Admiralty-Office
5th January 1786

Observations respecting the State of the Navy.

The extraordinary attention given by the other Maritime Powers of Europe to the increase of their Naval Strength, and the nature of their Alliances being considered, it is conceived to be requisite that adequate provision should be made for a suitable Regulation of the Naval Establishments in this Country.

In order therefore, that a due proportion of the Fleet may be kept in readiness for arming as Seamen can be successively procured at the Commencement of a War, it is humbly proposed that Sixty Ships of the Line exclusive of twenty Guard-Ships now in Commission, with the Frigates &c (Ships of Two-Decks not of the Line included) as stated in the paper No. 1, should be put into good condition with all convenient dispatch: But that Stores (in the customary State of forwardness) should be prepared for three fourths only of that Number; as the remaining fourth part may be supplied in sufficient time, before the Ships first meant to be so fully provided, can be otherwise made ready for Sea-Service. And with the Grants for the Navy proposed to be inserted in the Parliamentary Estimates, as in the paper No. 2, it is conceived, that the whole of the proposed Number of Ships will be nearly completed in the course of

Observations on the State of the Navy at the Commencement of the Year 1786. And number of Ships which may be made fit for Service by the End of the Year 1790

of the present Year.

By the further Grant of the Sums stated in the same Account, for the four subsequent Years; By continuing the same Number of Artificers & now borne in the several Dock Yards, and the same Mode of employment in Job & Task Work, it is presumed that Twenty more Ships of the Line (exclusive of those which may be wanted to replace the Guard Ships necessary to be changed in the mean time) together with several Frigates &c.* may be further added to the efficient part of the Fleet, by the End of the Year 1790. It is nevertheless to be observed, that as the Ships needing the smallest Repair have been first taken in hand, the additional Number must be selected from amongst those found to be in a less serviceable State than the former; And no positive assurance can be therefore given that these last to be repaired will be certainly completed in the time proposed.

* as in the paper No. 3.

It is presumed that after the Year 1790, the whole Charge of the Navy (supposing the continuance of 18,000 Men, the lowest Number deemed competent for the ordinary Sea Service in time of Peace) may be reduced to £2,000,000 for the annual Peace Establishment. By a Decrease in the Extra Estimate, consistent with the Means of employing the same Number of capital Ships which were in a State of Service last War.

Howe

Admiralty-Office
1st January 1786

6107

Number of Ships of different Classes in good Condition, Building or Repairing, which may be, as it is presumed, completed in the Course of the present Year

Ships of the Line

Rate	Guns	No		
1	100	3		
2	90	12		
3	74	35		
4	64	10	60	
	Guard Ships			
2	90	1		
3	74	12		
	64	7	20	
				80 Ships of the Line
	Not of the Line			
4	50	4		
5	44	14	18	
	Frigates &c			
	38	3		
	36	9		
	32	23		
6	28	13		
	24	3	51	
Sloops	16	2		
Fireships		8		
Bombs		1	80	Frigates &c
		Total	160	

N.B. It is supposed that 5 more Ships of the Line in addition to these 60 Ships will be likewise completed in the Course of the present Year: To be substituted for the same Number of Guardships which it may be then necessary to replace.

1786

Number of Ships in Good Condition, Building or Repairing which may be completed as supposed, in the present Year

(No. 1)

6108

Admiralty Office
1. January 1786

Amount of the proposed Expence of the Naval Establishment for the year 1786, and four subsequent years during Peace

For 18,000 Seamen ... £936,000
Ordinary of the Navy ... 692,326
Extra Estimate, including Repairs & necessary Works in the Yards, and for enlarging the Victualling Premises at Deptford, to replace the Buildings spared for the Service of the Customs on Tower Hill ... 900000

Total ... £ 2,428,326

Supposed requisite Amount of the Peace Establishment for the years 1787. 1788. 1789 & 1790 —

For 18,000 Seamen ... £936,000
Ordinary of the Navy ... 700000
Extra Estimate ... 500000

Annual Charge £2,136,000

1786

Amount of the proposed Peace Establishment for the years 1786, 1787, 1788 1789 & 1790. for the Service of the Navy ——

(No 2)

6109

Admiralty Office
1st January 1786

Number of Ships of each Class which it is supposed may be completed in addition to those specified in the paper No. 1, by the end of the year 1790. Including 15 of the Line to replace the same number of Guard Ships also likely to become by that time, no longer in fit condition for such appointment.

