

THE MARYLAND GAZETTE, [Numb. 514]

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, March 13, 1755.

From a late English PAPER.

If like the Phrygians, we are wise too late; We, with their Folly, must expect their Fate.

ONCE more I beg your Indulgence, and possibly I may not trouble you again for a long while, being apprehensive all that can be said on the Subject I concern myself about, is said, since Indolence and Sluggishness appear to me to be the Genius of Britain should never have suffered them to have entered.

Two Regiments (we are told) are to be sent from Ireland to America, and what are they to do (their going having been so long postponed) when they come there? Why, be peopled into Winter Quarters till the Time of Action in next Season comes about; that is, when France has built such Forts as she sees proper, and got together a sufficient Number to defend them.

I hate those dilatory Doings, which have for almost an Age been the Shame of Britons, and which proceeds from the Want of that truly martial Spirit, which used never to be absent from the Breast of British Nobles. — Ha! Whither is it gone? to France — where not a Nobleman, perhaps, in the Kingdom, but is trained up from his Infancy in the Arts of War, and knows how, and is always ready, to command an Army — whilst ours — what shall I say of them? Indeed, we dress a fine, look as gay and smirking as they do, but, this is copying of France only in her Outside, mere Froth and Scum; when, as to Intellects — the Lord have Mercy upon us.

Thus and thus only, we copy France; nay, we have made an Exchange with them (awretched Barter); for in Times past, France used to talk boldly, be full of Hurry-scurry, make a prodigious Bustle, and from Time to Time deal out large Portions of gaudy Puffs, and Britons used to act: But now (mensurous Change) we talk, and the French act: Yet however, we may talk, however big we may appear in our own Fancies, let us not deceive ourselves, for France knows better than to regard any Thing but downright Thumps.

It was this Want of Knowledge and true martial Spirit in those appointed to command, which was the Source from whence sprung forth all the Causes of Complaint for our various Ill-Successes in the last War. Some, amongst Commanders of Ships, we have been told of, who had never seen Salt Water (having been wrapt up in the Tails of their Mothers Smocks) till the very Moment they received their Commissions: Some, who tho' they had never dared to look a Man in the Face had Courage enough, nay, proved that it was their chief Design to have the Sons of Britain extended like a Spread Eagle, and to behold with what Bravery they could bear the Lash: Some, who when they have beheld the Fleets of France and of Britain engaging, have kept their Distance, and never come within Gun Shot: And others, who when they have been told of the Enemies Approaches, have skulled off in the fastest Manner they were able, crying, For God's Sake put out your Lights, &c. &c. &c. But none of these, save some one and he was influenced by the cowardly evil Genius of Britain) were, as I could ever learn, Tars, but the Scorn and Derision of them; for amongst Tars, British Tars, ever was, and ever will be to be found such, as if appointed to command, will do Honour to the British Flag, and Justice to their Country.

Britons at Fontenoy were as ready and as willing to go and attack the French (more than triple their Number) intrenched, and amidst an incessant Discharge of a numerous Artillery, as ready and as willing as if they had been to have met a Number equal to themselves, and in an open Plain; which clearly evinces, that the Courage in the common People of Britain is now, as ever it was, but gives no Commendation to those who commanded them

on so desperate an Undertaking, and especially, as those Commanders were not thoroughly acquainted with what Trim our good Friends and dear Allies the Dutch (who should have supported the British Troops) were of: Bat,

I shall say no more of Land Forces. — Our Element is the Ocean, where if we gain Success, nothing on Land can hurt us: It is upon this Element that we have no Occasion to dread the Cannon of France, because, here we can give them Gun for Gun, and perhaps more, at any Time. I am not now immediately concerned about Spain, because, curb the Insolence of France, and Spain will be humble enough; for, if I judge rightly, the Spaniards Behaviour to us is built upon their Dependence on the Power of France, much in the same Manner as a pert little School Boy, shall, in going along the Street, throw Stones at a stout young Fellow, who, if he returns upon him, will cry out lustily, and call upon his Brother Dick, who is a Man, to come and help him; now, should Dick be overcome, we need not be at a Loss to know how Jack, the Stone Thrower, must hereafter demean himself. In Time therefore,

Let's give France Gun for Gun; Some sink, and others burn: Broad-Sides let's give them too, Till Monseigneur cries Morbleu, "These English Tars will kill us all. Whilst they scow, Let us pour Thick as Hail amongst them Cannon Ball.

Thus says, Sir, your very humble Servant, A TRUE BRITON.

