

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, January 24, 1750.

To Mr. JONAS GREEN, Printer of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Procul, O procul, este profani! VIRG.

The Cuz's ANTHEM.

S. I. R.

HAVING a great Regard for Printers, and that useful Machine the Press, I have made it my Business diligently to search the Writings of the Learned, in order to collect whatever has been said in Praise of Printers, and their noble Art; and having found the following Observations, in an Author of great Learning and Repute, I send them to you, that for the Honour of Printers, you may communicate them to the Public.

WE are told by Antiquarians, that the first Printing House in England was set up in a Chapel of Westminster Abbey; therefore that Part of the House where a Printer keeps his Press, has ever since been called a Chapel.

IF a Printer therefore sets up in a House, where never any Printer worked before, that Part of the House where the Press is erected is consecrated; which Ceremony is performed, at the Master's Command, by the senior Freeman, or Father of the Gild: It is performed by drinking Success to the Master, sprinkling the Walls with Strong-Beer, and singing the Cuz's Anthem, and the whole Solemnity is concluded with a Supper given by the Master.

THE Workmen in a Printing-House, are called Chapelmen, and are obliged, to submit to certain wise Laws, framed for the Good of the Company, and for regularly carrying on the Master's Work; to each of these Laws is annexed a Penalty, which, if a refractory Chapelman refuses to pay, upon any transgression, there is assembled a general Convocation, who determine whether he is to remain any longer a Chapelman; and if it is carried against him by a Majority of Voices, he is immediately excommunicated, and declared a Brickstone, whence he is deprived of his Share of any Premium given by Booksellers, and Gentlemen Authors, to make the Chapelmen drink; and is also excluded from the grand and necessary Solemnity, commonly called the *Way-Goose Feast*: Nor can he, in such a State, have any Redress for any waggish Trick, or Mischief, offered to him; which soon makes him glad to pay the Penalty, and a discretionary Fine besides, to recant himself to the Chapel.

WHEN a Boy is bound an Apprentice to a Printer, before he is admitted to the honourable Degree of a Chapelman, he must be made a Cuz; or Deacon, which is done in the following Manner: The Chapelmen walk thrice round the Room, with their Right Arms under the Lappets of their Coats, the Boy who is to be made a Cuz, carrying a wooden Sword before them; then the Boy kneels, and the Father of the Chapel exhorts him to be mindful of his Duties, and not to discover the Secrets and Mysteries of the Trade, squeezes a Spurge of Strong-Beer on his Head, and gives him the noble Title of DUKE of some Place of the least Repute near the Printer's Dwelling-House; viz. Duke of the Dung-hill, of the Hog-shye, or the Little House; or, in case he lives near any Lane, Alley, or Dock, with such like Appellation as follows, he is titled Duke of Thier-leg-Lane, Pistin-Lane, or Fiddle-Lane. This noble Title being conferred, the venerable Father of the Chapel tells the Boy, that if he will enjoy the privilege of being a Cuz, that is, how considerable Damage can follow, should any Accident befall him, such as his tumbling from a steeple or Tower, or dropping into the River, or put the Case, that a Piss-Pot, Pot and

ical Tome of Voice, by adding all the Vowels to the Consonants, as follows.

B A Ba,
 B e, Be, Ba-be,
 B i, Bi, Ba-be bi,
 B o, Bo, Ba-be bi bo,
 B u, Bu, Ba-be bi bo bu.
 C a, Ca,
 C e, Ce, Ca ce,
 C i, Ci, Ca ce ci,
 C o, Co, Ca ce ci co,
 C u, Cu, Ca ce ci cu.

AND so proceeding through the rest of the Consonants. THESE, besides a great many other decent Solemnities, are sufficient to shew the Sacredness of a PRINTING OFFICE: What Reverence then ought we to have, for a Place consecrated in so awful a Manner? a Manner, which tho' the Ignorant and Profane may look upon as trifling and puerile, yet, in itself carries many important and significant Symbols; Symbols, every whit as significant as those exhibited in other Consecrations and Installments; and I hope the Noble Orders of the Garter and Bath Will not take snuff, if we affirm, that these Symbols and Ceremonies are just as significant as theirs; and some others too, which we could name, but we are cautious of giving Offence, or laying a Foundation for endless Controversy; yet, notwithstanding all this, how often have the Walls of these sacred Chapels been profaned, and their Immunities been violated with Impunity, by a Parcel of Ruffians, who have made no Scruple to break open the *Sanctum Sanctorum* by mere Force and Violence, and to destroy the sacred Utensils; to drag away the very Priests officiating at the *Altars*, even with Pistols cock'd at their Heads, pretending to accuse them of Treason, Sedition, Infidelity, Atheism, and such like sham Charges: This surely is Sacrilege of the deepest Dye, and ought to be punished in the highest Manner; but alas! we live in a profane Age, when every Thing sacred is turned into Mockery and Ridicule, and trod under Foot; and the MYSTERIES of PRINTING, like some Mysteries in Religion, are become the Objects of Derision and Contempt.

Yours, &c.
 N. C. TURNER.

PARIS, September 18.

THE Abbe Aubert de Vedantur Meuse has invented a curious and admirable instrument, which he calls a famous aenometer, by which elegant contrivance, without the assistance of weights, pulleys, or wheels, and without any care taken of it, all the alterations of the weather, as to the heat and moisture of the air, winds, mists, &c. are perpetually predicted, with far greater certainty than by the barometer; and this by a kind of music, agreeable to the ear, which may also be adjusted, as to answer a variety of purposes for pleasure and amusement, as it will play continually, if left to itself, but may be stopped at pleasure.

An Extract of a Letter from a foreign Minister at Lisbon,

dated August 13.
 King of Portugal has lately declared himself in favour of the propositions that have been made to him by the King of Spain, which was, to join in the armament proposed by the King of Spain, and orders have been given to the King of Portugal to send a fleet of the King of Spain.