

THE [Numb. 730.]
MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, May 3, 1759.

From the UNIVERSAL CHRONICLE.

Some remarkable Passages of the Life and Death of the celebrated Dr. BOERHAAVE.

IT was the daily Practice of that eminent Physician Dr. BOERHAAVE, throughout his whole Life, as soon as he arose in the Morning, which was generally very early, to retire for an Hour to private Prayer, and Meditation on some Part of the Scriptures.—He often told his Friends, when they asked him how it was possible for him to go through so much Fatigue; that it was *Thú* which gave him Spirit and Vigour in the Business of the Day. *This* he therefore recommended as the best Rule he could give, for nothing, he said, could tend more to the Health of the Body, than the Tranquillity of the Mind; and that he knew nothing which could support himself, or his Fellow-Creatures, amidst the various Distresses of Life, but a well grounded Confidence in the Supreme Being upon the Principles of Christianity. This Remark of the Doctor's is undeniably just, for a benevolent Manner of Acting, and a true Greatness of Soul, can never flow from any other Source than a Consciousness of the Divine Favour and Assistance.—This was strongly exemplified in his own Illness in 1722; which can hardly be told without Horror, and by which the Course of his Lectures as well as his Practice was long interrupted. He was for five Months confined to his Bed by the Gout, where he lay upon his Back without daring to attempt the least Motion, because any Effort renewed his Torments, which were so exquisite, that he was at length not only deprived of Motion but of Sense.—Here his Medical Art was at a Stand, nothing could be attempted, because nothing could be proposed with the least Prospect of Success. But having (in the sixth Month of his Illness) obtained some Remission, he determined to try whether the Juice of Fumitory, Endive, and Succory, taken thrice a Day in large Quantities (viz. above half a Pint each Dose) might not contribute to his Relief, and by a Perseverance in this Method he was wonderfully recovered. This Patient of BOERHAAVE's was founded not on vain Reasonings, like that of which the *Stoicks* boasted, but on a religious Composure of Mind, and a Christian Resignation to the Will of God.

Of his Sagacity and the wonderful Penetration with which he often discovered and described, at the first Sight of a Patient, such Distempers as betray themselves by no Symptoms to common Eyes, such wonderful Accounts have been given, as can scarcely be credited, tho' attested beyond all doubt.—Yet this great Master of Medical Knowledge was so far from a presumptuous Confidence in his Abilities, or from being puffed up by his Riches, that he was condescending to all, and remarkably diligent in his Profession; as he used often to say, that the Life of a Patient (if trifled with, or neglected) would be one Day required at the Hand of the Physician.—And he always called the Poor his best Patients, for God, says he, is their Paymaster.

The Activity of his Mind sparkled visibly in his Eyes.—He was always cheerful, and desirous of promoting every valuable End of Conversation; and the Excellency of the Christian Religion was frequently the Subject of it; for he asserted, on all proper Occasions, the Divine Authority and sacred Efficacy of the Scriptures; and maintained, that they only could give Peace of Mind, that sweet and sacred Peace which passeth all Understanding, since none can conceive it, but he who has it; and none can have it, but by Divine Communication. He never regarded Calumny, nor Detraction, (for even BOERHAAVE himself had his Enemies) nor ever thought it necessary to confute them. *They are Sparks, said he, which if you do not blow, will go out of themselves.*—*The surest Remedy against*

Scandal, is to live it down by a Perseverance in well-doing; and by praying to God, that he would cure the distemper'd Minds of those who traduce, and injure us.—An excellent Method this; especially as it keeps our own Minds contented and unruffled, whilst the Hearts of our Enemies are overflowing with Rancour, Envy, and other diabolical Passions.

He was not to be over-awed, or depressed, by the Presence, Frowns, or Insolence of Great Men, but persisted on all Occasions in doing what was right, regardless of the Consequences.—He could, too, with uncommon Readiness and almost to a Certainty, make a Conjecture of Men's Inclinations and Capacity by their Aspect.—A Sagacity perhaps unequalled, and which often surprized even his most intimate Acquaintance, tho' they so well knew his Talents.

