

was thought improbable, and his apparent Interest in the Death of his Ward, and perhaps the petulant Zeal of other Relations, concurred to raise and strengthen Suspicions against him, and he was detained in Custody. Some new Circumstances were every Day rising against him. It was found that the young Lady had been addressed by a neighbouring Gentleman, who had, a few Days before she was missing, set out on a Journey to the North; and that she had declared she would marry him when he returned: That her Uncle had frequently expressed his Disapprobation of the Match in very strong Terms: That she had often wept and reproached him with Unkindness and an Abuse of his Power. A Woman was also produced, who swore, that on the Day the young Lady was missing, about eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, she was coming through the Forest, and heard a Woman's Voice expostulating with great Eagerness; upon which she drew nearer the Place, and, before she saw any Person, heard the same Voice say, *Don't kill me Uncle, don't kill me*; upon which she was greatly terrified, and immediately hearing the Report of a Fire-Arm very near she made all the Haste she could from the Spot, but could not rest in her Mind, till she had told what had happened.

Such was the general Impatience to punish a Man, who had murdered his Neice to inherit her Fortune, that upon this Evidence he was condemned and executed.

About ten Days after the Execution the young Lady came home. It appeared, however, that what all the Witnesses had sworn to was true, and the Fact was thus circumstanced:

The young Lady declared, that having previously agreed to go off with the Gentleman that courted her, he had given out, that he was going a Journey to the North; but that he waited concealed at little House near the Skirts of the Forest, till the Time appointed, which was the Day she disappeared. That he had Horses ready for himself and her, and was attended by two Servants also on Horseback. That as she was walking with her Uncle, he reproached her with persisting in her Resolution to marry a Man, of whom he disapproved; and after much Altercation, she said with some Heat, *If I have set my Heart upon it, if I do not marry him it will be Death; and don't kill me, Uncle, don't kill me*; that just as she had pronounced these Words, she heard a Fire Arm discharged very near her, at which she started, and immediately afterwards saw a Man come forward from among the Trees, with a Wood Pigeon in his Hand, that he had just shot. That coming near the Place appointed for their rendezvous, she form'd a Pretence to let her Uncle go on before her, and her Suitor being waiting for her with a Horse, she mounted and immediately rode off. That instead of going into the North, they retired to a House, in which he had taken Lodgings, near Windsor, where they were married the same Day, and in about a Week, went a Journey of Pleasure to France. When they returned, they first heard of the Misfortune which they had inadvertently brought upon their Uncle.

So uncertain is human Testimony, even when the Witnesses are sincere, and so necessary is a cool and dispassionate Enquiry and Determination, with respect to Crimes that are enormous in the highest Degree, and committed with every possible Aggravation.



ON CONTENTMENT and AVARICE.

*Irus & est Subito, qui modo Cræsus erat.*

OVID.

CONTENTMENT to the Mind is as Light to the Eye; as the latter discloses every pleasing Object to the intellectual Powers, so does the former every agreeable Idea to the Soul; though it does not immediately bring Riches to Mankind, it does equally the same, by banishing the Desire of them; if it cannot directly remove the Disquietudes arising from a Man's Mind, Body, or Fortune, it makes him easy under them; it destroys all inordinate Ambition in a State, and becomes its Support against the most dangerous Attacks, while the Lust of magnificent Structure, foretels its final Ruin; in Man it prevents every Tendency to Corruption, with Respect to the Community in which he is placed; it dissipates Care, Melancholy, and Anxiety; from its Possessor; sweetens his Conversation, makes him fit for Society, and gives a perpetual Serenity to all his Thoughts.

