

uneasy apprehensions were formed concerning the safety of the Dutch colony of Surinam, at present threatened with the encroachments of the French, and a fresh revolt of the rebellious Negroes.

Letters from Ghent in Flanders mention that a person who lately absconded from England with a considerable sum of money has been arrested there, with his family, in order to be sent home.

A letter from a Gentleman at Genoa says Signior Pascal Paoli has the title of his Excellency the General of the kingdom of Corsica; he is absolute commander in the military affairs, and in a civil capacity is head of the Supreme Council. He is advanced in years, tall, well made, and of a noble countenance. He speaks his own language remarkably well, and is very much master both of French and English.

Monday evening last a Gentleman detected a fellow in throwing aquafortis on a Gentlewoman's gown, as she passed along the Strand; and a crowd soon gathering, he pleaded in excuse that he was a poor journeyman weaver, who, with a wife and four children, in this severe season, were almost starving to death for want of employment; and that the Lady's gown on which he had thrown the aquafortis was French wrought silk, the wearing of which was contrary to law: He was thereupon suffered to depart, without molestation.

A poor fellow, well known about Rosemary lane, and that neighbourhood, was this morning found dead in his bed in that place, occasioned, as is supposed, by having the night before drank 6 quarters of gin in half an hour, for a wager of a shilling, and he that lost to pay for the liquor.

#### A H I N T.

That no one may think Lord G. S. unpopular, let his former military character be examined: Who conducted the British troops to the burning of the French ships at St. Malo's? Lord George. Who rode post, before he had any command, to be in time for an engagement, and behaved in it, as a volunteer, with uncommon spirit and bravery? Lord George. Who formed the regiment that distinguished itself most on the plains of Minden? Lord George. Who was the best Colonel in the army for discipline, and supporting the honour of his corps? Lord George. And who is at present the ablest statesman, and finest speaker in Great Britain, equal, if not superior, to Mr. Pitt? Lord George Sackville.

#### WESTMINSTER, Jan. 14.

This day his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal robes seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, Sir Francis Molineux, Knt. Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious speech:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHEN I met you last I acquainted you that matters of importance had happened in America, which would demand the most serious attention of Parliament.

That no information, which could serve to direct your deliberations in so interesting a concern, might be wanting, I have ordered all the papers that give any light into the origin, the progress, or the tendency, of the disturbances which have of late prevailed in some of the Northern colonies, to be immediately laid before you.

No time has been lost, on the first advice of these disturbances, to issue orders to the Governours of my provinces, and to the Commanders of my forces in America, for the exertion of all the powers of Government in the suppression of riots and tumults, and in the effectual support of lawful authority.

Whatever remains to be done on this occasion I commit to your wisdom, not doubting but your zeal for the honour of my Crown, your attention to the just rights and authority of the British Legislature, and your affection and concern for the welfare and prosperity of all my people, will guide you to such sound and prudent resolutions as may tend at once to preserve those constitutional rights over the colonies, and to restore to them that harmony and tranquillity which have lately been interrupted by riots and disorders of the most dangerous nature.

If any alterations should be wanting in the commercial economy of the plantations, which may tend to enlarge and secure the mutual and beneficial intercourse of my kingdoms and colonies, they will deserve your most serious consideration. In effectuating purposes so worthy of your wisdom and public spirit, you may depend upon my most hearty concurrence and support. The present happy tranquillity now subsisting in Europe will enable you to pursue such objects of our interior policy with a more uninterrupted attention.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the proper estimates for the current services of the year to be laid before you. Such supplies as you may grant shall be duly applied, with the utmost fidelity, and shall be dispensed with the strictest economy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I earnestly recommend to you to proceed in your deliberations with temper and unanimity. The time

requires, and I doubt not but your own inclination will lead you to, those salutary dispositions. I have nothing at heart but the assertion of legal authority, the preservation of the liberties of all my subjects, the equity and good order of my government, and the concord and prosperity of all parts of my dominions."