Being once asked by a Friend, who had often admired his Patience under great Provocations, whether he knew what it was to be angry, and by what Means he had so entirely suppressed that impetuous, and ungovernable Passion? Dr. BOERHAAVE answered, with the utmost Frankness and Sincerity, that he was naturally quick of Repentment, but that he had, by daily Prayer, and Meditation, at length attained to this Mastery over himself.—But this he said was the Work of God's Grace; for he was too sensible of his own Weakness to ascribe any thing to himself, or to conceive that he could subdue Passion, or withstand Temptation by his own natural Power: He attributed every good Thought, and every laudable Action, to the Father of Goodness.

To the Will of God he paid an absolute Submission, without endeavouring to discover the Reasons of his unsearchable Determinations; and this he accounted the first and most inviolable Duty of a Christian.

About the Middle of the Year 1737 he felt the first Approaches of that fatal Illness, which brought him to the Grave, viz. a Disorder in his Breat, which was at Times very painful; often threatened him with immediate Suffocation; and terminated in an universal Dropsy; but during this afflictive and lingering Illness, his Constancy and Firmness did not forsake him. He neither intermitted the necessary Cares of Life, nor forgot the proper Preparations of Death. About three Weeks before his Dissolution, when the Rev. Mr. Schultens, one of the most learned and exemplary Divines of the Age, attended him at his Country-House, the Doctor desired his Prayers, and afterwards entered in to a most remarkably judicious Discourse with him on the spiritual and immaterial Nature of the Soul; and this he illustrated to Mr. Schultens with wonderful Perspicuity, by a Description of the Effects which the Infirmities of his Body had upon his Faculties, which yet they did not so oppress or vanquish, but his Soul was always Master of itself, and always resigned to the Pleasure of its Maker—and then he added, *He who loves God ought to think nothing desirable but what is most pleasing to the Supreme Goodness.* These were his Sentiments, and such was his Conduct in this State of Weakness and Pain: As Death approached nearer, he was so far from Terror or Confusion, that he seemed less sensible of Pain, and more cheerful under his Torments, which continued till the 23d Day of September, 1738, on which he died (much honoured and lamented) between four and five in the Morning, in the 70th Year of his Age—often recommending to the By-standers a careful Observation of St. John's Precepts concerning the Love of God and Love of Man, as frequently inculcated in his first Epistle, particularly in the 5th Chapter.

Such were the Qualities of the Great BOERHAAVE.—So far was this truly eminent Man from being made impious by Philosophy, or vain by his extraordinary Genius for Physick, that he ascribed all his Abilities to the Bounty, and all his

Goodness to the Grace of God.—May his Example extend its Influence to his Admirers and Followers! May those who study his Writings as a Physician, imitate his Life as a Christian! And thus, while they are endeavouring after his Medical Knowledge, be aspiring likewise to his exalted Piety; as he was so admirable a Pattern of Patience, Fortitude, Cheerfulness, Charity, Candour, Humility, and Devotion.

His Funeral Oration was spoken in Latin before the University of Leyden to a very numerous Audience, by Mr. Schultens, and afterwards published at their particular Desire.

Extra from a French anonymous Work, (entitled, Reflexions of) written about six Years since, but may undoubtedly be, with greater Justice, applied to England at this Time, than at the Time when it was written.

THE French and English have divided Europe between them, which of the Two have acted the most conspicuous Part?

The last Century was the Age of France, the present is the Age of England.

Lewis XIV was arrived at universal Monarchy, that is, to such a Degree of Power as enabled him alone to make head against all. The English will acquire it in their Turn. This will be the Case, when, under the Shadow of the Jealousies they shall raise against France, as she herself had raised against the House of Austria, they shall have so far improved their Marine and Trade, as to engross to themselves all the Riches of Europe.

The universal Monarchy of England will be more durable, because it will be more solid; and it will be more solid, because it will be more slow. In some Respects it will be more equitable, because a Nation of Kings is generous. In others more weighty, because this Nation of Kings will be at the same Time a Nation of Merchants. And in other Respects more humbling, for nothing is so haughty as the Empire of the Sea.

Lewis XIV did not come to that short Instant of universal Monarchy, but by oppressing his Subjects during the whole Course of his Reign. England will come to it by enriching her People; the one took the direct high Road to Despotism, the other will pass through the untrodden Paths of Liberty.

