

to one town-lot; eight hundred acres in each parish to be reserved for poor settlers, to be divided into lots not less than ten, or more than thirty acres each; to be granted in fee simple. The land to be occupied and entered upon in three months after the grant. No lands granted to poor settlers to be alienable by sale, or otherwise, for seven years, except for the children of the first settlers; and all mines of gold and silver to be reserved for the crown. The sale is to be in June next, if surveys can be made so soon.

It appears from the late papers, that there has been a great scarcity of grain in most parts of Europe, especially in the Ecclesiastical states, and other places on the Mediterranean, where the people had suffered great distresses, and were threatened with all the horrors of famine; the governments were using all the means in their power to procure relief, by distributing the grain in their stores, purchasing from other states, and encouraging its importation, — yet, notwithstanding, the supply that had then arrived, was so insufficient, that there were great clamours and disturbances among the people, and the famine was increasing: Turkey corn, (the same as Indian) beans and lupines, were employed to make bread, which the people came in tumultuous crowds to receive. — For five days the churches had been filled, at Naples, &c. with penitents imploring heaven to remove the public calamities. Great numbers of women and girls walked the streets in procession, barefooted; their hair loose, and halters about their necks; the head and blood of St. Januarius had been exposed, and public prayers were ordered, &c. — Considering the great droughts and unseasonable weather, the storms, tempests and floods with which most parts of Europe have been visited for some years past, together with the desolating wars, which not only took off great numbers from the business of agriculture, but prevented or destroyed the labours of those employed in it, it is no wonder there should be a scarcity of grain and provision, but rather that it is not more general and distressing. In England, tho' appearances in the spring were very alarming, yet the weather afterward proved so favourable, that the harvest was plentiful beyond expectation; yet the demand for grain abroad being so extraordinary, has occasion'd the exportation of an amazing quantity, and also of provisions from Ireland;

which it has at last (perhaps too late) been found necessary to put a stop to by authority; for provisions were risen in England to a price greatly beyond what was ever known before, so that great numbers of poor people were in danger of being starved or ruin'd. — Tho' this distress was thought to be as much owing to the villainous arts of engrossers, as to real scarcity. The corn exported, was expected to sell for very high prices, but by the last mails from Lisbon there were advices, that the court of Portugal had stopped all ships loaded with corn, which called in there, tho' that market was so excessively glutted by the number of ships arrived in a short space of time, that the loss must be immense to the British traders; who, by advices from the Spanish and Italian markets, had reason to expect the most inviting success, if their ships were not stopped at Lisbon; for which the officers produce the King's decree, passed in the year 1757, never heard of before.

April 7. On Wednesday evening the thanks of the Society of Arts, &c. in the Strand, were given to Lord Southwell, for communicating a piece of handkerchief, made by some of our American Indians, of a weed called Silk Grass. A manufacture, the ingenuity of which was very much admired.

Extract of a Letter from Franckfort, April 4.

“Yesterday the solemnity of the coronation of the King of the Romans was performed here with the usual ceremonies, and with great dignity and order. The three Ecclesiastical Electors and the Electoral Ambassadors, all in mantles adorned with gold lace, went to the Dome between nine and ten in the morning. The Emperor and the King of the Romans, preceded by a numerous train, repaired thither an hour after. Their Majesties were received at the gate by their Electoral Highnesses. The Trabans of Saxony being posted as a guard there. The church was hung with rich tapestry, representing the great actions of the Emperors of the August-House of Austria. Before the gate of the choir was an altar richly adorned; on the right hand of which was the Emperor's throne; on the left, that of the Elector; and opposite, that of the King of the Romans. The seats of the two other Electors, and for the Plenipotentiaries, were ranged about in a half-circle. The coronation was performed by his Electoral Highness of Mentz, with the ceremonies prescribed by the Golden Bull.

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