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Whitehall, September 11.

Extract of a Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Forrester, Commander of His Majesty's Ship the Leopard, dated in Gibraltar Bay the 19th of August 1742.

ON the 9th Instant, between Cape St. Mary's and Cadiz, I saw a Ship stemming right in for the latter Place, and as she lay immediately in my Rout, I fired two Shot at her, and brought her to. On Examination I found her to be a Spaniard, of about two hundred and odd Tons, laden with Log wood, Cochineal, and Cocoa, and several other Sorts of Dycs, the Names I don't know; Canary Wines, four Camels, and a great Present, yet unknown, for the King of Naples; as also a Bishop, and Priest, a Spanish General, and other Spanish Officers, with great Sums of Pistols.

The Emperor's Commissorial Decree to the Assembly of the Empire at Francfort, concerning the Re-establishment of the Peace and general Security of the Empire.

Joseph William Ernest, Landgrave of Furstenberg, &c. principal Commissary of his Imperial Majesty Charles VII. to the present Diet, &c. After having received these our Orders, we shall communicate to the Ministers, Ambassadors, and Envoys here present on the Part of the Electors, Princes, and States of the Holy Roman Empire, that whereas by the Commissorial Decree of the 15th of May last, his Imperial Majesty has already made known his paternal Concern, and his extreme Attention for the general Welfare of the Empire, and for its internal Peace, and consequently his extreme Desire of obviating and removing every Thing which might spread still wider the Flame of War contrary to his strong Inclination toward Peace; so he had really began, and had already taken some serious Steps towards proving his sincere Inclination and Bent towards Peace, and for resto-

ring as soon and as advantageously as possible to our dear Country, the Peace which has been interrupted upon Account of the Austrian Succession.

In Consequence of his Confidence and paternal Affection for the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire, he had began to give Assurances, by a farther Decree, and by a convincing Declaration made to the holy Roman Empire, that his said Imperial Majesty, for the Sake of sparing, if possible, the German Blood, so valuable and so noble, was ready to forget his own Interest, and that of his Electoral House, and that, instead of continuing the War, into which he had been drawn by the Obstinacy of his adverse Party, he was ready to enter into equitable Negotiations, to consent to an Armistice, and consequently to cause all the Auxiliary Troops called in to support his Rights of Succession, to return immediately home, and to quit Bohemia and Bavaria, as well as the whole Empire, and that he was even disposed still this once to yield Bohemia to the Court of Vienna; However, under the express and just Condition, that their Troops should directly evacuate all Bavaria; that some Conditions should be previously settled; that all Hostilities on either Side should forthwith cease, and that his Majesty should enter upon the entire Possession of his indisputable Hereditary Dominions, and that, under the Mediation of the Roman Empire, and of other Princes to be invited thereto, a lasting general Peace should be negotiated. But as the most equitable Overtures made since, at Paris, to the Sieur de Steinville, Minister of the Great Duke of Tuscany, by the Crown of France, the Ally of his Imperial Majesty, have, contrary to all Expectation, been rejected, in such Manner, that it is evident, as well from thence, as from the certain Accounts which have been received from other Parts, that the said Court of Vienna, far from coming into what is openly just, designs obstinately to continue the Hostilities already carried to an Excess, and to refuse with the same Passion all other amicable Propositions that might be made to her; so the said Allied

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