P. S. The Account given in our News Papers of Persons at Deptford, being detected in taking Draughts of our Shipping, and sending them to France, I look upon, as some of our grand ridiculous Puffs, alias Hum Bugs; France no more wanting Draughts of our Shipping, than we do Draughts of theirs. — Let us use our Seamen well, pay them good Wages, and keep them at Home. Let us also keep our Wool at Home, and our Oak too, if France has occasion for it. These are the main Points we ought to be careful in looking after; (not forgetting our woefully neglected Commerce) it is on these that we ought to bestow unwearied Diligence in keeping constant Watch and Ward.

Use our Seamen well, pay them good Wages, and keep them at Home, and suffer none to use them ill, ought to be the first, the principal, and the eternal Maxim of those, who have the Government of BRITONS.

LONDON, November 23.

FROM an authentic Account of the late Earthquake at Constantinople, we learn the following Particulars, viz. That about Nine a Clock in the Evening, on the Second of September, came on the most dreadful Storm of Thunder that ever was known in that Place. The Peals succeeded one another without an Interval of above a Minute, excepting one Intermision about the Middle of the Storm, till three Quarters past Ten. During this short Intermision, and the Stars sparkling with the most perfect Brightness, suddenly the Earthquake began, every Thing at once became wrapped in Darkness, and Convulsions of the Earth beneath, hurling Thunders above, falling Buildings, Shrieks of the Terrified, and Groans of the Expiring on every Side, form'd such a Scene of Horror and Confusion, as no Description can represent, nor Imagination reach. — The Crush of Nature, and the Wreck of Worlds, seem'd instant. Two of the famous Seven Towers were demolished (particularly the much admir'd one of Saint Sophia) whole Streets laid in Ruins, and the common Prison intirely destroyed, with the greatest Part of its unfortunate Inhabitants. The Persons are computed at betwixt 2 and 3000. The Shocks, tho' less severely, were felt as far as Smyrna.

We are inform'd from Ireland, that the Speaker's Son has been dangerously wounded in a Duel, but will not discover his Antagonist.

We hear from Lisbon, that two Mines, the one of Silver, and the other of Copper, having been lately discovered in the Province of Fernambucco, in Brazil, the Merchants there are forming a Company for undertaking to work them.

The following Extract we have from the Votes of the House of Commons of the 28th of November.

Mr. Charleton (according to Order) reported from the Committee of the whole House, to whom it was referred to consider further of the Supply granted to his Majesty, the Resolutions, which the Committee had directed him to report to the House; which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in at the Table, where the same were read, and agreed to by the House, and are as followeth, viz.

Resolved, That a Number of Land Forces, including Eighteen Hundred and Fifteen Invalids, amounting to Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-seven effective Men, Commission and Non-commission Officers included, be employed for the Service of the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding Six Hundred, Twenty-eight Thousand, Three Hundred, and Fifteen Pounds, Seven Shillings and Elevenpence, be granted to his Majesty, for defraying the Charge of the Eighteen Thousand, Eight Hundred, and Fifty seven effective Men, for Guards, Garrisons, and other his Majesty's Land Forces in Great Britain, Guernsey, and Jersey, for the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding Two Hundred, Thirty six Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty Pounds, Eighteen Shillings and Sixpence Halfpenny, be granted to his Majesty, for maintaining his Majesty's Forces and Garrisons in the Plantations, Minorca, and Gibraltar, and for Provisions for the Garrisons in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, and Providence, for the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding Forty Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty Pounds, Fifteen Shillings, be granted to his Majesty, for defraying the Charge of two Regiments of Foot, to be employed for his Majesty's Service in North-America, for the Service of the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding Seven Thousand, Three Hundred, Thirty eight Pounds, Two Shillings and Sixpence, be granted to his Majesty, for defraying the Charge of the several Officers, appointed by his Majesty to go with the Forces in the Expedition, under the Command of Major General Braddock, for the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding One Thousand Seven Hundred, Seventy nine Pounds, Seven Shillings and Sixpence, be granted to his Majesty, for defraying the Charge of the Officers, appointed by his Majesty, to attend the Hospital established for the Service of the Expedition, under the Command of Major General Braddock, for the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding One Hundred and Nineteen Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixteen Pounds, Ten Shillings; be granted to his Majesty, for the Charge of the Office of Ordnance for Land Service, for the Year 1755.

Resolved, That a Sum, not exceeding Thirty-two Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds, Eight Shillings and Eight pence, be granted to his Majesty, for defraying the extraordinary Expence of the Office of Ordnance for Land Service, not provided for by Parliament.

Resolved, That this House will, To-morrow Morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising the Supply granted to his Majesty.

Ordered, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army, and their Quarters; and that Mr. Secretary at War, Mr. Thomas Gore, and Mr. Nugent, do prepare and bring in the same.