BRISTOL, Jan. 11. Monday last there was a meeting at the Merchants Hall, where it was unanimously agreed to draw up a petition to Parliament, relative to the affairs of North America; when William Reeve, Esq; Master of the Hall, Joseph Farell, and Thomas Farr, Esqrs. were appointed to carry up the said petition, and deliver it to our Members in Parliament. The same evening there was a meeting of several Gentlemen who have the interest of the colonies much at heart, to draw up another petition (setting forth the distresses of the colonies, the interruption of commerce, and the stagnation of trade in this kingdom) which was signed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and principal inhabitants of this city; and Samuel Sedgley, and Henry Cruger, Esqrs. were requested to wait on our Representatives therewith.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31. A party of General Severne's regiment of dragoons, called the Cross Belts, came to town yesterday with the treasure that was on board the Sandwich, whose crew was murdered by the villains now in Newgate, and deposited the same in the treasury. It is said that there is not above 500 l. wanting, by the original invoice; by which it appears that what the murderers had taken must have been part of Captain Glas's effects.

From the Gentleman's Magazine for Jan. 1766.

THE mistress of the Blue Lion in Aldersgate street was safely delivered of a fine boy, in its full time, healthy and well. On the 10th of August last she was delivered of a fine boy, who is likewise healthy and well; an instance of superfecundation, that can no longer be contended.

Jan. 9. The Rev. Dr. Birch, Secretary to the Royal Society, was unfortunately thrown from his horse, and died a few hours after. His friend Dr. Watton, of the same society, arrived just as he was expiring, and by the symptoms, judged, as it is said, that his fall was succeeded by an apoplexy.

Jan. 13. This day the celebrated Jean Jaques Rousseau arrived in London; he was at the play on the 23d, and presented himself in the upper box, fronting his Majesty.

Jan. 16. The Hon. House of Commons waited upon his Majesty with their address, and were most graciously received. His Majesty's answer was as follows:

Gentlemen,

"The moderation and temper with which you resolve to enter into the consideration of the important affairs I have recommended to you cannot but give me the greatest satisfaction, as from these dispositions I entertain the fullest confidence that your wisdom will direct you to such measures as will ensure the common happiness and welfare of all my dominions, which will always be the invariable objects of my care and attention.

"I receive your condolence on the melancholy event of my brother's death, as a mark of your affection and loyalty.

"I shall be careful that my conduct shall justify the confidence you so affectionately express in my applying properly such supplies as you may find necessary for the publick service."

Jan. 28. Was the fullest House of Commons that has been known. None but members were admitted, and persons of distinction.

Jan. 31. A treaty has been concluded between the Emperour of Germany and the Empress of Russia, for reciprocally guaranteeing their respective dominions against the common enemy of Christendom.

Petitions have been presented from the principal merchants, &c. of Bristol, York, Liverpoole, and other trading places, complaining of the hardships the Labour under by the great decay of trade to the American colonies, and to the coast of Africa.

All the eminent lawyers (one excepted) are said to be clearly and strongly of opinion, that the British Parliament has an undoubted right to lay taxes in America.

The foreign gazettes say that Mr. Wilkes is actually incog. at London, and that he sees none but a few of his most intimate friends.

There is now printed off, ready for presenting to the Lords and Commons, a plan for altering the mode of excise, by taking the duty entirely off beer and ale throughout the kingdom, whereby it will be evidently shown that the revenue will be increased some hundred thousand pounds annually.

At Civita Vecchia, in Italy, the ancient temple of Isis has been lately discovered. This temple is almost entire in all its parts; the walls are covered with paintings, that have suffered but little damage from time. There are altars, on which are found the bones and ashes of the victims, with many utensils used in sacrifices; also several statues of bronze, inscriptions, and ancient monuments, that contribute to render this discovery more and more interesting. Since the month of June last, when the workmen began to discover the theatre of Pompey, there has

been a continual concourse of the Nobility, and persons of all ranks, and even of foreigners, to see these precious remains of antiquity.

A play called *Zaire*, written by M. de Voltaire, was acted at the royal theatre at Hanover, by persons of the highest rank, when Prince Charles of Mecklenburgh Strelitz performed the principal character with universal applause.

