Wellbore Ellis

5712

Sir

Having been informed that my humble application to Your Majesty for the honour of a Peerage with the descent of it after me to my Nephew Lord Clifden and his Issue Male had been laid before Your Majesty by your present Minister, but having been also informed that at the same time a List of some other persons proposed for Peerages had been laid before Your Majesty which has created some Pause, I hope that Your Majesty will forgive me for taking this method of humbly submitting to your Royal consideration some circumstances which may distinguish my case from that of others proposed to Your Majesty

and may, with the assistance of your Royal Favour afford sufficient ground to exempt me from that delay which Your Majesty has been pleased to interpose with regard to others.

I have been in Parliament forty two years, & in this long course of service I can say what few can, that I never was a part of any concerted System of Opposition I can never forget and therefore must not omit on this occasion to recall to Your Majesty's remembrance the high commendations you were so condescending as to bestow upon my conduct when Your Majesty was pleased to signify your intention of using my service in the American Department, which approbation you was so gracious as to express in strong terms not only to me, but of me to others

Wellbore Ellis

5712 (2)

of Your Majesty's Ministers at that time
When the circumstances of the times made it expe:
:dient for Your Majesty to resume those Seals, &
I expressed my fears that I might have incurred
your displeasure in my conduct in that Office
Your Majesty was so gracious as to comfort me
with the assurance of your satisfaction with my
service; and with relation to this favour now under
consideration you was pleased to use these very
obliging words "That you should have been well
pleased to have granted me that Favour if it
had been at that time in your power. In addition
to these circumstances permit me to observe
that I have twice had the honour to serve Your
Majesty in Offices of high Trust and Confidence near

Your Royal Person – That to a person entering his Seventieth year every days delay becomes of consequence – That having been induced to dream that I was so happy as to possess some share in your Favour it is very painfull to be awakened to meet mortification, for surely, Sir, delay in granting a Favour implies Reluctance. Whether any or all these reasons may have any weight with Your Majesty, they are submitted to your Royal consideration with the utmost deference and most profound Respect by Sir

Your Majesty's

Most Dutifull and most devoted Subject and Servant

W. Ellis

After Treaty with America

For covering letter see 6639

THE

CASE

OF

WILLIAM KNOX, Esquire,

Patentee for Life, under the Great Seal of England, of the Office of Secretary of the Province of New York, and twelve Years Under Secretary of State in the American Department;

AND OF

JAMES FORD, Esquire,

Patentee of the Office of Provost Marshal of Georgia, for the Lives of THOMAS KNOX and GEORGE KNOX, Sons of the said WILLIAM KNOX, as stated in their Memorial to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S TREASURY.

THE

MEMORIAL

OF

WILLIAM KNOX, Esquire, Secretary of the Province of New York;

AND OF

JAMES FORD, Esquire, Provost Marshal of the Province of Georgia,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

THAT your Memorialist, William Knox, was Agent for the province of East Florida when he was appointed Under Secretary of State by the Earl of Hillsborough; and his Lordship, as well as your Memorialist, considering the said office as unfit to be exercised by an Under Secretary of State, your Memorialist resigned the said office, upon a grant being made to him, under the great seal of Great Britain, of the office of Secretary of New York during his life, in survivance of the then patentee, George Clarke, Esquire.

That your Memorialist soon after, viz. in the year 1774, purchased the assignment of the patent of the said George Clarke, Esquire, under the great seal of Great Britain, by the payment of the sum of three thousand pounds sterling, and became possessed of the said office about fifteen months before the battle of Lexington, in April, 1775; and, notwithstanding the turbulence of the then times, your Memorialist's deputy, Samuel Bayard, Esquire, junior, remitted to your Memorialist the neat sum of one thousand six hundred pounds sterling, on account of the receipts of the said office, for the first twelve months, after deducting a salary of three hundred and fifty pounds for himself, and paying all the clerks, and other expences of the office. That in July following his said deputy, with all the public records in the office, were seized by the insurgents, and by His Majesty's acknowledgement of the independency of the said province, by the treaty of 1783, your Memorialist's said office is totally extinguished and lost.

That

That your ſaid Memorialiſt had been appointed Provoſt Marſhal of Georgia, by His Majeſty's ſign manual, in the year 1756; and, after diſcharging his duty in that province for ſix years, to the ſatisfaction of the King's Miniſters, and the benefit of the inhabitants, he was appointed by the Council and Aſſembly their Agent to ſolicit the affairs of the Colony in Great Britain; from which office he was diſmiſſed, and hung and burnt in effigy, on account of the part he took in ſupport of the rights of the Crown, and the authority of Parliament, in the year 1765. That he continued to hold the office of Provoſt Marſhal, and to execute the ſame by deputy, after he was appointed Under Secretary of State; but in order to make ſome proviſion for his ſons, His Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed to permit him to reſign it, and to grant it to James Ford, Eſquire, during the lives of his two ſons, Thomas and George, then infants; and a patent paſſed the great ſeal of Georgia in conſequence of His Majeſty's ſign manual accordingly.

That your Memorialiſt humbly conceives that the Royal grants, under the reſpective ſeals of Great Britain and Georgia, veſted in your Memorialiſts a legal and unextinguiſhable eſtate in the ſaid offices during the reſpective lives of your Memorialiſt, William Knox, and of his two ſons; and that the Crown could not cede or relinquiſh the ſaid offices more than any other legal eſtate, without taking upon itſelf the charge of making compenſation to the proprietors for the value thereof. That this has been admitted to be the conſtitutional law of this country, and ſolemnly recognized by both Houſes of Parliament, by making compenſation to the proprietors of all confiſcated property, according to the value of the eſtate of the proprietors; and therefore your Memorialiſts claimed compenſation for the life eſtates in the ſaid offices, by memorials, to the Commiſſioners appointed by Parliament to examine the claims of the Loyaliſts; but your Memorialiſts have heard, with great ſurpriſe, that the ſaid Commiſſioners have wholly rejected your Memorialiſts' ſaid claim of legal life eſtates, and refuſed to report upon their ſaid memorials under the head of ſufferers by loſs of real property, and have taken upon them to claſs offices held under the ſanction of thoſe great ſeals, whoſe indiſputable authority and legal omnipotence have lately been ſo ſolemnly declared by both Houſes of Parliament, with the petitionary applications of perſons holding offices during pleaſure, in which they have no legal property, and of attornies and apothecaries, and others calling themſelves profeſſional men, who, having been deprived of their local ſituations for exerciſing their talents and ſkill, ſupplicated eleemoſinary allowances for their loſs of employment.

