

THE MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, October 17, 1754.

Mr. GREEN,

THE inclosed Piece is thought, by the Persons to whose Judgment it has been submitted, to contain certain Sentiments that are not improper for the Consideration of the Public; and as it has admitted no indecent Reflections upon Authority, nor can reasonably give Offence to any Man, who is in the true Interest of his Country, it is hoped that it may find a Place in your Paper.

I am, SIR, Your most humble Servant.

DEAR SIR,

IN Answer to your obliging Letter of the 20th of September, wherein you desire my Sentiments on the Subject of our late Conversation; I must premise, without farther Ceremony, that, in my Opinion, there is no Maxim in Politics which more immediately gains the Assent, than that Papists ought to be excluded from all Shares in the Government of a Protestant People. But that the Test-Act hath effectually excluded them, or is likely to do so, I deny, and could mention several recent Examples among ourselves to the contrary; and the History is to be created, that informs us, that in the Year 1682, long after the Test-Act was made, several Papists, under the Disguise of Protestants, thrust themselves into Places and Employments; among a Number of other Instances, that one Dr. [Name] got into the Rectory of Rail in Essex, and Dr. Goodman obtain'd the See of Gloucester. Some conscientious Papists there may be, and I hope there are; but there is too much Ground to suppose, as to great Part of them, that if they have a Service to do for Mother Church, they can swallow SACRAMENTS, not only without Scruple, but with Merit. They have Abundance of Maxims to help them over such little Difficulties, "either the End consecrates the Means, or the Nullity of the Orders and Mistranslations in the Church of England, invalidates all Consecration of the Elements," and consequently prevents their wonderful Transformation; and then they remaining as they were, partaking of them is no more than eating a Bit of common Bread, or drinking a Sip of ordinary Wine: Or if the Scruples of a Popish Conscience requires it, a Dispensation from the Pope, or his Commissioners, may be procur'd; for what will they not grant Dispensations for, who canonize Murderers for Martyrs, and celebrate for Saints the vilest Miscreants.

I own the present melancholy Situation of my Mind is greatly aggravated, when I reflect on the peculiar Circumstances of this Province. There appears so little Unanimity among us, whilst our intestine Enemies the Jesuits, and their Tools and Emisaries, are embracing every Opportunity to foment Divisions, and exercising all their Craft and Subtily to force or deceive us into our own Destruction: And here I cannot help observing that too many who profess themselves Protestants, in order to serve some paltry Views of Interest or Favour, countenance and carry on the Deceit, at the Risque of every Thing that is valuable to Freemen and Englishmen. So that, I fear, without some extraordinary Interposition of Providence, or a speedy Alteration of our Conduct, we must submit to see our most inveterate Enemies the French, and their allied Indians (who have already attacked and invaded our Neighbour Colony of Virginia), lord it over all the British Dominions in America.

Does Popery increase in this Province? The great Number of Popish Chapels and the Crowds that resort to them, as well as the great Number of their Youth sent this Year to foreign Popish Seminaries for Education, prove to a Demonstration that it does; moreover, many Popish Priests and Jesuits, hold sundry large Tracts of Land, Manors and other Tenements, and on several of them have Dwelling-Houses, where they live in a collegiate Manner, having public Mass-Houses, where they

