

NOth CAROLINA GAZETTE.



With the Freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

From the BRISTOL-JOURNAL.

To the Right Honourable W. P. Esq;



OUR Gracious Sovereign hath committed to you and your Friends the Administration of public Affairs, for the Relief of an injured People. We believe you are not above Advice and Admonition, especially from those whose Benefit and Welfare you have undertaken to procure. On this Account we make Use of our natural Right, in setting before you wherein, and in what Manner we expect to be served.

Some of our Grievances we lately mentioned in one of the London Papers in 'The Instructions to those Members of Parliament to whom no particular Instructions had been given.' We repeat our earnest Desire to have those Matters considered and redressed; adding, that if we were allowed to carry Arms for our Defence, we beg that this may not encroach upon the Observation of the Lord's Day, so as to have the Violation of a positive Command of God (already very frequent) enjoined by Law.

We are persuaded that Diligence and Frugality in the Managers of the Revenue, and other Officers, would be more than Half the present Land-Tax. The Customs themselves, if under as good a Regulation as the Excise, would be near one Half of this Sum; and the striking off useless Pices and Pensions, and a Reduction of the exorbitant Salaries and Gain of others, will raise the other Half. If there be any Deficiency, it might be supplied by applying to the Sinking Fund one Half of all Merchant Ships taken from the Enemy by our Men of War. This last will really be of Benefit to the Service, for Experience hath abundantly shewed that nothing spoils an Officer so much as growing rich. And with Respect to the other Part of the Request, we would hope that Pity to our Distresses will incline you and your Friends to endeavour to restrain the Number of Placemen, that the great Ones may no longer rot in Idleness, Debauchery, Gaming and Gluttony, upon the Spoils of an impoverished People. We flatter ourselves too, that the Protection given to Smuggling will now cease, since He no longer rules, to oblige whose Tenants, it hath been said, this Countenance hath been given.

As we are now engaged in War, which is an Appeal to God, and the Success entirely depends on his Favour, we hope some Method will be taken, by discouraging the national Sins, to regain his Favour, who is the Lord of Hosts. But we cannot hope that God will bless the Counsels of those that are the avowed Despisers of his Laws, and live in open Contempt of Religion; who spend that Time in Gaming and Debauchery, which should be devoted to God in religious Duties, as well as that which is due to the Service of their Country. Neither can we expect God will go forth with our Fleets and Armies, while our Regiments are filled with Prophanes in Men and Officers, and every Man of War is a little Hell of Impiety. Nor can we hope Things will be better until great Gaming-Houses are suppressed, and Magistrates are thereby encouraged to do the same by

little Ones, until professed Irreligion and open Wickedness be made a Bar to civil and military Promotions; until the Custom be broken off of selling Chaplainships of Regiments to wealthy Clergymen, who thereby neglect the Duty; until the Chaplains of the Men of War are on a still more respectable Footing than at present, in Dignity and Respect at least, though not in Power and Pay, next to the Captains, and until more Care is taken in choosing them and other Ministers. Indeed a Reformation throughout the whole is highly desirable, as by keeping out the idle and ignorant, by utterly abolishing those Scandals of the Church, Pluralities and Non-Residence, and by applying the overgrown Wealth of some to the Relief of the poorest. That any Bishop should have any more than 1000 l. per Annum, any parochial Clergyman more than 2 or 300 l. or less than 100 l. is not at all for the Good of Religion.

We are not sanguine as to imagine that our many and great Corruptions and Distresses can be cured easily, suddenly, or entirely. But we charge you to consider by what Kind of Conduct your Predecessors have caused our present Distresses, and by contrary Measures to endeavour what you can to give some Relief.

One who sat many Years at the Helm of Affairs, and every Year forwarded Britain's Ruin, secured himself in Power by Bribery and Corruption. This was his distinguishing Talent, to know the Price of every Man, and buy him off from opposing his Administration: His Underlings copied his Example, and introduced Corruption into every Corner of the Land, established a Kind of System of buying and selling Votes in P—t, Boroughs, Managers, and Votes in Boroughs. The Effect of this was a heavy Burden on the Nation, by new and needless Places, bringing on heavy Taxes; it also covered the Land with an intolerable Load of Guilt, the Guilt of Perjury, and many other Crimes, which have drawn on us the Evils we now suffer.

These destructive and wicked Measures were exposed, thwarted, and at last disconcerted, by another W. P. and his Friends. But when that great Man seemed to have it in his Power to relieve his injured Country, he suddenly stopped short. Whether unable to accomplish his Intentions by Reason of the prevailing Power of other Corrupters, or whether he never had such worthy Views he seemed to rest contented with having foiled his Adversary, and Rival in Eloquence; and hath ever since lain buried under a Title and publick Reprach. If ever he desired and really intended a happy Change, now is his Time to recover his lost Credit, by raising and strengthening your Hands.

The succeeding Ministry trod in the same Path, with some Improvement. Intolerable Places and Pensions, foreign Connections, public Extravagance, Bribery and Perjury, still remained in full Vigor. Corruption became more powerful, and put on additional Charms. The leading Man, by a French Cook, and vast Expence, bribed the Bellies of L—ds and M—rs of P—t, and led them by the Tooth. Under Managers imitated their Leader, and now a good Table is kept by most residing Borough Rulers; elegant Entertainments, causing Gluttony and Drunkenness, are joined with Money and Places in securing El—s. This heightened our former Evils, increased our Debt, multiplied our Sins, and hath

in favor of the people's letter of 1757