Continuation of a Narrative of what has passed relative to the present dispute between England and Spain, from the 15th of June to the 5th of August 1790.

Mr. Fitzherbert, as it has been seen, being on his Journey to Madrid, a short interval of Suspense occurred, productive of no Event of importance, except an Information from Lord Auckland, that the Prince Stadtholder had sent Orders to Admiral Kingsbergen to proceed with the Dutch Fleet to Portsmouth, and except another from Lord Robert Fitzgerald at Paris, respecting the Alteration which he perceived to be rising in the public opinion, relative to the Dispute between England and Spain.

In his Dispatch, dated the 18th of June and received the 21st, his Lordship remarks that a visible Change had taken place in the minds of the People at Paris, respecting the Part to be taken by France, should a war unhappily take place between Great Britain

and

and Spain; that the Moderation, which had distinguished the majority of opinions in that Capital, no longer existed, but had made way for new ideas of National Honor and Gratitude, both of which, it was now said, called for the support of France, should Spain stand in need of Her assistance. His Lordship did not however conclude from this that War was a Measure sought for or desired; but only that the Unanimity of Sentiment (which prevailed Generally, except among the Ministers and the Major Part of the Nobility and Clergy) in favor of Inaction and against the Family Compact, had suffered a considerable change. This his Lordship ascribed to the Influence which the Cabinet was daily gaining in the National Assembly, and to the known sentiments of Mons.r de la Fayette, which had the greatest weight with the People, and which were by no means — — inimical to Ministerial Measures.

On the Evening of the 26.th of June, the Messenger Dressin, who had accompanied M.r Fitz Herbert to Madrid, arrived at

White Hall

Whitehall with Dispatches from that Minister, dated at Aranjuez the 16th of the same month.

By these his Excellency acquainted the Duke of Leeds, that, having reached Madrid the 9th of June, he proceeded next day to Aranjuez, and, on the following morning, had an Interview by appointment with Count Florida Blanca.

Conceiving that the Paper delivered by the Count on the 4th of June must necessarily be considered by His Majesty as falling short of His just expectations in every particular, and especially with regard to His Preliminary Demand of, Redress and Satisfaction, Mr. Fitz Herbert confined his Conversation with the Spanish Minister almost entirely to the Contents of that Paper, strongly urging him to do away their ill effects, by enabling Mr. Fitz Herbert to transmit to his Court, without loss of time, some more satisfactory communication.

Count Florida Blanca replied, that, as the circumstances of the present case were such

such, that a Compliance on the part of Spain with the Preliminary Demand in question would necessarily invalidate Her Claims of Territorial Right, She could not but continue to insist, that the Discussion of Both those Points should be carried on at the same time and *pari passu*: That such a Concession (considering the Language which had been held on both sides) would be no less injurious to His Catholic Majesty's Honor than detrimental to His Interests; and that therefore, in a word, the Paper in question contained the Utmost that the Court of Spain ought to grant. Count Florida Blanca however qualified this last Declaration, by stating it as his own Individual Opinion; and requested Mr. Fitzherbert to deliver to him in writing the Substance of what he had then urged, for the information of His Catholic Majesty and his own Colleagues in Office. This Mr. Fitzherbert accordingly did on the morning of the 13th.—

On the same day, His Excellency was

was admitted to his Audiences of Introduction to the King and Queen of Spain; and, on the 14th, he dined with Count Floridablanca, with whom he had a short Conversation, in the course of which the Count gave him to understand, that the Letter he had sent to him on the 13th would be laid forthwith before the Spanish Cabinet, and that an Answer should be given to it very shortly.

From the above Circumstances, and from every thing he had observed and learned since his Arrival at Aranjuez, Mr. Fitz Herbert drew this Conclusion — that he had the strongest reason to be persuaded, that the Catholic King and His Ministers were entirely bent upon a War with Great Britain, though they refrained from commencing Hostilities, on a Presumption, that their persisting in their present Denial of Satisfaction would produce such Reprisals on our part, as might afford them a Colorable Pretext to complain of a Hostile Aggression, and, on that ground, to demand the Assistance of

France.

France. His Excellency however thought it was by no means easy to ascertain the Real Motives of this Resolution; as it was scarcely possible to suppose, considering the Relative Strength of the Two Powers, that the Spanish Ministry could seriously entertain any hopes of wresting from Great Britain either Gibraltar or any of her West India Possessions, or that they should have had recourse to the Expedient of a Foreign War, in order to obviate any Supposed danger of a Revolution in the Government of Spain, similar to that which has taken place in France; not the smallest Symptom of any such Spirit of Innovation having hitherto manifested itself in any part of the Former Country. On these accounts, His Excellency was inclined to think, that the Hostile Dispositions of the Spanish Cabinet originated solely in that excessive proneness to Jealousy and Mistrust, which constitutes the leading feature of Count Florida Blanca's Character, and, in consequence of which, he had persuaded himself that, far from

confining

confining our Pursuits to the Fur Trade and Fisheries on the North West and Southern Coasts of the Continent of America, our Real Object was to establish, in the first instance, a Direct Commercial Intercourse with the Spanish Colonies, and finally to separate them entirely from the Dominion of the Mother Country. This sort of language had, for some time past, been publicly held by Count Floridablanca himself; and he had also said, that, being confident that, whatever Concessions might be made by Spain under such circumstances, they would serve only for Great Britain to take post upon, as it were, in order to lay claim to something more, he had judged it to be safer, as well as more honorable, to make a vigorous stand in the first instance.

Mr. Fitzherbert informed His Majesty's Ministers, that Messengers were continually passing between Aranjuez and Paris; though the Dispositions of the Latter Court with regard to the business in question

question were little known. It was only certain that M. de Montmorin had written to Count Florida Blanca to the effect which he had stated to M. Fitzherbert when he saw him at Paris, and that the latter expressed great dissatisfaction at the contents of this letter; observing, that the Data on which it was founded were entirely erroneous, and that, in so plain a case as the present, he stood in no need of advice. As Count Florida Blanca affected to treat the French Alliance as a Resource on which he placed little confidence in the present conjuncture, and as it did not appear that his Negotiations at St Petersburgh and Vienna were likely to end in any closer connection between Spain and those Courts, M. Fitzherbert was inclined to think that his principal Reliance was on the assistance of the American States, to which Power he had lately made some Advances, which he thought would be decisive in engaging them to take part with Spain in

the

the present Contest. In fact, Mr. FitzHerbert observed, the American Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, Mr. Carmichael, was greatly caressed at Court, and had artfully availed himself of the present Conjuncture, in procuring from the Spanish Minister the Liquidation of a number of private claims, the payment of which he had before solicited without the smallest chance of success. This Gentleman's private opinion however appeared to be, that Count Florida Blanca's American Negotiation would not be attended with success.

On the Third Day after the receipt of this interesting intelligence, the Messenger Major arrived at WhiteHall with another Dispatch from Mr. FitzHerbert, dated Aranjuez, 19th June.

In this was contained Count Florida Blanca's Answer to the Letter, which Mr. FitzHerbert sent to him on the 13th Instt.

The Count by this disputed the Principles laid down by Mr. FitzHerbert, and insisted that the Detention of the Vessels in

in question took place in a Port — or a Coast — or in a Bay of Spanish America, the — — Commerce and Navigation of which — — belonged Exclusively to that Crown, by Treaties made with all Nations, particularly with England. He also insisted, that Mr. FitzHerbert's Principles could not apply to a case like the present, where the Vessel which was detained endeavoured to form an Establishment, and to make itself master of a Port already possessed by another Nation; the Spanish Commander having such Possession at Nootka, and the English Aggressor not giving way to his Amicable Representations for Desisting from or Suspending his Enterprize.

The Count denied that the Vessels so detained were as yet proved to have been navigated with the Licence and under the Flag of Great Britain, although the Vessels themselves and some Individuals on board of them might have been English; as there was reason to believe they had entered the Port of Nootka with Portuguese Passports given by the Governor of Macao,

merely

merely as Trading Vessels, and not belonging to the Royal Marine: that besides, the Vessels, with their Crews and Cargoes (or the Value of the Latter) having been restored, or being about to be restored, in consequence of the Resolution taken by the Vice-Roy of Mexico, and approved for the sake of Peace by His Catholic Majesty, every thing was restored to its Original State; nothing being wanting but the Indemnifi:cation of the Parties aggrieved, and the Satisfaction for the Injury; which should also be settled, as soon as the Circumstance of such an Injury having been committed should be ascertained, which hitherto had not been done.

Notwithstanding this however, the Count added, that, in order to avoid a Dispute about words, which might involve Two Friendly Nations in an unfortunate War, he was ordered by the King to say, that His Catholic Majesty would make the Declaration proposed by Mr. Fitzherbert, and would offer His Britannic Majesty a just and suitable Satisfaction

Satisfaction for the Injury offered to the Honor of His Flag; provided that, to these words, one of the following Explanations were subjoined.— Viz.—

1st.— "L'on offrira une telle Satisfaction, "l'Injure et la Satisfaction même étant "estimées et califiées, dans la Substance "et dans la Forme, par un Arbitre, lequel "sera un des Rois de l'Europe; dont le "Roi mon Maître laisse l'Election, en "entier, à Sa Majesté Britannique: car "il suffit à la Justice inalterable du "Monarque Espagnol, qu'il y ait une Tête "Couronnée, qui, bien informée des Faits, "en decide comme Elle le trouvera juste."

2nd.— "L'on offrira la Satisfaction "juste et convenable, toutefois que dans "le progrès d'une Negotiation qui devra "être entamée, il ne resultera pas des "Faits qu'il n'est pas juste qu'elle soit "donnée, ou que la Grande Bretagne n'a "point pû l'exiger, n'y ayant eu d'Injure "portée à Son Pavillon."

3rd.— "Que la dite Satisfaction sera

donnée

"donnée, pourvû qu'il ne s'en suive pas que
"l'Espagne auroit renoncée aux Droits qui
"lui appartiennent dans cette affaire, non
"plus qu'au Droit qu'Elle auroit d'exiger
"de la part de la Grande Bretagne une
"Satisfaction Egale ou Equivalente, s'il
"étoit demontré dans une Negotiation
"Amicale, que le Roi est dans le cas de
"la demander, pour l'Aggression et
"l'Atteinte reelle et veritable d'une
"Usurpation de Territoire Espagnole en
"Contravention aux Traités."

