

*Junæque Nymphis Gratia decentes
Aeterno terram quatunt pede.*

HOR.

RETURNING from the Ball on Tuesday Night, and going immediately to sleep, whilst the Amusement and Transactions of the Evening were strongly imprinted on my Mind, the following Dream ensued. We may suppose it owed its Origin to some previous waking Thoughts, which, as has been observed, frequently and indeed generally are attendant on a Dreamer's Imagination.

Methought I was in an Island far distant from this Trans-Atlantic Continent, where Urbani y and Politeness long ago fixed their Throne, and where the Graces are every Evening sacrificed to, at Beauty's Altar, in resplendent Ball Rooms. To One of these my Fancy conducted me, the Description of which, from the Confusion that usually accompanies a Dream, I cannot now recollect. Without however falling into the Error which Men of my advanced Age commonly do, of preferring their own youthful Times to the present, I can safely say that there was a total Change in the general Behaviour, at this imaginary Ball, of the young Gentlemen to the young Ladies, from what it used to be in my Time.

An elegant sentimental Writer has observed that, if the Art of dancing was under proper Regulations, it would be a mechanick Way of implanting intertely in Minds, not capable of receiving it so well by any other Rules, a Sense of Good-Breeding and Virtue. I could not avoid in my Dream being puzzled on thinking, were he now alive, what Opinion he would form of those, whose Minds are incapable of receiving the Impression of either—who can sit, absorbed in stupid Indifference, at that youthful Season of Life, when the innocent Intercourses of the Sexes, ought to afford the utmost Gratification, the highest Sensations of pleasure to the human Breast—unattentive to the Charms of Beauty which surround them—engaged with each other at Cards—contemplating their own sweet Person—guzzling bad Wine and Punch—talking Politicks—showing their Learning in vain Attempts to contrive Latin and expound Phrases. These Considerations crowded upon me, in observing the Change of Manners which had taken Place, since my Time, in the Island to which my roving Fancy had transported me. Perhaps I should have reasoned thereon very differently than I did, had such a Scene presented itself to me waking, for as Mr. Addison observes, while we are awake, we are at Liberty to fix our Thoughts on what we please, but in Sleep we have not the Command of them. The Ideas which strike the Fancy, arise in us, without our Choice, either from the Occurrences of the Day past, the Temper we lie down in, or it may be the Direction of some superior Being.—Which of these guided my sleeping Thoughts, I cannot pretend to say at present; I could not help supposing that these young Gentlemen of the Island thought Dancing at best but a trifling Amusement, not an Accomplishment; and that they considered Excellence therein to be ridiculous and contemptible; or perhaps that having superficially read *Sallust*, or a Translation of him, their Virtue recoiled at the Immodesty of Dancing. For they consider the Character of *Sempronia* very differently from *Sallust*'s Intention, if they suppose Dancing was in Disesteem amongst the Romans, because he, in describing her Vices and Accomplishments says, *sallust elegantiu quam necesse est probe*. If they imagined their Conclusions therefrom to be just, I could not help wishing their Researches in the Classics had been deeper: The elegant and learned Sir William Temple, that very great Admirer of, and Advocate for, ancient Learning, would have directed their Studies further; with him I am willing to allow *Sallust*, as a Writer, to have intrinsic Merit; but I must beg Leave to differ from him with Respect to *Lucian*, whose Moral Dialogues certainly possess a peculiar Style, a refined Simplicity of Expression, and that easy and genteel Humour so proper for Writings of that Sort. From him the learned Author of the *Treatise on the Plurality of Worlds*, borrowed the Idea of his Dialogues of the Dead, as did also our own *Lyttelton*. In One of *Lucian*'s Dialogues, betwixt Two Philosophers, he sensibly introduces a Panegyric on Dancing, bestowing a divine Origin upon it. He tells you, by the Mouth of One of the Disputants in the Dialogue, that those Two justly esteemed ancient Authors, *Homer* and *Hesiod* were zealous Advocates for it, comparing it with Valour; and takes the Opportunity of celebrating these Heroes who were remarkable for their Skill and Address therein; that *Socrates*, who was universally reckoned the wisest of Men, not only admired it in others, but learned it himself at an advanced Age; that these and other Arguments made a Convert of the other Philosopher, who had censured his Friend for attending Balls, and he desired to be carried to the next himself: Not however, we may presume, though *Lucian* does not positively tell us the contrary, with a Design of behaving himself in the Manner the young Gentlemen of this Island did. The above Sentiments occurred to me, whilst I imagined I saw several beautiful young Ladies, very desirous of dancing, whose Perfection in that Art was known and acknowledged by the Spectators, obliged to be Lookers-on, or by an unnatural Union, to be each others Partners: I could not help, like *Nestor*, recalling to Mind the Days of my Youth, and wishing myself young again on their Account. Other Gentlemen I observed, who seemed to think they were conferring a Favour upon, and doing an Honour to the Ladies they respectively condescended to dance with; and others, who, with a Rudeness or Ignorance peculiar to themselves, the Moment they got to the Bottom of the Set, sat down, in Contempt of Good Manners and the Right the other Couples had, to object to such Behaviour; whilst the rest of the Gentlemen present, whose Number greatly exceeded that of the Ladies, employed themselves in the Manner I mentioned before. Whether the Behaviour of those Gentlemen who I remarked sat down, proceeded from an Idea of

