MALTA, April 15.

The latter end of last month the troops arrived from Egypt, under orders to sail with the first fair wind for England; but on the 8th inst. counter orders were given, and they now form part of the garrison. On the 7th, dispatches were received by the French agent, and shortly afterwards, a French squadron, under the command of an admiral, lying in the Bay, went to sea, the admiral having previously sent out his boats to take an account of every British vessel.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 30.

On the 22d a great council of state was held to determine what part the Porte should take in case of a new war between England and France. The decision is not yet known.

A Turkish fleet, consisting of five ships of the line, one of which is of 120 guns, and four of 74, sailed this day for the Archipelago, for the protection of the Turkish trade, and the levying of the tribute in the Archipelago.

BERLIN, May 24.

Our court, as is well known, has resolved, in case of a breach between France and England, not to take the smallest part, and there is reason to believe that it will persevere in this resolution, unless some important event should occasion it to be changed.

Citizen Laforet, minister extraordinary of the French Republic, had his first audience of H. M. who gave him the most gracious reception.

The greatest activity prevails within this fortnight in our foreign department. Couriers are frequently dispatched both to Paris, Petersburgh, Vienna, and London. It appears that this correspondence is relative to the fate of the electorate of Hanover. Our court without wishing to occupy this country, as it did lately, would gladly see it out of danger of an invasion. This has been notified to the French government, from which an answer is hourly expected. It is imagined that the new circumstances will engage the king to defer the journey he proposed to take to Franconia. The grand review is finished, and hitherto no preparations are making for the departure of his majesty.

HANOVER, May 29.

All our troops are animated with an enthusiastic desire to defend their country. It is said that a part of our army will occupy a strong military position along the banks of the Weser. Our country will send into the field 8000 cavalry, and 24,000 infantry, of regular troops.

HAMBURGH, May 26.

All the electorate of Hanover is in motion, the different corps of the army are forming a junction, and they are now raising the people *en masse* to defend the country against the French army. The young men liable to be included in this measure make their escape in crowds, and a great number of them have arrived here. The Hanoverian troops are guilty of the greatest violence, and blood has even been shed in many assemblages that have taken place.

LUBEC, May 23.

By a ship arrived here in ten days from St. Petersburgh, we received the important intelligence, that the whole of the Russian fleet is equipping with the greatest dispatch. By two other ships arrived to-day, we learn that the case is the same at Revel and Cronstadt; so that in a short time a considerable Russian fleet will be in the Baltic. It is added, that in a certain case, a considerable body of troops will be embarked.

LONDON, June 1.

A letter from the Hague, of the 22, ult. says,—"On Saturday last, Mr. Liston, made an offer of neutrality to our government on the part of England, provided it was rigorously observed, a proposition which was eagerly embraced; but as soon as Citizen Semonville got scent of it, he repaired to the members of the government of state, and declared, that if they accepted the offers of the English minister, his government would instantly send 100,000 men into the country. They, however then refused; but on some intimation, it seems that we have resolved to expose ourselves to the vengeance of England, rather than that of France; for to-day orders were issued for laying an embargo on all English ships in the ports of this republic. Mr. Liston has made no preparation for his departure."

June 2.

Mr. Liston, a few days ago, says our Hague correspondent, notified to the Dutch government, that Great Britain was willing to consent, upon certain conditions, to the neutrality of Holland. The Dutch government received the notification with gratitude, but without the slightest expectation that France will permit her to remain neutral. Indeed the first thing the enslaved and enslaving republic of France did when she conquered Holland, was to dictate an offensive and defensive alliance with her. The Dutch government, however, immediately after the receipt of Mr. Liston's notification, resolved to send three deputies to Paris to explain the situation of Holland, to the First Consul, and to prove that neutrality could alone preserve her from ruin.

Our Hague correspondent has furnished us with an afflicting picture of the state of Holland at the present moment. Fettered by a power which treats her as a conquered country, and calls it friendship; pillages her treasures, and assures her it is protection; burthens her with troops, and boasts that it is strengthening her resources; forces her into a war, and talks to her of her independence; cursed and insulted by such an ally, she is rapidly falling to the lowest point of misery and degradation.

All the hostile acts that have been done in Holland against this country, have been at the express order of the French government. It was the French government that commanded the seizure of the two packets at Helvoetsluys, and the imprisonment of the captains, the agent, and the English messenger. The Dutch it is said, remonstrated; but their remonstrances were treated with contempt and derision.

LONDON, June 10.