The Count concluded his Letter by saying, that the Court of St. James's might chuse which of these Three Explanations or Additions to the proposed Declaration She preferred, or All of them if She thought proper; pointing out any Difficulty which might arise, or suggesting any other Mode, which She might conceive to be more honorable, reciprocal, or likely to conduce to a Peace equally desireable by all.

On this Letter Mr. Fitz Herbert observed,

observed, that the Mezzo Terminis, thus — — submitted to His Majesty's Option, were in his opinion Inadmissible, as resting alike on one and the same Erroneous Principle. He conceived however that there were certain Expressions in this Paper, which seemed to corroborate a Surmize strongly current at Aranjuez, that the Court of Spain — (from whatever reasons) was become sincerely desirous of an Accommodation, provided it could be accomplished on Terms not incompatible with what they considered as their Point of Honor: though his Excellency thought that this Conjecture carried little weight with it, when opposed to the various and almost irrefragable proofs, which the Spanish Court continued to furnish of a Contrary Disposition. In pursuance of this idea, his Excellency expressed his Determination, should any Instructions be on their way from England tending to bring the depending Dispute to an Immediate and Speedy Issue, not to delay the Execution of those Commands, in

expectation

expectation of any Answer from the Duke of Leeds on the subject of the above Letter.

M. FitzHerbert also mentioned, that the Naval Arrangements throughout Spain were going on with the most unremitting activity; and that an attempt had been made, on the 18th Inst., to assassinate Count Florida Blanca, by a Frenchman of the name of Perez, who had slightly wounded him in two places with a Stiletto, and had afterwards, on being apprehended, attempted to kill himself.

His Majesty's Ministers, being now in possession of the Spanish Pretensions, and of the Terms which that Country proposed as the Condition of acceding to the Preliminary Demand of Satisfaction made by His Majesty, lost no time in taking this important business into consideration, and in preparing such an Answer as the occasion required. On the 5th of July the Messenger Dessins was again dispatched to Madrid with Instructions to M. FitzHerbert, containing the Determination of His Majesty on the depending business, and Drafts of the Declaration and Counter: Declaration to be delivered by Count

Florida

Florida Blanca and his Excellency, in case the Court of Spain should think proper to acquiesce in His Majesty's just Demand.

In the First of these Dispatches, Mr. Fitz Herbert was informed, that the Answer to the Paper delivered to Mr. Merry on the 4th. of June was delayed, in the hope that his Excellency might, on his arrival, be enabled to transmit some more satisfactory communication: that it was now thought right, on full consideration, to instruct his Excellency to deliver the inclosed Memorial, insisting upon His Majesty's Demand of Satisfaction (of which a fuller Detail will be given) That, though the Spanish Claims did not appear to be capable of being sustained on the grounds of reason or justice, even with a view to Subsequent Negotiation, His Majesty would nevertheless be willing, when the Satisfaction should once be given, to enter on a fair and temperate Discussion of them, and of every thing which the Court of Spain might be able to alledge, so far as they rest on grounds distinct from That on which the Question of Satisfaction itself necessarily depends.

It was further stated, that, as His Majesty considered

considered the Giving the Satisfaction must amount to an admission, that the Court of Spain was Not in possession of an Actual, Known, and Acknowledged Sovereignty and Dominion at Nootka, which could justify detaining the Ships of Other Nations, in order to condemn them in the regular course of judicial proceeding, for a violation of established laws, founded either on the Stipulations of Treaties, or on the General Rights of Sovereignty; no Subsequent Discussion could therefore take place on this point, after the Satisfaction had been given. That, if the Court of Spain were able to prove that Nootka was, at the time of the Seizure, in the Predicament above stated, the Time for offering such Proof must be Before the Point of Satisfaction is settled; as it would, if established, remove the Ground on which the Demand of Satisfaction was originally made, and was now insisted upon. But it was evident, from all the circumstances preceding and attending the Transaction, even according to the Spanish Statement of it, as well as from the Nature of their Allegations, that No such Proof could be

adduced;

adduced; and therefore the Satisfaction was insisted upon.

The Duke of Leeds added, that any other Grounds of Claim, founded on anything short of such an Actual, known and Established Possession of Sovereignty and Jurisdiction as before described, would be still open to Discussion, and would in no degree be precluded by the Satisfaction. That all the Grounds referred to in the Answer delivered by Count Florida Blanca, or in the Paper delivered by the Marquis Del Campo, appeared to fall under this description: that therefore there could be no objection to Mr. Fitzherbert's stating these notions as expressly and distinctly as possible, either in Conversation or in writing, to the Spanish Minister: that it was to be wished that, after such an Explanation, the Spanish Court might be induced to give the Satisfaction demanded, without inserting in the Declaration for that purpose any words of Reference to the Claims to be afterwards brought forward, on the Principles before stated, in the Subsequent Negotiation. Mr. Fitzherbert however was informed, that,

if

if he should find the Spanish Court could not be induced to make the Declaration required without some words Expressly Reserving the Future Discussion of their Claims, His Majesty, from a desire to go as far as possible towards an Accommodation, would not object to words being added for this purpose, provided they were such as were consistent with the before-mentioned ideas, and not in any degree implying that the Claims Reserved could affect the Ground on which the Satisfaction was given. A Declaration and Counter-Declaration, drawn up on this Principle, were inclosed to his Excellency, both of which will be given at length at the Conclusion of the Detail of this Dispatch.

M. FitzHerbert was further informed, that His Majesty had been induced to authorize him, in case the Satisfaction could not be otherwise obtained, to propose exchanging the Declarations in this form, as approaching, in some degree, to One Part of the Third Expedient stated by Count Florida Blanca in his Letter of the 18th of June, and which was the Only part of what

was

was there proposed which was considered as being in any respect admissible: that the Expressions were however different from those proposed by Count Florida Blanca in the beginning of his Third Proposal; — because the General Expressions "Aux — "Droits qui lui appartiennent dans ces — "affaires" might go beyond the Principles explained in this Dispatch, and might be supposed to reserve the Discussion of the Grounds on which the Satisfaction, was required.

The Duke of Leeds further stated, that the Latter part of Count Florida Blanca's Proposal, relating to a Right to claim Reciprocal Satisfaction, was Wholly Inadmissible; it being impossible for His Majesty to admit, as a Qualification of the Satisfaction to which He was clearly intitled, a Claim which appeared Inconsistent with the very Principles on which the — Satisfaction was demanded: that, at the same time, there could be no difficulty in His Excellency's stating to the Spanish — Minister the Ground on which this was

objected

to the Representation made by that Minister, in His Majesty's Name, having been laid before The King, the Undersigned (&c. &c. &c.) is directed to Represent to the Court of Madrid, that His Majesty has seen with concern, that the Paper in question does Not offer That Satisfaction which His Majesty had demanded, and which He had so just a Title to expect.

Neither does That Paper contain any just or sufficient Ground for delaying a Compliance with That Demand, or for referring it to Subsequent Negotiation. Whatever the Pretensions may be, which Spain may think Herself justified to advance with respect to Nootka Sound, founded either on an Alledged Prior Discovery, or on the Application of the General Words of Former Treaties to that particular place, it is clear that She had not such an Established Possession and Acknowledged Dominion there, as could alone justify the Seizure of the British Vessels. A Right to proceed in that manner, in the First instance, could, according to the Law of Nations, result only from a Right of Territory, manifested by Open Possession,

and

objected to, and at the same time assuring him there never could be a doubt, but that, whenever any case should arise, of a nature similar to that on which His Majesty's Claim of " " Satisfaction was made, His Majesty's Justice would not refuse to the Court of Spain, or to any other Power, a Satisfaction similar to That now demanded by Him.

With regard to the First and Second of the Proposals made by Count Floridablanca, Mr. Fitzherbert was informed they were such as could not be adopted; the Idea of an Arbitration, on a subject of this nature, being entirely out of the question; and as a Reservation, such as That contained in the Second Proposal, would render the " " Satisfaction Nugatory, as it would refer to Subsequent Discussion the very Grounds on which That Satisfaction was demanded.

Omit

The following is the Memorial contained in the Preceding Dispatch.

The Paper transmitted by Count Floridablanca to Mr. Merry, in Answer to

and by the Actual Exercise of His Catholic Majesty's Authority and Laws therein; and this confirmed by an Express or Tacit Acknowledgement of Other Nations.

That No such Established Possession or Jurisdiction existed at Nootka, at the Time when the Transaction in question took place, is manifest, both because His Majesty's Subjects, and those of Other Nations had, for several years previous to that time, frequented that place, and carried on an uninterrupted Commerce with the Natives; and because the Statement given of this affair, by the Court of Spain itself, proves that it was not till a few Days before the Capture, that the Spaniards attempted to make a Settlement there.

Under these Circumstances, the Pretensions of Spain, of whatever nature they might be, ought evidently to have been the subject of Amicable Representation, in the first instance, and can, in no degree, afford a Justification for an Act of Violence, like that of which His Majesty now complains.

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The Honor of His Majesty's Crown makes it necessary therefore that This Act should be Immediately and Compleatly done away, before Any Negotiation can take place with a view to a Future Adjustment of the Claims and Interests of the Two Nations in that part of the World. This cannot be considered to have been effected by the Restitution of the Vessels stated to have been ordered by the Viceroy of Mexico; because it appears that such Restitution has been only Conditional, and unaccompanied by Sufficient Indemnification to the Parties Injured; and because this Act includes No Reparation on the part of the Court of Spain for the Insult offered to the British Flag by the Seizure and Detention of British Vessels. His Majesty therefore finds Himself obliged to renew, in the most Direct and Unequivocal Terms, His Claim for That Satisfaction which He has Already demanded, and which can no longer be delayed, without producing Those Consequences which His Majesty is sincerely desirous to avoid.

When His Majesty's just expectations in this respect shall be satisfied, the Undersigned is prepared, as he has already informed

informed Count Florida Blanca, to enter into such an Amicable Negotiation on the subject of the Respective Rights and Interests of Great Britain and Spain, with respect to Territory, Navigation, Commerce and Fisheries in that part of the World, as may tend to prevent all Disputes between the Subjects of the Two Crowns, in the same manner as His Majesty would have done, if Spain had proceeded, in the first instance, in the way of Amicable Representation, instead of having recourse to Unjustifiable acts of Violence.

