

and Ill-intentioned, whom we were willing to leave unpunished, in order to avoid even the Shadow of an Act of Sovereignty, so long as we could cherish the least Hope of at length restoring good Order, and preventing by this Means the essential Interests of our Empire from being injured.

But to our great Regret all these Measures, dictated solely by our Love of Humanity, tended only to bring upon us Losses and Damages, which we have the more sensibly at Heart, as they affected our Subjects. The Loss in Men is not to be appreciated; we will not attempt to estimate it; that in Money, according to the most moderate Calculations, amounts to upwards of Twelve Millions of Roubles. To these Particulars is to be added another of the utmost Importance, both in its Object and with regard to its Consequences: We have just been informed that the Porte has begun to lay Claim to the Exercise of Sovereignty in the Tartar Dominions, by sending one of their Officers, at the Head of a Detachment of Troops, to the Island of Taman, who has even proceeded to cause the Officer to be publicly beheaded who was sent to him by the Khan Schaghin-Gheray, with a Commission only to enquire of him what were the Motives for his Arrival in that Island; and what evidently proves the Nature of the Mission of this Commandant of the Troops is, that he made no Difficulty in declaring openly to the Inhabitants of Taman, that he looked upon them as Subjects of the Porte. This decisive though unexpected Step, convincing us of the Inutility of the Sacrifices we had made upon the last Peace, annuls in Consequence the Engagements we had contracted, with the sole Intention of firmly establishing the Freedom and Independence of the Tartars, and sufficiently authorizes us to enter again into the Enjoyment of those Rights which we had lawfully acquired by Conquest; the more so, as it is the only Means remaining for us to secure hereafter a solid and permanent Peace between the Two Empires. Animated therefore with a sincere Desire of confirming and maintaining the last Peace concluded with the Porte, by preventing the continual Disputes which the Affairs of the Crimea produced, our Duty to ourself, and the Preservation of the Security of our Empire, equally demand our taking the firm Resolution to put an End, once for all, to the Troubles in the Crimea; and for this Purpose we re-unite to our Empire the Peninsula of Crimea, the Island of Taman, and all the Cuban, as a just Indemnification for the Losses sustained, and the Expences we have been obliged to incur in maintaining the Peace and Welfare of these Territories.

In declaring to the Inhabitants of those Countries by the present Manifesto, that such is our Imperial Pleasure, we promise them, for us and our Successors in the Imperial Throne of Russia, that they shall be treated upon an Equality with our ancient Subjects; and that, in taking them under our high Protection, we will defend against all People their Persons, their Estates, their Temples, and the Religion they profess; that they shall enjoy the most absolute Liberty of Conscience, without the least Restriction, in the public Exercise of their Worship and their Ceremonies; and that not only the Nation in general, but also each Individual in particular, shall participate in all the Advantages enjoyed by our ancient Subjects. But we also expect, from the Gratitude of our new Subjects, that, touched with these Favours, they will be sensible of the Value of this fortunate Revolution, which removes them from a convulsed State of Disturbances and Dissensions to one of entire Security and perfect Tranquility under the Protection of the Laws; and that, striving to

imitate the Submission, Zeal, and Fidelity of those who have long had the Happiness of living under our Government, they will render themselves worthy of our Imperial Favour, Beneficence, and Protection. Given at our Imperial Residence of St. Petersburg, the 8th of April, in the Year of Grace, 1783, and in the 21st Year of our Reign.

(Signed with her Imperial Majesty's own Hand)

CATHERINE.

(L. S.)

*Copenhagen, August 16.* Various Accounts have been received here of an Island having lately arisen in the Sea in the Neighbourhood of Iceland. Although the Fact itself is authentic, yet the Time of the first Appearance of this Island, its Dimensions, and Situation, are not well ascertained. The Information brought by the last Ship from thence is, that it was still increasing, and that great Quantities of Fire issued from Two of its Eminences.

*Vienna, August 16.* His Imperial Majesty went to the Country Palace of Laxembourg last Night, and the first grand Manœuvre of the Troops, encamped at Minkendorff, was performed this Morning in his Majesty's Presence.

*Berlin, August 19.* His Prussian Majesty set out for Silesia on the 15th Instant, having been preceded by the Prince Royal, who left Potsdam on the 14th.

Whitehall, August 30, 1783.

*Whereas, by an Inquisition taken the 20th Day of this instant August, before Chiswell Slade, Esq; Mayor and Coroner of the ancient Town of Rye, — Ketchley, otherwise called Laughing Dick, late of Hamstreet, in the Parish of Orlesone, in the County of Kent, Mariner, Thomas Moore, late of Rye, in the County of Sussex, Mariner, and Edward Kyte, late of Dover, in the said County of Kent, Mariner, (together with divers others of the Crew of a Lug sail or Smuggling Vessel, whose Names are at present unknown) stand charged with the wilful Murder of Henry Haddock, late Master or Commander of a Vessel called the Scourge, in the Service of His Majesty's Customs, the said Henry Haddock being, on the 19th Day of the said Month, on Board the said Vessel off Dongeness Point, in the said County of Kent, in order to intercept and make Seizure of any Goods that might be attempted to be run or put on Shore on that Part of the Coast; and in the Execution of such his Duty, certain Carriage and other Guns or Musquets were fired by the said — Ketchley, Thomas Moore, and Edward Kyte, and the Rest of the Crew belonging to the said Smuggling Vessel, upon the said Vessel in the Service of His said Majesty's Customs, by one of which the said Henry Haddock was mortally wounded, and instantly died:*

*His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Persons concerned in the said Murder, is hereby pleased to promise His Most Gracious Pardon to any one of the said Offenders, who shall discover his Accomplices (except the said — Ketchley, Thomas Moore, and Edward Kyte) so that Two or more of them may be apprehended and convicted of the said Offence.*

N O R T H.

*And, as a further Encouragement, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs do hereby promise a Reward of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS to any Person or Persons who shall apprehend and take, or cause to be apprehended and taken, the said — Ketchley, Thomas Moore, and Edward Kyte, or either of them. to be paid by the Receiver-General of His Majesty's Customs upon Conviction; and if in Consequence of such Discovery*  
and