But as your Memorialiſts' claim to compenſation is not only founded in law, but ſtands upon a higher authority than any of the claims for compenſation which Parliament have recogniſed, inſomuch that your Memorialiſts are adviſed they would be entitled to redreſs by legal proceſs, they humbly beſeech your Lordſhips to direct the ſaid Commiſſioners of American claims to conſider the eſtates your Memorialiſts have in the ſaid offices reſpectively, as they truly are legal freehold and unextinguiſhable property during the lives of your ſaid Memorialiſts, William Knox, and the lives of his two ſons, and to report the value of the incomes of the ſaid offices to your ſaid Memorialiſts, as they have been made appear to them, by the evidence laid before them, as the amount of the annuities to which your Memorialiſts are reſpectively entitled in lieu thereof, or to appreciate the ſum which ought to be paid to your ſaid Memorialiſts as a compenſation, or purchaſe, of the ſaid income during the lives of your ſaid Memorialiſts, William Knox, and the lives of his two ſons. And your ſaid Memorialiſt, William Knox, begs leave farther to repreſent to your Lordſhips, that as he has had the misfortune to find His Majeſty's Royal beneficence to him and Mrs. Knox, in reward of his long and faithful ſervices, ſo repeatedly approved by his gracious Sovereign, is again ſet up againſt him by the Commiſſioners, notwithſtanding the former appropriation thereof by the Treaſury *, as a bar to his receiving that juſtice which has been diſpenſed to all others, without any

claim

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* The following letter from Mr. Roſe is an expreſs appropriation of thoſe penſions to a compenſation for the ſuppreſſed office of Under Secretary of State:

"SIR, *Treaſury Chambers, March* 17, 1783.

"Upon reading to my Lords Commiſſioners of the Treaſury your letter, dated the 5th inſtant, re-
"ſpecting a compenſation for your office of Under Secretary of State for the American department, I
"am directed to acquaint you, that my Lords are of opinion that you have no claim whatever to a
"compenſation for the loſs of your office, you having already a penſion of ſix hundred pounds a year
"for yourſelf, and the like ſum for Mrs. Knox.

"I am, &c.

"GEO. ROSE."

By this appropriation of His Majeſty's benevolence, as a compenſation for his ſuppreſſed office, the value of the King's bounty was taken from him, as the compenſation he would otherways have received would have been equal to the neat income of both penſions, if the ſame meaſure had been dealt out to him as to all others.

5/13 (2)

claim to particular merit or ſervices, he requeſts your Lordſhips humbly to repreſent to His Majeſty his great thankfulneſs for the gracious marks of favour and benevolence His Majeſty had been pleaſed ſponteneouſly to confer upon him as proofs of his Royal approbation of his ſervices, and which therefore made the comfort and conſolation of his life; but as His Majeſty's great goodneſs to him has been uſed as a bar to his receiving juſtice for claims to a much larger amount than the neat income of the penſions His Majeſty was ſo graciouſly pleaſed to grant to him and Mrs. Knox, he humbly entreats His Majeſty to take back and revoke the ſame; and he humbly truſts, that his having made this reſignation of all His Majeſty's bounty, and left himſelf without any reward whatever for all his long and faithful ſervices, will induce your Lordſhips to place him upon the liſt of ſuppreſſed officers as Under Secretary of State, and make him an allowance for the loſs of the ſaid office, in the manner as has been done to all others, whoſe offices have been ſuppreſſed.

Signed W K
J. T

Their Lordſhips having thought proper to reject the prayer of this Memorial, it is fit to obſerve, that this is the firſt inſtance, and it is hoped it will be the laſt, of a faithful ſervant of the Crown finding it neceſſary to relinquiſh the reward His Majeſty had been graciouſly pleaſed to confer upon his ſervices, in order to intitle himſelf to juſtice from his Miniſters, and that juſtice refuſed him notwithſtanding; but he humbly relies upon the candor and juſtice of a Parliament, which has ſo honourably wiped off that ſtain upon the national character which the miniſterial ſacrifice of the properties of the American Loyaliſts had fixed upon it, for redreſs.

COPY

OF A

MEMORIAL.

Wm. Innes Esq.

Ret Date

Disbursements for Secret Service

5715

Lord Maken	for Westminster			9,000. 0. 0
Sr Wathin Lewes	London			2,000. 0. 0
Mr Whitworth	Stafford	a Bond		600. 0. 0 +
Mr Pye	Berkshire			2,500. 0. 0
Ld. Bateman	for Westminster			200. 0. 0
Sr John Lewis	Yarmouth			2,000. 0. 0
Mr Pauney	Windsor	the Receipt not yet given		1,000. 0. 0
Mr. Mainwaring	Middlesex			1,000. 0. 0
Sr Charles Middleton	Rochester			1,330. 0. 0
Sr Bernard Turner	Southwark			500. 0. 0
Mr Norton	Surry			1,500. 0. 0
Sr Robert Smyth	Colchester			2,000. 0. 0
Mr Mill	Expenses at Saltash			193. 0. 0
Mr Masterman	for Mr Hawkins at Do.			50. 0. 0
Mr Gascoigne	Dorsetshire			1,500. 0. 0
Sr Harry Durrard,	above £1500, paid by Mr Colt for Lymington			500. 0. 0
Mr Waller				600. 0. 0
Mr. Dyllwyn	Expenses at Ryegate			125. 10. 0
Mr Chatfield Turner,	Journeys from Horsham			10. 0. 0
Mr Milward	Hastings	a Bond		1000. 0. 0 +
Do.	Expenses in Journeys			40. 0. 0
Mr. Froggatt	Bill at various Places			195. 13. 0
Mr. Lamb	Journeys from Rye			30. 0. 0
Do.	Additional Expenses there			17. 17. 6
Mr. Lloyd	Bill at various Places			80. 1. 6
Mr Jones	Journey from Heden & Expenses			37. 13. 0
			Carried forward	27,609. 15. 0

Brought forward			27,609 - 15 - 0
Mr. Ellis	Lestwithiel	above £1500 paid to Lord Minto & Edgecumbe	500 - 0 - 0
Colonel Maunsell	Bodmin	to be paid by Mr Steele	2,500 - 0 - 0
			30,609 - 15 - 0

Mr. Milcards Bond for £1000 will certainly be discharged punctually, & the Money hereafter applied & accounted for to such Uses as shall be directed — Mr. Whitworth's is doubtful.

Mr. Benjafield	to reimburse him for a Share in the Morning Post	200 - 0 - 0
Do.	for Expences of various Sorts	110 - 0 - 0
Mr Stockdale	for various Pamphlets & Publications	220 - 10 - 6
Mr Wright	Whitehall Evening Post	100 - 0 - 0
Mr Harris for Mr Longman	to be divided between the Editors of the Ledger, Saint James's, and London Evening	300 - 0 - 0
Mr Harris	for Mr Dale Dudley in December last for the Morning Herald	100 - 0 - 0
Mr.	to be given to Persons for writing in the News-papers	200 - 0 - 0
		1230 - 10 - 6

The first Part of this Account	30,609 - 15 - 0
The second Part	1230 - 10 - 6
	31,840 - 13 - 6
Received	30,000 - 0 - 0
Balance	1840 - 13 - 6

Besides the above Balance due to Mr. A. there are several small Demands which should now be satisfied.

