call," said Mr. Sheridan, "upon his advocates to "watch my words and to take them down, I will "exhibit no charge that has not solid truth for its "foundation, for I trust nothing to declamation." Mr. Sheridan added, he was far from meaning to rest the charge on assertion, or on any warm expressions that the impulse of wounded feelings might produce: He would establish every part of the charge, by the most unanswerable proof, and the most unquestionable evidence; the witness, whom he would bring forth to support every fact he intended to state, should be, for the most part, a witness that no man would venture to contradict; no other than *Warren Hastings* himself!

And yet such a character had friends—he blamed them not—they might possibly conclude him innocent; —because he himself asserted it was so.

The defence of Mr. Hastings would establish every charge he had to make against him. There was not one fact which was not founded, or mixed with falsehood; no one question that was truly given; nor one single conclusion which followed fairly from the premises laid down; but of this assertion, the multiplied proofs would shortly arise.

Mr. Sheridan said he would go farther back into a detail of facts than his Right Hon. friend had done in his charge, in order the more clearly to shew the committee the situation in which the British government of India stood with respect to the Nabob of Oude and the Begums, till the design of obliging the Nabob to plunder those unfortunate Princesses (his mother and grandmother) of their treasures, to confiscate their Jaghires and seize upon the ministers, throw them into a dungeon, there load them with chains, and keep them for many months close prisoners, suffering incredible hardships was first entertained by the Governor-General.

Mr. Sheridan here read a variety of extracts from Mr. Hastings's defence; wherein he stated the various steps taken by Mr. *Briftow* (the Company's Resident at Fyzabad,) in the years 1775 and 1776, to procure aid for the Nabob, from the Begum, (the dowager Princesses of that district) and that he thought proper to exact, by his sole authority, thirty lacks of rupees, for the use of the Nabob Vizier of Oude, out of the treasures bequeathed to the Begum by her late husband Sujah Dowla; obtaining however the guarantee of the Governor and Council that, that exaction, for which no shadow of right was shewn, should be the last. Mr. Hastings, however, had not stated one of the facts truly. Groundless, nugatory and insulting were his affirmation, that the seizure of treasures from the Begums, and the exposition of their pilfered goods to public auction (unparallelled acts of open injustice, oppression and inhumanity) were in any degree to be defended by those incroachments on their property, which had taken place previous to his administration, or by those sales which they themselves had solicited, as a favourable mode of their supplying a part of their aid to the Nabob. The relation of a series of plain indisputable facts, would irrecoverably overthrow a subterfuge so pitiful, a distinction so ridiculous. It must be remembered that, at that period, the Begums did not *merely desire*, but they most *expressly stipulated*, that of the thirty lacks promised, eleven should be paid in sundry articles of manufactures. Was it not obvious therefore, that the sale of goods in the first case, far from partaking of the nature of an act of plunder became an extention of relief, of indulgence, and of accommodation. By the passages which he should beg leave to read, *Mr. Hastings* wished to insinuate that a claim was set up to the Begum's treasure, as belonging of right the to Nabob. In this transaction Mr. Hastings endeavoured to shift the responsibility from himself to the majority of the Council, and under that authority to keep alive the Nabob's right.

Mr. Sheridan in order to prove the oppression of the Princesses in 1775, which was much aggravated in 1781, read an extract of a letter from the Bhow Begum, mother of the Nabob, to Mr. Hastings, received at Calcutta, December 22, 1775, wherein she says, "If it is *your pleasure* that the mother of the "late Nabob, myself, and his other women, and infant children, should be reduced to a state of dis- "honor and distress, we *must submit*; but if, on "the contrary, you call to mind the friendship of "the late blessed Nabob, you will exert yourself "effectually in favour of us, who are helpless." And "again, "if you do not approve of my remaining "at Fyzabad, send a person here, in your name, "to remove the mother of the late Nabob, myself, "and about 2000 women and children, that we may "reside with honour and reputation in some other "place." This letter and several others were read; to prove the controuling power of Mr. Hastings in Oude, at so late a period as before mentioned; and to prove that every circumstance of oppression and exaction, practised on these Princesses, was done by the orders, consent, and approbation, of the Governor, who was supposed to be paramount in Oude,

