

"ever live like Rogues, and not fall to Work, but be lazy, and do Mischief, and spend Victuals, and be quickly weary." The Truth of this Opinion in every Circumstance, I will venture to assert, has been amply confirmed by every Man's Experience, who has had considerable Dealings in this kind of Cattle. And here, were I disposed to sacrifice Decency to Merriment, I would exhibit Mr. A. B. by the Side of Lord Bacon, for the Sake of laughing at the ridiculous Contrast; but I have too high a Veneration for that great Man's Memory, to insult it by such a profane Association; and shall therefore leave our Author to prance with the high-mettled Mr. P. P. abovementioned, till I can find a fitter Match for him.

HAD the Legislature, proceeds our Author, "provided a proper House and place of Reception, at the Public Charge, for the unhappy Sick, when they should come into the Country, whether Convicts, or Passengers, as they have in Pennsylvania, and in all other Countries in the World, where any thing like a Quarantine Law exists." I think, it must be allowed, the Law would have been much more perfect, and I hope at their next Meeting they will think so, and make such Provision. Altho' I readily agree with Mr. A. B. that whilst these Vermin are forced upon Us, it will be highly expedient to have a proper House and place of Reception for them, yet I dissent from him in one small Particular,--that it should be done at the Public Charge. And I found my Dissent on this Principle, that nothing should be done at the Public Charge, but what is for the Public Good. Hence it follows, that until Mr. A. B. can prove, in Opposition to Lord Bacon, Common Sense, and to the almost universal Judgment of the People here, that it is for our Good, the Mother-Country should discharge the foulest Pollutions of her Jails upon Us, he will fail in a very essential Part of the Principle laid down. It not being then for the Public Good, but directly otherwise, and consequently improper for a public Charge, let us investigate some other Principle as a Foundation for a Measure we both agree to be right. If the Principle, that the PUBLIC GOOD should be supported by the PUBLIC CHARGE, be self-evident, I conceive, the Principle, that what is exclusively for the Good of Individuals, should be exclusively supported by Individuals, is equally self-evident. The Principle then, being established, it remains only to apply it; and here, I would ask who are the Persons interested in the Importation of Convicts into this Country? It must be answered, the Contractors at home, and those who have the Sales of them here. AND THEY ONLY. Is it not reasonable, then, that those Gentlemen should give up a small Pittance from their enormous Profits, to provide a proper House and Place of Reception for their unhappy Sick; and will any Mortal but Mr. A. B. have the Effrontery to say, that this should be done at the public Charge? I must declare then, in the Words of Mr. A. B. that, with the Addition I propose, "it must be allow'd the Law would have been much more perfect; and, I hope, at their next Meeting, the Legislature will think so, and make such Provision." And here I must express my Hopes, that the Gentleman, whose Heart Mr. A. B. knows so well, and whose indispensible Merit he has established by the most impartial Testimony, the Gentleman who so nobly disregarded all his private Views of Interest, in the affair of Negro Confinements, will be the first to move, in the next Assembly, for a Duty of Twenty Shillings per Head on the Importation of all Convicts, as a Fund for providing a proper House and Place of Reception for the unhappy Sick, when they come into the Country. It is true, he knows very well, that the Profits from this Trade, will bear a much higher Imposition without any Injury upon the Parties concern'd, when it is consider'd, that Common Labourers sell at £. 12 Sterling, and Tradesmen, from £. 18 to £. 50 Sterling per Head; but I would advise him to restrain his Zeal within proper Bounds, and not, as in the Negro-Affair, propose a Sum, which would be the same in Consequence as a Prohibition. For my Part, I think every Act of Parliament made for the Colonies, and founded upon constitutional Principles, ought to bind them; and that, where they think themselves aggrieved by the BRITISH LEGISLATURE, it is their Duty humbly to remonstrate against the Imposition, and not, by subtle Evasions, to contravene the Act, which amounts to a virtual Repeal, and is totally inconsistent with the subordinate Relation we stand in to our Mother-Country. I am well convinced, that the Legislature, in enacting the Quarantine-Law, proceeded upon the wise and beneficent Principle of providing against the Introduction of contagious Distempers, and not upon the Policy of opposing an Act of Parliament, as has been wickedly suggested by some. I make no Doubt but they will still proceed upon the same Principle, in making this Law as perfect as possible, without being discouraged by a famous Miscarriage, which we all remember. In an Act for his Majesty's Service, a Duty was laid upon Servants for Seven Years and upwards, and upon all other Servants imported into the Province. The Contractors at home for the Transportation of Convicts, represented that this Duty amounted to a Prohibition, and that they could no longer afford to send them in, altho' it was only 20s. per Head. We had no Body then to defend our Cause, every Misrepresentation was swallowed, and the Consequence was, that the Collection of the Duty upon Convicts was