exercise their religious Functions, and propagate their dangerous Doctrines, with the greatest Industry, and without controul! Good GOD! Is it possible we can be so stupid, so deluded, as not to perceive the pernicious Consequences of such illegal Practices to us and our Posterity? How the Papists have obtain'd such a plenary Indulgence in Maryland, I shall not at present endeavour to account for; it may possibly be the Subject of some future Letter to you: For tho' I shall always be against persecuting those who have the Misfortune to be brought up in the Popish Religion, yet I must think it behoves our Government, to take as much Care as possible, that his Majesty's Subjects may not be perverted to it. This they ought to do not only for religious but political Considerations; because, by the very Principles of that Religion, tho' those that profess it should be quiet, they can never be faithful Subjects. As you, Sir, are so singular as to consider the true Happiness of our Constitution, I cannot but earnestly recommend it to you to declare yourself a Candidate for the next General Election for your County; then, I flatter myself, it will be in your Power to brighten and enforce the true Principles of Liberty to our deluded Countrymen; to shew them the apparent Dangers they are exposed to, by suffering a most detested Swarm of Jesuits (those Traitors and Parricides to their Country) to engross and occupy such large Possessions among us; to evince the Absurdity of allowing them, as they are known to be implacable Enemies to our happy Constitution, both in Church and State, the Enjoyment and full Benefit of those Laws, they are incessantly endeavouring to overturn: I will not say, it would be just in us to compel them to come in, but I am sure it would be prudent in us to compel them to go out; I must here be understood to mean the Jesuits only.

From what has been said we have too much Reason to conclude, that Popery is the Foundation of all our present Distractions, Divisions and Dangers; let us then take away the Cause, and the Effect will cease; let us modestly and calmly unite to refuse our Voices, at the next General Election of Representatives, to any Candidate that will not bind himself by Promise to promote some such Bill, as passed the Lower House, last May Session, by a great Majority of Patriots and Friends to Liberty and the Protestant Cause; I mean, The Bill to prevent the Growth of Popery, within this Province; I repeat it again, let us take away the Cause and the Effect will cease; but I do not mean to take away, in the same Manner that the French have done, and are now doing, to those they call their Huguenot Subjects; No, I am not for Dragooning, Imprisonment, Banishment, or the Gallies; but still, I am for Self-Preservation, and for such Laws as will put it out of the Power of the Jesuits, and their deluded Votaries, to endanger the Peace of this Province, and the Repose of all the British Colonies upon this Continent: Let us imitate the glorious Example of the Parliament of Ireland's 19, their wise Laws is owing the Tranquility of that Kingdom; and, to the due Execution of them, it is that Popery subsists chiefly among the Lower Class of their People: Let us examine their salutary Laws, and adopt such of them, as shall be found most suitable to our Circumstances.

Perhaps, by this Time, you begin to repent engaging me in this tedious Epistle, and indeed, I did not intend to have been thus prolix, when I sat down to comply with your Request; but from the Copiousness of the Subject, I found it difficult to keep within the Bounds of an ordinary Letter. But I hasten to a Conclusion, as the Design of this is only to lay the Ground-Work of some future Observations. And as, at this Time, 'tis made a Question whether the Penal Laws extend to this Province, or not, I must recommend the following Act of Assembly to your most serious Consideration, viz. An Act of Assembly declaring several Acts of Parliament, made in the Kingdom of England, to be in Force within this Province. Body of Laws, Page 48.

In my next to you, I intend to consider, and to the utmost of my Abilities to shew, the Necessity of enforcing such Acts of Parliament as are clearly introduced among us, by the abovementioned Act of Assembly, in order to rouse the Luke-warm, and to convince them, that their true Interest, and indeed their Safety, depends on Unanimity, and a cordial Perseverance, to support the great and good Work begun. In this laudable, tho' perhaps invidious, Undertaking, I propose to treat the Subject with all imaginable Tenderness; yet will I not be deterred therefrom through Fear of offending, nor will I be biaffed by Favour, or misled by Party. Continue then (as you see how much I shall want Assistance) your kind Indulgence in communicating your Sentiments to me, as they may occasionally occur; and prosper in the glorious Pains I hear you are taking to cement the Protestants of all Denominations; baffle that weak and groundless Calumny, that the Dissenters are intended a Sacrifice one after another to the Church of England; point out to them their Security from the Laws of Toleration; explain to them the Steadiness and laudable Conduct of many of their Representatives; ridicule that vile, that senseless Impostition, which has of late been so industriously propagated, That the Lower House of Assembly is our GREATEST GRIEVANCE, calculated to mislead and disgust the Minds of honest unthinking Men, and to serve the narrow Views of Party, or meaner Self Interest. On this last Subject I shall take Occasion to speak freely, and perhaps personally, when I consider the Act of Assembly mentioned and recommended to you above. In the mean while, I am, Dear Sir, &c.