5715 (2)

Issued from the Exchequer for Secret Service between the 26th December 1813 & the 27th of August 1814		500-0-0
Paid to Mr. Buckstock	100	
Paid to Mr. Bunbury	250	350-0-0
Remains to be accounted for		150-0-0

Accounts of Disbursements

Secret Service.

Ld. Godolphin

5716

Lord Godolphin

no Date

Sire

May I presume to make my most humble Request to your Majesty that you will be graciously pleased to bestow the Lieut: Governorship of Scilly upon my Relation Lieut: General Evelyn, which I am emboldened to do as my Family have been in Possession of those Islands by the Indulgence of the Crown for more than 200 Years, and have had the Honour of recommending a Lieut: Governor when Vacant. I flatter my self that having done nothing to Forfeit your Majestys Favour and Protection I may be allowed the same Indulgence that my Predecessors have had, who am with most Profound Respect

Your Majestys

most Devoted
and Dutiful Servant
Godolphin

to the events which happened during a late Administration in Ireland will distinguish that Period in the Annals of the British Empire, It would be inexcusable in the Person, from his situation, most especially interested and actively engaged in that department, not to trace succinctly the principle features of that time, whilst, as yet, his recollection retains a strong impression of them.

Long antecedent to the opening of the Irish Sessions of 1799 that Kingdom had severely felt the consequences of the American War, not only with respect to the Victualing Trade, but also from there existing no longer the same

opportunities

opportunity of advantageously disposing of their wool at a Foreign Market, or of exporting Manufactures to the British Settlements; these inconveniences were exaggerated by the Northern Irish, who connected, as well from relationship as political principles with the Numbers who had for a series of years migrated to America, considered the cause of the Colonys as their own, and encouraged wild Ideas of Independence upon the supposition of the success of that fatal Rebellion. Tho these sentiments in their full extent were by no means general, yet it could not be expected that any Irishman, however loaded, would be zealous for the prosecution of a War from whence he suffered material Inconvenience, and could derive no

possible

possible benefit; fortunately, however, at this time the enlarged benevolence of the British Legislature has created a common interest between the two Kingdoms, and in future the prosperity of each must flow from the same springs; previous to this happy Era, England had dealt with Ireland as an improvident Farmer, who forcing Crop after Crop without attending to the proper culture, or affording the requisite manure, is at length surprised to find that the Soil instead of yeilding further profit, requires Expence even to render it hereafter usefull.

When Lord Buckingham arrived in Ireland it was surmised that his Plan was not only to manifest a disapprobation of the conduct of the

the preceding Government, but even, in a degree, personally to slight his Predecessor; in the latter instance he had the satisfaction of fully removing so illiberal a supposition, and with respect to the other, the proceedings of Parliament must prove how much it was his study to suppress any invidious retrospection; nor did he shew the least want of attention to any of the more intimate friends and dependants of Lord Harcourt, but as they did not enjoy the same extensive confidence, many of them never gave his Administration a cordial support, and their representations, and comments transmitted to England and frequently, perhaps, better attended to than those of the Lord Lieutenant, could not but have disagreeable

publick

publick consequences. It cannot, indeed, be peremptorily asserted that there were such Representations or that they were admitted with predilection, but such Ideas lately prevail'd in Ireland coupled with another, that the Lord Lieutenant possess'd neither the confidence nor the esteem of the English Cabinet; A suggestion most inconvenient in the quietest Season, but dangerous beyond conception at that anxious Period. Nor did Lord Buckingham take up this Idea during the distress of his Government, or from those disappointments which attended his Retreat. His forebodings upon that head were very early conceiv'd, and stated almost at the opening of his Correspondence with Lord G:

Germain

Germain and Mr Charles Thompson. —
In forming his Administration he had
the choice of only two Leaders, Mr
*Tisdall, and the Provost, a very
summary deliberation determined
him in favor of the former.
Mr Tisdall in one of his early
conversations mentioned Mr Hussey
Burgh as the most promising of
all the rising young Men, recom-
-mended him to particular notice,
and, in consequence of Mr Dennis,
then Prime Serjeant, being appointed
Chief Baron, Mr Burgh succeeded,
apparently with general approbation,
to his Office, and every Letter from
England felicitated the Lord Lieutenant
upon the arrangement. Mr Tyler
had also been represented as a
Person thoroughly well informed, attentive
to Business, and endowed with talents
to be

* The Notorious
enmity subsisting
between those
Gentlemen suffici-
-ently evinces the
impossibility of
their Cordial
cooperation.

to be efficiently usefull. This
Gentleman has so well justified his
Character, that I sincerely believe
there exists an impartial Man
in Ireland who will not allow him
to be the Ablest Member of that
House of Commons.
At the eve of the opening of the
Session the account of the Death of
Mr Tisdell was received. Mr Scott
was immediately appointed Attorney
General; the Lord in Pembrokeshire
business naturally devolved either
upon him or the Prime Serjeant,
but Mr Scott declining it, the former
necessarily was called forth.
Perhaps it was most unfortunate
for Mr Burgh to be Bligh'd to take
the first part, before he had acted
for some time under the Auspices of
Mr Tisdell, who learnd from him to
despise

despise equally the sarcasms of mock Patriots within doors, and the censure of the undistinguishing Multitude abroad. As it has happened, however, his nice sensibility, fluctuating opinions, and avidity of popular Adulation have lost, perhaps irretrievably, a most usefull servant to his Majesty and the Publick. In the first Session he repeatedly manifested indications of Wasteriness; a harsher Epithet might too justly be applyd to his conduct during the last. He was indeed greatly offended at Mr Lucius Obrien's having been encouragd in England to expect the Reversion of an Employment which had been officiely stated from the Lord Lieutenant, through Mr R. Nevin, as his Object. This Circumstance might throw additional asperity

asperity into his Parliamentary
conduct, and in a degree accelerate
his desertion, but it can scarcely
be presumed to have determined the
measure, or that any extension
of favour could have firmly
attached him to Government.
Lord Buckingham has been
censured for Mr Burke's Apostacy,
could Kings or Ministers read
the hearts of those Instruments
which they are necessitated to
use, Government would be an
easy task. Such in fact were
the peculiar embarrassments of
his Administration, that it is
difficult to name the Individual,
however attached to his Majesty's
service, who did not sometimes
look behind him. Lord Buckingham
has also

