

Novelty or Singularity of the Other, ought to Bias a Lover of Truth, who is to bring every Thing to the Test of Reason, so far as his Capacity enables Him. It may likewise happen, that we may believe some Things to be True, which are actually True; and yet the Reasons upon which we ground our Belief may be False: And this Consideration will furnish an honest Man with a fresh Argument in Favour of Doubting.

TO conclude my Two Lectures upon PHILOSOPHICAL DOUBTING, and to shew the main Advantages of such a Habit to Mankind in General; I must once again remind my Readers, that it is impossible to *Think freely*, and to come at Truth without this Disposition. In the next Place, I shall observe, That this Habit of Doubting, will teach us to be modest in our Opinions, and ready to retract our Errors; not to be Positive in our Ignorance, but Inquisitive and desirous of Instruction; to be moderate towards Those, who differ from us; and to suffer all Men, who live in Submission to the Civil Laws of their Country, to enjoy their Perswasion quietly, without attempting to convince them of any Error, but by cool and temperate Reasoning.

LASTLY, It will be proper to observe, That the Great Truths of RELIGION, of MORALITY, and of POLITICKS, such as are the Cement of Society, come within a narrow Compass; and may be apprehended by a Plain Capacity, that shall diligently enquire into their Nature, with a Teachable Disposition, and a Willingness to be informed. And as for the Refinements in these several Topicks, which have been introduced into the World by Speculative Men; the Knowledge of them is not Necessary (and very often Pernicious) to the Bulk of Mankind. The applauded Systems of these Kinds of Learning do not improve, but confound the People; and the Study of them, is at best, but a SOLEMN IDLENESS.

I am Yours,

THE PLAIN-DEALER

N^o. 5.

* * In the Plain-Dealer N^o. 3, at the Close of the second Paragraph, for refuse, read receive.

Annapolis, Dec. 17. Last Friday Capt. Mason, in the Brigantine *Thomas and Sarah*, from Barbadoes, arrived in 30 Days, at the Mouth of our River, which was frozen so hard, that he could not come into the Cove; however, he broke his Way thro' the Ice; (which was Three or Four Inches thick) a considerable Way; and by the Lenity of the Weather since, has brought his Vessel into the Cove.

He informs us, that in October last, one Capt. Gardner, in a large Brigantine, from Barbadoes, bound for Virginia, with a full Loading of Rum, &c. about the Latitude of 16, founder'd, and the Vessel was lost; but that the Captain, and all the Men, betaking themselves to their Boat, were very providentially sav'd, by a Vessel they met with the next Day, who took them in, one of whom related it to Capt. Mason, at Barbadoes, a few Days before he left that Island.

Enter'd since our last Account.

November 20th. Sloop Gloster of Virginia, George Master.

December 14th. Thomas and Sarah of Boston, W. Mason, Master.

Clear'd Out.

December 4th. Sloop Dove of Maryland, Benjamin G. Master for North Carolina.

ADVERTISEMENT

Just Imported, from Barbadoes directly, in the Brigantine *Thomas and Sarah*, Capt. Mason, Commander.

A Quantity of good Rum, Sugar and Melasses: To be Sold, by Wholesale and Retail, for ready Money, at very reasonable Rates, by Capt. *William Mason*, as aforesaid, on Board his Brigantine, or at the House of Mr. *St. John Mason*, in Annapolis.

This Week will be Publish'd,

THE ACTS of the last Session of Assembly

Printed and Sold by *William Parks*, Price 2 s. to those who bought the Whole Body of Laws, and 2 s. 6 d. to others. Note, There are a small Number left of the Whole Body of Laws Bound, to be Sold for a Pistole each, as usual; but several Persons have waited in Expectation of having them sold cheaper; but they may be assur'd, that if the Price should be alter'd, they will be dearer, as they grow scarcer.

I have Information of some Persons, who by their neglect of the Publick Stations, have been entitled to, and have received, me, at the Publick Expence, Two or Three Books of the Laws, (one for each Publick Office they enjoy) And instead of laying the spare ones up safe, for their successors, (one Book at a Time being sufficient for one Person) as was the Intention of the Assembly; they have disposed of, and lent them, to private Persons; some of whom had been subscrib'd to take them of me, and (notwithstanding the Publication of them has been advertis'd above a Year ago) have not yet fetch'd them from me. Whether those Gentlemen, (who know themselves guilty of this Accusation) think it not an Imposition on the Publick, as also a Contempt of the Legislature's Intention to encourage a Printing of the Laws, I leave to the World, and their own Consciences, to reflect upon.

William Parks

Lately Publish'd,

THE Right of the Inhabitants of Maryland

to the Benefit of the English LAWS. By *D. Dulany*, Esq. Printed and Sold by *W. Parks*. Price 2 s.

Lately Publish'd,

AN ALMANACK for the Year 1729

Calculated more exactly for these Parts, than any hitherto been publish'd yet. By *JOHN WARNER*, Philom. liv'd near *Pattowmack*. Printed and Sold by *William Parks*, in Annapolis. Price 6 Pence a Piece, or 4 Shillings per Dozen to those who buy them to sell again.

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