Treasure, which was the true source of all the cruelties, was the original pretence which Mr. Hastings made to the Company for the measure; and through the whole of his conduct he makes Mahomedanism excuse; as if he meant to insinuate, that there was something in Mahomedanism which made it impious in a son, not to plunder his mother. But, to shew how the question precisely stood when Mr. Hastings begun the attack, Mr Sheridan read the minutes of General Clavering, Col. Monson and Mr. Francis, who severally spoke of a claim which had been made by the Nabob on the Bhow Begum, in the year 1775, amounting to two and a half lacks. The opinion contained in these minutes, that women were, on the deaths of their husbands, entitled by the Mahomedan law, only to the property within Zanana where they lived. This opinion was decisive. Mr. Bristow used no threats; no military execution or rigor was even menaced; the Begums complied with the requisition then made, and the disputed property then claimed was given up.

After this, the farther treasure that was within the Zanana, was confessedly her own. No farther right was set up, no pretence of any kind was advanced, to claim the residue. Nay, a treaty was signed by the Nabob, and ratified, by the Resident, Mr. Bristow, that, on her paying thirty lacks, she should be freed from all farther applications; and the Company were bound, by Mr. Bristow, to guarantee this treaty. Here then was the issue. After this treaty thus ratified, could there be an argument as to the right of the treasures of the Begums? If the Mahomedan law had given a right, was not that right concluded?

(To be continued.)

LONDON, *April 5.*

Lord Cornwallis had not been three days in India, before, by an accidental fall from his horse, he had nearly lost his life. When the packet sailed, however, he had compleatly recovered of his bruise.

Major Scott, in his speech, read a letter from a friend in Culcutta, stating, that Earl Cornwallis, by his conduct, seemed to approve of the system and measures of Mr. Hastings.—It was rather singular, however, that the letters from Earl Cornwallis himself, instead of signifying his approbation, insinuated the contrary; so much so, that when the Major produced this vague epistle, Mr. Dundas shook his head, and discountenanced the idea of the noble Earl's approbation,

General O'Hara, who, as we have announced, is to succeed Sir George Elliot in Gibraltar, was at the Levee last week, to kiss hands on his appointment.—His Majesty conversed with him familiarly, and said, "I think General, you have served in every part of my dominions." In every part of your Majesty's dominions, (he answered) except India."—"Would you like to serve in India?" said his Majesty—"Oh! by G—d, (exclaimed the General) with your leave, Sir, I should like to have a pluck at a Nabob's turban."—Aye! at a Nabob's turban, (replied his Majesty) is that a good thing? I thought the Zenana was the place."

Dispatches were sent off from the Secretary of State's Office, Whitehall, yesterday, by a special messenger, to be delivered on board a sloop of war ready to receive them at Plymouth, and to convey them to Lord Dorchester, his Majesty's Governor-General of America to Quebec.

A letter from Limerick says, that the New-York Trader, Capt. M'Lean, is arrived there from that city, and has brought home the greatest part of the cargo he took out; a stop being again put to trade, by the great confusion among the people there, as well as in every part of the province: He also says, that the part of the cargo he did dispose of was at Halifax, where he might have sold it all, had he arrived there sooner.

The last dispatches from Canada, certainly contain a fresh requisition from Lord Dorchester, for an additional reinforcement of at least two compleat regiments, with all expedition, to render our frontiers secure; and in case of necessity, to defend the advanced posts still in our possession:—The nothern states are all anarchy, and threaten every hour to seize them by force; to repel any attack, Lord Dorchester has made every necessary disposition, and, from his acknowledged talents, there is no reason to fear the event, should those infatuated people be so fool-hardy.

BOSTON, May 17.