has also been deem'd responsible for the occasional Opposition of Mr Conolly, and of the Duke of Leinster; The First, tho upon Principle a determin'd friend to English Government, is not of a disposition to pledge himself absolutely to any Man or to any measures, he is frequently carry'd away in Parliament by the impression of the moment, and the Vivacity of his Imagination dictates a Language which indicates Sentiments of a country far beyond his feelings or intention. With respect to the Duke of Leinster, His Grace has long been too conspicuous a Figure in the political situation of Ireland to leave a necessity for tracing the waving line

of his

his Character. The latter part of his conduct was steady, he was of singular utility in checking the Public Excesses, and tho the other Great Men affected to despise him and were indisputably jealous of him, yet upon all the latter critical measures, namely, Poynings Law, the Declaratory Act, and the Mutiny Bill, they strongly expressd their solicitude that his concurrence might be obtaind. Surely it would have been most injudicious in delicate times to have refusd partial assistance from those who would not in every Instance act up to the extent of your wishes. As to Mr Richard Power, it may be sufficient to mention what were his own declard sentiments, that, however he might have flattered himself to have been

equal

equal to his situation in common times, yet he found his abilitys by no means such as were calculated for that series of embarrassments in which Government was involvd. This circumstance, and his long, repeated, and tho expedient, unavailing attendance in England, together with the declining health of Mr Waite rendered the Duty of the Lord Lieutenant a species of unremitting Slavery which few Ministers have ever experienced. Sr Richard was continud in Office, after it was signifyd that no Successor could be sent from England, because Lord Buckingham had reason to apprehend the appointment of the only Irishman he judgd qualifyd for the Office would not have fully met

met the wishes of the English Cabinet.

Some occurrences which justly gave great offence and occasion'd serious apprehensions in England, such as the thanks to the Volunteer Companys Voted by Parliament, the Lining the Streets when the Addresses were carryd to the Castle, were merely calculated for the purpose of intimidating the Government of England into concessions, yet the Promoters trembled at the fatal alternative of rousing the resentment of the Mother Country; for, however Sturdy their demeanor and declamations, no Man of common discretion ever thought those disunited bodys could be so found as to resist His Majesty's forces; They also well knew that a Civil War, ruinous in every Country, must prove peculiarly

fatal

fatal in Ireland, where a disposition to pillage, cruelty and devastation is, by far too Characteristicd of the lower Order, little checkd, as in other Nations, by any affection to their Superiors which from local circumstances very rarely exists in that Kingdom. What a Scene the firing of one platoon in Dublin might have occasion'd! French War between the Kings Troops and the Volunteers, the White Boys, Oak Boys, and every other denomination of Ruffians, wasting the defenceless Country, the Capital plundered and in Flames, and a Foreign enemy availing themselves of the Confusion to render the destruction Universal. It may not be unworthy of Observation

that the

that the more discreet amongst the Irish Gentlemen very soon after they had given consequence to the Volunteers grew alarmed at the power they had created, and tho they, apparently, cherished their Corps, would most cordially have rejoiced at their dissolution. As the Volunteers have occasioned so serious an Alarm in England, and certainly, in a degree influenced, as well upon the spirited commercial requisitions of Ireland, and the struggles for Constitutional innovation, as the diffusive conceptions of England, so material a feature in the late occurrences must be noticed. — such an Institution has been supposed by many, who either have had leisure or inclination fully to investigate facts, to be Novel; which renders it necessary

it necessary to premise that such armed
Bodys have at different times
existed, that Sir Ogle a few years
since commanded one, and that the
present Earl of Hertford's Father
raised a Company at Lisbone who
frequently attended him with Drums
and Colours, other instances might
be quoted, such as Lord Mayenne's
& Lord Belgor's Corps during the late
Rebellion. As to the present, their
Numbers would never have been
formidable, nor would they themselves
have suspected that their Institution
could have carry'd any political
consequence if those Numbers had
not been exaggeratedly stated in the
English House of Commons, and
urg'd with more Zeal than sound
discretion as an argument for
Granting

Commercial Concerns to Ireland.
Another very injudicious Step was the sending circular Letters to all the Postmasters requiring them to return an account to the Dublin Post Office of the Number of the Volunteer Corps within their several districts. This measure, taken without the Knowledge of Government, gave great Offence to those Bodys, and obviously impressd them with the Idea of their being suspected and fear'd. But to trace the Origin of their present existence.
Upon the receiving Official Intel=
=ligence that the Enemy medita=
=ted an attack upon the Northern parts of the Kingdom, the Inhabitants of Belfast and Carickfergus, (as Government could not immediately supply a greater force for their

protection

protection that about Sixty Troopers,
Cons'd, and by degrees form'd
themselves into two or three
Companys; the Spirit diffus'd
itself into different parts of the
Country, and the Numbers became
considerable, but in no degree
to the amount represented.
When they increased, discourage-
ment was given on the part
of Government as far as might
be issued prudently at a
Crisis when the Arm and Goodwill
of every Individual might have
been wanting for the defence of
the State. In the interior and
remote parts of Ireland, where
Magistrates are scarce and those
few act with reluctance and timidity,
the Mode of suppressing them must
have been difficult and delicate;

and

notwithstanding the Wisdom and peculiar expediency of the relief given to the Roman Catholicks, the Protestants might with some plausibility have murmured if they had been forcibly prevented from arming in their own defence at the moment when the Legislature was holding out protection to a denomination of Men whom they had so long deem'd their inveterate enemys. Those who consign this proceeding do not consider that without this force the Camps could not have been formed, or the interior of the Country must have been abandon'd to Riot and confusion, and many parts of the Coast left defenceless. It has been alledg'd that Government should have appointed Persons to command them. Any Step of that

tendency would have more firmly
established them; every Gentleman
would have offered himself either
from political views or the
chance of future emoluments,
and the expence of Army Accou=
=trements, and numberless other
Contingencys would immediately
have been thrown upon an
exhausted Treasury. Possibly
such a Step might not have been
strictly legal, as the Military
Establishment of Ireland, by the
8th of George the 3d is limited
to fifteen thousand and odd
Men. By the Act of the first
of William and Mary, the Subjects
of Ireland, being Protestants, may
carry Arms for their own defence
suitable to their ~~[illegible]~~ condition
and as allowed by Law, and it
would

would be a question of nice decision to determine whether they might not be justify'd at a time of declar'd Publick danger in leaving the use of them. The seizing their Arms would have been a violent expe-
-dient, and the preventing them from assembling without a Mili-
-tary force impracticable; for, when the Civil Magistrates will rarely attempt to apprehend an Offender suspected of the most enormous crimes, and when convic-
-ted carry him to the place of Execution without Soldiers; Nay, when in many instances persons cannot be put into possession of their property, nor, being possess'd, maintain it without such assistance, there is little presumption in

