

From the South-Carolina Gazette, Jan. 16, 1755.

Mr. TIMOTHY,

IF you are of Opinion, that this Letter can in any Shape benefit Mankind, you will be pleased to publish it in the Gazette: It is intended to prevent the too precipitate Interments of the Dead: The Intention is laudable, however unequal I may be for the Subject, which is of Importance enough to claim universal Attention. Men may flatter themselves, that they never shall have the Plague, Small-Pox, or any other particular Disease, and therefore regard with Indifference those Writings that treat of them; but none are ignorant, that Death is inevitable to all, none need to be taught that Life is desirable, or to have it recommended, that being buried alive is the greatest Misfortune to which human Nature can be subjected.

It was the Opinion of Dr. Astruc, and others of the great Antients, that Death does not manifest itself by indubitable Signs; to their great Authority, I could add the Confessions of some Physicians of the first Class among the Moderns, whose Place and Character set them above Suspicion, who have owned, that they have been ready to bury the Living, when happily prevented by discovering Signs of Life in the Persons supposed to be dead. To strengthen their Opinions, I will add some Examples from History, which I hope will be sufficient to put all Persons on their Guard. The Romans, in Pliny's Time, kept their Dead seven Days, and then burnt them. The same Pliny, an Author of undoubted Credit, informs us, that Lucius Lamia, who was honoured with the Praetorship, and Atilius Aviola, who had been Consul, were both burnt alive, the Flames having made such Progress before the fatal Error was discovered, that it was impossible to save them. If a Week's Time was not sufficient to ascertain the Death of the Party, what can we think of the Practice of burying in 24 Hours? the too general Custom in this Province. If the Reader is surprized, that seven Days apparent Death should not amount to a Certainty, he will wonder more, to find in a Passage of Pechlin, that a Gardener of Troningsholm revived, after lying 16 Hours under Water; a Woman, after lying three Days; and that a Man lived to be 77, who, at the Age of 17, was not taken out of the Water till he had lain there seven Weeks: The last may appear altogether incredible, but it is not less so, that a Man of Honour and Genius, in the very Country where they are said to have happened, should not only relate these Circumstances as Facts, if false, but also write a Treatise to prove the Possibility of them, and appeal to all the learned World for the Truth of what he advances. A physical Enquiry into the Manner in which Life may subsist for many Days without Respiration, would be going far beyond the Intention of this Letter, but may be the Subject of another.

I said above, that the Indications of Death are not sufficiently certain. The Distempers in which we are most liable to err, are, the Apoplexy, Suffocations, the true Suffocation, as by strangling, suffocation, close Places, anxious Vapours and Exhalations; and the false or convulsive Suffocations, as from Hysterics and hypochondriac Disorders, &c. The APOPLEXY, if I am right informed, has been more common than usual within these six Months, in this Province, and generally fatal; and I have observed, that their Interments have been within 48 Hours, some 20, of their supposed Death. Tho' I have no Reason to think any have been buried alive, yet I sincerely wish, most of them had been kept some Days longer: It could have done no Harm.

There are three general Methods of discovering latent Life. The first is by the Pulse, which should not only be felt for at the Wrist, but sought for between the Thumb and the Bone near the Metacarpus, at the Temples behind the Sterno-mastic Muscles, at the Groin, and at the Beating of the Heart in the Left Side; great Care and Diligence is to be used in this Search—yet the Absence of the Pulse is not conclusive—Dr. Brubier, of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, has proved how the Motion in the Arteries may be totally insensible, and yet exist. The second Method is by the Respiration: For this there are several Experiments, as, holding a burning Candle near the Mouth and Nose, a fine clear Glass, a Feather of very fine Down, yet these are not to be depended upon as conclusive; for, tho' the Flame continues steady, the Mirror bright, and the Feather motionless, as also the Experiment of placing a Glass of Water on the Pit of the Stomach, tho' the Water have no Motion, yet there may be latent Life. The 3d Method is, by chirurgical Experiments, by pricking, cutting and burning; even these are some-

times insufficient to produce Signs of Sensibility, tho' the Life still remains. If there is any Reason to presume latent Life, I would advise stimulating the Nostriils with Acids, volatile Salts and Spirits; to irrigate the Organs of Feeling with a small Whip, and those of Hearing by a shrill Noise; and wait for a Mortification, the only sure Sign of Death, in my humble Opinion.

That the greatest of Men may be mistaken in this Point, I'll give an Instance of Vesalius, the greatest Anatomist of his Age, and First Physician to the Emperor Charles V. He killed a Person, by opening of him to discover the Cause of his supposed Death, not perceiving his Error, till he saw the Palpitation of his Heart. But I will conclude this Letter, which is already too tedious, with the following Remarks. 1st, That great Caution should be used in burying Persons whose Death has not been preceded by the usual Symptoms of an approaching Dissolution. 2dly, That in doubtful Cases, great Care should be taken of the Body, so as not to prevent a Revivification. And 3dly, That we should rather suspect those Deaths that follow Diseases not mortal in their own Nature, as an Apoplexy more than an apparent Mortification.

