

## MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

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Industry is the source of wealth, so is it the interest of all governments to promote and encourage it, if it was only for the sake of that peace and harmony amongst men, which tends so essentially to the ease of those who govern, and produces so many benefits to a community. Where industry is universal, we behold none of those calamitous prospects which daily present themselves to our view in this great metropolis. Connivance at idleness is equally an error in government, as encouraging it, because the event is much the same; and we call that idleness in a state, which contributes not by good laws, well executed, to make the idle active.

There are two kinds of poor in every state: not regularly and attentively governed; these are the labouring and the lazy: In the first case, every wise and skillful means ought to be used to procure business for them, as an honest, innocent people, whose hands are of more use to them than their heads; therefore such as have better heads should find work for their hands, otherwise they will fall gradually into the rank of the lazy poor.

The lazy poor are of two kinds, thieves and beggars: The first are active on a different principle from the labouring, and fall under the severity of the law for taking more pains to be wicked, than the other to be honest.

The begging poor have, under the laxness of our laws, much the advantage of the others; as by the appearance of imploring your pity, they with the aid of useful countenance, rob you by your own consent, and live jovially on the perquisites of tender error. These people can calculate within a few shillings what every day's earning will amount to, according to the season of the year, and the respective stations they assign themselves; and often make more in six hours than an industrious labourer can acquire in three days. In winter you must pity them, because it is cold; in summer, because it is hot; and in spring and autumn, because it is lukewarm: So every season has its pretension to charity; and who can refuse giving, when told by the beggar, that what you give them is only treasure laid up in heaven, which is to be repaid again in the other world, after it has been idly squandered away in this?

The encouragement of these people, by many, is owing to a mistaken interpretation of scripture, by making the poor in spirit, or the modest and innocent, to be intended for the vicious and idle; and by this means a distressed neighbour is often neglected to feed these vermin.

The thieves grow chiefly out of little gin-shops, where they can get drunk for a penny, and in that warm state are prepared for every kind of villainy and mischief. And oftentimes the begging and the thieving poor are incorporated into one and the same body; their gain by begging enables them to procure that pernicious liquor, which afterwards proves productive of so many evils.

In a free state, it is presumed that these things cannot be remedied; our ancestors thought otherwise, and lest their posterity, in vain, to execute the salutary laws which they had made; they rather chuse to put themselves to the expence of judges, goals, carts and halters; which they find amply repaid them by the gin revenue. Thus a bait is first laid to make the ignorant and thoughtless villains, and then they are hanged out of the way for swallowing it. One would think by this odd scheme of government, that all our men in power were bred distillers, and were forming a scheme, at the expence of the lives of thousands, to turn the whole kingdom into a gin-shop.

In the mean time I cannot help observing, how very good the generality of people are grown, and even were so long before the earthquake: We see hospitals rise upon hospitals, until the town is half covered with them; the workhouses, improperly so called, are cumber'd full of idle people; and besides charity-schools, for the education of gentlemen and ladies, we pay out of the community at least eight hundred thousand pounds a year, a revenue that many German and Italian sovereigns would think themselves happy in, and that would, if saved on the one hand, and properly applied on the other, make us a great and happy people. One step is now taking towards this great end; but how far it will be permitted to operate, is another consideration. For it is now almost out of the question, whether the poor were ever designed for labour, or whether they ought to do any thing but eat, drink, and sleep on other people's industry, our parish overseers generally taking it for granted, that all under their care respectively must be apprenticed to traders, and even seldom any but genteel trades; husbandry, or any laborious occupations, being too mean for such as are educated in these expensive nurseries, since it would be a great hardship on church-wardens, or overseers, to want a job or a dinner, as it would be a sensible reflection on a charity trustee, that he did not once a year parade through the streets at the head of the gentlemen and ladies under his care. I know the clergy are a little too fond of these schemes, and assiduously propagate these kind of charities, without so much as suspecting the attendant fatality: But however these gentlemen may be mistaken, as being unconvertant in trade, one finds it difficult to excuse those more acquainted that way. Men must be allowed some share of vanity, but it were to be wished that it did not outrun the bounds of common sense, and turn us all at last into a nation of beggars.

In conclusion, I should be gladly informed, if it be true, as is by many judicious people affirmed, That the herring-fishery now on foot is capable, in the event, of bringing in a million a year to the common stock, why, as the braiding of nets is easily learned, all the young gentlemen and ladies, in work-houses and charity schools, should not be employed in that work, when they will not only thereby save the public the greater part of the said eight hundred thousand pounds a year, but likewise contribute something to the bringing in the annual million.

DUBLIN, May 8.

THE children of Arklow school, in the county of Wicklow, having sent up to the committee of fifteen of the incorporated society in Dublin for promoting English protestant schools in Ireland, four pieces of linnen made by them of their first spinning and weaving, each piece containing twenty one yards, the committee were pleased to approve of the same, and to order two guineas to be disposed of among the children, as the local committee shall think proper.—N. B. The same was woven by children not fourteen years of age.

Paris, June 22. Two couriers lately arrived from the marquis de Valory, the king's minister at Hanover, one of whom brought dispatches about the state of affairs in the empire, and the dispositions of the several members of the Germanic body; the dispatches of the other courier, turned upon the affairs of the North, and the declaration lately made to the Russian minister at Berlin, which declaration has also been communicated to the British and Hanoverian ministry, and received by them with as cheerful a countenance as could be expected.

Spring, April 26. The regency of Algiers has so well succeeded in persuading the ports that Spain intends to attack that