

NO QUARTER for FRENCH INVADERS.

IT is reported that the FRENCH are either landed, or on the Coast. Be the Rumour true or false, it is proper that the Minds of ENGLISHMEN should be prepared to manifest Actions that will speedily terminate the Contest; if Contest there must be.—The following Ideas are sent abroad with that View: they stand as a Note, in a small Pamphlet (price ~~4d.~~ 6d.) which will appear in the Course of 3 or 4 Days (about January 12th) entitled “VICTORY, Flight or Death; or no Quarter to be given to French Invaders;*” and are introduced to justify, on the present Occasion, the Adoption of the bloody Flag.—It is hoped they will be well received, at this Juncture. They certainly are well meant.

* In considering the Subject of the bloody Flag, two important objects rationally occur for our Investigation.

- 1st The motives of the Invaders,
- 2ndly The policy of sparing them.

That their motives are Plunder, Conquest, and Humiliation, few, it is presumed, will be disposed to deny. If we were now a people divided, as our Forefathers have been, into civil factions of nearly equal strength, and the weak side solicited French aid to rescue them from oppression, then indeed it would be a far more dubious point whether the bloody Flag should be held out. This doubt cannot arise on the present occasion. Frenchmen are not invited: yet they not only come—or threaten to come—unsolicited, but they avow, in the most insolent language, a determination to plunder and subdue, and to raze the Metropolis of our country. This being as undeniable as the Power of their own language to afford Evidence of their Intentions, the Question simply arising from thence, is, whether wise Men would, on principles of Policy, or even of Humanity, spare such Foes, upon English Soil.

To subdue and then to spare would perhaps eventually be only affording occasion for a repetition of the same danger and false Clemency: for he who is permitted to survive the Battle of to-day, may possibly be in arms against, and subdue or destroy, his Conqueror tomorrow: and thus the Man, the Englishman—who spares a french Foe in England, may be instrumental to occasion prematurely his own Death, or that of his Brother or Friend.

In thus advising Britons to act with “Vigour beyond the law” of systematic warfare, let it not be supposed that a spirit of cruelty is meant to be encouraged. No! we have no right to torture even the Adder or the Viper that may destroy our lives, by infusing its venom; but we have a right to destroy whatever may destroy ourselves, particularly so when attacked by such an enemy.

So far is it from the Author's intention to recommend a spirit of irreconcilable rancour betwixt these two Nations, that if Englishmen attempt to invade France, he sincerely hopes Frenchmen will shew them no more Lenity than is here advised against Frenchmen.

Let Frenchmen and Englishmen regulate their own concerns without Interference from the other Party; and if one or the other be in want of Spirit or Energy sufficient to rescue them from oppression, may they be marked with the Reproach which they merit, for so wearing the Shackles of Slavery.

Price One Halfpenny.

*The above Pamphlet, sold by the Author, No. 19, MAIDEN-LANE, Covent-Garden; and by such Booksellers as have sufficient Liberality to assist a free Discussion of Sentiment.

