

LONDON, January 1.

FRIDAY last a Footman, belonging to Major Matthews, shot himself at his Master's House, in Dean-Street, and not at Lord Bute's House, as mention'd.—The following Remark concerning the Deceased is something Singular: He entered on his Service on a Friday, was born on a Friday, was married on a Friday, his eldest and youngest Sons were born on a Friday, shot himself on a Friday, and the Undertaker's Name is Friday who has the burying of him, and it is said he will be buried next Friday, in FRIDAY-STREET.

The following remarkable Quotation from that eminent Foreigner Mors. Rousseau, was introduced in a Speech delivered by a Reverend Divine upon the Re-Election of Mr. Pelham, for the County of Sussex; and as the Observation, if just, is of the utmost Importance to the People of this Kingdom, we shall make no Apology for inserting it.—

"The English imagine they are a free People, but they are mistaken; they are only free during the short Time of choosing their Representatives in Parliament, and as soon as that Choice is determined, they almost always become Slaves again; and they generally make so exceeding bad a Use of the few transitory Moments that are given them of Liberty, that they very richly deserve to lose it, and become Slaves."

It is now said the Cyder-Act will be repealed, and in place of the Duties arising by that Act, will be substituted that of appointing a Duty of 5 l. upon a Licence, which every Attorney will annually be obliged to take out.

January 4. It is computed that upwards of 58,000 l. Sterling have been lost to the Nation since the Establishment of Government Cutters for the Suppression of Smuggling.

It is now said, that the Government Cutters, appointed to suppress Smuggling, are not to be discharged his Majesty's Service, but only turned over to the Commissioners of Excise and Customs, by which Regulation a Saving will be made of several Thousand Pounds per Annum.

Application is intended to be made this Session for an Act to encourage the Importation of American hard Soap, which will occasion a considerable fall in the Price of Candles and Tallow.

An Order has been received from New-England, to engage a Number of Persons, skilled in the Manufacture of Glass Bottles, to embark for Boston.

The Cause of Mr. Wilkes's coming to England is thus related, by those who pretend to know best. While the last Administration were in Office, he was in Hopes that whenever his Friends succeeded he should have been properly remembered, as it was in their Support he risked his Life and lost his Liberty, and as the Arbitrary and illegal Violations of the Rights of every Englishman, in his Case, had given them a Cause to stand upon; but now finding his Hopes and Expectations ill founded, he has determined of his own Accord, and without any Invitation whatever, except from his few private and sincere Friends, to return to England and take his Fate.

Letters from Petersburg advise, that there has been a great Mortality among the Jew Families, sent out last Summer by the Bounty of the Empress, to form a Settlement in the Province of Siberia.

A Letter from the West Riding of Yorkshire says, that in the several Parishes of that Riding, upwards of 500,000 Men, Women and Children, depend for Support on the different Branches of the Woollen Manufactures; that very little Corn, in Proportion to the Number of their Inhabitants, is raised within that Circle, but is chiefly brought from distant Parts of the Country, as well as from Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, &c. that for some Time past all the Necessaries of Life have been exceeding dear; that Trade in general is now very dull, some Branches are almost ruined, many of the Manufacturers are entirely out of Employment, others have not half Work, it is much to be feared the Consequences will be dreadful.

Letters from Hanover, dated Dec. 20, say, The King of Great Britain has ordered all the Chaces in this Electorate to be distributed into Farms, and leased out. Major-General Freytag is gone to raise Recruits at Zell and Lunenburg for our Militia, and it's thought that Corps will be compleated early in next Month.

Advices from Berlin of the 24th of December, say, that his Prussian Majesty, and all the Princes of the Blood, returned there in good Health, on the 31st past.

It is said, that near One Hundred French Protestants, from the Neighbourhood of Spital fields, acquainted with the Culture of Silk, and making of Wines, are engaged to go and settle in Charles-Town, South-Carolina.