stopped. Thus did the Arts and Interest of a few obscure Contractors, triumph over as many Thousands of as dutiful Subjects as any in his Majesty's Dominions, to their infinite Mortification. But, I say, let us not be discouraged by this Instance, for we have now a Gentleman at home,--the Heroe of this Country, whose Abilities can baffle all the little Arts and Machinations of Contractors, and enforce our Cause with the irresistible Power of Justice and Truth. Add to this Consideration, that Mr. A. B.'s Friend will exert all his Abilities and Influence in the Lower House in so good a Cause, and confirm, by a Uniformity of Conduct, his Character of Disinterestedness. The Sanction of his Name, and the Instructions he can give to our Agent at home, from his Knowledge of Trade, and the Expediency and Equity of the Imposition, will be of singular Advantage in promoting a Quarantine-Act upon a proper Foundation. He may then hug himself secure in his Virtue, despite the clumsy Encomiums of such an awkward Panegyrist as A. B. and look down with conscious Dignity upon the Malice of every invidious Detractor. Mr. A. B. certainly spoke without Book, when he soundly asserted, "that in Pennsylvania, and in all other Countries in the World, where any Thing like a Quarantine-Law exists, there are provided a proper House and Place of Reception for Convicts or Passengers." I defy him to produce one single Instance upon the Face of the Globe, where any such Provision is made for Convicts. But, as Precision seems not to be the Talent of this Writer, it would be ungenerous to confine him to the Import of his Terms, when there is any other Clue for fixing a more rational Meaning upon him. Let us suppose, then, that he meant "wherever any Thing like a Quarantine-Law exists, Provision has been made of a proper House and Place of Reception for the Sick." It would be tedious to confute this Assertion by a particular Reference to Quarantine-Acts, in which no such Provision is made, and therefore I shall content myself with denying his Allegation, and putting the Proof upon him; at the same Time giving him a little Memento of the Rule, he so plausibly lays down to others, that, "when Matters of an interesting Nature come before the Public, Facts alledg'd, should be true." AND now, Mr. A. B. hitherto tolerably pacific, falls upon me in a Storm of angry Questions. "Who are these interested Men this Writer means? Are they not the Gentlemen concern'd in the Sale of those People?--Who else can he mean?" Softly Mr. A. B. and I will tell you, in one Word, whom I meant.---I meant the Man or Men, who, 'tis reported, sent Representations home to England, with a View of procuring a Dissent to the Quarantine Act,---an Act, which, without any Intention of imposing unreasonable Hardships upon any Body, was simply attentive to the Preservation of the Lives and Healths of the Inhabitants. For the Honour of my Countrymen, I wish this Cap may fit no Body; but if it does, let the guilty Person wear it, say I, altho' it were a Cap of Thorns.

SURELY, says Mr. A. B. the Gentlemen concern'd in the Sales, would never be so mad as to venture their own Lives so constantly, if they conceiv'd any considerable Degree of Danger. This Observation is founded upon the Principle, that Men will not run the Risk of their Lives in the pursuit of Gain, which shews his profound Knowledge in the History of Mankind.---Instances enough may be adduced from the Practices of War, Navigation, and many other Pursuits in Life, to shew the Fallacy of this Principle; nay, Mr. A. B. himself, has furnished us with an Example which militates against his own Doctrine, and shews, that "Men will be so mad as to venture their Lives constantly, in Circumstances of certain Danger," where he assures the Public, that "for these Thirty Years, communibus Annis, there has been at least 600 Convicts per Year imported into this Province." But perhaps the Gentlemen concern'd in these Sales, may secure themselves from the Danger to which others are expos'd, by certain Antidotes or preventive Medicines.---Let us, however, allow this Argument its full Force, and we shall find it to be as weak as any of the rest. The Gentlemen concern'd in the Sales, conceive there is no considerable Danger of Infection from Convict Ships!---Ergo, there is none.---To make his Logic conclusive, he must establish the Infallibility of these Gentlemen, and then I will acknowledge that his Quotation from Dr. Hale was impertinent, that the Authorities of Lord Bacon, Dr. Mead, and Dr. Pringle, are nothing to the Purpose, that what we have heard of the Black Affixes at Oxford, is an idle Tradition, that D'Anville's Expedition against AMERICA, was not defeated by the Jail-Fever, communicated by a Convict Ship, that the Accounts we have of the Mortality at the Lent Affixes at Taunton, in 1730 †, and at the Sessions

