

precisely tell us, what the Means were, but Mr. Morgan says they were other weighty and substantial Reasons: That there was a weighty and substantial Reason for the Lowness of the Price, viz. Mr. Hyde's breaking all the Agreements in Trade, if so many Accounts of his Conduct as we have had, can be depended upon, is manifest; and whether it be Policy or Prudence to put it into his Power to do so again, let any reasonable Man judge.

Mr. Morgan may assure himself, that when I have a Cause that wants, and Inclination to make use of, the Assistance of a little inconsistent Understrapper, or Petty-fogging Knight of the Post, to say or swear any thing for me, I will not fail to send for him, if you'll tell me where he may be found; 'till then, I purpose to make use only of the Evidence of Men of Worth and Probity; with which, I have the good Fortune, in the present Case, to be sufficiently furnished.

If Mr. Hyde's having the largest Share of Consignments, and Mr. Falconar but very little, be A GRAND GRIEVANCE, 'tis pity it is not remedy'd: But, as I suppose, Mr. Morgan would insinuate, that Mr. Falconar's particular Interest is what I am concern'd in, preferably to the common Welfare, I shall only observe, that such an Insinuation is a stale and silly Shift, to lessen the Reputation of a Person who aims at the publick Good, always made Use of by the Tools and Creatures of its Enemies. What I have undertaken, is no more but to endeavour to inform my Countrymen of the Conduct of the very Men, who are, in Effect, entrusted with their All, which no Man that has the least Share of common Sense can deny to be their Interest to know; and if, by an Information so necessary, it appears, that Mr. Hyde, who has the greatest Share of Consignments, has acted as an Enemy to the Country, and Mr. Falconar, who has but very little, as a Friend, Let any Man in his Senses consider, whether in Prudence, the Influence of the former ought not to be lessen'd? And whether in Justice and Gratitude, the latter ought not to be encourag'd? I confess, I have seen so many Instances in the Papers that have been publish'd, of Mr. Falconar's Industry and Pains to serve the Country, and heard so many handsome Things of him, from Persons of undoubted Honesty, that I am sure were no Way attach'd to his Interest further than Justice oblig'd them; that I heartily and sincerely wish him good Success in this Trade, as I ever shall do, to every other Person that will honestly discharge his Trust, and faithfully serve the People of Maryland.

I find Mr. Morgan is very desirous to know who I am, which may be a good Reason for my keeping my self conceal'd from him; for, since I have no present Employment for him, how do I know but he may be employ'd, or act against me? However, to satisfy your Customers, Mr. Parks, of the Weakness and Folly of Mr. Morgan's Reasoning, give me leave to distinguish a Person who only relates Facts, as he has them from other Men that are known, and publickly avow what he relates, and draws such Inferences from those Facts, as he apprehends to be Natural and Just, from a Person that relates a Fact, as of his own Knowledge, or which is the same thing, who is a Witness; in the former Instance the Credibility of the Witnesses and the Justice of the Inferences are all that are to be consider'd; but in the latter, it is absolutely necessary to know the Person of the Relater or Witness, that it may be known whether he is, or is not to be depended on. Now P. P. does not pretend to know any thing, of his own Knowledge, of the Conduct of any of the Merchants; what he chiefly relies on, is what is publish'd, and has been seen by the Generality of People, as have his Inferences; and the Knowledge of his Person cannot contribute any thing to the lessening or corroborating of the Evidence, or justifying his Inferences, but they must stand or fall, as they are true or false, just or unjust.

I have indeed heard of some Men that would hardly condescend to read an improving Paper, before they could learn the Author's Stature and Diet, and whether he wore a Wig or his own Hair, with other Circumstances of equal Importance; and I cannot tell, but Mr. Morgan may be one of that Class. If he be not, I would recommend to him to read several Papers that have been publish'd for many Years last past, by very great and ingenious Men, under fictitious Names, which has had this good Effect, that many of them have been read with Attention and Advantage by Men, who, were they to know the Authors, would, instead of reading their Productions attentively, commit them to the flames, out of Personal Prejudice.

I am surpriz'd, that Mr. Morgan should imagine we can believe Mr. Hyde is unacquainted that he is charg'd with

breaking the Agreement; when he appears to have been accus'd of it in London publickly, and frequently; and that it has been so long since talk'd of here, as that his Friend Morgan might have acquainted him with it time enough for us to have had his Defence before now. And is it not just and reasonable to infer from his Silence, that either he is conscious of his Guilt, or has too contemptible an Opinion of the People of Maryland to give them an Account of his Management of their Concerns.

I agree with Mr. Morgan, that every Man, even the worst of Criminals, ought to be accus'd openly, and heard fairly. Has not Mr. Hyde been accus'd openly with violating the Agreements in Trade to the Prejudice of this Country; and has he given any Answer to that Accusation? I have been told by Lawyers, that when a Person is actually accus'd, and that he refuses to answer, whether out of a Consciousness of Guilt, or a Contempt, that such Refusal amounts to a Confession of the Charge, and that Condemnation and Execution follow.

To advise People to do themselves Justice with Speed and Vigour, before the Edge of Resentment goes off, and the Offender has Leisure to fortify himself with new Rogaues, is the best that can be given them; and such as the Adviser ought to be esteem'd a Benefactor to Mankind for giving; for their Safety depends on following it.

Mr. Morgan tells you in one Place, that there are very scandalous Accusations and Insinuations brought, &c. in another, that the Charge against Mr. Hyde consists of Suggestions rather than Accusations brought, &c. I don't mention these Contradictions by Way of Criticism, but to observe, that Mr. Hyde's being directly charg'd with breaking all the Agreements in Trade, and occasioning Tobacco to sell at about Three Farthings, or a Penny per Pound less than it might have been sold for, is not an Accusation in Mr. Morgan's Opinion, which gives me some Cause to suspect, that he does not believe such an Action criminal, if committed by his Patron.

Mr. Morgan, of all People living, has the least Reason to accuse me of Misbehaviour; but it very often happens, that some People complain loudest when they have no Reason, or are themselves the Aggressors; which puts me in Mind of a Story you lately oblig'd the Publick with, which shall serve as a Conclusion of this Letter.

A Mountebank in Leicester-Fields, had drawn a huge Assembly about him, among the rest a fat unweildy Fellow, half stifled in the Press, would be every Fit crying out, Lord! what a filthy Crowd is here? Pray good People give way a little; Bless me! what a Devil has raked this Rabble together? Zounds, what squeezing is this! Honest Friend remove your Elbow. At last, a Weaver that stood next him, could hold no longer; A Plague confound you, said he for an overgrown Sloven, who in the Devil's Name helps to make up the Crowd half so much as your self? Don't you consider (with a Pox) that you take up more Room with that Carcass, than any Five here? Is not the Place as fit for us as for you? Bring your own Guts to a reasonable Compass (and be damn'd) and then I'll engage we shall have room enough for us all.

I am

Your humble Servant,

No 6.

P. P.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The following Account of one of the most surprizing Events that ever was, cannot but be acceptable to the curious and inquisitive Reader.

HIS Excellency Cassim Aga, the present Envoy from the Regency of Tripoli to his Britannick Majesty, having communicated to the King's Interpreter for the Oriental Languages, an Account of the Discovery of a Petrify'd Town, in Africa, which the said Envoy copied with his own Hand, from an Arabick Manuscript, the said Interpreter translated that Account into French, which from that Language was translated into English, and inserted in the Flying-Post, or Weekly Medley of the 23d of November. And is as follows.

Praise