We stated on Wednesday, that advice had been received of the French troops being on the point of entering Bremen; and, yesterday, we mentioned a report, which had reached us, of the enemy being also on their march to Cuxhaven. We have now to inform our readers, that authenticate advices reached town yesterday, of the former place, (which belongs to his Britannic Majesty) having been taken possession of by a Republican force on the 2d inst. and that a strong detachment was at the same time in full march towards Hamburgh. These proceedings, it is scarcely necessary for us to observe, are a part of the system adopted by France, for excluding the commerce of this country from every part of the continent. Whether the great powers of the North will interpose to prevent this unprincipled project, no less injurious to their own interests than to those of Great-Britain, it is at present extremely difficult to determine. Some accounts state, that Prussia has expressed a wish to the French government that Hanover, &c. should not be invaded; while others assert, that the court of Berlin will not in any respect interfere in the dispute between England and France. The Paris papers to the 7th inst. (which arrived yesterday) lay much stress upon the latter statement, and infer, from the probability of both Russia and Prussia being aware of the steps that would be taken by the Chief Consul, in the event of a war with England, that neither of those powers will oppose the present measures of the French government. Prussia, it is said, without taking any part whatever in the contest, will content herself with forming a cordon of observation along the boundaries of her own territories; and the naval armaments in the ports of Russia, the same accounts state, are preparing upon the pure principle of an armed neutrality. There is, at present, very little *data* upon which to reason on this subject; but a few days will, we trust, provide us with such information as will enable us to form an accurate opinion of the relative situation of the several powers.

The Paris papers state that Lucien Bonaparte has set out for Spain; for the purpose, no doubt, of arranging matters with the court of Madrid relative to the war.—The British Ambassador was expected to leave the Hague on the 3d inst. —Bonaparte's journey to Brussels has been again postponed.—The Moniteur states, that the Post-Office agent at Helvoetsluys was arrested in consequence of his being a spy in favour of England; but this allegation is unsupported by any evidence, and we believe it to be totally void of foundation.—The voluntary subscriptions for the construction and equipment of vessels intended for the purpose of invading England, are stated to be already very numerous. Among other contributions, the officers and privates of the cavalry and infantry of the Parisian guard have subscribed two days pay; and the performers at one of the theatres have sent the vast sum of 10l.—Some vessels from the West-Indies have lately arrived in the ports of France.—The French funds have risen one half per cent—they are now 48 3-4.

June 11.

In a subsequent column we have given some important particulars, relative to the means proposed by the minister for raising the supplies for the service of the present year. The amount of the loan is to be only 12,000,000l including 3,000,000l for Ireland. Besides the taxes necessary for paying the interest of this sum, there will, however, be levied a tax of 5 per cent. on incomes of every description, whether arising from landed, funded, or any other species of property; but some abatement is to be made in favour of that arising from manuel labour. These supplies, though great, it must be obvious to all, are rendered indispensible by the existing circumstances, and will, we doubt not, be granted with cheerfulness, as the means of enabling his majesty to support the honour and interest of the state. Forty thousand additional seamen, including eight thousand marines, were last night voted by the house of commons.

No advices from the continent reached town yesterday. There seems very little doubt of the determination of France to shut out the trade of England from all the ports of the North of Germany; and a few days will probably enable us to ascertain what effect those violent unprincipled proceedings are likely to produce upon the councils of the different continental powers most interested in the event. The intelligence of the French troops having entered Bremen, and of another detachment having marched to Hamburgh, which were stated in our last, was received by a vessel arrived at Hull, from the Weser, and by a merchant in the city, from France.

INTENDED LOAN.

Yesterday the different gentlemen concerned in lists for the loan and lotteries of the present year, waited on the minister, to confer relative to the sum to be borrowed, and the mode on which it was to be obtained. About twelve o'clock, the minister sent for them into the parlour at Downing street, where he was attended by the governor and deputy-governor of the bank, and Mr. Vansittart.

Mr. Addington stated that the sum he should want would be 12,000,000, viz. 9,000,000 for England, and three for Ireland. He was in hopes, he said, that he should have been able to have done with less, and flattered himself that, next year, that would be the case; but, in the present instance, the taxes he meant to propose could not be collected in time to answer the exigencies of the state. He, at the same time, thought it proper to state, that it was his intention to propose to Parliament to raise a very large sum within the year by strong taxes; and he trusted every gentleman present would think it advisable so to do. It was also proper for him to state what were his intentions respecting Exchequer Bills. There were, he said, five millions voted in the spring of last year, 4,000,000 about Christmas, & 5,000,000 this spring; but they had not all been issued. His intention was to pay off the first five millions, to let the other stand over, to issue five millions more, to take a vote of credit for 2,500,000l. and, in in case the bank should not think it right to continue the 1,500,000l. which they held, he should in that case be obliged perhaps, to issue 1,500,000l. in lieu of them, which would, in other words, be borrowing nine millions on exchequer bills, and paying off ten millions.