their own Consequence, or an intended Disrespect to any Ladies or Gentlemen present, I can scarcely be supposed to have in my Dream attended to; I could not help however being shocked at such a general Indelicacy, and was going to express my Sentiments to a very sensible and polite Gentleman, who had been pleased to communicate to me his own pertinent Remarks on the Subject before us, when my Indignation, rousing my Animal Spirits, awakened me, fraught with Resentment against these degenerate Islanders, which however soon subsided, on my recollecting that it was nothing but a Dream; and on comparing it with our Entertainment of the preceding Evening, which had been conducted with the greatest Regularity and Politeness, I could not help apostrophizing on the Happiness of this Province, which from the Gallantry of its young Men, and its Concomitant, Valour, may by their happy Progress, be justly expected, in a few Ages, to equal the most accomplished and celebrated Nations of Antiquity; for here Virtue is countenanced, Learning encouraged, and Beauty admired: And, in another Century, I have not the least Doubt, but that *Maryland* in the *Æ*as of Politicness, will be enumerated with *Athens* and *Rome*.

A L V A.

March 3, 1771.

To be sold in Pursuance to the Will of Henry Brent, of Maryland, deceased, to the highest Bidder, on the Premises, on Wednesday the 22d Day of April next, if fair, if not the next fair Day,

A Tract of Land, containing Twelve Hundred Acres, lying in Stafford County, on *Aquia* Run, about Six Miles from *Aquia* Warehouse, and Twelve from *Falmouth*. The Land is very good for cropping or farming, and will either be sold all together or in Parcels as can be agreed on at the Day of Sale. The Terms will also be made known the same Day. Any one inclined to purchase may be shown the Land and the Title to it, by applying to Mr. John Gibson, Merchant at *Aquia*.

CLARE BENTON, Executrix.

March 9, 1772.

THOSE who have not delivered their *Carrollburg* Tickets, are desired once more to do it without further Delay, that they may have their Deeds, and the Business be completed.

H. ROZFR,
D. CANROLL, } Trustees.
N. YOUNG.

Baltimore, March 7, 1772.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the large commodious and well built Brick Ware house and Ship-wharf on *Fell's* Point, formerly known by the Name of *Long's*, with a good inclosed Yard, is now open for storing all Kinds of Goods, Grain, and Lumber, where constant Attendance is given: Also at his Office of Insurance in *Baltimore-Town*, as formerly advertised by

THOMAS BRERETON,
Commissioner and Insurance Broker.

March 7, 1772.

A Meeting of the OHIO Company at *Stafford* Court house in *Virginia*, on Monday the 30th Inst. (on Business of the utmost Importance) is desired, by

G. MASON, Treasurer.

March 5, 1772.

RAN away the 30th Day of September from the Subscriber, in *Prince-George's* County, near *Bladenburg*, a short black Country born NEGRO Man, named *Harry*; he has on the Back of one of his Hands, a Lump like a Wen, he has been seen about the Negro Quarters in *Patuxent*, but is supposed to have removed among his Acquaintances on *Patowmack*; he also is well acquainted with the Negroes at *Clement Wheeler's* Quarter, on *Zekish*, and a Negro Wench of Mr. Wall's named *Rachel*; a few Miles from that Quarter is his Aunt, and he may possibly be harboured thereabouts. Any Person that will bring him Home shall have Six Dollars Reward, paid by

JOHN JENKINS.

March 1, 1772.

LOST on the 5th of this Instant, out of the Subscriber's Pocket, either in *Annapolis*, or between *Severn Ferry* and Mr. William *Gambrell's*, on the Head of *Magotty*, Seven Bonds to Mess *Mackie* and *French*, and One protested Bill of Exchange, all carefully wrapped up in Half a Sheet of Crown Paper. Whoever finds the said Papers, and will return them safe to the Subscriber, shall be entitled to Two Dollars Reward, paid by

VACHEL STEVENS.

February 22, 1772.

To be sold at public Vendue, for Cash or short Credit, on Wednesday the First Day of April next, if fair, if not the next good Day, at the late Dwelling House of Dr. James Thompson, in *Anne Arundel* County,

THE Effects of said Thompson, consisting of Beds, Chairs, Tables, &c. and likewise his Medicines, Shop Furniture and Physical Books, amounting to about 12 Pounds Sterling. All Persons indebted to said Thompson, on Bond, Note, or Book Account, are desired to attend and discharge their respective Balances; those who have any Claims against the Estate are requested to bring them in legally proved.

WILLIAM SMYTH, Administrator.