No other Idea could fill up the Greatness of Lewis the XIVth's Soul: The Courtier fed this Inclination, the Ministry laid the Plan, Valour, in Concert with Wisdom, executed it. England will rise to a higher Pitch of Power, without any concerted Design. The Frame of its Constitution will carry it thither, and the Indolence of other Nations will favour its Constitution. She must become Mistress of Europe, without having formed the Project of being so; astonished at the Extent of her own Power, she will be convinced of it only by the Apprehensions of all her Neighbours, by their Submission to her imperious Oracles, and by their impotent Leagues.

The Blindness of some States is beyond Conception. They take Umbrage at the ambitious Pretensions of an Empire which must be exhausted of Men and Money, for the Conquest of a Province; and they are not alarmed at the Progress of a People, who every ten Years acquire, without any Struggle, the Revenues of a rich Province. Is not he alone the True Monarch of the World, who carries on its Trade?

LONDON, January 25.

HER Royal Highness the Princess of Orange dictated, the very Day she died, to M. de Larry, a very long Letter to her Father the King of Great-Britain, and signed it with her own Hand. Imme.

HERE is at the Plantation of Lucy Smith, in Prince Georges County, near Upper Marlborough, and in the Possession of Basil Burgh, a small Bay Mare, with a Star in her Forehead, her hind Feet are white, and she appears to be about 8 or 10 Years old; she has not any perceivable Brand. The Owner may have her again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

To be SOLD by PUBLIC VENDOR, on Monday the Ninth Day of May next, at the Subscriber's Store in Annapolis.

TRACT of LAND, containing 461 Acres, lately possessed by Mr. Henry Waisen, deceased, lying on Patuxent River, about a Mile below the Mouth of Rock Creek, with several improvements, consisting of a Dwelling-House, a brick Washing-House, and several convenient Out-houses; and 3 or 4 young Orchards. For Title or Terms, enquire of JAMES DICK.

JUST IMPORTED, the Ship WYB-RIVER, from LONDON, and to be Sold by the Subscriber, at his Store in Annapolis. A LARGE Quantity of fine BOHEA, GREEN, and HYSON TEAS, at reasonable Rates. ROBERT SWAN.

PHILIP SYNG, BRASS-FOUNDER, from PHILADELPHIA, living near the Town Gate, in ANNAPOIS. MAKES (or Repairs) all Sorts of Brass-Work, such as Candlesticks, Heads or Knobs of SIZES for Shovels, Dogs, &c. Furniture for desks and Chests of Drawers, Knockers for Doors, Axes for Carriages, Mill Brasses for Saw or Grist Mills, Plate-Warmers, &c. &c. He also casts all Sorts of all SIZES; and gives the best Prices for Brass and Copper. N. B. Chocolate, Coffee and Raisins, to be had by said Syng.

JOHN INCH, Shoemaker, HAVING lately procured an excellent Workman from London, carries on his Business in his Shop near the Inspector-House in Annapolis, and performs any Plate Work, either small or large in the best and most fashionable Manner, at the cheapest Rates. He also Examels Rings for marring. To be Disposed of by the said Inch, the Time of Dutch Servant Man, that has above Six Years to serve, and who understands Tanning and Currying.

JOHN CAMPBELL, TAYLOR, HEREBY gives Notice to his old Customers, and Others, That he now carries on his Business at the House, where he formerly lived, (now removed to his Plantation on the North side of Severn) in Annapolis.

TO BE SOLD, SEVERAL valuable Tracts of LAND, lying in the lower Part of Frederick County, well timber'd, and plenty of good Meadow ground for Cattle, Hills of Exchange, or heavy Tracts. For further Particulars enquire of HENRY WRIGHT CRABER.

ABOUT 350 Acres of LAND, lying very near London-Town, the Land being Part of the Estate of Mr. William Peck, late of said Town, deceased.

One Lot in the New Town of Annapolis, Number 1, lying on the Street leading down to the Ferry, with an old House, in which the said Neutral at present live. For Title, enquire of the Subscriber. JAMES MONTAG, JAMES DICK, JAMES NICHOLSON, Executors.

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