

M. de Conflans set out Yesterday, in order to take up on him the Command of the Brest Fleet.—The present Armament is certainly very formidable: There are near 50,000 Land Forces, which are to be transported in 200 flat bottomed Boats, escorted and defended by 25 Ships of the Line, besides 150 other Boats, laden with warlike Stores and Provisions for 4 Months; six Bomb Vessels, and 4 Fireships; and the whole will be ready, it is thought, by the 20th of next Month at farthest. Notwithstanding all the Reasonings of the Publick, it is still uncertain whether the Thing will end in a Descent on England, or in some Operation of a different Nature.

L O N D O N, July 5.

July 5. We hear that the forces now on foot, and compleat in this kingdom, are as follows, viz. Two troops of horse, and two troops of horse grenadier guards; 7 regiments of dragoons; the 3 regiments of foot guards; 34 regiments of foot, and 32 independent companies. These, with the militia of such counties as are well trained and ready for service, will, together, make up at least a body of 60,000 men.

A letter from fort St. George, dated Sept. 7, 1758, brings advice, that after the French had taken fort St. David, they determined to go to the southward, and attack Trichinapoly; but making exorbitant demands on the king of Tanjour, (whose country they were obliged to pass through) the inhabitants formed a scheme to destroy mons. Lally the general, and the other principal officers; and though it did not succeed to their expectations, it however put the French in such confusion, that they were obliged to retreat with the loss of between 3 and 400 Europeans; and Lally himself was several times in great peril of his life. They were pursued by the Tanjourines about 50 miles, and the French general is now returning to Pondicherry with his forces, instead of making an attack on Trichinapoly.—As their finances are low, they have actually taken a Dutch ship, the Harlaem, from Batavia, with about 200,000 dollars on board, in gold and silver, to supply their necessities.

The following is said to be an authentic account of the great preparations made on the coast of France from Dieppe to Dunkirk, for invading these kingdoms, by an eye-witness.

“ On the 24th of last month M. d'Horrouville, arrived at Havre-de-Grace from Paris, to take on him the command of the expedition, where he found but 30 of the flat-bottomed boats finished, [*These boats were built at the king's docks, and in the bason, so that it was impossible for any English captain to have seen them only by reconnoitring, and not on the beach, as has been asserted*] and about 20 more on the stocks. These boats are built of inch and half inch fir by Mr. Berran, who is esteemed their best builder, for about 2000 livres per boat; and he has contracted to build 50 more by the middle of September, which he thinks he shall not be able to compleat within the time. There is nothing more in the construction of these boats than is common to the passage boats on the Seine; for which use, if the expedition fails, they will be sold to the best bidders. On this day there was no camp, and only the common garrison, which, with the troops cantoned in the adjacent towns, consisted of no more than eight battalions.

“ June 26. At Dieppe there were no flat-bottomed boats; but several of their small coasting vessels then lay rotting for want of hands to work them, and with only their ordinary garrison to defend them. From Dieppe he passed to Boulogne and Calais, where was no appearance of any hostile proceedings, nor fear shewn of an enemy: And in the beginning of July he arrived at Dunkirk, which place was likewise destitute of flat-bottomed boats, and no camp to defend it in case of a siege or bombardment; and that in the garrison and the adjacent towns, were 15 battalions cantoned. At this

place, indeed, they were busy in completing 2 men of war of 40 guns, two of 30, and one of 20, that were to take 2000 forces on board, to be commanded by M. Thurot, late of the Bellisle privateer, on an expedition to the Northward, supposed either to Scotland or the North of Ireland, where he was last year. This is the whole of the mighty armament that has been so much exaggerated and expatiated on for some time past.”

July 12. Advices from Cassel say, the court of France has made fresh proposals of peace to the landgrave of Hesse, which are said to be very advantageous; and that it was possible his serene highness, seeing the misery to which his subjects are reduced, may embrace a neutrality.

We hear that the forces and militia, are so stationed in the counties contiguous to the sea, that upwards of 50,000 can be got together in a few days.

At a council held yesterday at Kensington, a resolution was taken to give public notice, that such of his majesty's subjects who should enlist as soldiers, from that day, in the land service, shall not be sent out of Great-Britain, and shall be entitled to their discharge in three years, or at the end of the war, if they choose it.

Letters from Ratisbon of the 21st ult. advise, that the elector of Palatine's troops are to go into the French service, and that the elector of Bavaria is to enter into a neutrality, and to have a subsidy from England. It is added, that the Tuscany troops that joined general de Ville's army, are so reduced by sickness and death, that some of the regiments have not above 30 men left.

Some sensible people at the Hague have represented to the principal persons in the regency, that the conduct of the French court, with regard to Great-Britain, deserves their most serious consideration. If, say they, the succours be refused, and the invasion baffled, the English will think themselves absolved from keeping any measures in respect to Dutch trade. On the other hand, if the French should not make any impression, the property of the Dutch in England, would be in a precarious state.

We are assured that the Conquest of Guadaloupe pleases his Majesty, and all Well wishers to this Kingdom; though there are a few snarling narrow Souls, who even object to the Humanity of the Terms of Capitulation.

We are assured that the annual Produce of Guadaloupe, is above 40,000 Hogsheads of Sugar, besides a vast Deal of Cotton, Coffee, and Ginger.

June 19. The bustle made in France, and by the French party in Holland, about invading England, will, we are assured, have no other intention than to quiet the people of France under their present distress in the loss of their trade and settlements, by persuading them that the court will retaliate on England in such a manner, that she will sue for peace before harvest be over.

His majesty's ship *l'heux*, which is to be commanded by his royal highness Prince Edward, is a fine new 44 gun ship, built on an entire new plan, and will in a few days be launched from mess. Batsons yard at Lime-House.

June 30. Letters from France tell us, that the Salletins had declared war against England, and sent to sea 11 vessels, viz. four frigates of 20 guns, a Xebecque of 26, and six Gallies of 4 guns each.

July 13. An officer that was out upon the late expedition to the French coast, writes thus to his brother: “ It is impossible for us to tell the damage was done at Havre de Grace; every thing, soon after the bombardment began, being obscured from our sight by smoke and flames; but certain we are, it must be very great, as they were in flames for more than 48 hours, in one part or other.”

N E W - Y O R K, Sept. 10.

The Albany Post, who arrived here last Night, informs, That Gen. Amherst, with his Army remained yet at Crown-Point, all in good Health:—That it was currently reported at Albany, that Brigadier Gen. Gage had set out from Oswego, with a large Body of his Army, in order to attack Oswegatchi, &c.—That on Thursday last an Express from Boston went through Albany,