Behold that sordid Animal the *Gamester*, ever anxious of enriching himself, yet ever contemplating his own Misery: All his Schemes are laid for the Oppression of the Poor, yet ever terminate in his own Ruin: View him in Adversity; Who pities him? In Poverty; Who honours him? Or, in any State of Life; Who regards him? Fortune is his Goddess, *De Meivore* his Guide, and the Lust of Avarice eggs him on to his base Employments; while the Dice are rattling, his Heart is throbbing; and the very next Throw either plunges him into a Gulph of Misery or hurries him into an unpremeditated Rage of Distraction; Life is a continued Series of Uneasiness to him; when he walks, he treads upon Briars, and his Seat is a Seat of Thorns; his Days are Days of Despair, and his Years, Years of Pain: Hope and Fear, those two noble Faculties of the Soul, cultivated in Man for the sublime Ends of Religion, are prostituted to his Villainy; and, if ill Luck succeeds, his abandoned Soul sinks by his own Curses; Peace and Tranquility are as far banished from his Mind, as Honesty and Fidelity from his Heart; his Breast is made subservient to the Tortures of Suspence, and continually racked by the fiercest Extremes. How miserable then must that Man be, who is thus enslaved by his lucrative Appetite? Fire and Sword are slow Engines of Destruction, compared to the Havock this fatal Disturber creates in a Man's Body and Fortune; yet such is his Disposition, that the warmest Sollicitations, even from his dearest Friends, cannot withhold him from his Engagements with his fickle Idol; he rather treats them as his Enemies, who propose so deadly a Task; Friendship is bartered for Self-Interest, and the all-powerful Lust of Gold mars every Christian Office: How insusceptible of Remorse is the *Gamester's* Breast, when he robs a Distressed Family of its Support, or snatches the Bread from the Teeth of the Hungry? O thou Monster of Nature! How inglorious are thy Conquests? Is the Eye that sees all Things blind to thy Inhumanity? Vengeance is spreading her Net wide for thee, and will overtake thee in the midst of thy Barbarity.

O *Avarice!* thou vilest Muckworm, what Wickedness dost thou create in Mankind? How art thou courted by Poor, unthinking Mortals for thy Deformity? What a Train of Evils are under thy Command? Destruction bounds from every Part of thee swifter than the Arrow from the Archer's Breast, and, like a base Ingrate as thou art, thou sheddest unheeded Bane on those that Protect thee; Bankruptcy to the Tradesmen, and Poverty to the Men of Affluence, are the Rewards thou procurest: Whether thou appearest in Church or State, in City or at Court, yet Vice is ever attendant on thee, and the Nation that Harbours thee sacrifices her Liberty to its Pursuits; the Statesman, when he becomes thy Votary, proves false to his Country; and every glowing Passion for the Public-Welfare is chilled in its Embryo by the over-ruling Power of Self-Interest; Justice herself is staggered by thy Enormities, her Sword is blunted by thy Outrages; when she calls, in feeble Accents, for Assistance, her faithless Patrons are deaf to all her Intreaties, till at length we see Vice riding triumphant, spreading her Banner as she goes, Virtue and Religion retiring at the Appearance of it, and sad Desolation, with all her gloomy Attendants, advancing at a Distance, to embrace us.

*I am Yours, &c.*

NESTOR.



KINGSTON, in Jamaica, Nov. 29.

A few Days ago arrived Captain Nehemiah Holland in the Ship Lime, from Old Callabar, by whom we have Advice of a Pyrate's being upon that Coast, that the Captain of the Pyrate, with two of his Men, came on board Captain Holland, to trade; upon which Captain Holland gave Orders for them to be secured, and brought them safe into this Harbour. The Captain of the Pyrate has since turn'd the King's Evidence.

January 3. Admiral Townshend is daily expected here with three Ships of the Line; and in Case of a Declaration of War, Admiral Smith will be dispatched here with a large Squadron.

NEW-HAVEN, February 21.

We hear from Albany, by the Post, that about the Third or Fourth of this Instant, one Mr. John Norton of Farmington, who has a Son-in-law in the Army, was going to see him at Port Edward, and not chusing to travel so slow as Major

Matthews, who was escorting some Provisions to the Fort; contrary to his Advice, left him, and went forward alone; and it is supposed fell into the Enemy's Hands, as he has not since been heard of, and the Track of his Horse was followed ten Miles, and tended directly towards Crown-Point.

PHILADELPHIA, March 4.

Saturday last the FIELD OFFICERS of the PHILADELPHIA REGIMENT, chosen in Pursuance of the *Militia Law*, and duly commissioned by his Honour the Governor, reviewed the Regiment in the Statehouse Square, where they were drawn up under Arms, and made a fine Appearance. In their March thro' the City, the Regiment halted before the Academy, in order to receive some Propositions the Inhabitants were invited to hear, for Improvement of our military Affairs; but were disappointed; the Proposers having too precipitately pocketed up their Papers, and dispersed themselves. They have, however, sent the following Account of their Proceedings to be published in this Paper, viz.

On Saturday last, a considerable Number of the Inhabitants of this City met at the Academy, to consult upon some Expedient for rendering the Use of Arms more universal, and the Province more secure, in the present perilous Situation of Affairs, by bringing those to learn the Military Exercise, who do not chuse to act as MILITIA under the present Law. The following Plan of ASSOCIATION was accordingly agreed upon, and subscribed under the three several Heads of HORSE-EXERCISE, FOOT-EXERCISE, and the ARTILLERY-EXERCISE, belonging to the old Association Battery.

