



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Saturday January 18, to Tuesday January 21, 1794.

Westminster, January 21, 1794.

THIS Day His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes, seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech:

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

THE Circumstances under which you are now assembled require your most serious Attention.

We are engaged in a Contest, on the Issue of which depend the Maintenance of Our Constitution, Laws, and Religion, and the Security of all Civil Society.

You must have observed, with Satisfaction, the Advantages which have been obtained by the Arms of the Allied Powers, and the Change which has taken Place in the general Situation of Europe, since the Commencement of the War. The United Provinces have been protected from Invasion. The Austrian Netherlands have been recovered and maintained; and Places of considerable Importance have been acquired on the Frontiers of France. The Recapture of Mentz, and the subsequent Successes of the Allied Armies on the Rhine, have, notwithstanding the Advantages recently obtained by the Enemy in that Quarter, proved highly beneficial to the Common Cause. Powerful Efforts have been made by My Allies in the South of Europe. The temporary Possession of the Town and Port of Toulon has greatly distressed the Operations

of My Enemies; and in the Evacuation of that Place an important and decisive Blow has been given to their Naval Power, by the distinguished Conduct, Abilities, and Spirit of My Commanders, Officers and Forces, both by Sea and Land.

The French have been driven from their Possessions and Fishery at Newfoundland; and important and valuable Acquisitions have been made both in the East and West Indies.

At Sea our Superiority has been undisputed, and our Commerce so effectually protected, that the Losses sustained have been inconsiderable in Proportion to its Extent, and to the Captures made on the contracted Trade of the Enemy.

The Circumstances by which the further Progress of the Allies has hitherto been impeded, not only prove the Necessity of Vigour and Perseverance on Our Part, but at the same Time confirm the Expectation of ultimate Success. Our Enemies have derived the Means of temporary Exertion, from a System which has enabled them to dispose arbitrarily of the Lives and Property of a numerous People, and which openly violates every Restraint of Justice, Humanity and Religion. But these Efforts, productive as they necessarily have been of internal Discontent and Confusion, have also tended rapidly to exhaust the national and real Strength of that Country.

Although I cannot but regret the necessary Continuance of the War, I should ill consult the essential Interests of My People if I were desirous of Peace, on any Grounds but such as may provide for their

permanent