

We are told daily from the *Texel*, that our Fleet is ready to sail, but we find indeed Men and Money wanting; the first occasion'd more particularly by the number of Merchant-men licenced, or at least permitted to go to Sea of late; the second, from Reasons that we all see, the monstrous Expence of this War: So as tho' *Holland* yet keep up its Credit, the rest of the Provinces have wholly worn out theirs. And yet for all this, we suspect we shall be awed out of our Inclinations, and advances towards a good Accommodation, by the prevalency of the French Interest among us, who will drive us to Sea, how ill provided soever with Men or Hearts.

*Dublin, May 2.* The Archbishop of *Dublin*, with the Dean and Chapter of *St. Patrick's*, having granted to the French Protestants of this City *St. Maries Chapel*, for their Church Assembly, a place depending upon this Cathedral; His Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, Lord-Lieutenant of *Ireland*, who had by his Bounty contributed very largely to its Reparation, was pleas'd to countenance their first Assembly with his presence, whither he came *Sunday April 29.* his Guard and Gentlemen preceding him, with the Maces and Sword carried before him; accompanied by the Lord Primate of *Ireland*; the Lord Archbishop of *Dublin*; Lord High Chancellor of *Ireland*, the Council of State, and several great Lords, and other Persons of Quality, of both Persuasions, followed by the Lord Mayor, with the Sheriffs and Officers of the City, who had the Sword and Mace likewise carried before him: There was also present at the Solemnity her Grace the Dutchess of *Ormond*, accompanied by the Countess of *Arran*, and followed by a great Train of Ladies of Quality: All of them having taken the Places designed for them, Monsieur *Hierosme*, his Grace's Chaplain, and now Minister of this new Church, read the Service of the Church of *Ireland* in French, which was heard with much devotion: After which, being conducted by the Verger to the Pulpit, he made them an excellent Sermon upon the Occasion; which ended, the Archbishop of *Dublin*, giving the Benediction likewise in French, dismissed the Assembly, his Grace, the Lord-Lieutenant and his Lady, being reconducted to the Castle with the same Ceremony as they came.

*Ostend, May 27.* We have even now received certain intelligence, that the *Zealand* Fleet of 15 Ships of War, and Fire-ships, set sail on *Sunday* morning last, to join with the *Hollanders* Fleet at the *Texel*; which they report to be ready to put to Sea, having 5 Ships in their Company, for *East-India*, outwards bound.

*Poole, May 17.* On the 14th instant here arrived the *Anthony*, a Privateer, with 3 Prizes, tho' one of them be in dispute, the other 2 are apparent Enemies. We have not heard of late of any Disturbance upon our Coasts.

*Isle of Wight, May 16.* The Easterly Winds have driven many Vessels into our Seas; particularly the *Guiny* Frigate and *Serlings*, with 24 more in her company, came in yesterday morning by *St. Helens* to the *Spithead*, passing into *Cowes-Road*; among them was a small Spanish Man of War, with several Ostenders under his Convoy, the rest English. In the evening came in 24 more small English; who came in by *St. Helens*, and pass'd through towards *H.rst*, in order to pass the *Needles*: Late in the Evening 2 more adventur'd in, one of them the *Eagle*, the other a Dutch bottom of 400 Tuns, who both ran a ground, upon a place call'd *No-Man-Land*; and had run some hazard, had they not been presently assist'd by other Ships near them. The 14th instant another *Dover* Packet-Boat, homewards bound from *Newport*, was taken and carried into *Dunkirk*, the Master, his Men, and all the Passengers imprisoned.

*Beale, May 17.* Capt. *Legate*, Commander of the *Fountain*, took lately a French Hoy to the Westward

of *Blackness*, and on *Sunday* night last put 4 of his Men aboard her, and stood after 3 Frenchmen, ordering the Hoy to follow him, which fell upon 2 French Sloops, and was by them retaken; the Men escaping in the Boat; but the *Fountain* continuing his Chase near *Bologne*, ran the Frenchmen a ground, and returned again towards *Blackness*, where he again recovered his Prize, beating off the Sloops with his great Guns, and yesterday brought her into the *Downs*, with another French Vessel laden with Wine, whose Men made their escape in their Boat.

From aboard the *Resolution* before *Plimouth*, May 15. His Excellency the Earl of *Sandwich* being landed at the *Groyne*, order was given to the *Oxford* and *Fore-sight* Frigats to put out again to Sea, who in little time brought in 2 Prizes, the one laden with Salt, the other with Ballast: Four Dutch Men of War in the mean time keeping close in their Harbors, one of them of 26 Guns, the other of 8 and 12. On *Monday April 30.* having a fair Gale, we put out from the *Groyne*, intending homewards; in the way we got sight of the *Victory*, a French Frigate of 26 Guns, and 207 Men, commanded by a Knight of *Malta*, with several other Ships under his Convoy; after 3 days and Nights Chase, we at last came up with her, and she fairly yielded upon the first shot; what the Company are she had on Board we yet know not, but the Seamen that first boarded her in their Long-boat, returned rich in their plunder of Velvet Coats, Feathers, and other Gallantry: We recovered likewise one of the Vessels under her Charge, the rest got off: The Frigate is a very firm Ship, and when cleansed, will prove an excellent Sailer; the *Fore-sight* lost us in the Chase, but found a French Prize of 60 Tuns; and the *Oxford* and *Hollander* from *Bordeaux* with Wine and Brandy, all of them brought into *Plimouth*.

*Portsmouth, May 17.* The *Guiny* Frigate arrived here, who give us this account, That when she was at *Lisbon*, the French Man of War (which Major *Halls* formerly gave chase to, off the Rock of *Lisbon*, but lost in the night) being there, the Capt. thereof much bragg'd what he would do, when the *Guiny* should once dare to put out to Sea, making no question of taking her, but taking much Care what he should do with her, and the Prisoners, concluding them already in his Power: Notice hereof being given to Captain *Coyte*, who was very willing and desirous to accept the Challenge, all things were agreed upon, and great Wagers laid on both sides: At the time appointed, the *Guiny* looses her top Sails, weighs, and goes out, (leaving his Convoys behind him,) the Sea-side was immediately covered with numbers of people, expecting the French Champion would have, at least, been so valiant, as to follow; but Monsieur made no haste, but consulting rather his own security, than his Friends Wagers (which were some Thousands of pounds) or his own Honor, was content to let the *Guiny* tyre her self out in Attendance; so that Capt. *Coyte*, having in vain expected him 3 days together, hovering all that time within sight of the Town, returned again into Harbor, from whence bringing out his Convoys, he took leave of his modest Enemy, and set sail homewards, meeting in his return with two Dutch Vessels, the one of between 4 and 500 Tuns, and 14 Guns; the other of 400 Tuns, laden with Salt, which he burnt and destroyed, being unwilling to disable his own Ship to Man them home, expecting in his way some more considerable Enemy.

*Whitehall, May 19.* Thursday last the Lord *Bellair*, His Majesties Governor of His City of *Tangier*, in *Africa*, arrived here from *Plimouth*, where he had landed, and was very Graciously received by his Majesty, bringing with him a particular account of the good Condition of that Garrison; and of the Peace now concluded by his Lordship with *Guyland*; by which that place will receive very considerable Advantages. The particular Articles you will see elsewhere.