The following are the Drafts of the Declaration and Counter-Declaration, inclosed in the foregoing Dispatch to Mr. Fitzherbert.

Declaration
to be delivered by Count Florida Blanca.

His Britannick Majesty having complained of the Capture of certain British Vessels at Nootka Sound on the North West Coast of America by an Officer of the King of Spain, The Undersigned (&c. &c. &c.) has been authorized by His Catholic Majesty to Declare,

and

and Declares that His Catholic Majesty is willing to make Satisfaction to His Britannick Majesty for the Injury of which He has complained; and His Catholic Majesty engages to make Full Restitution of such British Vessels as were captured at Nootka, and to Indemnify the Owners for the Losses which they have sustained, as soon as the Amount of the said Losses shall have been ascertained.

It being understood, that this Declaration shall not precludeor prejudice the Future Discussion of any Claims, which His Catholic Majesty may make to form an Exclusive Establishment at Nootka Sound.

Counter Declaration
to be delivered by Mr. Fitz Herbert.

His Catholic Majesty having Declared His Willingness to make Satisfaction for the Injury done to His Britannick Majesty by the Capture of certain British Vessels at Nootka, and the Count Florida Blanca having, in His Catholic Majesty's Name, signed a Declaration to this effect, engaging

also

also that His Catholic Majesty will make Full Restitution of the Vessels so captured, and will also Indemnify the Parties concerned for the Loss they have sustained in consequence of the said Capture, the Undersigned (&c. &c. &c.) in the Name of His Britannick Majesty, and by virtue of the Express Authority given Him for that purpose, accepts the said Declaration, and Declares that His Britannick Majesty will consider the said Declaration, together with the Performance of the " " Engagements contained therein, as a Full Satisfaction for the Injury of which His Majesty has complained.

The Undersigned Declares at the same time, that it is to be understood, that Nothing in the said Declaration signed by Count Florida Blanca, nor the Acceptance thereof in the Name of His Britannick Majesty, shall preclude or prejudice the Claims of His Britannick Majesty to any Establishment formed or to be formed at Nootka Sound.

In a Separate Dispatch, which " accompanied the Preceding, Notice was taken,

taken of the Proposal made by the Court of Spain for a Mutual Agreement to Disarm during the Negotiation. The Duke of Leeds stated, that the Reasons he had given in his other Dispatch of this date were sufficient to shew the Impossibility of His Majesty's " Discontinuing His Armaments in the " present state of the business. That as, should the Court of Spain Ultimately agree to grant the Satisfaction required, it was probable that the same idea of Disarming would be brought forward by Them, as a proper Preliminary to the Subsequent Negotiation, Mr. Fitzherbert was instructed to be " particularly carefull not to give the " smallest encouragement to this idea, as His Majesty could not consent to Discontinue His Preparations, till He should have " secured, by Sufficient Stipulations, the Freedom of Navigation, Commerce and Fisheries for His Subjects, in conformity to the Principles explained to His Excellency in a Former Dispatch.

As this Proposal for Disarming was represented by Spain as having been originally made by Mr. Merry, in his Private Letter

Letter to Count Floridablanca of the 16th of May, Mr. Fitzherbert was desired to observe that Mr. Merry did not, even in that Private Letter, make any Direct Proposal of that nature; and that there was not the smallest ground for stating, that any such Offer had been made on the part of this Court. The Duke added, that he particularly mentioned this circumstance, in order to prevent the possibility of mistake on a point of so much importance.

From the time the Messenger was dispatched with these Papers, to the moment of his return, a period of suspense intervened; during which the several Letters received from Mr. Fitzherbert contributed only to increase the Uncertainty of the Spanish Determination, which his preceding Dispatches had occasioned.

In the First of these, dated at Aranjuez the 24th of June, His Excellency informs the Duke of Leeds that, though Count Floridablanca was so far recovered, as to be able to transact business with the King, and was expected immediately to resume the

the duties of his office, His Excellency had had no opportunity of conversing with him on business, and that he seemed resolved not to enter into any further Explanation, till he should be apprized of the sentiments of His Majesty's Ministers on his Memorial of the 4th Inst.

With respect to the Overture which Count Floridablanca might have conveyed to the American States, Mr. Litzberbert had not been able to learn anything — positive. He was however confident, that No Communications from the latter had ever been received by the Spanish Court, indicative of a Disposition on their part to enter into Terms of good understanding with Spain, either with regard to its present Discussion with Great Britain, or on any other subject. On the contrary, he was assured they had repeatedly manifested toward the Court of Madrid the most marked symptoms of coldness and ill: will; and particularly when, in the year 1787, Count Floridablanca, desirous of making common cause with France in the War which then seemed to be depending, transmitted to the American States

States a Direct Demand of Eventual Assistance, the latter never deigned to return a syllable of reply.

In a Letter dated Aranjuez, 28th June, Mr. FitzHerbert states, that, conceiving the various groundless Misrepresentations of Facts, contained in Count Floridablanca's Letter to him of the 18th, ought not to pass uncontradicted, he had transmitted to that Minister a kind of Provisional Reply to it, together with an Abstract of Capt. Meares's Memorial. Notwithstanding this, the Count still declined to see him on pretence of Indisposition; altho' in fact he was in perfect health, and, besides transacting business daily both at his own house and at his office, frequently made his appearance in public.

This affectation of declining all Communication with Mr. FitzHerbert however at last ceased; and (as appears from a Letter of his Excellency dated Aranjuez, July 1st) an Interview between him and the Spanish Minister took place there on the 30th of June. In this, after waving for the present all mention of the Point of Satisfaction, they talked over (ex ministerially) the Ulterior

Arrangement,

Arrangements which might be necessary, in order to remove every future ground of Misunderstanding between the Two Courts. On this head, Count Florida Blanca declared, that he had been busying himself on a Plan, which he thought would entirely fullfill the Views and Objects of Both Parties, and which he promised to shew to Mr. Fitzherbert — Confidentially on the return of the Court to Madrid, which would take place in a few days. His Excellency also acquainted him, that the Commanding Officers at Cadiz, Carthagena &c.a had applied to the Marine Office at Madrid, for Instructions as to the Conduct they were to observe with regard to some British Ships of War, which had been seen hovering at the Entrance of those Ports, for the purpose, as was presumed, of Reconnoitring; and that, in consequence of this Application, His Catholic Majesty had sent the Strictest Orders to those Officers, as well as to all other Naval Commanders, to conduct themselves with regard to all British Ships, including those in question, with the same degree of Civility and Attention as in times of profound Peace: and Count Florida Blanca also declared, that it was the Determination of his

Court

Count, not to grant Convays for the present to the Spanish Merchantmen.

From what passed at this meeting, Mr. Fitzherbert was satisfied that Count Florida Blanca's Language and Manner were in reality (from whatever cause) far more temperate and conciliating than at the former Meeting; and from this circumstance, joined to that of his having actually prepared the Plan of an Ulterior Arrangement, he was almost inclined to hope that he might have secretly resolved to give way on the Point of Satisfaction; altho' it was evidently impossible to draw any further Explanation from him on that head, 'till the Arrival from England of the Answer to his Memorial of the 14th. of June, which was daily expected.

Altho' this Account seemed to carry an Appearance favorable to the depending Negotiation, that pleasing prospect was a good deal darkened by the next Letter received from our Ambassador at Madrid, dated the 5th. of July; in which he informed the Duke of Leeds, that orders had been issued for the Cadiz Squadron to put to sea at the shortest notice,

notice, and that a List of the Spanish Naval Armaments in Europe and America had been just published at Madrid under the Sanction of Government. As this was a step entirely inconsistent with the Natural Reserve of the Spanish Court, Mr. Fitz Herbert was unable to attribute it to any thing except the extreme Anxiety of Count Florida Blanca to inspire Confidence into the Public at large at a moment of alarming Crisis. And he was confirmed in this opinion by finding that, conformably to the same system, he had affected to communicate, with the utmost seeming freedom and confidence, with many Principal Persons at Madrid, on the subject of the Measures adopted by Great Britain, and of the Incident which led to them. By such artifices, and by the Circulation of a number of False and Exaggerated Representations of the British Demands, the Public in general seemed to be pretty well reconciled to the prospect of a Rupture; though several well-informed persons considered these Hostile Appearances as merely a Political Refinement, calculated to conceal the Minister's Intention of Complying Ultimately

with

with His Majesty's Demand, rather than hazard the consequence of a Rupture.

While Mr. Fitzherbert was thus in a state of suspence as to the real intentions of the Spanish Court, Count Florida Blanca, on the 9th of July, thought proper to send him a Letter; in which he informed him, that the King of Spain having received Positive News of the English Fleet having sailed from Portsmouth on the 28th or 29th of June, with a considerable number of Ships and Frigates, His Catholic Majesty had ordered His Fleet to go out likewise, with express Injunctions however not to commit the least hostility unless it should be attacked. This occurrence the Catholic King had directed His Minister to communicate to Mr. Fitzherbert, as an Evidence of His well known good faith; with an Assurance that there would be no alteration in His desire to terminate Immediately the Existing Disputes by means of an Amicable Negotiation; for which purpose Count Florida Blanca desired to see Mr. Fitzherbert the next day at his office, when he promised to mention to him all the King of Spain's Intentions in regard to the Mode of speedily finishing the Negotiation.

Negotiation.

In consequence of this invitation, Mr. Fitzherbert had an Interview with the Spanish Minister on the 10th, when the Count opened to him his ideas respecting an Arrangement of the several Objects in litigation; and confided to him a Paper of loose notes, in his own hand writing, from which he extracted the following outline of his Plan.

1st — That Spain shall retain the Exclusive Possession of the Whole Coast of North West America, from California up to and including the Port of Nootka.

2nd — That, from Nootka to Lat: 61° North, which is stated as the Limit of the Spanish Discovery in that quarter, the Subjects of Great Britain shall enjoy, in common with Spain, the Right of Trading and forming Establishments; but that, from Lat: 56° downwards, this Right is not to extend beyond a certain number of Leagues Inland, in order to avoid interference with the Spanish Mission.

3rd — That the Subjects of Great Britain shall enjoy the Right of Fishing in the South Sea and Magellanick Region, together with that of Landing and Erecting Occasional

Buildings

Buildings in such unsettled Islands or Parts of the Coast as should be agreed upon: but that they should not land, or even approach, within a certain distance of any Spanish Settlement.

