

Danger will be of another kind; and it is necessary to caution them only against using Terms of Art, and describing Things that are familiar to them in Words unknown to their Reader. I promise my self a great Harvest of new Circumstances, Persons, and Things from this Proposal; and a World, which many think they are well acquainted with, discovered as wholly new. This Sort of Intelligence will give a lively Image of the Chain and mutual Dependence of human Society, take off impertinent Prejudices, enlarge the Minds of those, whose Views are confined to their own Circumstances; and in short, if the Knowing in several Arts, Professions, and Trades will exert themselves, it cannot but produce a new Field of Diversion, an Instruction more agreeable than has yet appeared.



N^o 429. *Saturday, July 12.*

———*Populumque falsis dedocet uti*
Vocibus———

Hor.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

*S*INCE I gave an Account of an agreeable Set of Company which were gone down into the Country, I have received Advices from thence, that the Institution of an Infirmary for those who should be out of Humour, has had very good Effects. My Letters mention particular Circumstances of two or three Persons, who had the good Sense to retire of their own Accord, and notified that they were withdrawn, with the Reasons of it, to the Company, in their respective Memorials.

The Memorial of Mrs. Mary Dainty Spinster,

Humbly Sheweth,

‘ **T**HAT conscious of her own want of Merit, accompanied with a Vanity of being admired, she had gone into Exile of her own accord.

‘ **S**HE is sensible, that a vain Person is the most insufferable Creature living in a well-bred Assembly.

‘ **T**HAT she desired, before she appeared in publick again, she might have Assurances, that tho’ she might be thought handsom, there might not more Addresse or Compliment be paid to her, than to the rest of the Company.

‘ **T**HAT she conceived it a kind of Superiority, that one Person should take upon him to commend another,

‘ **L**ASTLY, That she went into the Infirmary, to avoid a particular Person who took upon him to profess an Admiration of her.

‘ **S**HE therefore prayed, that to applaud out of due place, might be declared an Offence, and punished in the same Manner with Detraction, in that the latter did but report Persons defective, and the former made them so.

All which is submitted, &c.

THERE appeared a Delicacy and Sincerity in this Memorial very uncommon, but my Friend informs me, that the Allegations of it were groundless, inasmuch that this Declaration of an Aversion to being praised, was understood to be no other than a secret Trap to purchase it, for which Reason it lies still on the Table unanswered.

The humble Memorial of the Lady Lydia Loller,

Sheweth,

‘ **T**HAT the Lady *Lydia* is a Woman of Quality; married to a private Gentleman.

‘ **T**HAT she finds her self neither well nor ill.

‘ **T**HAT her Husband is a Clown.

‘ **T**HAT

- ‘ THAT Lady *Lydia* cannot see Company.
- ‘ THAT she desires the Infirmary may be her Apartment during her stay in the Country.
- ‘ THAT they would please to make merry with their Equals.
- ‘ THAT Mr. *Loller* might stay with them if he thought fit.

IT was immediately resolved, that Lady *Lydia* was still at *London*.

The humble Memorial of Thomas Sudden, Esq; of the Inner-Temple,

Sheweth,

- ‘ THAT Mr. *Sudden* is conscious that he is too much given to Argumentation.
- ‘ THAT he talks loud.
- ‘ THAT he is apt to think all things matter of Debate.
- ‘ THAT he stayed behind in *Westminster-Hall*, when the late Shake of the Roof happened, only because a Counsel of the other Side asserted it was coming down.
- ‘ THAT he cannot for his Life consent to any thing.
- ‘ THAT he stays in the Infirmary to forget himself.
- ‘ THAT as soon as he has forgot himself, he will wait on the Company.

HIS Indisposition was allowed to be sufficient to require a Cessation from Company.

The Memorial of Frank Jolly.

Sheweth,

- ‘ THAT he hath put himself into the Infirmary, in regard he is sensible of a certain rustick Mirth which renders him unfit for polite Conversation.
- ‘ THAT he intends to prepare himself by Abstinence and thin Diet to be one of the Company.

‘ THAT

- THAT at present he comes into a Room, as if he were an Express from Abroad.
- THAT he has chosen an Apartment with a matted Anti-Chamber, to practise Motion without being heard.
- THAT he bows, talks, drinks, eats, and helps himself before a Glass, to learn to act with Moderation.
- THAT by reason of his luxuriant Health he is oppressive to Persons of composed Behaviour.
- THAT he is endeavouring to forget the Word *Psaw, Psaw.*
- THAT he is also weaning himself from his Cane.
- THAT when he has learnt to live without his said Cane, he will wait on the Company, &c.

The Memorial of John Rhubarb, Esq;

Sheweth,

- THAT your Petitioner has retired to the Infirmary, but that he is in perfect good Health, except that he has by long Use, and for want of Discourse, contracted an Habit of Complaint that he is sick.
- THAT he wants for nothing under the Sun, but what to say, and therefore has fallen into this unhappy Malady of complaining that he is sick.
- THAT this Custom of his makes him, by his own Confession, fit only for the Infirmary, and therefore he has not waited for being sentenced to it.
- THAT he is conscious there is nothing more improper than such a Complaint in good Company, in that they must pity, whether they think the Lamerter ill or not; and that the Complaint must make a silly Figure, whether he is pitied or not.
- YOUR Petitioner humbly prays, that he may have Time to know how he does, and he will make his Appearance.

- THE *Valetudinarian* was likewise easily excused; and this Society being resolved not only to make it their Business to pass their Time agreeably for the present Season, but also to commence such Habits in themselves

as may be of Use in their future Conduct in general, are very ready to give into a fancied or real Incapacity to join with their Measures, in order to have no Humourist, proud Man, impertinent or sufficient Fellow, break in upon their Happiness. Great Evils seldom happen to disturb Company; but Indulgence in Particularities of Humour, is the Seed of making half our Time hang in Suspence, or waste away under real Discomposures.

AMONG other Things it is carefully provided that there may not be disagreeable Familiarities. No one is to appear in the publick Rooms undressed, or enter abruptly into each other's Apartment without Intimation. Every one has hitherto been so careful in his Behaviour, that there has but one Offender in ten Days Time been sent into the Infirmary, and that was for throwing away his Cards at Whist.

HE has offered his Submission in the following Terms.

The humble Petition of Jeoffry Hotspur, Esq;

Sheweth,

THOUGH the Petitioner swore, stamped, and threw down his Cards, he has all imaginable Respect for the Ladies, and the whole Company.

THAT he humbly desires it may be considered in the Case of Gaming, there are many Motives which provoke to Disorder.

THAT the Desire of Gain, and the Desire of Victory, are both thwarted in losing.

THAT all Conversations in the World have indulged Human Infirmary in this Case.

YOUR Petitioner therefore most humbly prays, that he may be restored to the Company, and he hopes to bear ill Fortune with a good Grace for the future, and to demean himself so as to be no more than chearful when he wins, than grave when he loses. T



Monday,