

government of the kingdom may by the regency act devolve to a person directly and positively accused, of high treason. Even the encouragement that such an impunity must give to future treasons, is enough to fill a thinking mind with the most fearful apprehensions. We live in an age, not greatly addicted to scruples, when the open avowal of domestic venality seems to lead men, by an easy gradation, to connections equally mercenary with foreigners and enemies. How then can we expect ill disposed persons to resist a temptation of this sort, when they find that treason may be detected, and proofs of it offered to a magistrate without producing either punishment or enquiry! The consequence of this our living may be to see a French party, as well as a Court party, in parliament, which, should it ever happen, no imagination can sufficiently paint the calamitous and horrid state to which our late glorious triumphs might finally be reduced. When I talk of a French party in parliament, I do not speak a mere visionary language, unsupported by experience. The history of all ages informs us, that France, when other weapons have failed, has constantly had recourse to the lets alarming weapons of intrigue and corruption and how effectual these have sometimes been we have a recent and tragical example in the total enslaving Corsica.

I have been thus particular in enumerating the evils that may result from the refusal of Lord Halifax, not from a desire of aggravating that nobleman's offence, but merely to evince the necessity of a speedy enquiry, while there is yet a chance of its not being wholly fruitless. Though the course of my narrative has unavoidably led me to accuse his lordship, accusation is not my object, but enquiry which cannot be disagreeable. In pursuing this point I have hitherto been frustrated from the very circumstance which ought to have insured my success, the immense importance of the question. It has been apprehended, how justly I know not, that any Magistrate who should commence an enquiry, or any gentleman who should openly move for it, would be deemed responsible for the truth of the charge, and subject to severe penalties, if he would not make it good. This imagination however did not deter me, though unprotected, from carrying my paper to the speaker, to be laid before the late house of Commons. The speaker was pleased to justify my conduct by allowing that the affair ought to be enquired into, but refusing at the same time to be instrumental in promoting the inquiry himself. What then remained to be done? What, but to wait, though, with reluctance and impatience, till a proper opportunity should offer for appealing to the public at large, that is till the accumulated evils of government should awaken a spirit of enquiry too powerful to be resisted or eluded: That this spirit is now reviving, we have a sufficient proof, the unanimous zeal you have shewn for the appointment of a county meeting. In such a conjuncture to withhold from you so important a truth would no longer be prudence, it would be to disgrace my former conduct, it would shew that I had been actuated by some temporary motives, and not by a steady and uniform regard to national good. Indeed the declared purpose of your meeting is in itself a call upon every freeholder to disclose whatever you are concerned to know. I obey this call without hesitation, submitting the prosecution of the affair to your judgment, in full confidence that the result of your deliberations will do honor at the same time to your prudence, candour and patriotism.

Petersburg July 29. The Squadron destined for the mediterranean will sail immediately.

none of the European languages. The motive of his coming is not publicly known, but it is certain that his expences are defrayed by the crown.

London. It is very confidently asserted, that the three great men at the head of the law, the army, and the navy, have each of them assured a certain great patriotic earl of their entire attachment to his lordship's opinion on public affairs, and are ready to cooperate in any measure his lordship shall propose whenever he pleases to step forth again.

We hear the freeholders of Bedfordshire are to meet at their county town on Tuesday next to consider of a petition to be presented to his Majesty, to solicit a redress of the grievances the nation at present labors under, from the many infringements lately made in the laws and liberties of the people, and particularly in the violation of their free right to elect their representatives.

Extract of a letter from Rome, dated August 5.

"The ministers from France, Spain, and Naples, in some audiences they have lately had of the Pope, have again insisted, that his holiness shall abolish the order of Jesuits; but he told them that it was an affair of so great importance, that it required time to consider it properly; so that it is not likely to be soon determined."

To the Printer of the S. J. Chronicle.

Sir,
I read in one of the papers the other day a letter, written (as it should seem) by a very vehement Scot indeed. He therein says, "if we must be thus insulted, let us be loosed from the union; but then let the English remember, that we are yet able to bring into the field sixty thousand of the bravest men in Europe." Pray is not this a kind of challenge or defiance to the people of England? And how dare any one issue a public challenge, if the sending of a private one is forbidden, upon pain of death, by the law?
Your's, &c.

Ch-b C---, August 16. QUERIST.

Extract of a letter from Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 6, 1769.

"The popish priest who was ordained at Quebec by a Bishop of the church of Rome, is now appointed by government as missionary in this province, and has obtained, by means of his friends on your side of the water, a salary of 100 l. sterling settled upon him during life. He is very active in his profession, celebrates mass, and many persons flock to confession. He has already made converts. As a convincing proof of his assiduity in office, several children, who were baptised by protestant missionaries, have been re-baptised into the holy church. If this priest is continued in his mission, we have reason to believe that he will, in a great measure, counteract what our missionaries of the church of England have been doing for many years past, and, of consequence, the good intention of the venerable society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts will be entirely frustrated, and the

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