* There died, within 40 Hours, the Judges, Gentry, and all that were present, except Women and Children, to the Number of Three Hundred, from, as the great Lord Bacon supposed, the poisonous Steam of the Prisoners.

† There died of the Infection caught at this Affix, Lord Chief Baron Pengelly, Sir James Sheppard, Knight, John Pigott, Esq; High Sheriff, and some Hundreds of others in the Town.

at the Old-Bailey, in May 1730 †, from the same Cause, were Fictions, that there never was any Instance of the kind in this Province, and in fact, that Mr. A. B. is a modest Man, and a sound Logician.

It would be an endless Piece of Work to remark upon every exceptionable Passage in Mr. A. B.'s Piece; for, in Truth, he never makes a Step without a Trip. I shall therefore take up no more of the Reader's Time, but submit what I have said to his Judgment, in Confidence, that he will give me Credit for my good Intentions, if I am entitled to none for my Manner in handling the Subject. From a Principle of Duty, I gave the Alarm, and Mr. A. B. is welcome, if he pleases, to call my Endeavours invidious. Whoever undertakes to vindicate the Interests of Society, in Opposition to the selfish Schemes of Individuals, must expect to encounter Railing and Abuse. I flatter myself, I have Reason and Truth on my Side in this Controversy, and shall therefore think myself as secure from the Attacks of Mr. A. B. as the Foil in the Fable, was from the Gnawings of the Viper.

PHILANTHROPOS.

I Sir Thomas Abney, a Justice of the Common Pleas, Sir James Pennant, Knight, Lord Mayor, Sir Daniel Lambert, and Seventeen others of considerable Note, besides many of inferior Rank, were supposed to be killed by the noisome Stench of the Prisoners.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

MR. A. B. having thought proper, in your GAZETTE, of the 30th of July, No. 1142, amongst other Matters, to mention the Case of the late Mrs. BLAKE's Family, I beg Leave to make a few Remarks on his State of it; which I am rather inclin'd to do, as it appears to me, not only to be false, but injurious also to my Friend, the Gentleman employ'd as Physician in the Family. This Writer sets out with a seeming Air of Candor, and tells us, That "when Matters of an interesting Nature come before the Public, Facts alledg'd should be true," &c. But forgetting this honest Rule, he presently alleges what is not true; and implies a Reflection on the Physician that attended Mrs. BLAKE's Negroes; for he says, and upon Hear-say Evidence too, That "after they omitted Bleeding, and administer'd James's Powders, several of them recovered; and that it is thought, that Method of Cure, if at first happily fallen on, might have saved some of those that died." Now this Intimation is as false as it is unkind; for, to my certain Knowledge, the Physician did administer James's Powders from the Beginning, and afterwards dropped them, and made use of other Medicines that proved more effectual; and of all that were taken with this fatal Disorder, which, including those at the Quarter, about Half a Mile from the Dwelling House, amounted to Twenty-one grown Persons, besides Children, Five only were bled, and that on Account of some particular Circumstances in their Cases, which strongly indicated that Evacuation, and of those Five some died, and some recovered; so that Bleeding was no Part of the general Cure; nor, when from particular Indications it appeared necessary, did it increase the Disorder, or occasion the Loss of any Lives. Surely it ill became this Gentleman, who is so very tender of his own Character, as well as that of his Friends, to publish, in the GAZETTE, such a foul Aspersions on the Character of a Physician, as that of suffering the Lives of several of his Patients to be lost by his Ignorance.

