

THE
Athenian Gazette:

OR,
CASUISTICAL MERCURY,

Resolving all the most
Nice and Curious Questions

PROPOSED BY THE
INGENIOUS
Of Either Sex:

From *Saturday, July 9th.* to *Tuesday, December 20th.* 1692.

The Eighth Volume,

TREATING
On the several Subjects mentioned in the CONTENTS
at the Beginning of the BOOK.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *John Dunton* at the *Raven* in the *Poultry*. 1692.

Where is to be had the *Entire Set* of *Athenian Gazettes* (and the *Supplements* to 'em) for the Year 1691. (Or single Ones to this Time.)

P R E F A C E.

THe many encouraging Letters and repeated Thanks which we have received since our Second Appearance, gives us reason enough to hope that our design is still generally approv'd of, which is a sufficient Motive for us to prosecute it, and we shall endeavour to acquit our selves in it with the utmost Care and Impartiality that the Publick may expect at our hands.

We shall only at present tell our Querists what they may expect from us, as also a few things that we expect from them, and so bid 'em Farewell 'till the next Volume.

I. We have now by us a curious Collection of Mathematical Questions, such as have past several hands unanswer'd, as the Querists themselves tell us, and as the Nature and Difficulty of the Questions themselves perswade us; but being only of Use to particular Persons, and our Bookseller fearing it might do the Paper a diskindness to put in one or more every time, we shall therefore (that we may not disoblige those Ingenious Querists, as also for the satisfaction of all other Analysts) print 'em all together in one Paper, or at least as many of the most difficult as will come in at once, of which Notice shall be given before hand. That Question we lately Answer'd, about The Content of an Equilateral Triangle being given to find its Sides, We are since inform'd was publickly propos'd by a German as an insolvable Question. We should be very glad, if any Ingenious Analyst can solve it any other way, that they wou'd favour us with an Account of it.

II. As to a few Answers that by Indiscretion and Some-bodys Fault crept in, we have already clear'd our selves in two of our late Mercuries, and therefore think it needless to say any more of it here, much less to accuse any one personally, since we our selves being Authores in Nubibus, therefore were not personally reflected on by those mistakes. We have only Occasion here to repeat the same Promise we made then, that we shall Observe such Methods for the future, that the Press shall father nothing upon us but what is our own.

III. We believe we have now upon the File a much finer Collection of Questions than ever we had yet from the beginning, an Argument to us that either We or the Age mends upon it. We shall make all Convenient Speed to Answer 'em off, with as much Satisfaction and Candour as we can, hoping they will be receiv'd with the same.

IV. We design to make Five Volumes (which may be bound up all together) the Complement of one Year, to which there shall always be annex'd a General Table Alphabetically digested, for a more orderly finding out any Question or Subject that was ever treated of.

V. If we yet discover our selves, or receive from others any Methods for a further Improvement of our Design, we shall spare no pains to advance it for the Service of the publick.

As for our Expectations from the Querist, We desire to be freed

1. From the Persecution of idle Questions, under the pretence of Wagers, making us Judges.
2. From such as are continually quarreling that we don't Answer them first.
3. From the trouble of Answering one Question four or five times over, the Tables and Alphabetical Index for the whole Year, if perus'd, wou'd hinder a deal of labour in vain.
4. And Lastly, We desire our Querists to look over those Rules we have already laid down in the Preface to our Second Volume.

We might here add the great Advantage of Method and Order, which is so distinctly legible in the Characters of Universal Nature; without it the Understanding is but in its Chaos, all perplex'd and embarrass'd with inextricable Labyrinths, but this puts all in a smooth, easie Prospect, and if observ'd will doubtless remove most Objections.

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