Ships of the Line

Rate	Guns	No.	
1	100	1	
2	90	2	
3	74	20	
	64	12	35
From which deducting to replace, of the present Guard Ships		15	20 Ships of the Line

Not of the Line

4	50	2	
5	44	7	9

Frigates &c.

	32	0		
6	28	4		
Sloops		4	16	
			25	
				45

To which adding the number of Ships specified in the paper No. 1, exclusive of the 20 Guard Ships -- 145 185. Total, exclusive of the present number of Guard Ships, expected to be completed by the end of the year 1790 ——

1786

Account of the Number of Ships of different Classes likely to be completed for a State of Service by the End of the year 1790

(No: 3)

Plan for the Employment of 18000 Seamen on the Peace Establishment for 1786

6110

Admiralty Office 1st Jan.y 1786

Plan for the Employment of 18000 Seamen on the Peace Establishment for the year 1786

On the Jamaica Station

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
4th	1	50	337	
5th	1	44	250	
"	2	32	400	
Sloops	3	16	300	1287
	7			

Leeward Islands

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
4th	1	50	337	
5th	1	32	200	
6th	2	28	360	
Sloops	2	16	200	1097
	6			

Mediterranean

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
4th	1	50	337	
5th	1	38	240	
"	2	32	400	
6	1	28	180	
Sloops	1	16	100	1257
	6			

Newfoundland

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
4th	1	50	337	
5th	1	32	200	
6th	1	28	180	
Sloops	3	16	300	1017
	6			4,658

Nova Scotia

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
Brought forwd				4,658
4th	1	50	337	
6th	3	28	540	
Sloops	3	16	300	1177
	7			

Coast of Africa

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
5th	1	44	250	
Sloop	1	16	100	350
	2			

East Indies

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
3d	1	64	450	
5th	2	32	400	
Sloop	1	16	100	950
	4			

Revenue Service

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
5th	3		670	
6	5		740	
Sloops	18		1510	
Cutters	27		1430	4350
	53			

Guard Ships

Rate	Numb. of Ships	Guns	Men	
3d	12	74	4200	
	4	64	1000	5200 Viz. Ships 74 = 350, 64 = 250 each
	16			
Yachts	6		290	12,317
				16,975

Marines

For Guard of the Dock Yards, and other Services on shore, including Staff-Officers — 1000

Total of Men 17,975

H.M. to Ld. Sydney

AA

Jan. 10 1786

6111

I return the private letters from India but keep back Mr. G. Dallinge's long paper which I shall read before I see Lord Sydney when I shall return it. I think the Resignation of Lord Macartney not an unfavourable event; Sloper's conduct should Mr. G. Campbell be appointed is very sensible.

Windsor
Jan.y 10.th 1786.
m/55 p.t 8. A.M.

G.R.

Mr Pitt
Downing Street Jan.y 14.th 1786.

6112

Mr Pitt humbly presumes to trouble
Your Majesty with a draft for the
Speech, in which some alterations
have been proposed since Mr Pitt
had the honor of submitting it to
your Majesty's Perusal; but which
make little change in the General
Tenor of it.

Downing Street. Jan 14.th 1786.

Copy
Letter to Mr. Pitt
Windsor Jan. 14. 1786. 55 p. 7 P.M.

AA

6113

Windsor Jan. 14. 1786. 55 p. 7 P.M.

The Draft of the Speech which I have just received from Mr. Pitt, is undoubtedly little changed in the general tenour of it, from the one he shewed me on Wednesday; but at the same time the corrections of particular parts are very judicious, and remove any objections that seemed to occur in its former state; as for instance the first paragraph, and also the one on the propriety of adopting a fixed plan for the Reduction of the National Debt; I therefore think Mr. Pitt may now be thoroughly satisfied with it.

I yesterday saw Lord Maccartney, nothing dropped from him that marked any desire of accepting the offer the East India Company have made him, or that enables me to think he is resolved to decline it. As it certainly was no object to Me to dive into his future intentions I supposed he had no other view but of having his conduct whilst at Madras examined by his Employers, which he had very decidedly stated to Me.

Mr Pitt.
January 21. 1786

6114

Mr Pitt humbly presumes to trouble your Majesty with the Enclosed Draft of the Address which is proposed to be moved in the House of Commons, if it receives Your Majesty's Approbation

Downing Street
Jan 21st 1786.

