

N<sup>o</sup>. 167.

# THE MARYLAND GAZETTE,

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, July 6, 1748.

COLOGNE, March 1.

FOR six Months past the Public News has often made mention of great subterraneous discoveries made 6 miles from Naples, on the side of Mount Vesuvius, in the Plain of Portici. The different Relations, that have appeared on this Subject, have all their Merit; but the first being certainly a little romantic, and the latter very dry, we did not much regard them. At last we have a Letter without either of those Faults, and which has moreover the advantage to be sign'd by the first Prelate of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. The following is an exact Copy;

We persuaded ourselves at first, that there was only a Theatre in the Place that had been dug into; viz. that Theatre, which according to Historians, was buried by an earthquake in the Reign of the Emperor Titus. But for some time past the ruins of other Edifices have been found, which prove the discovery not to consist of a Theatre only, but of an entire City, which has been swallowed up by the Torrents of Fire, and Brimstone vomited forth by Mount Vesuvius. This City, without dispute, was the ancient Herculaneum, which Antonius in his Itinerary, places at six Miles distance from our Capital, answering to two French leagues; which is properly the distance at present observed. We are moreover convinced of it by the Inscriptions, that have been dug up in the Place itself, in which we find Herculaneuses, the Name of the Inhabitants of the swallowed up City.

'T would be too long to give an exact Detail of all the curious Pieces that have been taken out of the ground here: We will only speak of them therefore in general. They consist of Pictures in Fresco, great and small, all excellent; which have been brought out with the Walls on which they were painted; many Columns and Statues; various sorts of Furniture; and an Infinity of other curiosities. Two Colossal Statues, in a sitting Posture, are in the utmost Perfection. There is a Statue of Nero naked, with the Thunder in his Hand. A great many measures of Liquids have been collected, which will be of prodigious use in the Explanation of ancient Writers. There is a Book of four or six Leaves of Copper. Bottles of Chrystal have also been found, full of a thick black Matter, which is thought to be the Balm of Egypt, with which the ancients embalmed the dead. Even a Pye has been discover'd in the Oven; as appeared by the Figure, tho' the whole fell into Ashes when touched.

We have in the Architrave of the Theatre, the Name both of him that caused it to be built, and of the Architect who built it: For the following Words appear in large Capitals, THEATRUM ORCHESTRANI DE SUO—L. RUFUS, L. FILIUS; and a little after, in smaller Letters, VASIVIVS P. J. ARCHITECT. But the Master-piece of all these Antiquities is an Equestrian Statue of Marble, wrought with the utmost Delicacy, and almost exceeding that of Antonius at Rome.

The discovery of this inexhaustible Fund of all sorts was made by mere chance, about 30 Years ago, in digging for the Foundation of a Palace that was then going to be built.

The king has procur'd a very able Man from Rome, who is to engrave the most remarkable pieces that are already, or may be found: By this means they will be given to the Public, and Foreigners will have an Opportunity of seeing what we discover.

Turin, March 30. The court has received accounts by two expresses, of an Attempt made upon the town of Savona, by a body of French troops sent from Genoa; but the governor made such dispositions as obliged the enemy to retire, after several endeavours to force the advanced posts. Besides the body transported by sea in 200 row-boats, there was another which came by land to secure the passes and the upper part of the mountains. This court is extremely pleased with the assistance vice admiral Byng gave in this affair, who cannonaded the enemy in their port.

Milan, March 22. A Day or two ago a courier arrived here from the Imperial minister at Turin, who brought count Brown a copy of the convention concluded between the courts of Vienna and Turin, for the sending troops against the island of Corsica; since which, this general has sent dispatches to admiral Byng and count Neuhaus, commander of her imperial troops in the Western Riviera.

Genoa, March 23. Such dispositions are making, by order of the duke of Richlieu, as seem to indicate an approaching expedition. That general set out last wednesday, with a great number of officers, on board many armed Feluccas, in order to visit the posts along the coast, and give orders for their safety. Yesterday we heard that his excellency was arrived at Sestridi Levante.

LONDON, April 5.

The French Queen has lately lost her Confessor, who was a Polish Abbot, and 'tis expected she will replace him by another of the same Nation, of which she is a Native.

Yesterday several pieces of Skulls, with bones, part of Mr. Eldridge's family, that were burnt at the late Fire in Exchange-Alley, were found among the ruins of the said house.

'T is said, that last wednesday, in clearing the rubbish and ruins of the late dreadful fire in Cornhill, a woman was found in a vault, unhurt by the flames, but almost starved to death.

*On the late dreadful Fire.*

How dreadful! in the Calm, the Midnight Hour,  
When peaceful Sleep exerts his soothing Pow'r,  
To start from Slumber, with th' affrighting Sound  
Of bursting Flames, which rage our Dwellings round?  
Alike, but stronger far, will be th' Amaze,  
When Nature sinks in the last fun'ral Blaze;  
When ev'ry starting Sphere shall flaming fall,  
And final Ruin whelm this earthly Ball.

Since all the Treasures we so fondly boast,  
And Life itself, (we Mortals value most)  
By so unsure a Tenure we enjoy,  
Let more substantial Bliss our Hopes employ:  
A Wealth! no Fires can waste, no Storms can blast,  
Which Time, and Fate, and Nature, shall out-last.

April 14. Yesterday about Noon, capt. Dawson and capt. Laverick, of the Regiment of Old Buffs, fought a Duel in the Fields near Montague-House; capt. Dawson received several Wounds and died on the Spot; capt. Laverick was carried to the White Hart in Totterham Court-Road, but 'tis said his Wounds are also mortal. Some Persons who were present when these Gentlemen quarrell'd, follow'd them, but came too late to prevent their unhappy Fate, although they were in sight when they drew.

We likewise hear, that a Duel was lately fought between two Serrants in the County of Limerick, in Ireland; instead of Swords and Pistols, the Combatants were armed with Bottles of Brandy; and, at the Time and Place appointed, actually met to decide their Difference at these Weapons: The Action soon began warm, and was vigorously maintained on both Sides, till one of our Heroes was unfortunately overthrown; the other, elated with his Victory, took up another Glass, drank it off to the Memory of his defeated Antagonist, and fell down over him. In short, the two Heroes died, and were buried together.

Among other Testimonies of Joy, given by the Inhabitants of the United Provinces, on the Birth of the Count de Buren, a Goldsmith at Rotterdam has caused a Medal to be struck, with the Heads of the Prince and Princess of Orange on one Side, and on the other the Genius of the Republic is represented sitting in State, with her Cap full of Oranges, and a Parcel of withered Flowers under her Feet, with a Dutch, in Dutch Verse, to this Purpose:

The Orange clears the Head and charms the Eye,  
There—let the flying Lillies—stick and die.