

ly jumping on the Deck of the Bark; the English man and the Captain threw themselves into the Sea, with their Pistols and Cutlasses in Hand, and swam ashore.

The 10th Inst. the three Prisoners were brought into this Port, and secured in our Jail, the Moor being dangerously wounded; their Fire Arms they threw overboard when they saw their Defeat accomplishing by the above very fortunate Shot.

Proper Orders were immediately dispatched for apprehending the two who had escaped, and in six Days they were taken at Almeniz, four Leagues from the Confines of Portugal, and brought Prisoners hither. The Captain, whose Name is Juan Derotta Pinto, had about him, in Spanish, English and Portugal Coin, to the Value of 380 Dollars: He was born at Viana in Portugal, and descended from a good Family, is about 30 Years of Age, and two Years since married Dona Maria Theresa Ruiz, and had with her 4000 Dollars; he has had an exceeding good Education; he learnt Navigation in London, had a compleat Library in his Cabin, had considerable Experience in the late War in Naval Affairs, but was distinguished for his Barbarity and Cruelty to the Captives, who were unfortunate enough to be taken by him.

He seems very penitent, and has made the following Confession; declaring his Desire to pay with his own, the many Lives he has wantonly taken away without the least Provocation. The Account he gives of himself is to this Effect. That being at Lisbon without any Employment, he got together nine others that had been guilty of Murder, and were Italian and Portuguese Deserters, who, with one Englishman, agreed to go on a pirating Expedition, and on the 10th of August last set sail in the above Bark from the Bar of Lisbon; the 12th they met a French Ship, which appeared to be too strong for them; but on the Afternoon of the same Day, coming up with an Irish Brig, which proved to be the Christopher, John Herron, Master, from Malaga for Dublin, asked them how many Hands they had on board; and were answered 9 or 10. Pinto swore in English, that he would board them that Night.

He then called for a Bottle of Brandy, and gave each of his Crew a Dram, and in the Dust of the Evening came a long side the Brig, when one of the Italians pretending to speak in the Moorish Language, they boarded them Sword in Hand. Derotta says, at this Instant he saw a Stream of Fire in the Sky that cast a Light on the whole Sea, which threw him into such a Fright, he was undetermined whether he should board them; but being pressed by his Companions, they attacked the Defenceless Irish, who all quietly submitted, saying only, "Gentlemen, what have we done that you should kill us?"

After they had bound eight of them, which they submitted to without the least Opposition, they began to be afraid that two Portuguese Passengers, whom they had left in their Bark, might discover them; wherefore calling to them, told them their Design, and that if they did not come in to it, they would take proper Methods with them; but the Portuguese accepted their Invitation with Eagerness, offered to go Hand in Hand with them, and to show how compleatly villainous they were qualified for their Company, took up an Irish Boy, wrapt him in a Sheet, and threw him overboard. The eight poor Irish were all served in the same Manner, crying out most dolefully, till they were drowned, "Lord forgive them who are guilty of our Deaths, and treat us so inhumanly!"

The Mate was an Eye Witness of this unheard of Spectacle, being promoted Life; but Pinto soon altered his Mind, and throwing him into the Sea after his Ship Mates, fell to rifling the Brig of her Gold and Silver, and lashing the Tiller fast, dismissed her, setting sail for St. Lucar to change his Silver. The Brig was fallen in with the next Day by a Catalan Bark, Felix Pablo, Master, bound to Ferrol, who carried her into Faro, and delivered her to the English and Spanish Consuls, claiming a third Part of the Value as Salvage, being laden with Wines, and upwards of 100 Tons Burthen.

Pinto arrived at St. Lucar the 14th, at five in the Evening, where he was deserted by almost all his Crew; and having decoyed one George Dean, an English Seaman, into his Service, under Pretence of going to Gibraltar, to purchase a Portuguese Vessel that had been taken by the Moors, he set sail again with three others of his Desperadoes. Dean soon found he was on a contrary Course to what he expected, and off Retta inflicting to be put ashore, immediately they tied a great Stone about his Neck and threw him overboard.

