

tended the Frigate that engaged the *Arethusa*; upon his requesting the Commander of her to stand to the Fleet, he made him Answer, that he should do as the Frigate did; and, upon the Frigate's firing upon the *Arethusa*, fired his Guns into the Alert; Captain Fairfax immediately run on Board of him, and they continued in that Situation in close Fight, upwards of an Hour, when the French Vessel surrendered. Captain Fairfax killed him five Men, and mortally wounded seven; the Alert had four Men wounded, two of them, it is apprehended, mortally.

Several French Merchant Ships passed through the Fleet Yesterday unmolested: I did not think proper in anywise to interrupt them in their Commerce. Ushant was then in Sight from the Mast-head.

(C O P Y .)

Victory, at Sea, June 20, 1778.

S I R,

EARLY in the Morning of the 18th, a Ship in the N. W. Quarter was seen standing into the Fleet, but soon hauled away: The Foudroyant, *Courageux*, and *Robust*, were sent in Pursuit of her; and having repaired, as well as Time would permit, the *Milford's* Damages, which she received by the French Frigate's haying, while in Conversation, sheered on board her, she was likewise sent in Chace. In the Morning of the 19th, the *Proserpine* had joined, whom I also directed to chace; very light Winds, and Easterly: Before Twelve, the Frigates and other Ships were drawn close up with the Chace, a French Frigate, and the Signal being made to the Ships to bring the Chace into the Fleet, she was brought in accordingly, the French Officer having no Means whatever to avoid what has happened to him. From the Behaviour of the French Frigate the *Licorne* on the 18th in the Morning, I judged it my Duty to detain this Ship likewise. I directed Captain Hood, of the *Robust*, to take the Officers out of the Ship, and distribute the Crew among the Ships with him; instructing him to signify to the French Captain, that I was under the Necessity of taking this Step from the extraordinary Conduct of the Captain of the *Licorne*; at the same Time recommended to Captain Hood to take Care, that nothing but the civilest Treatment should pass towards the French Officers and their People, and every Thing taken Care of on Board the Frigate: She is called the *Pallas*, of 32 Guns and 220 Men; and, as well as could be learnt, had been eight Days from Brest on a Cruise.

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient and very humble Servant,

A. K E P P E L.

Philip Stephens, Esq; Secretary to the Admiralty.

St. James's, June 27.

The following Address having been transmitted by his Excellency the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to the Lord Viscount Weymouth, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been presented to His Majesty: Which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Mayor, Sheriffs, Burgesses and Commons of the County of the Town of Drogheda.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most faithful Subjects of your ever loyal and ancient Corporation of the County of the Town of Drogheda, at a full

and general Assembly, humbly desire to approach your Throne with Hearts full of dutiful Affection to your Royal Person.

Prompted by Duty, Inclination and Gratitude, and animated by the late Insolence of our natural Enemy the French King, permit us, in the present critical Situation of Affairs, to assure your Majesty of our steady Attachment to your Royal Person, and determined Resolution to support the Dignity of your Crown, and the Honour of your Government.

Fully persuaded that the sole Object of your Majesty's Ambition is to render all your People happy, and that your tender Concern for the Welfare of your Subjects will suggest such Means as are adequate to the Importance and Difficulty of the present Circumstances, we take the earliest Opportunity to declare, that we will, to the utmost of our Ability, do every Thing, on our Part, to preserve the publick Peace, and repel the Attempts of every Enemy.

In Testimony whereof we have hereunto affixed our Common Seal the first Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

St. James's, June 27.

The King has been pleased to grant unto Moses Abrahams, of Little Friday-street, Cheapside, Attorney at Law, His Royal Licence and Authority to take and use the Names of Thomas Willett; and also to order, that this His Majesty's Concession and Declaration be registered in the College of Arms.

Navy-Office, June 23, 1778.

THE Principal Officers and Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy give Notice, that on Tuesday the 14th of next Month they will be ready to treat with such Persons as will undertake to build Four Dwelling-Houses in His Majesty's Yard at Portsmouth. Plans and Elevations whereof may be seen at this Office.

East-India House, May 20, 1778.

THE Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, do hereby give Notice, That a Quarterly General Court of the said Company will be held at their House in Leadenhall-Street, on Tuesday the 30th of June next, at Eleven of the Clock in the Forenoon, for the Purpose of declaring a Dividend from Christmas last to Midsummer next.

East-India-House, June 15, 1778.

THE Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies having, on the 13th of May last, consented, by Ballot, to restore Captain James Tippet, late Engineer and Captain of Artillery at St. Helena to the Company's Service; and having also, on the 27th of the same Month, consented, by Ballot, to restore Major Mustenden Johnston, late Commanding Officer of the Company's Troops on the West Coast of Sumatra to the Company's Service, in which more than three Parts in four in Number of the Directors then respectively present concurred, agreeably to the Act of Parliament of the 13th Year of His present Majesty, for establishing certain Regulations for the said Company; Notice is hereby given, That at the Quarterly General Court of the said Company, appointed to be held at their House in Leadenhall-Street, on Tuesday the 30th Instant, at Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, the Resolutions of the said Court of Directors relative to Captain Tippet and Major Johnston will be severally offered to the Consideration of the General Court, according to the said Act.