

## MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestic.

TUESDAY, December 16, 1746.

To the Publisher of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

*Ob! is there not some Patriot, in whose Power  
That best, that God-like Luxury is plac'd,  
Of blessing Thousands, Thousands yet unborn,  
Thro' late Posterity? Some large of Soul!  
To cheer disjeat'd Industry? To give  
A double Harvest to the pining Swain,  
And teach the lab'ring Hand the Sweets of Toil?*

Thompson's SEASONS.

SIR,

AS this is but an Infant Country, and upon the Increase, I, who am a Well-wisher to the People and Constitution, think I may do some Good by communicating the following Thoughts to the Public; they may probably tend to promote a Spirit of Industry, which is very beneficial to a Government, or People, as it subsists.

Idleness is the Spring of numberless Evils, which harrasses the Nature; it is the Parent of Poverty and Indigence; it begets Envy, Murmur, and Complaint; and these, by degrees, may ripen into popular Clamour and Sedition. The Militude is always a proper Tool in the Hands of Faction, to disturb the public Peace, and involve a Nation in Misery and Ruin: Even Pride itself, that Bane of Society, that Spring of Ambition, is nursed and cherished by Idleness. Idleness is with Vice, and brings forth Distress and Misery, it's effects. Wherever Idleness reigns, few and wretched are the People; and as Wealth and Numbers, the Strength and Opulence of a Nation, are increased by Industry, so Depopulation and Poverty, and whatever renders a Nation despicable, may be said to flow from Idleness.

MAN is naturally an active Being; and, when not usefully employ'd, rarely avoids doing Mischief to himself or others: it's our necessary Duty, as well as Interest, to be industrious: Nature abounds with Materials; our Labour and Industry are necessary to fit them for our Use. Who labours not for his own Subsistence, but eat the Bread of others; and therefore, as an Invader of his Neighbour's Property, he is little better than a Thief or a Robber.

A STATE remarkable for Wealth and Numbers of People, where the Rights and Liberties of the People are secured by Law, where Equality is preserved, as much as the Nature and Security of Property will permit; where Men enjoy the Benefit of such Opinions as disturb not the Peace of the State, but the common Interest of their Neighbours; and where the Liberty and common Concern for the public Interest are preserved, by a mild, steady, and impartial Administration, such a Nation must be ever esteemed and feared by other States; it's Alliance will be courted, it's Enmity will be successful in foreign Negotiations; it's Treaties, once concluded, will not be readily violated; nor will

War be unreasonably undertaken against it, where such effective Means do subsist, to chastise a faithless Ally, or bring an obstinate Foe to Reason.

UNDER an arbitrary Government, Idleness is unavoidable: The Breath of Tyranny, like Poison or the Plague, blasts every Thing that is beneficial to Mankind. Where the Subject's Property is liable to the violent or unjust Seizure of an arbitrary Prince, or his more arbitrary Officers and Servants, few will carry their Industry further than to supply the bare Necessaries of Life: No Man will labour for the Gain of another; nor will any desire to be wealthy, to become the Butt of Envy, or a Prey to the Avarice of a rapacious Minister. Few Men, indeed, chuse to live under such Governments, nor do many stay, that can safely or conveniently withdraw themselves; hence many fine Countries in the World, where absolute Power is established, are at this Day mere Desarts: But in free Countries, where the Property of the Subject is secured by the same Laws, that ascertain and measure the Power of the civil Magistrate, Men are encouraged to Industry; because they are assured of reaping the Fruits of their Labours: Where these Motives to Industry subsist, the Fund for carrying it on will never fail; the more expensive Utensils of Life will always multiply with an Increase of Wealth, the diligent Poor will be employed, who earn their Bread from the Hands of the Rich, whose Wealth at the same Time grows by the Labour of the Poor; and where ever easy Bread is gained by Labour, and Liberty of Conscience is established by public Authority, the People will multiply, increase, and flourish; so that Wealth and Numbers do, by the sole Medium of Industry, subsist and increase each other.

THE lower Class of Mankind, when profitably employed; are in every Country, it's Strength and Source of Wealth; but when idle, they are a Burden, a dead Weight, and a Draw-back, on all it's Affairs. The Laborious, who subsist by their Labour, are contented, peaceable, cheerful, tractable, and good Subjects; obedient to Laws, tenacious of Liberty, and incapable of Servitude: If the public Peace is in Danger at home, or the common Safety threatened from abroad, they cheerfully expose their Lives in Defence of Liberty, Property, and their Country; pay Taxes, rationally laid on, in Proportion to every Man's Ability, they cheerfully submit to; and are as good Soldiers as Subjects; they are content with their Pay, submissive to Discipline, patient of Labour, and brave to face Danger; when they have done their Duty, they willingly lay down their Arms, and return again to their Industry, whereby they subsist without servile Dependence; and enjoy the Sweets of Peace with the greatest Relish, after having experienced the Miseries and Fatigues of War.

AN idle People, on the other hand, are poor and indigent, and must be maintained at the Expence of others, either by a slavish Dependence on the Rich, Theft, Robbery, or Begging; they are discontented, turbulent, mutinous; insensible of Liberty, as they enjoy none; fond of Sedition and Tumult, in Hostility, as they enjoy none; fond of Sedition and Tumult, in Hostility of Booty; disobedient to Laws, as they live by no Rule; and