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*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

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From the DAILY GAZETTEER, August 28. 1747.

The FOOL, No. 182.

— Perituræ parcite chartæ. Juv.

OW I have done with politics, my senses recover their native vigour, and I find my mind in such a state of serenity and gaiety, as leads me rather to divert and amuse, by entering pleasantly into the reason and nature of things, than to be incompass'd by the gloomy view of the situation of public affairs.

THERE was formerly a gentleman of Gray's Inn, whose genius led him to the study of music, which he pursued with a truly algebraic head; and divided and subdivided the notes into such a variety of parts, and in so just a manner, that at length, neither himself, nor any body else, could undertake them: Nor could any instrument be found, capable of conveying to the ear what kind of music they were intended to ravish us with. Every theorist of genius does the same thing in whatever science he pursues, and but too often loses sight of the practice, which is alone useful. I have been at no small pains to render politics a science, circumscribed by the bounds of honour, and regulated by common honesty; having labour'd therein until no body either does or will understand me, I must follow the route of my brother student of Gray's-Inn, and leave every man to run for himself.

THE proper subject of to-day, regards the importance I am of to a trading nation, merely as the result of what I scribble, few people I believe, reflecting that my head, the *primæm mobile*, is the cause of hundreds getting their bread. This is too much for ordinary minds to take in at a sudden, and as it carries at the tail of it a good moral, it must certainly give justice to my occupations, to have it set in a fair and candid light; at the same time that it may inspire others to the following of so laudable an example.

THE first that are employed in my fooleries, are a set of people of all ages and both sexes, usually stiled *Bunters*; from the name of a certain bird well known on the north coast, with ragged tails, called buntings, which give name to a town on the same coast, call'd Bunning, Buning, or Bunter's Ford; where the inhabitants are generally shatter'd behind as the birds. This sort of people made it their business to deal with gentlemen's servants, milliner's 'prentices, &c. for linnen rags; at which, when they have got any considerable quantity together, they carry them to rag-fair, where they dispose of them to the rag-merchant, or mill-factor; who, after employing a great number of hands to pick and sort them, packs them up and sends them by land or water, or both, to their respective mills; where some are employ'd in soaking, some in stamping, some in pressing, shaping, drying, selecting, and packing. When ready, wretches or carriages are employ'd to the paper-merchant; who having made them perfect, issues them out to the printer, who conveys them to the stamp-office. Then they are brought back to the printer's again; in Green-Arbour court, in the Old-Baily; where having met my copy, several hands were employ'd to dress them out for the amusement of the public; and employ a great number of hawkers, both horse and foot, to distribute them. After this they go exactly the same course over again, until they come out in volumes; and ornament the studies of the learned.

THE reader is further to observe, that the persons employ'd, as enumerated above, are but a part of the whole; there being besides, on this important occasion, shipwrights, cartwrights, millwrights, smiths, farmers, hemp-dressers, hemp-spinners, rope-

makers, miners, refiners, letter-founders, composers, pressmen, and correctors.

THAT all these are employ'd towards the completion of one Fool, is evident to every one the least acquainted with these matters; and if to these be added the contributions we pay towards the maintenance of the Warwick and Lisbon packet boats, and the number of spies or intelligencers we support both at home and abroad; the domestic postage we pay, and various other incidents, too numerous to be reckon'd; I think I may look upon myself at the head of trade, and at least on a footing with the most eminent merchant in the British dominions.

IN this light, who but the greatest enemies to trade, can presume to say that I am a Fool of no consequence, or that they would not wish a million of such Fools, each of them like me, finding employment for almost every degree of men. Tho' I should wish, at the same time, that all like me should carefully avoid employing any her tank of people, their tools or agents, who rove about to destroy us as owls do mice. There are your messengers, jail keepers, constables, and pitiful bankrupts.

FROM hence it appears, that what the ignorant call wasting of paper, the judicious must allow, to be encouraging an important manufacture. And it would please one not a little to see, that some men, with 10,000 l. a year, were of use to the community; that is to say, employ'd to many of the useful industrious poor; while so little profits centers in my own purse, and so much in the purse of those who are employed, or get money in consequence of these my labours; as in particular, the government and the paper merchant, who divide three-fourths of it between them, when my directorship is hardly worth a sixteenth, and that attained thro' infinite pains and dangers, on the behalf of those who are the greater gamblers.

SEE then from hence the unequal distribution of the favour of fortune, and on what principles men reason about right and wrong, morality and immorality; proving; that to be right, is to be just; and to be in power, is to be in the right; while this or that man runs away with the profit, and shines on the credit of another's genius.

I HAVE computed that newspapers and pamphlets, with advertisements, pay to the government 20,000 l. a year; and I am apprehensive, that all the writers or procurers of that money, don't earn 1500 l. a year together. Now would any body imagine, that there should be found one in the nation, to propose or plan out for the next parliament, the means of destroying the liberty of the press, and turning those poor Fools a grazing, who are the main props of the constitution; and thereby lessen the revenues 20,000 l. a year, merely to make his or that minister quite easy, is sacrificing at once both the crown, the constitution, and the labour of thousands, to the caprice and whim of a few, who never saved or advanc'd the public twenty pence in all their lives.

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Extract of a Letter from Rotterdam, dated Sept. 19. 1747.  
 As I promis'd in mine of yesterday, I therefore write, but as to particulars, we have few more than those we learn from common report. It is dismal to see the wounded that have fled here, both women and children, with part of the burghers. Some come out naked, their consarnation was so great; but all say, they thought themselves in the greatest security. That at break of day the French go into the ravenin of Vedem without much opposition; that the reserved corps behind the rayelin made some small resistance, but were soon overcome; Then the French drove through one fort, or tally-port; and before the garri-  
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