On Friday evening an express arrived in town from the county of Berkshire; with letters for his Excellency the Governor, and the Hon. General Lincoln, from several Gentlemen of distinction in that county, which we are informed, contain accounts of the rebels, to the amount of seven or eight hundred, being collected in the state of Vermont, in the vicinity of this Commonwealth, and that it was given out by them, that they intended in the course of the present week, to make incursions into several parts of this state, and to kill, plunder, burn and destroy, whatever comes in their way. That Shays, Day, Parsons, &c. had been seen at Crown Point on their way to join them. That the town of Sharon, in Connecticut, had turned out a company of men, properly officered, for the purpose of assisting the rebels—and that the militia of Berkshire county had orders to hold themselves in readiness to oppose the inroads of those daring and infatuated men.

Warrents for the execution of the sentence of death, pronounced upon the four Traitors now in confinement in the Western counties, were received by the respective sheriffs about the fourth instant. Those who are pardoned are liberated.

To all honest Men whom it may concern.

—KNOW YE, That in one Providence paper only of last week, are inserted notices of upwards of *Four Thousand and Fifty Dollars* in paper bills, lodged with several Justices, in discharge of twelve debts, due in specie, *agreeable to law*—And that all this is done notwithstanding the late decision of the Superior Court of Rhode Island—notwithstanding the trash can be purchased at the rate of eight in paper for one in silver—and notwithstanding its being in violation of every principle of honour and honesty.

HALIFAX, May 10.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in London to his friend in this town, dated March 5.

"The Commercial Treaty with France (which I now send you) when fulfilled, will be a thorn in the sides of the American states, for it will more effectually exclude them from the carrying trade, and by harmonising and uniting the two most powerful and richest nations, take that attention from them, they otherwise might possibly have had from one or the other.

"We have here abundance of news of all kinds, as the Parliament is sitting, has opened every source of information.—One piece of news I can inform you of, which will be acceptable, that is the report of the American Commissioners, up to the 25th of Dec. 1786.—They have gone through here.

	Claims. Property claimed.	*Income Property claimed.*	*Income allowed.*	*allowed.*
	689	3,492,836	70,346	1,075,914 46862l.
N. Scotia	255	321,011	2,155	96,547 21201.

"Another circumstance I will mention, that the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt from the 2d August 1786 to 31st January 1787, have bought up stock to the amount of 666,000l. and have 255,000l. now in hand for the next quarter. I mention these two circumstances together for this reason, to shew that by so much as the nation is unburthened, by the same degree the Loyalists are likely to receive a handsome compensation. There is a whisper (with what foundation I cannot say) that the lands of the crown, which are now enquiring into, will be given them. We seem determined to make an East-India delinquent, a severe example of what cruelty and avarice ought to suffer, by the impeachment of Mr. Hastings, late Governor General of Bengal. They are going to simplify and consolidate the customs and excise, alter or make anew the book of rates, and as I understand give fresh support to the different fisheries. These and many other plans, which would take too much time in the limits of a letter, are in agitation. Upon the whole, I think if the measures planned are executed and attended with success, this country has yet to expect better days. I see by this day's paper that Lord Dorchester has written home for another regiment to be sent to Canada; the situation of affairs, and the situation of the American states, rendering it necessary to keep every British post complete."

St. John, *(New-Brunswick) June 15.*

Since our last several vessels have arrived from the American States. Discord and confusion, appear to reign triumphant throughout that once happy country. A gentleman lately from New-York, informs, that a few weeks before he left that place, Congress finding it impossible to bring the states to agree in any general measure, and sensible that their power was too weak to effect it, deputed three of their body to wait on General Washington, with a proposal to make him dictator for six years.—This offer he declined, declaring he would not again meddle with public affairs. This matter was managed with much secrecy in Congress; it is however got abroad. The general conjecture is, that a revolution of some sort is not very far distant, as Congress do not possess power sufficient to support either the honor or credit of their government.

On Monday last Thomas Wall *lately from Halifax, and one* John Ryan, *a disbanded soldier, were committed to Jail on suspicion of having in the night following the 10th inst. broke open a trunk in the cabin of a schooner in this harbour, and taken thereout a piece of cloth and between seven and eight pounds in cash, the cloth has been found in the chest of Ryan, and between three and four pounds of cash found upon them.*