4th That, as by means of such an arrangement, the Two Crowns would avoid all Discussion of the Respective Rights, they should also agree to waive the Mutual Demand of Satisfaction; in which case, Spain would consent to pay to the Proprietors of the Ships taken at Nootka the full Amount of their Loss.

On these Proposals Mr: Fitz Herbert remarked, that tho', in their present state, they without doubt were absolutely inadmissible, he was not altogether without hope that they might be finally modified, so as to meet the idea of His Majesty's Ministers, as stated in the Duke of Leeds's Dispatch No. 2.

Mr. Fitz Herbert, in the same Dispatch, informs His Majesty's Ministers, that he had reason to believe the Court of Spain was apprehensive of an Attack upon Porto Rico in the event of a Rupture; in consequence of, which Two Ships of the Line and some Frigates had recently been dispatched from Cadiz

for

for that place, on which were embarked about a Thousand Men; who, with the Regiment of Naples already in garrison at S.t Juan, would constitute a Force of about Fifteen Hundred Men.

On the 30.th of July, immediately after the Receipt of these Propositions, the Duke of Leeds wrote to M.r Fitz Herbert, — informing him that, as the Answer of the Court of Spain to the Memorial contained in his Dispatch of the 5.th Jun.e was every day expected, it would be sufficient for him to say, that the Proposal made by Count Florida Blanca was Inadmissible; as the Satisfaction for the Insult at Nootka must be obtained, before the Other Points could come into discussion; and that the Substance of the Proposal itself also appeared to be Inadmissible as a Basis of Ulterior Arrangements. On that subject however his Grace desired M.r Fitz Herbert to be particularly carefull not to enter into any Ministerial Negotiation, till the Point of Satisfaction should be settled. Should that be done, and should a Negotiation commence, His Excellency was then directed to act in conformity

with

with the Instructions he had already received.

It was not till the 5th of August, that the State of Suspence, in which His Majesty's Ministers as well as the Public at large had remained since the Departure of Dropsins on the 5th of July, was terminated by the Arrival of that Messenger at Whitehall. The Dispatches of which he was the Bearer were dated at Madrid on the 25th of July.

In these M. Fitz Herbert communicated to His Majesty's Ministers the pleasing and important Intelligence, of his having interchanged with Count Floridablanca, on the preceding night, the following Declaration and Counter: Declaration, which he hoped would be found to agree, in all essential Particulars, with the Projets and Instructions transmitted to him on the 5th of July.

Omit

Declaration.

Sa Majesté Britannique s'étant plainte de la Capture de certains Vaisseaux appartenants à Ses Sujets faite dans la Baye de Nootka, située sur la Cote du Nord

Ouest

Ouest de l'Amerique, par un Officier au Service du Roy; le Sous-Signé Conseiller et Premier Secretaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté, étant à ce dûement autorisé, Declare au Nom et par Ordre de Sa ditte Majesté, qu'Elle est disposée à donner Satisfaction à Sa Majesté Britannique pour l'Injure dont Elle s'est plainte; bien assurée que Sa ditte Majesté Britannique en useroit de même à l'egard du Roy dans des pareilles circonstances: Et Sa Majesté s'engage en outre de faire Restitution Entiere de Tous les Vaisseaux Britanniques qui furent capturés à Nootka, et d'indemniser les Parties Interessées dans ces Vaisseaux des Pertes qu'elles auront essuyées, aussitôt que le Montant en aura pû être estimé.

Bien entendu, que cette Declaration ne pourra point exclure, ni préjudicier, à la Discussion ultérieure des Droits que Sa Majesté pourra pretendre à la formation d'un Etablissement Exclusif au Port de Nootka.

En foi de quoi j'ai signé cette Declaration et y apposé le Cachet de mes Armes

Armes. à Madrid ce 24 Juillet 1790.

L. D. S. Le Comte de Florida Blanca.

Contre: Declaration.

Sa Majesté Catholique ayant Déclaré, qu'elle étoit disposée à donner Satisfaction pour l'Injure faite au Roi par la Capture de certains Vaisseaux appartenants à ses Sujets à la Baye de Nootka, et Monsieur le Comte de Florida Blanca ayant signé au Nom et par Ordre de Sa Majesté Catholique une Declaration à cet effet; et par laquelle la dite Majesté s'engage pareillement à faire Restitution Entiere des Vaisseaux ainsi Capturés, et d'indemniser les Parties Interessées dans ces Vaisseaux des Pertes qu'elles auront essuyées; le Sous-Signé Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plenipotentiaire de Sa Majesté près le Roi Catholique étant à ce duëment et expressement autorisée Accepte la dite Declaration au Nom du Roi, et Declare que Sa Majesté régardera cette Declaration, avec l'Accomplissement des Engagemens qu'elle renferme, comme une Satisfaction pleine et entiere de l'Injure dont Sa Majeste

Majesté s'est plainte.

Le Sous: Signé Declare en même tems, qu'il doit être entendu que ni la dite Declaration signée par Monsieur le Comte de Florida Blanca, ni l'acceptation que le Sous: Signé vient d'en faire au Nom du Roi, ni doit exclure ni prejudicier en rien aux Droits que Sa Majesté pourra pretendre à Tout Etablissement que Ses Sujets pourroient avoir formé ou voudroient former à l'avenir à la dite Baye de Nootka.

En foi de quoi j'ai Signé cette Contre: Declaration, et y ai apposé le Cachet de mes Armes, à Madrid le 24 Juillet 1790.

L. S. Alleyne Fitz Herbert.

That Mr. Fitz Herbert had considerable Difficulties to encounter, before he was able to carry this point, may reasonably be supposed. It was not a small one to prevail on the Court of Spain to come at all into a Measure so repugnant to it's known haughtiness; and even after that step was carried, the Mode of giving this Satisfaction

occasioned

occasioned so much difficulty, and Count
Florida Blanca insisted with so much
warmth and Pertinacity upon the Alterations
he suggested in the Wording of the Declaration
sent from England, and particularly upon
Expunging the important word "Injure", both
from the Declaration and Counter: Declaration,
that, for some days preceding his last
Interview with that Minister, Mr. Fitz:
Herbert considered the Negotiation as
almost entirely desperate. As it would have
retarded the departure of his Messenger to
have entered into a Detail of these Circumstances,
Mr. Fitzherbert deferred, till another opportunity,
the laying before the Duke of Leeds a Report
of his Conference with Count Florida Blanca,
previous to the Signature of the Declaration.
It indeed appears, from a Copy of the Counter
Projet which was delivered by Count Florida
Blanca, that he must have had a difficult
Task to bring that Minister to the Point
which he at last carried. In that Instrument,
the Count substitutes for the words "l'injure
"dont Elle s'est plainte" the softer Expression
of "la susdite Capture"; the words "bien
"assurée de la Reciprocité du Coté de Sa
"dite

"dite Majesté Britannique", instead of "bien "assurée que Sa dite Majesté Britannique "en useroit de même à l'égard du Roy." He also deduces the Restitution of the Captured Vessels, and the Indemnification of the Sufferers, from this Principle of Reciprocity, instead of making it a Distinct Branch of Satisfaction, as had been insisted upon by His Majesty; and qualifies the Restitution by adding "si elle n'a pas encore eu lieu"; an Expression which, as has already been stated, could not be adopted in an Instrument of this nature, as well from the Manner, as from the Nature of such a Transaction, admitting it to have taken place. The Count was also desirous of omitting, in the annexed Reservation of Claims, the important word "Formation", and of leaving the Sentence as referring solely to an Exclusive Establishment which had actually existed; an Alteration which would, in a great measure, have amounted to an Admission of that Fact; whereas the Sentence, as it now stands, coupled with the Reservation in the Counter Declaration, is a clear Derelection of that Pretension, and an Admission that an

Establishment

Establishment had been formed at Nootka by His Majesty's Subjects. The Spanish Minister also proposed to add to the Declaration the following Words, which, though perfectly Inadmissible, were undoubtedly insisted upon very strongly on the part of Spain: "Ni servir d'exemple pour les autres Domaines "des Indes Espagnoles, selon la Possession, les "Limites, et les Droits réconnus dans les "Traités avec toutes les Nations, et nommément "avec la Grande Bretagne."

In his Projet for a Counter Declaration, Count Florida Blanca omits the word "Injure", and substitutes the unmeaning Expression of "Faits."

During the pendency of this Negotiation respecting the Terms of the Declaration, Count Florida Blanca delivered to Mr. Fitz Herbert a fresh Paper, in his own handwriting, on the Subject of the Adjustment of the Other Objects in Litigation between the Two Courts, which His Excellency thought it his Duty to return to the Spanish Minister, on the same ground he had returned his Former

Proposal

Proposal, namely, its Inadmissibility.

By this Paper it was stated, that the Principal Points of the Fur Trade on the Northern Coasts of the Pacific Ocean, and of the Fishery on the Southern and Northern Coasts of both Seas, might be agreed upon without discussing or disputing the Rights of Spain, by that Nation granting to England the liberty of Trading from the Latitude of 50 to the North, with a Power of forming Establishments within those Limits, provided they did not descend to the Coast of California in Lat: 49 and some Minutes, where the Port of Nootka is situated, as that Port would form the Dividing Point on the Sea Side of the Spanish Dominion. That the English however should not, on pretence of Trade, penetrate into the Country, either by land, by rivers, or by arms of the Sea, beyond Ten, Twelve or Twenty Leagues. That the Use of the Fishery to the Southward might also be granted, on Condition that it be not carried on from the Straits of Magellan Northward, except at a great distance,

not

not less than Two Degrees, from the Coast. That, from the Straits of Magellan to Cape Horn, the Fishery, and the Use of the Beaches and Bays for the purposes of the Fishery, might be permitted, provided no Permanent Establishments were formed, and that Power be given to destroy those which may be made, as is practised in the Malouine Islands. That the Convention might be reduced to a Detailed Explanation of the Places and Points where this Permission might take place; with a saving of the Rights of Spain, and the Addition of some Precautions to prevent the Fishing Vessels from carrying Merchandize, from suspicious Armaments, and from conveying Supplies of Arms and Ammunition.

