

T H E No. 297.
M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E.

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, *January 2, 1751.*

L I S B O N, August 26.

IS majesty seems more intent than ordinary on setting his marine on a better footing; since he is fully convinced that no other means can possibly be so effectual for making the trade and commerce of his people flourish. His thoughts are likewise very deeply engaged on another affair which he looks upon very interesting, and of the last importance. He is highly sensible that for several years last past, the fortifications of several places have been very greatly neglected; for which his majesty has thought fit to issue out express orders for an exact account to be laid before him of the state and condition which all his forts are in at present; in order that such as are fallen to decay may be sufficiently repaired with the utmost expedition.

Warsaw, Sept. 15. We have just received the news from Podolia, that the Haydamacks last week surprized and pillaged the town of Crofno, killed many Jews, and carried off several of the inhabitants prisoners, and also the governor, whom they afterwards inhumanly murder'd. The inhabitants of Zastow and Oltrog are under terrible apprehensions of sharing the same fate.

Paris, Sept. 18. At a time when the assembly of the clergy flatter'd themselves that they should find means of parrying the terrible stroke, of giving in an account of the wealth possess'd by ecclesiastics, convents, abbeyes, &c. and prevent the ministers from taking inspection thereof, directly or indirectly, a thundering declaration of his majesty upon this subject appear'd, unanimously register'd in parliament, which expressly ordains all beneficed clergy, of what quality or rank soever, to declare in what consists their ecclesiastical revenue or income, without disguising or concealing any thing; which the prelates complain of as a manifest infraction of their spiritual immunities; but the court has provided against this complaint, by expressly declaring, that its intencion is to maintain these immunities, and that this is the design of their being required to give in such accounts, his majesty only requiring them to do so, in order to be able to regulate with equality, a thing hitherto unknown, the expences of the state, in which the clergy cannot, as Christians, refuse to bear a proportionable part. The people in general greatly approve of his majesty's proceeding herein, and nothing else is talked of at court, and in the city.

Milan, August 31. Some persons in this city, who have relations in Spain, produce letters importing, that it is very probable the infant don Lewis, third prince of Spain, commonly called the Cardinal Infant, will quit the ecclesiastic order, and return to the condition of a layman. Though the story deserves confirmation, we see nothing improbable in it, if it be true, as they assure, that this prince, though a cardinal since the year 1736, and archbishop of Toledo since 1741, has not yet been ordained a priest. Hence they conclude, that he may easily be released from his vows, the court of Rome finding it the best policy, in this enlightened refractory age, to comply with the humours and views of princes, lest they should cast her off.— This intelligence is confirmed in the following paragraph:

Paris, Sept. 11. According to some advices from Rome and Madrid, the Cardinal Infant, brother to his Catholic majesty, has just quitted the ecclesiastic life, to which he had devoted himself; and it is moreover said, that the pope has granted a brief of secularization for the archbishopricks of Toledo and Seville, to the end that this young prince, for whom they talk of making some advantageous match, may enjoy the vast revenues of those two sees, upon condition of allowing a pension of 2000 crowns to those who shall be placed therein after him.

M. Ranche, intendant of Martinico, who arrived at Brest

the 22d of last month in the Galathea frigate, is to repair to Versailles in a few days, to make a report to the king and his ministers of the true situation of affairs in that colony, and also acquaint them how matters stand at Tobago, and the other neutral islands, which, it is said, our court will keep, if the possibly can.

Our advices from Madrid continue to render it highly probable, that the infant don Lewis will speedily throw away his cardinal's Hat, and also cast off his wives, (the archbishopricks of Toledo and Seville) whom he espoused in his minority; though it is not yet clear, whether he designs to part with their fortunes, which are far more lovely and engaging than their persons; at least not till he gets a new wife, with a crown into the bargain. However it be, they say, that the pope has already been applied to for a dispensation to enable this young prince to become a layman again; which we presume may with greater reason be granted, than there was for allowing him to be made a cardinal and an archbishop, when he was scarce able to distinguish his right hand from his left.

Leghorn, Sept. 4. Since the news received from Madrid of the cardinal infant don Lewis's design to quit an ecclesiastic life, various conjectures are formed here concerning the settlement destined for that prince. Some pretend, that there is a design to procure him the possession of the duchies of Parma and Placentia, whenever the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily shall fall to the infant don Philip: But this notion will scarce go down with us, because it is against the tenor of the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the seventh article of which stipulates the reversion of those two duchies to the house of Austria in the case abovementioned. Therefore we look upon this report as the most probable, viz. That the king of Spain intends to purchase Corsica, and to make don Lewis king of that island.

Paris, Sept. 21. Last Friday morning the count de St. Florentin, and the commissaries of the king, went to the assembly of the clergy to demand seventeen millions, and to know their determination thereupon; who required time to consider of this demand, and the count de St. Florentin waited to eleven of the clock at night, when the prelates and other deputies having refused to submit to the intentions of his majesty, that minister produced an order, whereby the assembly was dissolved, and for the bishops to repair immediately to their respective dioceses.

Madrid, Sept. 8. Mr. Keene has dispatched a courier to London with the proposals lately made him by our ministry, and has received an express in return, with instructions to insist on the payment of 100,000 l. only, by the court of Madrid to the English South-Sea company, provided that court will renew the advantages granted to the British nation by the treaty of 1667, and by others since concluded between the two courts.

Hague, Sept. 13. Letters from Amsterdam advise, that the ships with the land-forces designed for Surinam, sailed a few days ago with a fair wind.

Hague, Sept. 16. M. Chiquet, charged with the affairs of France, delivered on the 12th to M. Strik de Linshofen, lord of Polanan, president of the assembly of the states general, a letter from the king his master, whereby his most Christian majesty notified to their high mightinesses the birth of the princess, of whom the dauphiness was lately brought to bed; which letter was couched in the following terms.

Most dear and grand friends, allies and confederates,
We cannot defer informing you of the birth of the princess our grand daughter, of whom our daughter the dauphiness is happily brought to bed; and we are persuaded that you will take a sincere part in the just satisfaction which we feel from the