

THE HAGUE, SEPTEMBER 2.

THE War which was expected in Europe, ever since the Year 1760, but hitherto prevented by the Partiality of a certain Minister, who would rather suffer the grossest Affairs than venture to wage into any Dilpue, was expected to break out immediately after the Death of the late French King. The Expectation answered so far, that a great Change immediately took Place among the French Ministry, when all those who were known to be inclined to be pacific, were looked upon as Traitors to their Country, and have been exiled and banished the Court; but all those who were known to be inclined for War, have been preferred and called into Office. In this Situation of the French Cabinet, joined in their Interest with that of Spain, the expected War shoud have broke out some Months ago; but the Reason and Policy of that Hesitation is the following: The British Ministry had, ever since the present Reign, a Design to enslave the Colonies of America, and to render the King dependent in their vast and extensive Provinces; but this Plan could not have been carried into Execution, because it was contrary to the Interest of France and Spain, both which Courts always wished to see the Prerogative Power of a British King limited at his greatest possible. Whether it was a secret Article of the Peace settled between the Belligerent Powers in the Year 1762, or whether it was formed and effected in the latter End of the late Reign in France, by a corrupted French Ministry, that France shall not intermeddle in the Disputes between Great Britain and her Colonies, is unknown; though so much is sure, that the British Ministry had a solemn Promise from the Leaders of the French Cabinet not to interfere in these Affairs. As soon as that solemn Promise was given to the British Ministry, they began to operate, and to lay the Affair before the Parliament, being sure to carry every Motion by a Majority.—Scarce was the above deep-laid Plan of the British Ministry begun to be carried into Execution, before the French King died, and an utter Change happened among the Ministry there, to the greatest Disappointment of the British Ministry. A Declaration however, was immediately made by the young French King, engaging to observe the same Friendship with his Neighbours as his illustrious Predecessor did; and to put mean Time ordered to bring both his Land and Sea Forces in the best Situation, to be in Readiness at a Moment's Notice, for no other Reason but to watch very anxiously the Resolution of the General Assemblies of America.

As soon as the Dispute between Great Britain and her Colonies shall come to Blows, France and Spain will immediately take the Advantage of it, and make Great Britain with Power and Vigour. This Intention of the French and Spaniards is foreseen by the British Court, who continually send Instructions to their Ambassadors, to enquire for the Reason of the Preparations for War, which are carried on with so much Assiduity in France and Spain; but the Ambassadors these Ambassadors generally receive is very indifferent. In this Manner France and Spain are watching the Result of the British Americans, and in this Quarrel will end; and the British Ministry, on the other Hand, are keeping backwards from executing their Plan in America, till they know how Matters will be settled at the Courts of France and Spain.

NORTH-CAROLINA.
By the Honourable JAMES HASELL, Esq;
President and Commander in Chief in and
over the said Province.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to Tuesday the Tenth Day of January next, I have thought proper further to prorogue the said Assembly to Tuesday the Twenty-fourth Day of the said Month of January, then to meet at Newbern, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Great Seal of the said Province, at Newbern, this 22d Day of December, 1774, and in the 15th Year of His Majestys Reign.

JAMES HASELL.

GOD save the KING.

By his Honour Lord and

JAMES PARRATT, D. S.

LONDON, September 4.

Extract of a Letter from a young Gentleman who went to Boston with General Gage, in the Capacity of a Surgeon to one of the Regiments.

"I AM heartily tired of my Situation; nothing but Murders, Fires, Maimings, &c. prevail in this Place. It is impossible to paint to you the Distresses and Sufferings of the peacefully disposed Inhabitants; provisions scarce, Money more so, and no Hopes of better Times, but worse. There are, indeed, a Number of dangerous, wicked People in this Town, and their Number daily

increases; several oxidise himself in a Manner to give the greatest Proof of his Wisdom and Humanity; and I am confident he will not leave the Country, if any other Measures will produce a desired Effect—Tranquillity. To proceed to Extremities, I am afraid would be of bad Consequences to England, for all through the Colonies the People seem to rally; and by the best Accounts I learn, there are Men enough ready to take up Arms, at a Moment's Warning, sufficient to engage the greatest Part of the Land Forces of Great Britain."

