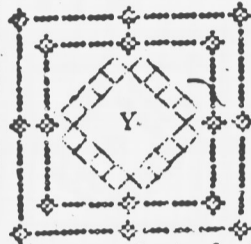


MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1772.

To JUNIUS,
Attor EDMUND, the Jesuit of St. OMERS.
S I R,



OUR Letter of the 5th, is a greater Miracle than any you have hitherto produced. I do not mean in its Argument. In these Particulars you have been invested with a creative Power; and whatever you are pleased to bring forth, is not for us to approve, but to admire. But, Sir, your Letter of the 5th, is not written in the simple Spirit of Candour; you have now turned the Efforts which formerly were exerted in creating Divisions among the Good, to cement those which never fail to arise amongst the Bad. I have no Objection to your Success in this Undertaking. Let the Fathers of your Church, and the Sons of the City unite. Let them club their Arts and their Powers. Let Wilkes enjoy his Fertility in Expedients, he will have Need for it all. But neither that Fertility, the republican Firmness of Sawbridge; no, nor the Youth, Spirit, and Graces of Townsend, will avail to overturn the Constitution, or even procure to them, or to you, the ultimate Object of your Desires—a little Money.

Yet, Sir, why, in a Letter professedly written to reconcile the Patriots of the City, do you make a Digression to abuse Lord Mansfield? Is it because of the diametrical Opposition of his Character to theirs? Certainly it must be so; and Junius is less a Fool than I believed him. Nothing more likely to reconcile Rogues, who rail at each other, than railing at honest Men. If your Dogs are of the true Breed, they will leave off worrying one another, and join in the Cry against the common Enemy.

It is on the Subject of this Abuse that I take the Liberty to address the mighty Junius. This Phoenix of Politicians and of Reasoners tells the Publick, that "he never had a Doubt about the strict Right of pressing, till he knew Lord Mansfield was of one same Opinion." That indeed staggered him not a little; and to be sure it was a staggering Consideration. For who is to learn that Lord Mansfield is utterly ignorant of the Law; and that his Judgment is as weakly so weak and perverse, that a wise Politician (I mean so very wise a Politician as Junius) will examine no further, but at once conclude, that Proposition in Law to be false, which Lord Mansfield holds to be true?

But, when you are only puerile, blundering, inconsistent, and absurd, I treat you as you deserve, with Ridicule and Contempt. But when you assert positive Falshoods, the mildest Usage you can expect, is to have them crammed down the four Throat from which they issued. Of this Nature are the Questions you make, and the Answers you are pleased to give to yourself, in relation to Lord Mansfield. So many intemperate Lies as these Answers contain, were never crowded together before—not even by Junius. You insinuate (and you dare but insinuate) that Lord Mansfield was the secret Author of sending out the Guards when the Affair of St. George's Fields happened. That his Lordship was in any Shape, ostensibly or otherwise, concerned in that Matter; that he knew of it till Days after it happened, is a Lie of the First Magnitude; and I dare you to bring even the Shadow of a Proof of your infamous Assertion.

It is also a Lie, that Lord Mansfield attacks the Liberty of the Press. He has endeavoured, indeed, by legal and constitutional Methods, to restrain the Abuse of that Liberty; and in doing so he has shewn himself a good Citizen. Are you a Politician, and ignorant that the Abuse of the best Things makes them degenerate into the worst? Are you a Pretender to Reason, and ignorant that the Abuse of a valuable Privilege is the certain Means to lose it? Are not you a publick Defamer of every respectable Character in the Nation? Have not you carried the Licence of the Press beyond the Bounds not only of Decency and Humanity, but even of human Conception? And dare you complain that its Liberty is attacked? Your Reliance on the Ignorance of those to whom you write will be great indeed, when you dare affirm a Fact, which is contradicted and proved a Lie by the very Affirmation of its Truth.

Nor is it less false, that Lord Mansfield invades the constitutional Power of Juries. All who are able to form a Judgment on a Question of Law know, that Lord Mansfield's Opinion, with respect to the Power of Juries, is no less the Law of the Land than the Advantage of the Subject.

Your Question, relating to Lord Mansfield's challenging a Jurymen, I confess I do not understand; neither do I know to what it alludes. A Charge of that Nature ought to have been accompanied with Circumstances of Time, Place, and Occasion. When, where, and on what Account was this done? Answer me these Questions, and I pledge myself to the Publick, that I shall prove, to the Conviction of every reasonable Man, that, if it was so done, it was legally done.

