

THE MARYLAND GAZETTE, [Numb. 511.]

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, February 20, 1755.

Mr. GREEN,

SUPPOSE you will, in your next Gazette, entertain the Public with some Account of the Proposals that have been lately made, for inviting a certain Number of Frenchmen to inhabit with the English in these Colonies, to share with them their Fortunes and Estates. The Scheme, I am told, demonstrates that the Subscribers to the Proposals will most unaccountably improve their Fortunes, by assigning away one Moiety of their Estates, to such of that Nation as may be prevailed upon to reside among them upon such reasonable Terms.

Many Arguments have been urg'd (I learn) from the Projectors, sufficient to convince every impartial Person, that we should be the only Gainers from our Alienation of such a Moiety of our Estates to that industrious, happy, and most polite People, whose late amiable Overtures from the Ohio, our ill grounded Prejudices have made us answer in a Manner very unbecoming that Gratitude we owe to a People, who to be sure, have nothing further in View than to promote our Happiness. As I should be too prolix, if I inserted the whole, or even the Substance of all the Arguments offered in Favour of the Proposals, I shall only communicate to you Part of the Letter that has given Birth, as far as I can find, to this Scheme, which I have hitherto avoided countenancing, because it has been intimated to me that the Author (whom they call Charlevoix, a Man, it seems, of great Sagacity, who has published many wise and just Observations on what occurred to him in his Travels through this Continent), was a Roman Catholic and a Jesuit, wherefore I hope some of your Readers, who may be acquainted with his Deserts and religious Character, will satisfy me as to that Particular, which will at once determine me what Credit I ought to give to his Authority, and with what Eye I shall view this plausibly beneficial Scheme.

One does not see in Canada any Persons of great Fortunes, or Masters of much Wealth, which is really a great Pity, for they are generously disposed, and love to make a Figure with what they have; with Difficulty will you find an Individual guilty of Avarice, or inclined to Hoarding. If they can afford it, they keep good Tables and dress gaily, and in these two Articles expend their whole Incomes: If their Finances are insufficient for both (as is no rare Case), they retrench a little the Luxury of their Tables, to support them the better in the other Article; and among Persons of every Rank and Fortune, you may observe universal Ease, Gaiety, and Politeness. How vast the Disparity between them and the English in their Neighbourhood! Indeed such is the Difference, as must oblige any one, who would form a Judgment of both from their Manner of Living, Actions, and Conversation, without the least Hesitation, to declare in Favour of the French, and proclaim ours to be, beyond Dispute, the most flourishing Colony. In the English Provinces on the American Continent, the People being possessed of Riches and Wealth, live in the greatest Affluence and Plenty, but to all Appearances are unable, or know not how, to enjoy either; while the Inhabitants of New France are happy in their Poverty, which they conceal under an Air of unaffected Ease and Cheerfulness: While the Numbers and Riches of the first are surprizingly increased from the Fertility of their cultivated Plantations, and extensive Commerce, the latter can scarce find a Subsistence from the greatest Industry, yet the Taste, Genius, and Manner of that Nation, diffuses over the whole Colony, an inexpressible Air of Contentment and Satisfaction. While an English Creole is solicitous to amass Wealth, and anxious to avoid every superfluous Expence, such the Appearance of Luxury, the Canadian enjoys what he has, and often makes a Parade of what he has not: The one makes himself a Slave to; and labours for, his Hairs, the other leaves his in the same narrow

Circumstances in which he himself was left, with the wide World to push his Fortunes in. The English Americans dread and decline Fighting, because they have a good deal to lose; they do not imagine they shall want the Assistance of the Indians, and therefore give themselves little Trouble about them. The French, for the contrary Reasons, are not much disposed to Peace, and spare no Pains nor Expences to gain the Affections of these People.

From this Contrast between the Circumstances and Genius of the two Nations, our Projectors have form'd their Plan: "As we have Wealth (say they), and can't enjoy it, let us invite our Neighbours, who will ease us of our superfluous Riches, and at the same Time teach us how to be happier with what will remain, after they are satisfied, than we are now, altho' in Possession of the Whole: As we hate Fighting, let us make the French our Friends, by giving them what they want; by this Means we shall secure to ourselves an eternal Peace; or in Case any unforeseen Enemy should arise, we can't doubt but our good Friends will most cheerfully take to themselves the whole Fatigue and Danger of Fighting our Battles."

As I have already, I am afraid, exceeded the Bounds of a Letter, I must refer you, for further Particulars, to the Scheme itself.

And am, SIR, your humble Servant,

Feb. 15, 1755: A. B.

MADRID, October 17.

COURIERS of late arrive very frequently from Paris, and are immediately sent back; their Dispatches are thought to relate to the critical State of Affairs between France and Great-Britain, on Account of the Invasion of the North-American Colonies of the latter, by a large Body of French Troops; on the other Hand Sir Benjamin Keene is very alert in his Province.

