

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

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Some Thoughts on the late SUBSCRIPTION.

S I R,

AN honest simple Foreigner, conversed in the Arts of Stock-jobbing and Money-broking, and but six Months ago come to reside amongst us, would certainly conclude, from what he mut have already observ'd, that we are either a very weak, or a very wicked People; that we either are unacquainted with our own Wealth, or have not Honesty enough to stand to a Bargain we have once made.

WHEN a Subscription was opened for a Loan of Six Millions, and he was told that these six Millions were almost equal to one hundred and forty Millions French, how would it have amaz'd him to see the Whole so suddenly filled, that many who desired it, could not obtain the Favour of having a few Thousand taken off their Hands! Surely, he would have said, the Riches of these People are inexhaustible! What Nation can suffice to make War against them, when, lo! their Supplies still abound beyond their Occasions?

BUT after he had continued with us a very short Time longer, and taken Notice what a Damp the Payment of only a tenth Part of the Sum subscribed for, cast on the Stocks and Credit: Must he not have called us an ignorant and stupid Race, unacquainted with our own Worth, and madly laying ourselves under Obligations, which it was not in our Power to perform?

SUPPOSE, then, somebody should set him right, and tell him, that in both Opinions he was greatly mistaken: That the Coldness at the Time of Payment was no more a Sign of our real Distress, than the Eagerness to subscribe was a Proof of our enormous Wealth: That both were assam'd Appearances, and a View to get Money was the true Motive both of the Ardour and the Indifference: Would not his Reflection then be, that we (the money'd Part of us I mean) were all a Pack of Knaves, and that to prey upon the public Necessity of our Country was the very worst Kind of Rapine.

AS this would naturally make him inquisitive, we may imagine the whole Money-System will be next explained to him: That he is told of Men who subscribed for Thousands, when they were not worth so many Hundreds, with a View only of selling their Bargain advantageously to those who had Money: That the money'd Men, knowing this, and the Incapacity of the first Purchasers to pay their Dividends, kept from the Market, and obliged the most necessitous to sell under Par: That thus both the Government and the Subscribers were distressed, and the public Credit was hurt, with a View only to make a little private Property: That getting Money by such Means was a Trade, a Profession, and so reputable as almost to be reckoned among the cardinal Virtues. — Good Lord! would he not cry, That Men can be so base and degenerate! And what shall you and I say of such Kind of Dealing? Shall we applaud the Jobbers, as prudent thriving Men? Shall we look on their Conduct with Indifference, because Custom has made it familiar? Certainly no! The old Romans had true Notions of the Gradation of Virtue, when they put the Love of their Country in the first Place. Every Individual of us, except those Jobbers, is now sacrificing to the Defence of Britain; and shall a few Wretches make Spoil of what the Community with so much Difficulty supplies?

IN brief, since we are engaged in a War, it will ruin us to sink under our Burthen, because it will give the Foe all the

Advantages he can desire. To let him now have a Peace upon his own Terms, while the Advantages are already so many in his Favour, is not much less dangerous than to give way to the Torrent of his Victories. Not only the War itself is necessary a little longer, but great Spirit is necessary in the Conduct of it. With this Spirit public Oeconomy is entirely consistent, but not private Rapaciousness.

SUPPOSE a Mistake was made in drawing the Terms of the late Subscription, ought the Public to suffer for the Error in Judgment of a single Person? Hard indeed it is, if no means can be found to prevent this. — But worse than *Few, Broker, or Forage-Jobber*, is that *M——*, if any such there be, who plots to throw a Face of Distress over his Country, in order to frighten her, at an Expence that might animate the War, into the Acceptance of an ignominious Peace.

ALBINUS.

SAVONA, April 24.

WHILE we imagined that the intended Expedition against Corsica was counte'manded, or at least suspended, the Troops destin'd for it set sail a few Days since, in 13 Transports; and as the Wind has continued favourable, we reckon they may be actually landed in that Island.

Parma, April 27. The Imperial Troops are not to encamp 'til the 28th. We have just received Advice that the Duke de Richieu having sent out a Detachment to make a fresh Attempt upon Campo Fredo, the Austrians posted there gave them so warm a Reception, that they were forced to return without their Errand.

Maastricht, May 13. When the Baron d'Aylva, lately our brave Commandant, went out on the 11th Instant, with his Garrison, to take the Route of Boileduc, the French drew from them about 300 Men who were known to be Deserters. They reloaded the Arms to the Baron D'Aylva, but for the poor Wretches that bore them, they were carried Prisoners to the French Army. The same Day at Noon the French caused Te Deum to be sung in the Church of St. Jervais, during all which Time some insolent Rioters took several Hogheads of Wine out of the Cellars that are under the Church, as they did the same in several private Houses: Yesterday was published a Suspension of Arms, and in the Evening a great Number of Soldiers and of Town's People gathered together in the Vryth, or Square, entered into St. John's Church, after having forced open the Doors, and rung the Bells, played upon the Organs, tore all the Curtains in the Windows, and committed many other Outrages.

Madrid, April 12. Our merchants were obliged in order to obtain the strong convoy which sail'd from Cadiz last month with our West-India fleet, to grant the king six per cent. on all the effects of the fleet that shall arrive safe in their destined ports; and this has served to heighten their resentment against commodore Leagnos, who commanded the convoy, for suffering five of the richest ships in the whole fleet, one of them being valued at 600,000 pieces of eight, and the cargo of the whole at 2,300,000, to be taken under his Nose, by four English men of war and five privateers, without his firing a single shot, but to take the four English. We hear that the merchants call loudly for justice, and the prime minister it is said is on their side, and desirous of having him tried at a court-martial. The minister of the marine, on the contrary, far from thinking that M. Leagnos has been guilty of any fault, says he ought to be rewarded for his good conduct, and at Cadiz they sung Te Deum on his return to that port.

LONDON, May 12.

It is said, there is an account that admiral Boscawen has passed by the cape of Good Hope.

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