I am,
Your most humble Servant,
PHILANTHROPOS.

From the Westminster Journals, of Nov. 23, and 30. Public Affairs: Or, The History of Europe, &c.

THEY write from Peterburgh, that the Great Princess, and the young Prince, of whom she was lately delivered, are as well as can be wished. Most of the Regiments that were assembled during the Summer, on the Frontiers of Courland, are going into Winter Quarters in Livonia and Ingria, where they are to hold themselves in Readiness to march, as Circumstances may require. The Great Chancellor, Count Bestucheff, is confined to his Apartment, but it is hoped his Indisposition will not be attended with any fatal Consequences. According to the last Letters received at the above Place from Persia, the Calamities to which the People of that Kingdom are reduced by the frequent Revolutions which have lately happened there are inexpressible. These Letters, amongst other Things, advise, that Kerim Cham, and Azad Cham, who are now the two principal Competitors for the Throne of that Kingdom, had each of them put himself at the Head of a powerful Army; that the former of these Princes having directed his March towards Isphahan, was followed and overtaken by his Adversary, who after a bloody Battle obliged him to retire into the Mountains with the Remains of his Army, where having been considerably reinforced, he marched again towards Isphahan; but that Azad Cham being inform'd of his Designs, met him again, and obtain'd a complete Victory over him; after which the Inhabitants of Isphahan acquainted him, that they were ready to receive him into their City; that he had thereupon sent one of the principal Officers of his Army to command there in his Name; that this Governor treated the Inhabitants with great Mildness, and has caused a great Quantity of Money to be coin'd, and that Azad Cham was speedily to make his public Entry into that Capital.

We have Advice from Warsaw, that while it was thought that the Dyet was absolutely dissolved by the Protest and Departure of the Nuncio of Starodub, several good Patriots observ'd, that since the said Nuncio had acted against the Instructions of the Palatinate, that Assembly ought to continue sitting; But others alledge, that as the Affair of the Ordination of Ostrog is the principal Motive of the Election of a Marshal till this Affair will be settled; and moreover, if the Chamber should resolve, on this Occasion, to disregard the Retreat of a Nuncio, it might hereafter be turned into dangerous Precedent, and Questions might be carried by a Majority against the Constitution of the Republic.

The Differences between the King of the Two Sicilies, and the Order of Malta, are upon the Point of being adjusted, on which Account their Ships pass by each other without Molestation. They write from Malta, that one of their Men of War has fallen in with an Algerine Corsair, which she took after a smart Engagement, and has brought her safe into Port.

The Master of a Ship, which arriv'd lately at Venice from the Levant, reported, that it was not only at Constantinople, and the Neighbourhood of that Capital, that in the Month of September last suffer'd from the violent Shocks of an Earthquake, but that they had likewise such terrible Ones at Grand Cairo, that many Houses had been thrown down, and some Thousands of People buried in their Ruins.

Though the Infant Don Louis of Spala has sign'd his Cardinal's Hat, he made a Precept to the Church of L' Echelle of the usual Sum of 200 Crowns, for the Celebration of the Feast of St. Theresa. The Cardinal Vicar has order'd public Prayers on account of the excessive Drought, and the raging of the Small-pox, which continues to make great Havock at Rome. It has just arriv'd off the Duke de Poli, who retir'd to Valmontone, in Hopes to escape it.

Don Sebastian d'Estaba, Minister and Secretary at War, has presented a Plan to the King of Spain for making an Augmentation of 4000 Men in the Spanish Infantry; whereby it will be on the same Footing as it stood at the End of the last War. It is said, that there is also a Project on the Army for augmenting the Swiss and Irish Regiments, and likewise the Cavalry and Dragoons. The last Reform was advised by the Marquis de la Ensenada, who appropriated the Savings arising from it to the Augmentation of the Marine; but the present Ministers have found Funds sufficient for the Marine, without reducing the Land Forces. At a Council lately held on the Affairs of England, the King resolv'd that he would not depart in the least from his Right of Sovereignty concerning Navigation, Commerce, and the Cutting of Logwood in the Bay of Campeachy: But at the same Time his Majesty approv'd of some Proposals made to him for an Accommodation of the Differences with the Crown of Great-Britain in America, relative to the Visiting that Nation's Ships, and the Rules to be prescribed for keeping the Guarda Costas in the Bounds.