Count Florida Blanca took the Rejection of this Paper in good part, and promised to re-consider the subject, and to communicate his ideas upon it in a Shape which he hoped would appear less objectionable. On this promise however Mr. Fitzherbert placed little reliance; though he stated it as his opinion, founded on

on what he had observed of the Spanish Court and Ministry, that, however averse they might be to bring forward on their part any reasonable Proposal on a subject of this kind, they would listen with sufficient readiness to a Proposal of that description if brought forward by Great Britain. His Excellency therefore suggested, that, instead of waiting for any farther " " " Explanations from Spain, it would be advisable to commence the Negotiation, by delivering on our part a Statement of all His Majesty's demands on the Points in question, drawn up in the form of a Regular Projet.

Mr. Fitzherbert declared there was the strongest reason to believe that, whatever might have been the former views of the Court of Spain, their Present Object was to preserve Peace, on almost Any Terms. And, as a Reason why this Sentiment should not be weakened, he stated that, in consequence of some Encroachments on the Territory of the American States made lately by the Governor of West Florida, their Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid had just

just received Orders, not only to Complain to the Spanish Court in very strong terms of those Injuries, but even to give Notice that, on a Delay of Redress, the Inhabitants of those Districts would proceed to do themselves justice by Force of Arms. It is observable, that, when these Dispatches left New York, it did not appear that the Congress was apprised of the Disputes between England and Spain.

In the First Conference Mr. Fitz:-Herbert had with Count Floridablanca after the Arrival of Dressins, that Minister appeared chagrined at his not having received Instructions relative to a Mutual Disarma:-ment, though he did not attempt to " maintain that any Language had ever been held by His Majesty's Ministers, " which could be construed as pledging Great Britain to the Adoption of such a Measure, Previously to the Final " " " Adjustment of Her Ulterior Claims. When the Declarations were exchanged, the " Count observed, that, as the Two Courts were now about to Negotiate a General

Adjustment

Adjustment of all their Differences, he thought it would be advisable that they should agree to fix the Cruizing of the Respective Squadrons within such Limits, as should prevent the possibility of any disagreeable Rencontre pending the Negotiation. To this Mr. Fitz Herbert replied, that he would mention this idea to the Duke of Leeds; but that it appeared to him, that the Court of Spain would do well to provide against a much more imminent danger than that which he had mentioned, namely, some fresh illegal Capture of British Vessels in the American Seas, which was hourly to be apprehended, in consequence of the Unlimited Discretionary Powers to that effect, which appeared to be vested in all the Spanish Governors. The Count " " answered, that Instructions had already been sent to those Governors, to abstain in all cases whatsoever from the " " exercise of any Voies de Fait against British Vessels; and he instanced, in proof of the obedience which had been paid to these Instructions, the case of some

Bahama

Bahama Fishing Boats, the Crews of which had landed upon the Coast of Yucatan in order to carry on a Contraband Trade, — notwithstanding which they had been — suffered to depart with the Vessels — — — unmolested.

Mr. Fitz Herbert informed the Duke of Leeds, that Positive Advices had been received of the Cadiz Squadron having put to Sea on the 20th. of July, and that it consisted of Thirty Four Sail of the Line and Sixteen Frigates, besides smaller Vessels.

With regard to the Persons whose Property had been seized at Nootka, Mr. Fitz Herbert acquainted the Duke of Leeds, that he had received from Count Floridablanca's Office a Packet from Captain Colnett of the Argonaut, dated on the 1. of May from Mexico, and containing Open Letters for the Admiralty in England and for his Owners. By these it appeared, that that Officer, his People and Vessel, had just been released by Order of M. de Revilla-Gigedo, Governor of that Province,

and

and that he was in a fair way of obtaining compensation for his Losses. As M. de Revilla-Gigedo's conduct on this occasion appeared to have been extremely humane and liberal, Mr. Fitz Herbert thought it right to send him a suitable compliment thro' some persons of his family with whom he was acquainted. The Release of this Vessel took place in consequence of Positive Instructions from the Spanish Court (which, from the Dates, appear to have been dispatched immediately after the Arrival of the News of her Capture) and Count Floridablanca assured Mr. Fitz Herbert, that Orders had been sent to Mexico for the Arresting M. Martinez, and bringing him to Trial, for his unwarrantable Conduct towards the British Subjects whom he made Prisoners at Nootka.

These very important Dispatches arrived about Eight o'clock in the Morning; and, at Noon, Notice of the Declaration and Counter-Declaration having been Signed and Exchanged was

officially

officially transmitted to the Lord Mayor of London, the Bank, and the Principal Trading Companies, referring them for Particulars to a Gazette Extraordinary, containing those Instruments at length, which was published early in the Evening.

Wm. Wyndham Grenville

6710

St James's Square 10 m p. M. Aug. 5. 1790.

Mr Grenville humbly begs leave to mention to Your Majesty that as he understood that a Spanish Courier is expected every hour

with

with an account from Count Floridablanca to the Marquis del Campo similar to that which has this morning been received from Mr Fitzherbert, and as it therefore appeared impossible that the signature of the Declaration could long remain a secret, Mr Grenville thought that Your Majesty would approve of his taking upon himself to send the notices which have been usual in similar cases, without waiting for Your Majesty's express

express

Wm. Wyndham Grenville

6710 (2)

express commands: as the interval might have afforded an opportunity for practice in the Alley.

Mr Grenville humbly begs leave to offer his congratulations to Your Majesty on the event itself, which as far as it goes appears highly satisfactory, and seems to offer the most favourable prospect of such an ultimate termination of the business as may correspond with Your Majesty's wishes.

Mr. Secy. Grenville
St. James's Augt. 5th. 1790. 10m. P.M.

answered by an approval
Windsor Augt. 5th. 1790. 36m. pt. 5. P.M.

Sir John Rowe to Hon. Pitt
Enclosure to 7056

6711

Sir

Cheltenham
Aug. 16th 1790.

As my return to London is now very uncertain, it will not be in my power to wait upon you for the purpose of once more soliciting a Maintenance for poor Ralph Kane, whose Services to the Revenue will on a strict Inquiry be found superior to any Man's in his Situation, and who is literally starving without ever having committed any wilfull Fraud or Misdemeanor. His Expectations as well as mine were kept up by the Liberality of the Treasury in making him a Present of Money till his appointment to Stend was finally settled: that Scheme being dropped I do sincerely hope that you will be so good as to give him some Employment; there are numerous Instances of disabled Custom House Officers being appointed to places of Trust and even being reinstated where their Faults have been notorious, and it

is surely hard that this Man, whose
Activity to the benefit of Government
has been the Cause of his Oppression,
should be left a Prey to Misery &
Want. If I have said too much
you will excuse it, and believe me

Dear Sir

Yours & faithfully &c

J. K.

Wm. Wyndham Grenville

6712

Whitehall Aug. 7th 1790. ½ p. 11. Aft.

Mr Grenville thinks it his duty to lose no time in submitting to Your Majesty the inclosed letters from Lord Southampton and Lieutenant Colonel St Leger, together

together with the Petition to which they relate; which papers Mr. Grenville has just received. Mr. Grenville has the honour at the same time of enclosing for Your Majesty's consideration a report of the case in question which Mr. Grenville had received from the Judge who tried the Convict, in consequence of a reference which Mr. Grenville had before made to him. The

circumstances

Wm. Wyndham Grenville

6712 (2)

circumstances of the case appeared to Mr. Grenville from that report to be such as not to justify him in recommending the Convict to Your Majesty as a proper object of Your Majesty's Royal Mercy.

Mr Grenville

7th August 1790

Marchioness of Stafford

6713

Whitehall Augst 9th 1790

Sir,

It is with the greatest Sense of your Majesty's Goodness and Indulgence that I wish to make known to you, what I fear may never be truly represented without my taking this Liberty. I am anxious to inform you how my Brother has been treated by Mr Dundas, and Lord Elgin, the 1st has no view in life but his own Interest, and I make no Doubt for that Reason he has brought in scotch Lords, who in Point of Fortune &c are more likely to be his Followers. Lord Elgin has behaved like a Malign[illegible] — but a Man that can break his Word

and who can act so unworthy, so shuffling a Part is despicable, and never to be trust=ed — the whole of the Management of this Election has been so full of Intricacy and ~~Deceit~~ that I cannot well explain it I will therefore take the Liberty to inclose my Brother's Narative of Facts. and your Majesty will there see that our own Party had raised a Report on purpose to draw my Brother in — they told him that Ad=ministration believed that he had join'd the Independant Ones, & intended to bring himself in with their assistance against Government: He, who would sacrifice his Life for your Majesty said with that warmth which is natural to him that he would vote for Mr Dundas's List, which would prove the

Marchioness of Stafford

6713 (2)

contrary, indeed he did not suspect at
that time that either Lord Strathmore,
or Lord Hopton were to be struck out
of the List, both zealous Friends to your
Majesty & this Administration, nor did
he imagine that he should ever be o=
bliged to give a Vote for Lord Eglinton
these were mortifying Circumstances;
when he was informd he expressd
much disgust, but it was then too late
to retract, for he had given his word.
and the inclosed will prove to your
Majesty how ill he has been used
by these two Men & some of their Party
the Anger, Distress and Mortification all
this has occasiond to my Brother is
not to be described, and I must say
considering that he has the Power to be=

long to your Majesty's Bed-Chamber, with
a good Fortune, parliamentary Inte-
rest & related to the best Families in
both these Kingdoms, that there can
be no Reason but the Knowledge they
have of his Principles, which cannot
be driven to oppose your Government,
and the Desire of bringing in some
scrubs attach'd to Mr Dundas — but is
not Lord Elgin very young to be so
brain'd a Politician! My Brother has told
all his Story to the Chancellor, and I
believe to Mr Grenville, and he has
applied to the first, to use all his
Interest with your Majesty to put him
out of the Disagreeable Situation in
which he now is — The Chancellor has
promised to try, I dare not presume to

6714

add a word for my Brother, I can only say that there is not a man in this Kingdom who is with more Zeal, nor more Sincerity attach'd to your Majesty than Lord Galloway — he is grateful and good, and if I did not believe him to be a most affectionate dutiful Subject, I would not wish him Success, I only wish your Majesty to favor those who are from their Hearts as I am, Your Majesty's most grateful, most dutiful, & most faithful Subject

F. Stafford.

Oh Sir, if you could confer this great Honor on my Brother how happy it would make him! & how thankful would the whole of his Life prove him to be!