A Correspondent observes, that if Honours were to be conferred by the People at large, instead of the Sovereign, many who are now in Possession of red and blue Ribbands, would be distinguished, in Lieu, by blue and white stripes.

September 1. Yesterday the Lord Mayor, two Sheriffs, Aldermen Wilkes and Sawbridge, and a Number of the Freeholders of the City met at the Mile End Assembly Room,

nominated proper Persons to represent the City in the ensuing Parliament. The first Motion was to determine on the different Articles that the Candidates to be put in Nomination should subscribe, which were to be the following:—That, if chosen, they should endeavour to obtain a Bill for the shortening the Duration of Parliaments; a Bill for the Exclusion of Placemen and Pensioners; a Bill for the more equal Representation of the People; and a Bill to repeal the four Acts respecting the Americans.

The Sheriffs asked the Freeholders if they were willing their Candidates should be bound to the aforesaid Articles, when about six Persons held up their Hands against the Question. This being decided in the Affirmative, John Wilkes, Esq; was nominated as a Candidate, and all Hands held up for him, except five or six. The Sheriffs next put up Sergeant Glynn, who had every Hand held up in his Favour. Upon Mr. Sawbridge's Motion, the two Candidates were Jointly put up, which was received with the greatest Applause.—Lastly the Sheriffs enquired if any other Gentleman was to be proposed as a Candidate; whereupon one Gentleman was mentioned, but no Person seconded the Motion.

The Question being then decided, Mr. Wilkes assured the Freeholders he was ready to bind himself by the Terms they proposed, as he agreed to every one of them. He thanked the Freeholders for this farther Mark of their Approbation, and begged leave to assure them every Part of his Conduct should be uniformly such as he hoped would continue that Confidence, as he was determined through Life to pursue the same great End. This Speech was received with Applause.

The following is a copy of the Resolves proposed by John Wilkes and John Glynn.

We [John Wilkes and John Glynn] do sincerely promise and engage ourselves to our Constituents, if we have the Honour of being chosen the Representatives in Parliament, of the County of Middlesex, that we will endeavour, to the utmost of our Power, to restore and defend the excellent Form of Government, modelled and established at the Revolution, and to promote Acts of Legislature for shortening the Duration of Parliaments, for excluding Placemen and Pensioners from the House of Commons, for a more fair and equal Representation of the People, for vindicating the injured Rights of the Freemen of this County, and the whole Body of Electors of this United Kingdom, and an Act for the Trial in Europe of Persons accused of criminal Offences in America, the Quebec Act establishing Property, and the system of French Canadian Laws in that extensive Province, the Boston Port Act, the Act for altering the Charter of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and the Act for the Trial in Europe of Persons accused of criminal Offences in America, being fully persuaded that the passing of such Acts will be of the utmost Importance for the Security of our excellent Constitution, and the Restoration of the Rights and Liberties of our Fellow Subjects in America. John Wilkes, John Glynn.

It is to be hoped that the Electors in every County, City and Town in Great Britain, will insist upon the like Engagements from those they choose.

A Scheme is in agitation for establishing a Company of Artillery in North America, who are to be independent of the Detachments sent from England.

Letters from Gibraltar say, that six Dutch Men of War are arrived in the Mediterranean, in Order to protect their trading Ships from being plundered by the Algerines; as soon as they are joined by four more Men of War, which are hourly expected, they are to sail for Algiers, to demand a Release of two of their Merchants Ships lately taken by the Algerine Corsairs.

Extract of a Letter from Paris, dated September 5.

The Report of the Island of Corsica to be ceded to his Sardinian Majesty, seems to be confirmed; this Plan was formed by the Duke d'Aiguillon during the Life of the late King, but has not been carried into Execution as yet, and for no other Reason, but that every Thing projected by that Minister appears suspicious to the present Ministry, and requires some Examination; but this Plan, we are informed, has met with universal Approbation, as France will have all the Advantages they pos-

ibly could expect, and that the French, at the same time, will be restored in Probability, of being restored in they will better agree with the Majoras of their Neighbour, the Sardinians, the French."