A FEW remaining Copies of the LAWS passed last Session of Assembly; as also of the PROCEEDINGS upon the CONFERENCE, the ADDRESS to the GOVERNOR upon the Subject of his PROCLAMATION, the RESOLVES therewith sent, and the GOVERNOR'S ANSWER thereto, may be had at the Printing Office.

W. LACE, DAVISON, and JOHNSON, At their Store on the Front of the Dock in Annapolis, have just imported, in the Trimley, Capt. Page, from London,

A VERY large and compleat Assortment of European and East-India Goods suitable for the Spring and Summer Seasons, which they will sell very cheap, for ready Money or short Credit. Also British Sail Duck, Loaf Sugar, London Porter, genuine Port Wine, and old Barbados Cane Spirit.

THOMAS BROOKE HODGKIN Has just imported from London, in the Trimley, Capt. Page, a Variety of Merchandize for Sale, at his Store near the Church in Annapolis; among which are,

LADIES fashionable and genteel Garnet, Pearl, Paste, Wax and Jet Necklaces and Ear rings, Garnet, Tortoiseshell, Paste and Marquise Combs, Gold Lockets and Crosses, Marquise, Cigue de Pearl and Paste prigs and Pins, Stone and Paste Shoe, Knee, Stock and Hat Buckles, Mocho and gilt Bracelets, plain Gold and Stone Broaches, elegant polished Steel Shoe and Knee Buckles, super-fine double gilt Filigree Pinchbeck ditto, gilt E-twees, a great Variety of Head and Breast Flowers, Silver and Pinchbeck Watches and Chains, Gold Rings set with Garnets, ditto of other Fancies, Tortoiseshell and Paper Snuff Boxes, the best Steel Chapes for Paste Buckles, ditto for common Buckles, white and green Ivory Handle Knives and Forks with and without Shagreen Cases, Ivory Knives and Forks Silver mounted, Ebony and Redwood ditto, superfine polished Penknives, common ditto, Four Blade Pocket Knives, Cutteau and Oyster ditto, Surveyors plotting Instruments and Magnets, fine polished Scissars in Cases, large Iron Cafe Locks, with genteel Brass Knockers, Cover Plate, Disk, Closet and Pad Locks, Copper Kettles from 20 to 12 Gallons, Fish Kettles, stew Pans and kettles, Japaned Tea Trays and Waiters, Japaned Plate Warmers and Stands, Brass Candlesticks, broad Bottom Nursery ditto, Ink Stands and Wafer Glasses, Flat Top and Brass Bird Cages with Water Glasses, elegant Glass Pyramids and Desert Stands, Syllabub and Gelly Glasses, Punch and Wine ditto, flowered and plain Tumblers, Quart and Pint Decanters, genteel Glass Candlesticks and Wax Tapers, Cruets and Salts, London Crown Glass 14 by 12, 12 by 10, 11 by 9 and 10 by 8, Mens Gold laced, plain Beaver, Castor and Felt Hats, Boys Silver laced and plain ditto, Mens and Boys Buckskin and Beaver Gloves, plain, Silver and Steel mounted, Morocco and Afskin Pocket Books, Harpichord, Violincello, and Fiddle Strings, black Lead Pots and Crucibles for Silversmiths, Files and other Tools for ditto.

Also Barbados Spirit Four Years old, by the Hog-head or smaller Quantity, fine Hyson Tea in Canisters at 27/6, and other Articles not enumerated.

To be leased for a Term of Years,

A PART of *Clover Farms*, in several Lots of 100 Acres each, about Four Miles from *Bladenburg*, several of the Lots improved, and will answer either for planting or farming, convenient to a good Market, a large Quantity of valuable Meadow Ground. Also a good Farm, with Two Negro Men (Farmers) Stock and Utensils of farming to be entered on immediately. For Terms apply to the Subscriber in *Bladenburg*.

JAMES HUNT.

December 18, 1771.

RAN away from the Subscriber on Sunday Night last, living in *Bladenburg*, a Servant Man, named WILLIAM DANIEL LANGE, a Schockler by Trade, an Englishman, about Five Feet Ten Inches high, aged Twenty five Years, light brown Hair, round Face, with black Eyes, and a very fair Skin, has a scar under his left Knee the Size of an Half Dollar: Had on when he went away, a brown Cloth Jacket, and blue Breeches, but may have changed his Cloath, and have forged himself a Pass; is a pert bold spoken Man, and likely to behave with a great deal of Assurance if examined.

Whoever shall take him up, bringing him to his Master, shall receive Five Pounds Reward and reasonable Charges, from

JOHN FRANCIS.

COMMITTED to my Custody as a Runaway, a Negro Males, who says he formerly belonged to a certain Michael Wood in St. Mary's County, who sold him to Samuel Collard on the Eastern Branch of *Patowmack*. His Master is desired to pay Charges and take him from

RAI PH FORSTER, Sheriff.

COMMITTED to my Custody as Runaways a Negro Man and Woman; the Man calls himself George and the Woman Nan; both say they belong to Mr. Robert Hard of Talbot County. Their Master is desired to pay Charges and take them away.

RICHARD THOMAS, Sheriff of Cecil Count.