Soon after they met an English Brig, from the River of Seville, which they wanted to board, and

followed her all Day; but the Brig suspected their Design, and threatened them with a warm Reception.

Off Cape Trafalgar they boarded an English Schooner, laden with Barley, from whom they took a Cask of Water and some Beer, having nothing else worth their Acceptance. Pinto and his Villains were very desirous to put these poor People out of their Way, as they had done the others, but being so poor a Prize, waved putting their Designs in Execution.

At his Arrival at Terriff, he went on shore, but returned on board in a Hurry, having murdered a Man, (who, he says, attempted to rob him) by giving the poor Wretch so many Stabs with a Knife, that the Handle remained in his Hand, and the Blade in the Body of the Deceased. He brought a Negro on board with him, who was a Slave to the Administrator of Tobacco, and the fifth Person of this infernal Gang. He then directed his Course for Lisbon, but hearing at Monte Gordo that two of his Associates, who left him at St. Lucar, were taken up, he altered his Mind, and came to the Bar of this Place as above.

I am, Sir, &c.

December 22. We hear from Bicester, Oxfordshire, that last Friday Night, having received an Account, that the Repeal of the Jew Bill was sign'd by the King, they continued ringing of Bells all Day on Saturday, and at Night near ALL the principal Inhabitants assembled at the King's Arms; where Joy seem'd to be express'd by every Countenance, except one or two, who were a little dull. The first Health that was drank was, Thanks to Sir James Dashwood, for his successful Endeavours towards the said Repeal; after that, Thanks to Lord Harley, Sir James Dashwood, and the rest of that glorious Minority, who were for preventing any ill Consequences for the future; and also to put an End to what some Jews have lately advanced, (That they could acquire a Power of purchasing Lands, by being born in England) by repealing what belong'd to the Jews in the Act passed in 1740: and by adding a Clause to the above Bill, that the Jews should by no Means ever acquire a Power either to purchase or inherit. While they were celebrating the Night within Doors, a Half Hoghead of Ale was given to the Populace, who were numerous, and unanimous in their Cries, No Jews; No Naturalization; but Wenman and D. Shwood for ever; and were just return'd to a Bonfire on the Market-Hill, from a Procession round the Town with the Effigy of a Jew, who they named Ned. A Jew was also fix'd in the Middle of the Bonfire. The Whole was concluded to the Satisfaction of every Body. The Illuminations were the largest ever known at Bicester.

A Person of Character who arrived last Week from Paris brought the following Account of an extraordinary Affair that happen'd lately at Rouen: A Gentleman for whom the People of that City had a great Regard being in his last Agonies, was desirous of receiving the Sacraments; but the Priest who was called for that Purpose, absolutely refused to administer them, because the Sick Man would not declare his Assent to the Constitution Unigenitus; and stood by the Gentleman's Fireside persisting in his Refusal till he saw him expire: Which being told to the People, who waited to know the Event, they seiz'd the uncharitable Bigot as soon as he appear'd, and tore him to Pieces. After this they continued assembled the whole Day; and next Morning a written Paper was found pasted on the Door of the House where the Gentleman died, containing these Words: Let the Parliament find Heads, and the People will find Hands. Afterwards the same Advertisement was stuck up in Print in most Public Places.

Letters from Dublin of the 15th, say, that by the late great Frost and Snow, and by the heavy Rains that followed, the Rivers overflowed their Banks, and particularly the Liffey, by which several Ships receiv'd great Damage, by running foul of one another; others drove out to Sea, as many more would have done, had it not been for a large Dutch Vessel that sunk in the middle of the River, near Ringsend: Several Sailors were crush'd to Death among these Ships; and it was much feared that they should bear from other Parts of great Damages done by Floods, and of human Creatures and Cattle being drowned.

The Damages of the above Ships, small Vessels and Boats, are computed at many Thousand Pounds, besides many Lives lost and Limbs broken.

Cork, Dec. 11. We hear that a Vessel, laden with Rum for Dublin, was burned by Negligence of the Men, in drawing some Spirits so near a lighted Candle, that they took Fire. The Crew got safe in their Boat to Wicklow.