By a Courier which arrived Yesterday, Advice was received, that the Court had signified, 18 Months ago, to that of Portugal, on the Colonies which are then present, to give the Count of Portugal, not judging it proper to give a definitive Answer without having consulted the Powers in Alliance with him, and the Court of Spain not being satisfied with this, represented in Return, that her Pretensions were no more subject to Prosecution than of the three Powers of the North, Poland, had just taken Possession of it, without being aided by any Potentate of Europe; and that the Spain) is going to make Use of the same Means. The Court of Portugal informed the English Minister of this violent Proceeding, but hath not yet received any Answer. Spain hath determined on Hostilities, and sent Prince Masserano to Paris, to engage the Court of France to support this Enterprise, which never had the Approbation of the Due d'Aiguillon; at the Time of his being Prime Minister, who countenanced Peace, to secure the Intentions of his Master; but, at present, the general Opinion is, that the Count de Vergennes will take Advantage of this Dispute, if England should decide in Favour of Portugal, to commence a War, which may become very fatal.

The same Correspondent at the Hague has also sent the following Advice:

"Never have the Powers of Europe sent so large Sums of Money to Paris, to endeavour to corrupt the Cabinet of France, as they do at this Time; the Reputation of the Prime Minister is so well established, and his zealous Abilities, that his Talents are admired at the same Time he is feared; his Operations are extensive, but so combined that Success follows the Lelat. He acts entirely himself, and relies on no Person for his Operations. He is secure of Holland and Prussia in his Favour; the Empire is at Variance with him; and there is every Reason to believe, that in a very little Time he will oblige to submit. He animates England; and, before the Expiration of one Year, he will either ruin France, or be on the highest Pinnacle of Power and Glory."

The Town has been dull, and to be seen of Subjects for these three Months, that the Papers have been filled with Advices from Spain which never were received, and Letters from Boston written by Persons who never were in America. A few Days will furnish something real to talk about. The Altercations in the theatrical Companies will be shortly Newpaper Topics, to them will succeed the City Election, after all that the Meeting of Parliament and after short but busy Sessions, the General election.

It is imagined that the King of Prussia will now abate somewhat of that violent Admiration he professed to have for the Empress of Russia; he will not, as usual, pay such flattering Adoration to her Picture, now she has concluded such an advantageous Peace with the Turks. She will be at Leisure now to counteract his Schemes of Ambition, and the Freedom of Dantzick is perhaps ensured, in Spite of his Resolution, to seize on that free Port, the better to gratify his Ambition of being a Maritime Power.

The following is said to be an authentic Copy of a Letter very recently received from a General Officer some Time since in America, in a very important and critical situation, by a noble Lord in a very high Office:

(C O P Y.)

"My Lord,
"I find myself necessitated to demand a total Exemption from all those Restrictions which are laid upon me by the private Orders; and a wider Scope to exert more immediate Powers, as the only Means left me to form any Hopes of effecting the great and arduous Task I have undertaken. I have, my Lord, long known the People I have now to deal with; and am well assured, they are in the Extent bitter Enemies to all conciliatory Measures, where they think the Entrance upon them may throw an Odium on their Unanimity, or put their public Spirit to the least Doubt. I had the Honour to deliver my Sentiments and Opinion to your Lordship, before my Embarkation, on these People and their Prejudices, which, to my great Astonishment, I now find most obstinately rooted; and every Day brings me new Fears, that I shall be reduced to the cruel Necessity of doing my Duty to my Country and my Royal Master, in a Way that will, I am certain, be as painful to your Lordship as to myself, and which I have most studiously endeavoured to avoid. According to the express Commands of my most gracious Master, which I had the Honour to receive from him before my Depature, I entered on the most lenient Measures as far, and acted with Circumpection and Secrecy, as my Arrival added Fuel to the Flame of the Party, as it was universally propagated and believed that I came to act mo-