

HALL add no more than this; *Craesus* being ask'd by C. how he should effectually enslave a nation he had conquer'd, answered, *By debauching their manners; by letting loose licence among them. The chains of Luxury are the easiest, and the hardest to break; of any in the world.*

L O N D O N.

Letters from Peterburg we have a confirmation, that on 14th of August last the town of Wenden in Livonia was utterly destroyed by fire, which began at a cooper's at one end of the town, and in the space of little more than half an hour, consumed all the public and private buildings, such as churches, chapels, schools, &c. together with the noble palace of the high chancellor, count Bestucheff Rumén, leaving only sixteen ordinary houses standing at the further end of the place. By this melancholy accident a multitude of families that were in good circumstances, are reduced to absolute want of bread, and which is worse, near thirty of the most substantial inhabitants perished in the flames; amongst whom was the town-clerk, who by endeavouring to save the archives lost his life.

A few days ago died at Bath the right reverend Dr. Edmund Gibson, lord bishop of London, and dean of his majesty's chapel, a worthy and pious prelate, in the 80th year of his age. He was consecrated bishop of Lincoln in 1715, in the room of Dr. Wake promoted to the see of Canterbury; and, on the death of Dr. John Robinson, was translated to the see of London, in 1723. In the year 1713, he publish'd his famous *Colectio Juris Ecclesiastici Anglicani*. He was buried at Fulham, near the remains of his lady.

We hear that the earl of Halifax will be appointed first lord of Trade, in the room of lord Monson deceased.

The 31st of August being the day appointed for the execution of seven men, who mutinied on board the *Old Noll* privateer, and who were tried and condemn'd some time ago, by a court martial; the boats belonging to each ship in commission in the harbour went out to Spithead early in the morning, with a lieutenant and a file of musqueteers in each, and about ten o'clock the prisoners were brought upon the deck of the *Prince Henry*, to have their sentence executed; the blocks were reeved, the halts about their necks, the death flag let fly, and the signal gun fired for their being drawn up; when to their unspeakable joy and surprize, their caps were pull'd from over their eyes, and they were inform'd that they were reprieved. There were ten others concerned in the mutiny, who were sentenced to receive 300 lashes from ship to ship.

September 10. This morning his royal highness the duke of Cumberland set out from St. James's for Harwich; from which place he sail'd for Holland the next day, and on the 13th arriv'd at the head quarters of the allied army in Flanders.

Sept. 13. The workmen finish'd the pulling down the scaffolding in Westminster hall, erected for the trials of the rebels, which was sold to a builder for 400*l.* the perquisite of grace the duke of Ancafter, as lord great chamberlain of gland.

Sept 15. This day was held a general court of the governor and company of the Bank of England; when a dividend two and a half per cent, for interest and profits, was agreed for the half year ending at Michaelmas next: the dividend warrants to be deliver'd October 17.

Sept. 17. Orders were given by the lords of the Admiralty: the immediate manning of six 20 gun ships, to cruize off the coasts of Spain and Genoa.

The following admirals were ordered to be in readiness to receive upon them their commands; sir Edward Hawke, for the Channel; sir Peter Warren, for the Mediterranean; and admiral Chambers, for the West-Indies.

Sir William Calvert, knight, alderman of Portsoken Ward, is chosen Lord Mayor of the city of London for the year ensuing.

Sept. 22. The 16th of next month is fix'd for his majesty's departure from Hanover, who intends to keep his birth day at St. James's.

On Friday evening a gang of fellows robb'd near thirty persons in and about Moorfields; from Mr. Thorn, a turner, they took a watch, eight guineas, and some silver, and gave him such a violent blow on the left side of his head, that he died on Sunday morning at his house at Bunhill.

There is advice, that the slaves on board capt. Burden, of the *Amelia*, bound for New-England from the coast of Guiney, with negroes, gold dust, &c. rose upon the captain and crew in their passage, and kill'd several of them; some by swimming

fast their lives; what became of the vessel and the negroes has been no account since.

