* with historical Notes. — Several learned Gentlemen expressed their Approbation of those Notes, — one in particular was pleased to say in a Letter to Mr. Grove, — “*The curious and valuable Notes have entertained and instructed me exceedingly.*”

Mr. Grove had been some Years engaged in Works of different Kinds (and published several Letters in the *Gazetteer* upon interesting Subjects, particularly that of the three Laws, and the State and voluminous Condition of our Statute Laws, with no other View than to serve his Country, and for which he has received the Thanks of many worthy Gentlemen) and as he had wrote and printed the *History of Henry VIII.* and other detached Pieces, he proposed to publish some of them in a Volume, and advertised his Intention so to do.

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* One Way these Writers pursue is, — They commend, with the most fulsome Exaggerations, such Books and Pamphlets that immediately answer their private Ends; and, on the other Hand, depreciate, with Ridicule or malicious Contempt, many good and valuable Works in which they had no Concern, (after they have taken many Pages from them into what they call their Reviews.) However it must be owned, that many have declared that these Writers are so abusive and contemptible that they were not worth Notice; but in answer it may be said, truly serious and dispassionate Men despise nothing; the most severe ill mannered Treatment is not below their Contempt, or can ever be above their Forgiveness, but in Justice to Mankind demands their Reproof.

In Mr. *Griffiths's* Review for August, 1758, the Play, with the Notes, was made an Article of that Month, and in the Comment Mr. *Grove* was personally abused, and the History, not then nor yet published, was ridiculed in a very unjust Manner, though Mr. *Grove* was an entire Stranger to *Griffiths*. After this unheard of Treatment, a Reviewer of the Review was published, and in it were answered several partial Comments, in order to evince the World how unfairly the Author had behaved. — As soon as the Piece was printed, some Method or other was taken to prevent the advertising; and even Mr. *Grove* has been assured Endeavours have been also used, with several Persons, to prevail on them not to sell it; and from thence it was natural to be concluded, that the Sale of the Books was greatly prejudiced.*

Grove at last, shocked at the Usage he met with, laid by the Work he intended to have published, in hopes

* To support what is above averred, here follows the Article in the above Review, and the Comment upon it.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Life of Henry VIII. By Mr. William Shakespear. In which are interspersed Historical Notes, Moral Reflections and Observations, in respect to the unhappy Fate Cardinal Wolsey met with. Never before published. Adorned with several Copper-Plates. By the Author of the History of the Life and Times of Cardinal Wolsey. 8vo, 1 s. 6d. Brown, Whiston, &c.

COMMENT.

"One Mr. *Joseph Grove*, who formerly published a History of Cardinal *Wolsey*, has given us this new Edition of *Shakespear's* Play of *Henry VIII.* with a View of doing Justice to the Memory of his favorite Cardinal, by a Set of Notes upon such Passages in the Play, as he thinks bears hard upon *Wolsey's* Character: But such Notes! Lord help this poor Zealot! The Man seems equally deficient in common Sense, and in common English. We do not remember ever to have met with his History of *Wolsey*, but if his intended Life of *Henry VIII.* with which he threatens the Public, is to be made up of such ridiculous Sentiments, and such miserable Language, Mercy on those who are condemned to read it!"

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hopes of meeting with Redress one Time or other (though he had been at above 200 *l.* Expence in Paper, Print and engraving the Plates, besides many Years Labour) but that Time is not yet come. — Still he firmly believes that there will not be wanting in the World, sooner or later, great and benevolent Men to protect the Innocent from such hard and unjustifiable Proceedings.

The Author of this Mischief, not satisfied with having carried his Point in preventing the Sale of the Books, and otherwise injuring Mr. Grove, — no sooner was the first Letter to a Right Honourable Patriot published, but he endeavoured to prevent the Sale of it in a very unbecoming Manner, in which he was assisted by the other High Critic, and the Petty Ones. — But notwithstanding their joint Efforts, the Letter has so far succeeded as that the Impression is near sold off *.

