

T H E
M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E,

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Containing the freshest advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, September 12, 1750.

P A R M A, April 30.

AST week an accident happened here, which threw the inhabitants of this city, and places adjacent, into the greatest consternation and confusion imaginable: A sudden and dreadful noise, which shook all the houses, and damaged many, made the people think that an earthquake had happened, and that the noise proceeded from the buildings tumbling down; but it was only the powder mill that blew up, the stones and beams of which being violently scattered by the explosion, damaged many adjacent houses. The inhabitants, in their fright, posited away in crowds to the gates of the city, trampling and stifling one another for haste to get out into the fields; but being soon made sensible of the real cause of this dreadful explosion, they returned quietly to their habitations. Upon enquiry into the cause of this accident, it appears that it was owing to the carelessness of the men employed in the powder-mill, who, in leaving off work, forgot to put out some fire in the laboratory. We hear of no more than one person killed on this occasion, by a wall tumbling down upon him.

An extract of a letter from Amsterdam, May 12.

The following remarks have been made by some very sensible persons, upon the four treaties of peace concluded since the death of the emperor Charles the VIth, at Breslau, Dresden, Fueslen, and this of Aix-la-Chapelle. The first, they say, was concluded because the conqueror was fearful of a reverse of fortune; and if, indeed, after the battle of Czaflow, he should have happened to have lost one, there would have been an end of his conquests, he could not have been relieved; he therefore thought it better to make a bridge of gold for his enemy to go over, and content himself with a part of Silesia. The second came about in the following manner: After the victory near Dresden, the conqueror had it in his power to lay all Saxony, Thuringia, and Misnia, under contribution, and subject those countries to be plundered; but then he apprehended that the whole empire would have joined in opposing the ruin of so powerful an elector, who would probably too have been assisted by Poland and Russia; he therefore prudently restored his conquests, contenting himself with having spread the terror of his name. The defeat of Pfaffenhoven was the occasion of the third, and came apropos to justify the treaty which the elector of Bavaria had been negotiating some weeks with the ministers of the court of Vienna, being obliged, by the French leaving him, to abandon them, in his turn, to prevent his undergoing the fate of his grand father after the battle of Hochstet. The last and most recent, it is now well known, was concluded, because the finances of France were exhaulted, that kingdom threatened with famine, its marine and commerce ruined, and the arrival of the Russians threatening to determine a great part of Germany to declare in favour of the allies; which the court of Berlin would have liked no better than that of Versailles. These circumstances put his most Christian majesty under a necessity of concluding a peace, contenting himself solely with the reputation he had assumed of having given peace to his enemies; which nobody thought fit to contradict.

Dublin, June 9. Orders are given by the parishes to take away all children of beggars, and to put them into the protestant charter school; which will be of the utmost advantage to this kingdom, as it will create industry, prevent idleness, beggary, thieving, robbery and murder; and hinder these strolling wretches from being a burthen to the public. We hear also, that the bill to prevent the clandestine marriages of infants, or persons under the age of twenty-one, will be a-

mented, by making all marriages null and void, of persons of property in Ireland, who shall be married out of the kingdom, without the consent of parents or guardians.

Florence, April 18. All our mountains are covered with snow, and the uncommon cold felt at this season, fills us with fears, for the harvest. The hospital of S. Maria Nova is so crowded with poor and sick, that they talk of removing a part of them to some convents. Our distress increases more and more; and the cries of the poor for work and bread fill our ears night and day. The courts of Spain and France seem to think seriously of getting a king of Lombardy crown'd, and will leave nothing unattempted to effect it this summer.

From the London Daily Gazetteer, May -

THE bright side of human nature never appears more distinguished than when acting for the common good, unbounded by partiality or self interested views, and calculated to circulate universal happiness: One of the principal happinesses of life, is a fair and ample subsistence, acquir'd by industry and improv'd by frugality: This, with contentment, or not too great an anxiety for wealth, brings us on the way to the summit of earthly bliss: Virtue is included in it; and every moral sentiment contributes to this great end, to make us pleas'd with ourselves, and easy and agreeable to others. But when we look further into the nature of human affairs, and make the going good to others, a virtue superior to that of self happiness, simply considered, we become oftentimes capable of conferring more benefits on our fellow-creatures, than at our first setting out, we apprehended we had abilities suited to.

This is the case of all such schemes, inventions, or projects, which are calculated for the public good, and succeed happily; the result of them are too complex or many, for even the schemist's own comprehensions; the multiplying benefits are involv'd in the womb of futurity, from whence, gradually springing, they appear, at last, in their full force and splendour.

Some years since, an ingenious clergyman was presented to the living of Bantry in Ireland, which, like some of our poor livings in England, was but ill consider'd for the maintenance of the incumbent: He was not only poor himself, but had the chance likewise to be surrounded with poor neighbours, whom he considered in their miserable state, with infinitely more concern than his own; tho' perhaps, at the same time, apprehensive enough, that could he improve their condition, his own would be mended of course. I need not inform my reader, that Bantry is a village seated on the margin of a fine bay, where fish, before this clergyman's arrival, wanton'd in great plenty and profusion; but either through want of skill, proper materials, or incolence, there was no kind of benefit made of the great store, providence seem'd to have gather'd together there, for the emolument of the inhabitants. The clergyman was long revolving in his mind, how to bring about a design he had been concerting, to turn this great storehouse of food to some real use: That is to say, to procure a proper vessel and fishing tackle, to make his poor neighbours active and industrious, and to find a proper market that would encourage the labourers. Totally a stranger to all these things, otherwise than being bless'd with a good understanding, and a happy conception of the use of such rude materials as casually presented to his view, he resolv'd at last to attempt something. Chance threw a little boat ashore; and being just rich enough to purchase a few fishing tackle and a small net, he after much persuasion, engaged some of the poor people to adventure out with him; and having all the success he could wish, in a few hours