asserting

asserting that, unless bodys of Troops had been universaly dispersd, nothing could have been done to effect. It is painfull to reflect from various unfortunate circum=stances, particularly from the immense tracts, even of cultivated Country, where no Gentlemen reside, how disgracefully both the civil and Criminal Judicature is exercisd. That the Existence of these Corps is incom=patible with every principle of a polisd State is a proposition incontestibly self-evident, and tho hitherto they have only exerted themselves for laudable purposes, and may by a very fair deduction be supposd to have contributed effec=tualy to deter our Enemys from Invading Ireland, yet another line of conduct may hereafter be adopted

which

which line too much depends upon themselves. If they however be presumed, that as they were produced by the difficulties of the times, with those difficulties they will be dissolved. Government has been censured for admitting the Rise and Progress of them, yet almost the Universal Language of those who could be consulted, has been, neither to encourage, nor give them reason to apprehend that they were viewed with a suspicious eye; or if any insinuated the expediency of a different conduct, it was either without offering a Plan, or at least such a one as was adequate or practicable. The Writer of these Sheets declares upon the Faith and honor of a Gentleman, after the most mature deliberation, and weighing not only the Ideas

which

which must necessarily have arisen
in his own mind, but also, giving the
fullest weight to the suggestions offered
by others, taking in the situation
of Great Britain, of Ireland, and
the state of her Treasury, her
Military, and the general Temper of
the times, he cannot to this
moment decide upon the merits
how, with discretion, they could
either have been prevented or
dissolved. Disapprobation
has been insinuated at the yielding
to the advice of the Privy Council
in issuing a large proportion of
the Militia Arms to be distributed
by the Governors of Counties at
their discretion. Let it however
be recollected how incompetent
the Irish Army was to meet an
Invasion, that such an attack was
upon

upon every ground of necessity, and from every species of Information to be apprehended, and how far greater a degree of censure would have been incurred and merited, had an unseasonable requisition of the Privy Council been resisted at a juncture when the disposition of the Military was necessarily such that the Crew of a Privateer might have burnt many of the Commercial Towns.

The ascertaining the Number of the Volunteers with any degree of precision is impracticable for the following reasons; that as it is their Object to appear numerous, the Names of Children and of the Old and Infirm swell the Muster Rolls, many Persons serve in different Corps, some in three or four, and some who in their

The United Fleets of France and Spain were at that time in the British Seas.

The Lord Lieutenant had also received positive intelligence from the first Authority that an immediate Invasion of Ireland was intended with a force consisting of 32000 Inf. & 1600 Horse, the only doubt whether the landing was to take place in Galway or near Cork.

who in their own Neighbourhood act as Officers, march private in the Dublin Volunteers. Possibly, at the close of the year 1780, there might actually exist about eighteen Thousand who had been in some degree disciplined.

It may be as well in this place to state the Parliamentary transactions of the two last Sessions distinct from any heterogeneous matter. In 1779, the whole Supply demanded (460000) was cheerfully granted, and the Publick business proceeded without any material difficulty. The Embargo which had then continued from Octr. ye 25th 1776 occasioned great Uneasiness, yet notwithstanding the consequential distress, and that an Embargo had ever been considered in Ireland as a measure most prejudicial, aggravated in this

in this instance by the invidious Report of this having been principally calculated to create a Monopoly for Contractors, the Committee appointed to enquire into it was suddenly dissolved without framing any Report. During this Session the Irish Nation urg'd by its distress'd situation look'd with increasing anxiety for a removal of Commercial Restrictions as opposed to their existence, and towards the close a Motion was made to Address His Majesty for an effectual extension of Commerce.

The desire of this extension was as general and the expediency of it equally understood as in the Session 1779, but the Government of Ireland deeming it by far more eligible to let the concession flow spontaneously from the British Legislature than to carry an appearance of having been extorted by requisitions

by requisitions, resisted the proposition with success which might in some degree be attributed to an Idea generally received, that the Parliament of England would apply an early and an adequate remedy to the National calamity. The Lord Lieutenant in his Dispatches fully represented these circumstances, and repeatedly urged, during the course of the next British Session, the necessity of extending the Trade of Ireland and the alarming consequences which might be apprehended if that Session closed without some material Indulgence. The Parliament however seperated leaving the Wishes of Ireland ungratifyd. The disappointment was universal, the People turnd their eyes to their own Representatives

for

for Relief, and judg'd that they might also find some resource in confining their consumption to their own Manufactures, which Idea was so rigidly adhered to as to effect the Trade of England and especially diminish the Irish Revenue. These circumstances were rendered more materially embarrassing to the Government of Ireland from their Parliaments assembling so long before the expiring Session of G.t Britain; as it was obviously to be foreseen that an extension of Trade would be the first object of discussion, and an amendment of such a tendency attempted to be intro=duced in the Address to the Crown.

In addition to the Lord Lieut.ts Representations, and in consequence of a requisition from His Majesty's Secretary

Secretary, grounded upon an Address of the English House of Lords, the Opinions of several Leading Gentlemen, transmitted by him in the Summer 1799, had so fully stated the situation and sentiments of Ireland, as evidently to demonstrate that nothing could moderate the increasing anxiety of that Kingdom. But decided expectances that in the November following the English Parliament would efficiently attend to their relief. The L.d L.t did not however find himself authorised to encourage sanguine or extensive expectations. In this situation the Government of Ireland deem'd it expedient to preserve to themselves as far as possible the *conduct of a question which they had not the power of resisting, but the Nation had been so long in a state of expectation, that any Idea of procrastination was inadmissible, and the

* By referring the Commercial considerations to a Committee of which it was intended to appoint Mr Foster Chairman.

the amendment inserted in the Address, urging the indispensible necessity of a Free Trade, was carried by an irresistible Torrent. Thus from a chain of unhappy circumstances was that Indulgence apparently extorted which it might have been prudent to have, in part, at least, voluntarily bestow'd. From this experience, Ireland was taught to assume a self consequence which fatally led to further requisitions, and to those constitutional questions which occasion'd such alarming apprehensions. Had the intended favor of England been early determined and communicated to the Lord Lt. as a subject of Negotiation, the Irish Nation must have received it with all effusion of gratitude, as a Benevolence by far exceeding their most sanguine expectations, and

every

every Idea upon speculative points would have been absorbed by a solicitude to avail themselves of that new prospect which invited their Industry. The Irish Legislature however, as has been already stated connected without any interval Information from England, and the the Address for a Free Trade was voted upon the 12th of October, & the Committee of Supply was not opened till the 25th of Nov:ber, yet even then no step had been taken. The only remaining Resource, by which their Representatives could mitigate the increasing anxiety of the People, was that most offensive Vote of a six Months Money Bill; Expressions of such a tendency were sent from every quarter of the Kingdom, and the

