

Enclosure to 4226

Fortescue 3342

4224 Paris 19 May
rec'd 20. 5/9/81.

When I wrote about La Motte's projects waiting for orders, it was certainly so the 29 April, for I had it from M. G—n—r. who read it that day in a letter from M. La Motte to M. de la Touche: but his order did arrive the 25. within a few hours after the Post left Brest. People of high rank here talk as positively & are as busy, in putting about false, as true occurrences: and tho' I exert my best endeavours to discriminate & sift what I hear before I report it, yet it is impossible to avoid being sometimes deceived: and the more as you require intelligence by every mail. M. — sent last Thursday an account of M. Nekar's Memorial, not only to M. Maurepas but to the King — M. Maurepas pretends to be ill — but M. Nekar is gone this morning to Paris, fully resolved to resign, or be admitted to the Council. M. — cannot get through his

his affairs here so as to run the hazard of
 crossing the sea, or he would come to you,
 but he would take a pass for Orleans &c,
 & meet you at Ostend on a precise day - &
 without delay return again, doing all you
 think needfull, to make Govt. safe in
 binding him to his wishes: the sooner the
 better, before the harvest-season is pass'd.

Laurens & Sam Payne set out yesterday
 morning for Brest. the capturing that fleet
 will be a decisive stroke to American
 independence.

Paris 20 May
 recd 20 — 1781.

M. Necker was graciously received by the Queen,
 but she told him, the situation of things made
 it impossible to comply with his demands.

4224 (2)

It is a secret, but true, that M. Mauropas offered to resign his present occupation, & tendered his services in some other department, mentioning the Marine, which M. de Castries had offered to resign to M. Necker, if it was thought proper to place him there. M. Mauropas by means of ^{the} Count d'Artois had gained Madame de Polignac & the Queen, yet the King was so firmly inclined to support Necker, that they could not venture to dismiss him, though He was worked up to ask what was intended to be refused, & so made it expedient for him to resign. The King has for some time ~~passed~~ relied on Necker only, but secretly, as a Friend - He has not however proved so firm as Necker expected. They contrived on Saturday to prevent Necker from seeing him at Marly - fearing He would yield to Necker's demands. In His last Memorial

Memorial to the King. He calls the manner of direct-
ing the former Memorial on Provincial-admini-
stration, a Mischievous-treason - meaning
to upbraid Monsieur, who he found had let out
the secret. He was popular in the provinces, & the
great uneasiness will arise. If Gov^t pursues the system
of provincial administrations, the Parliament will
quarrel; & to abandon them, will discontent
many Provinces, which had experienced, & other
^{so high, more} impatiently waiting to experience, the good effects
of these Assemblies. The last thing Necker did
was to agree with the Court of Spain for
purchasing ^{one or two} millions of Dollars to be sent
from the Havannah to Martinique,
which Voltaire is intended to go with
the Fleet & Troops from thence to North
America.

Paris 19. May 1781
Intelligence
Lx 29. May 1781
S. P. M. P.