

## MARYLAND GAZETTE,

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, November 11, 1747.

From the St. James's EVENING POST, of August 22. 1747.

To the AUTHOR, &amp;c.

S I R,

In the year 1678, when Lewis XIV. had brought the Dutch almost to the Brink of Ruin, and this Nation was so animat'd against France by the Progress of her Arms in the Spanish Netherland, that the Parliament edict'd King Charles II. to declare War against her, a Pamphlet was published, entitled, *Christianissimus Christiananus, or, Reasons for the Reduction of France to a more Christian State in Europe.* As most of the Matter in this Piece is as applicable to the present Time as it was to that when it was written, allowing only for the Change of Names, I send you an Abstract from the Beginning of it, which if you please, you may lay before the public.

**C**ERTAINLY 'tis high Time to think of making the Ministers of France better Christians, when 'tis apparent they have taken up the Principles of the Common Enemy of Christendom, and made his Maxims the Rules and the Measure of their Proceedings. Absolute Empire at Home, and Universal Empire Abroad, is their Aim as well as the Turks; and seeing that by their Actions all the Duties of Christianity are laid in the Dirt, it were hard to determine, under which of the Two, Christendom would obtain fairest Quarter, after an absolute Conquest. For though France be Owner of the better Faith, yet she other keep *quo tunc*; because all Travellers tell us, the Turk counts it Religion to keep Word and Promise.

But (it seems) France may do any Thing *Regnandi Causa*, as we shall see by and by, when we come to tell how little Value is made of Promises, Obligations, Alliances, and the Sacraments. In these Things they exceed the Grand Signior; but in Matter and Extent of Absolute Dominion, they are his Rivals, and aspiring to establish him in his Design upon Europe, to become sole Masters of the Western, as he is of the Eastern Empire.

And why not? Why should not Lewis the XIVth have it now, as his Predecessor, Charlemain, had it heretofore? His great Ministers and Officers both Civil and Military, say, They've ample Territories, and very populous, and a most numerous Nobility and Gentry; as much Courage as their Ancestors, together with the Advantage of being trained up either to Actions of War, or warlike Exercises; also the Situation of their Country, and Opportunity they have by it to invade their Neighbours upon all Occasions; the Fruitfulness and Riches of their Soil, the prodigious Quantity of all Sorts of Commodities, Manufactures, and other Ways, with which they supply neighbouring Countries; And lastly, the vast Revenues of their Kingdoms, who governing of late without Check or Controul at Home, are thereby the more able to oppress other States or Nations.

They boast how Charles VIII. frighted all other Potentates, the surprizing Conquest of the Kingdom of Naples. How they contended with the Austrian Family, when it had been reduc'd on a sudden to a wondrous Grandeur, by the Accession of the memorable Provinces, united in the Person of Charles the V. that their King Francis I. had like to have carried from him the Imperial Crown, having to that end engaged several of the Electors; but they forget to tell us, that when he had mis'd them to be reveng'd on the Emperor, and the other Christian Princes, he was the first that taught the French the *Most Christian Trick* of making Leagues with the Turk; for so did he teach the Great Solyman the Magnificent, as you may read in Lord Herbert's History of our Henry VIII. and God profus'd him accordingly: For tho' he had several Times the Turk's Assistance to carry on his revengeful Designs, to the Hazard of all Christendom, yet, at last, he was forc'd to yield

to the victorious Arms of that Emperor Charles, who took him Prisoner, and made him buy his Peace at an extraordinary Rate. But his Son Henry II. had better Success, and would have extended his Dominions very far, had he not been prevented by a sudden unfortunate Death, as was also thirty Years after, King Henry III.

Then came on his Successor Henry IV. and of him they boast, that he subdued Monsters of Factions at Home, and afterwards revived that monstrous Design of grasping all abroad: That having made good his Title to the Crown, by the Success of his Arms, he bent all Thoughts upon a Project, vast in the Extent of it, as extraordinary in the Nature of it, intending no less than to cast Europe into a new Model, and reduce all the Kingdoms and Commonwealths that were in his Time, to a certain Number, and to bring them into such Bounds as he should think fit to prescribe to them; but to reserve to himself a Portion so considerable, to grow up into that State of Universal Monarchy, which had been first imagined by his Predecessor Francis. To this Effect, he had made Choice of his Generals, and other great Officers, furnished his Arsenal with mighty Stores of Arms, and collected prodigious Sums of Money into his Treasury; and all came to nothing by the Hand of Ravalliac.

After him his Son Lewis XIII. Father of the present King, though, by Reason of some Broils and Civil Wars, he was not at Leisure to carry on the Project of his Predecessors, by employing that Way the great Armory and Wealth which his Father had provided; yet still he had an Eye towards it; and Cardinal Richelieu, with the rest of his Ministers, finding that the House of Austria was very near bringing all Germany under their Subjection, and after the Battle of Prague, stood fair to carry away Universal Empire (the Darling of France) they hasten'd with what Speed they could to put an End to civil Disensions, and having got Quiet at Home, they being then courted by divers Princes, for Assistance and Protection against the Austrian Family, were glad of the Opportunity: Reckoning, that under a Show of assisting weak Princes, they might at length take an Occasion to share with them in their Principalties, and by that Means vastly increase their own Power; And so they did subdue new Provinces and considerable Towns in Spain, Italy, Germany, and the Low-Countries; which at last made the Princes as jealous of him, as they had been before of the Austrians: So that, to prevent farther Mischief, they were content to sit down with their Losses, rather than quit their French allies any longer. Which occasioned that great Treaty held at Munster, which ended in a general Peace, Anno 1648.

PETERSBURGH, July 27.

**M**onsieur Dillion, Minister from France, has obtain'd Leave from his Court to return home to France, for the Recovery of his Health, but purposes to be here again next Spring.

**Leghorn, July 29.** By a Ship just arriv'd here from Genoa, we hear, that on the 26th a Body of 15000 Troops, consisting of French, Spaniards, and Genoese, set out from thence for Savona. We have also receiv'd Advice, that the French have blown up the Castle of Ventimiglia, and that ten Felices, with Provisions for the French and Spaniards, having enter'd into St. Remo, upon a Supposition that it was in Possession of the former, were immediately seized upon by the Piedmontese.

Two English Men-of-War having cast Anchor off Viareggio, where they block up the Port, and stop all Ships that come here, declaring all good Prizes, our Merchants have complain'd of it, not only to the Regency of Florence, but also at Vienna. The English have also taken and carried into Port-Makon, a Maltese Ship from this Port, laden with Effects for the Merchants at Marseilles. Several Persons are arriv'd here from Genoa,