He proposed to raise his Loan of twelve millions, if agreeable, by giving for every 100l.—70l. Consols, 70l. Reduced; and to take the Bidding on the least sum in Deferred Stock, and to allow 5 per cent. for prompt payment.

An objection was started to Deferred Stock making a part, as it was already a heavy and unsaleable Stock in the market.

Mr. Addington then, with the consent of all parties, agreed that the Loan should be raised in the following manner: For every 100l. subscribed, the subscriber to have

80l.	0s.	0d.	Consols.
80l.	0s.	0d.	Reduced.

And those who would take the least sum of Long Annuity to be the purchaser. The interest of the Consols to commence from the 5th of July, 1803, and that of the Reduced and Annuities from the 5th of April 1803; 5 per cent. for prompt payment, which, from the 17th of June (the day of the first deposit) to the 23d of December, (the day of the last payment) makes 2l. 6s. 7d. per cent. being 187 days.—The payments to be made as follow:

17 June, Deposit	10 per cent.
22 July,	10
19 August,	15
16 September,	15
21 October,	20
10 November,	15
23 December.	15
	100

The public bodies to have their usual proportion out of the twelve millions, which is as under:—

	£.
Bank of England	500,000
India Company	300,000
Royal Exchange	200,000
London Assurance	200,000
South Sea Company	200,000
Trinity House	100,000
Bank of Ireland	200,000
	£. 1,700,000

The Minister said, the taxes would be heavy, and that he should raise them within the year, chiefly on Excise and Customs; on Landed property, real and personal property, and income arising from whatever source; But that from labour not to pay equal to that arising from property.

He was asked, whether the Funded Property was to be taxed? He replied, certainly; and that it was proposed to be 1s. in the pound on all dividends; but the Stockholder might either have it stopped out of his dividend warrant, or go before Commercial Commissioners, and there declare his property, and pay the tax all together. On land, he said, it was his intention that the owner should pay 1s. in the pound, if lett; and the occupier in England to pay 9d. and in Scotland only 6d. in the pound; as the lands were lett in Scotland at a higher rate, and were not so productive as those in England. He produced the Journals of the House of Commons, to shew that in 1701, and for several years, a similar mode of taxation was adopted.

The Governor and deputy Governor of the Banks were asked, whether the Bank would take in the Omnium, the same as last year? They answered, it had not been customary for the Bank to commit itself on such occasions. All they could say was, that the business had not yet ever been mentioned within the Bank; but should there appear any disposition not to grant the indulgence, they should deem it their duty to give the earliest notice possible.

A great deal of conversation followed, at the commencement of which, the Minister desired the gentlemen to come on Monday, at ten o'clock precisely, to bid for the loan, informing them at the same time, that no list delivered in after that time would be attended to. The present lists are:

United Bankers,
Roberts & Goldsmid,
Esdaile & Sherrill,
Sir F. Baring & Angerstein,
Stock Exchange.

The Chancellor of the exchequer then gave notice, that he wished to see such gentlemen as were desirous of contracting for the lottery, on Thursday next, in order to confer upon the business, and proposed that the bidding should take place on the following day.

At the average price of the funds, yesterday, the proposed loan would be nearly as follows:

80 Consols,	57 1 2	46
80 Reduced,	57 1 2	46
		92
About 10s Long Annuities, 17 years purchase,		100 10
Discount,		3 10
		£104 0

The lowest window tax in the new regulations is 6s. where there are only six windows, and the highest 83l. per ann. except the number of windows exceeds 180. For one carriage 10l. for nine and upwards 15l. each. For all small chaises drawn by one horse 5 guineas each; drawn by two horses, seven guineas; every post chaise lett to hire eight guineas. Coachmakers to pay a licence of 5s. per year, and 10 shillings for every two-wheeled, one 1l. for every four-wheeled carriage built by them. For one horse 2s. per annum; for 19 four guineas each. Horses belonging to farmers paying a rack-rent of 20l. a year, 6d. each. For one dog 6s. per annum, for two and upwards 10s. Every horse-dealer in the metropolis 20l. per annum, in the country 10l. The hair-powder and armorial bearing duties remain unaltered.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER

Political Character of THOMAS PAINE, *extracted from an Essay, entitled*

"A DISSERTATION

On the Political Character and Writings of

THOMAS PAINE,

Author of Common Sense, Rights of Man, &c.

BY ALLEN MAGRUDER,

of Lexington, Kentucky.

"The temple of wisdom is seated on a rock, above the rage of fighting elements, and inaccessible to all the malice of man. The rolling thunder breaks below; and those more terrible instruments of human fury, reach not to so sublime a height. The sage, while he breathes that serene air, looks down with pleasure, mixed with compassion, on the errors of mistaken mortals, who blindly seek for the true path of life, and pursue riches, nobility, honour and power, for genuine felicity."