DEATHS. Frederick V. King of Denmark and Norway, aged 42 years and 9 months. He was married September 14, 1747, to the Princess Louisa of England (who died in September 1751) by whom he had one son, named Christian, born January 9, 1749, who succeeds him on the throne, and two daughters.

#### WILLIAMSBURG, March 28.

Arrived in York river, from London, the *Cæsar*, Capt. Martin, and the *Nautilus*, Capt. Boyes; the latter had only 5 weeks passage. The *Elizabeth*, Capt. Kerr, is arrived in James river, from Glasgow, but last from Rotterdam.

Capt. M'Cunn, lately arrived in York river, brings advice of the arrival of the brigantine *Chance* in St. George's Channel from Quebec; which in her passage from thence, on the 31st of December, in latitude 51, longitude 22, W. took up the master and seamen of the (now *Neptune*, John Coffin master, from Nantucket, for London, they being in distress.

Extract of a letter from the Gentlemen that went from Bristol to present the petition of the merchants there, relative to the affairs of North America, to Parliament, dated London, Jan. 14, 1766.

"We have this moment returned from the House of Commons, and have the pleasure (though but barely time, as the post is just going) to inform you that, by what we could observe, there is not the least doubt but that the late restrictions on the North American trade will be totally taken off, and that trade both encouraged and extended. We have reason to think that the Ministry are for repealing the Stamp Act. Mr. Pitt, at different times this afternoon, spoke at least three hours, like an Englishman, replete with true principles of liberty. He insists upon supporting the sovereignty of the Mother Country over the colonies, but as warmly insisted upon the ill policy, the injustice, and even illegality, of taxing a people who were not represented; and concluded with giving it as his opinion that the Stamp Act should be totally repealed."

In letters by Capt. Boyes there is mention made of the arrival of Col. George Mercer, at London, on the 25th of January last. At the time these letters were written nothing had transpired as to the resolution of the House of Commons concerning America, as they had not then gone through half the papers that were laid before them; however, it was the general opinion that the Stamp Act would be repealed, upon certain conditions. Mr. Jordan, appointed by Lord Baltimore to dispose of his lands in Maryland, had a ship in the river, waiting for the determination of this important matter, upon whose arrival we hope to have the pleasure of informing our readers that the cause of the colonies has prevailed.

#### Advertisements.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 28, 1766.

AS I understand it is thought by some that I have neglected, or refused, to publish the account of a late transaction at *Hobb's Hole*, this is to assure the publick (although I am informed the said account was sent to a Gentleman in this place) that I never saw the same, nor was it ever offered to me to publish, otherwise it would have been the light before this time: For I do now, as I have heretofore declared, that my press shall be as free as any Gentleman can wish or desire; that is, as free as any publick press upon the continent. It is hoped this declaration will satisfy every one, as to the manner in which I purpose conducting myself; and I request it, as a particular favour, that nobody would prejudge me: It will be time enough to condemn me when my conduct is examined into, and found faulty.

Let any one should misapprehend my meaning as to the price of the *VIRGINIA GAZETTE*, it is this: I have asked 15 s. a year, which is the sum both Mr. Hunter and Mr. Royle, my predecessors, had for it: But if any other person should publish a paper in this colony at a lower rate, my customers may expect that I shall exact no more from them, as I think I can, and it will be expected that I should, print as cheap as any one else.

I take this opportunity to caution those who may send ADVERTISEMENTS to be inserted in the paper from directing the same to me sealed up, as I am obliged to pay the POSTAGE, which will not answer: For the future, therefore, they will please cause them to be delivered to the postman open, or send them by some other opportunity.

ALEXANDER PURDIE.

DINWIDDIE, March 25, 1766.

I INTEND for the *West Indies* very soon. JOSEPH LYELL.

THE TRUSTEES, and other subscribers to the fund for relief of the widows and orphans of poor clergymen, are desired to meet the Treasurer on Saturday the 26th of April. The trustees are the Rev. Messrs. Robinson, Cannon, Warrington, Dixon, Reade, Fontaine; the Rev. Mr. Hewitt Preacher, and Richard Graham Treasurer.