

THE
MARYLAND GAZETTE
 No. 243

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1749.

From the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE, for September, 1749.

TURKEY AND PERSIA.

SOLYMAN, pasha of Bassora, having revolted, and attack'd Babilon, four of the neighbouring pashas have orders to march their troops to relieve that town.—The affairs of Persia, according to advices by the Smyrna caravan, being settled once more, and Shawroke Schah (who had taken and blinded Ibrahim Mirza) in quiet possession of the throne, ambassadors are appointed on both sides, in order to confirm the late treaty with Schah Nadir.

GERMANY.

The empress queen is again pregnant; a large army is kept up, and in very good order. The locusts, after ravaging part of Poland, and the neighbourhood of Vienna (where they killed multitudes of them with fire arms, but were obliged to desert by the stench of the carcases) took their flight, darkening the air, towards Bohemia and Bavaria, and did vast damage about Pilsen in Bohemia; being driven away from Budweis by the noise of bells, and discharge of cannon, they settled a league off on trees, the branches of which broke down with their weight; and tho' 160 sacks of them were destroyed in the night by burning straw under the trees, they came next morning near the town, and soon devoured two cart loads of hay. They have advanced in Bavaria to Ratifon and Aichstet, and cover'd 300 acres of land in Franconia.

ITALY.

Instead of the Italian powers attacking the Algerines as they threaten'd, eleven ships of the latter have alarmed for several days the coast of Naples, intending to seize the king in the isle of Porcida, as he was hunting pheasants; but were disappointed, and retired, finding the coasts well guarded.—A scheme from England for yielding Sardinia and Corsica to Don Philip, for a large sum of money, or an exchange, is much discountenanced, as well as how much has been already done for the infant Don.—An earthquake at Messina has thrown down many houses, damaged most of the palaces and churches, and destroyed many inhabitants.

SPAIN.

The company established at St. Sebastian's, being informed that divers persons carried on a contraband trade at the Caracas with foreigners to the company's prejudice, sent orders to their principal factor to take proper measures for putting a stop to it. The factor, on application to the governor, obtained some troops, and met with the opposition to the king's orders in favour of the company, 'til he came to the reputation of Don John Francis de Leon, who had amassed great riches during the late war. This man assembling the inhabitants of that canton, with the negroes, sent word to the officer and factor, that they must retire on peril of their lives. Some days after (April 22) he wrote to the governor, desiring him to order the factor and other servants of the company to retire from the province; soon after, with 500 men, he made himself master of the Caracas, and obliged the governor, with the factor and others, to retire to Guara and Corio Caballo. He then appointed agents to take care of the company's effects, and with the rest of the rebels resolved to admit of no more of the company's ships, pretending that trade ought to be free there. These disorders lasted from April 22 to June 24. The governor and ecclesiastic chapter of the Caracas have assured his majesty of their inviolable loyalty; but represented that the only way to preserve his authority would be to abolish the company.

It is newly made death for a Spaniard to correspond with the garrison of Gibraltar.

The court is inform'd, that the value of above se-

have been smuggled by a certain great person (the queen dowager), and above a million has been found in her palace; which however she disowns.

FRANCE.

His most Christian majesty, after a progress through Roan, and other places of Normandy, arriv'd the 10th instant at Havre de Grace, and the same evening visited the fort at the entrance of the harbour. The next day he came abroad at nine in the morning, and took a turn on the North pier, whence he had a view of the harbour at low water, and of the use of the sluices. Then after hearing mass he went on board the Chariot Royal in the basin, saw all the different workings of the ship, the careening of another vessel, and afterwards visited the different manufactures belonging to the naval arsenal. In the afternoon he went to see three ships launched, and a naval engagement between six ships in the road; after which he visited the rope walk, the citadel, and the snuff manufactory. *If the French king becomes fond of naval affairs, the influence of the royal example may greatly contribute to render France as formidable by sea as it is by Land.*

LOW-COUNTRIES.

Prince Charles, our governor, has summoned engineers and workmen for the repairing the fortifications of Brussels, Antwerp, Aeth, Mons, Namur, and Charleroy; and will employ the rejaaken deserters in this work, instead of shooting them. New money having been coined, the army is paid with it, the officers in silver, and the soldiers in copper.

HOLLAND.

The peace has rather made the people more unwilling to pay the necessary taxes, so that the difficulty of raising the revenue still subsists, and obliges the regency to disband 10,000 of it's troops.

At Nykoping, in Juland, was lately caught a mermaid, which from the waist upwards had a human form, but the rest was like a fish, with a tail turning up behind, the fingers were joined together by a membrane; it struggled, and beat itself to death in the net.

LONDON.

On the 29th ult. an order was made out to the Exchequer for remitting to Scotland the money certified by the lords of sessions, due to the nobility and gentry, &c. on account of the heretabie jurisdictions abolished by act of parliament.

On the 30th, some artificers, seized on board a ship at Portsmouth, bound to Spain, were examined, and 9 of them discharged from bail, and seven continued. Orders were given for prosecuting seventeen persons, most of them principals, on the statute, which makes it felony for artificers to go abroad without leave.

A smuggler, executed at Maidstone, confessed the murder of Mr. Medlycott of Lincoln, about ten years ago, with whom he then lived as a servant. Mr. Medlycott was to have been starved the same morning, and the pistol being found by him, it was, 'til this discovery, generally thought that he had shot himself.

Sept. 4. At a general meeting of the commissioners of the turnpikes, at the guild-hall in Bristol, it was unanimously resolved to draw up a letter to the duke of Newcastle, to request his grace to order the speedy trials of the prisoners in the several goals of the city, on account of destroying the turnpikes; this letter being drawn up by a committee, was signed by all the gentlemen then present, and many more for several days following; and a deputation was appointed to deliver it to his grace.

The works of Dunkirk began to be demolished in the presence of English surveyors, agreeable to the late treaty of Aix-