Ratisbon, October 24. The Protestants of Carinthia have sent to the Ministers of their Communion at the Diet, very moving Complaints of the cruel Hardships they suffer in the Exercise of their Religion, notwithstanding the Declarations of the Empress Queen in their Favour. It is said, the Protestant Ministers will make a common Cause of this Affair: The Minister of Brandenburg has already intimated, that the King of Prussia, his Master, would interest himself in it with the greatest Zeal and Activity; and that, if his Application to the Court of Vienna, in Conjunction with the other most considerable Princes and States of the Protestant Communion, did not produce the desired Effect, the Roman Catholics settled in the Protestant States of the Empire ought not to be surprized, if this Usage should be reorted on them.

Copenhagen, October 21. The Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, which the King has just concluded with the Emperor of Morocco, is very advantageous to this Kingdom. As the Differences, which occasioned the Interruption of the Correspondence between this Court, and that of Madrid, took their Rise under the Ministry of the Marquis de la Ensenada; and as the Court of Spain, is making some Improvements in the Management of public Affairs, it is hoped, this may furnish some favourable Opportunity to restore the good Understanding, which heretofore prevailed between our Court and that of Spain, in which we do not doubt of meeting with the good Offices of the French Court. The principal Point will be, to remove the Prejudices which Spain has conceived against this Court, on Account of its Engagements with the Emperor of Morocco, and to shew that these Engagements, so far from prejudicing the Subjects of Spain, may, on the contrary, prove to their Advantage, by rescuing them from Slavery, when they have the Misfortune to fall into the Hands of the Moors.

Naples, October 8. According to some private

Advices from Palermo, Commodore Martinez, who was cruising in the Sicilian Seas with two Men of War, and four Xebecques, having lately met with five Algerine Corsairs, he attacked them so vigorously, that after sinking One, he forced the others to sheer off. We wait with Impatience for the Particulars of this Engagement, which is said to have lasted several Hours.

The Levies for the new Regiments still go on very successfully.

Paris, November 1. The Conversation of the Public is very much engrossed about an extraordinary Secret discovered by a Swiss Physician, who, by Means of a certain Composition, pretends to preserve Life without Eating or Drinking. At first this was looked upon as a Joke, but People are since of a different Opinion, because, upon his being sent for to Court, he not only asserted the Truth of his Secret, but offered to make an Experiment of it upon any Persons who should be pitched upon for that Purpose, and likewise to make one of the Number himself. Accordingly some Soldiers were sent to the Royal Hospital of Invalids, where they were confined and watched fifteen Days, during which Time they had no Food, except a Dose of Powder composed by the Physician, which he gave them in the Morning and at Night, diluted in Wine, Beer or Water, and at the Expiration of the fifteen Days, they appear'd as strong, and in as perfect Health, as at first. After this Experiment, the Physician underwent the same Course himself, with the like Effect. Notwithstanding these Proofs several suspect some Deceit, and, in order to come at a greater Certainty, more Experiments are order'd to be made upon Prisoners, &c. after which, the Benefits that may accrue from this Discovery are to be enquir'd into. [What a very useful Discovery must this be, provided the Doctor's Powders are Cheap! At what easy Rates will all Kind of Provisions be!—But 'tis likely that those who learn the Art of living without Viands or Drink, will be serv'd as the Man's Horse was, who had no sooner learn'd, than he died.]

Paris, November 1. They write from Brest, that a new Man of War of 64 Guns, was lately launched there, and that another of 80 Guns, was to be launched in a few Days.

Hanover, October 29. The Troops of this Electorate are to be new clothed in the Spring, and to hold themselves in Readiness to be reviewed by the King, who is expected about the Middle of April.

LONDON, October 29.

Extra of a Letter from Bilbao, October 10.

France has got the Start of Britain here in all the finer Sorts of Woollen Goods, by making them as fine to the Eye, and not of half the Substance as the British Superfines; therefore she can afford to sell them much cheaper. The Policy of the French is very remarkable. Finding that they could not make Cloths of so good a Quality as the British, they very judiciously attempted to outdo them in Cheapness, which they have effected; and, in order to take off the natural Objection against the French Cloths, that they are not so durable as the British, they are continually making Improvements in their Colours; and as soon as a good approved Colour appears, it is more unfashionable not to be dressed in that Colour, than it would be in England to be dressed in a Suit made of Blanketing. By this Artifice, the French Subjects in this Kingdom, and others also, are inticed into a Wear of their thin Cloaths; and the Wearers will tell the Shopkeepers they can have two French Coats for the Price of one made of British Cloth; so that if the Manufacturers of Cloth in Great-Britain cannot invent a Cloth as cheap as the French, they must expect to be beaten by them out of their Trade.

October 31. Several Gentlemen, in different Parts of England, are going on in the Planting and Improving Vineyards, some Wines having been made in this Kingdom of good Strength, and of a delicate Flavour than the best Growths of France.

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