Hume's Moral Essays.

"——Similar to a being looking down from the emperian, on this world, he beholds with composure from his unclouded height, the mass of mankind, yet wandering in darkness, and error, their mistakes and deviations, and the gloomy tempests that rage in the steep glens below him."

Zimmerman on National Pride.

IN a philosophical age, when the passions of mankind are invited by the most eloquent moral persuasives, to throw off their ferocity, and to yield to the milder dominion of reason, the best characters are condemned to unmerited persecution.—National ingratitude has kept pace with the progress of society; the storm of the passions has raged as it moved along, and the desolation has accompanied its various mutations, from one generation to another, without abatement.—In one age the fatal shell is presented to an Aristides, by the hand of ingratitude; Epaminondas, the saviour of his country, is condemned to sweep the streets; Phocion is dragged to prison, and Socrates sentenced to drink poison. He who propt the falling honours of imperial Rome, in the last stage of her decline, by the powers of his eloquence, and snatched the brand from the hand of a Cataline, goes into banishment to appease the rage of his devoted countrymen. In another age a Sidney suffers on the scaffold, for the invincible integrity of his soul; and a Hampden dies, for attempting to elevate the rights of man to their true political dignity. This will always be the fate of those men, whose noble minds, discarding that cautious wisdom which wraps us up in a solitary indifference to the affairs of the world, prompts them to sacrifice their own ease, for the felicity of others. Upon this ground, the reputation of Franklin and Jefferson have suffered martyrdom, in an enlightened age; and the fame of Thomas Paine, the intrepid apostle of liberty, has undergone the same fate.

To these distinguished Patriots, philosophy has erected monuments. The fury of faction may rage [illegible] and the [illegible] of faction attempt to blast the [illegible] laurels; but they are of that hardy texture which defies alike the [illegible] and will bloom [illegible] succeeding generations, when the tempest is forgotten.

There are few men of any age, more deserving the homage of commemoration, than the author of Common Sense. This great man is in the political, what the sun is, in the physical hemisphere. He communicates warmth and energy to whatever he touches; irradiates the mysterious doctrines of human wisdom, by the penetration of thought, and gives birth to a new world of reflection, by unfolding what had hitherto reposed in silent obscurity. Beneath the influence of his genius, of a mind expansive as the empire of thought, superstition and prejudice are willing to yield to a liberal conviction. They awaken from the fatal enchantment that had hitherto entranced the senses; the spells of the forceress appear in all their deformity; the mists vanish from the eye, and the full splendour of the light of heaven unfolds the mystery. By this means, he has shook the fabric of the Gothic policy. His pen, the magic Talisman, by which, he has produced these great effects, has caused the tyrants of the world, to tremble on their thrones. Whilst viewing the venerable page, which speaks the language of nature, which elevates the peasant to an equality with his oppressor; they turn from the admonition with terror, and sicken at the fatal hand writing that seems to seal their destiny. To that race of deluded mortals, the monuments of departed grandeur, in the abbes of St. Peter and St. Dennis, are not more fearful than the essay on the Rights of Man. The one holds up to view the sad picture of the closing scene to all sublunary splendour, and represses the pride of ambition which had led them astray from the path of duty. The other, makes a more serious impression. It threatens to close the scene and inflict the punishment, in this life. They equally speak the language of that sublime philosophy, which causes the guilty to shudder at his crimes, and unfolds to the eye of reflection, the false policy, by which, the tyrant is tempted to deny the majesty of virtue.

Mr. Paine's ideas of civil government and political justice, are of the most elevated kind. He draws them from their proper source. He derives them from nature. He first takes man as a solitary independent being, such as he came from the hand of his Creator;—makes him a moral agent; fixes the criterion of his rights, by an annalysis of natural law, and unfold to the potentates of the globe, the terrible secret of his equality and the independence of his nature. He next introduces him into society, and makes this natural equality and independence, the elements of the social compact. His relations in this state, are then developed. His political rights ascertained, and his civil privileges fixed. The line of duty is drawn out from the combined rights of nature and of society; by which, he ascertains the laws of obedience and the criterion of that negative power which man is bound to exercise, in cases of usurpation.

It is upon these sublime and eternal principles, that Mr. Paine erects the plan of civil government. It is from an analysis of this kind, that he discovers the majesty of the people and the usurpation that had destroyed it, in each age and nation of the world. It is not surprising, therefore, from a mode of reasoning thus comprehensive and certain in its premises, that Mr. Paine should be the most powerful advocate, that ever appeared in defence of human liberty.—A clue of this kind, has conducted him to a true knowledge of the grand farce, which has been played off, from age to age, by kings, priests and the whole tribe, of royal parasites. He has traced despotism through all its various channels of usurpation; burst open the gates of that mysterious labyrinth of folly,