A Number of Counterfeit Half Guineas are now circulating about Town. They are of a pale Colour, very much bent, and ring well, being the finest Silver double gilt.

On the 26th of October last, Martha, the Wife of William Roberts, of Warrington, was delivered of a Male Child, which was christened Robert. The Mother left her Room Three Days after Delivery, and washed at the Pump, and did other Household Work, until the 6th Instant, when she was delivered of a Female Child, which caused another Christening, and all the Parties are now well.

Jan. 6. When the City of London lately presented the Freedom of their respectable Corporation to his Serene Highness the Prince of Brunswick, one of his Attendants, an Aid de Camp, politely told the Lord Mayor, and the other Gentlemen of the Committee, who went up with the Gold Box, that they had done more than the whole French Army were ever capable of performing, they having made his Highness change Countenance.

There is now living at a Place called Thorncombe, in Devonshire, one Mrs. Mary Allen, Relict of Robert Allen, Carpenter, who is at this present Time in the 118th Year of her Age: She enjoys all her Senses in Perfection, walks to Church every Sunday with the Assistance of a Stick, which is about 200 Yards distance from her own Habitation, can make a Shirt or Shift, and read a Chapter in the Bible without Spectacles.

There is now living at Noke, in Oxfordshire, one King, formerly a Labourer and Thrasher, who is now in the 128th Year of his Age, and subsists on Charity: He walks to Oxford Market, and back again, which is twelve Miles, every Saturday.

They write from York, that there are at present in that City, a Boy and a Girl of surprizing Size. They are Twins; and, tho' not yet 17 Years of Age, the Brother Measures 7 Feet 3 Inches, and the Sister 7 Feet 2 Inches.

It having been observed at Vienna, that an inordinate Desire of becoming rich, led many People to engage in several Enterprizes of different Natures at the same Time, and thereby to run in Debt, and very often ruin themselves, by wading out of their Depth; an Ordinance is just published there, forbidding all Tradesmen and Mechanics from quitting their proper Businesses, which ought to employ their whole Care and Attention.

Jan. 11. A noble Lord lately reconciled to his Brother, has openly declared, that his Sentiments in Politics, are not in the least altered by that Reconciliation, which regards only Family Affairs, but imports no Coalition with the Party in which his Brother is known to be a Leader.

The Friends of the New Ministry, are so sanguine in the Uprightness of their Intentions for the public Good, as to say that the Land-Tax, for the current Year, will certainly be fixed at Three Shillings in the Pound.

It is confidently believed, that Orders for a Temporary Suspension of the Stamp Act, will be sent over in the present Packet for New-York.

It has been computed, that there are at present upwards of 5000 British Subjects confined in different Nunneries and Religious Houses.

Letters from Leghorn say, that they had received an Account that the Commandant, one of their Men of War, was lost on the Coast of Algiers, with 500 Men on board, who all perished.

Harwich, (Essex) Dec. 10. Monday the 2d Instant, Mr. Gibson, performed an extraordinary Operation of Lithotomy, upon Mr. Gill, of Great Orkley Hall, and extracted four Stones, one of which is as Big as a large Hen's Egg, two of them are about the Size of a Puller's Egg, and the Fourth of a Hazel Nut.

It is whispered, that if Lord T. and Mr. P. should take the Direction of Affairs, a certain North British E—, who is, and has been, the Subject of much Conversation, will offer his Services to the Dauphiness, in Quality of Tutor to the young Dauphin.

WILMINGTON (N. CAROLINA) Feb. 5.

The Trade of this River is at present entirely ruined!—Besides the three Vessels that have been seized by the Man of War, seven others have, within this Fortnight past, put into our Capes; but on hearing of the above mentioned Seizures, made off for other Ports.—This is a Stroke that must be sensibly felt by the People of Cape-Fear, as these ten Vessels would have carried off a vast

deal of our Tar and Turpentine, which, in a few Weeks, will be running through our Streets.

PORTSMOUTH (New-Hampshire) March 3.

