

Dishonesty enough to lead them astray. The Duke of Montaufer, Tutor to the late Dauphin of France, was so sensible of the Danger of this practice, that he debarred his Pupil reading the Dedications of Books directed to him; having once surprized him perusing one, *What Pleasure* (said he) *can you find in reading such a Bundle of Lies? Don't you see how much you are benefited? Here you are told, tho' but a Child, that you have all the bright Parts, and solid Understanding, applicable only to the most mature Age, and a thousand other Impertinencies; Can you deny but that this is all false? or are you so simple as to imagine you possess one tenth Part of these great Qualities, with which they pretend to adorn you?* An excellent Lesson for the young Prince.

The Judgment or Choice of our Friends, will expose us more or less to Flattery; we are ambitious to be well thought of, and according to our Stock of Sense or Discretion, the Opinions of our Friends will influence us. To prevent our falling into this general Snare, it is proper to be in a particular Society, where nothing is current but Truth, Freedom, and Honesty; without this, we can have but a Vague and general Acquaintance; and amongst the many idle, impertinent, and trifling Beings we are intimate with, must very often be at a Loss to separate the Dross from the pure Gold. I conclude with the Character of a Flatterer, translated from *Theophrastus*.

FLATTERY is a base Manner of Conversation, but profitable to the flatterer. If such a one is upon the public Walk with you, — *Do but see* (says he) *how every one eyes you; — how there's not a Man in Athens that is so much regard'd. You had Justice done you yesterday in the Portico; — there were thirty of us together, and the Question being started, Who was the most considerable Person in the Commonwealth? the whole Company was of the same Side; in short, Sir, we every one made free with your Name.* He follows his Whisper with a thousand other Flatteries of the same Nature; if a Bit of Lint stick to your Garment, he takes it off with great Officiousness; if the Wind has blown a Feather or Straw into your Hair, he picks it out very carefully, and showing it, with a moist insipid Smile, — *How old you are grown since I saw you last! 'tis Time enough sure for a Man of your Age to have grey Hairs in his Head.* Whenever the Person to whom he makes his Court begins to speak, the Sycophant begs the Company to be silent, and most impudently praises him to his Face, is in Raptures all the while he speaks, and as soon as he has done, cries out, *That's perfectly right.* When his Patron aims at being witty on any Man, he pretends to be ready to burst with laughing at the Smartness of his Raillery, and stops his Mouth with his Handkerchief, that he may not laugh out. If he walks with him in the Street, he clears the Way before him, and makes every Body stand still 'till he passes by; when he comes home, and calls his Children about him, the Flatterer has got a pocket full of Apples and other Trifles, which he distributes among them with a deal of affected Fondness, *wonders to see so many fine Boys and Girls, and turning to the Father, tells him, They are all as like him as they can stare.* His Patron cannot so much as try on a Shoe, but he compliments him upon the Shape of his Foot. If he makes a Visit, the Parasite runs before, gives Notice to the Master of the House, and returns out of Breath to let him know that every Thing is ready for his Reception. He is perfectly well versed in all female Business, and is as handy among the Women as the best of them. When he is invited to an Entertainment, he is the first that calls for a Glass of Wine, and is wonderfully pleased with the Delicousness of the Flavour; he gets as near as possible to the Master of the House, and tells him with much Concern, that he eats nothing himself; he singles out some particular Dish, and recommends it to the rest of the Company as a Rarity; he begs the Master of the Feast to sit in a warmer part of the Room, in-

treats him to take Care of his Health, and to put on a numerous Garment in the cold Weather; he is in a cloister with him during the whole Entertainment, and has Eyes nor Ears for any one else in the Company. Whose a great Man enter the Theatre, he snatches the C from his Servant, and places it under him himself, or, with Officiousness of a Lackey, takes his Cloak from off his shoulders. If a Man shews him his House, he extolls the Architecture, admires the Gardens, and expatiates upon the Furniture; if the Owner is grossly flatter'd in a Picture, he our flatterer Painter, and tho' he discovers a great Likeness in it, can Means allow, that it does Justice to the Original. In short, whole Business is to ingratiate himself with those who hear and to wheedle them out of their Senses.

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

LONDON, October 7.

His Spanish Majesty is said to have ordered all the War in the several Ports of his Monarchy to be disarm'd.

There are private Letters by the Holland Mail which mention that the new King of Spain had given Orders, that a privateer should presume to put to Sea for six Months, under severe Penalties, and that those which are out at Sea should immediately return home; which News we wish soon to be confirmed.

The Merchants from the Prospect of a Peace with us have sent great Quantities of Goods to Portugal, to be for the Spanish Trade, so soon as that shall be permitted; and still greater Quantities are now preparing for that Purpose.

Admiral Perry Mayne sails soon to Jamaica with a Squadron of the Admiral Davers, who is to return home.

And Commodore Legge goes on board the said Squadron for the Leeward Islands, to relieve Commodore Lec, who is coming home from that Station.

It is reported that there are Letters from Manchesters mention, that some Tumults had happened there since the setting up the Heads of Syddal and Deacon, and that many Heads have been pulled down by the Populace.

This Morning died at his House in Bow street, Covent Garden, Sir Thomas De Veil. He was seized Yesterday with an Apoplectic Fit, as he was taking the Information of a Man for a Robbery, which occasioned his Death.

By Letters from Plymouth, of the 3d Instant, we have received, that all the Troops at that Place, who were intended to join Admiral Lestock, were embark'd; and as the Weather then at N. W. 'twas expected would fail as that Day, we had no certain Advice of the Admiral since his Departure from that Port; but 'twas generally believed he was either in the Isle, or had made a Descent on the French Coast near Louis.

They write from Paris, that the King of Sardinia has solemnly refused to send a Minister to Breda; but that notwithstanding very considerable Wagers, and great Odds laid, that a general Peace will be proclaimed before the end of the whole, we are told, depends on the Reception of the British Minister to two Points to be insisted on by the Duke de Phisieux, which have been already intimated as mountable to the Court of Versailles.

The Queen Dowager of Spain had near six Millions of Money at George's Bank at Genoa, which has been seized by the various Troops in that Country.

On Saturday last the Dragon Man of War, of Greenwich which has been lately refitted for Sea service in the Woolwich, was hauled out of the Dock. The Com-