November 30. The Ministers of the evange Body held a Conference lately at Ratibon, in which two Letters were read, and resolv'd to be sent to the Emperor and the Empress Queen, setting forth the religious Grievances which their Majesty's Protestant Subjects labour under in Austria, the Kingdom of Hungary, and the Dutchies of Carinthia and Stiria, and praying to have them redress'd. The Letters have been sent to Vienna, and it is not doubted but they will produce the wished for Effect.

Private Letters from Madrid to Genoa advise, that Things are not likely to turn out so bad against the Marquis de la Ensenada as has been given out, and assert, that the King of Spain has assign'd the Marquis a Pension of 3000 Pistoles; 3000 Pistoles to Don Augustin de Hordegnana; and one of 2000 to each of the Marquis de la Ensenada's two chief Secretaries.

A Tartan which touch'd at Portmahone, arriv'd at Marseilles the 28th of last Month, the Captain of which reports, that at his Departure from that Place he heard that two Spanish Men of War and four Xebecks, having met with several Algerine Pirates upon the Coast of Catalonia; engag'd them, and after an obstinate Fight, took two of them, sunk two more, and oblig'd the other three to sheer off, which they were glad to do by the Favour of the Night.

L O N D O N.

November 28. Last Saturday as a Gentleman's Servant was riding over Endfield Chase, he perceived the Body of a Man who had been murdered, lying in a Heap of Briars near Cattlegate; and acquainted the Officers belonging to the Parish of Northw of the Affair, who sent for the Body, and caus'd it to be laid in the Church Yard to be own'd. It prov'd to be the Body of a Labourer, who work'd at the Brick-Kilns near Northw Wells, and was call'd by the Name of Blue-Shirt. He had several Times been heard to say, that he had a 31. 12. Piece, and a Guinea, sew'd up in his Skirt of his Coat, but said he would sooner lose his Life than his Money. His Skull was cut across, which, as the Surgeon imagined, was done with a Hedging Bill. A young Fellow who is related to the Master of the Brick-Kilns absconded on Sunday Morning, and it was said he had borrowed a Hedging Bill of a Person in the Neighbourhood, and had not return'd it.

By a private Letter from Toulon we have Advice, that not long since there were in that Port, one Ship of 80 Guns, five of 74, seven of 64, one of 56, and three of 50, besides four Frigates, three Bomb-Ketches, four Xebecks, and fourteen Gallies, which were all ready to put to Sea. There were likewise on the Stock, one Ship of 80 Guns, one of 74, one of 64, and three Frigates. It is remark'd in the same Letter, that the largest of these Ships have but two Decks, which render them better able to fight their lower Decks than any three-deck'd Ships at theirs.

By a Letter from Rotterdam we learn, that on the 25th of last Month a Vessel belonging to Scarborough, laden with Coals from Newcastle to London, struck on a Sand Bank in the Yarmouth Roads. The Ship was so much damaged, that they were oblig'd

to fly her Pump; Night the Coast of Holland, created every Moment, and the Long Boat and Time to save their Lives had not been fifteen Minutes the Vessel went to the Bottom long service, for six Men perished. The Bit of Sail, and provisions Dutch Vessel, who arriv'd Last Monday thirty issued out of the Pay-Company's Guards, Garrisoned Britain, from the 24th December, 1754.

At the same Time issued out of the Forces Nova-Scotia, from the 1st of December, 1754. K I N G S T O N, Extra of a private Liverpool, to his Franchis'd, 28, 1754.

I WROTE in my rations were making The Ceremony was on this Occasion there was which no less than 34 made a most brilliant we had a Concert the following Day a Concert grand Ball was given which concluded our there were public Breasts Ellin Conlife, and M Boat-Racing on the Strangers. The whole been conducted with Order, far exceeding appeared in these Parts

This sumptuous Ed of the Corporation, and about 106 Feet d in all the Front, and the Columns; being fr in the Royal Exchange spacious, and consist Steps; on the Upper Hall, which is a nob 28 Feet wide, and th the Hall leads you t the Right from thence which, with Carding built to accommodate of the great Stair-cas Court and Town-C commodious.

The Height of th to the Top of the E over the Front you from the Ground ris the Prospect of the both within Side and finished! The work no where a direct Vi the Ground much p the Building was inte

B O W. January 20. A We Affair at Rehoboth 20, as related by for a Traveller, finely that Town, and was fician was sent for, gerous, and he tho tho't so too: The worse, enquir'd of hi he came, but by no tell either, but desire he died; and said, what he had, wou three Days after-h order'd to be burnt, his Bags, some Go in. Various and who this Man shou

February 6. It done in our Paper have died without hohoth, was a T named Joseph Gib Maryland.

By Letters from E Advice, That they upon the Beach, o other at a Place c Wharf: That the End is to be great ded to it; that ea