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A Gentleman, upon reading the Comment, made this Answer. "I am shocked at this infamous Practice of criticising Books which have not been seen; therefore shall not presume either to compliment or censure the *History* till after it is published: but as for Shakespear's Play now before me, I can confidently assert, that the Notes by Mr. Grove are much the best that have ever yet appeared, notwithstanding some very formidable Authors, well known in the learned World, have animadverted on this Play†. To support this Assertion, I give it as my Opinion, that this Play ought not to be read, (at least I think it cannot be understood) without these truly illustrating Notes. For Shakespear temporising throughout the whole Play, has so evidently mangled or misrepresented his principal Characters, and been guilty of such barefaced Anachronisms, that it rather deserves the Name of a Romance, than the *Historical Life of Henry VIII.*

† Their Animadversions were principally in respect to the Language, — Mr. Grove's are historical; in which several dark Matters are cleared up, particularly that relating to the Duke of Buckingham.

* The critical Doctor says, Mr. Grove, afraid Mr. Pitt should forget the principal Occurrences which have this Year so remarkably distinguished his Administration, has collected the Particulars from Gazettes, News Papers, Letters, and Pamphlets, and strung them altogether in form of a Letter. The Doctor in his Monthly Heap says Mr. Grove ransacked all these Papers. — What if Mr. Grove did, he believes

In fact, these Critics, in many Instances, act in Defiance of Truth, Decency, Order and good Sense; and have

believes he was right in having Recourse to the most authentic Materials to compile his Letter; for the Doctor does not pretend to say any Part of it is false. As to the Letter, *Grove* does not think it is so much out of Character as the Doctor would have it; (supposing it was addressed to Mr. *Pitt*, which in Reality it was not *) surely he must know that there is presented yearly, a Memorial of the Transactions of the last Year, to the States General, though it is presumed that these *wise States* knew what had been transacted as well as he who penned the Memorial. — Here *Grove* might turn the Tables upon the Doctor, by asking him, whether he has not as much Right to address a Letter to Mr. *Pitt*, as the Doctor has to dedicate his little History to him? *Grove* admits the critical Doctor says very truly, that Mr. *Pitt* is a *consummate Judge of literary Merit*, but much doubts whether the Doctor will have the good Fortune to meet with Mr. *Pitt's* entire Approbation of his Performance. — Therefore *Grove* advises him to bear, without repining, the just Censure that may be passed on it, and endeavour to mend his Manners for the future. See p. 81.

* Let the World therefore judge what Credit is to be given to such Sort of Critics. His unfair Treatment to the ingenious Dr. *Ball*, in the sixth Article, ill becomes one who has assumed the same Profession. — His superficial Compliments to the learned Civilian Dr. *Blackstone*, in the eighth Article, does not evidence the Critic's Knowledge of the great *Charters*, or that of the ancient Constitution of this Kingdom. But to attend a little to this high Critic: He admits, all the Historians were mistaken as to the Time when the Charter *Forista* was obtained, (by which he accidentally includes himself as a Copier from them, and consequently confesses his Ignorance) owing to their having followed the blind Annals of *Matthew Paris*, which Dr. *Blackstone* has confuted.
O Imitatores servum pecus! HOR.

Though the two Universities have no Connection with Dr. *Blackstone's* publishing the two great *Charters*, yet this unacademical Critic must throw out his witless and unjust Sarcasms upon them, in the following presumptuous Ejaculation.

“Happy would it be for the Republic of Letters, did other Gentlemen in both our Universities follow his Example, and exert those Talents improved by long Study, by learned Conversation, and particularly assisted by that immense Treasure of ancient Learning, uselessly locked up in the *Bodleian* and College Libraries, for the Benefit of the Public, and Men of Learning, who are not blessed with the same Advantages.” — *Ærugo Mera!*

To be sure, our two Universities will be mightily pleased with our Doctor, the high Critics presuming and prescribing to them a careful Perusal of only all the learned Volumes locked up in the *Bodleian Library*, &c. — When this new Physician † prescribes his Doses, they are so numerous, and so large, that we cannot help crying out in his (and his Brother R. G.'s) Language, *Mercy on his Patients* *!

† A Diploma, 12 l. 10 s. A R--y -l L-- to print Songs, Tales, &c. 8 l. See the Table of Fees, taken by our Critics for Licences, &c.

* God preserve the King, the Prince, the Peers,
And send our Critics long may wear their Ears ||.

|| See R. G.'s Sign.