Marq.s of Stafford

13.th August 1790

Baron Hardenberg

Aug. 18 1790

6715

Sire,

Si j'ose supplier Votre Majesté de donner un instant d'attention à ces lignes, ce ne sont que la plus respectueuse confiance & l'attachement reconnoissant et inviolable que je n'ai cessé de Lui voüer, qui m'enhardissent à parler à mon Souverain avec un épanchement de coeur et une franchise qui ne peuvent naître que de ces sentimens et de la connoissance intime que j'ai eu le bonheur de m'acquérir de la façon de penser de Votre Majesté & de l'indulgence avec laquelle je L'ai vu souvent entrer dans les interêts des particuliers et même dans les miens.

Je

Je ne puis, Sire, me rappeller qu'avec la plus vive douleur qu'après avoir eu le bonheur de Vous appartenir et de Vous approcher, de tristes événemens me ravirent cet avantage. Peut être ai-je le réproche à me faire d'avoir agi imprudemment alors et de m'être trop abandonné aux espérances de Sauver une personne, dont j'attendois toujours encore ce bonheur domestique, qui de tout tems avoit fait mon idéal favori. Mais j'étois jeune Sire, je croyois ce que j'espérai en vain; mais au moins, j'agis dans les meilleures intentions. Cependant malgré toutes les peines que je m'étonnai, je me vis bientôt frustré de toutes mes espérances. Cette même Personne pour laquelle j'avois tout Sacrifié, après m'avoir arraché au Service de Votre Majesté et de ma Patrie, et troublé toutes les Sources de mon bonheur, ne discontinua pas de me trahir; elle me força pourtant enfin, de nous

Séparer

Baron Hardenberg

Aug. 18 1790

6715 (2)

Séparer. Né avec un coeur tendre et sensible, la passion, le désespoir et l'occasion m'entraînèrent dans une situation souverainement épineuse; des événemens en furent la suite, dont je n'entreprendrai jamais la justification, mais s'il m'étoit jamais permis de mettre tout le concours des circonstances singulières dans lesquelles je me suis trouvé, sous les yeux de Votre Majesté, j'ôse me persuader, qu'Elle me jugeroit avec équité et avec indulgence et qu'Elle verroit que mon coeur n'a pas été perverti. Les suites de ces événemens m'ont fait cruellement souffrir, le malheur m'a donné des leçons utiles, mais je ne puis assez louer la Providence, qui m'a sauvé plusieurs fois dans les momens, où je croyois succomber et qui m'a fait obtenir le bonheur que je désirois si ardemment et que je préfère à toutes les richesses — celui de la félicité conjugale.

Le

Le voeu de rentrer un jour sous de meilleures auspices dans le Service de Votre Majesté a constamment été nourri dans mon coeur ; il y étoit même au moment où je le quittai, il y est encore et j'ai toujours espéré, qu'une occasion favorable me rendroit un jour ce bonheur. Quelque respectables que soient les qualités dont Monseigneur le Duc de Brunsvic est doué, je n'ai pû m'empêcher de m'arrêter avec le plus grand plaisir à l'espérance d'être attaché de nouveau à mon Souverain. J'allai Vous supplier, Sire, de me faire participer de ce bonheur, quand une occasion se présenteroit, que Votre Majesté trouveroit convenable, lorsqu'un nouvel événement eût lieu, dont je prens la liberté de L'informer très respectueusement.

Monsg.r le Duc m'envoya à Berlin, dans un

moment

Baron Hardenberg

Aug. 18 1790

6715 (3)

moment, où Mgr le Margrave d'Anspach avoit demandé au Roi de Prusse un Ministre pour le mettre à la tête de ses affaires. Sa Majesté me fit proposer cette place par le Comte de Herzberg et Se chargea de me faire obtenir le consentement du Duc. Sans que j'aye fait la moindre démarche moi même, la chose a été réglée et le Roi m'a donné une asseurance de Sa protection. Votre Majesté daignera voir tout cela par les Copies ci-jointes, que j'ôse mettre à Ses piés. Je n'ai pû me refuser, Sire, à un changement, que je dois régarder, n'étant pas riche, comme un nouveau bienfait du Ciel, vu que Mgr le Margrave me donne $\frac{10}{m}$ florins par an et je me flatte, que Votre Majesté ne me desapprouvera pas et me donnera Son gracieux consentement. Mais mon coeur n'en reste pas moins pénétré du désir dont j'ai fait mention plus haut,

ce

Barou

ce n'est qu'avec peine et dans la persuasion, que Votre Majesté ne voudroit et ne pourroit me réplacer dans ce moment au Service de ma Patrie, que j'ai pu me résoudre à m'en éloigner encore plus. J'entre dans une carrière inconnue et difficile, peut-être très épineuse; ce n'est que la raison qui a pu me porter à la suivre.

Conservez moi — et si j'avois eu le malheur de les perdre — rendez moi Vos bonnes graces, Sire! Si d'après Votre Sagesse et Vos anciennes bontés pour moi, Vous pouvez un jour me réprendre à Votre Service, rappellez Vous de moi, je Vous supplie. Votre Majesté n'aura jamais de Serviteur plus zélé, plus affidé, plus attaché à Sa Personne et à Ses interets et quelles que seroient mes rélations avec un Prince étranger, que pourroit elles être en comparaison de celles que j'ai envers mon

Souverain

Baron Hardenberg

Aug. 18 1790

6715 (4)

Votre
dans ce
résoudre
une
incense; ce
la suivre.
eur de les
Sire! Si
tés pour
tre service,
Votre Majesté
tidé, plus
nelles que
, que peuvent
envers mon
Souverain

Souverain, qui m'honora de Ses bontés particulières et de mes obligations envers Lui et ma Patrie? Qui me blameroit de préférer ces considérations à toute autre? Je paroîtrai peut-être indiscrêt ou arrogant de parler à Votre Majesté de la façon dont je souhaiterois préférablement de La Servir, mais la conviction entière que j'ai, que Vous n'expliquerez pas ainsi un pâs, Sire, qui ne part que de mon attachement pour Vous et pour ma Patrie et qui n'est que le fruit de ma confiance en Votre Majesté et de la sincerité que je préfère à tous les détours, l'emportent sur cette considération. Je servois au comble de mes voeux, S'il plaisoit à Votre Majesté de m'appeller un jour en Angleterre; je croirois pouvoir Lui donner dans ce poste, les preuves les plus éssentielles de mon Zèle et quelques raisons, qui n'échapperont pas à la

pénétration

pénétration de Votre Majesté, qui s'opposeroient peut-être à mon emplacement à Hannovre, n'existeroient point à Londres. Si Votre Majesté ne me juge pas fait pour cette place, je La Supplie de me pardonner de l'avoir nommée et de n'envisager en général le contenu de cette lettre que comme la preuve la plus évidente de la profonde vénération et de la confiance que j'ai pour Sa Personne.

Je suis avec le plus profond respect,

Sire,

De Votre Majesté,

au Hardenberg le 18 d'août 1790

le très humble, très obéissant et très soumis Serviteur et fidèle Sujet
Charles de Hardenberg

Enclosure

6716

I. Extrait d'une lettre du Comte Herzberg à S. A. S. Msgr: le Duc de Brunsvic, de Reichenbach le 18. de Juil: 1790.

J'ai lieu de croire, que V. A. S. est déja informée par Mr: de Feronce, que Msgr: le Marggrave d'Anspach ayant demandé au Roi de lui procurer des Ministres à la place de ceux que ce Prince a congédiés, S. M. lui a fait proposer entre autres Mr: le Baron de Hardenberg, Conseiller privé au service de V. A. S. Msgr: le Marggrave a accordé à Mr: de Hardenberg des conditions fort avantageuses, et le Roi lui a assuré sa protection dans le cas que V. A. S. lui accordat son congé de bonne grace. Je suis donc chargé de demander à V. A. S. si Elle consent à ce changement, et si Elle veut bien accorder un congé gracieux et honorable à Mr: le Baron de Hardenberg. Je puis assurer, que ce Ministre n'a pas recherché ce changement de service.

II. Réponse de S. A. S. Msgr: le Duc de Brunsvic à S. E. Mr: le Comte de Herzberg, de Frankenstein ce 18. Juil: 1790.

J'ai été prévenu par Mr: de Feronce des intentions du Roi rélativement à Mr: de Hardenberg. Je dois considerer sa rétraite du maniement des affaires de Brunsvic comme

une perte très essentielle. Mon respectueux attachement aux interêts de S. M. et mon abandon entier à ses volontés me font rénoncer cependant aux talens et aux mérites d'un Ministre que j'estime infiniment. C'est en conséquence d'un sentiment si profondement gravé dans mon coeur, que je vais écrire à Brunsvic pour faire expedier à ce Ministre un congé tel que les services distingués qu'il a rendu au païs de Brunsvic et à moi peuvent exiger.

III. Königliche Verfügung, d. d. Schönwalde d. 20. Jul. 1790.

Da der bisherige in herzoglich Braunschweigischen Diensten gestandene intimliche Geheimenrath Hr. von Handenberg in die Dienste des Hr. Markgrafen von Ansbach-Bayreuth. Quelzbach als intimlicher Geheimenrath und Minister unter Ihrer Vermittelung tritt; so versichern Wir hiedurch, daß Wir nicht allein obgedachten Geheimenrath Hr. von Handenberg Ihrem Schutz und beistand in allen billigen Dingen jederzeit angedeihen lassen wollen, sondern daß Wir auch, wenn eine Veränderung in den

Enclosure

6716 (2)

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20. Feb. 1790.

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Landes Regierung nachgehen sollte, Ihn gern in Unsere eigene Dienste nehmen und dann beibehalten, auch ihn auch alle Art als einen geschickten und wohlverdienten Minister bei Unserer Gnade und Zufriedenheit ungehindert dulden werden. Zu dessen Versicherung Wir dieses eigenhändig unterschrieben haben. Es geschehen z.

Ludwig Wilhelm.