Note from the King Jan: 23: 1786

AA

6115

The Opposition chusing to avoid the subjects touched on in the Speech is the strongest encomium on the measures of Government. Lord Stormont giving a Dish of foreign politicks on the occasion was not a subject before the House is certainly highly irregular and not becoming the Dignity of the Upper House a common thought not respectable conduct in the Lower House. The taking advantage of the blessings of Peace by improving the Revenue and making Treaties of Commerce are the wise measures no system of foreign Alliances can be devised that will not perhaps within a year bring us into a War which I am certain no man of Sense can wish, and the other line of conduct will in a few years put us in a situation to be courted now I fear if we move it must be by courting.

G.R.

Queen's House
Jan: 24th 1786.

m 40 pl. g. Pk

Lord Howe
January 20. 1786

6116

Lord Howe has the honor to transmit for your Majestys information, a letter received by this days Post from Captain Thornborough, who had postponed his intention of putting to sea yesterday, on account of the indisposition of His Royal Highness Prince William. Upon which unfortunate incident, Lord Howe most humbly solicits your Majestys commands: Both with respect to the further detention of the Ships, and the assistance which may be deemed requisite for the due attention

to the nature of His Royal Highness's complaints, in case his continuance on shore for some time longer should be found necessary.

Admiralty Office
28 Jan.y 1786

4.th ~~Oct~~

Lord Sydney
January 28. 1786

6117

Whitehall
Jan: 28: 1786
$\frac{2n}{58}$ part 2 P.M.

Lord Sydney humbly presumes to transmit to His Majesty the Answers to the Addresses of the Lords and Commons of Ireland

Ans

for His Majesty's Royal Signa
ture.

Lord Carmarthen
30th January 1786

6118

Lord Carmarthen begs leave with all humility to transmit the Papers contained in this Box to your Majesty, with the least possible delay, on account of the very interesting Letter No. 1. from Mr Liston, a copy of which Lord Carmarthen has directed to be made out for Mr Pitt, by which means the very important matters contained in it may be taken into consideration tomorrow. your Majesty's confidential Servants having agreed to meet regularly every Tuesday at one o clock, and every Friday at half an hour after eight in the Evening.

The letter received by Mr Elliot from Mr Cracraft appears to leave the delicate subject alluded to, in the state which could be wished, and Ld Carmarthen will be very happy if Mr Elliot's conduct should be entitled to your Majesty's most gracious Approbation.

St James. Jan.y 30. 1786.
m/40 after 3. P. M.

Ld. Sydney

6119

Whitehall
Feb: 3d 1786
10 P. M.

Lord Sydney humbly presumes to acquaint His Majesty, that in Obedience to His Royal Commands he has searched for Precedents of

the

the Limitation of a Patent of Baronetage in the manner solicited by Mr Sinclair, and that he has found one in the Case of Sir John Lowther, and has reason to think, that there are

others

Ld. Sy

6119

of the

Sin

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Ld. Sydney

6119 (2)

others. He has therefore ventured to send the Warrant for His Majesty's Royal Signature.

Lord Sydney
February 3. 1806

Lord Boston.
13. Feb. 1786.

pub. Aspinall
Vol. I.

6121

Feb 13. 1786

Lord Boston to Mr Ramus

Lord Boston begs Mr Ramus will with his most humble Duty acquaint His Majesty he has enquired of Mr Williams respecting the Cattle His Majesty did him the Honor to speak to him about at Hadson. The proper time for purchasing them will be in March, and they will come to from five to ten pounds each according to the difference of Size.

Mr Williams informs Lord Boston the Sheep will come up about the end of April, or the beginning of May, he fears it will not be in his power to procure so large a Number of an equal Goodness, or Size with those he had the Honor to send His

Majesty before, but will endeavour to get as many as he can of that Sort.

Lower Grosvenor Street
Monday, Feb: 13th 1786.

Sir Wm. Burnett
February 22. 1786

6122

Great George Street, 22d. Feby. 1786.

Your Majesty's Adjutant General, has the honor to return to your Majesty, the two Firelocks, which your Majesty was pleas'd to send to Him; — the Bayonet of that, which is intended for the use of the Light Infantry, having been made to fix, agreeably to your Majesty's directions. —

The new Firelock, which your Majesty was pleas'd to order, will be finish'd this Evening; — & the Duke of Richmond intends to ask your Majesty's permission, to have the honor of presenting it in person, to your Majesty, at St. James's to=-morrow: — The Hanoverian Messenger, has attended the Gun Smith, who made it, for some days past, & perfected himself in the manner, of taking the Lock of it to pieces, & putting it together again —