WITH regard to the Method of communicating this Disorder, Mr. A. B. is also misinformed; and 'tis great Pity he was; for he has thereby failed in the only Attempt towards being witty in the whole Publication. It was not the casual Visit of a Felon, that made such Havock, but of a Felon's Matter, who had received the Infection from a CONVICT Servant he had bought, and who, on a casual Visit to his Brother, one Cedars, in Queen-Anne's County, was then taken sick, and communicated the Distemper to his Brother's Family, from whence it came into Mrs. BLAKE's Family, by means of a Negro Fellow of hers, who had a Wife at Cedars's, whom he attended in this very Fever, which cost both him and her their Lives. Thus, notwithstanding all this Gentleman's fine Notions of a Malignant Fever, and his Account of it as arising from the Nastiness of Negroes, and their being crowded in their Quarters, tho' all this, I say, may in some Instances be very true, yet it makes nothing at all to his Purpose; for the Infection of this particular Malignant Fever can be easily trac'd to it's Fountain Head, a CONVICT Ship; a Ship, if I am not misinformed, address'd to this very Writer, who, when he visits these infected Ships, generally takes the necessary Precaution, as I am told, of carrying a Piece of Tar'd Rope, by Way of Necessity, to prevent his catching the Infection. From this, and such like Precautions, it has, no doubt, happened, that Gentlemen concern'd in the Sales of Convict Servants, have seldom caught the Infection from them: And, tho' the Infection be sometimes so violent, as, like a Plague, to sweep off all that come within the Sphere of its Activity, as at the fatal Affixes at Oxford, in the Year 1557, and at the Old-Bailey in 1730, as mention'd by Dr. Pringle, and as in the Case of the Poor Workmen in Ghent,

in the Year 1743, mention'd by the late Mr. Hume, when, of Twenty-three the Tents of the Sick, Seven

not were the Case, for this Distemper (says Pringle) is not generally so violent as such as the Sick in Hospitals, and Prisoners in Jails. great Quantity of infectious is not particularly violent not breath'd long in such will either escape, or have on so slowly, as to allow As to the Gentleman's Objection, I leave them to those who may be better acquainted upon which it proceeded, I cannot help observing how disinterested and patriotic Spirit generally concern'd in the Sales, and particularly admiring his FRIEND, who was so zealous for the Negroes, because he thought them the Goal of his Country, whom, another CATO, crying out, Oh VIRTUE! Oh LIBERTY But if it should appear at last that the Patriot, who scorn'd to be a Commissioner, for the noble Reward has since solicited for those who have sold their Liberty, What shall we say? Why, that the Mind, as alas! many PATR

Upon the Whole, tho' the Gentleman's Family, may be said to find Fault with this Writer's representing his Conduct, and Manner; yet when he comes to be considered as a Friend of the Public, he may have advanced as far as common Fame, not so much as to hurt the Character of a Physician, who accommodates all Matters to the convenience of his Patients, that, if generally received, prove no less beneficial to the Mercantile Tribe: On this Matter the Doctor ought to excuse Mr. Hillo, and propose to this Gentleman, that all Physicians, &c. &c. should be made use of in the general Utility of importing Foreign Diseases, from the long infected corrupted Mansions of NSWG the Constitutions, and improve the good People of this Province.

CONSTANTINO

THE Chevalier de Vergennes, the Court of France, had the Grand Vizir the Day before Yesterday, that the Ambassador demanded some Corsairs which cruized among the Islands, committed great Outrages, and already taken above Ten Ships, which he expected should reach not being at War with France, should be taken to put a Stop to these Pirates, otherwise they would be the Commander of the Mediterranean, to burn them, and proper Subjection. Warlike, May 9. The Four moderate Dissidents continue, and modest Behaviour, and the Friendship of the Senators and the redress of their Grievances, a Negotiation, which will be the greatest Opposition that will be by the Clergy. Venice, May 10. The Senate of War, which lie here, to be from Port-Mahon, as also to be sent to repair to Algiers. The small Fleet is to demand of the Peace concluded with his Prussia, by bombarding the City of Prussia, May 11. The Russian the most exact Discipline, just happened which a little tranquillity. The Deputies of Prussia, at the Grod of Calicz, to be of Confederation of Thorn, and opposed it, and were abettors. Animosity induced the and some Cossacks of the Prussians, and secured their Retreat into a Church. The Ambassador from Russia, hath communicated, and demanded Satisfaction, May 26. Letters from the Prussian, advise, that the Fort of Capraia has surrendered to the Prussians. Prussia, May 16. Two Barks, on the Red Lighters, and Seven Feluccas, 136 Corsican Soldiers, intended to Capraia, sailed from hence to