Duke of Portland ? Death of Pce. Frederick, H.M.'s brother, when Duke was Ld. Chamberlain Hon. ? Dec. 30 1765

6717

The Duke of Portland humbly presumes to assure His Majesty that he commands His Majesty has been pleased to honor him with shall be immediately obeyed with the utmost punctuality & dispatch. but as he with all deference apprehends that it may be necessary for him to receive His Majesty's further commands in respect to the appointment of the Chief Officers & other Assistants, as also of those who are to attend as the Household of His Late Royal Highness Prince Frederick

Burke
brother

book which he with great humility presumes to
represent to His Majesty will require some
dispatch he humbly begs leave to ask His
Majesty's pleasure in what manner & at what
time His Majesty will permit him to receive
His Royal Commands upon this subject.

Grosvenor Street
Monday 1 o clock P. M.

Duke of Portland ? Death of Pce. Frederick, H.M.'s brother, then Duke of Gld. Chamberlain Hon. ? Dec. 30 1765

6717 (2)

The Duke of Portland

?date

Sir Banks den
September 7. 1790

(Frecheville)

6718

Sir.

Nothing but your Majesty's Indulgence and great Goodness to me at all times; but more particularly the very gracious Manner in which you condescended to receive my last Application to you, could embolden me, once more, to take this Liberty. At that time your Majesty was pleased to bid me speak freely, and to mention anything particular that I might have in View, and which I wished for my Son. Perfectly relying on your Majesty's great Goodness to me, and your gracious Expressions of intending to do something for him, I did not intend to make any farther Application to you: But, Sir, from these Encouragements, and your kind Order to mention

anything

anything I might wish for him, I do now most humbly presume to mention the Place of Groom of your Bedchamber when a Vacancy may happen. Shou'd your Majesty deign to think him worthy of so great Honour, it wou'd make Him, & me (and I will venture to add Mr. Carpenter, as well as all her Family and Friends) completely happy: and I flatter myself, Sir, that my Son, by his prudent Conduct, wou'd render himself worthy of so honourable a Mark of your Majesty's Notice and Favour. One more begging your Majesty's Pardon for this Intrusion, I subscribe myself

Sir, with invariable Constancy,

your Majesty's faithful Subject

most devoted & most obedient

humble Servant

Frederick Ramsden

Pontefract Sep:r 7.th

1790.

Sir Geo. Yonge

6719

Hampton Court
Sept.r 16. 1790
Thursday 9. o'clock
A. M.

Sir George Yonge has the Honor to inform Your Majesty of the Death of Lieutenant General, The Honorable Philip Sherard, Colonel of the 69.th Regiment of Foot

A List has lately been submitted

and left with Your Majesty of the Names of Officers applying for Regiments. The most pressing seem to be an earnest Request of the Earl of Harborough, That Major General Morgan of the Foot

Sir Geo

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Sir Geo. Young

6719 (2)

Guards may succeed His Uncle in the Command of the Regiment, and the Memorial of Major General Abercrombie, whom Your Majesty lately directed to be appointed of an Early Mark of Favour.

Sir Geo: Yonge
16th Septr. 1793

Hm. H. Grenville

6720

Whitehall Oct.r 1. 1790. 10. P.M.

Mr. Grenville begs leave humbly to submit to Your Majesty, that it appears that it would be proper that directions should be sent to Cork that the thirteenth and fifteenth Regiments of Infantry which are now embarked on board Your Majesty's

Ships

Ships Chichester, Dover, and Sheerness, should proceed immediately to Barbados: And also that the sixteenth Regiment of Infantry now at Cork should be completed by drafts to the same Establishment as the other two, and sent also to Barbados, as soon as Ships can be sent round for that purpose.

It seems extremely desirable considering the present season of the Year that these measures should now be taken, if Your Majesty should approve of them, in order that a sufficient force should be assembled

there

Hm. H. Granville

6720 (2)

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there to act on the first account of hostilities.

Mr. Greenville
to
1st October 1790

Abbey Mr Fitz Herbert to Duke of Leeds

6721

Private & Confidential

Madrid Tuesday October 5th 1790.

My Lord

In order to satisfy fully the Queries contained in one of Your Grace's late private Letters respecting Count Florida Blanca's personal Situation, and the Interest that we may have in his continuing to hold his present Employment, or otherwise, — I find it necessary to trouble you with some Description of the Interior of this Court, and of the State of the different Parties by which it is at present divided.

The Character of the King of Spain seems in many Respects, to bear a strong Resemblance to that of his late Father, and of his Brother the King of Naples. He is certainly not deficient in Point of natural Understanding, but the Impatience of his Temper, joined to a neglected Education, and long-confirmed Habits of Idleness & Dissipation, renders him incapable of any close or serious Attention to Business, which He therefore leaves almost entirely to his Ministers, passing nearly the whole of his Time in

Field

His Grace the Duke of Leeds &c &c &c

Field Sports and Exercises. In general, his Notions of Government appear to reduce themselves to a bigotted Attachment to that System of Civil & Ecclesiastical Despotism which has so long prevailed in this Country; but, as far as these Prejudices will admit, He is upright & well meaning; has moreover the Merit of being remarkably constant in his Attachments; and though, as I have said, hasty in his Temper, He is at the same Time generous, frank, & undissembling, and a professed Enemy to Characters of a different Description. It is chiefly through the dexterous Management of these marked and leading Qualities and Foibles of the Spanish Monarch, that the Persons about Him continue to direct his Conduct so as to suit their own Views; & nobody possesses this Talent in a higher Degree, or turns it to more effectual Purpose than the Queen his Consort. This Princess, who is of a very haughty, domineering Spirit, and possesses a quick Perception, & a great Activity of Mind, would probably have taken a leading Share in publick Business, had the King her Husband succeeded to the Throne some years earlier

earlier; but as, during the life Time of the late Monarch, She was debarred of all Opportunity of acquiring any Knowledge of State-Affairs, her Propensities took and have retained a different Turn: in consequence of which the Use that She has hitherto made of her unbounded Credit with the King, has been confined chiefly to the securing to Herself a free and undisturbed Intercourse with her Favourites; to the obtaining Honours and Employments for them, for their Relations; and for her own immediate Dependants; (which latter are chiefly Italians) and lastly to the procuring large Supplies of Money for her personal Expences; which are extremely profuse, particularly in Jewels, and other Articles of Dress. I shall have to speak presently of the Methods by which She attains the two latter of these Objects; with regard to the first, She has hitherto found Means, by Dint of the most consummate Address & Dissimulation, to persuade the King, not only that her Attachments to her Favourites are entirely of an innocent Nature, but that it is incumbent upon himself, from

a

a due Regard to his own Honour as well as to her's, to prove to the World that he considers them as such, by taking under his immediate Protection those supposed Objects of undeserved Calumny. a Manége, which difficult and extraordinary as it may appear, has been constantly attended with Success, and more especially so in the Instance of her present Lover, M. Godoï, a young Exempt in the life-Guards. For the rest, though the Queen has not yet taken any active Share in the Direction of the Affairs of Government, no part of them is transacted without her Knowledge, as she is constantly present at the Kings Despacho: or Conferences with his Principal Ministers.

Of these the list is as follows,

1°, The Count de Florida Blanca, who has the Title of First Secretary of State, and holds the Department of Foreign Affairs, together with that of the Post-Office;
2°, Don Pedro de Lerena, Minister of Finance;
3° The Count del Campo Alangè, Minister for the War Department; & 4°. Don Antonio Valdès Minister for that of the Marine. Of the two latter it is needless for me to say much

much, as, though respectable in their private Characters, they are neither of them Men of a Business, or of much Interest at Court; and indeed there is Reason to believe that an Arrangement is now on the Tapis, in Virtue of which M de Valdès is to resign his Employment to M del Socorro, as soon as the Latter can be spared from his Command of the Cadiz Squadron.

With regard to Count Florida Blanca, Your Grace is, I believe, already acquainted with his Character and History; however I will just mention, that he was originally bred to the Bar, and was for some Years a practising Lawyer of no great Eminence in this Capital; but, having been employed by the Crown in some Ecclesiastical Causes, he acquitted himself so much to the Satisfaction of the then First Secretary of State, M de Grimaldi, that he was sent Minister to the Court of Rome, as a proper Person, from his Knowledge of Church Law and History, to resist the Pretensions of that See. In this Station he remained till the year 1776, when M de Grimaldi having been obliged by different Considerations to relinquish his Employment, he was induced

induced (chiefly by the Persuasion of M del Campo, who was then his principal Commis) to recommend M de Florida Blanca to be his Successor. The latter therefore was from that Period till the Death of the late King, prime or rather sole Minister of this Country, every Department in the State having been subjected to his Direction; but, soon after the Accession of the present Monarch, he began to find a dangerous Rival in the Person of the Minister of Finance, Don Pedro de Lerena. This Minister was originally a Shop-keeper at Cuenca, a Country Town not far distant from hence, where he had the good Fortune to make Acquaintance with M de Florida Blanca, and to lodge him in his House during the Execution of some Government Business which had been entrusted to the latter in the Course of his Practice as a Crown Lawyer; and this accidental Meeting produced so close an Intimacy between them that on the Count's Accession to the Ministry he took the first Opportunity of providing for his Friend in the Finance Department; and, after various Promotions, finally placed him in the Office which he now holds. Accordingly during the Life of the late

King

6721 (4)

King, M de Lerena constantly paid the most implicit Deference to the Will of his Patron, but there is Reason to believe that he had even then found Means to ingratiate himself with the Queen and her Party; and this Connection has since ripen'd into the closest Alliance, supposed to have been cemented, on the part of M de Lerena, by large Advances of Money from the publick Treasury, together with the Sacrifice, on his own Account, of the Profits on Custom-House Seizures, which, by a strange Abuse, fall to the Share of the Minister of Finance, (though himself the sole condemning Officer,) and which, in consequence of the late Regulations, are said to have risen to an enormous Amount. He is also suspected of having secured each of the Queen's Favourites and Partisans, individually, by similar Means, and particularly by making over to them the lucrative Employments within his Patronage of which they dispose to the best Bidder. But whatever may be the Truth of these Surmises, there is no doubt of his enjoying the Queen's Countenance and Protection in the most eminent Degree, by which Means he not only balances the Credit of Count Florida Blanca, but in the repeated

Struggles

Struggles which have taken place between them, he has constantly gained the Advantage. Of this, a remarkable Instance occurred not long since in the Case of the Department, as it is termed, of Gracia & Justicia, which Count Florida Blanca had held, as ad interim, for many Years past, and which, as its Functions consist chiefly in the Disposal of Church Preferments and Employments in the Magistracy, was one of the chief Foundations of his Power & Influence. M. de Lerena has however, with the Queen's Assistance, obliged him to give up this important Office, and though it is now nominally filled by a M. Porlier, the Patronage of it is entirely at the Disposal of the ruling Party. Since that Event, a kind of Suspension of Arms seems to have taken place; and as Count Florida Blanca still possesses a considerable Share in the Estem and good Graces of the King his Master, who has a high Opinion of his Talents in the Political Line, and who is also supposed to be under a solemn Engagement to retain him in his Service,

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in consequence of a Death-Bed Promise to the late King:— As there are moreover in all the leading Offices of State, a Number of Persons who were originally placed there on M. de Florida Blanca's Recommendation, and who from Gratitude and old Habits are warmly attached to him: And as, besides, the Queen herself is obliged to keep certain Measures with him, being aware that he is acquainted with the whole Detail of her different Intrigues, and has even in his Possession some very interesting Billets in her hand-writing, and addressed to divers of her former Favourites, who were apprehended and sent into Exile by order of the late King:— It appears to me that these Means of Support must effectually protect him from any direct Attempt to force him from his Employment. But I need not say that the same End may easily be accomplished by indirect Means, more especially considering the extreme Sensibility of M. de Florida Blanca's Temper; and indeed, I have been assured from very good Authority that he has of late had it seriously in Contemplation to resign his Office, and to solliciti in lieu of it a Pension and a Cardinal's Hat, with which he

purposes

purposes retiring to Rome, a Place for which he has always retained a strong Predilection.

