

N° 46. Tuesday, July 26, 1709.

S T E E L E.

*Non bene conveniunt, nec in una sede morantur,
Majestas & amor.*—

OVID. Met. II. 88.

—“ Love but ill agrees with kingly pride.”

WHITE'S Chocolate-house, July 25.

WE see every day volumes written against that tyrant of human life called LOVE; and yet there is no help found against his cruelties, or barrier against the inroads he is pleased to make into the mind of man. After this preface, you will expect I am going to give particular instances of what I have asserted. That expectation cannot be raised too high for the novelty of the history, and manner of life, of the emperor AURENGEZEBE*, *who has resided for some years in the cities of London*

* This name has been applied to a celebrated East-India governor of that time, certainly without the least foundation, for he was at this time and long after this, a resident at Fort St. George. The person alluded to, was the goldsmith or banker, to whom the diamond was consigned in its native state, who superintended its manufacture, and was afterwards a bankrupt. See TAT. N° 43, Note on Sir Stephen; and N° 45, Adv. p. 451.

and

and Westminster, with an air and mien indeed of his imperial quality, but the equipage and appointment only of a private gentleman. This potentate, for a long series of time, appeared from the hour of twelve until that of two at a coffee-house near the Exchange, and had a seat (though without a canopy) sacred to himself, where he gave diurnal audiences concerning commerce, politics, tare and tret, usury and abatement, with all things necessary for helping the distressed, who are willing to give one limb for the better maintenance of the rest; or such joyous youths, whose Philosophy is confined to the present hour, and were desirous to call in the revenue of the next half-year to double the enjoyment of this. Long did this growing monarch employ himself after this manner: and as alliances are necessary to all great kingdoms, he took particularly the interests of LEWIS the XIVth into his care and protection. When all mankind were attacking that unhappy monarch, and those who had neither valour nor wit to oppose against him, would be still shewing their impotent malice, by laying wagers in opposition to his interests; AURENGEZEBE ever took the part of his contemporary, and laid immense treasures on his side, in defence of his important magazine of Toulon. AURENGEZEBE also had all this while a constant intelligence with India; and his letters were answered in jewels, which he soon made brilliant, and caused to be affixed to his

imperial *castor* *, which he always wears cocked in front, to shew his defiance; with an heap of imperial snuff in the middle of his ample visage, to show his sagacity. The zealots for this little spot called Great-Britain fell universally into this emperor's policies, and paid homage to his superior genius, in forfeiting their coffers to his treasury.

But wealth and wisdom are possessions too solemn not to give weariness to active minds, without the relief (in vacant hours) of wit and love, which are the proper amusements of the powerful and the wise. This emperor, therefore, with great regularity, every day at five in the afternoon, leaves his money-changers, his publicans, and little hoarders of wealth †, to their low pursuits, and ascends his chariot, to drive to Will's; where the taste is refined, and a relish given to men's possessions, by a polite skill in gratifying their passions and appetites. There it is that the emperor has learned to live and to Love, and not, like a miser, to gaze only on his ingots or his treasures; but, with a nobler satisfaction, to live the admiration of others, for his splendor and happiness in being master of them. But a prince is no more to be his own caterer in his Love, than in his food; therefore AURENGEZEBE has ever in waiting two purveyors for his dishes, and his wenches for his retired hours, by whom the scene of his diversion is prepared in the following manner :

* *Beaver.*

† The description of a banker.

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There is near Covent-garden a street known by the name of DRURY, which before the days of Christianity, was purchased by the queen of PAPHOS, and is the only part of Great-Britain where the tenure of vassalage is still in being. All that long course of building is under particular districts or ladyships, after the manner of lordships in other parts, over which matrons of known abilities preside, and have, for the support of their age and infirmities, certain taxes paid out of the rewards of the amorous labours of the young. This seraglio of Great-Britain is disposed into convenient alleys and apartments, and every house, from the cellar to the garret, inhabited by nymphs of different orders, that persons of every rank may be accommodated with an immediate consort, to allay their flames and partake of their cares. Here it is that when AURENGEZEBE thinks fit to give a loose to dalliance, the purveyors prepare the entertainment; and what makes it more august is, that every person concerned in the interlude has his set part, and the prince sends beforehand word what he designs to say, and directs also the very answer which shall be made to him.