This Morning, between 11 and 11 o'Clock, a considerable Shock of an Earthquake was felt in this and several of the neighbouring Towns.

Last Thursday as one Samuel Stevens of New-market, was riding on the Ice near the Ferry, in that Town, the Horse fell through, by which Means he was unfortunately Drowned. [Whether it was the Man, or the Horse, or whether it was THEY, the Reader must Guess.]

NEW-YORK, March 10.

Upon a Supposition, that the Cannon upon the Battery in this City were spiked by order of a Lieutenant, an Effigy was exhibited last Thursday, sitting upon a Piece of Ordnance (properly mounted) with a Drill constructed in such a Manner, as to be continually working.—On his Breast was fixed a Paper, on which were the following Lines:

*I'm deceiv'd by the Devil, and left in the Lurch,
And am forc'd to do Penance, tho' not in the Church:*

After it appeared in the principal Streets, attended by many Thousand Spectators, (although it raised great Part of the Time) it was carried to the Common, where a Fire was immediately made, and the whole consumed by Five o'Clock in the Afternoon, amidst the Acclamations of the Multitude, who dispersed immediately after. The Frolick was conducted with such Order and Decorum, that no Person sustained the least Damage.

N. B. The Public are desired to take Notice, that the Cannon still remain spiked; and it is expected that no further Hint will be necessary.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.

Thursday last was put into the Hands of a SON OF LIBERTY, by Capt. —, two Sheets of Stamped Paper, which the Captain informed him, were sent by the Owner of the Vessel, to Clear her out at North-Carolina; he dared not let it be known that such a Scheme had been formed against them, lest his Vessel should have met with the Treatment there that her Owner deserved; but when he arrived here he honourably delivered them as above, to be treated as they deserved.

They were accordingly brought to the London Coffee-House, where, together with a Bill of Lading, with a Brand of Barbadian Slavery, after being suspended between Heaven and Earth, as a fit for either, all the Afternoon, they were in the Evening set on Fire and consumed, amidst the loud Huzzas of a large Company present.—It is observable that our good Friends the Contrivers of the Stamp Act, were resolved that the Merchants and their Clerks should not be lazy, and have Time to murmur, while they had any Money left to carry on Business, for they have contrived it, that the Stamps on the Paper for Bonds, Bills of Lading, and all other Blanks, should be only an Impression in the Paper and not coloured, thereby preventing those Things being Printed, and laying us under the Necessity of Writing them all.

By the Capt. Marshal and Stiles, we learn, that the SONS OF LIBERTY in Charles Town, were come to a Resolution, that no Rice should be suffered to be sent from that Port to Georgia, as the Inhabitants of that Province had tamely received the Stamps. This Resolution, if adhered to, will greatly distress them, as there is at this Time, in that Province, (Georgia) not less than eighty Sail, a great Part of them chartered Vessels, and now lying on high Demurrage, without any Thing to Load them.—At a Meeting of the SONS OF LIBERTY, information was given, that a Schooner Loaded with Rice for Georgia had stolen down in the Night, but had not got to Sea, on which they summoned the Owner and Master, threatened to hang them, and burn the Vessel and Cargo, all which forced them to bring the Vessel back and discharge the Cargo. Had we in these Northern Colonies been possessed of the same Free Souls with those of Carolina, and withheld Provisions entirely from Barbados, those Slaves, by this Time, would have cried out, and sent their Stamp Master a Packing.

By Capt. Mallowney, from Halifax, we have the Halifax Papers, but they contain nothing new, only that their large Stock of Stamped Paper, for the News Paper, is expended, and that they print the News on unstamped Paper; the last News Paper that is printed on stamped Paper, the Stamp, contrary to the usual Method, is at the Top of the Paper, with a Picture of the Contriver of it, the Devil with a four prong'd Fork, as if sticking it in the Stamp; and the following Words printed along side of Mr. Devil, *Behold me the Scorn and Contempt of America, pitching down Destruction.*

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