From the foregoing Relation Your Grace will have collected that M de Florida Blanca's Power and Influence at this Court are now reduced within the strict limits of his own immediate Department; which he moreover continues to hold by a very precarious Tenure. With regard to your other Question, viz, whether it be our Interest that he should quit his Situation altogether, the Decision of this Point may be facilitated by a Review of the Characters of the several Persons who may be considered as Candidates to succeed him, and the List of whom is reducible to the three following, viz. M de Fernan Nugnez new Ambassadour at Paris, M Azara, Minister Plenipo.ty to the Court of Rome, and the Marquis del Campo. Of these, M Azara appears by all Accounts to merit the Preference on the Score of his Political Talents and Principles, but the very mean Estimation in which he is held here in Point of Personal Character would probably form a strong Bar to his Promotion; and I am afraid that the same Objection might

be

be urged, with equal, if not more Force, against our Acquaintance M. del Campo. The Election would therefore in all Likelihood fall upon M. de Fernan Nugnez, whose Character and Talents for Business would certainly render him very fit for the Employment; were it not that he is a professed & zealous Member of that (I am sorry to say) numerous Sect of Politicians in this Country, who hold it as a fundamental Maxim that the well-being and even Existence of the Spanish Monarchy essentially depends on the Maintenance of the closest Connection with France. Now, with regard to Count Florida Blanca, it is certain that far from being a Partisan of that System, he is sensible of its disastrous Consequences, and that even during the prosperous Times of the French Government, he repeatedly vindicated the Right of this Cabinet to think & act for itself in Opposition to the Dictates of that Court. He also appears to me to entertain more fair and liberal Notions than any Spaniard of Rank that I have met with respecting the true Nature and just Extent of the Rights of Sovereignty

claimed

claimed by this Crown in America, and though I cannot speak with equal Commendation of the liberality of his Notions on the Subject of European Commerce, he is at least somewhat less behindhand in his Ideas on that Head, than his Colleague, M de Lerena, and perhaps than the major part of his Countrymen. From these Considerations therefore, notwithstanding all the Faults, Foibles, & Desagrémens of M de Florida Blanca's Character, I am strongly inclined to think that it is our Interest that he should remain in Office; and moreover, if possible, that he should gain a compleat Victory over M de Lerena. And though his Fate in these Respects depends in a great Measure on Circumstances over which we can have but little Influence; yet, as the Credit which he retains with the King his Master is partly founded upon the high Degree of Personal Estimation in which he is supposed to be held by the leading Courts of Europe, I am persuaded that Your Grace has it in Your Power to serve him very essentially, by sending him pow-

time

6721 (7)

Time to Time a few Messages of Compliment through Mdel Campo, who would no doubt convey them in such a Form as would be likely to produce the most favourable Impressions.

I have only to add to this long Letter my very particular Request that it may not be inserted in my Official Correspondence.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect,

My Lord,

Your Grace's most obedient and most humble Servant

Allayne Fitzherbert

Madrid - 5th Oct. 1790.

M. Fitzherbert.

R. 15th

Private and Confidential.

By Wiffin.

Bishop of Worcester
15th Octr 1790

6722 now follows 8223

6723

Hartlebury Oct. 15. 1790.

Sir

I have had the honour to receive two admirable Portraits of your Majesty & the Queen, which, by your Majesty's gracious commands, have been sent to Worcester, to be put up in the Episcopal house at that place.

The Royal Visit of 1788 will long be remembered there. But the impression will be deeper & more lively, now that the Royal Visitors themselves will be present, as it were, to the eyes, as well as memory, of succeeding Bishops.

As for the present Bishop, Sir, your Majesty will permit him to add, that he can never forget this, in addition to so many other marks of extraordinary grace & favour, which

your Majesty has vouchsafed to bestow upon him.

I am,

Sir,

Your Majesty's most obliged & most faithful subject & servant

R. Worcester

Wm. Pitt

Oct. 23 1790

6724

Mr Pitt humbly begs Leave to acquaint Your Majesty that a Book of M. de Calonne's which is to be published in a few days has been sent at his desire to Mr Pitt, with a request that it might be presented to Your Majesty. As such a Work may be interesting in the present Circumstances,

Mr Pitt flatters himself Your Majesty will not disapprove of his taking this Mode of transmitting it. Mr Pitt takes the Liberty at the same Time of submitting the Warrants for carrying into Execution Your Majesty's gracious Intentions in favor

of Dr
To fe
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Wm. Pitt

Oct. 23 1790

6724 (2)

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of Dr Willis and his Sons, which He is sorry to find have by an accidental omission been so long delayed.

Downing Street
Saturday Oct 23rd 1790

Mr. Pitt

23rd October 1790

Mr. Grenville
24th October 1790

6725

Whitehall October 24th 1790 – 10. P.M.

Mr Grenville has the honour of humbly submitting to Your Majesty the drafts of dispatches for Lieutenant General Matthew, Lord Effingham, and Major General Williamson, which he proposes if Your Majesty should approve of them to send

by

by the packet now under dispatch. The subjects to which they relate have as Mr Grenville understands already been mentioned to Your Majesty by Mr Pitt.

Mr Pitt
26th October 1790

6726

Mr Pitt thinks it his Duty humbly to acquaint Your Majesty that Genl Garth has delivered to them a Book containing an Inventory and Appraisement of the Effects at Windsor Great Lodge, which are valued at the sum of Eight Thousand four hundred and forty Pounds. W Pitt

hopes to be honored with Your Majesty's Commands
whether He should transmit the Book for
your Majesty's Inspection, or whether any
other Step should be taken on the Subject.

Downing Street.
Sunday. Oct 25th 1790.

Sir Geo. Yonge

Oct. 25 1790

6727

Sir George Yonge has the Honor to transmit to your Majesty a Paper containing a Plan Proposed for attaching Troops of Colour, adding a Lieutenant

at the same Time from the
Half Pay to each Company
of the several Regiments
Serving in the West Indies
which is Submitted for

Sir Ge

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Ham
Mond
Ten o

Sir Geo. Yonge

Oct. 25 1790

6727 (2)

Your Majesty's approbation

Hampton Court
Monday Oct.r 25 - 1790
ten o'clock A. M.

Ai Geo: Longe.
Ex: 28th October 1790

Wm. Pitt

Oct. 25 1790

6728

Mr Pitt takes the Liberty of submitting to Your Majesty's Perusal, two Letters which He received to day from Paris, one from Lord Gower and the other from Mr H. Elliot.

The Letter went lately to Paris, principally from Curiosity, but before his departure, He mentioned to Mr Pitt, that He had formerly happened to be in Habits of much

Intimacy with M. de Mirabeau, and might probably be able to learn something from Him respecting the Views of the prevailing Party in France on the Subject of the Engagements with Spain. Mr Pitt recommended to Him to be very cautious not to commit any Body by his Conversation but to endeavour to find out whether

Wm. Pitt

Oct. 25 1790

6728 (2)

there was any Chance of making any of the leading Persons see in a just light the Nature of the Dispute between this Country and Spain, and of thereby pre-venting or delaying any Hostile Measures which might be taken by France. The Suggestions in Mr Elliot's Letter seem to furnish Matter for some Consideration.

possibly there may be found means of improving this Opening to some Advantage with a View to preserving or restoring Peace, or to standing any Revolution in France to give actual Succour to Spain.

Downing Street
Monday Night. Oct 25th. 1790

Mr Pitt
25th October 1790

King of Sweden

Oct. 27 1790

6729

Monsieur Montrose Alonsine. Le Colonel Sidney
Smith qui aura l'honneur de remettre celle
ci à Votre Majesté m'ayant prié comme
volontaire pendant le cours de cette
campagne je ne puis le laisser partir
sans le recommander encore extraordinairement
aux bontées de Votre Majesté. La valeur
& les connoissances dans son metier lui
sont un sure garant des bontées de
son souverain sans que j'aye besoin
de pouvoir m'avois pour lui obtenir
les Bontées de Votre Majesté mais comme
rien ne m'est plus agreable que tous
ce qui me fournit une occasion de
me rappeller à Votre souvenir, j'ai
saisi celle ci pour ~~prier~~ recommander à Votre
Majesté un sujet aussi brave que
patriotique

King of Sweden

Oct. 27 1790

Je me flatte que Votre Majesté
dans l'intérêt que je prends en lui
me pardonnera de la haute considération
que je porte à la haute ~~[illegible]~~ que Votre
Majesté conserve avec toute la
gloire ainsi que de l'amitié
particulière & personnelle que je
vous ai toujours témoignées &
de la sincérité de laquelle j'espère que
Votre Majesté en est convaincue. C'est
avec les sentiments & sous de la haute
considération que je suis Monsieur Votre très
de Votre Majesté
Drottningholm ce
27 Octobre 1790.
bon frère cousin & ami
Gustave

Army of Sweden
October 27. 1790