Your next Accusation shews you no less void of Judgment and Consistency, than of Justice and Truth.

You accuse Lord Mansfield to the Publick, for saying a Lord is entitled to no greater Damages, in a Suit for debauching his Wife, than a Mechanick. Lord Mansfield did say, that, in an Action of Damages for criminal Conversation, the Law did not consider the Rank of the Person injured. And in this he uttered not only the Dictates of Law, but the Dictates of common Sense and Humanity, neither of which you seem to understand. Had Lord Mansfield said, that the Law did not consider the Rank of the injuring Person, it might have been argued that he meant to screen the King's Brother. But the Difference between Light and Darkness is not greater, than between this Proposition and the Proposition he maintained. None but an Irish Understanding could possibly take the Change, or suppose them convertible Propositions. But can you, Junius, seriously make your Court to the People, by telling them there is a wide Difference between the Crime of debauching the Wife of a Lord, and one of their own? You were wed at St. Omers. You were destined for a Church, not that, indeed, of which Saville, &c. are the Fathers; but, however, a Church which requires some Reading. Reading the Scriptures, it is true, is forbid by your Canons; but surely you have heard of the Prophet Nathan's Address to David, on a Subject of this Nature. The Prophet, worse than Lord Mansfield, thought that debauching the Wife of a poor Man was a greater Crime than debauching the Wife of a Lord; for this plain and humane Reason, that a poor Man's Wife was his all, his only Comfort and Consolation; whereas a rich Man had many others. Yet Junius, the popular Junius, tells the People plainly, that debauching One of their Wives is nothing in Comparison of laying with a Lord's; and arraigns the upright and discerning Judge, who says, that the Injury to the Husband is in both Cases equal.

Who makes Commissioners of the Great Seal? Lord Mansfield.—Indeed!—I thought that Power had only resided in the King. To see how plain Men may mistake! If you, Junius, by making Commissioners, mean advising the King to make Commissioners, I understand you. The Expression is rather inaccurate, but that one is often obliged to pass over in Junius. In my Turn give me Leave to ask you a Question. Who so proper to advise his Majesty in the Choice of a Law Officer as Lord Mansfield? But Lord Mansfield not only made the Commissioners of the Great Seal; he also framed their Decree, and then disavowed the Decree of his own framing in the House of Peers. This is an absurd and an improbable Lie. It is absurd and improbable to suppose Lord Mansfield framed a Decree for Three Judges, very capable to frame one themselves. It is more absurd to suppose Lord Mansfield would disavow the Decree, which he himself had made, in the Presence of the Three Commissioners for whom he had made it, and who could so easily have detected his Duplicity. And it is a direct and publick Lie, that Lord Mansfield said he never had a Doubt that the Law was in direct Opposition to that Decree. He did not give an Opinion in the House of Peers. He only stated the Question; and the Decree was reversed on the unanimous Opinion of the Eight Judges who attended. For the Truth of this I appeal to all who were present.

The last Charge of Junius represents Lord Mansfield making it his Study to undermine and alter the whole System of Jurisprudence in the King's Bench. One would scarcely believe that there could be an Understanding so twisted, or a Heart so corruptly malignant, as to make that an Article of Accusation, which, fairly taken, includes in it the most exalted Merit and Virtue. If there be a superlatively eminent Quality in Lord Mansfield's great and deserved Character, it is the unremitting and unwearied Efforts he constantly has made, to rescue injured and oppressed Innocence from the harpy Fangs of Chicanery and Quibble. The Nation does him Justice in this Particular: And all the Arts and Lies, that have been employed to defame him, have never been able to stagger the publick Confidence in his Judgment and Integrity. The Proof of this is in the Breast of every Man to whom I write; and the Crowd of Suitors in the Court where he presides, gives the most honourable Testimony to the Truth which I affirm, and the most palpable Lie to the Assertion of the abandoned Junius.

And now, Sir, having answered all your Questions, you are worth no further Notice. I shall in my Turn address a few Queries to the Publick; and I am sorry that the Temper of the Times should oblige me to recall to their Memory Things, which ought to be indelibly engraven on the Heart of every Englishman.

