

WEDNESDAY, May 30, 1750:

From the TOOL.

CONTENTMENT to the mind is as light to the eye; as the latter discloses every pleasing object to the intellectual powers, so does the former every agreeable idea to the soul; tho' it does not immediately bring riches to mankind, it does equally the same, by banishing the desire of them; if it cannot directly remove the disquietudes arising from a man's mind, body, or fortune, it makes him easy under them; it destroys all inordinate ambition in a state, and becomes its support against the most dangerous attacks; while the lust of riches, like the frequent decays of a magnificent structure, foretells its final ruin; in man it prevents every tendency to corruption with respect to the community in which he is placed; it dissipates care, melancholy, and anxiety, from its possessor; sweetens his conversation, makes him fit for society, and gives a perpetual serenity to all his thoughts.

Behold that fordid animal the gambler, ever anxious of enriching himself, yet ever contemplating his own misery; all his schemes are laid for the oppression of the poor, yet ever terminate in his own ruin: View him in adversity, who pities him? In poverty, who honours him? Or, in any state of life, who regards him? Fortune is his Goddess, *De Morsu* his Guide, and the lust of avarice eggs him on to his base employment; while the dice are rattling his heart is throbbing; and the very next throw either plunges him into a gulph of misery, or hurries him into an unpremeditated rage of distraction; life is a continued series of uneasiness to him; when he walks he treads upon briars, and his seat is a seat of thorns; his days are days of despair, and his years, years of pain. Hope and fear, those two noble faculties of the soul, cultivated in man for the sublime ends of religion, are prostituted to his villainy; and if ill luck succeeds, his abandoned soul sinks by his own curses; peace and tranquility are as far banished from his mind, as honesty and fidelity from his heart; his breast is made subservient to the tortures of suspense, and continually racked by the fiercest extremes: How miserable then must that man be who is thus enslaved by this lucrative appetite? Fire and sword are slow engines of destruction compared to the havoc this fatal disturber creates in a man's body and fortune; yet such is his disposition, that the warmest sollicitations, even from his dearest friends, cannot withhold him from his engagements with his sickle idol; he rather treats them as his enemies who propose so deadly a task; friendship is barter'd for self interest; and the all-powerful lust of gold mars every Christian office: How insensible of remorse is the gambler's breast, when he robs a distress'd family of its support, or snatches the bread from the teeth of the hungry? O thou monster of nature! How inglorious are thy conquests? Is the eye that sees all things blind to thy inhumanity? Vengeance is spreading her net wide for thee, and will overtake thee in the midst of thy barbarity.

O Avarice! thou vilest muckworm, what wickedness dost thou create in mankind? How art thou courted by poor unthinking mortals, for thy deformity? What a train of evils are under thy command? Destruction bounds from every part of thee swifter than the arrow from the archer's breast, and, like a base ingrate as thou art, thou stickest unheeded bane on those that protect thee; Bankruptcy to the Tradesman, and poverty to the man of affluence, are the rewards thou procurest: Whether thou appearest in Church or in State, in City or at Court, yet vice is ever attendant on thee, and the nation that harbours thee sacrifices her liberty to its pursuits; the Statesman, when he becomes thy votary, proves false to his country; and every glowing passion for the public welfare is

chill'd in its embryo by the over-ruling power of self interest; Justice herself is staggered by thy enormities; her sword is blunted by thy outrages; when the calls, in feeble accents, for assistance, her faithless patrons are deaf to all her entreaties, 'til at length we see vice riding triumphant, spreading her banner as she goes; virtue and religion retiring at the appearance of it, and sad desolation, with all her gloomy attendants, advancing, at a distance, to embrace us.

PARIS, Dec. 23.

AN arret of the council of state has been lately published, for exempting wool, cotton, hemp, flax, and carnel hair, coming into the kingdom from foreign countries, from paying any duty, in order to encourage their home manufactures made up in whole or in part of those foreign materials.

The marquis de St. Germain, ambassador from the king of Sardinia, hath notified to his most Christian majesty, the marriage of the duke of Savoy with the princess Maria Antoinetta of Spain.

The pregnancy of her royal highness the Dauphiness was towards the end of last month publicly notified at court.

A courier from the marquis de Mirepoix, ambassador at the British court hath brought the duke of Bedford's answer to the memorial presented by the marquis, demanding, that his Britannic majesty would give orders for delivering up M. Moynier, quarter-master of one of their regiments; which answer was in substance, "That as no cartel or convention subsists between the two nations for returning deserters or fugitives, the king had declined giving orders for arresting M. Moynier."

A ship lately arrived in Spain from the Carreca coast in America, has brought advice, that the inhabitants of that country persisted in their rebellion, and to support themselves had armed all the negroes they could possibly get together, amounting to about 6000 men, with which force they designed to oppose the troops lately sent from Spain, for reducing them to their duty; and that upon these advices his Catholic majesty had ordered a new body of troops to be sent from Spain to that country.

Berlin, Dec. 29. The king waits only for the empire's guaranty in form, of Silesia, to pay off the capital and interest of the monies advanced by the English and Dutch on the credit of that province, while it was in possession of the house of Austria.

Hague, Jan. 6. The populace in Holland do not as yet seem quite easy under their new government; as appears from the following account published in our Gazette here, viz. The disturbances at Haerlem have been greater than were apprehended. Upon the first appearance of a tumult, a party of about 36 dragoons marched into the town, but were soon dismissed by the magistrates. Immediately after their departure, the mob rose, shut the gates of the town, where they kept guard, and assembled to a very great number in the market-place, besieging the magistrates in the town house, and making very extravagant demands, amounting in effect to a resolution of paying no taxes at all. The prince of Orange, upon this notice, ordered general Cornabe, with a strong detachment of Dutch and Swiss guards, and some cavalry, to march to Haerlem, and support the collectors in the execution of their office. The general found the gates shut, which having ordered his men to force open, the burghers fired at them, and wounded one sergeant; the soldiers then were ordered to return the fire, which drove the mob from the post. The gates were soon forced open, and the troops marched up to the market-place, where