It has been before hinted, that this emperor has a continual commerce with India; and it is to be noted, that the *largest stone that rich earth has produced**, is in our AURENGEZEBE's possession.

* See p. 462, *ad finem*. Note.

But all things are now disposed for his reception. At his entrance into the seraglio, a servant delivers him his beaver of state and Love, on which is fixed this inestimable jewel as his diadem. When he is seated, the purveyors, Pandarus and Nuncio, marching on each side of the matron of the house, introduce her into his presence. In the midst of the room, they bow all together to the diadem. When the matron——

“Whoever thou art, as thy awful aspect
“speaks thee a man of power, be propitious
“to this mansion of Love, and let not the severity of thy wisdom disdain, that by the
“representation of naked innocence, or pastoral
“figures, we revive in thee the memory at
“least of that power of VENUS, to which all the
“wise and the brave are some part of their
“lives devoted.” AURENGEZEBE consents by
“a nod, and they go out backward.

After this, an unhappy nymph, who is to be supposed just escaped from the hands of a ravisher, with her tresses dishevelled, runs into the room with a dagger in her hand, and falls before the emperor.

“Pity, oh! pity, whoever thou art, an unhappy virgin, whom one of thy train has
“robbed of her innocence; her innocence,
“which was all her portion——Or rather, let
“me die like the memorable LUCRETIA.”—
Upon which she stabs herself. The body is immediately

immediately examined after the manner of our coroners. LUCRETIA recovers by a cup of right Nantz; and the matron, who is her next relation, stops all process at law.

This unhappy affair is no sooner over, but a naked mad woman breaks into the room, calls for her duke, her lord, her emperor. As soon as she spies AURENGEZEBE, the object of all her fury and Love, she calls for petticoats, is ready to sink with shame, and is dressed in all haste in new attire at his charge. This unexpected accident of the mad woman makes AURENGEZEBE curious to know, whether others who are in their senses can guess at his quality. For which reason, the whole convent is examined one by one. The matron marches in with a tawdry country girl—"Pray, Winifred," says she, "who do you think that fine man "with those jewels and pearls is?"—"I "believe," says Winifred, "it is our land-lord——It must be the esquire himself."——The emperor laughs at her simplicity—"Go, fool," says the matron: then turning to the emperor—"Your greatness will pardon "her ignorance!" After her, several others of different characters are instructed to mistake who he is, in the same manner: then the whole sisterhood are called together, and the emperor rises, and cocking his hat, declares, he is the GREAT MOGUL, and they his concubines. A general murmur goes through the whole assembly; and AURENGEZEBE, certifying that he

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keeps

keeps them for state, rather than use, tells them, they are permitted to receive all men into their apartments; then proceeds through the crowd, among whom he throws medals shaped like half-crowns, and returns to his chariot.

This being all that passed the last day in which AURENGEZEBE visited the women's apartments, I consulted PACOLET concerning the foundation of such strange amusements in old age: to which he answered, "You may remember, when I gave you an account of my good fortune in being drowned on the thirtieth day of my human life, I told you of the disasters I should otherwise have met with before I arrived at the end of my *flamen*, which was sixty years. I may now add an observation to you, that all who exceed that period, except the latter part of it is spent in the exercise of virtue and contemplation of futurity, must necessarily fall into an indolent old age; because, with regard to all the enjoyments of the years of vigour and manhood, childhood returns upon them; and as infants ride on sticks, build houses in dirt, and make ships in gutters, by a faint idea of things they are to act hereafter; so old men play the lovers, potentates, and emperors, for the decaying image of the more perfect performances of their stronger years; therefore, be sure to insert ÆSCULAPIUS and AURENGEZEBE in your next bill of mortality of the metaphorically defunct."

I

WILL'S

WILL's Coffee-house, July 24.