Resource

Ld Buckingham has been censured for having no Plan settled previous to his meeting the Parliament. This accusation is almost too weak to merit an answer. The only groundwork of a Plan to keep the Irish Peoples in Temper must have been founded upon commercial Concessions, and no authority was given him to state any.

measure was adopted. When it was after=
=wards determined in England to propose
to their Parliament the Resolutions of
Decbr, neither that determination, nor
the substance of the Resolutions were
imparted to the Lord Lieutenant, who
at length received the Intelligence in
an Official Letter from the Secretary
of State by a Messenger who conveyd
similar communications to the
Chief Magistrate of Dublin and those
of other Towns. The whole cast
of this proceeding was singularly
unfortunate, the most unlimited
Concessions were unconditionaly
granted, without leaving the
least discretionary power in the
only Man from his situation
qualifyd to avail himself of this
extensive liberality for securing
the content & tranquillity of
Ireland

Ireland, and firmly establishing a mutual confidence in both King=
=doms. But to return to the Short Money Bill. Government, convinc'd that it must be carry'd could not but foresee that it would lead to further difficulty with respect to the New Taxes, as the same reasoning would apply to both.* It was suggested by one of their Friends, that those Taxes would produce little for the first half year, that the obtaining a Loan to answer all Arrears, and fully to make up the deficiency of a further half year, would give a greater, more certain, and more immediate Supply, that the Majority against new Taxes would be great, whereas the Loan would be voted almost unanimously if

that

* The Indecision upon the Commercial points.

o Mr Foster.

that Majority was not shewn, but if it once appeard, it might encourage an Opposition to the Loan also. That if satisfactory commercial concessions were granted in the course of the six Months, New Taxes to double the amount would be freely granted, but if no such event took place, the Taxes, be they what they may, would scarcely be received. And, that upon either supposition, the Loan would equally answer every object. Others however judged differently, but the event justify'd the suggestion. The Proposition for New Taxes was rejected by 140 to 47. A full Loan of £150000, was afterwards agreed to.

When the Resolutions of Commercial Indulgence were communicated, the Lords and Commons express'd their grateful acknowledgements in the warmest

warmest and most affectionate terms; the same sentiments were repeated in Addresses to the Throne when the corresponding Acts passed in England. This certainly bore the Crisis to proceed with the Money Bills and to bring the Session to an early conclusion, yet here again delays in England restrained the measures of Government. — In the beginning of January 1780 a full State of every necessary commercial arrangement had been transmitted from Ireland with a System of Taxes calculated as well to regulate those arrangements, as to answer the supply, and conclude the business of Parliament. The Christmas Recess ended and no answer was received; the Question of Poynings and of the Declaration of Rights were then in Embrio; it was

not

not difficult to foresee that, if the material business was not closed before the Lent Assizes, Government would be distressed if not overpowered in consequence of County Addresses and Resolutions upon those points. These circumstances were fully represented. The Assizes came on, and the expected cover==nments were produced. The Question relative to Pozzings was moved upon the 25th of April but fortu==nately rejected in the first ins==tance by 130 to 105. The Declaratory Resolution had been pro==posed upon the 19th and so completely defeated as not to leave any vestiges upon the Records of Par==liament. The Irish business still continued in the same situa==tion in England. Mr Richard Vernon had been sent over very

early

early in March, Mr S: Hamilton had been long in London, but they both returned without conclusion. The duration of the Session at a Period when the Tempers of all Men were in a degree of fermentation was most undesirable, it kept alive popular discontents, & encouraged novel and invidious propositions. The Mutiny Bill had been introduced in the Lords in December, but was rejected almost unanimously, and had not been thought of by the Commons till after Christmas, when, from the vanity of some popular Members, encouraged, perhaps, by late success, it was brought forward. The Question ~~had~~ during the whole period from December had greatly engaged the general attention; the Duty to be imposed upon British refined Sugars,

which

which necessarily flowed from the rise of the Duty upon Raw Sugars, and appeared to many to involve in it the whole of the New Commercial Con=
=cessions. The Principles upon which the Bill rested, and the calculations formed in consequence, had been communicated to the English Treasury in January, the answer was received the middle of May. Factious spirits and Men actuated by local interests availd themselves of this interval by Addresses and Resolutions to give the question a popular importance, the answer from England admitted the Principles but from References, afterwards allowed to be erroneous, laid the Duty so
+low, that tho it was carry'd in the Committee, the clamor on the one side and the

+5s-10d ½

and the want of conclusive argument on the other occasion'd a recommittal, when it was decided in the other extreme. 12

The English Ministry referr'd the Subject to the Board of Trade, who upon mature deliberation condemn'd the low Duty, and reported nine shillings and ten pence farthing to be the just Medium. This was not without difficulty received by the Irish Parliament, and the Bill passed the 15th of August. In this therefore as in other instances the Revenue suffer'd by the delay, as the Duty should have commenced the 24th of June. Upon the 2d of September the Sessions clos'd, and notwithstanding the accumulated difficulties, through which the administration had labour'd, the Parliament in the course of it granted £10000 to be raisd by Loan and Exchequer Bills, they also

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also voted Taxes to the annual amount of £153000, no similar effort had ever yet been made in any one Session, the accumulated Taxes, whether for Loan or ordinary Supply, granted since the Accession of George the 2d do not equal the estimated amount of those now given. All the Sessions of Parliament previous to the year 1763 did not in all their Grants put together charge Ireland with a Debt equal to that of this Session £610000, and there never had been Granted more than £466000, which was in the preceding Session, the first of Lord Buckinghams Administration. In the present great One circumstance is particularly deserving of Observation, that notwithstanding the System of Supply had wisely been confin'd to the providing

providing for any real or estimated deficiency up to the 25th of March previous to the expiration of the Duties, leaving the Nine† Months between that day and the Christmas following to the consideration of the succeeding Sessions, this usage has now been moved, and further provision has been made to discharge all Arrears due upon the 25th of March 1779, with all the Expences incurred from that day to the 24th of June 1780. New Duties have also been granted estimated sufficient to equalise all expences to Christmas 1781, by which, according to the Estimates then formed, Provision has been made in the whole for two years and Nine Months. A circumstance unprecedented.

† This precision is founded upon the Lowness excessive the accounts only to the 25th of March preceding each Session and forming a tolerable estimate for their supply.

The Bounties upon the Inland Carriage of Corn were reduced, which had occasioned a material

a Chattel and already increasing drain upon the Hereditary Revenue.

Bounties were provided for exported Linnens &c, as in England, without any charge upon the Ordinary Revenue, and the Bounties upon Flax seed imported into Ireland were paid to England. Even the Mutiny Act, which had at first occasion'd so general, and so well founded an alarm, was pass'd without limitation, by which Act the Irish Army is allow'd a right to Quarters which it never before but upon a March enjoy'd, and that right is also rendered very extensive, and the conveyance of the Soldiers Baggage more convenient.