On Tuesday was held a board of admiralty, when their lordships appointed capt. Willett to be commander of the *Garland* man of war, a new ship of 24 guns, lately launch'd.

Yesterday in the afternoon a boat passing through one of the arches of London-Bridge, ran foul of a lighter that was sunk under it. There were eight women in the boat, who were going to Hungerford, six of whom were drown'd, but the other two, and the waterman were sav'd with difficulty.

Soon after another boat was overfet on the same lighter, in which were a gentleman and a waterman, the latter of whom was drown'd; but the gentleman sav'd himself.

The above melancholy accidents happen'd at high water, when the tide pass'd over the lighter, so as to cover it, but not sufficient to carry a boat over it.—It is said that by the laws of the city, when an accident happens that any vessel is sunk in an arch of the bridge, the proprietor of the vessel is oblig'd to put up marks at head and stern, to prevent accidents:—It so, how can the said proprietor reconcile to himself being the cause of seven people losing their lives.

We hear the fire works, on account of the peace, will not be in Lincoln's-Inn Fields, the inhabitants fearing they may have their houses damaged thereby.

Yesterday was held a court of hustings at Guildhall, when Edward Ironside, Esq; alderman of cordwainers ward, and Thomas Rawlison, Esq; alderman of broad street ward, were sworn in sheriffs of this city, and had the keys of the several goals, and lists of the prisoners confin'd, deliver'd to them according to annual custom; after which the new sheriffs provided an elegant entertainment, at which were present the right honourable the lord Mayor, several of the aldermen, and divers other persons of distinction.

Extract of a Letter from Gibraltar, dated July 16, 1748.

"Came in here from a cruize his majesty's armed vessel the *Maddalena*, commanded by Mr. Benjamin Marlow, one of admiral Byng's lieutenants, who was attack'd in the gut by three *Xebeques*, which so much infest our trade going in and out of the Mediterranean; they took him for a merchant ship, having haul'd in all his guns and cover'd his ports. Upon their first firing, he keeping on his course, and shewing French colours, came up with great spirit, and their colours flying, frequently firing their chase guns 'til they came within hale, asking from whence he came; they were answered, from Martinico: Upon their advancing a little nearer, they were soon undeceived by a smart and continual fire from the great guns, loaded with round and grape shot, and all his small arms. So unexpected a reception put them into the utmost confusion, and two of them sheer'd off immediately, being terribly drubb'd; but the third not being so brisk, and having had the greatest share of the fire, had certainly fallen into his hands, but unluckily, thro' little winds and a strong current, the ship miss'd stays and was oblig'd to veer round, which gave them an opportunity to get up their sails, and out with their oars: However, as they could not gain enough of the wind, they made sail for the Barbary shore, the *Maddalena* following them, keeping a continual fire with her chase guns, 'til coming near in, they ran into a creek under Apes Hill, where she could not follow them, by reason of the current setting strong in upon some rocks: Being however willing, if possible, to destroy such a pest as they have been to our trade all this war, upon their making for the shore capt. Marlow gave them a broadside of round and grape shot, as he wore off the shore, which he imagines did them more damage than the rest; for after he made sail for this place, he saw them go to Ceuta, not being able to cross the gut.

P. S. The *Maddalena* is a polacco taken from the French, and put in commission by admiral Byng: She mounts 16 carriage guns of four pounders, and 88 men. We have heard since from Old Gibraltar, that the Spaniards suffered prodigiously in their vessels. The Insurers are much oblig'd to this gallant gentleman."

N E W - Y O R K.

November 21. Yesterday arriv'd here from a cruize, the privateer sloop *Morning-Star*, capt. Linus King, commander, being the last of our privateers that were out. She has taken and brought to Sandy-Hook, a Spanish schooner of six carriage guns, who had 24 men, which they met with in lat. 11. off Salteruda; bound from Cales to the coast of Carraccas, richly laden; but as they took her on the 16th day of September last, which appears to be 6 days after the cessation of arms took place with that nation; it is beyond dispute, that they will be oblig'd to restore her again, which must indeed be