As soon as I came hither this evening, no less than ten people produced the following poem, which they all reported was sent to each of them by the penny-post from an unknown hand. All the battle-writers in the room were in debate, who could be the author of a piece so martially written; and every body applauded the address and skill of the author, in calling it a postscript: it being the nature of a postscript to contain something very material which was forgotten, or not clearly expressed in the letter itself. Thus the verses being occasioned by a march without beat of drum, and that circumstance being no ways taken notice of in any of the stanzas, the author calls it a postscript; not that it is a postscript, but figuratively, because it wants a postscript. Common writers, when what they mean is not expressed in the book itself, supply it by a preface; but a postscript seems to me the more just way of apology; because otherwise a man makes an excuse before the offence is committed. All the heroic poets were guessed at for its author; but though we could not find out his name, yet one repeated a couplet in HUDIBRAS, which spoke his qualifications;

"I'th' midst of all this warlike rabble,
"CROWDERO march'd, expert and able."

The

The poem is admirably suited to the occasion: for to write without discovering your meaning, bears a just resemblance to marching without beat of drum.

“ On the march to Tournay without beat of
“ drum.

“ The BRUSSELS POSTSCRIPT.

“ Could I with plainest words express
“ That great man’s wonderful address,
“ His penetration, and his tow’ring thought;
“ It would the gazing world surprise,
“ To see one man at all times wise,
“ To view the wonders he with ease has wrought.

“ Refining schemes approach his mind,
“ Like breezes of a southern wind,
“ To temperate a sultry glorious day;
“ Whose fannings, with an useful pride,
“ Its mighty heat do softly guide,
“ And having clear’d the air, glide silently away.

“ Thus his immensity of thought
“ Is deeply form’d, and gently wrought,
“ His temper always softening life’s disease;
“ That Fortune, when she does intend
“ To rudely frown, she turns his friend,
“ Admires his judgement, and applauds his ease.

“ His great address in this design
“ Does now, and will for ever shine,
“ And wants a WALLER but to do him right;

“ The

“ The whole amusement was so strong,
“ Like fate he doom’d them to be wrong,
“ And Tournay’s took by a peculiar flight.

“ Thus, Madam, all mankind behold
“ Your vast ascendant, not by gold,
“ But by your wisdom and your pious life;
“ You aim no more, than to destroy
“ That which does Europe’s ease annoy,
“ And supersede a reign of shame and strife.”

St. JAMES’S Coffee-house, July 24.

My brethren of the quill, the ingenious society of news-writers, having with great spirit and elegance already informed the world, that the town of Tournay capitulated on the twenty-eighth instant; there is nothing left for me to say, but to congratulate the good company here, that we have reason to hope for an opportunity of thanking Mr. WITHERS next winter in this place, for the service he has done his country. No man deserves better of his friends than that gentleman, whose distinguishing character it is, that he gives his orders with the familiarity, and enjoys his fortune with the generosity, of a fellow-soldier. His grace the duke of ARGYLE* had also an eminent part in

* The French translator mentions a rumour then current of a misunderstanding between the D. of Marlborough and the D. of Argyle, and pretends to say, that Marlborough was blamed for exposing this young nobleman too much to danger at the battle of Malplaquet.

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the reduction of this important place. That illustrious youth discovers the peculiar turn of spirit and greatness of soul, which only make men of high birth and quality useful to their country; and considers nobility as an imaginary distinction, unless accompanied with the practice of those generous virtues by which it ought to be obtained. But, that our military glory is arrived at its present height, and that men of all ranks so passionately affect their share in it, is certainly owing to the merit and conduct of our glorious general: for as the great secret in chymistry, though not in nature, has occasioned many useful discoveries; and the fantastic notion of being wholly disinterested in friendship has made men do a thousand generous actions above themselves; so, though the present grandeur and fame of the duke of MARLBOROUGH is a station of glory to which no one hopes to arrive, yet all carry their actions to an higher pitch, by having that great example laid before them.

N. B. There is a full account of the *Diamond* mentioned in the preceding part of this Paper, by Mr. D. Jeffries, with curious remarks, in a small tract entituled, "An Abstract of a Treatise on Diamonds and Pearls." By the Author. Printed for R. Baldwin, 1753, price 6d. The *Treatise* itself is in 8vo. 1751, price bound *One Guinea*. The curious may see satisfactory evidence that Gov. *Thomas PITT*, Esq; could not possibly be the person alluded to under the name of *Aurengezebe*, in the *TAT.* with notes in 6 Vols. Vol. V. p. 380, & *seqq.* Additional notes, &c.