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have, without any Provocation, attacked the Charac-
ters of several learned Men, in such a manner, as even
to be a Reproach to Government itself*. Yet it must
be owned, such Practices raise in the Breasts of gene-
rous spirited Men high Resentment, and consequent-
ly may tend, in the End, to the Breach of the Peace;
seeing, as it is affirmed, there is no Law to punish such
enormous Offences as are now committed under pre-
tence of reviewing the Works of others. — If that is
really the Case, one would think *Britain* is the only
Country in the World where such Actions are suffered
to pass.

A modern public spirited Writer observes thus :

“ Candid Critics deserve Honour; but such as
“ shew neither Condescension nor good Manners, de-
“ part.

* A List of those who have been abused or injured in the *Re-
views* will be published in a proper Time.

And here we cannot but observe that we have read a Piece styled,
“ A Review of the Works of the Rev. Mr. *William Hawkins*, late
“ Professor of Poetry in the University of *Oxford*, and of the Re-
“ marks made on the same in the *Critical Review* for *August*, and
“ in the *Monthly Review* for *September*, 1759, in a Letter to the Au-
“ thors of both *Reviews*. By an impartial Hand.

“ *A thousand Witlings maul his mangied Name,*
“ *And yelping Critics hunt him out of Fame.*

“ *Hawkins's Essay on Genius.*”

All that at Present can be said, it is a Pity that so much Learn-
ing and good Sense, as appears in the Letter, should be bestowed
on nameless Persons; and those whose Names are known, the Au-
thor of the Letter ought not to be surprized at any abusive Treat-
ment the learned Mr. *Hawkins* may have received from them; be-
cause it is well known that some other high and valuable Charac-
ters have not escaped the partial as well as malicious Comments
upon their Works, from the present Conductors of *Reviews*. In
Fact, every one will own that knows Mr. *Hawkins*, that his Stile,
in Verse or in Prose, is *pure, easy, manly, and elegant*; and there-
fore the *Reviews* invidious Sarcasms, false Imputations, and per-
sonal Reflections on him, will not prejudice his Fame with the
learned World. And the Author of the Letter may be assur-
ed, that if any legal Method can be found out to put a Stop
to the present infamous Practices of the *Reviews* it will be speedily
taken.

“ part from the Dignity of that Office; and frequently turn the Contempt upon themselves, which they design for others. After all, *that Book is best which most advances the Interest of Virtue, the Welfare of our Country, and the general Service of Mankind, by doing Justice to the Characters of those, who deserve well of their Fellow-Subjects, whether it will stand the Test of the common Rules of Criticism or not.*”

The immortal Pope speaks of a true Critic thus :

“ Tho’ learn’d, well-bred; and tho’ well-bred sincere;
 “ Modestly bold, and humanly severe :
 “ Who to a Friend his Faults can freely show,
 “ And gladly praise the Merit of a Foe ;
 “ Blest with a Taste exact, yet unconfin’d ;
 “ A Knowledge both of Books and human Kind ;
 “ Gen’rous Converse ; a Soul exempt from Pride ;
 “ And love to praise, with Reason on his Side :
 “ Such once were Critics, such the happy few,
 “ *Athens and Rome* in better Ages knew.”

Richmond, 20th of February, 1760.

E R A R T A.

Page 5. after the Words, *Second Letter*, add the Word *Sir* ; p. 8. l. 13. for *Convey* r. *Convoy* ; *ibid.* l. 14. for *insinuatad* r. *insinuated* ; p. 23. for *one* r. *ones*.

P. 67, l. 7. for *Marks* r. *Mark*. l. 19. for *Oh, my unhappy State, the Wrong I’ve suffered*; read, *Oh, my unhappy State,—the Wrong they suffer*.
 P. 70, l. 28. for *who* r. *as*. Page 72 l. 2. for *repeal* r. *repel*.

Page 82. in the *Note*, l. 11. for

Virgilii duo sunt alter Maro, tu Polidore†;*
Alter tu mendax, illa poeta fuit.

Or in other Words,

Two Virgils in two different Ages rise,
For Fiction this renown’d as that for Lies;
 read,

Virgilii duo sunt, alter Maro, tu Polidore
Alter; tu mendax, ille poeta fuit.

Or in other Words,

Two Virgils in two different Ages rise,
For Fiction that renown’d as this for Lies.

* Virgilius Maro.

† Virgilius Polidore.

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