

39; which added to the 60 mentioned in his scheme, will make up 99; which falls short but one of 100.

You see by his own calculation (which I believe to be true), that a Burning Law will destroy yearly 5400 hogheads of Tobacco, of 1000 nett; which is so large a quantity, that every person that knows the making of Tobacco, will allow it to destroy all the trash that would be made yearly.

I also remark how tacitly Mr. A. B. passes over the mistake he made in regard to paying his Lordship's quit-rents; for by his own calculation he says, there will be yearly exported 36000 hogheads Tobacco, which, at 25. 9d. per hoghead, will come to 4950 l.; which he says is an equivalent to what his Lordship now receives. Well, let us suppose for once that his calculation on that head is right; but we must on the other hand suppose too, that his calculation is right, that if we have a Burning Tobacco Law, that there will be 5400 hogheads yearly destroyed; then that taken from the 36000 hogheads, there will remain to be exported but 30600 hogheads; which at 25. 9d. per hoghead, will come to but 4207 l. 10 s. so that it will fall short of an equivalent for his Lordship's quit-rents the sum of 742 l. 9 s. And pray then who is to make this deficiency good? the country surely. (which is now daily groaning under it's burdens) must, by an additional duty on Tobacco.

I shall just give a hint of the charges that readily occur to my mind, that will accrue on an Inspecting Law the first year it should be enacted; the truth of which I dare say no-one will deny, not even Mr. A. B. himself.

The charges that will accrue on an inspecting Law, the first year, it is made, are, viz.

Building 99 warehouses, at 20 l per house,	1980 0 0
comes to	
Purchasing 99 acres of land, at 3 l. per acre;	297 0 0
Buying 99 pair of scales and weights, at 35 l.	
per pair,	3465 0 0
To be appointed 168 Inspecting officers, at 30 l. per man; Query if he can get them for that	5940 0 0

In all, but £. 17622 0 0

A pretty sum indeed! to levy in one year on a poor country: I think I may very justly retort Mr. A. B.'s own words, in telling him, that I have plainly and fully frustrated his scheme for an Inspecting Law; and will now presume that the wise and judicious readers will not blame me for choosing rather to assert facts in their true light, than to use any prevarication; and I hope all those in whose hands the legislative power is will entirely throw by all thoughts of an Inspecting Law, and think to fall on a method, the next time they meet in Assembly, to enact a Burning and Shipping Tobacco Law: Which is the sincere wish of him, who has the true interest of his country much at heart.

I am, Sir, your's, &c. Q. B.

VENICE, March 25, N. S.

Letters from general Brown, dated Mantua, March 20, give an account, that having detached 9000 men under the command of general Berenclau, he had with his usual four driven from Cadogno, a large body of the enemy, with the loss of only 15 men killed and wounded, and had taken possession of it; by which he cut off all communication between Milan and Piacenza. That the vanguard of that detachment entered Milan's country, and burnt some baggage, and made several officers prisoners. He had sent trench instructions to general Berenclau, and continues reinforcing as the troops arrive: and proposes to follow soon with the main of the

array. Don Philip left Milan the 19th at 5 in the morning, escorted by about 6000 men, and took the road to Pavia. The Austrians compute they shall have, by the end of this month, 35000 men under general Brown, near 4000 having joined them, within this week.

Hague, April 8. In the night before last, prince Waldeck sent a detachment of 6 companies of Dutch, and 4 of Austrian grenadiers; and 3 free companies, sustained by 2 or 300 horse, to beat up the French quarters at Vilvorden; which post the detachment forced sword in hand, and besides the slain, took 9 officers, 40 soldiers, and 2 cannon of 6 pounds. The greater part of the garrison saved themselves in the castle; but 'tis feared our detachment will not be able to maintain themselves in the Town. A courier is said to have passed through Munich, on the 30th past, from Italy to Vienna, with the news of the Spaniards having been attacked in their retreat, on the 27th past, and having lost 6000 men, killed and wounded.

Turin, March 11. Our operations have stood ever since the taking of Aegui, when the loss of marshal Maillebois amounted in the whole, since the affair of Alti, to 12 or 13000 men, without reckoning the deserters, of whom 800 arrived in one day at Alessandria.

Milan, March 16. General Berenclau, whose troops have been augmented to 8000 men, march'd yesterday towards Pavia. We have received advice, that the Piedmontese have surprized near Cognia 400 French, whereof about 60 were killed, and the rest taken prisoners. 'Tis added, that the Spanish governor of Mortara, who was marching to disengage the French, fell with his troops, which were near 4000, into an ambush, and were all made prisoners.

Bologna, March 22. It is just now reported that the Spaniards have abandoned Pavia, with all the magazines, and 120 pieces of cannon, which were there; and that they have passed the Po with great precipitation. The confirmation of this important news is impatiently expected.

Leghorn, March 15. We are inform'd that admiral Medley, who commands the English Squadron, having received certain intelligence, that a Squadron of 12 Spaniards men of war of the line was equipping with the utmost diligence at Carthagena and Alicant, sail'd immediately from Port Mahon with 20 men of war, to block up those ports. The departure of this officer has alarmed the Genoese to the last degree, and they are again employed in adding new fortifications to their city, and taking other precautions to defend themselves from the many enemies their late conduct has brought upon them.

Versailles, April 6. It is reported that the king has sent counter orders to the ships at Dunkirk and Ostend, before directed to sail for Scotland, but the reason we are intirely strangers to; the some talk as if the king would abandon the pretender, in order the more readily to facilitate a peace with the maritime powers.

L O N D O N.

March 25. The Agnes and Betty, Brame, from Maryland for London, is taken, with several others, and carried into Bilbao.

Since the commencement of the French war, March 31, 1744, to March 11, 1746, have been taken 769 British ships; out of which number have been re-taken, by men of war 24, and by privateers 67.

Of a private Letter from Paris, dated the 10th of this month, we are now in to critical a conjuncture, that it is not what we should expect, but what the Nature and Situation of things seems to oblige us to. The Prussian Ministry, it is no doubt, well tutor'd, has learn'd of late to talk in a strain the wisest among us know not what to make of. In general it seems as if he thought that Flanckers was not a proper Country