BASTIA, July 2.

THE Rebels having charged some Peasants, who were bringing Provisions to this City, to deliver Letters in their Name, whereby they summoned the Inhabitants to pay them a Contribution of 26000 Crowns, and threatened, in Case of a Denial, to plunder and burn all the Farm Houses and Country Seats in this Neighbourhood: The Marquis Grimaldi, instead of regarding such Menaces, sent in the Night a Detachment of the Garrison to surprize an advanced Post occupied by eighty of the Rebels, most of whom have been killed or taken Prisoners.

We were some Time doubtful whether the Rebels had any Artillery; but now we find it is true that a foreign Vessel did bring them some Cannon; but as they are only Field Pieces, it is not to be expected that they can do much Execution against fortified Towns: Besides, we are informed that they want both Gunners and Carriages for their Artillery; so that we presume they will hardly venture to undertake the Siege of this City, though they gave out that it was the Design of their late Movements.

Naples, July 5. Last Wednesday Morning the Queen was safely deliver'd of a Princess, which happy Event was soon after made known to the People, by a triple Discharge of the Cannon of the Castle of St. Elme.

Turin, July 15. We are informed by our last Advices from Sardinia, that a Tunecian Corsair, of 18 Guns, was drove on the Rocks near Cagliari, the Beginning of this Month, and was dashed to Pieces, only five or six of the Crew having saved themselves in their Chaloupe.

Vicenna, July 17. At the Instance of the Russian Ambassador, all the Subjects of that Crown in our Service, are to be discharg'd in August next.

Hamburg, July 19. Among the other Ordinances to which the Empress of Russia gave her Assent before she left Moscow, there was one for prohibiting the Exportation of Timber from Estonia and Livonia.

By another, a Tax is laid on all the Subjects of the Empire without Distinction, whose Wives shall bear any Children, in order to raise a Fund for the Maintenance

August 12, 1754. Morning, from following Servants, and a Bricklayer, upon as a Halt in his Walk, and, has a very ill colour'd Cloth Coat, a Shirt, a Pair of ribb'd Stockings, and new

fore said Harper, aged a slooping Carriage, thin visaged, has lost and has a sad folding Jacket, Osnabrigs Shirt, describe.

about Thirty Years, has in his Walk, has Core Words, except when in Millor's Jacket, Osnabrigs shoes, and a half worn

Bay Horse, with a Blaze out WP. 'Tis thought with them two of the Red Horses, the one of a dark Bay.

servants, and secures them, have them again, shall each, besides what the William Waite.

July 3, 1754.

Commissioners Office, have, by required the Debtors of their several duties failed to comply with the said Office, that unless of Time, and pay off several Bonds, they will

the Commissioners, Dorsey, Paper Currency Office.

June 20, 1754.

the Subscriber, of South River, in Ann 16th of June, a Negro servant, lately convicted of a black Cloth Coat, a Check Shirt, a pair of Yarn stockings, a Pair of Yarn annell'd Pumps, a Work-shoe Hat; and took sundry

the said Fellow, and brings shall have Two Pistoles Benjamin Welsh.

with the above Fel-

servant Man, named John Had on and took with a broad Sailor's Jacket, a Pair of white Metal Buttons, Stockings, a Pair of old large brimm'd Hat, and sundry other Cloaths.

the said Servant, and brings all receive a Pistole Reward Robert Killison.

in the Bush River

the above mentioned Ser- that his Master may get two Pistoles Reward Benjamin Welsh.

in Charles-street;

of a moderate week after for Con-