By whose Advice was it that his Majesty, immediately on his Accession to the Throne, made the Judges Places for Life, thereby rendering them independent on King or Minister? Lord Mansfield. When Lord Chatham and Lord Camden attempted to revive the impious and unconstitutional Doctrine of a Power in the Crown to dispense with the Laws of the Land (which was precisely the Point on which the glorious Revolution binged, and the Doctrine for maintaining of which James II. lost his Crown) who stood in the Breach, and with Eloquence and Argument, more than human, defeated the pernicious Attempt? Lord Mansfield.—Who supported and carried through the House of Peers the Bill called the Nullum Tempus Bill;

that Law by which the Minds of the People were quieted against Apprehension of Claims on the Part of the Crown? Lord Mansfield.—To whom do we owe the Success of the Bill for restraining the Privilege of Parliament, of such essential Service to the internal Commerce of the Nation, and especially to that Part of it which could least afford to lie under any Disadvantage, the industrious Shopkeeper and Tradesman? Lord Mansfield.—Who carried Mr. Grenville's last Legacy to the Nation through the House of Peers; that Bill, by which Questions of Elections in the House of Commons are henceforth to be tried, in a Manner which will prevent the Injustice supposed to have been done in the Middlesex Election, and guard against the bad Consequences which it was feared might follow from that Determination? Lord Mansfield.

I might add many other constitutional Questions, in which Lord Mansfield has ever been on the Side of publick Liberty. But, if what I have already said be not sufficient to vindicate the First Character in the Nation from the false Aspersions of an unprincipled Scribbler, I am bold to say, that the Time is now arrived, when it is unworthy of an honest Man to labour for the Publick; and the Character of an Englishman, once so respectable, will no longer be known but by its Folly and Ingratitude.

ZENO.

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 18.

THE late bad Success of the Turkish Arms is attributed to the Revolt of the Janissaries, who, it is said, being discontented for want of their Pay, refused to fight, murdered their Aga and his Lieutenant, plundered the Military Chest, which contained 5,000,000 Pieces of Eight, set fire to the Camp, &c. after which they dispersed themselves different Ways. The Grand Visir, finding all was lost, sought his Safety in Flight, accompanied only by Sixty Persons, and carried with him the Standard of Mahomet, which, without this Precaution, would have infallibly fallen into the Hands of the Enemy. Notwithstanding all these unhappy Circumstances, the Porte is so far from being dispirited, that it is taking all possible Measures to remedy these Evils; Accordingly, Money has been sent to Adrianople, and the Pacha who commands there has received Orders to raise all the Men that are capable of bearing Arms, and march against the Mutineers, in order to bring them back to their Duty. There is a Talk of deposing the Grand Visir, and supplying his Place with Moegzoen Zide. Upwards of 3000 Workmen are constantly employed in casting Canon, and the utmost Pains are taking to get every Thing ready for the Fleet and Army.

ROME, Dec. 7. Tuesday last the Prince of Saxe Gotha, attended by a considerable Train, arrived in this City incog. under the Title of Count de Roda, who is to wait the Arrival of his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. His Holiness has appointed the Prince Borghese d'Aldobrandi and the Duke of Odescalchi to shew the same Honours to his Royal Highness as they did to the late Duke of York, when he honoured this City with his Presence.

WARSAW, Dec. 11. Notwithstanding the Vigilance of the Polish and Russian Troops, all Kinds of Violences continue to be committed every Day, so that it becomes more and more necessary to attend to the Safety of the King: A Reinforcement of 2000 Russian Troops is lately arrived here for this Purpose, and Guards are placed at all the Wells and Fountains belonging to the Palace. In this Situation his Majesty lately gave a great Proof of his Resolution: When the Deputies from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had their Audience, he said to them, among other Things, "Why should divine Providence, by his adorable Power, have preserved me when in so imminent Danger, if, for his own extraordinary Purposes he had not some particular End in view." Among these Deputies was Okierka: This good old Man was so affected at the Manner in which his Majesty received them, and the Horror of his late Situation, that he fainted away, and died upon the Spot.

L O N D O N,

Dec. 21. Monday Night a Captain of a Ship, who lives near Wapping, going to Bed earlier than usual, his Wife, who had been abroad, and not suspecting him to be at Home, brought a Man with her, whom she introduced into her Bed Chamber, and they lying down together, to repose themselves, disturbed the Husband, who jumped out of Bed, soon made the Gallant fly, and then fell foul of his Wife, whom he beat in a most unmerciful Manner, knocked her down, and jumped upon her Stomach; she was carried to the London Hospital, and the Husband before Justice Sherwood, who committed him to New-prison.

Dec. 26. The Gang of Coiners, lately discovered at Birmingham, counterfeited all Kinds of British Gold Coin in a very accurate Manner, by Means of various Dies curiously cut.—It is said they have circulated above Ten Thousand Guineas, which they effected by