

of the two neighbouring counties, who, with the few regulars there, marched within half a mile of the walls of Carrickfergus, to give him battle; but the Frenchmen, it seems, had no stomach for fighting.

A fourth letter gives the following account: That M. Thurot having taken the town and castle of Carrickfergus, he sent to Belfast, demanding a supply of provisions, &c. to which the chief magistrate of Belfast gave answer, That, on account of Belfast, he was perfectly indifferent, as they were in readiness to give him a warm reception, whenever he thought fit to pay them a visit; but, for the sake of the inhabitants of Carrickfergus, he should have some provisions, provided he behaved with lenity towards their countrymen.—Carrickfergus is a very inconsiderable place, has been long upon the decline, and does not contain above 5 or 600 souls. The castle is in ruins; not one single piece of cannon in it; only a bartack, and a very pitiful one, for containing a few soldiers.

Since receiving the above intelligence, it has been reported, upon what foundation we have not distinctly learned, that the militia, with a body of regulars had repulsed the enemy, and obliged them to reembark, without having got the required supplies from Belfast.

By a letter received this day, we are certainly informed, that the French troops left Carrickfergus precipitately in the night betwixt Monday and Tuesday last, without having been able to do any great mischief. That ever since, it has blown violently from the North and North West, so that they could not possibly get away by the north of Ireland. And yesterday and to-day, several expresses have arrived from Kirkcubright and Dumfries, with intelligence, that six French ships have been seen off the isle of Man. One of the letters bears, that a cutter which constantly watched the French ships, had heard a good deal of firing; which gives reason to believe, that they have been met by some British men of war. But we must wait for a confirmation of this. We are advised, that there were two British men of war lying at Dublin, one of 64, and another of 40 guns.

Yesterday, an express arrived from the Collector of the customs at Kirkcubright to his Excellency Lord George Beauclerk, giving an account, that four French ships were seen off the isle of Man, and afterwards steered into the bay of Balmanquhan, within two or three miles of Kirkcubright.

And by an express which arrived this morning to the Commissioners of the customs, we learn, that the French had landed at Kirkcubright before he set out.

They write from Greenock, of Feb. 26. that they had then there 700 men of the regular forces, with 500 of the Argyleshire battalion; and that they were busy erecting a battery of cannon at the west end of the

rope-work; and letters from the same place dated the 28th, say the preparations for defence were such, that the most sensible people were of opinion, that the French would make no attempt on that place, being a place land-locked, and from whence a retreat would be very difficult.

On Tuesday last, the Lady of the Hon. George Baillie of Jerriswood, Esq; was delivered of a daughter, at Mellerstain.

Tuesday last died here David Scot, of Hundleshope, Esq;

A quarterly communication of the GRAND LODGE of Scotland lately held in Mary's chapel, having taken into consideration the prevailing practice of giving vails or drink-money to servants, did unanimously resolve to do every thing in their power to remove the same.

The zeal of FREE MASONS for the welfare of the public, and their readiness to promote every laudable purpose, will easily prevail in them to endeavour to discourage this practice, as by it the virtues of many servants have been destroyed, and their pride and licentiousness increased; and, besides, as it has a tendency to obstruct that kind hospitality and disinterested friendship which the fraternity always wish to diffuse. The GRAND LODGE reckon themselves obliged to declare, to all under their jurisdiction, their dislike of any customs prejudicial to the principles of masons; and REQUIRE the officers of every LODGE in Scotland to intimate and recommend the above resolution in the first meeting after it comes to their hands.

By command of the Right Honourable and Most Worshipful David Earl of LEVEN GRAND MASTER MASON of Scotland,
ALEX. McDUGALL, G. Secretary.

The freeholders, commissioners of supply, and gentlemen from the different counties of Scotland, now at Edinburgh, are desired to meet at the Cross Keys tavern, on Tuesday next, the 4th of March, at four o'clock afternoon, upon a matter of the greatest importance to Scotland in general.

Moon's Age.	High water.	Sun ris.	Sun set.
Days.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
Mon.	3 29	3 39	6 47
Tue.	3 59	4 29	6 44
Wed.	4 39	4 58	6 42

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By authority of the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh,

Whereas, of late, sundry robberies have been committed in the environs of this city, particularly that, last Monday night, about ten o'clock, a young gentleman going down the walk to Leith, was joined by a man dressed in a blue big coat, with a sword by his side, of a darkish complexion,

and a good deal pitted with the small pox, who had the appearance of a military serjeant; after conversing till they came near the gibbet, he pulled from under his coat a bludgeon, and gave the gentleman first one blow, and then another, by which he was struck to the ground; and then the villain rifled his pocket, and robbed him of two five-pound bank-notes and a silver watch; after which he drew his sword, and threatened to run the gentleman through, if he made any noise; and immediately returned up the walk, leaving the poor gentleman half dead and senseless, lying by the side of the walk; in which condition he was found by some persons passing a short time after. The Lord Provost and Magistrates, for discovering and bringing to justice the person or persons guilty of the above, or any other robbery lately committed in the neighbourhood of this city, do hereby promise a reward of twenty guineas, to be paid by the City treasurer, upon the lawful conviction of any one or more of the offenders, to any person who shall discover the same.

There is to be sold, by public voluntary roup, (within John's coffeehouse in Edinburgh, upon Tuesday the 11th of March next, at four o'clock in the afternoon,

THAT LODGING or DWELLING-HOUSE belonging to Sir JAMES CLERK of PENNYQUICK, Baronet, formerly the property of Lord Sempill, lying in the Castlehill, north-side of the street, consisting of three stories. The first contains a kitchen, a large dining-room, and a drawing-room, with a light closet. The second story contains four fire-rooms, with four light closets. The upper story contains three fire-rooms with closets, and a lumber-room. Item, a large coal-cellar, and two other cellars for liquors. The dining-room, drawing-room, with two rooms above stairs, have handsome chimney-glasses, which are to remain with the house; as also a large kitchen-chimney. The entry thereto, to be at Whit Sunday next. The house to be seen any time before the roup.

The progress of writs and articles of roup to be seen in the hands of JAMES CARMICHAEL Clerk to the Signet, at his house in Lawn-market, who is empowered to conclude a private bargain with any person before the sale.

EDINBURGH SOCIETY.

UPON Monday next, the 3d of March, there is to be a general meeting of the Society, at the usual time and place.

At this meeting the Society are to determine what premiums are to be published for the year 1760, and to chuse judges for some of the articles undetermined of the premiums 1759.

Printed by GAVIN HAMILTON, JOHN BALFOUR, PATRICK NEILL, and JOHN REID; and sold at their shop, the first below the entry to the Exchange, and at the College; at both which places Advertisements are taken in.