

No.

THE  
NORTH CAROLINA  
GAZETTE  
OR  
IMPARTIAL INTELLIGENCE,  
AND  
WEEKLY GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Among the useful Inventions of Man, there is none more to be admired than the Art of Printing; by Means of which, useful Knowledge is communicated more easily, expeditiously, than in any other Way; therefore the Press ought ever to be encouraged and supported, particularly by FREE CITIZENS, and PROFESSING CHRISTIANS.

1784.

THURSDAY, July 29.

Price Eight-pence.

On the READING PROPER, for the  
FAIR SEX.

(Addressed to a Young Lady, by the late  
Dr. Schomberg.)

Madam,

CONFORMABLE to your desire, and my promise, I present you with a few thoughts on the method of reading: which you would have had sooner, but that you gave me leave to set them down at my leisure hours. I have complied with your request in both these particulars, so that you see, Madam, how absolute your commands are over me. If my remarks should answer your expectations, and the purpose for which they were intended; if they should in the least conduce to the spending your time in a more profitable and agreeable manner than most of your sex generally do, it will give me a pleasure equal at least to that you will receive.

It were to be wished that the female part of human creation, on whom nature has poured out so many charms with so lavish a hand, would pay some regard to the cultivating their minds, and improving their understanding. It is easily accomplished. Would they bestow a fourth part of the time they throw away on the trills and gewgaws of dress, in reading proper books, it would perfectly answer their purpose. Do not let them be let off with all the ornaments that art and nature can contrive to produce for their embellishment; but let them be with reason and good sense, not caprice and humour; there is good sense in dress, as in all things else. Strange doctrine to some! But I am sure, Madam, you know there is — you practise it.

The first rule to be laid down to any one who reads to improve, is never to read but with attention. As the abstruse parts of learning are necessary to the accomplishments of one of your sex, a small degree of it will suffice. I would throw the subjects of which the ladies ought not to be wholly ignorant, under the following heads:

HISTORY,  
MORALITY,  
POETRY.

The first employs the Memory; the second the Judgment; and the third the Imagination.

Whenever you undertake to read history, make a small abstract of the memorable events, and set down in what year they happened. If you entertain your self with the life of a famous person, do the same by his most remarkable actions, with the addition of the year and place he was born at and died. You will find those great helps to your memory, as they will lead you to remember what you do not write down, by a sort of chain that links the whole history together.

Books of Morality deserve an exact reading.

There are none in our language more useful and entertaining than the Spectators, Tatlers, and Guardians. They are standards of the English tongue, and as such should be read over and over again, for as we imperceptibly slide into the manners and habits of those persons with whom we most frequently converse, so reading, being as it were a silent conversation, we insensibly write and talk in the style of the authors we have the most often read, and who have left the deepest impressions on our mind. Now, in order to retain what you read on the various subjects that fall under the head of Morality, I would advise you to mark with a pencil whatever you find worth remembering. If the passage should strike you, mark it down in the margin; if an expression, draw a line under it; if a whole paper in the before mentioned books, or any other which are written in the same loose and unconnected manner, make an asterisk over the first line: By these means you will select the most valuable parts, and they will sink deeper in your memory than the rest, on repeated reading, by being distinguished from them.

The last article is Poetry. The way of distinguishing good poetry from bad, is to turn the verse into prose, and see whether the thought is natural, and the words adapted to it; or whether they are not too big and sounding; or too low and mean for the sense they would convey. This rule will prevent you from being imposed on by bombast and fustian, which with many passes for sublime; for smooth verses, which run off the ear, with an easy cadence and harmonious turn, very often impose nonsense on the world; and are like your well-drest beaux who pass for fine gentlemen. Divest both of their outward ornaments, and people are surprized they could have been so easily deluded.

I have now, Madam, given a few rules, and these only such as are really necessary. I could have added more, but these will be sufficient to enable you to read without burthening your memory, and yet with another view besides that of barely killing time; as too many are accustomed to do.

This task you have imposed upon me is a strong proof of your knowing the true value of time, and always having improved it to the best advantage, were there no other; and that there are proofs, those who have the pleasure of being acquainted with you, can tell.

As for my part, Madam, you have done me too much honour by singling me out from all your acquaintance on this occasion, to say any thing that would not look like flattery; you yourself would think it so, were I to do you the common justice all your friends allow you. I must therefore be silent on this head, and only say, that I shall think myself well rewarded in return, if you will believe me to be, with the utmost sincerity, as I really am,

Madam,

Your faithful humble servant,

J. SCHOMBERG.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

PETERSBURGH, March 16.

THE Empress has just issued an edict, giving leave to all foreigners of what nation or country (never, to carry on a free and unlimited trade, both by sea and land, with the several countries bordering upon the Euxine, which have lately been annexed to the Russian dominion; allotting especially to such foreign merchants the ports of Cherson, in the government of Catharinoslaw, Sebastopolis (formerly called Acht-ier) and Theodosia (formerly Caffa) both in the province of Taurica, where they may reside, and carry on their traffic with the same immunities and privileges religious and civil, as are allowed in the city and at Archangel.

WARSAW, March 17.

Peace being established between Russia and the Sublime Porte, many Greeks, who have wavered between hope and despair, have come to the resolution to fix their abode in the new possessions of Russia. Several of those have considerable property. We hear on the other side, That the Turks, wishing to make Choczim a place of commerce, have established there considerable magazines, filled with all sorts of merchandise.

LISBON, March 9.

A Ship arrived here last week from Rio-Janeiro, hath brought to a merchant in this city a letter written on board a French merchant ship from Pardeau, which was on the Gold coast, near the kingdom of Juda. This letter advises, that a considerable revolt had arisen among the negroes, that all commerce was suspended on the coast: that upwards of 40 ships there, among which were several Dutch, French, Imperial, and especially Portuguese, had altogether experienced the same fate, and must doubtless return with much loss, having been able to get but very few negroes on board, and have never been obliged to throw the tobacco the sea for fear of a contagion.