The difference of Religion, so long the source of the ~~[illegible]~~ Weakness and the too frequent interior illegal excesses of Ireland

of Ireland, has been so far recorded as to render the most numerous denomination of His Majesty's Subjects, from being the objects of apprehension, the acknowledged friends of the Law and of the present happy establishment. A measure, which the rooted aversion of the Protestants, who could not easily be induced to believe how much the Roman Catholicks of the Reign of George the 3d differ from the Bigotted and Enthusiasts of Charles the 1st and King William's days, together with the warm feelings of some most respectable and leading Men, rendered not the least delicate of those intricate occurrences which perplexed the government at that period. These especial points have all

have all been accomplish'd not only without an increase but with a diminution of expence, at a season when the situation of the British Empire was deem'd most critical, and the fermented spirit of the Irish Nation has been so far tempered and directed as to be at this time subsidiary from Captious Politicks, to Industry, Manufactures and Agriculture.

If any circumstance dwelt upon in the foregoing sheets seems to carry an implyd censure upon His Majesty's Ministers, be it remembered that they are stated as facts, not as accusations. Much obvious Reasoning may be urg'd in justification of the delays of the English Cabinet; The Multiplyd difficulties of the

War

War, the Temper of the Mercantile Towns, and consequently of the British Parliament; Let them be admitted in their fullest extent, still the delay was equally the cause of that series of embarrassments which through a space of more than eleven Months distressd the Government of Ireland.

This Paper cannot with propriety conclude without the addition of a few general words upon the Actual state of Ireland, it wears at this moment a face of tran=quillity, but from the particular circumstances of that Kingdom and the present situation of the Empire, a steady hand and a watchfull eye may be requird, and therefore tho

every

every innovation of the Constitution
should be firmly resisted, nothing novel
must be attempted on the part of
Government, at least not till quieter
times will admit of maturer Councils.

The Octennial Bill has effectually
weakened the Authority of England,
it is indeed a serious evil.

Seats in the House of Commons
become expensive and precarious,
which induce Gentlemen in
moderate circumstances to press
for lucrative Offices, and Men of
large Property to urge their
pretensions to a seat in the
House of Peers; the unavoidable
addition to which body will
shortly increase the demands
upon Government to an excess
far beyond the limits of the
Establishment

Establishment. That Period indeed is already arrived.

With respect to the future Administration of Ireland, one consideration may perhaps be found not undeserving of attention, that tho it may not be advisable to renew the ancient System of Lords Justices, yet there would be material expediency in the Lord Lieutenants being permitted to visit London for a few Weeks during the recess of the Irish Parliament, that he might fully state the situation of the Kingdom to His Majesty and his Ministers, and receive digested and decided Instructions for his future conduct, that he might also cultivate such a Correspondence

with

the Ministers as might be productive of cordial and confidential communications, and obviate the mean Intrigues and selfish arts of little and designing Men.

Tho the success of Government at the close of the Session was, considering the various difficulties which occurred, decidedly compleat, and the Lord Lieutenant had, in consequence, received most flattering assurances of approbation, yet many mortifying circumstances attended him with respect to his contemplated arrangements. The disappointments which many Gentlemen have experienced must certainly in future influence disagreeably.

disagreeably. The failure of two of the most material of those arrange-ments alluded to, may in their consequence be more particularly serious, the one the giving a distinguish'd employment to a Gentleman who, tho already in Office, had opposed in more than one material question of last Session (one of which was Poyning's Law), and this appointment in preference to the Lord Lieutenant's recommendation of his Private Secretary, who in eighteen years Parliamentary service scarcely ever Negatived a Government measure.

The other, still more material, is the continuing two Men in most lucrative Offices, whose conduct

conduct has been distinguishedly hostile. And this after the first Lord of the Treasury had unequivocally signify'd his approbation of the measures submitted to him in their instance, and even specify'd the time for carrying them into execution.

The circumstance arising from hence which of all others gave Lord Buckingham the most sensible, and which must also prove, the most permanent uneasiness, was the consequential necessity of charging the establishment in additional instances, equally in contradiction to his professions and his principles.

That Ireland ought to contribute a proportion of expence equal to her ability is most reasonable, yet let that, as far as they be, be dedicated to the

to the support of the honor and
dignity of the Crown, and the pro-
-tection and general exertions
of the Empire at large.

Numbers of Fishing Shalops.

A List of the number of French fishing Shalops on the coast of Normandy capable of transporting Troops

Ports	Numbers.	Tonnage
Tréport	7	from 40 to 60
Dieppe	120	Do
Fecamp	10	Do
St Valery		Few or none, this harbour being nearly choaked up, and the Boats gone to other places.
Havre de Grace	a few	number unknown.
La Hogue	40	from 40 to 60 Tons
Cherbourg	20	from 60 to 80 Tons built by the King of France for the purpose of filling the Cones, and designed as chasse Marées
Do	60	from 60 to 80 Tons brought from different ports along shore for the same purpose.
total	257	

Equal to transport for a short passage 12850 men allowing each vessel to carry fifty men besides her crew.

In this List I do not include any of the Vessels which are employed in the Cod fishery.

Harbour of Cherbourg.

The French finding a great want of a Port in the Channel, have since the Peace adopted a project of making an artificial one off the Road of Cherbourgh, by sinking Machines of a conical form filled with large stones in a line from the Isle Pilée to the Fort of Querqueville, a distance of one English League and an eighth. The original plan was to have sunk the Cones near enough to each other to have allowed their bases to touch; the two first were so placed; but one of them having been beat to pieces by a strong Gale of wind, (owing perhaps to the Sea meeting with too great resistance) it is now intended to place them at the distance of a hundred Yards asunder, to serve as Points d'appui; and the intermediate spaces are to be filled up with stones, to form a kind of wall à force de Pierres perdues. The design is to make three entrances into the Harbour, viz. one in the middle & one at each end of the new

work

Work; and to sink four or five Cones close together on each side of the entrances, by way of additional strength, and also for the purpose of space to erect Batteries on for the defence of the Harbour.

An hundred and twenty of these Cones would have been required to have carried the first plan into execution; but on the present plan it is understood that fifty will be sufficient. Four Cones have already been sunk, with the one that has been damaged by the weather; one more is ready to sink the first spring tide, & two others are building. The general opinion seems to be that they will be able to sink about three Cones each year. A great quantity of timber for building the Cones is already at Cherbourgh, and a number of Vessels are employed in bringing more daily. The stones for filling the Cones, making the wall and carriers on the different Fortifications are quarried

close

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close to the Tower, and at another place about two leagues to the Eastward. Each Cone is computed to cost about two Millions of Livres. The number of men employed in this great work is uncertain, but I should apprehend cannot be less than four or five thousand, including the Batallion of the Queen Regt. of Infantry and Six hundred Marines. There are also eighty chaffe Mares employed in carrying Stones to fill the Cones.