Navan, Dec. 12. The Floods here are greater than the oldst Man can remember: Last Night the further Arch of the new Bridge over the Boyne was

carried away; this Morning the nearer Arch under went the same Fate: and we hourly expect the Destruction of the Remainder. One Man is missing; the Roads are in some Parts impassable for Carriages, and the Mills and Houses on the Bank have sustained the greatest Damage.

WILLIAMSBURG.

The SPEECH of the Honourable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esq; Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, to the General Assembly of the said Province, on Thursday the 14th of February, 1754.

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

NOTHING less than a very important Concern, could have induced me to call you together again, after so short a Recess; but the Dignity of the Crown of Great Britain, the Welfare of all the Colonies on this Continent, and more especially of this Dominion, engage me to have your Advice and Assistance in an Affair of the greatest Consequence.

Major Washington, who was sent by me to the Commandant of the French Forces on the River Ohio, being returned, informs me he found that Officer at a Fort they had erected on a Creek running into the Ohio, and that they were then preparing all the Necessaries for building another Fort on that River; that they had Two Hundred and Twenty Canoes made, and many more rough hewed, to be made, in order to transport, early this Spring, a great Number of regular Forces, not less than Fifteen Hundred Men, with their Indians in Friendship with them, down the River Ohio, in order to build many more Fortresses on it; and they propos'd Logg Towns to be the chief Place of their Rendezvous.

Major Washington further reports, That he asked why they had seized the Goods of our Traders, and sent their Persons Prisoners to Canada; to which the Commandant answered, "That his Orders from their General, the Governor of Canada, were, Not to permit any English Subjects to trade on the Waters of the Ohio, but to seize their Goods, and send them Prisoners to Quebec." He so asked the Reason of taking Mr. Frazier's House from him, which he had built and lived in upwards of Twelve Years? He said, "That Men would have sent him Prisoner to Canada."

These Transactions are entirely inconsistent with the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, and contrary to my Instructions from his Majesty, whereby I am directed to prevent any Foreign Power, settling or building any Fortresses on his Majesty's Lands.

Add to the aforementioned unjustifiable Infringe of the French, the cruel and barbarous Murder, in cool Blood, of a whole Family in this Dominion, Man, Wife, and five Children, no longer ago than last Month; and very lately a poor Man on the South Branch of Potowmack, robbed of his Son. These Depredations were said to be done by the French Indians, but if I be rightly informed, some of the French Subjects always go with the Indians, on these Incursions, and are both privy to, and Instigators of, their Robberies and Murders.

How compassionate must then be the distressful Situation of that poor unhappy Family! surrounded by a Crowd of Miscreants dreadfully rushing on to perpetrate the most savage Barbarities, inexorable to the Parent's Intreaties, insensible to the Cries of the tender Infant, basely determined to destroy, without Provocation, those who could not resist their Violence.

Think you see the Infant torn from the unavailing Struggles of the distracted Mother, the Daughters ravish'd before the Eyes of their wretched Parents; and then, with Cruelty and Insult, butchered and scalped. Suppose the horrid Scene compleated, and the whole Family, Man, Wife, and Children (as they were) murdered and scalped by these relentless Savages, and then torn in Pieces, and in Part devoured by wild Beasts, for whom they were left a Prey by their more brutal Enemies.

But how must your Indignation rise when you extend your View to the Abettors of these Villainies. Such are the People whose Neighbourhood you must now prevent, or with the most probable Expectation think to see, in the Bosom of your Country, these Evils, that you as yet have only the melancholy Tidings of from your Frontiers.

Consider the bloody Villains, thievishly lurking about a Man's Plantation, and where they dare not attack like Men, basely like Vermin, stealing and carrying away the helpless Infant, that happened to wander, though but a little Distance from his Father's Threshold.

I assure you, G. Sovereign's Protection low Subjects, make and I doubt not, as for and Reformation a full and sufficient rocs Efforts, to see Honour and Dignity away these cruel Properties, and thereby to gratify ing the Security and most solid and per

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