An ASSOCIATION for promoting Military Discipline among the Freemen of Pennsylvania, who are not WILLING and DESIROUS to act under the present *Militia Law*.

WHEREAS the weak and defenceless State of this Province, has long been Matter of just and real Concern to every thinking Person among us, especially since the Commencement of the late unjustifiable Encroachments of the French and their Savage Allies; And whereas a War between the English and French Nations seem at present unavoidable, which will expose this rich and flourishing City to Invasions from Sea, and the other Parts of the Province to cruel Ravages by Land, if proper Measures of Security are not speedily concerted; And whereas but few of the People seem inclined to muster under the present *Militia Law*, and to put themselves under Officers that propose to act in Pursuance of the Law; And whereas it is nevertheless absolutely necessary and expedient that those who are scrupulous in this Respect, should have an Opportunity of acquiring the Military Exercise, in a Manner agreeable to themselves; provided it be not repugnant to any positive Institution of their Country. Wherefore, we the Subscribers, Freemen of the City and County of Philadelphia, enter into this VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION for accomplishing ourselves in Military Discipline, that we may be ready to appear in the Service of our Country whenever we are necessarily called thereto. And that there may be nothing to create Uneasiness among us, nor to interrupt our Design of acquiring the Military Exercise, the following are declared to be the Fundamental Articles, and the essential Principles of this ASSOCIATION, viz.

1. That we will remain entirely INDEPENDENT of the present *Militia Law*, in every Shape and Sense. For, as we cannot believe that the Law will ever answer the Purposes of Defence, and, if it were carried into Execution (which we scarce think practicable) would leave the People of this Province on a very unequal Footing, so we cannot think it expedient to act under a Law which we must necessarily disapprove of, especially as every Individual is, by the Law itself, left to his own free Choice, either to act under it, or not. And as we do not blame those who think proper to pursue a different Plan from ours, and charitably believe that many of them may do so from a very laudable Motive; so we hope they will grant us the same Indulgence, and allow us an equal Right of following our own Judgment, in Matters where we are equally concerned and free.

2. That we will be under such Officers, as we shall chuse, and his Honour the Governor shall be pleased to commission, for the Troop or Company to which we respectively set our Names. That we will associate with Capt. *Vanderspeigle's*, and any other Independent Companies, so as to be afterwards formed into one or more Regiment, or Regiments, under such Field Officers as the several

Captains,

Captains; Lieutenants and (if so ordered and associated) shall be pleased to commission, and the Governor be pleased to commission, for the Purpose. But such Officers to lead us to any Duty of our own Consent, unless a proposal obtained, equally binding the Subjects of this Province, are therefore intitled to equal Privileges.

Philadelphia, Feb. 28.

This Plan of Association was considered, by several of the Members of the Assembly, I think it necessary to sign as an Expedient that will promote the Safety, by promoting Militia who do not chuse to act under

ROBERT

Philadelphia, Feb. 25.

QUERIES

1. Whether when the w Meeting on any Project, gether to countenance it, called a considerable than ber?

2. Whether keeping up and defenceless State of the Thousand Pounds has been g for its Defence, and so n Frontier, and Troops tak Meaning in it, and what t

3. Whether representi Papers, as being at the fa defenceless, is least agreea dence, the Way to deter, o

4. Whether a Regiment consisting of near 1000 M non, and a strong Battery, as nothing towards the Def this?

5. Whether the Appea ment under Arms, at three be not a full Proof, that the Paper, viz. "saw of the "to muster under the pres egregiously Mistake?

6. Whether it was not p tary Projectors (since they that there was such a Regi by knowing how much w better able to judge what v

7. Whether inviting a Consultation, and shutting Faces, as soon as they app or an Affront?

8. By whose Order wa Right had HE to order it

9. Are not our Laws fi our own chusing?

10. Did the Governor p to our Militia Law, before

11. Have the People p for any Amendments to th fused?

12. Could not these Proj ercised themselves in the U fronting in express Terms ture of their Country?

13. May not the Milita learnt under the Sanctio out it?

14. Is not making Tr deavoursing to carry it in Way of discovering wheth or impracticable, will or will And if, on such Trial, it be not the actual Experience Weight to an Application

15. And would not that the more generally the Exp

16. Do those good Me taken up Arms for the D and the Officers that have discipline them, deserve, countenanced, and meet w encouragement and Obstac Views can throw in their V

17. If the Projectors i Use of their own Liberty cise of Arms, can they r without endeavouring to d already formed under San without soliciting the Peo ment, not to act under the Law in the Liberty they h Law if they should chuse it