I met with nobody that appeared to speak of the success of the plan with Confidence; and from its very exposed situation, I am rather inclined to think, from my own observation, that its success is very doubtful; yet the Duke d'Harcourt the director general, the Engineers who are employed, and other executive officers upon the spot, seem very sanguine in their expectations, and proceed with spirit and alacrity.

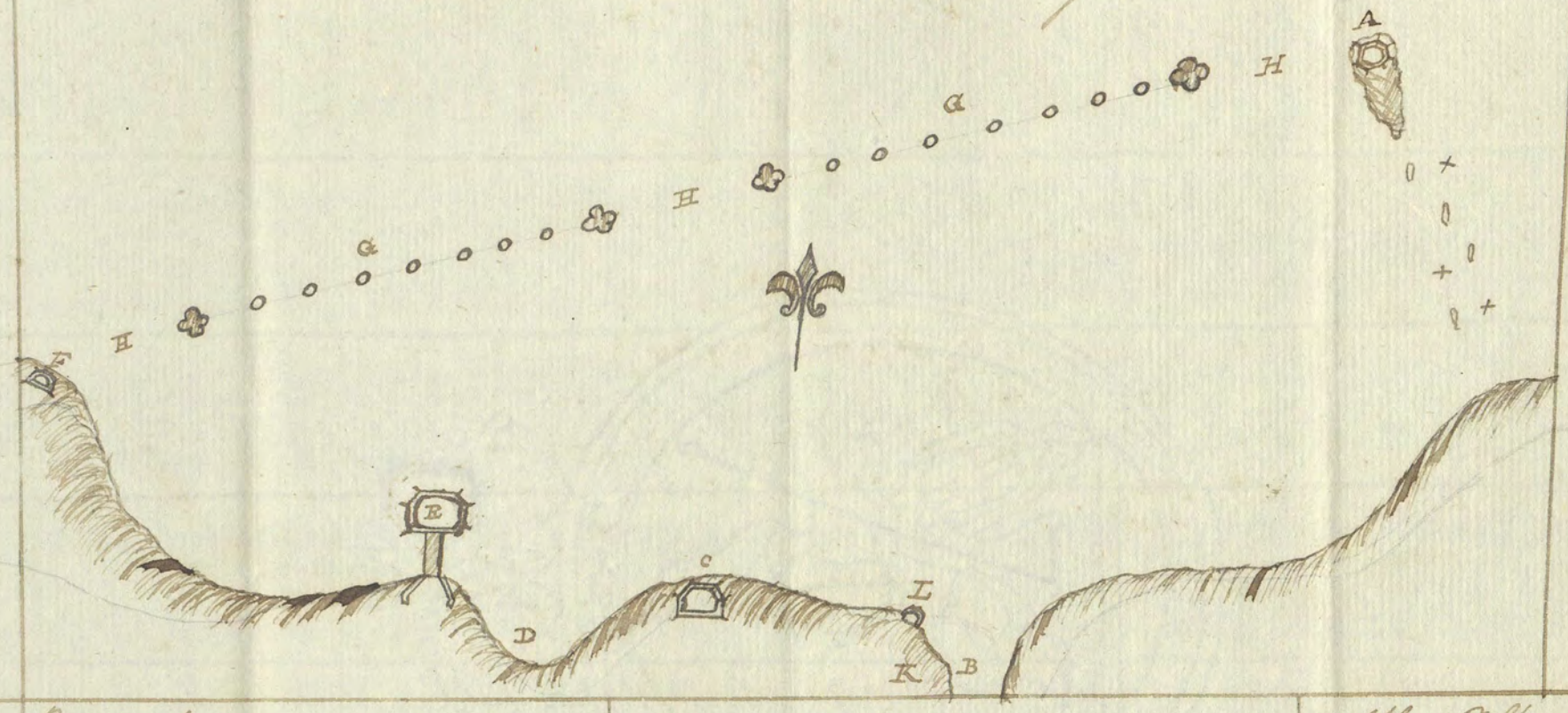
The Fortifications

carrying

carrying on at present, are those of the Isle Pelée and Fort Haumeau, both of which are intended to be strong works, with double Tiers of Batteries of heavy Cannon with Casemates for large Garrisons. The former I did not visit, on account of the bad Weather, but the latter I paced round, and it appeared to have about six hundred yards exterior face, and is detached from the main land by a Stone Pier of two hundred yards in length, and seventeen in breadth. The other Forts in the Bay, viz. Lucerquieville and Fort Galais, remain in the same state as they were.

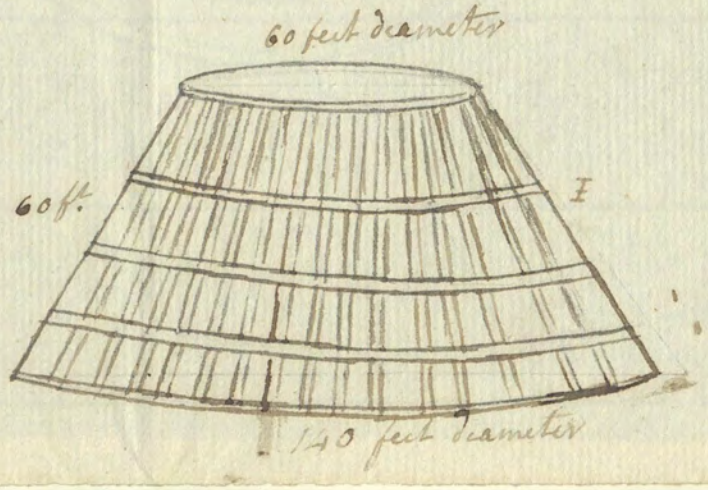
Should this work ever be fully accomplished, and the wall be sufficient to withstand the force of the Sea, it will become a safe Harbour, easy of access for any number of Ships of the largest size, as may be seen by the annexed Ideal Plan.

Plan Idéal des travaux de Cherbourg



Remarks.

There is every where in this Road 60 feet at high Water, and 45 feet at low Water. The distance from Isle Pelée to Querqueville is about a League and an eighth, and from B to Isle Pelée about 2 Miles and a half. The Bottom is even and Sandy, and the best place for landing is between Querqueville and Fort Hauneau.



A Isle Pelée
B Port Marchand
C Fort Galais
D Nouveau Port du Roi
E Fort hauneau
F Fort de Querqueville
G Lignes des Cones
H les Passées
I Esquisse des Cones
K Cherbourg
L an Ancient Tour